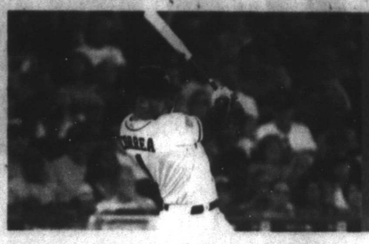
MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

MONDAY, JULY 3, 2017 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

52 FACES

Arturo Carrasco is one of the 52 Faces of Community.

Page 1B



GOING TO MIAMI

Aaron Judge, Carlos Correa and Nolan Arenado led a new generation of MLB All-Stars, among 12 first-time starters elected by fans for the July 11 game at Marlins Park in Miami.

Page 1C

Dallas Fed: Price decrease leads to uncertainty

Survey indicates company outlook improves, activity remains robust

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Oil patch activity continued to rise as the year reached its midpoint. But the drop in crude oil prices recently has put a damper on industry enthusiasm.

"The main thing that stood out to me was the increase in uncertainty," Michael Plante, senior research economist with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, said in a phone interview from his Dallas office.

He was discussing his quarterly energy survey, which was being compiled as prices began their swoon. Uncertainty among oil firms jumped to more than 46 percent in the second quarter from 33.8 percent in the first quarter of the year.

Plante also cited a softening in company outlook, which he said continued to improve, but not as much as in previous quarters. Company expectations fell 25 points to 20.3 in the second quarter.

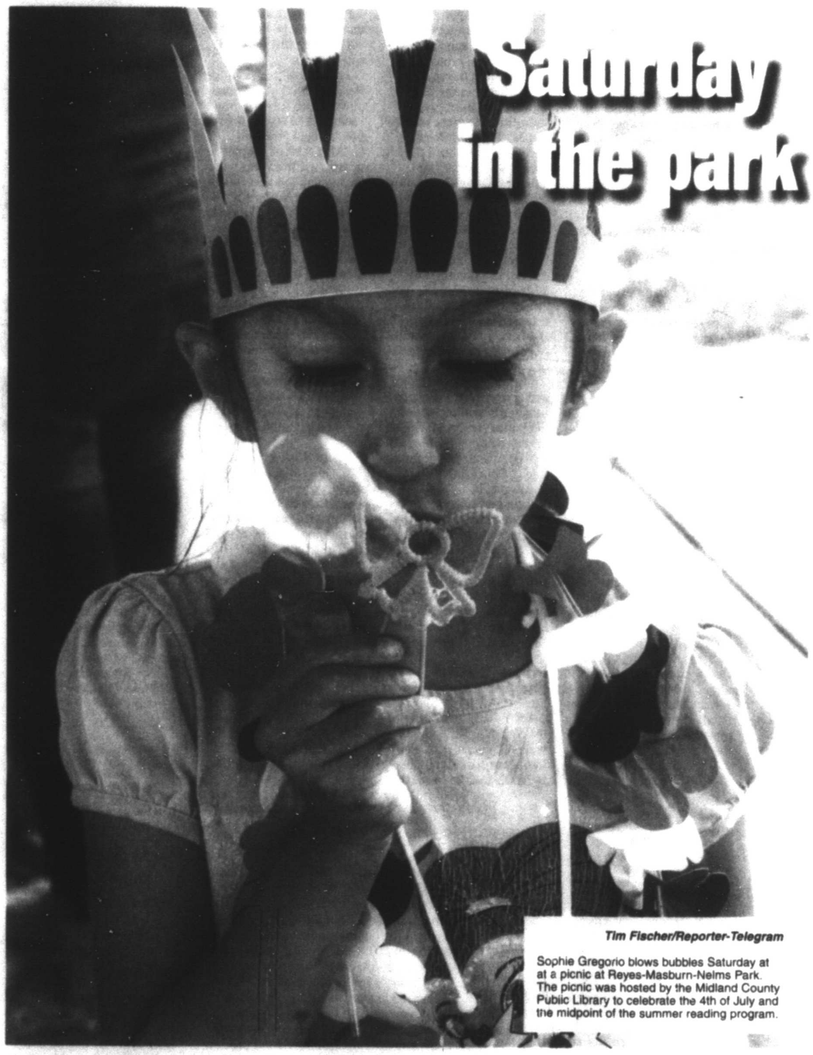
Business activity — the survey's broadest measure of conditions facing energy firms in the bank's Eleventh District — remained robust, but at 37.3 was slightly below the 41.8 reading of the first quarter.

"The outlook is a little murkier due to the oil price decline," Plante said. "Many of the comments (accompanying the survey) expressed concern or pessimism about oil prices. I am curious about how the price decrease will play out in the third-quarter survey."

One respondent commented, "We are in the initial phase of a drilling program on the North Basin platform in the Permian Basin, and I am having real concern at $45 oil that the margins are so skinny we may need to delay our program, especially with costs escalating."

Plante said it's unlikely the recent price decline will significantly alter producers' plans for the rest of the year, as long as prices don't fall too far below $45 a barrel.

Please see **DALLAS**/2A



Saturday in the park

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Sophie Gregorio blows bubbles Saturday at at a picnic at Reyes-Masburn-Nelms Park. The picnic was hosted by the Midland County Public Library to celebrate the 4th of July and the midpoint of the summer reading program.

Thieves are bleeding Pemex of gasoline

■ Some U.S. companies are rethinking their plans to venture into Mexico

By David Hunn
Houston Chronicle

Thieves are tapping into the gasoline pipelines of Mexico's state-owned oil and gas giant, Pemex, with such frequency and in such quantities, the business is losing nearly $2 billion a year, leaving some U.S. companies with second thoughts about entering Mexico's recently opened energy market, according to recent research at Rice University.

The number of separate incidents has risen from about 200 in 2006 to nearly 7,000 last year — almost 20 break-ins

Please see **PEMEX**/2A

July Fourth holiday brings mixed feelings for minorities

By Russell Contreras
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — As many in the United States celebrate the Fourth of July holiday, some minorities have mixed feelings about the revelry of fireworks and parades in an atmosphere of tension on several fronts.

How do you celebrate during what some people of color consider troubling times?

Blacks, Latinos and immigrant rights advocates say the aftermath of the 2016 presidential election, recent non—convictions of police officers charged

Please see **MINORITIES**/2A

Visit us on social media

Did you know?
11 states
did not have a spending plans in place at the beginning of the budget year. Page 5A

The big number
28 people
were injured in a melee at a Little Rock concert early Saturday. Page 4A

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

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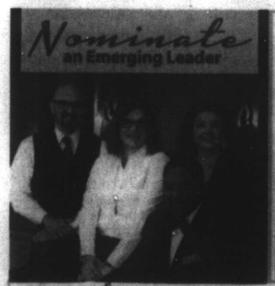


Midland Magazine's 20 UNDER 40 2017 Presented by My Community Federal Credit Union

Midland Magazine's 20 Under 40, presented by My Community Federal Credit Union, is an annual recognition program for Midland's emerging leaders. The program showcases young, dynamic leaders living or working in Midland County who are under the age of 40. The program recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves in their careers and/or in the community.

To nominate a deserving Midlander, visit www.mrt.com/20under40

The 20 individuals selected for the 20 Under 40 honor will be featured in Midland Magazine's Nov. 19, 2017 edition.

*20 Under 40 nominees must be 39 years or under as of Dec. 31, 2017 and may not be nominated by a family member.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

DALLAS

Missing girl found dead; 2 arrested

A missing 13-year-old North Texas girl who was reported abducted and a man have both been found dead inside a Dallas home, authorities said Sunday.

Shavon Randle had been missing for several days and was identified as one of two people dead inside the house in Dallas' Oak Cliff area, Eric Jackson, special agent in charge of the Dallas FBI, said. He said the investigation was continuing and had no other information about the deaths.

"We didn't have the positive result we were looking for, but being able to let Shavon's family know that we've located her was our goal," Jackson said. "We're going to continue our investigation and anyone we find that were involved in this heinous crime against Shavon, we will bring you to justice and we will hold you accountable."

The area around the small one-story home was cordoned off Sunday morning. Investigators placed evidence markers around the front yard and people in hazardous materials suits could be seen entering and leaving the home.

The girl was reported abducted Wednesday from a home in Lancaster, about 15 miles south of Dallas.

Lancaster police then issued an Amber Alert after receiving the missing person call. Police said a relative told officers she received a call from an unknown man who said the girl was being held against her will and had threatened to harm her.

Lancaster police and FBI agents arrested two men Saturday, Devontae Owens, 24, and Laquon Wilkerson, 30, during their search for her. Both are being held on $500,000 bond and charged with aggravated kidnapping.

Authorities have said two other men are being questioned and another man was being sought.

SAN ANTONIO

Witness at fatal police shooting arrested

San Antonio police say a man who was with a gunman when he fatally shot one police officer and wounded another last week has been arrested on unrelated charges.

Chief William McManus says 30-year-old William Lawson, who initially was considered a witness to the shootings and was released, was arrested Saturday on unrelated firearms and drug possession charges. The chief says police responding to a call about a suspicious person found Lawson with a .22-caliber pistol and heroin.

The arrest occurred in the same area where officers Miguel Moreno and Julio Cavazos were shot Thursday.

Moreno died the following day. Cavazos remains hospitalized in intensive care.

The gunman died in a shootout.

SUGAR LAND

1 dead, 1 wounded in shooting at home party

One teenager has been fatally shot and another person has been wounded at a party involving about 30 people at a suburban Houston home.

Authorities say the gunfire erupted about 3 a.m. Sunday after some kind of altercation at the home in Sugar Land, just southwest of Houston.

Fort Bend County Sheriff Troy Nehls says many of those at the party fled as deputies arrived and about a dozen people who stayed behind have been questioned. No arrests have been immediately made.

The sheriff says the shooting occurred at a home where the owners are on vacation out of the country and left a key to their house with someone to care for their dogs.

WESLACO

Sailor killed in ship collision back home for burial

A Texas sailor killed two weeks ago in the collision of a Navy destroyer with a container ship off the coast of Japan has returned home for burial.

A procession escorting the remains of Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Noe Hernandez paused Saturday for a moment of silence outside a light blue trailer in Weslaco in the Rio Grande Valley that was once his childhood home. Hernandez, one of seven Navy sailors killed aboard the USS Fitzgerald, arrived earlier in the day at McAllen-Miller International Airport.

The Monitor of McAllen reports a large crowd of veterans and community members was waiting as a hearse carrying Hernandez arrived at a funeral home. A public viewing is set for Wednesday and funeral is planned for Thursday.

Cause of the collision remains under investigation.

MINORITIES

From 1A

in the shootings of black men, and the stepped—up detentions of immigrants and refugees for deportation have them questioning equality and the promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in the United States.

Filmmaker Chris Phillips of Ferguson, Missouri, says he likely will attend a family barbecue just like every Fourth of July. But the 36—year—old black man says he can't help but feel perplexed about honoring the birth of the nation after three officers were recently cleared in police shootings.

Police shootings

Since the 2014 police shooting of unarmed teenager Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, officer shootings — of black males in particular — have drawn scrutiny, sparking protests nationwide. Few officers ever face charges, and convictions are rare. Despite video, suburban St. Paul, Minnesota, police officer, Jeronimo Yanez, was acquitted last month in the shooting of Philando Castile, a black man. The 32—year—old school cafeteria worker was killed during a traffic stop July 6, almost a year ago.

"Justice apparently doesn't apply to all people," said Phillips, who saw the protests that roiled his town for weeks following Brown's death. His yet—unreleased documentary "Ferguson 365" focuses on the Brown shooting and its aftermath. "A lot of people have lost hope."

Unlike Phillips, Janette McClelland, 65, a black musician in Albuquerque, New Mexico, said she has no intention of celebrating July Fourth.

"It's a white man's holiday to me. It's just another day," McClelland said. "I'm not going to even watch the fireworks. Not feeling it."

McClelland, who grew up in Los Angeles during the urban unrest of the 1960s, said she fears cities may see more violence amid a feeling of helplessness. "I'm praying and trying to keep positive," she said.

Immigration

Immigration was a key issue during the presidential campaign for both parties. Since then, Trump's administration has stepped up enforcement and instituted a scaled—back partial travel ban that places new limits on entry to the U.S. for citizens of six Muslim—majority countries. The temporary ban requires people to prove a close family relationship in the U.S. or an existing relationship with an entity like a school or business. On Friday, the administration announced that Immigration and Customs Enforcement would arrest people — including relatives — who hire smugglers to bring children into the U.S. illegally.

John Minchillo/AP File Photo

Protesters holds signs as they gather for a demonstration on the University of Cincinnati campus on Wednesday demanding that a white former police officer be tried a third time in the fatal shooting of an unarmed black motorist in Cincinnati. As cities and towns host July 4th parades and fireworks shows, some minority residents are expressing mixed feelings about the holiday used to reaffirm the country's founding based on equality and civil liberties.

Patricia Montes, a Boston resident and immigrant from Honduras, said she's grateful for the opportunities and security the United States has given her. Yet this year, she doesn't know how to approach the Fourth of July holiday.

"I fell very conflicted," said Montes, an immigrant advocate. "I mean, what are we celebrating? Are we celebrating democracy?"

Montes said it pains her to see children fleeing violence get turned away and deported back to Central America without due process. She also is disturbed by recent immigration raids in Latino and Muslim communities that spark more fear and uncertainty.

In Texas, Latino activists have been protesting a state law that forces cities and towns to cooperate with federal immigration authorities. In New Mexico and Michigan, immigrant advocates have been rallying on behalf of Iraqi refugees facing deportation.

"There's a lot not to be proud about when celebrating the Fourth of July," said Janelle Astorga Ramos, a University of New Mexico student and daughter of a Mexican immigrant. "Even though it's a time to celebrate as a country and (for) our unity, it's definitely going to be on the back of our minds."

Desspite those problems and concerns, Ramos said her family will recognize the holiday and visit Elephant Butte, New Mexico, a popular summer destination. "This is our home," Ramos said.

Isabella Baker, a 17—old Latina from Bosque Farms, New Mexico, said she'll celebrate the holiday based on her own views of patriotism.

"More people are standing up because of the political climate," Baker said. "That makes me proud."

Protest against pipeline

For months, members of the Standing Rock Sioux were at the center of a protest against an oil pipeline in North Dakota. A protest camp was set up. The tribe said the Dakota Access oil pipeline plan could pose a threat to water sources, if there were a leak, and cause cultural harm. Police made more than 700 arrests between August 2016 and February 2017. The Trump administration approved the final permit for the $3.8 billion pipeline, which began operating June 1. The pipeline moves oil from western North Dakota to a distribution point in Illinois. Four Sioux tribes are still fighting in federal court to get the line shut down.

Ruth Hopkins, a member of South Dakota's Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate tribe, said Native Americans have always viewed the Fourth of July with ambivalence, and this year will be no different.

However, there will be celebrations.

Her Lake Traverse Indian Reservation holds an annual powwow on July 4 to honor veterans as a way to take the holiday back, she said.

"Also, a lot of people up here use fireworks and the holiday to celebrate victory over Custer for Victory Day," said Hopkins, referring to Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse defeating George Custer and his 7th Cavalry at the Battle of the Little Big Horn.

Still, the holiday comes after tribes and others gathered in North Dakota to support the Standing Rock Sioux tribe and its fight against the pipeline, Hopkins said. Because of that, water and land rights remain on peoples' mind, Hopkins said.

Gyasi Ross, a member of Montana's Blackfeet Nation and a writer who lives on the Port Madison Indian Reservation near Seattle, said all the tensions this Fourth of July are a blessing because it has awakened a consciousness among people of color.

"The gloves are off," Ross said. "We can't ignore these things anymore."

However, Ross said he wants his young son to be hopeful about the future. They will likely go fishing on the Fourth of July.

"I still worry about getting shot or something like that," Ross said. "All this stuff is so heavy to be carrying around."

PEMEX

From 1A

a day — according to an analysis of Pemex figures by Adrian Duhalt, a Rice postdoctoral fellow. Losses have jumped from under $1 billion in 2009 to $1.7 billion last year.

The rising thefts could deter international investment and quash the budding revival of the Mexican oil and gas industry, Duhalt said.

"It's huge," Duhalt said. "Mexico is trying to attract investors in the commercialization of gasoline."

Mexico deregulated its oil and gas market and broke Pemex's monopoly in 2014, inviting foreign companies to take part, with hopes of spurring exploration and production and boosting the country's sagging energy profits.

Petróleos Mexicanos, known as Pemex, pumped more than 3 million barrels per day of crude a decade ago and was responsible for one-third of Mexico's tax revenues. But the company has since been hobbled by overspending, heavy pension liabilities, and declining oil and gas production. The recent crash in oil prices only made things worse.

Crude output has dropped by more than one-third over the decade and government contributions sunk to less than one-fifth of the country's revenues.

Pemex's new chief executive, Harvard-educated economist José Antonio González Anaya, has vowed to turn the company around, slashing spending and working to attract international investment to Mexico.

Pemex reported a first-quarter profit of $4.7 billion this year as crude prices rose, its first quarterly profit since 2012. A year earlier, the company posted more than $3 billion in losses.

British oil major BP announced in March it would build 1,500 new service stations in the country over the next five years, with 200 opening this year. The investment should cost "several hundreds of millions of dollars," in stations, terminals and pipelines, an executive said.

Neither Pemex nor BP responded to requests for comment.

But Duhalt, the Rice researcher, worries fuel thieves will deter future investment. Mexican authorities have long taken a "hands-off approach" to the theft, he wrote in his paper, "Looting Fuel Pipelines in Mexico." And the problem's gotten in worse in recent years.

"There is a huge black market,' Duhalt said. The state of Puebla, near Mexico City, about 600 miles south of the southern tip of Texas, is the epicenter. "Local people know where to buy gasoline."

The underlying problem is a Mexican economy where a policeman earns about $270 a month, but a fuel thief can make $50,000.

DALLAS

From 1A

On average, those participating in the survey expect West Texas Intermediate prices to rise to $48.79 by the end of the year, down from the expectation of $53.49 in the first quarter. Price expectations range from $30 to $65 per barrel.

Oil and natural gas production posted a third consecutive quarterly increase, according to those at exploration and production firms participating in the survey. The oil production index was 10.2, down from 13.1 in the first quarter, and the natural gas production index dropped seven points to 10.6, indicating production is rising at a slower pace than in the first quarter.

"The second half won't grow as fast. The first half saw a big ramp-up," Plante said. "There's more production in the pipeline, companies are adding rigs."

A lot of future activity and production depends on the price of oil. Prices falling into the $30s would certainly bring a good portion of the oil patch to a standstill, he said.

Plante said it is apparent that the service sector is benefiting from the rise in activity.

"We are seeing significant delays for some materials, which took us a bit by surprise," was one comment from a service company. "We have found other suppliers to meet our timelines thus far, but it seems to be tighter and faster this time around."

Another comment from a service company respondent was: "There is not enough time in the day to cover all the due-diligence jobs due to the acquisitions and divestitures between companies. I've had to put on extra crews to handle different areas and to handle all the requests, and there is still plenty to go around. Nice problem to have!" The survey's business activity index for oilfield service firms reached its highest reading since the first quarter of 2016, hitting 49.3 in the second quarter. Equipment utilization jumped to 45.4 from 26 in the first quarter.

Service firms also led the growth in employment, with the second quarter employment index at 40.3 for services firms and 5.7 for exploration and production firms. A similar gap was seen in the employee hours indexes, with 43.3 for service firms and 8.7 for exploration and production firms. Plante said that the second quarter survey was the third consecutive one to measure the industry's expectations for a balancing of the oil market. He said most respondents think the market is either coming into balance or will come into balance next year. He said respondents keep pushing back those expectations. And the 10 to 15 percent decline in prices since mid-May got their attention, he said.

"It's become more evident how productive the Permian Basin is. Companies have cut costs and rationalized how they do business and also improved upon technology and how they drill and complete wells."

For all the concerns about prices, Plante said there is still activity and optimism in the oil patch.

As one operator commented: "The exploration and production industry needs to get used to the paradigm that oil prices will be set for the next several years by the breakeven prices needed to drill Permian Basin shale wells because there is a 'lot of tiger in this tank!'"

Obituaries

Albert Lewis Stewart

Albert Lewis Stewart, 91, of San Angelo, Texas, went to be with his Heavenly Father on Friday, June 30, 2017.

He was born on May 1, 1926 to Albert Lee and Leila Ann (O'Kelly) Stewart in Midland, Texas.

On January 31, 1947, he married Sue Reeves in Midland. Albert was a true West Texas cowboy working on a ranch for 22 years. He was a member of Immanuel Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by parents; a daughter, Barbara Joyce Stewart; a grandson, John Samuel Coleman; and by several sisters and a brother.

Albert is survived by his loving spouse of 70 years, Sue; two daughters, Brenda Coleman of Hale Center, Texas and Gwen Frederickson of San Angelo; son, Guy (Dana) Stewart of Midland; and by four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Family visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 3, 2017 at Robert Massie Funeral Home.

Graveside services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland, with Tommy Richardson officiating.

Memorials are suggested to the charity of your choice.

Online condolences can be given at *www.RobertMassie.com* .

I-20 bridge repairs in Pecos to start July 10

From staff reports

Construction to repair a bridge at Interstate 20 and U.S. Highway 285 in Pecos is set to begin July 10, according to the Texas Department of Transportation Odessa District.

Both I-20 and U.S. 285 will experience alternating lane closures. I-20 will have a width restriction of 11 feet; U.S. 285 will have a width restriction of 9 feet.

The project will repair or replace bridge beams, bridge caps and the bridge deck. Rail upgrades are also in the plan. Work will begin underneath the overpass.

TxDOT asks that motorists avoid the area if possible and reminds them that state law requires obeying flaggers, warning signs and traffic control devices in the work zone.

The project is scheduled to be completed in October. SCR Civil Construction of Richmond won the project with a low bid of $936,605.40.

REGION BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

Police say driver rear-ended chief's car

Police say a driver is under arrest after he rear-ended the state police chief's car.

Police say Andres Salazar initially blamed the crash on bad brakes but later said that he had two beers and a shot of vodka before hitting Chief Pete Kassetas' car Friday at a stop light.

Police say the 68-year-old man failed two field sobriety tests. According to the criminal complaint, his breath test was at or over 0.08, the presumed level of intoxication.

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

Brush fire temporarily closes campground

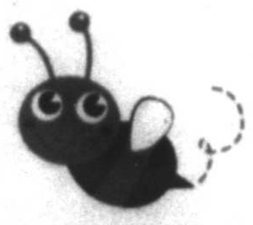
State park officials say there were no serious injuries during a brush fire at a Navajo Lake State Park, north of Albuquerque.

A brush fire broke out near the Cottonwood Campground at the west end of the park on Saturday. Officials say one camper was treated for smoke inhalation and was later released.

TODAYINMIDLAND

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JumBurrito Mexican Grill

octogenarian
[ok-tuh-juh-nair-ee-uh n]
adjective
1. of the age of 80 years.



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Things to do

■ Bingo, 6 p.m., Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1305 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.

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

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

Independence Day celebrations

■ "A Revolutionary Life" living history demonstration is 4:30-6 p.m. today at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch. The hands-on event will show how to read 18th century writing and how to write with flourishes.

■ A free Patriotic Community Band Concert is set for 4 p.m. Tuesday at Allison Fine Arts Building auditorium at Midland College, 3600 Garfield St.

Fireworks

■ Following the Midland Rock-Hounds games, today and Tuesday at, Security Bank Ballpark

Star-Spangled Salute

Tuesday at Hogan Park, 1201 E. Wadley Ave.

■ 55th Annual Children's Parade will feature children through age 12. 10 a.m.

■ Star-Spangled Salute: Grounds and food vendors open, 9 a.m. Lawn chairs and/or blankets for seating and small umbrella for shade are recommended.

■ Star-Spangled Salute: Beer Garden opens, 4 p.m.

■ Fun Zone with bounce houses, rock climbing, bungee jumping, miniature golf and more. Concert will also begin, 7-9 p.m.,

Star-Spangled Salute: Fireworks display with 20 minutes of exploding color in the sky, 10 p.m.

Pools today

■ Doug Russell Aquatic Center, 900 Midland Drive, noon to 7 p.m

■ Washington Aquatic Center, 1601 E. Indiana Ave., closed today

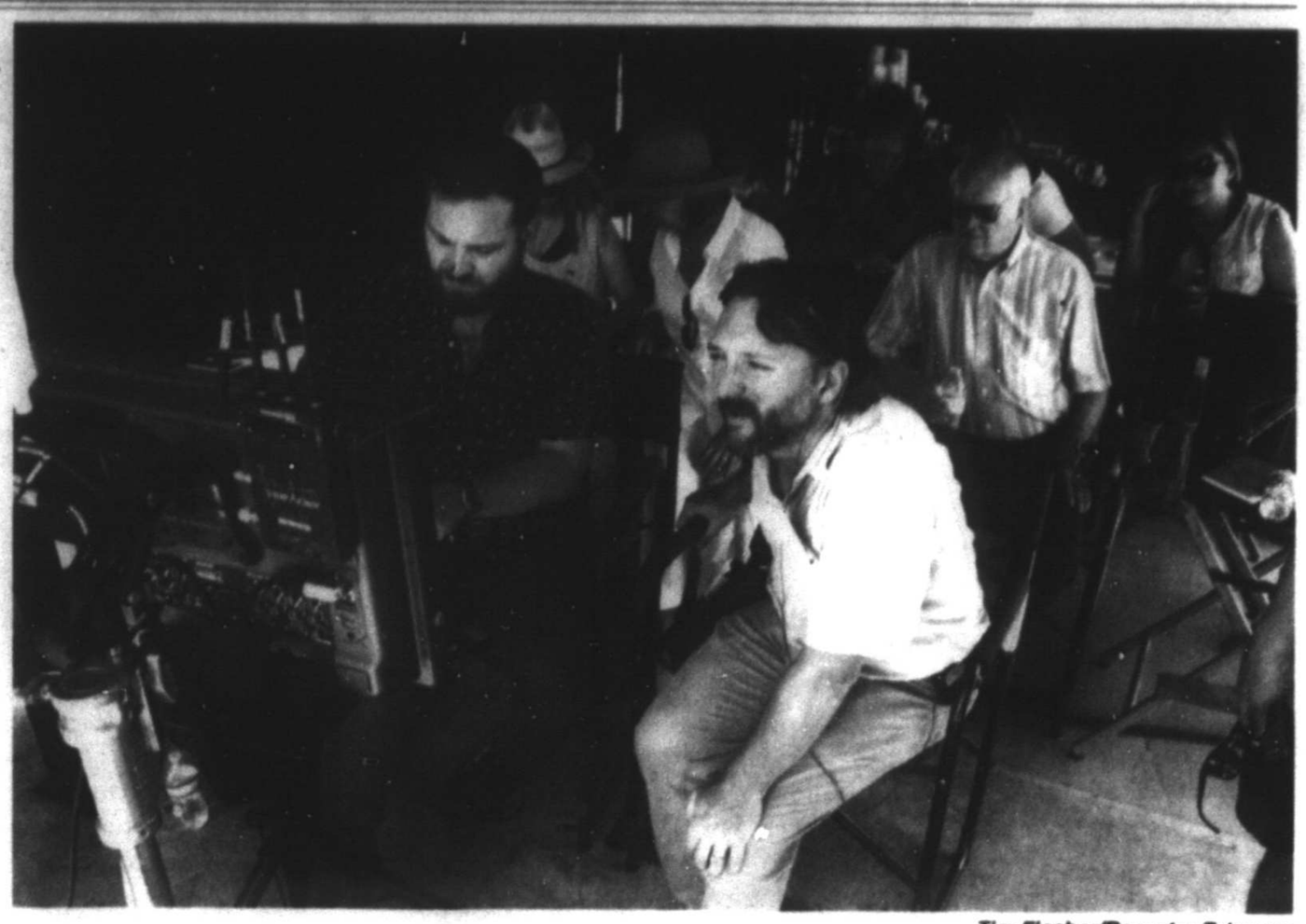
The cost of entry at city of Midland pools is $3 per person, with free admission for children under 2.

What's on the radio

News talk
■ KCRS (AM 550)
■ Local programming
■ 6-9 a.m. The Morning Drive with Kris Moore
■ 5-6 p.m. Local News with KOSA

■ KWEL (AM 1070, FM 107.1)
■ Local programming
■ 6-10 a.m. The Morning Show with Craig Anderson
■ 1 p.m. One-on-One w/ R.J. Pase

Other options
■ Sport talk: KMND (AM 1510)
■ Contemporary Christian: KFRI (FM 88.7), KLVW (FM 90.5)
NPR: KXWT (FM 91.3)



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Production of the movie, "The Iron Orchard," was in Midland on Tuesday with scenes being filmed on rigs at The Petroleum Museum. The film's director, Ty Roberts, and producer, Van Scott Folger, are originally from Midland. The movie is based on the Tom Pendleton novel about the West Texas oil fields in the 1930s. Filming also has been done in Big Spring.

Large item pickup

For residential customers, the city of Midland will pick up furniture and appliances at no additional charge. These items must be placed in the alley in the city right-of-way; the city will not go onto private property. Do not place your item next to the Dumpster; it needs to be behind your home, in the alley. These larger item collections must be scheduled with the Solid Waste Division. Please call 432-685-7278 to schedule this service.

City of Midland

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How sick are you?

Midland Memorial Hospital offers a nurse triage program "68-NURSE."

The program is designed to help people determine whether their health situation warrants a trip to the emergency room. Midland residents can call the line by dialing 686-8773.

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

This date in Texas

Five years ago: A federal judge in Amarillo found Clayton F. Osbon, a JetBlue Airways pilot who left the cockpit during a flight and screamed about religion and terrorists, not guilty by reason of insanity of interfering with a flight crew.

Watering schedule

The current outdoor watering schedule allows residents and businesses in the city of Midland to water twice per week.

■ Even-umbered addresses may water outdoors on Saturdays and Wednesdays.

■ Odd-numbered addresses may water outdoors on Fridays and Tuesdays.

■ Any violation may result in a fine up to $500.

Today in history

Today's highlight:
On July 3, 1863, the three-day Civil War Battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania ended in a major victory for the North as Confederate troops failed to breach Union positions during an assault known as Pickett's Charge

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 Cancer and a Moon in Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, July 3, 2017: This year you have the creativity, drive and energy to manifest more of what you want. You possess an innate charm that draws others to you, no matter where you are. Sometime after summer you could meet someone who feels right for you. Take your time getting to know this person before you commit. If you are attached, you and your sweetie enter a very romantic period once fall arrives, and you'll act as if you are new lovers. The intensity between you will be noticeable to those around you. SCORPIO understands you very well.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Take an in-depth look at a domestic issue or a real-estate matter. Knowing how to invest your time and money requires more information. Touch base with an expert, especially if your intuition seems to be holding up a warning flag. **Tonight:** Visit with a close loved one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Others are likely to reveal more of themselves than they have in a while. Touch base with an artistic friend. Make plans to get together with this person as soon as possible, as the experience of being with him or her is always different and exciting. **Tonight:** Go along with a suggestion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ Pace yourself. A boss can be inspirational and full of ideas, but you might not be receiving his or her message clearly. Perhaps you are on a different track and unable to hear this person's words in the spirit in which they were intended. **Tonight:** Run some errands on the way home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You could be going through a problem that, up until now, has not been easily resolvable. Open up a discussion, and listen to someone who wants to play devil's advocate and brainstorm with you. This person will help you get past a self-imposed barrier. **Tonight:** Be creative.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Your instincts play a key role in your choices and actions. Honor your priorities, and also your values, both demand your attention. You can integrate them more easily than you realize. A discussion needs to be kept between the parties involved. **Tonight:** Happiest at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Defer to someone who is very important to you, and go along with his or her wishes. You often question how grounded this person is, but today is different. At this moment in time, you are receptive to his or her ideas and positivity. **Tonight:** Hang out at a favorite place.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Reach out to someone who is better at handling money than you are. The issue might be that you tend to go overboard. Know when to say "enough is enough." Listening to others' ideas does not mean that you have to agree with them. **Tonight:** Buy a favorite treat on the way home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ You remain actively involved in a creative project. Listen well, and try not to skip right over any comments. Take in the whole conversation. You are likely to remain more upbeat than anyone else. Others will respond to your positive energy. **Tonight:** Do what you want.

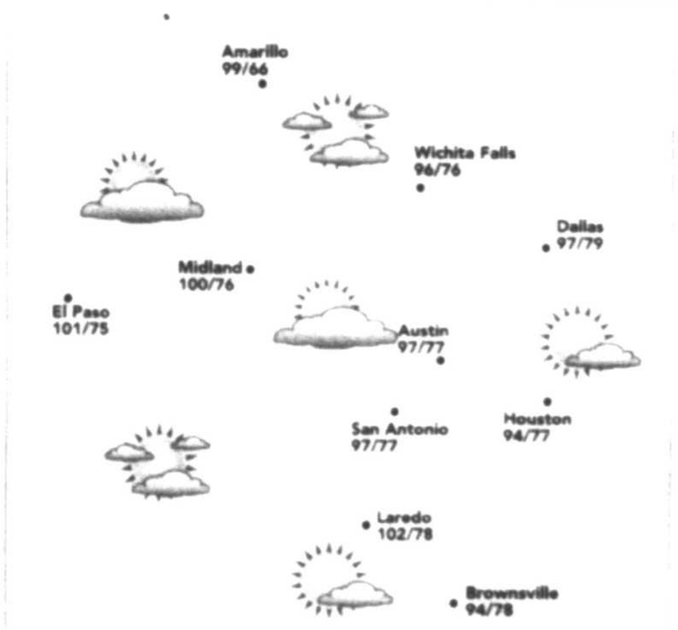
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You feel more creative and open with one specific person than you have in a while. Keep some of your thoughts and opinions to yourself for now. You are coming out of a period of being somewhat withdrawn, and you'll need to take your time. **Tonight:** Keep a secret hush-hush.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Zero in on your priorities in a meeting. Others have heard your opinions, but have you really internalized their message? Recognize that you are not the only one with great ideas. Be more open, and acknowledge what others opt to share. **Tonight:** Don't head directly home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ You need to take charge and find out what is happening between you and someone else. Your sense of humor emerges when dealing with a situation involving a key person in your day-to-day life. Pressure remains high to perform well. **Tonight:** A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ You cannot deny the role of your intuition. Some of you might feel as if you are practically psychic. Honor your feelings, whether they pertain to a relationship, travel or your in-laws. You don't need to let others know where you are coming from. **Tonight:** Out and about.

BORN TODAY
WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange (1971), author Franz Kafka (1883), actress Olivia Munn (1980)



Weather

Sunday's temperatures
High ... 96
Low ... 70
Normal high ... 95
Normal low ... 69

July 2's records
Record high: 112, set in 1999
Record low: 60, set in 1936

Precipitation
Sunday ... 0.00 in.
Saturday ... 0.00 in.
Month total ... 0.00 in.
Year total ... 8.74 in.
Normal total (year to date) ... 6.18 in.

Winds
Wind speed: 29 mph
Gust speed: 44 mph

Today's forecast
High: 99
Low: 73
Conditions: Mostly sunny today/partly cloudy tonight
Winds: South 10-15 mph today/southeast 10-15 mph tonightt
Chance of rain: 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms today and tonight

Sunrise ... 6:47 a.m.
Sunset ... 8:59 p.m.

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Police: Club shooting that injured 28 may be gang-related

By Andrew DeMillo and Tafi Mukunyadzi
Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Clubgoers screamed and scrambled for cover as dozens of gunshots rang out during a rap concert in downtown Little Rock early Saturday, leaving 28 people injured from an 11-second melee that police said may be gang-related.

The volley of gunfire inside the Power Ultra Lounge came so fast that investigators believe multiple people had to have been involved. Police Chief Kenton Buckner credited quick work by first responders for there being no fatalities.

Twenty-five people between the ages of 16 and 35 suffered gunshot wounds, and three others were hurt, perhaps while fleeing, Buckner said. Two people were in critical condition Saturday afternoon. Police said officers did not have any suspects in custody.

Courtney Swanigan, 23, told The Associated Press that when the gunfire rang out, "I just closed my eyes, got down on the ground and put my hands on my head."

City officials said they would move today to shut down the club under a "criminal abatement" program. State regulators suspended the club's liquor license earlier Saturday.

On Saturday night, a representative for the landlord's office posted an eviction notice on a door to the club. The notice stated that the club must move out of the property within three days "due to your failure to maintain the premises in a safe condition."

"We know we've got to use a hammer, we've got to use a big hammer on the people who would do violence with guns and hurt people," Stodola said at an afternoon news conference.

He said the city must "keep guns out of the hands of the wrong people" and suggested that people refuse to patronize clubs that seem to promote violence. Material advertising the concert by Tennessee rapper Finese 2Tymes showed a man pointing a gun at a camera.

Mitchell Pe Masilun/The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette via AP

Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola, fourth from left, and other concerned citizens listen to speakers during a candlelight vigil in response to the mass shooting in the early morning at the Power Ultra Lounge, in Little Rock, Ark., on Saturday. Clubgoers screamed and scrambled for cover as dozens of gunshots rang out during a rap concert, leaving more than two dozen people injured in a shooting that police said may be gang-related.

"A promotional video with a gun on the front cover inviting people to a concert ... should also be totally unacceptable in our community," the mayor said.

The shooting capped a violent week in Arkansas' largest city. Police had responded to a dozen drive-by shootings over the previous nine days.

"This does appear to be a continuation of disputes from some of our local groups," Buckner said. "You've seen some of the things playing out in our streets that has resulted in drive-by shootings."

The shooting occurred around 2:30 a.m. about 1 mile east of the state Capitol building. First-responders are stationed through the central part of the city and hospitals are a quick ride away.

"We had professional people responding to that incident and they did what they were trained to do, and I know they probably had something to do with the fact we didn't have any fatalities," Buckner said. He also credited divine intervention.

About 100 people gathered at Second Baptist Church on Saturday night for a candlelight vigil, seeking healing for those injured, and the community. Stodola sat in the front row.

"God bless our community. ... God bless our first responders," Robert Holt, president of Let Our Violence End and pastor at Healing Waters Outreach Center, said at the vigil.

Top state officials offered to help the city respond to an increasing number of incidents.

"Little Rock's crime problem appears to be intensifying," Republican Gov. Asa Hutchinson said in a statement. "Every few days it seems a high-profile shooting dominates the news, culminating with this morning's event. I have spoken this morning with Mayor (Mark) Stodola and I have offered both my heart felt concern over this senseless violent tragedy and state assets as needed to address the continued threat of violence in our community."

A Facebook video posted from inside the club included audio of at least 24 rounds fired in about 11 seconds. Darryl Rankin, who posted the video, said a friend of his who attended the concert with him had a bullet "stuck in his spine." Buckner said police had not yet spoken with the rapper, who he said has outstanding warrants in the state.

Calls to a number listed for Finese 2Tymes' booking agent weren't returned Saturday, but a message was posted on the artist's Facebook page offering thoughts and prayers for those injured: "THE VIOLENCE IS NOT FOR THE CLUB PEOPLE. WE ALL COME WITH 1 MOTIVE AT THE END OF THE DAY, AND THATS TO HAVE FUN."

Police cordoned off the area as technicians collected evidence from the scene, which is near a Roman Catholic cathedral and a First United Methodist Church center. A number of worshippers gathered for a funeral at St. Andrew's while police continued their work.

Glass from the Power Ultra Lounge's second-story windows littered the ground, along with empty drink cups. In the parking lot, a silver Toyota had what appeared to be a streak of blood on the front passenger-side door.

"I'm sick of all the killing and I'm tired of all the shooting. The kids getting hurt," said Raida Bunche, who was waiting outside the club after hearing from a friend that her son had been inside. She found out later that he had run from the club when the shooting started and was not hurt.

Before Stodola announced that the city would shutter the club, officials at the Arkansas Alcoholic Beverage Control office suspended the club's liquor license and set a July 10 hearing on three potential charges: disorderly conduct, allowing possession of weapons on the premises and "failure to be a good neighbor."

The club's license has been suspended 11 times for failing to pay taxes, and it has been cited seven times for 14 various violations including unknowingly furnishing alcohol to minors and allowing alcohol to leave the premises since 2012, ABC Director of Enforcement Boyce Hamlet said.

Arkansas lawmakers this year passed a law allowing concealed handguns in bars, with permission of the businesses' owners and if the gun permit holder completes additional training. The law takes effect Sept. 1, but the training likely won't be available until next year.

Rapper held on unrelated charges after Little Rock shooting

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — A rapper whose concert in Little Rock was the site of a shooting that left 29 people injured was arrested early Sunday on unrelated assault charges while outside an Alabama club where he was performing just 24 hours later, and authorities said several firearms were recovered during the arrest.

Ricky Hampton, 25, of Memphis, Tennessee, also known as Finese 2Tymes, was arrested on outstanding charges of aggravated assault with a gun out of Forrest City in eastern Arkansas, the U.S. Marshals Service said. A second man also was taken into custody, and two handguns and an assault rifle were seized from the Mercedes in which the two men were riding, said Cliff LaBarge with the U.S. Marshals Service in Alabama.

The firearms will be sent to a crime lab in Arkansas to determine whether they match shell casings found at the scene of the shooting early Saturday at the Power Ultra Lounge, said Little Rock Police Lt. Steven McClanahan.

McClanahan described Hampton as a "person of interest" and said the rapper will be extradited to Arkansas so that police can interview him.

McClanahan said no arrests have been made in the shooting in which 25 people between the ages of 16 and 35 suffered gunshot wounds, and three others were hurt afterward. He said police did not recover any weapons at the scene of the shooting, which authorities believe may have been gang-related.

"We are definitely looking at that possibility," McClanahan said. "We know that gang members were present inside."

Prison records from the Tennessee Department of Corrections show a Ricky Hampton with the same date of birth, home town and a similar appearance was released from prison in August 2016 after serving six years for two counts of aggravated robbery.

Material advertising the concert by Finese 2Tymes showed a man pointing a gun at a camera, drawing a rebuke from Mayor Mark Stodola.

Hampton was being held Sunday without bond in Alabama. A message posted on the rapper's Facebook page Saturday offered thoughts and prayers for those injured: "THE VIOLENCE IS NOT FOR THE CLUB PEOPLE. WE ALL COME WITH 1 MOTIVE AT THE END OF THE DAY, AND THATS TO HAVE FUN."

A woman who answered a phone number listed on Finese 2Tymes' Instagram account for booking said the rapper didn't consider canceling the Birmingham show, despite the shooting, because he wasn't responsible for what happened. The woman didn't give her name before hanging up.

The volley of gunfire inside the Power Ultra Lounge came so fast that investigators believe multiple people had to have been involved. Police Chief Kenton Buckner credited quick work by first responders for there being no fatalities.

City officials said they would move Monday to shut down the club under a "criminal abatement" program. State regulators suspended the club's liquor license Saturday, and a representative for the landlord's office later posted an eviction notice on a door to the club. The notice stated that the club must move out of the property within three days "due to your failure to maintain the premises in a safe condition."

About 30 people attended a news conference Sunday with Arkansas Stop the Violence, which is seeking more resources to fight poverty and crime in the southern half of the city. The event was held in front of a police station near where a boy was shot in a drive-by last week.

By Sean Murphy and Kelly P. Kissel
Associated Press

Former judge in Kentucky fighting sex charges

By Bruce Schreiner
Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — For years as a Kentucky judge, Tim Nolan sat in judgment of others. Now he sits in jail, awaiting trial on explosive accusations by prosecutors that he snared 17 women and juveniles into having sex over a seven-year period by using money, drugs and threats.

The former judge's fall to accused sex offender has rocked northern Kentucky, where Nolan was long a fixture in political and legal circles in the suburban sprawl just across the Ohio River from Cincinnati. Today he's in a jail cell in Kentucky's Campbell County, poring over documents for his defense after a judge set a $750,000 bond, calling him "potentially a danger to the community."

Nolan faces charges of human trafficking, rape, prostitution, witness tampering and unlawful transaction with a minor. In all, he faces 20 felony and two misdemeanor counts — and more than 100 years in prison if convicted on all charges.

"In this day and age, it's hard to be shocked, but I was shocked when I heard this," said Stephen Wolnitzek, an attorney who has known Nolan for decades. Kentucky Attorney General Andy Beshear's office said the 17 alleged victims include five juveniles.

Nolan maintains his innocence. His attorney, Margo Grubbs, said they will challenge the constitutionality of the state's human trafficking statute as being "vague" and "difficult to apply."

"We are pursuing the path of vindication vigorously," Grubbs said of "a story as alleged by some of these women."

Grubbs also said Nolan poses no flight risk and should receive home detention while awaiting trial, adding, "He's 70 years old and he has medical issues."

Authorities say the alleged crimes occurred between 2010 and May 2017. In a court filing, Assistant Attorney General Barbara Whaley said some alleged victims were drug addicts, and that Nolan, as a former judge, used that to his advantage to obtain sex with his victims.

"The defendant used money, drugs, housing, threats to call the probation office, and violent acts, as means to coerce, deceive and force these women to engage in commercial sexual activity, for months and sometimes years," she wrote.

Many details of the allegations remain unclear. Campbell County Police Chief Craig Sorrell said he was reluctant to release information, citing an ongoing investigation with "too many moving parts," and alleged interference with the supposed victims that prompted the witness tampering charge.

Some details have emerged in court filings. One alleged victim — homeless and addicted to heroin — told police she had sex with Nolan in exchange for money more than 50 times, The Kentucky Enquirer reported. Another said she also was addicted to heroin and depended on Nolan for money, meals and transportation, according to the paper.

The shocking nature of the charges was jarring to those who've called the ex-judge a friend for years.

"My first response, of course, would be, 'There's no way,'" said Mike Williams, a former prosecutor. "But I don't know the evidence against him."

Decades ago as a fast-rising lawyer, Nolan won election as a Campbell County district judge in 1977. He served until losing a 1985 re-election bid.

"He liked to give the impression to the public that he was a tough law-and-order judge," said Justin Verst, an assistant county attorney during Nolan's tenure.

After his defeat, Nolan resumed practicing law. In recent years, he became an outspoken advocate for tea party causes, sometimes appearing at meetings to press his concerns. He relished the give-and-take of debates.

"If you disagree with him, he would enjoy that even more," Williams said. "Tim liked to debate. That's probably why he made a good lawyer."

He also had enough political connections to be appointed to the state boxing and wrestling commission by Gov. Matt Bevin, who rescinded the appointment before Nolan ever served. And last year, Nolan campaigned for President Donald Trump's campaign and was elected to the county school board, unseating a veteran member.

Soon after the criminal charges surfaced, he resigned.

Nolan's wife Julia died last year, about a year before the allegations publicly surfaced. Their daughter is the Campbell County circuit court clerk.

Nolan is due back in court for a hearing next month. His trial date has not yet been scheduled.

Fellow tea party supporter Erik Hermes said Nolan's political allies are withholding judgment as the former judge fights the charges. "No one wants to condemn him until he has his day in court," Hermes said. "It's innocent until proven guilty."

Verst said the charges are a tragedy for Nolan and his family, but added: "If the charges are true, it's more of a tragedy for the victims."

Website in Illinois kidnap case still advises on abductions

By Michael Tarm
Associated Press

CHICAGO — A website that hosted an "Abduction 101" forum linked to a 28-year-old suspect in the kidnapping of a Chinese scholar at the University of Illinois bills itself as the most popular sexual fetish networking site on the internet — and it has faced pressure in recent months to be clearer about not tolerating behavior that could be regarded as criminal.

Brendt Allen Christensen, who earned a master's degree in physics from U of I this year, is charged in the June 9 abduction of 26-year-old Yingying Zhang, who investigators believe to be dead. The federal complaint says Christensen's phone was used on April 19 to visit the FetLife.com forum, including to view threads titled "Perfect abduction fantasy" and "planning a kidnapping."

Christensen remains jailed and is due to make an initial appearance today in federal court in Urbana, not far from the University of Illinois campus where Zhang conducted research in agricultural sciences. Christensen, who is from neighboring Champaign, was arrested Friday after agents monitoring him heard him tell someone he had kidnapped Zhang and held her against her will.

FetLife describes itself as "the Social Network for the BDSM, Fetish & Kinky Community," stressing in online policy statements that it is a place for consenting adults to trade advice and images of themselves, and to arrange to meet. The acronym BDSM stands for bondage, dominance, sadism and masochism. Established in 2008 by Canadian software developer John Baku, it now claims more than 5 million registered members.

FetLife early this year decided to prohibit hundreds of fetish categories after it was cited in a few criminal cases, including one in Australia, Baku said in a February online note to members. He said that, among other things, he wanted to reduce any legal liability and risks to the wider community.

As of Sunday, however, the site still included multiple forums focused on abduction fantasies, and an "Abduction Play" group had more than 78,000 FetLife members expressing interest in the topic. Among the threads still available on the site was one called "Tools of the Kidnapper" and another titled "Original kidnapping Play."

One registered user who commented in the kidnapping forum agreed that anyone who engages in such fantasies must first provide consent. But the person goes on: "I enjoy the knowledge that I COULD do anything I wanted to them. I'm well aware that once I render them helpless, their very life is in my hands."

> *"I enjoy the knowledge that I COULD do anything I wanted to them. I'm well aware that once I render them helpless, their very life is in my hands."*
>
> **Anonymous online user**

The Australian case, which Baku mentioned, involved a man who met a younger woman through FetLife. He was charged last year with assaulting her sexually and has denied the allegations. In a New York case, a couple who first met on FetLife were sentenced to lifetime prison sentences in 2015 for kidnapping and sexually abusing two Amish girls. FetLife wasn't accused of wrongdoing in either case.

Anyone can register on the site and become a member in a process that takes just a few minutes and that doesn't require independent verification. Users give their ages, genders and roles they wish to play, but otherwise remain anonymous.

Detailed policy guidelines on the site stress that any interaction online or in person with members must be between adults and consensual.

"FetLife's community is ... open-minded and non-judgmental," it says, adding, "Our number one priority is to create a fun and safe place for kinksters."

Neither FetLife nor Baku responded to messages seeking comment.

Authorities say Christensen kidnapped Zhang during the day as she headed to sign a lease for an apartment and was running late. She tried unsuccessfully to flag down a bus, and minutes later, is seen getting into a Saturn Astra the complaint says belonged to Christensen. Although authorities say facts in the case indicate Zhang isn't alive, a body hasn't been found.

Zhang's father traveled from China to Illinois in June for the search. Zhang, who received her master's degree in environmental engineering in China last year, was described by friends and family as bright and caring. She aspired to one day land a professorship so she could help her family financially.

Are launches of helium balloons seeing their dying days?

By Bruce Shipkowski
Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — When hands release helium-filled balloons and send them into the sky, they're doing more than marking a wedding, graduation or death. They're also stirring the pot in a clash between the balloon industry and environmentalists seeking to deflate a tradition they say harms wildlife.

Critics call the balloons litter that poses a deadly threat to fish, birds and other animals, as well as hazards to power lines. Their efforts are contested by The Balloon Council, a trade group based in Trenton that represents balloon manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and retailers.

The council was founded in 1990, around the time activists in New Jersey first tried to ban balloon launches in the state, and has spent more than $1 million in the past five years lobbying against balloon regulations nationwide.

The group is again lobbying against a measure proposed in the New Jersey Senate to ban the balloon launches, arguing that efforts have been based on rumor, inaccurate news reports and "expert" assertions and would have severely limited consumer's rights.

"We take the issues seriously, but educating retailers and consumers is the best way to go," said Dale Florio of the Princeton Public Affairs Group, a lobbying group that represents the council. Banning launches, he said, unfairly hurts small businesses.

"We don't want people to be afraid to handle balloons because they fear the balloon police will accuse them of wrongly releasing a balloon," Florio said. "No business and no balloon retailer wants to contribute to the harm of any creature, but to say it's a hazard, we think that's way overblown."

California, Connecticut, Florida, Tennessee and Virginia have laws that ban or restrict launches, as do some U.S. cities. At least two communities in Australia and one in the United Kingdom also impose restrictions. Four towns at the New Jersey shore — Atlantic City, Ventnor, Margate and Longport — passed bans this year, and environmental groups have lobbied others to join in.

Many utility companies have spoken out, arguing balloons can cause power outages when they hit electric lines. And the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's website includes photos of birds and a turtle that died after choking or being strangled by balloon pieces and strings.

"The paint (on the balloons) will wear off over time, and become transparent," said Cindy Zipf, executive director of Clean Ocean Action, a New Jersey-based environmental group. "Marine life often mistake balloons for their natural prey, such as jellyfish, and the balloons can block their digestive systems of animals, causing a long and painful death."

The group's annual beach sweeps have picked up thousands of mylar and latex balloons in recent years, Zipf said.

Balloons Blow, a nonprofit organization based in Jensen Beach, Florida, is a sharp and frequent critic of the Balloon Council. It has led the push for outright bans, citing dangers to animals and an increase in recent years of single-use plastic causing marine pollution.

The group says people should consider eco-conscious alternatives — such as reusable banners, flags or pinwheels — instead of balloon launches when they stage public events, while those seeking to honor a departed loved one can plant trees or create gardens.

They and other environmental groups say many people mistakenly believe latex balloons are biodegradable.

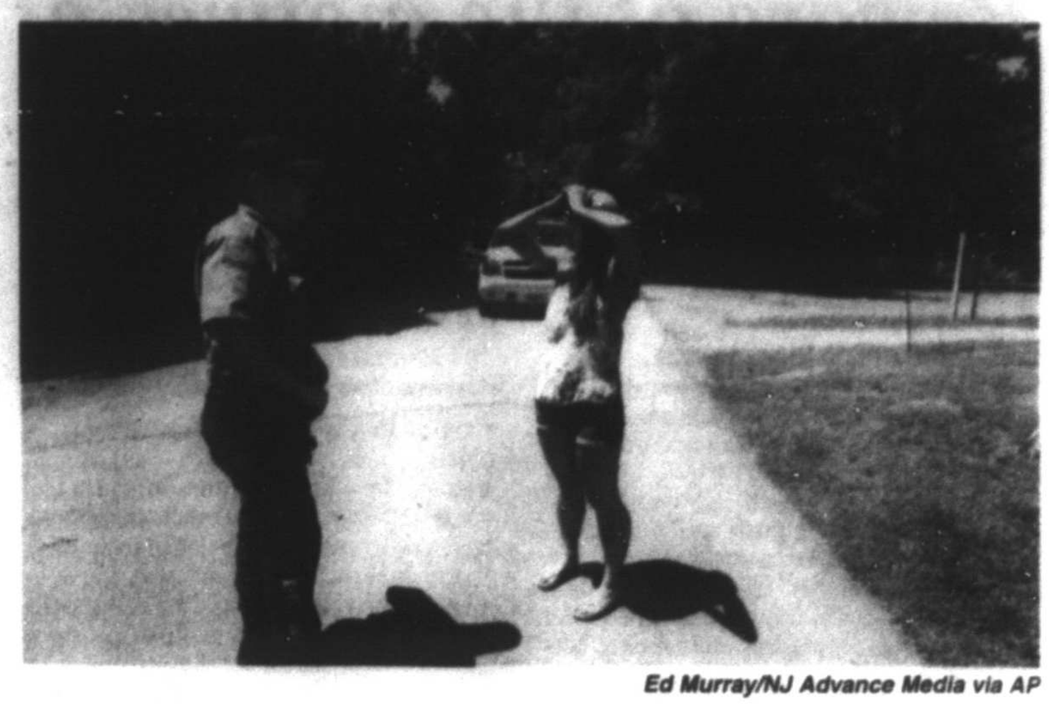
Some who have launched balloons say that they understand the environmental concern but that the launches have helped them get through tough times.

After her uncle died in a car accident a few years ago, Marcy Jensen said, she and relatives launched balloons during a service in a New Jersey park.

"We thought it was a simple way to honor a great man," said Jensen, 27, of Toms River. "I realize it sounds corny, but it was kind of like we were sending him up to the heavens. It was really touching and moving for us."

States without a plan: 11 US states haven't passed budgets

By Jeffrey Collins
Associated Press



Ed Murray/NJ Advance Media via AP

New Jersey State Park police block the entrance to Bulls Island state recreation area during the state government shutdown in Stockton, N.J., on Sunday. New Jersey's government shutdown dragged into a second day Sunday without a resolution to the stalemate between a defiant Republican Gov. Chris Christie and an unmoving Democratic Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto.

Cub Scouts being kicked out of a campground in New Jersey may be the most visible sign of budget problems in American states, but New Jersey is far from alone in struggling to work out a spending plan.

As the budget year started most places Saturday, 11 states did not have budgets in place, according to the National Association of State Budget Officers.

Not all the budget fights are as dramatic as Republican Gov. Chris Christie's shutdown in New Jersey, or the granddaddy of spending disputes — the now more than two years Illinois has operated without a spending plan.

Many of the disputes are driven by ideological divides made worse by poor budget forecasting. Half of states received less in taxes than expected last fiscal year, the worst job of estimating since the tail end of the Great Recession, according to the budget officers association.

In some states like Wisconsin, the disagreement is whether to borrow money or raise taxes.

The states without a budget on July 1 are Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin, while in Pennsylvania and Michigan the budget has passed the Legislature and is on the governor's desk.

A look at the problems blocking spending plans in several states and the potential consequences:

New Jersey

Republican Gov. Christie ordered the shutdown of nonessential state services like state parks and the motor vehicles commission late Friday as he puts pressure on Democratic lawmakers to overhaul New Jersey's biggest health insurer.

There were the obvious signs of a modern budget impasse like the roughly 25 Cub Scouts from Pack 124 in Tinton Falls being forced to leave Cheesequake State Park. Christie's administration placed the photo of Democratic Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto, on who it's blaming the shutdown, on signs announcing the parks are closed.

New Jersey Democrats worry if they don't give in to Christie's demands in the nearly $35 billion budget, he will use his line-item on education spending.

Illinois

Saturday marked the start of a third year without a budget for Illinois. And that lack of a spending plan has it in the most dire straits of any state in the United States.

The problems started when Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner took over in 2015, the same year a temporary four-year tax increase ended. In his first budget year, Democrats ignored Rauner's demands, and the state kept the same spending plan as it had when it was collecting the extra $7 billion a year in taxes.

Illinois is now running on an estimated $6 billion deficit. Comptroller Susana Mendoza is warning that without some kind of spending plan, state workers may stop getting paychecks, pension payments may be halted, money-generating lottery ticket sales could stop and the state's credit rating could fall to "junk" by the summer.

Maine

In Maine, lawmakers worked over the weekend, but it appeared residents will start dealing today with the state's first government shutdown since 1991.

Democrats and Republicans in the Legislature worked together on the two-year, $7.1 billion budget, but Republican Gov. Paul LePage said he couldn't accept because it did not include his income tax cuts.

Unlike other states facing budget disputes, both lawmakers and the governor appear to be trying to end the game of chicken. LePage made his own suggestions and staffers appeared to praise the work being done over the weekend with hopes that a final vote on a deal could be held today.

Wisconsin

The budget deal in Wisconsin fell apart over an issue dogging many states these days — how to pay to fix and improve crumbling roads.

Dwindling collections from the state's gas tax and vehicle registration fees have left a $1 billion hole in the two-year, $76 billion spending plan Wisconsin was supposed to have in place Friday. Republican Gov. Scott Walker wants to borrow $500 million and delay some projects to save money. Some Republicans want to borrow even more and the GOP discussed a new heavy truck fee to raise $250 million, but that appears to be dead along with any discussion of raising the gas tax with Walker considering running for a third term next year.

Oregon

The only western state without a budget appears to be well on its way to passing a spending plan.

In Oregon, the drama started when Gov. Kate Brown and fellow Democrats called for changes in the way the state taxes businesses. But as June started with no deal over the state budget, separated into several spending plans, Brown relented.

Additional revenue helped Democrats and Republicans reach a deal.

But there could still be some spending disputes. In jeopardy are $670 million in taxes for health care as a Republican Rep. Julie Parrish said she will push to get 58,000 signatures in 90 days to take advantage of Oregon's law that allows voters to delay implementation of a law through a special election.

Man facing murder charges in road-rage slaying of woman, 18

Assoicated Press

WEST CHESTER, Pa. — A Pennsylvania man was in custody Sunday for what a prosecutor called the "savage" and "senseless" death of a recent high school graduate shot in the head during a road-rage confrontation as the two tried to merge in a single lane.

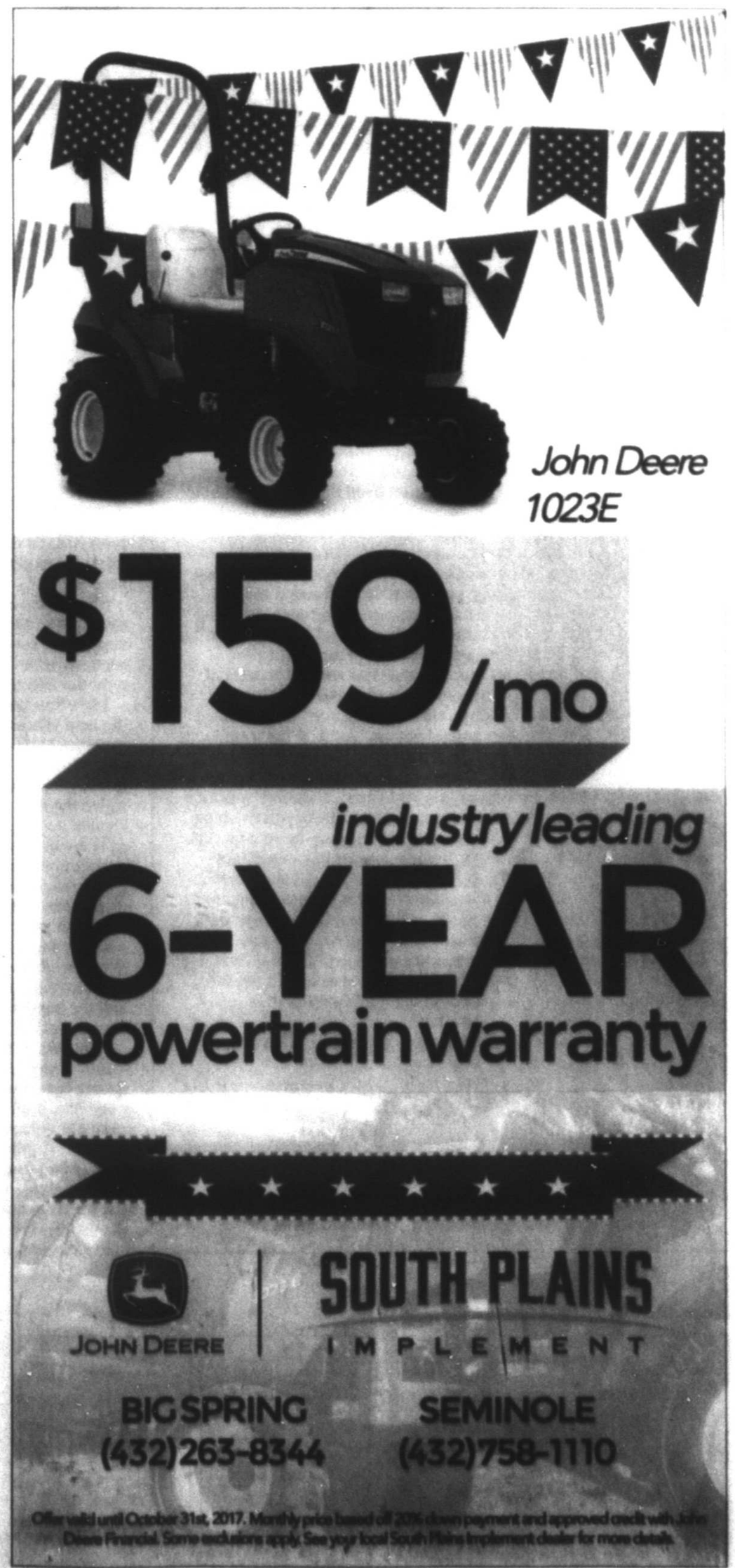
David Desper, 28, of Trainer, turned himself in accompanied by an attorney early Sunday, and police said he was charged with first- and third-degree murder, possession of an instrument of crime, and reckless endangering in the death of 18-year-old Bianca Roberson in West Goshen Township.

Desper and Roberson, who had just graduated from Bayard Rustin High School in West Chester and was planning to attend Jacksonville University in Florida this fall, were trying to merge into a single lane Wednesday as a two-lane road narrowed, Chester County District Attorney Thomas Hogan said.

"They jockeyed for position, and he wasn't happy, so he pulled out a gun and shot Bianca in the head, killing her instantly," he said.

After Roberson was shot, her car veered off the road, struck a tree and was found in a ditch. The shooter fled in a red pickup, driving partly along the shoulder of the highway until exiting the road. Authorities tracked the suspect vehicle on surveillance video and sorted through hundreds of tips from the public, calling on the suspect to turn himself in for his own sake and for the sake of the family.

"We got a crucial piece of evidence from Bianca herself, because the round recovered from her was reviewed by a forensic ballistics expert who told us that that round came from a 40-caliber Smith and Wesson semi-automatic handgun," Hogan said.



Beware of the motives of 'progressive' companies

■ When big businesses do what the left likes, it's called "corporate responsibility."

JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service

Let me just say this at the outset: Mildred Dresselhaus, who died in February at 86, was an amazing women. An accomplished physicist who won just about every scientific award short of the Nobel Prize, Dresselhaus was by all accounts a pioneer, patriot and great American.

Nonetheless, I still find GE's commercial in her honor to be profoundly creepy.

If you haven't seen the ad, which debuted at the Oscars and is omnipresent on MSNBC, you can find it on YouTube.

It opens with a little girl unwrapping her birthday present. "A Millie Dresselhaus doll!" she exclaims with glee. The camera then cuts to a video of the same scene on a Facebook page, with a proud parent captioning it "Found her a Mille Dresselhaus doll! #BestMomEver." The doll shows the elderly Dresselhaus in her apparently trademark red sweater and black slacks.

The montage speeds up after that. Little girls are all dressed like Millie for Halloween. An ecstatic Indian TV host introduces Millie on her talk show. We see a maternity ward where all the little girls are named "Millie." Then, a girl leaving her physics exam texts her friend, "Aced physics!!"

"What if we lived in a world like that?" the narrator asks.

Then the screen goes black. And in simple white text we learn that "GE is helping create that world."

The commercial goes on to explain that GE wants to get more women interested in science and engineering, which is fine by me.

But the company, which depends heavily on government contracts, subsidies and regulations, has a long history of tapping into trendy political fads and causes that just so happen to help its bottom line.

The most famous was GE's "Green Week" propaganda campaign back when it owned NBC. GE ordered all of NBC's shows — news, sitcoms, dramas, sports — to incorporate messages about the importance of fighting climate change and using renewable energy. Only rarely would anyone disclose that the corporate behemoth made billions of dollars selling products — light bulbs, wind turbines, greenhouse gas credits — that wouldn't be profitable without government subsidies and regulations.

The crowd that normally demonizes big business as evil and "right-wing" didn't care. Neither did the usual media critics and decriers of conflicts of interest. Why? Because they agreed with the political agenda that GE was parasitically exploiting. When big businesses do what the left likes, words like "greed," "propaganda," "crony capitalism," "corruption," etc., never come to mind. They call it "corporate responsibility."

At the time I liked to ask, "What if Rupert Murdoch ordered all of Fox's shows, including its prime-time sitcoms, to commit to 'Pro-Life Week'? What would be the response then?" To my mind, that would have been better than Green Week, because at least Murdoch has no financial interest in federal abortion policy.

I have no idea what, if any, profit motive informs the Dresselhaus ad other than the desire for GE to be seen as a loyally progressive company and to get on the good side of various regulators, bureaucrats and feminist groups.

But it's still creepy and awfully condescending. It's creepy because any society based on deranged cults of personality is scary and weird. Making science itself into some kind of fanatical faith is almost a dystopian cliche.

It's condescending because it makes it sound like the notion that women can be scientists and engineers is the stuff of science fiction or fantasy. If GE did the same kind of ad, only imagining a world where black people could be scientists, I suspect that would be more obvious.

she types, followed by two Dresselhaus emojis.

Finally, the narrator chimes in, during a scene with two young women snapping pictures of themselves posing in front of a giant mural of Dresselhaus, wearing a crown, on the side of a building. "What if we treated great female scientists like they were stars?" the narrator asks.

More scenes of young people freaking out over the octogenarian scientist unfold, including a young woman pointing to the Dresselhaus image on her T-shirt and saying, "Yasss, queen!"

The narrator goes on: "What if Millie Dresselhaus, the first woman to win the National Medal of Science in Engineering, were as famous as any celebrity?"

Paparazzi fight to snap a picture of her having lunch. Crowds fill public squares as people around the world flock to stadiums for her lecture. Glassy-eyed women wait in anticipation for her to walk on stage.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

OPINION EXTRA

Supreme Court ruling shows 'to get President Trump, anything goes'

The story line is that President Donald Trump has no respect for the judiciary and the separation of powers, but lately the reverse has been more nearly the case. Some in the judiciary have seemed to think they can boss the executive and legislative branches around no matter what the law says.

Ah, but here comes a unanimous Supreme Court saying a bunch of lower courts went absolutely too far in their snarling pursuit of this president who has no end of anti-democratic forces on his trail. What we are talking about, of course, is Trump's varied executive orders seeking a temporary ban on trips to the United States by citizens of terrorist-ridden countries with disorderly vetting processes.

These six Middle East countries had been identified by the Obama administration as especially troubling and, despite Trumpian fumbles of various sorts in the way this was handled, a case can be made for what he wants. While there have been stories to the contrary, some bad customers have made their way here from those shores; terrorism is hardly taking a nap right now and checking out visitors more thoroughly hardly seems stupid.

Some have argued the changes could surely be made while the hustle and bustle is going on, but there's an old saying that would seem to apply. You can't fix a train while it's running. John Kelly, an experienced and honorable military man now serving as secretary of homeland security, has said that slowing things down is necessary in order to arrive at something that works better than what we now have.

But whether the revision succeeds or not, the executive order was crystal clear about objectives and methods, the president has indisputable powers within the Constitution to do this thing, and lower courts said nothing doing. A primary methodology was to read Trump's mind and guess at real motives that would not matter legally even if the guesses were right.

Because Trump had talked about a Muslim ban during his campaign and these were Muslim-majority countries, the judges figured this was religious discrimination even though it applied to everyone in those countries and hundreds of millions of Muslims are not affected.

Imagine for a moment that courts generally behaved in this fashion, judging whether you broke the law or not based not on what the law says but on something you once said. Justice that is not. Of course, it is nothing new to see activist courts essentially writing new laws to fit their political druthers. Even the Supreme Court has done it, and it is a betrayal of our founding principles.

In this case, the Supreme Court did not deal with all aspects of the decisions of the past courts. Until it could hold a full hearing, it decided not to ban travelers who have connections in the United States and have already been going back and forth. What it said was those coming here for the first time were going to have to wait a bit in accordance with the order. Three of the judges wanted to act now on a temporary ban for everyone, saying America's safety was more important than any of the other issues raised in the appellate courts.

The lower court judges meanwhile think they are more important than the law. Whatever Trump's faults, the unending conspiracy theories about him, the slurs, the barbaric jokes about an assassination, the impeachment preachments and activist judges add up to a threat not only to him. But to all of us. It did not happen overnight, this incredible country we have, and these people would tear it apart.

Trump has already done one mighty thing to change all that. He got Neil Gorsuch on the Supreme Court. He was one of the three who voted to include all travelers in the temporary ban.

— Ben Shapiro, Tribune News Service

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Because of Trump, mom is a citizen

■ All it took was a new president promising to do his best to rid the country of immigrants

ESTHER CEPEDA

Washington Post Writers Group

Thank you, thank you, thank you, President Trump.

I offer my gratitude because after years of being the last of my immigrant family members to undertake the naturalization process, my mother just took the oath to become a U.S. citizen.

It finally happened after 10 years of prodding and needling and of painting doomsday scenarios about crazy, obscure ways that legal permanent residents can accidentally become deportable. For instance, paperwork mishaps like failing to file a change of address form to the Department of Homeland Security within 10 days of a move could put a green card holder at risk of fines, jail or even deportation.

But, ultimately, all it took was a new president promising to do his best to rid the country of immigrants to get her to undertake the long, arduous process.

She started her application process less than a month after the November election and now I can sleep easy knowing that no bureaucratic slip-up will send my mom back to the country where she spent only the first third of her life.

My mom was hardly alone in hesitating to make the leap. Though Mexicans represent the largest group of legal permanent residents, their rate of naturalization is only about half that of green card holders from all other countries combined, according to the most recent tally by the Pew Research Center.

There are many reasons for this: Many of the immigrants surveyed indicated that they weren't engaging in the process because they felt their English skills were not good enough or were scared that the citizenship test would be too difficult.

In my mom's case, neither of those was an issue. What had been keeping her from taking the plunge was a combination of comfort with her legal status and the hassle of undertaking a complex administrative process.

However, once mere legal permanent residence status stopped feeling like the most secure way to ensure her future in the United States, it was an easy decision.

But people who tsk-tsk that more eligible immigrants don't naturalize rarely realize that it takes money and time that many people don't have.

The process took six months from filing the initial forms to completing the interviews and taking the test. But it was, effectively, a walk in the park since she's an educated professional who has been a fluent English speaker for more than 40 years. And she had all the time in the world to manage the process because she recently retired. Plus, the $800 that it cost to pay for the application, get photos taken, travel to multiple appointments, and so on, was of little consequence to her budget.

For someone without all those resources, a task that could take up to a year or more is far less attainable than an uninformed observer might imagine. According to Pew, 94 percent of those who say they have not naturalized cite the cost of the application.

There are nonprofit groups out there like The New Americans Campaign, a nonpartisan national network of organizations helping immigrants navigate and pay for the citizenship process. Since its inception in 2011, the Campaign has helped more than 250,000 applicants and saved them more than $206 million in legal and application fees, but the group is hardly a household name.

Still, the latest data from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services says that 752,800 people were naturalized in fiscal year 2016 — a little higher than the average of 740,000 per year over the last decade, an increase that's almost surely due to people who wanted to be eligible to vote in the 2016 election. But it will be some time before statisticians can determine whether, or how many, new U.S. citizens resulted directly from fears prompted by Trump's election.

No matter.

What counts is that last week in Chicago my mother and 114 other men and women from 33 countries spanning Armenia to the United Kingdom closed their journeys as immigrants and took the oath to be upstanding and honorable citizens.

They joyously swore to support our Constitution, renounce allegiance to all other countries, and also vowed to bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law.

That's right, America, my mom's got your back!

Hopefully, President Trump will inspire an unprecedented number of immigrants to become new Americans. And may they be energized to help others attain the safety of citizenship.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Trump makes push on health bill; repeal-only vote an option

By Hope Yen
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is making a weekend push to get a Republican Senate bill to repeal and replace former President Barack Obama's health care law "across the finish line," Trump's top legislative aide said Sunday, maintaining that a repeal-only option also remained in play if Republicans can't reach agreement.

Marc Short, the White House's legislative director, said Trump was making calls to wavering senators and insisted they were "getting close" on passing a bill.

But Short said Trump continues to believe that repeal-only legislation should also be considered after raising the possibility last Friday. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has dismissed that suggestion and said he intended to proceed with legislation being negotiated over the July 4 recess.

"We hope when we come back, the week after recess, we'll have a vote," Short said. But he added: "If the replacement part is too difficult for Republicans to get together, then let's go back and take care of the first step of repeal."

Trump on Friday tweeted the suggestion of repealing the Obama-era law right away and then replacing it later, an approach that GOP leaders and the president himself considered but dismissed months ago as impractical and politically unwise. But the tweet came amid continuing signs of GOP disagreement among moderates and conservatives over the bill. Republicans hold a 52-48 majority in the Senate. Just three GOP defections would doom the legislation, because Democrats are united in opposition.

Republicans returned to their home districts late last week, bracing for a flood of phone calls, emails and television advertising from both conservative and liberal groups aimed at pressuring senators. Sen. Bill Cassidy held a town hall meeting last Friday to talk about flood recovery in Baton Rouge, Louisiana's capital city, but audience members angry over the GOP health care bill at times chanted over Cassidy's answers and criticized the secretive legislative process.

"I wish we weren't doing it one party," Cassidy said Sunday, adding he remains undecided on how he will vote.

Trump's suggestion had the potential to harden divisions within the GOP as conservatives complain that McConnell's bill does not go far enough in repealing Obama's health care law while moderates criticize it as overly harsh in kicking people off insurance rolls, shrinking the Medicaid safety net and increasing premiums for older Americans.

"It's not easy making America great again, is it?" McConnell said late Friday. He has previously indicated that if Republicans fail to reach agreement, he will have to negotiate with Democrats, who want to fix Obama's health care law without repealing it.

Short said the White House remained hopeful after Senate Republicans submitted two versions of the bill to the Congressional Budget Office for scoring over the weeklong recess. Sen. Ted Cruz is pushing a conservative version that aims to aggressively reduce costs by giving states greater flexibility to create separate higher-risk pools. The other seeks to bolster health care subsidies for lower-income people, perhaps by preserving a tax boost on high earners.

Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price said negotiations over the Senate bill were focusing on ways to address the issue of Medicaid coverage so that "nobody falls through the cracks," combating the opioid crisis, as well as giving families more choice in selecting their insurance plan.

"We think that Leader McConnell and his senators within the Senate are working to try to get this piece of legislation on track," Price said.

But conservative Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., said he didn't think a repeal-and-replace bill could win 50 votes. Both he and Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Neb., have been urging McConnell to consider a repeal-only bill first.

"I don't think we're getting anywhere with the bill we have. We're at an impasse," Paul said. He criticized Senate leaders, saying they were seeking to win over moderates with multibillion dollar proposals to combat the opioid epidemic and boost tax subsidies to help lower-income people get coverage.

"The bill is just being lit up like a Christmas tree full of billion-dollar ornaments, and it's not repeal," Paul said. "I think you can get 52 Republicans for clean repeal."

Even before Trump was inaugurated in January, Republicans had debated and ultimately discarded the idea of repealing the overhaul before replacing it, concluding that both must happen simultaneously. Doing otherwise would invite accusations that Republicans were simply tossing people off coverage and roil insurance markets by raising the question of whether, when and how Congress might replace Obama's law once it was gone.

But at least nine GOP senators expressed opposition after a CBO analysis last week found that McConnell's draft bill would result in 22 million people losing insurance over the next decade, only 1 million fewer than under the House-passed legislation that Trump privately told senators was "mean."

Paul said he believes that Senate Republicans can do a repeal-only bill concurrently with a bill "they can call 'replace.'"

Sasse said he would like to see a bill that would repeal Obamacare "with a delay."

"If we can do a combined repeal and replace over the next week, that's great," Sasse said. "If we can't, though, then there's no reason to walk away."

"I would want a delay, so that we could get straight to work. And then I think the president should call on the Senate to cancel our August" recess, Sasse said. Short and Paul appeared on "Fox News Sunday," Price and Cassidy were on NBC's "Meet the Press," and Sasse spoke on CNN's "State of the Union."

Trump tweets mock video showing him beating man labeled CNN

By Catherine Lucey
Associated Press

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. — In his latest jab at the media, President Donald Trump on Sunday tweeted a mock video that shows him pummeling a man in a business suit — his face obscured by the CNN logo — outside a wrestling ring.

It was not immediately clear who produced the brief video, which appears to be a doctored version of Trump's 2007 appearance on World Wrestling Entertainment Inc. The 28-second clip was posted on Trump's official Twitter account, with the message: "#FraudNews-CNN #FNN."

The president in the past has branded the media as "the opposition party" and "the enemy of the American people." He has taken particular aim at CNN, calling the network "fake news."

Trump stayed on the attack later in the day, stating on Twitter that "the dishonest media will NEVER keep us from accomplishing our objectives on behalf of our GREAT AMERICAN PEOPLE!"

Bruce Brown, the executive director of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, condemned the video as a "threat of physical violence against journalists." He said Trump's tweet was "beneath the office of the presidency."

A White House aide insisted the tweet should not send a chill across the media landscape.

"I think that no one would perceive that as a threat," homeland security adviser Tom Bossert said. "I hope they don't. But I do think that he's beaten up in a way on cable platforms that he has a right to respond to."

CNN accused Trump of engaging in "juvenile behavior far below the dignity of his office."

White House officials traveling with Trump during his weekend stay at his New Jersey golf club did not immediately respond to questions about who made the video or about any message the president might have intended to send.

The video appeared to be a doctored version of an appearance Trump made on a World Wrestling Entertainment Inc. show called "Battle of the Billionaires" in 2007, in which Trump appears to attack WWE CEO Vince McMahon.

McMahon's wife, Linda, who founded and built the company with her husband, now heads the Small Business Administration for Trump and was a generous benefactor to his campaign.

The video was posted several days ago by a Reddit user with the title, "Trump takes down fake news." It was not clear whether that was where it originated or where Trump found it. Still, the user wrote Sunday about being "honored" Trump had tweeted the video. The user who posted the video has a history of posts using anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant language.

The president's verbal shots against news outlets and individual members of the media have grown increasingly personal in recent days even as lawmakers in both parties say the insults only threaten to undermine his political agenda.

Trump has singled out MSNBC host Mika Brzezinski and CNN for some of his most biting criticism, and hardly is backing down in the face of widespread condemnation from the political class.

"The fake media tried to stop us from going to the White House, but I'm president and they're not," Trump told a supportive crowd Saturday in Washington.

A White House spokeswoman, Sarah Sanders, told reporters last week that Trump "in no way, form or fashion has ever promoted or encouraged violence."

CNN, in its response to the video posted Sunday, said it was "a sad day when the president of the United States encourages violence against reporters. Clearly, Sarah Huckabee Sanders lied when she said the president had never done so."

CNN's statement noted the weighty list of issues before Trump — an overseas trip this week that includes a meeting with Russian leader Vladimir Putin, the stalled health care bill, the threat from North Korea. Instead of focusing on those matters, CNN said, "he is involved in juvenile behavior far below the dignity of his office. We will keep doing our jobs. He should start doing his."

Trump's latest tweet came as Republicans and Democrats have been imploring him to focus on leading the country, rather than exploding on social media.

For days, Trump has focused his ire on Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough, co-hosts of MSNBC's "Morning Joe."

Trump took to Twitter on Thursday to call Brzezinski "crazy" and contend she was "bleeding badly from a face-lift" when he once saw them at his Florida estate. The comment was decried as sexist and vulgar by many Democrats and Republicans.

The MSNBC personalities said Friday that Trump was lying about their December encounter and they questioned his "unhealthy obsession" with their program.

Texas isn't handing over all of requested voting data

By Jim Malewitz
Texas Tribune

Hey, Texplainer: I hear the federal government is asking all 50 states for a wide range of data on individual voters, and some states are pushing back. How is Texas handling the request?

Texas plans to hand over some data requested, but not all of it.

But before we dive into the details, let's first understand who's asking for the data. That's the federal "Election Integrity Commission," assembled by President Donald Trump, who has claimed — thus far without evidence — that millions of people voted illegally (and presumably against him) in the 2016 election.

Election experts call proven cases of voter fraud incredibly rare, and civil rights groups fear Trump's commission — chaired by Vice President Mike Pence and vice-chaired by Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach, who has championed some of the nation's strictest voting and anti-immigrant laws — will throw up roadblocks to voting in the name of fraud prevention. But the White House told The Texas Tribune that Trump, using the commission, "wants to ensure that the integrity of all elections, which are the cornerstone of our democracy, is preserved."

What data did the commission request?

Kobach this week sent letters to every secretary of state across the U.S. requesting a wide range of data "in order for the commission to fully analyze vulnerabilities and issues related to voter registration and voting."

The requested data included: "the full first and last names of all registrants, middle names or initials if available, addresses, dates of birth, political party (if recorded in your state), last four digits of social security number if available, voter history (elections voted in) from 2006 onward, active/inactive status, cancelled status, information regarding any felony convictions, information regarding voter registration in another state, information regarding military status, and overseas citizen information."

The request had a caveat. Kobach asked for the data "if publicly available under the laws of your state."

The letter also asked secretaries of state to share their views and recommendations on how to bolster the integrity of elections.

Several states — including those led by Republicans and Democrats — have outright refused to hand over any data, some in colorful language. Take the response of Mississippi Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann, a Republican: "My reply would be: They can go jump in the Gulf of Mexico, and Mississippi is a great state to launch from. Mississippi residents should celebrate Independence Day and our state's right to protect the privacy of our citizens by conducting our own electoral processes."

Kobach's own state was among those that said it couldn't share some categories of information — social security numbers, in Kansas' case — under state law.

Trump is not happy about the resistance. He tweeted Saturday: "Numerous states are refusing to give information to the very distinguished VOTER FRAUD PANEL. What are they trying to hide?"

Is anything forcing states to comply?

No. Kobach has acknowledged that his panel has no authority to compel states to hand over the data. "It's simply an ask," he told NPR Friday.

So what does Texas say?

Texas Secretary of State Rolando Pablos said he plans to respond to the request, but it's not entirely clear how much data he'll be handing over.

Pablos said his agency would treat Kobach's letter like any other public information request, and would only hand over information that's considered public under Texas law.

"The Secretary of State's office will provide the Election Integrity Commission with public information and will protect the private information of Texas citizens while working to maintain the security and integrity of our state's elections system," Pablos said in a statement. "As always, my office will continue to exercise the utmost care whenever sensitive voter information is required to be released by state or federal law."

Gov. Greg Abbott also sought to reassure Texans, tweeting on Saturday: "Texas is keeping private your private information."

Sam Taylor, a spokesman for Pablos, said the agency is still combing through data to see what's public and whether his agency needs to redact anything in the information it's working over.

A review of the state's public records law should give us some clues.

What voting data is public in Texas?

Lots of voting data is public here — probably more than most Texans realize. Political campaigns and others frequently request publicly available voter rolls to help them understand their candidate's territory and target constituents.

Though Taylor couldn't immediately detail what information Texas would send Kobach, he confirmed that the categories listed in the agency's public information request form are available to anyone who asks — generally at a cost. That includes: full names, dates of birth and registration, home and mailing addresses, dates of elections voted in and voting methods.

The data would not identify a voter's party affiliation, but it would list party primaries he or she voted in. The data also includes a "Hispanic surname flag."

Social security numbers are not considered public record.

Though listed as available on the Secretary of State's request form, there are questions about how the agency might handle voters' birth dates going forward.

Texas had long considered those public in a variety of contexts (including in voter rolls). In 2015, however, the state's Third Court of Appeals ruled in a Dallas case that the birth dates of certain private citizens must be withheld from public disclosure. "Consequently, dates of birth of members of the public are generally protected under common-law privacy," according to the Texas Attorney General's 2016 "Public Information Handbook."

Why are some folks concerned about the data request?

Critics are pushing back for a variety of reasons, including assertions of states rights, individual privacy concerns, questions about how Trump's commission would use the data and whether a huge national dataset would be secure from unsavory characters.

State Rep. Celia Israel, D-Austin, sent a letter to Pablos Friday urging Pablos to deny the "unprecedented request" until Kobach provided clarification.

Kobach's "extensive record of illegal voter disenfranchisement in Kansas gives me great pause about how this information will be used," she wrote.

Justin Levitt, an election expert at Loyola Law School, is among those raising questions about the specific types of data the commission is seeking. For example: "I have deep concerns about his request for partisan affiliation data. I have absolutely no idea what the legitimate use of that data is," he said. "Trying to see who's eligible and who's not – partisan data does not matter."

Kobach says he wants to match state voter rolls against Social Security Administration data and citizenship databases and told NPR the data he's requesting is "not sensitive information at all."

Levitt pointed out that Texas prohibits the use of this type of public voting data for commercial purposes, but once it was handed over to the commission, it would presumably be accessible to anyone — without them having to sign a form promising to only use it for non-commercial purposes.

"Voluntarily sharing this information instantly guts the use distinction," Levitt said. "What (requesters are) going to say is, I didn't get it from Texas, I got it from the federal commission."

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Airstrikes propel Mosul gains, despite toll on civilians

By Susannah George
Associated Press

MOSUL, Iraq — Iraqi forces say their recent territorial gains against the Islamic State group in Mosul's Old City have largely been propelled by airstrikes, despite a spike in allegations of civilian casualties and warnings from human rights groups of the dangers of using large munitions in the dense, highly-populated area.

As strikes pummeled the Old City on Sunday, hundreds of civilians fled. Many were badly injured and had to be carried out over mounds of rubble by family members. Deeper inside the district, narrow alleyways were littered with bodies.

Special forces Lt. Col. Muhanad al-Timimi said over the past three days his forces have carried out about 20 airstrikes a day on IS-held territory within there are of operation — a portion of the Old City measuring about 0.6 square miles in size.

"It's because we have a lot of enemy forces here," he said, conceding the number of munitions used was relatively high.

Half buried in a mound of rubble beside a strike crater, limbs protruded, darkened by dust and rotting in the summer heat. The pile of rocks was once a brightly painted house with a courtyard garden.

"Those were two Daesh fighters," said Sgt. Ali Mehdi, a member of al-Timimi's security detail, using an Arabic acronym for IS.

When the small unit rounded another narrow street the men silently stepped over the body of an elderly man lying in a pool of fresh blood.

A warning cracked over the radio that an airstrike was called in on a position just 50 meters away and the men ducked into a cleared home. When they emerged two more bodies, in civilian clothes and without weapons, lay in the next street.

Felipe Dana/Associated Press Photo

An Iraqi girl flees through a destroyed street as Iraqi Special Forces continue their advance against Islamic State militants in the Old City of Mosul, Iraq on Sunday.

Throughout the fight against IS, the U.S.-led coalition has largely relied on airstrikes to enable Iraqi ground forces to advance. But in previous battles, civilians were evacuated from front lines. In Mosul, the Iraqi government told the city's estimated one million people to stay put to avoid massive displacement.

Iraqi forces have repeatedly requested airstrikes in Mosul, often to kill teams of just two or three IS fighters armed with light weapons.

Manhal Munir was sheltering in the basement of his home with his extended family when IS fighters took a position on his roof. They were targeted by an airstrike Sunday morning. The house collapsed.

"I just pulled my youngest daughter out with me," Munir said at a nearby medic station, the toddler on his lap. "My mother was stuck between two large blocks of cement. We tried to free her," he said, still covered in dust and his eyes red with grief. "After two hours she died."

In the weeks leading up to the operation to retake the Old City the UN and human rights groups warned the Iraqi government against the use of explosive weapons with wide effects in the Old City area, where houses are tightly packed and the civilian population is dense.

"In the crowded Old City, using explosive weapons with wide area effects puts civilians at excessive risk," Lama Fakih of Human Rights Watch said in a statement.

The coalition did not immediately respond to a request from The Associated Press as to what munitions are being used.

"The Coalition always seeks to use weapons that are proportional to the target to minimize collateral damage," the U.S-led coalition said in a written statement.

"Nearly all munitions released have been precision guided to ensure we achieve the desired effects," the statement continued. "The avoidance of civilian casualties is our highest priority."

In a report Friday, Airwars said they "presently estimate that between 900 and 1,200 civilians were likely killed by Coalition air and artillery strikes over the course of the eight month (Mosul) campaign."

The group said the territorial gains in Mosul come at a "terrible cost."

The United Nations estimates that tens of thousands of civilians are still trapped inside the Old City.

Iraqi forces launched the operation to retake the Old City — IS' last stand in Iraq's second-largest city — in mid-June after eight months of grueling battles across Mosul's eastern half and around the city's western edge.

Iraq's Prime Minister declared an end to IS' so-called caliphate in late June and pledged victory was "near" after Iraqi forces retook the landmark al-Nuri mosque in the Old City.

Iraq's federal police declared a partial victory Sunday, announcing they had completed "the liberation of our sector," according to spokesman Captain Bassam Khadim.

Iraq's special forces are now just 450 meters from the Tigris River that roughly divides Mosul in half, according to Maj. Gen. Sami al-Aridi.

"For us, the airstrikes are better than artillery because they allow us to target the enemy accurately," said special forces Brig. Gen. Haider Fadhil. "They help us minimize civilian casualties and casualties among our own forces."

AP news guide: What to know about the Qatar crisis

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Qatar likely faces a deadline this weekend to comply with a list of demands issued by Arab nations that have cut diplomatic ties to the energy-rich country, though its leaders already have dismissed the ultimatum.

Here's a look at the ongoing crisis, the worst to grip the region since Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

A country targeted

Qatar is a nation about the size of the U.S. state of Connecticut which juts out like a thumb on the Arabian Peninsula into the Persian Gulf. It has the highest per-capita income in the world due to its natural gas reserves, the third-largest on the planet after Russia and Iran. Just over 10 percent of its 2.2 million people are Qataris, with the rest foreign workers. Its people follow an ultraconservative form of Islam known as Wahhabism, though unlike neighboring Saudi Arabia, women can drive and foreigners can drink alcohol. Qatar will host the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

A widening gulf

Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates cut ties to Qatar on June 5. They also stopped Qatar Airways flights from using their airspace, closed off the small country's sole land border with Saudi Arabia and blocked its ships from using their ports. They say the crisis stems from Qatar's support for extremist groups in the region, charges denied by Doha. The four nations have also pointed to Qatar's close relationship with Iran, with which it shares a massive offshore gas field that provides the peninsular nation its wealth.

A list of demands

The Associated Press obtained a list of the countries' demands of Qatar on June 22. They include limiting diplomatic ties to Iran, shutting down the state-funded Al-Jazeera satellite news network and other media outlets, and severing ties to all "terrorist organizations," including the Muslim Brotherhood and Lebanon's Hezbollah. It also demanded Qatar expel the Turkish troops now stationed in the country, as well as pay reparations and submit to auditing. It gave a 10-day deadline, which likely will expire this weekend. Qatar has rejected the demands as violations of its sovereignty.

Looters strip Greek mountains of wild tea, rare plants

By Costas Kantouris
Associated Press

THESSALONIKI, Greece — In the rugged, herb-scented mountains of northwestern Greece, where the border with Albania is a snaking invisible line, trouble is brewing over tea — the wild herbal variety.

Greek authorities and conservationists say bands of impoverished Albanians are making regular cross-border forays, illegally harvesting donkey-loads of herbs and medicinal plants. They mostly pick mountain tea — also called ironwort — hawthorn and even primrose, but they are also destroying rare and endangered species in the process.

The looters then sell the herbs for export to pharmaceutical or cosmetics companies, a business that nets Albanian wholesalers tens of millions annually.

It's illegal in Greece to pick more than a tiny quantity of wild herbs for personal use in traditional infusions. That ban doesn't exist in Albania, one of Europe's poorest nations. But, more significantly, the plants are usually uprooted in the looters' haste to pick as much as possible and be off undetected. This stops natural regeneration, threatens delicate ecosystems and leaves entire mountainsides denuded.

Albanians contend the herbs are there and the Greeks don't pick them, so why shouldn't somebody profit?

Christos Toskos, an environmentalist in Greece's Kastoria border area, says the depredations have increased over the past five years, with incursions now coming on a daily basis.

"There is very large destruction in areas covering thousands of acres," he said.

Vassilis Filiadis, who grows his own herbs in Kastoria, lamented the fate of an old wild ironwort patch in the Grammos mountains.

"It covers about 740 acres. In past years, the mountain tea grew there like a sea. The plants formed waves," he told The Associated Press. "I went this year and was shocked, it's all been uprooted."

Greece's flora is among the richest in Europe, with about 6,500 native plant species.

In targeted operations over the last few months, Greek police have arrested at least ten Albanians and seized dozens of kilograms of herbs. In one case in late June, three people were caught with 136 kilograms (300 pounds) of ironwort loaded on two horses and a donkey.

Albanian exporters pay illegal gatherers up to 6 euros ($6.80) a kilogram (2.2 pounds) for ironwort and 7 euros a kilogram for hawthorn, Greek officials say.

"They illegally enter Greece and quickly gather the plants to avoid being seen," said Brigadier-General Panagiotis Ntziovaras, head of police for the border region of western Macedonia.

Those caught have been given suspended prison sentences of one or two months and been deported.

Many poor Albanians are crossing the mountains into Greece this year because of an herb shortage in Albania due to freezing temperatures last winter, said Filip Gjoka, president of Albania's Association of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants and owner of an herb and spice trading company.

He said they sometimes take whole families and camp in the mountains with their horses or mules.

"There are a lot of herbs in Greece, where they are not collected due to labor force shortages or lack of interest," Gjoka told the AP. "We here collect those herbs, and these people take the risks to support their families. They can bear a few months of jail since there are no other jobs."

In 2016, 24 Albanian companies exported some 17,000 tons of medicinal and aromatic plants and herbs — 186 varieties — worth a total of $40 million. They process only about 30 percent of that amount in five factories and export the rest raw.

The U.S. is a main importer, while others include France, Germany, Spain and even Australia.

Kastoria agricultural-ist Dimitris Natos said the international market for herbs, particularly for use in cosmetics and foods, is expanding rapidly.

"Annual turnover growth is in the double digits, at around 15 percent," he said.

Gjoka said the Albanian companies employ 10,000 workers and another 80,000 people as independent contractors for whom seasonal herb picking is their only source of income.

Eleni Maloupa, director of Greece's Institute of Breeding and Plant Genetic Resources in Thessaloniki, says some of the 14 kinds of ironwort that grow in Greece are threatened with extinction and there is a blanket ban on their collection, even in small quantities.

Abu Dhabi airport now exempt from US laptop ban

By Jon Gambrell
Associated Press

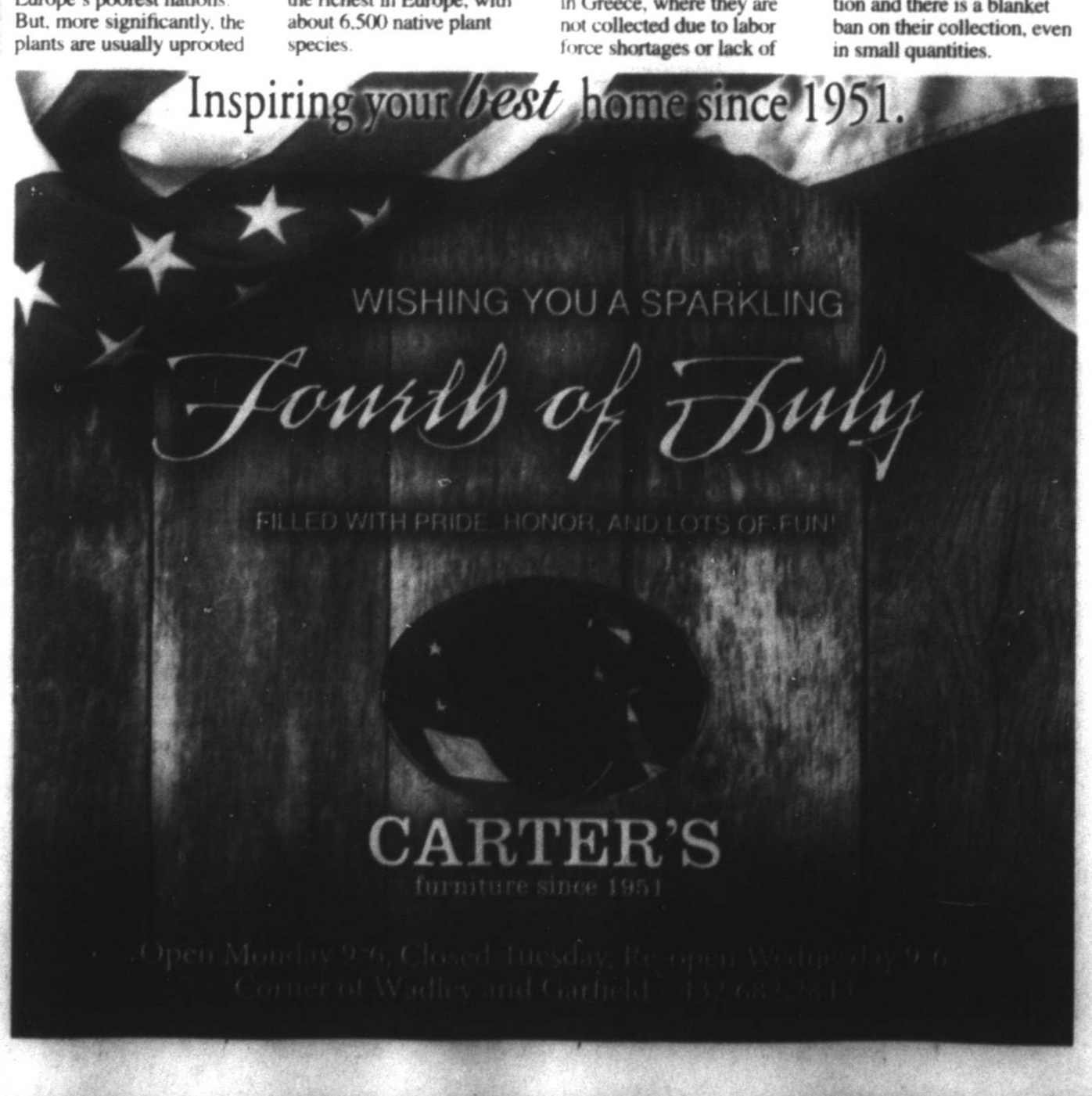
DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — The capital of the United Arab Emirates became the first city to be exempt from a U.S. ban on laptop computers being in the cabins of airplanes coming from the Mideast, the country's flag carrier said Sunday.

Long-haul airline Etihad said it welcomed the decision by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, which comes "subject to enhanced security measures" at Abu Dhabi International Airport. That airport already has a U.S. Customs and Border Protection facility that allows passengers to clear screening they'd otherwise have to go through when landing in America.

Homeland Security spokesman David Lapan said U.S. officials already had seen that "the measures have been implemented correctly and to the full extent required" in Abu Dhabi. He said American monitors would make further visits to ensure the checks were being done properly.

"The enhanced security measures, both seen and unseen, include enhanced screening of passengers and electronic devices," Lapan said, declining to elaborate. "We commend Etihad for working swiftly to implement these additional measures. Their efforts are a model for both foreign and domestic airlines."

Abu Dhabi International Airport did not respond to a request for comment. The airport is home to Etihad, which has over 120 planes in its fleet and 204 aircraft on order. It operates 45 flights a week between Abu Dhabi and six cities in the U.S.



52 FACES

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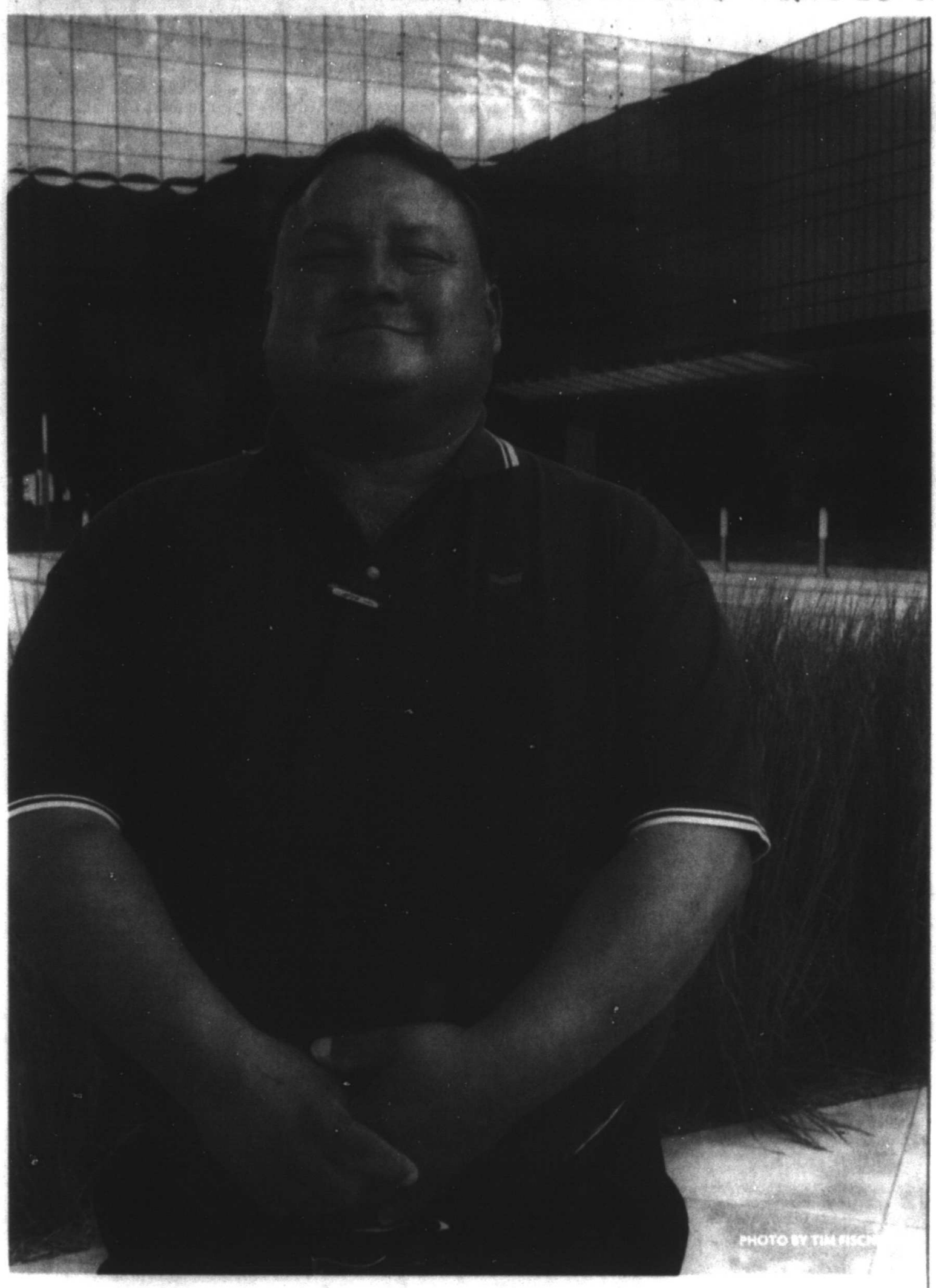

ARTURO CARRASCO

CHRISTMAS IN ACTION, MISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Professional and community involvement: I currently serve on the board of directors of Christmas in Action, MISD Education Foundation, Rock the Desert, Selective Service Board and West Texas Food Bank. I have been on the board of directors of Casa de Amigos and Permian Basin Junior Achievement.

How did you decide to serve the community in your many volunteer roles? My interest in serving on these boards is that they provide services and assistance to youth, education, teachers, the less fortunate and the elderly. My mother and father, while raising 10 children and two cousins, always found time to volunteer in our community of Kermit. They both encouraged us to give back to our community and be grateful for what we had. Joining the Kermit Jaycees at 18 years old, I was able to meet many leaders who volunteered in the community and taught me about what the Jaycee creed says "service to humanity is the best work of life." Chevron, the company I work for, encourages its employees to volunteer in our community. This company donates and matches our donations to the organizations we volunteer for.

What talents and skills do you share with the community through these roles? One of my many interests is building and remodeling. With Christmas in Action, we are able to improve the lives of the elderly by remodeling their homes — replacing the roof, installing new siding, windows and doors and painting the outside of the home. The smile of the homeowner because their home is now one of the best in their neighborhood instead of the worst makes all of the work worthwhile. Another one of my interests is cooking and catering for community organizations' events. I also organize events and manage the production of these events.

What unexpected lesson have you learned while serving as a volunteer and through your nonprofit work? Some of the lessons are learning organizational and leadership skills from community leaders who serve on these boards. I have seen that this compassion to help others and give back is what makes this community great. I have learned that "in order to be happy, you must be humble, and in order to be humble, you must be grateful."

Why is volunteerism a priority for you? All of my brothers and sisters and my children attended Midland College. This community has assisted my family by providing scholarships and work study for them to attend college. I want to give back because of all the opportunities this community and Chevron provide to improve the lives of Midlanders. Volunteering with these organizations is improving the lives of others and is a way to fulfill Casa de Amigos' mission: "helping people help themselves."

How long has Midland been your home, and why have you stayed? I transferred here from Lafayette, Louisiana, in 2001. We have enjoyed the schools and this community. It is a great community to raise a family. This is a very giving community.

"THERE ARE MANY ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE BENEFITED FROM ART'S PASSION TO HELP OTHERS"

Art was the first recipient of the Chevron Community Leadership Award, which recognizes employees who exemplify the spirit of community service and serve as a role model to inspire others. There are many organizations that have benefited from Art's passion to help others, both at the board and volunteer levels. They include Christmas in Action, Midland ISD Education Foundation, Casa de Amigos, Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, American Red Cross, Rock the Desert and Junior Achievement.

Art has coordinated Chevron's Christmas in Action outreach. He ensures the project is planned and completed well and also works to mentor and develop new leaders who can lead future outreach.

Dolores Vick, *policy, government and public affairs for Chevron*

"AT HIS CORE LAYER THERE IS COMPASSION, EMPATHY, WISDOM AND GREAT FOOD"

Arturo Carrasco, like an onion, has many layers. To say he is a "volunteer" barely scratches the surface of Arturo's many facets because — when he volunteers — it is for causes for which he has a passion to support in every way possible.

When the Midland High School special education department needed 30 iPads, it was Art who secured the funding from Chevron and then enjoyed watching as the students learned to use them.

Art will gladly do whatever it takes to make an event run smoothly — and economically. He's always thinking of the best way to achieve the goal. He has been a valued board member at the MISD Education Foundation for 10 years. The first concert we presented was at the RockHounds ballpark, where the tables were delivered — but not to the field. Arturo, Craig Dawson and I worked late into the night rolling 72 round tables down a very long ramp and across the field. That was a bonding experience I'll never forget.

Art is a hard worker and balances faith, family and his job at Chevron in a way that inspires me. At a time of great sadness in my life, Arturo was at my door, with his daughter and great food. That epitomizes Arturo — at his core layer there is compassion, empathy, wisdom and great food.

This is an unbeatable combination that makes Arturo one of my favorites.

Jami Huber Owen, *Midland ISD Education Foundation director*

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Drone delivery depends on weather forecast

Goal is to forecast conditions down to single city block

By Thomas Black
Bloomberg

Imagine a weather report so precise it provides wind-gust forecasts for individual city blocks. Such micro-weather data may soon become a reality — and a necessity for future fleets of delivery drones.

As Amazon.com, United Parcel Service, Domino's Pizza and others gear up to launch autonomous drone deliveries of books, pills and pizza, companies are realizing it's the quality of hyperlocal weather data more than anything else that will steer their packages around storm clouds and through wind-buffeted urban canyons.

"The weather issue is a very significant one," said Sean Cassidy, director of safety and regulatory affairs for Amazon's drone unit. "We don't have anything at the level of granularity that you would need to operate."

The push is on to develop traffic-management systems that will forecast weather conditions down to a single city block, and at elevations as low as 400 feet. That promises to clear the way for the holy grail of drone service: automatic flights that make their rounds without pilots controlling them from the ground as they do now.

And it's becoming clear that delivery drones themselves will play an increasingly important role in collecting weather conditions on their journeys through the sky, relaying that information to computer weather models and perhaps back to fleets of drones following behind.

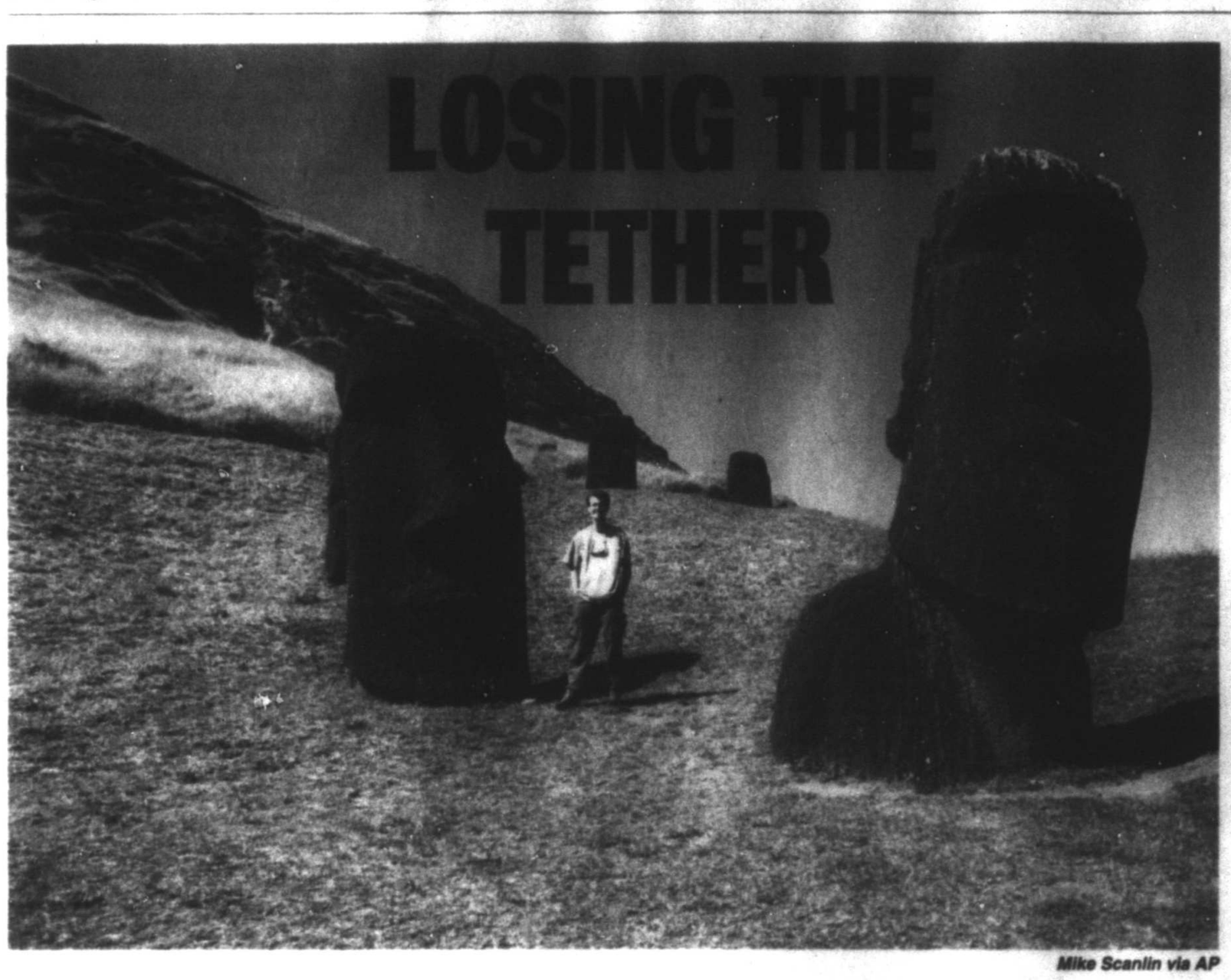
Aviation weather reports are currently designed to cover mostly areas around airports, as well as the high altitudes where airplanes tend to fly. That's why existing systems are so ill-equipped to help guide the thousands of small drone craft that are envisioned taking off and landing from diverse locales.

Weather reports for drones will rely on multilayered systems of ground-based weather gauges, sensors on the drones themselves, and data from national weather services, all feeding computer models, said Marcus Johnson, a research aerospace engineer at the NASA Ames Research Center at Moffett Field, California. "It's not an easy solution," he said.

Nor will such technology come cheap. An instrument that records six variables such as wind speed, wind direction, and humidity costs about $2,500, according to sensor manufacturers. That doesn't include installation, maintenance and sending the data the sensors collect over the internet.

Meteorologists dream of having sensors cover every square mile drones fly over, but doing so could be prohibitively expensive, said Jon Tarleton, chief of weather marketing in the Americas for

Please see WEATHER/4B



Mike Scanlin via AP

Mike Scanlin: Scanlin poses for a photo Sept. 13, 2015, on Easter Island in the South Pacific, a Chilean territory. Changes in technology have made it possible for vacationing small business owners to never be out of touch, unless they decide to go to a part of the world without enough cellphone towers, bandwidth or electricity.

Being disconnected is 'scary proposition'

■ Survey: Majority of owners, managers check in during vacation

By Joyce M. Rosenberg
Associated Press

NEW YORK — While hiking in the Himalayas for three weeks, Mike Scanlin had no cellphone service much of the time and no way to charge his phone. Running his business — a one-man operation — became a very sporadic proposition.

It was a calculated risk. "I felt I was going to lose customers, lose some business if they couldn't get a response for three days," says Scanlin, owner of Born to Sell, a business software company based in Las Vegas.

"But it's worth maybe losing a bit of business to accomplish the items on your bucket list."

Changes in technology have made it possible for vacationing small business owners to never be out of touch — unless they decide to go to a part of the world without enough cellphone towers, bandwidth or electricity. Sometimesm, they find out by surprise. But many understand that they're losing their tether to their companies. Some leave the business in the hands of trusted employees, or have projects and pressing matters dealt with so being out of contact won't be a problem.

Scanlin was able to check emails when the hiking group made it to the top of inclines during his 2012 trip. But in valleys where they camped, there was no service. And even when Scanlin could get a connection, he couldn't download documents or photos, and the nine hour-plus time difference with the U.S. meant a lag between emails and replies. He couldn't go online to fix any problems that might come up with his website, and there was no one back home who could do it.

It did make Scanlin, whose company was a year-and-a-half-old when he made the trek, a little uneasy. Born to Sell survived, however, and he has since visited places like Peru and Easter Island, located nearly 2,200 miles off the coast of Chile, where cellphone and internet service were often unavailable.

Checking in is the norm for most owners. With tablets or smartphones in hand, many set aside time on a trip to at least read important emails or touch base with employees and important clients. In a recent survey of 700 small business owners and managers released by American Express, the vast majority said they check in by phone or email while on vacation. More than half of those do so at least once a day. But nearly a quarter don't check in.

Aaron Hockel knew before he left on his two-week honeymoon to Peru last summer he would have minimal access to a cellphone network or the internet. So he decided to just be offline and leave the digital marketing company, AltaVista Strategic Partners, in the care of his three business partners and 15 staffers. They would deal with customers and issues that were his domain.

"It was a scary proposition at first because two weeks is a long time to disconnect," says Hockel, whose company is based in Glen Burnie, Maryland.

At places like Machu Picchu, the historic Incan mountain fortress, there wasn't any connectivity. But even at a hotel with Wi-Fi, Hockel ignored his email inbox.

"I knew, if I open this, I'm opening a Pandora's box," Hockel says. When he returned home, he found he'd made the right choice: "Our staff did an incredible job communicating and tackling issues."

Corey Kupfer, an attorney for 30 years who also has a speaking and consulting business, called his office several times a day from vacations in the early years of his practice. By about 15 years ago, he was calling just once a day, and Kupfer realized the problems his staff talked to him about were things they could handle on their own. He told them he wouldn't call in on his next vacation.

"People figure things out when they don't have you as a crutch. It empowers them and helps your team to grow," says Kupfer, who's based in New York.

Kupfer has traveled in recent years to Ecuador, the Utah desert and the West Bank, had no cellphone service and no worries because his staff and partners can handle the business without him. His mantra: "I'm not that important."

In May, Brad Weber was ready to leave his laptop home and his 10-year-old mobile app development company in the hands of his 15 staffers.

"The business had matured to a point and the team jelled to a point where I felt comfortable doing it. I knew they'd be able to handle whatever came up," says Weber, owner of Boulder, Colorado-based InspiringApps. He went on a weeklong sailboat trip off Grenada where he had to focus on

Please see DISCONNECTED/4B

Researchers: Smartphones will cause 'brain drain'

By Samantha Ehlinger
San Antonio Express-News

The mere presence of your smartphone reduces your brain power making it harder to solve problems, a study from the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas at Austin indicates.

After conducting experiments with nearly 800 smartphone users, the researchers found having a smartphone within reach causes "brain drain."

"We see a linear trend that suggests that as the smartphone becomes more noticeable, participants' available cognitive capacity decreases," McCombs Assistant Professor Adrian Ward said in a news release. "Your conscious mind isn't thinking about your smartphone, but that process — the process of requiring yourself to not think about something — uses up some of your limited cognitive resources."

In one experiment, participants were asked to take a series of tests on a computer "that required full concentration in order to score well."

Some people were asked to put their phones in another room, and those people outperformed others who were asked to put their phones on their desks, face down, the study says.

They also slightly outperformed people told to put their smartphones in their pockets or a bag. All phones were silenced in that experiment.

They also conducted a similar experiment that took into account how dependent people said they were to their phones.

The participants took the same tests as in the other experiment, but some also were asked to turn off their phones. They were asked to keep their phone either in sight face up on the desk; in a pocket or bag; or in the other room.

Predictably, those who said they were the most dependent performed worse, "but only when they kept their smartphones on the desk or in their pocket or bag," the release says.

"Ward and his colleagues also found that it didn't matter whether a person's smartphone was turned on or off, or whether it was lying face up or face down on a desk," the release states. "Having a smartphone within sight or within easy reach reduces a person's ability to focus and perform tasks because part of their brain is actively working to not pick up or use the phone."

Nearly two-thirds of Americans are smartphone owners, a 2015 Pew Research Center study found. And they use their phones a lot. Research firm dscout tracked every tap, type and swipe of 94 Android users for a few days and found

Please see SMARTPHONES/4B

Facebook brings quarter of humanity into its fold

■ If the social medium were a religion, it would be world's second largest

CHRISTOPHER INGRAHAM
Washington Post

Facebook announced last week that 2 billion people — more than one quarter of the world's population — are now active users of the social network Mark Zuckerberg started in his dorm room 13 years ago.

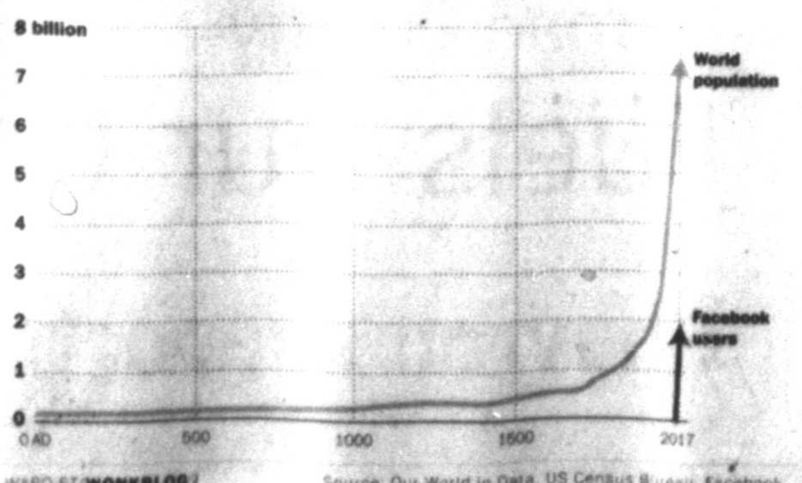
Two decades ago, the notion that billions of humans would be connected by a single product would have been seen as absurd, unless the "product" in question were, say, a religious text. But now Facebook has more adherents than any religion in the world, with the exception of Christianity — which it's poised to overtake in just a few years.

There are more Facebook users than speakers of any of the world's languages, according to Ethnologue, a long-running catalogue of the world's languages (exact counts are difficult, but with the vast majority of China's 1.3 billion

Please see IMGRAHAM/4B

Facebook's explosive growth

World population vs Facebook users, 0 AD – 2017



WAPO.ST/WONKBLOG

Source: Our World in Data, US Census Bureau, Facebook

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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
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Bachelorette				Network Stars "TV Sitcoms vs. TV Kids"		Local 2 News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live	Sarah Silverman	(:35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	Kevin Can Wait	Man Plan "The Talk"	Mom	Life in Pieces	Scorpion		CBS 7 News (N)	(:35) The Late Show		(:35) J.Corden
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Mama's Family	ALF	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Fugitive Fraulein"		Twilight Zone
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	You Can Dance "Los Angeles Auditions #2"		Super "Extreme Awareness" (N)		Fox 24 News (N)	TMZ	Modern Family	Two and a Half	Hot in Cleveland	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 "Part 1"		Light of the Southwest "Part 2"		Update News	Housecall	Restore Zion	Sounds of Shofar
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsW-est 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 Now	American Ninja War. Kansas City, Missouri is the next stop. (N)				Spartan "Qualifier: Night 4" (N)		NewsW-est 9 (N)	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour (N)		Antiques Roadshow "Vintage Austin" (N)		Antiques Roadshow "Vintage Milwaukee"		POV "The War Show" (N)			Ribbon of Sand	Newsline	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		Jose de Egipto		La doble vida de Estela Carrillo		Rosario Tijeras		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	SVU "Locum"		SVU "Shattered"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0	Access H.
FLIX	340	575		165		(5:15) ★★ 1408		★ Bangkok Dangerous			(:45) ★★★ Battle Royale (2000, Horror)				(:40) ★★★★ Cinderella Man		
HBO	300	550	14	14		Movie	Last Week	★★ Mission: Impossible II Tom Cruise.				1stLook (6:20) ★★ The Conjuring 2 Vera Farmiga.					LastWeek
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	Game of Thrones		(:10) Silicon (:40) Ballers		(:15) VICE	(:45) ★★★ Speed ('94, Act) Keanu Reeves.				(:45) ★★★★ Suicide Squad		
HBO5	304	552	16	102		(4:30) ★ Minority Re...		★★★ The Blues Brothers John Belushi.				(:15) ★★ Blues Brothers 2000				(:20) ★ Shoot 'Em Up	
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:05) ★ Flight of the...		★★ Any Given Sunday ('99, Spt) Al Pacino.					(:40) ★ Morgan Kate Mara.			(:15) ★ The Forest	
MAX2	382	558	18	122		(5:50) ★ The 33 Antonio Banderas.				★ The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon E...				(:55) ★★ Species Ben Kingsley.	Movie		
PLEX			96			(5:20) Centennial		Centennial "The Massacre"			(:40) Centennial "The Long Horns"			(:20) ★★★ Thirteen Days Kevin Costner.			
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	Twin Peaks		Twin Peaks		★★ Free State of Jones Matthew McConaughey.					★★★ Lincoln		
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:15) ★ Sleeping W...		★★★★ Mother's Day Britt Robertson.					★★★ America's Sweethearts		(:45) ★★★ The Boy		
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	The First 48 "Senior Year"		The First 48 "The Invitation"		O.J.: Made in America "Part Two" Decades of racial tensions boil over in Los Angeles.				(:15) The First 48	The First 48	The First 48 "The Invitation"	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(5:30) ★★ Clash of the Titans				Preacher (N)		Preacher "Damsels"		Preacher "Damsels"		★ Clash of the Ti...	
BET	58	-		40		(4:25) ★ To Be Announced				★★ Takers ('10, Act) Matt Dillon, Hayden Christensen, Chris Brown.						(:20) Martin	(:50) Martin
BRAVO	65	76		41		The Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Watch	Real Housewives		Beverly
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		The Seventies		The Seventies		The Seventies		The Seventies		The Seventies	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	SO: NO (N)		Street Outlaws		Street Outlaws		Vegas Rat Rods		Street Outlaws		Street Outlaws	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Bizaard.	Underc.	Underc.	Liv/Mad	Liv/Mad	Tangled	Tangled	Transyl	Jessie	StuckMid	Andi M.
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	MLB Baseball (L)						SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NFL Live			30 for 30 "The Bad Boys"				The Jump	SportsCenter Special		NFL Live	
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	The Story		TuckerCarlsonTon		The Five		Hannity		TuckerCarlsonTon		The Five	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Diners, Drive-Ins		Diners, Drive-Ins		Diners, Drive-Ins		Edible (N)	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners, Drive-Ins	
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(4:55) ★ Night at the Museum:...		★ Finding Nemo ('03, Ani) Albert Brooks.						The 700 Club		★ The Sorcerer's ...	
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	SportsDay OnAir	Pre-game (L)	MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at Texas Rangers Site: Globe Life Park -- Arlington, Texas (L)						Rangers Live (L)	Focused	UFC "213: Nunes vs. Shevchenko 2" (N)	
FX	31	56	59	64	69	(4:00) ★ The Amazin...		★★ The Amazing Spider-Man 2 ('14, Act) Andrew Garfield.						★ Think Like a Man Too Regina Hall.			
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		House	House	TinyPara	TinyPara	H.Hunt	House (N)	H.Hunt	House	TinyPara	TinyPara
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers (N)		American Pickers (N)		American Pickers (N)		(:05) Pawn Stars (N)		(:05) Pawn	(:35) Pawn	(:05) Am. Pickers	
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	(5:00) ★ Girlfriend Killer Dina Meyer.		★ The Other Mother ('17, Drama) Kimberley Crossman, Tyler Christopher, Annie Wersching.				★ The Wrong Neighbor (2017, Thriller) Andrea Bogart, Steve Harris, Michael Madsen.				★ The Other Mother Annie Wersching.	
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				American Ninja (N)		Cycling Tour de France Stage 3 Verviers - Longwy						AMA Moto. Racing		Cycling Tour de France	
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Loud H.	Loud H.	H.Danger	H.Danger	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:00) ★ Underworld...		★★★ Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters				★★★ Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters				Twilight	Twilight
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	American Dad!	American Dad!	Conan Reese Witherspoon		Seinfeld	Conan
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(4:45) ★ So This Is ...		★★★★ America, America ('63, Dra) John Marley, Lou Antonio.						★★★ I Remember Mama Irene Dunne.			
TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		Jenni Rivera: Maripo		Querida centauro		El señor de los cielos		Al rojo	Titulares	Querida centauro	
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	90 Day Fiancé: Extended Catches Up" (N)		"When the Past		Counting On "A Boy or Girl for Jill?" (N)		Kate Plus Eight "Sweet 16"		Counting On "A Boy or Girl for Jill?"		Kate Plus Eight "Sweet 16"	
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	(5:00) ★ I Can Do Bad All by Myself		Claws "Tirana"		(:05) Claws "Funerary"		(:05) Claws "Quicksand"		Claws "Fallout"		Law & Order "Release"	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	MASH	M*A*S*H	MASH	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Alien"		WWE Monday Night Raw						(:05) Modern	(:35) Modern	(:05) Modern	(:35) Modern
WGN	19	85				★★ Wild Wild West (1999, Action) Kevin Kline, Salma Hayek, Will Smith.				★★ Wild Wild West (1999, Action) Kevin Kline, Salma Hayek, Will Smith.				★★★ The Patriot (2000, Drama) Heath Ledger, Joely Richardson, Mel Gibson.			

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There's no room for Mom and boyfriend in woman's life

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 was in a relationship for 12 years. "Jenny" was my best friend. I had to end our relationship because she had allowed her mother to destroy it.

Jenny is 35 and her mother cooks, cleans, does her laundry and makes her bed for her. I would return from work and find her mother sleeping next to her in bed every day. It seemed to me to be her way of putting a wedge in between us.

If we went to a concert, we had to buy three tickets because Jenny always had to bring her mother. When I would ask Jenny out to dinner, she would say, "Can Mom come?" Is this normal? If we had an argument, her mother would get involved and it would become two against one, and I would always be in the wrong. Nothing I did was right.

Since we broke up, Jenny doesn't speak to me. I lost my best friend, and I don't know what to do. — THREE'S TOO MUCH COMPANY

DEAR TOO MUCH COMPANY: Jenny's primary relationship was — and probably forever will be — with her mother. You may have felt that Jenny was your best friend, but Jenny's best friend is her mother — a bond that her mother works very hard to keep intact. Accept it, expand your social circle and move on. That's all you can do because Jenny is taken.

DEAR ABBY: I hope you will let me unload on you. I lost my much-loved cat a year ago and would like to get another pet, but I cannot afford it.

Having been in business, there are some costs I can understand, such as vet care, grooming and kennel fees if a trip is planned. But the pharmaceutical prices are simply unaffordable, with vaccinations, flea medicine and meds when the pet is sick — not to mention end-of-life care. I cannot put a pet down just because it is old.

I am elderly and, while not rich, I do get by. But I cannot afford pet insurance, either. I am a widow, and a pet would be a great comfort to me. Any ideas? — MONA IN YUBA CITY, CALIF.

DEAR MONA: Have you considered fostering a cat while an animal rescue group finds a permanent home for it? Contact some in your area and ask whether they cover the cost of veterinary expenses while the cat is staying with you. You may be pleasantly surprised to find that they do.

Also, contact a no-kill shelter and inquire if it's possible to foster a pet or to volunteer there. In addition to the gratification you will get from having a furry houseguest, you will be doing the kitty a huge favor.

DEAR ABBY: I am 64 and my live-in fiance is 73. He has no retirement or savings. He has a winter job he loves and works occasionally in the summer. We will not marry so we can keep our finances separate, and he has contributed one-fifth toward my home.

My problem is he wants to go out to dinner all the time. I suggest that we eat at home to save money, which is also more healthy. We have upcoming roof and boiler expenses that he won't be able to contribute to. Any suggestions? — MONEY MANAGEMENT IN COLORADO

DEAR M.M.: Just this. Point out to your fiance that because of the upcoming maintenance expenses, eating out as often as he wants is more than you can manage, and tell him that if he wants to eat out, HE will be the one paying for it. Summer is here now, and he should arrange his work schedule so he can afford it.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

Bidding Quiz

Q 1 — North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠J 8 7 6 ♡A J 8 6 5 3 ◊Void ♣A 6 2

As dealer, what call would you make?

A — We don't pre-empt with two pure defensive tricks, a moderate suit, and four cards in the other major. Choose between pass and one heart. We like one heart.

Q 2 — East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠10 9 ♡A Q 9 8 2 ◊K J 4 ♣J 5 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♠	○ Pass	1NT	?

What call would you make?

A — It is way too dangerous to overcall here. The opponents have not found a fit and left-hand opponent may hold four hearts. Pass.

Q 3 — Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠A 3 ♡A 5 4 2 ◊K 8 4 ♣Q 9 4 2

Right-hand opponent opens one club. What call would you make?

A — You don't have to bid with 13-14 points if there is no clear bid. Pass.

Q 4 — North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠A K 9 3 2 ♡K Q 5 3 ◊K 8 ♣9 8

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♡	2♣	3♣*	Pass
3◊	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♡	Pass	?	

*Limit raise or better in hearts

What call would you make?

A — Partner's four heart bid has denied a club control. Stop dreaming and pass.

TOPS@ iTUNES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Apps

App Store Official Charts for the week ending June 25

Top Paid iPhone Apps:

1 Minecraft: Pocket Edition, Mojang
2 Heads Up!, Warner Bros.
3 Plague Inc., Ndemic Creations
4 Bloons TD 5, Ninja Kiwi
5 Facetune, Lightricks Ltd.
6 iSchedule, HotSchedules
7 Poly Bridge, Dry Cactus
8 Geometry Dash, RobTop Games AB
9 Monument Valley 2, ustwo Games Ltd
10 Toca Lab: Plants, Toca Boca AB

Top Free iPhone Apps:

1 Bitmoji - Your Personal Emoji, Bitstrips
2 Snapchat, Snap, Inc.
3 Instagram, Instagram, Inc.
4 YouTube - Watch Videos, Music,...Google, Inc.
5 Snake VS Block,Voodoo
6 Messenger, Facebook, Inc.
7 Facebook, Facebook, Inc.
8 Google Maps - Navigation & Tra...,Google, Inc.
9 Sonic the Hedgehog, SEGA
10 Netflix, Netflix, Inc.

Top Paid iPad Apps:

1 Minecraft: Pocket Edition, Mojang
2 Toca Lab: Plants, Toca Boca AB
3 Procreate - Sketch, paint, cre...Savage Interactive Pty Ltd
4 Goat Simulator PAYDAY, Coffee Stain Studios AB
5 Geometry Dash, RobTop Games AB
6 Terrana, 505 Games (US), Inc.
7 Notability, Ginger Labs
8 Toca Life: Hospital, Toca Boca AB
9 Farming Simulator 18,GIANTS Software GmbH
10 Bloons TD 5 HD, Ninja Kiwi

Top Free iPad Apps:

1 NetflixNetflix, Inc.
2 YouTube - Watch Videos, Music,...Google, Inc.
3 Sonic the Hedgehog, SEGA
4 Angry Birds Evolution, Rovio Entertainment Ltd.
5 Bowmasters - Top Multiplayer B...,Playgendary
6 Despicable Bear - Top Beat Act...,Playgendary
7 Fidget Spinner,Ketchapp
8 ROBLOX, Roblox Corporation
9 Facebook, Facebook, Inc.
10 My Little Pony Rainbow Runners, Budge Studios

Music

iTunes Official Music Charts for the week ending June 29

Top Songs

1 Despacito (feat. Justin Bieber), Luis Fonsi & Daddy Yankee
2 Believer, Imagine Dragons
3 I'm the One (feat. Justin Bieber), DJ Khaled
4 Wild Thoughts (feat. Rihanna & ..., DJ Khaled
5 Slow Hands,Niall Horan
6 Body Like a Back Road, Sam Hunt
7 Malibu, Miley Cyrus
8 Issues, Julia Michaels
9 Bad Liar, Selena Gomez
10 HUMBLE., Kendrick Lamar

Top Albums

1 Evolve, Imagine Dragons
2 Grateful, DJ Khaled
3 Trolls (Original Motion Pictur..., Various Artists
4 Moana, Various Artists
5 Melodrama, Lorde
6 ÷, Ed Sheeran
7 MOSAIC, 311
8 DAMN., Kendrick Lamar
9 Big Fish Theory, Vince Staples
10 Purple Rain, Prince

Movies

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

iTunes Movies US Charts:

1 Kong: Skull Island
2 Life
3 Beauty and the Beast (2017)
4 John Wick: Chapter 2
5 The Lego Batman Movie
6 Table 19
7 Get Out
8 Logan
9 Smurfs: The Lost Village
10 The Great Wall

iTunes Movies US Charts - Independent

1 I Am Not Your Negro
2 Once Upon a Time in Venice
3 Before I Fall
4 The Bad Batch
5 The Exception
6 This Beautiful Fantastic
7 Missing 411
8 Neruda
9 Moonlight
10 Unacknowledged: An Exposi of the World's Greatest Secret

Source: Apple Inc.

App reviews: xCurrency is easy way to convert money

HAYLEY TSUKAYAMA
Washington Post

Money makes the world go round, but converting currency in your head can be a huge pain — particularly when you're suffering from jet lag.

The app xCurrency gives you an easy way to convert from dollars to pounds to yuan and back, among many other currencies. You can customize a list of top currencies on the app to make sure you have quick access to the ones you need most - particularly useful if you're on a long trip that requires different conversions. All of that could help you avoid an overdraft fee later, when you realize you didn't properly calculate the cost of that tchotchke you picked up.

The design is elegant and user-friendly, so you should be able to get the information you need when you need it. You can also take a peek at how currency has been valued over time. The app requires an Internet connection to work.

Free, for iOS and Android.

Love word games but can't quite get the knack of filling out a crossword puzzle on a mobile device? TypeShift streamlines and updates the experience for touch screens. Players are presented with several adjoining strips of letters, which they can slide into the center line to make different words. Tiles change color once they've been used in their proper words.

One mode gives crossword-like clues. Puzzles get more difficult as the game goes on.

Players can pay for more packs, though there are quite a few free levels, if you're willing to look for them in the list of options. There are ads, but they aren't too intrusive. Users can buy additional packs for 99 cents or $1.99, which will get rid of ads and unlock customization options. All in all, TypeShift offers an engaging, challenging and quick wordplay experience — and there's never a crossword.

Free, for iOS devices.

In this puzzle game, players are faced with a plot of land and a line of plants that need to be rooted in the soil. You get opportunities to harvest your plants, which changes the color of the tile, or topsoil. Tiles that have the same color of topsoil and the same plants can be harvested together.

Fragment your grid too much, and you'll find that it's harder to clear out space for upcoming plants. You'll always be able to see which color of topsoil will come next, so you can plan accordingly.

You can pay $4 to get rid of ads. This is a simple game, with no splashy graphics or big sound effects to let you know when you're doing well. But it is satisfying to get just the right configuration of plants.

Free, for iOS and Android.

The sequel to 2014's hit puzzle game Monument Valley shares the mind-bending mechanics and calming aesthetic of its predecessor.

The main difference? This time, your puzzle-solving princess is not alone. The sequel brings her daughter along for the ride, giving players a chance to try more advanced puzzles that require two people.

Monument Valley 2 is not free. Dedicating yourself to this puzzler will cost $5. That's not a lot in the scheme of things but certainly on the high side for an app.

And if you're looking for a blockbuster story, this may not be your game - although the app developers manage to do a lot with their silent characters and sketch out a lovely relationship with just a few strokes.

$4.99, for iOS.

Courtesy of Mike Scanlin via AP

Small business owner Mike Scanlin poses for a photo Oct. 12, 2012, on the trail to Mount Everest Base Camp in Nepal. Changes in technology have made it possible for vacationing small business owners to never be out of touch, unless they decide to go to a part of the world without enough cellphone towers, bandwidth or electricity.

DISCONNECTED

From 2B

the sailing.

"There was not much energy left to think about the office," he says.

Still, for some owners, being out of touch isn't part of the plan.

"There was a bit of a gulp," recalls Chris Brantner about his Rocky Mountain backpacking trip this spring when he had virtually no cellphone service. His brothers, who work with him at his Houston-based company, CutCableToday.com, were doing their jobs, but "I'm the guy who gets the call at 8 p.m. if the website's down. That was probably the most worrisome part, if things stopped functioning."

Brantner, whose website provides information about cable TV alternatives, was able to give one brother a heads-up that he wouldn't be able to access the website if needed. After that, with nothing more he could do, he went back to hiking.

"It was nice to get away for a few days and turn off my brain," Brantner says.

When he reconnected, he found the website hadn't crashed and no harm was done.

Dale Janee was caught by surprise during a weekend trip to a rural part of Poland in 2014, discovering there was no way to go online or connect with customers as she expected. Janee, the owner of a pillowcase maker called Savvy Sleepers that sells to beauty salons and retailers, worried that clients who wanted to place orders or had questions would turn to another supplier when they were unable to reach her.

"It felt like an eternity to be disconnected from my business," Janee says.

While at the airport to head home, she logged in and found all was well. Since then, the Dallas-based company has grown to the point where Janee has hired an assistant who can keep an eye on the business when she's away. And, she realizes, the walks she took and books she read on her trip provided a needed respite.

"At some point, you have to disconnect on vacation," she says.

INGRAHAM

From 2B

residents able to speak Mandarin, it is the planet's most commonly spoken language). Likes, shares, comments and friend requests are becoming the closest thing humanity has to a universal tongue.

Even more impressive than the sheer size is the speed with which Facebook brought a quarter of humanity into its fold. The network claimed its first billion users in 2012, just eight years after its inception. Adding another billion took fewer than five years.

By contrast, roughly 200,000 years elapsed between the appearance of the first modern humans and our 1 billion population milestone, which we hit around 1820. The quickest we've ever added another billion to our population happened between 2000 and 2012, when we went from 6 billion to 7 billion in 12 years.

Recall that Facebook just pulled this off in under five.

Facebook defines active users as people who visited the site or its messaging app through their desktop computer or mobile app in the past 30 days. For obvious privacy reasons, it does not make its user data public, so it's impossible to independently verify the company's user counts.

Any service growing that quickly is bound to experience some mishaps — recall that the tagline for "The Social Network," the 2010 movie about Facebook's rise, was "You don't get to 500 million friends without making a few enemies." In recent months, Facebook has come under criticism for, among other things, suppressing conservative viewpoints, enabling suicide and murder, killing journalism, making people unhealthy and destroying Democracy as we know it.

Caught up in the din of daily Facebook controversies, it's easy to forget that none of us — not even Facebook — have any idea what it truly means to have a quarter of humanity plugged into a single product, governed by a single set of rules and norms, uploading deeply personal information to a single database, making a single company the gateway between ourselves and the advertisers who want us to buy stuff.

We just go with it, riding the tide of likes and shares into whatever Facebook's future holds for us.

WEATHER

From 2B

Finland's Vaisala, which manufactures most of the sensors used by the Federal Aviation Administration at airports.

"The problem is solvable in almost all cases. It just comes down to cost," said Tarleton, whose company makes the weather balloons the National Weather Service sets loose each day to compile the national forecast.

Urban areas present some of the greatest challenges. Tall buildings create channels of wind that can clash and swirl into tight eddies, said Matthias Steiner, deputy director for the National Center for Atmospheric Research's Aviation Applications Program. Sun-baked sidewalks opposite shaded ones just across a street can produce uneven heat waves, causing unpredictable downdrafts and updrafts. Weather patterns in cities on coastlines or at the foot of mountains can also wreak havoc.

Autonomous drones, moreover, will have to expend more of their precious power to stay aloft in extreme temperatures, and to stay on course when buffeted by winds. That can prevent a drone from making it back to its home base, Steiner said.

"More and more people are starting to realize that weather is an important element that you need to factor in, because these smaller craft are so much more sensitive to weather than the larger aircraft," said Steiner, who organized the first meeting with weather experts and drone participants at a Dallas conference last month, creating a buzz in the industry.

BNSF Railway Co. is the only company in the U.S. flying drones long distances, a project it's undertaken as part of an FAA study. It has called back flights or kept them grounded because of the elements, said Todd Graetz, director of BNSF's drone program. The railroad has a big advantage over other companies looking to begin operating drones: Sensors placed along its tracks provide trains with information on high winds and heavy rain that BNSF drone operators can tap into.

Halfway around the world in Rwanda, a company called Zipline has been using fixed-wing drones to deliver blood supplies to rural hospitals since October. The effort is generally a success so far, but weather has been a major obstacle-especially in mountainous regions. Zipline is working with researchers to build models so it can run scenarios for its drones under different conditions.

The more climate data, the better, said Zipline co-founder Keenan Wyrobek. "It's really about making your systems have margin for the craziest wind-and-gust conditions, and making sure that doesn't throw you into a hill or someone's house."

SMARTPHONES

From 2B

people touched their phones more than 2,600 times a day on average, a 2016 study shows.

And Apple said in 2016 that iPhone users unlock their phones 80 times a day on average.

The researchers write in their study that the results show "intuitive 'fixes' such as placing one's phone face down or turning it off are likely futile."

A possible solution, the study's authors suggest, is separation.

Other research has showed that when people were separated from their phones, it actually increased their anxiety. But the researchers note that "participants in those studies were unexpectedly separated from their phones and forced to hear them ring while being unable to answer."

In one 2015 study, for example, 40 iPhone users were asked to complete two word-search puzzles. And when they weren't able to answer their ringing iPhones while they did one of them, "heart rate and blood pressure increased, self-reported feelings of anxiety and unpleasantness increased, and self-reported extended self and cognition decreased."

But in these experiments, participants knew they were being separated from their phones, and were asked to put their phones on silent or turn them off.

Their participants, then, were not aware of their phones' unanswerable notifications, the researchers noted.

"We therefore suggest that defined and protected periods of separation, such as these, may allow consumers to perform better not just by reducing interruptions but also by increasing available cognitive capacity," the study says.

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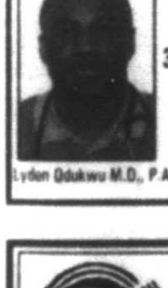
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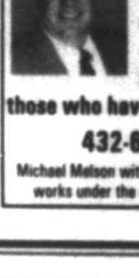
I have been very successful in helping families qualify for these benefits, even those who have been denied.
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Michael Molson with Molson and Associates works under the direction of attorneys.

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Judge, Correa among 1st-time All-Star starters

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Aaron Judge, Carlos Correa and Nolan Arenado led a new generation of All-Stars, among 12 first-time starters elected by fans for the July 11 game at Marlins Park.

Correa

"I've got to call my family and tell them to book a flight to Miami. They're going to be excited," Judge said after rosters were announced Sunday.

The dozen first-time starters are the most since voting was returned to fans in 1970.

Just one player was picked from the World Series champion Cubs: reliever Wade Davis, who wasn't even with Chicago when it ended a 108-year title drought last fall. The Cubs had seven All-Stars last season, including their entire starting infield.

"Frankly, we haven't had many guys who were all that deserving," Cubs pitcher Jake Arrieta.

Just past the halfway point, the Cubs are 41-41.

"Maybe this is actually a good thing. Right now, rest is not a bad word," said Chicago's Joe Maddon, who will manage the NL.

In a sign of the generational change, the All-Stars with the most selections are Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw with eight and St. Louis catcher Yadier Molina with seven. Detroit's Miguel Cabrera, the senior All-Star last year with 11 selections, wasn't picked for the first time since 2009.

Two of the first-time starters are from the Houston Astros, who have the best record in the major leagues: Correa, the shortstop drafted first overall in 2012, and outfielder George Springer. Second baseman Jose Altuve was elected to his third start.

"It's something that you dream about since you are a little kid, since you get drafted, since you sign a professional contract," Correa said.

Houston pitchers Dallas Keuchel and Lance McCullers Jr. were picked, as well, giving the Astros five All-Stars, tied for the most with the New York Yankees, Cleveland and Washington. Keuchel is hurt and won't pitch.

Nationals outfielder Bryce Harper, second baseman Daniel Murphy and first baseman Ryan Zimmerman were elected to start, and Max Scherzer and Stephen Strasburg were selected for the pitching staff. Harper led fan voting with 4.63 million ballots.

"Definitely humbled by fans, the way they treat me," Harper said.

At 32, Zimmerman is an All-Star for the first time since 2009, when he was a reserve third baseman.

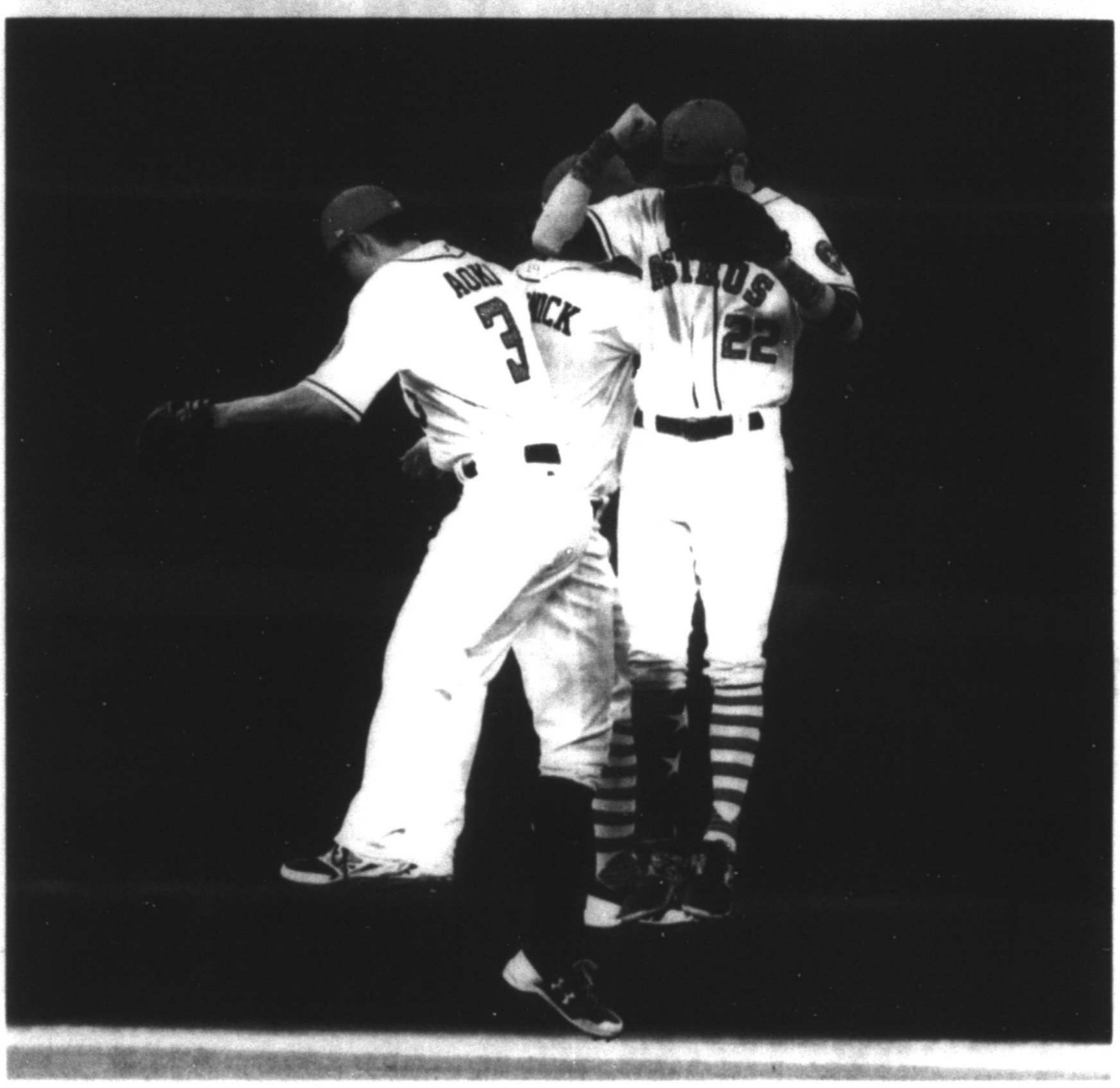
"Yeah, sports are funny, man," Zimmerman said. "It's just a crazy path to get back, but it's also pretty cool."

Judge, the 6-foot-7 rookie who leads the major leagues with 27 home runs, topped the AL with 4.49 million votes. He is joined in the outfield by Springer and Los Angeles Angels star Mike Trout, who hopes to return in time from a torn thumb ligament.

Cleveland's Jose Ramirez overtook Minnesota's Miguel Sano in the final days of balloting to win the AL third base spot by about 54,000 votes. Toronto's Justin Smoak bounced back to beat Kansas City's Eric Hosmer by 555,000 at first base, and Tampa Bay's Corey Dickerson rallied to win at designated hitter by

Please see STARTERS/3C

SERIES WIN FOR 'STROS


Yi-Chin Lee/Associated Press

Houston Astros outfielders Norichika Aoki (3), Jake Marisnick (6) and Josh Reddick (22) celebrate the team's win over New York Yankees after the game at Minute Maid Park on Sunday in Houston.

Houston rolls, Yanks get 14th loss in 19 games

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Yuli Gurriel finished a triple shy of the cycle, Carlos Correa tied a career-high with four hits and had three RBIs, and the Houston Astros routed the Yankees 8-1 Sunday to send New York to its 14th loss in 19 games.

Marwin Gonzalez hit a two-run homer in a three-run second off Luis Severino (5-4) as the Astros improved the best record in the major leagues to 56-27. Houston had 14 hits, including seven doubles, and went 6 for 17 with runners in scoring position.

New York, which led the AL East by four games on June 13, lost two of three to the Astros and dropped three games behind division-leading Boston.

Josh Reddick had an RBI double in the second Correa a two-run double in the fourth as Houston opened a 4-0 lead. Correa, who extended his hitting streak to 12 games, added an RBI single in the sixth.

Gurriel doubled in the second, singled in the fourth and hit a two-run home run in the seventh against Domingo German.

Severino allowed six runs and nine hits in 5 1/3 innings, slamming his glove in the dugout when he was pulled from the game after a double by Springer. The hits were a season high and the runs matched the most this year off Severino, who has given up four or more runs in three of his last four starts.

New York went 1 for 10 with runners in scoring position and didn't score until Chris Carter's RBI single in the ninth. Brett Gardner hit a warning-track flyout that ended the second with two on.

The Yankees and Washington are the only big league teams this year that have not been shut out.

Mike Fiers allowed two hits and struck out seven but tied a season high with four walks. He stranded a runner on second in the first, second and third innings.

Chris Devenski (5-3) pitched two perfect innings. Houston pitchers retired 15 straight before Aaron Judge's one-out single in the eighth.

Stenhouse surging for rebuilt Roush Fenway Racing

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — When Ricky Stenhouse Jr. first made the switch from sprint cars to stock cars, he wrecked an awful lot of Jack Roush's inventory.

It got so bad that Roush had to sit Stenhouse down in an attempt to rein him in a little bit.

Stenhouse

The patience Roush showed Stenhouse while rebuilding his organization — once among the top in NASCAR — paid off Saturday night when Stenhouse won for the second time this season. His victory at Daytona International Speedway was his second in two months. He had gone 155 Cup races before getting to victory lane.

Roush wasn't at Daytona to celebrate with Stenhouse , though. He took the holiday weekend off and was on vacation with his granddaughter.

"We believe we're on the right track, and you always want more, but we're pretty excited about the direction we're headed, and that's a testament to Jack Roush and what he's set up," Roush Fenway Racing president Steve Newmark said. "Jack is on vacation taking his granddaughter out to see Mount Rushmore, and it's something we've encouraged him to do because what Jack has done over the last year is really empowered a group of individuals to try to run the company on a day-to-day basis.

"This is probably Jack's proudest moment because this was a race that he wasn't at, and we were still able to implement everything that he's taught us and go out there and get him in victory lane."

There's no denying that Stenhouse, who turns 30 in October, has been an integral part of Roush's turnaround. He's in his fifth full season and wasn't promoted to the Cup level until 2013 after he'd won consecutive Xfinity Series championships.

The promotion was rocky for a while, in part because of Stenhouse's natural drive to push too hard, and in part because Roush was on a rapid road toward mediocrity. The team had gone from five Cup cars in its heyday and a monster lineup that included Matt Kenseth, Carl Edwards, Greg Biffle and Kurt Busch to

Please see STENHOUSE/5C

There is absolutely no reason to cry for Manny Pacquiao after loss

By Tim Dahlberg
Associated Press

Manny Pacquiao still has his name, if not his punch.

That should get him another fight or two, though not at the rate of pay to which he's become accustomed. And it's not enough to get him a second fight with Floyd Mayweather Jr., a bout that wasn't likely to happen even before his controversial loss Sunday in Australia to hometown hero Jeff Horn.

Pacquiao

■ COMMENTARY

At the age of 38, Pacquiao is pretty much done. His latest attempt at wiping away the stain left from his fight with Mayweather ended with a fighter who wouldn't have survived five rounds with him in his prime celebrating in front of a crowd of 51,052 at a rugby stadium in Brisbane.

Pacquiao's supporters will howl that the judging was horrendous, and on at least one card (117-111, Horn) it was. But it was Pacquiao who allowed the fight to be as close as it was, and it's hard to argue much (though those blabbering on ESPN certainly did) with the two judges who had it 115-113 in Horn's favor.

Besides, Pacquiao knew going in what was expected of him. He needed to dominate and he didn't, outside of a ninth round where he tried his best to take Horn out only to punch himself out and leave the final rounds in Horn's hands.

After 22 years as a pro, Pacquiao should have known the old boxing axiom: Go to someone's hometown, and sometimes you get a hometown decision.

Forget about the punch counts, which showed Pacquiao landing twice the number of punches that Horn did. Those punches are counted by humans and with the awkward style of both fighters, it was difficult without the benefit of slow-motion replays to see just who landed what as the two flurried furiously at times in the ring.

The real problem was that Pacquiao couldn't finish Horn in the ninth round, something that isn't new for the Filipino great, who hasn't stopped anyone in eight years. He also couldn't win the 12th round on any scorecard, when a strong final round would have salvaged a draw in the welterweight title bout.

The top fighters do that. But Pacquiao is no longer among the elite, which is why he had to go to Australia in the first place to score a reputed $10 million payday.

The talk before the fight was that there weren't many opponents for Pacquiao after Horn, unless he was offered up as fodder for Terrence Crawford or Keith Thurman in one final effort to cash in on his name. At least now he'll get a rematch with Horn, assuming he can get enough time away from his duties as a senator in the Philippines to take the fight.

"That's the decision of the judges. I respect that," Pacquiao said afterward. "We have a rematch clause, so no problem."

Those screaming on ESPN and in social media afterward

Please see PACQUIAO/5C

'HOUNDSWATCH

SUNDAY'S SCORE
Tulsa 5, Midland 3

TODAY'S GAME
Tulsa at Midland, 6:30 p.m.

INTERNET
www.milb.com

RECORDS
Midland 2-8
Springfield 6-4

Sunday	Today	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Tulsa 5, Midland 3	Tulsa at Midland, 6:30 p.m.	Tulsa at Midland, 6:30 p.m.	Midland at Springfield, 6:30 p.m.	Midland at Springfield, 7:10 p.m.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV
CYCLING
Tour de France, Stage 3: Verviers to Longwy, 7 a.m., NBCSN
MLB
Baltimore at Milwaukee, 1 p.m., MLB
Boston at Texas, 7 p.m., ESPN, FSSW
Kansas City at Seattle, 10 p.m., MLB
NBA SUMMER LEAGUE
New York vs. Oklahoma City, Noon, NBAtv
Orlando vs. Dallas, 2 p.m., NBAtv
Indiana vs. Miami, 4 p.m., NBAtv
Boston vs. Philadelphia, 6 p.m., NBAtv
San Antonio vs. Utah, 8 p.m., NBAtv
TENNIS
Wimbeldon, 6 a.m., ESPN
ON RADIO
MLB
Boston at Texas, 7 p.m., KBEST 95.7 FM (Big Spring); KPET 105.1 FM, 690 AM (Lamesa)
TEXAS LEAGUE BASEBALL
Tulsa at Midland, 6:30 p.m., KCRS 97.5 FM, 550 AM

TEXAS TECH BASEBALL

TEXAS TECH'S GINGERY NAMED TOP PITCHER

DURHAM, N.C. — Texas Tech left-handed pitcher Steven Gingery was named Pitcher of the Series, while pitching for Team USA in its best-of-five friendship series against Chinese Taipei.

Gingery, who just completed his freshman season with the Red Raiders, did not allow a hit over four scoreless innings during the series, which Team USA took with a 4-0 mark.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Optioned RHP Alex Asher to Norfolk. Recalled RHP Jimmy Paraboni from Norfolk.
BOSTON RED SOX — Traded 1B Nick Longhi to Cincinnati and INFs Imeldo Diaz and Stanley Espinal to St. Louis for international amateur signing bonus pool space.
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Agreed to terms with C Jefferson Mendoza.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Optioned LHP Ryan Merritt to Columbus (IL). Signed OF George Valera and Cesar Idrogo and INFs Aaron Sracho, Cesar Idrogo, Will Peralta, Trayce Thompson and Jose Tena.
DETROIT TIGERS — Optioned LHP Matthew Boyd to Toledo (IL).
HOUSTON ASTROS — Optioned LHP Reymin Guduan to Fresno (PCL). Recalled RHPs David Paul and LHP Akeel Tolliver from Fresno. Sent RHP Charlie Morton to Corpus Christi for a rehab assignment.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Designated RHP Seth Maness for assignment.
NEW YORK YANKEES — Traded RHP Matt Wotherspoon to Baltimore for international signing bonus pool money.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Optioned RHP Jesse Hahn to Nashville (PCL). Recalled RHP Zach Neal from Nashville. Sent SS Marcus Semien to Nashville for a rehab assignment.
SEATTLE MARINERS — Optioned RHP Max Povse to Tacoma (PCL). Recalled OF Boog Powell from Tacoma.
TEXAS RANGERS — Optioned RHP Tanner Scheppers to Round Rock (PCL). Reinstated RHP Tony Barnette from the 10-day DL. Designated RHP Preston Claiborne for assignment.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Traded OF Jane Thomas to St. Louis for international amateur signing bonus pool space. Traded RHP Jason Grilli and cash to Texas for OF Eduardo Pinc.
National League
ATLANTA BRAVES — Sent 1B Freddie Freeman to Gwinnett (IL) for a rehab assignment.
CINCINNATI REDS — Optioned RHP Jackson Stephens to Louisville (IL). Selected the contract of RHP Asher Wojciechowski from Louisville. Transferred LHP Brandon Finnegan to the 60-day DL.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Traded LHP Jason Wheeler to Baltimore for international amateur signing bonus pool space.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Agreed to terms with 2B Kramer Robertson, 1B Journar Williams and RHP William Rivers on minor league contracts.
SAN DIEGO PADRES — Optioned LHP Dylan Overton to El Paso (PCL). Recalled RHP Kevin Quackenbush from El Paso. Sent LHP Buddy Baumann to the AZL Padres for a rehab assignment.
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Sent 3B Eduardo Nunez to Richmond (IL) for a rehab assignment.
American Association
GARY SOUTHSHORE RAILCATS — Released RHP Westin Wuethrich.
ST. PAUL SAINTS — Signed OF Kes Carter.
WINNIPEG GOLDEYES — Released C Alexor Suarez.
Atlantic League
LONG ISLAND DUCKS — Signed OF Quintan Berry.
Can-Am League
OTTAWA CHAMPIONS — Signed RHP Adam Ingraselli.
QUEBEC CAPITALES — Signed RHP Rafael Pineda.
SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS — Signed LHP Alex Hemchak.
Frontier League
GATEWAY GRIZZLIES — Signed INF Tanner Kramer. Released LHP Dylan Craig.
RIVER CITY RASCALS — Signed RHP Ryan Pierce.
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MINERS — Signed RHP Jaimon Proctor.
TRAVERSE CITY BEACH BUMS — Signed RHP Ben Hoffman.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Traded F Marcus Kruger to Vegas for future considerations.
LOS ANGELES KINGS — Agreed to terms with D Darcy Kuemper on a one-year contract.
MONTREAL CANADIENS — Signed G Carey Price to an eight-year contract extension.
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Acquired F Marcus Johansson from Washington for 2018 second-round and third-round draft picks.
SAN JOSE SHARKS — Signed C Joe Thornton to a one-year contract.
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Signed F Patrick Marleau to a three-year contract.
VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS — Traded D Alexei Emelin to Nashville for a 2019 third-round draft pick.
WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Re-signed C Evgeny Kuznetsov to an eight-year contract.
COLLEGE
ALBANY — Named David Miller baseball coach.
OREGON — Suspended senior WR Darren Carrington indefinitely from the football team after being arrested on a misdemeanor charge of driving under the influence.

A lot going on for Murray as Wimbledon defense begins

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

LONDON — Based on Andy Murray's body language alone, reporters' questions can produce an inordinate amount of consternation.

Murray

He'll puff his cheeks, then let out a sigh. He'll rub his forehead, then clutch his chin. When answers do arrive, some are preceded by a hesitant "Ummm." Others begin with "No" or "I wouldn't have thought so" — or both. "I don't know" is a popular refrain.

Truth is, given all that is going on at the moment, the No. 1-seeded Murray could be forgiven for having a lot on his mind as he prepares to start his title defense at the All England Club today.

There's a second child on the way for Murray and his wife — happy news, of course, and on Sunday, he assured a reporter who asked about its potential effect on his tennis this fortnight, "It's certainly not a distraction in the slightest."

There's his inconsistent season and the chance he could relinquish his spot atop the rankings to Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal or Stan Wawrinka two weeks from now.

There's the matter of figuring out how to deal with his unorthodox opponent in the grass-court Grand Slam tournament's opening Centre Court match. They've never played each other, but Murray is somewhat familiar with Alexander Bublik, who is from Russia but represents Kazakhstan, just turned 20 and says he finds watching tennis boring: They had an off-court encounter for an ATP promotional video this year.

And there's also the sore left hip that led one British tabloid to ask readers — at psychic Uri Geller's prompting — to rub that part of Murray's body in a front-page photo to heal him.

"I've felt fairly calm the last few days, considering how I've been feeling," Murray said.

The hip forced Murray to skip exhibition matches on grass and a few days of training. But he said it's feeling much better.

"Obviously, this is an extremely important tournament, so you worry a little bit," he said. "It's a little bit stressful if you can't practice for a few days. You really want to be preparing, training, as much as you can to get ready and make you feel better, especially when you hadn't had any matches."

He is 21-9 so far in 2017, and his lone title came with the benefit of facing only one player ranked in the top 25.

Still, here was Roger Federer's assessment of Murray's chances at a place where in 2013 he became the first British man in 77 years to grab the trophy: "If he's anything close to 100 percent physically, I consider him one of the big favorites to win the tournament. It's that simple."

Murray did manage to reach the semifinals at the French Open, but since then he has played only one match — and lost.

"I can take some anti-inflammatories if my hip flares up," he said. "Hopefully that's not the case."

Could be a lot of running required today, given the 134th-ranked Bublik's penchant for sliced returns, drop shots, lobs and run-around forehands from midcourt.

"My game is unpredictable. I don't even know what I'm going to do," Bublik said. "When the ball is coming to me, I decide right before I hit. So I don't have a plan."

WIMBLEDON AT A GLANCE

A look at Wimbledon, the year's third Grand Slam tennis tournament:

SURFACE: Grass courts.

SITE: The All England Lawn Tennis Club.

SCHEDULE: Main-draw play begins today. The 14-day tournament closes with the women's singles final July 15, and the men's singles final July 16. There are no matches scheduled on the tournament's middle Sunday, July 9.

2016 MEN'S SINGLES CHAMPION: Andy Murray of Britain.

2016 WOMEN'S SINGLES CHAMPION: Serena Williams of the United States.

MISSING FROM THE FIELD: Williams is pregnant and taking the rest of this season off. Also absent: 2004 champion Maria Sharapova, who is sitting out the tournament for the second straight year. She missed the 2017 grass-court circuit with an injured left thigh; the Russian would have needed to try to qualify because her ranking was too low to get into the main draw after her return from a 15-month doping suspension that sidelined her during Wimbledon a year ago.

BACK IN THE FIELD: Rafael Nadal, fresh off his record 10th championship at the French Open, returns to Wimbledon after being out last year with an injured left wrist. Former No. 1 and two-time Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka sat out Wimbledon last year with an injured right knee and missed time more recently while pregnant. Now a mom to son Leo, Azarenka will be participating in her first Grand Slam tournament since the 2016 French Open.

KEY STATISTIC I: 14 — Consecutive Wimbledon men's titles won by Roger Federer (7), Novak Djokovic (3), Nadal (2) or Murray (2).

KEY STATISTIC II: 2 — Number of past Wimbledon women's champions in the draw, Venus Williams (5) and Petra Kvitova (2).

PRIZE MONEY: Total is 31.6 million pounds (about $40 million), with 2.2 million pounds (about $2.8 million) each to the men's and women's singles champions.

LOOKAHEAD TO TODAY

Murray will open the defense of his title with the tournament's first match on Centre Court, facing Alexander Bublik, a "lucky loser" in qualifying who turned 20 last month and is a real character known for his unorthodox style of play. They've never faced each other on court, but they did have an off-court encounter at Indian Wells, California, this year when Bublik interviewed players to promote a new ATP World Tour event. Murray, who says his sore left hip is well enough for him to play, is one of seven past Grand Slam champions on the Day 1 schedule. That includes Rafael Nadal (against John Millman), Stan Wawrinka (against Daniil Medvedev) and Marin Cilic (against Philipp Kohlschreiber) among the men, and Venus Williams (vs. Elise Mertens), Petra Kvitova (vs. Johanna Larsson) and Jelena Ostapenko (vs. Aliaksandra Sasnovich) among the women. Five-time Wimbledon champion Williams' match on No. 1 Court will be her first competition since a June 9 car accident in Florida; she is being sued by the estate of a man who died at age 78, 13 days after the crash that police say Williams caused.

TODAY'S FORECAST

Cloudy. High of 72 degrees (22 Celsius).

MIDLAND PRO BASEBALL CONNECTIONS

Here is an update of baseball players from Midland or players with a Midland connection who are active and playing professional baseball.

Through July 1
Pitchers
Logan Bawcom (Greenwood, Midland College), RHP, El Paso Chihuahuas
(San Diego Padres Triple-A)

G	IP	W-L	SV	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
27	41.0	1-3	1	43	21	14	18	42	3.07

Matt Withrow (Midland Christian), RHP, Mississippi Braves
(Atlanta Braves Double-A Advanced), 7-day disabled list

G	IP	W-L	SV	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
10	48.1	1-3	0	39	26	24	22	44	4.47

Thomas McIlraith (Midland College), RHP, St. Lucie Mets (New York Mets Single-A Advanced)

G	IP	W-L	SV	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
4	12.0	1-1	0	17	9	9	3	7	6.75

Columbia Fireflies (New York Mets Single-A)

G	IP	W-L	SV	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
1	6.0	1-0	0	6	0	0	1	3	0.00

Brooklyn Cyclones (New York Mets Single-A Short Season)

G	IP	W-L	SV	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
1	5.0	1-0	0	2	0	0	1	4	0.00

Tucker Davidson (Midland College), LHP, Rome Braves (Atlanta Braves Single-A)

G	IP	W-L	SV	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
20	43.1	1-3	2	45	26	11	11	49	2.28

Position Players
Blaine Prescott (Midland College), 2B, Hickory Crawdads (Texas Rangers Single-A)

AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SB	Avg.
131	16	31	4	1	3	6	6	2	.237

Chris Shaw (Midland College), C, Delmarva Shorebirds
(Baltimore Orioles Single-A), 7-day disabled list

AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SB	Avg.
88	10	18	5	0	2	13	4	0	.205

Yahir Garrola (Midland College), OF, GCL Phillies (Philadelphia Phillies Rookie)

AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SB	Avg.
11	4	3	1	0	0	2	3	0	.273

Bryndan Arredondo (Midland College), C, GCL Orioles (Baltimore Orioles Rookie)

AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SB	Avg.
11	1	3	0	0	1	3	0	0	.273

WNBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	[illegible]	[illegible]	.524	
Connecticut	[illegible]	[illegible]	.533	[illegible]
New York	[illegible]	[illegible]	.500	[illegible]
Atlanta	[illegible]	[illegible]	.462	2
Indiana	[illegible]	[illegible]	.462	2
Chicago	[illegible]	[illegible]	.143	[illegible]

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	[illegible]	[illegible]	.923	
Los Angeles	[illegible]	[illegible]	.800	[illegible]
Phoenix	[illegible]	[illegible]	.538	[illegible]
Dallas	[illegible]	[illegible]	.471	[illegible]
Seattle	[illegible]	[illegible]	.467	[illegible]
San Antonio	[illegible]	[illegible]	.367	[illegible]

Scores and schedule

Sunday's Scores
Los Angeles 76, Washington 69
Atlanta 87, New York 72
Today's Games
No games scheduled
Tuesday's Games
No games scheduled

MLS GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	36	[illegible]
Toronto FC	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
New York City FC	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	33	34	[illegible]
Orlando City	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	29	[illegible]	26
Atlanta United	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	31	25
Columbus	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	25	29	32
New York	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	23	[illegible]	23
Philadelphia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	22	24	26
Montreal	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	21	26	28
New England	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	20	27	28
D.C. United	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	19	[illegible]	27

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Kansas City	8	4	[illegible]	31	23	[illegible]
FC Dallas	[illegible]	3	[illegible]	28	26	[illegible]
San Jose	[illegible]	6	[illegible]	26	25	22
Portland	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	26	32	29
Houston	[illegible]	[illegible]	4	25	32	28
Los Angeles	6	[illegible]	4	22	26	26
Vancouver	6	[illegible]	3	21	27	25
Seattle	[illegible]	6	4	[illegible]	22	27
Colorado	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	18	24
Minnesota United	3	10	3	12	21	41
Real Salt Lake	5	12	2	[illegible]	[illegible]	38

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

Scores and schedule

Sunday's Scores
Philadelphia 3, New England 1
Tuesday's Games
Columbus at Minnesota United, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Atlanta United FC, 5 p.m.
D.C. United at FC Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Colorado, 8 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

FIGHT SCHEDULE

July 7
At A La Carte Pavilion, Tampa, Fla.: Sammy Valentin vs. Giovani Santillan, 10, for Valentin's NABO welterweight title.

July 9
At Ekaterinburg, Russia: Denis Lebedev vs. Mark Flanagan, 12, for Lebedev's WBA Super World cruiserweight title; Dmitry Mikhaylenko vs. Qudratillo Abdugasorov, 12, for Mikhaylenko's WBC Silver welterweight title; Pavel Malikov vs. Daiki Kaneko, 10, lightweights.

July 14
At Buffalo Run Casino, Miami, Okla. (SHO): Antoine Douglas vs. Bruno Sandoval, 10, for the vacant WBA-NABA middleweight title.

July 15
At London: Lee Selby vs. Jonathan Barros, 12, for Selby's IBF featherweight title; Chris Eubank Jr. vs. Arthur Abraham, 12, for Eubank's IBO World super middleweight title; Martin J. Ward vs. Anthony Cacace, 12, for Ward's British junior lightweight title; Kid Galahad vs. Dennis Ceylan, 12, for the vacant IBF Inter-Continental featherweight title; Robbie Davies Jr. vs. Michal Syrowatka, 10, for Davies' WBA Continental junior welterweight title.
At Nassau Coliseum, Uniondale, N.Y. (FOX/FS1), Omar Figueroa vs. Robert Guerrero, 10, welterweights; Marcus Browne vs. Seanie Monaghan, 10, light heavyweights; Artur Szpilka vs. Adam Kownacki, 10, heavyweights; Jose Pedraza vs. Jamel Herring, 10, lightweights.
At the Forum, Los Angeles (HBO), Miguel Berchelt vs. Takashi Miura, 12, for Berchelt's WBC World super featherweight title; Jezreel Corrales vs. Robinson Castellanos, 12, for Corrales' WBA super featherweight; Joe Smith Jr. vs. Sullivan Barrera, 12, for Smith's WBC international light heavyweight title.

July 23
At Tokyo, Ryoichi Taguchi vs. Robert Barrera, 12, for Taguchi's WBA World junior flyweight title; Jose Argumedo vs. Hiroto Kyoguchi, 12, for Argumedo's IBF minimumweight title; Ryuichi Funai vs. Takayuki Okumoto, 10, junior bantamweights.

July 29
At Barclays Center, Brooklyn, N.Y. (SHO), Adrien Broner vs. Mikey Garcia, 12, welterweights.
At Casino Del Sol in Tucson, Ariz. (ESPN2), Sadam Ali vs. Johan Perez, 10, for the vacant NABA Welterweight title.

Aug. 4
At Fantasy Springs Resort Casino, Indio, Calif. (ESPN2), Mauricio Herrera, vs. Jesus Soto Karass, 10, welterweights; Vyacheslav Shabranskyy vs. Todd Unthank-May, 10, for the vacant WBC USNBC light heavyweight title.

Aug. 15
At Tokyo, Shinsuke Yamanaka vs. Luis Nery, 12, for Yamanaka's WBC World bantamweight title.

Aug. 26
At StubHub Center, Carson, Calif. (HBO), Miguel Cotto vs. Yoshihiro Kamegai, 12, for the vacant WBO junior middleweight title; Rey Vargas vs. Ronny Rios, 12, for Vargas' WBC World super bantamweight title.
At Las Vegas (PPV), Floyd Mayweather vs. Conor McGregor, 12 junior middleweights.

LITTLE LEAGUE SECTIONAL BRACKETS

2017 LITTLE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT
Texas West Section 1
8-10 Year Old Tournament
At John P. Butler Sports Complex, Midland Drive & Bluebird Drive
Saturday, July 1
Game 1: Lubbock Western 11, Idalou 6
Game 2: Pecos 16, Borger 3
Sunday, July 2
Winner's bracket
Game 3: Midland Northern 35, Pecos 1
Loser's bracket
Game 4: Borger 11, Idalou 9
Monday, July 3
Winner's bracket semifinal
Game 5: Lubbock Western vs. Midland Northern, 6 p.m., Field 4
Loser's bracket semifinal
Game 6: Borger vs. Pecos, 8 p.m., Field 4
Tuesday, July 4
Loser's bracket final
Game 7: Game 5 loser vs. Game 6 loser TBA, Field 4
Wednesday, July 5
Winner's bracket championship
Game 8: Game 5 winner vs. Game 7 winner TBA, Field 4
Thursday, July 6
If necessary game
Game 9: Game 8 loser vs. Game 8 winner TBA, Field 4

9-11 Year Old Tournament
At John P. Butler Sports Complex, Midland Drive & Bluebird Drive
Saturday, July 1
Game 1: Midland Northern 11, Pecos 1
Sunday, July 2
Winner's bracket semifinal
Game 2: Lubbock Southwest vs. Midland Northern, late
Monday, July 3
Loser's bracket
Game 3: Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser 4 p.m.
Tuesday, July 4
Winner's bracket championship
Game 4: Game 2 winner vs. Game 3 winner TBA
If necessary game
Game 5: Game 4 winner vs. Game 4 winner TBA

10-12 Year Old Tournament
At John P. Butler Sports Complex, Midland Drive & Bluebird Drive
Saturday, July 1
Game 1: Lubbock Western 9, Pecos 6
Game 2: Midland Northern 10, Childress 0
Sunday, July 2
Winner's bracket quarterfinal
Game 3: Midland Northern 21, New Home 0
Loser's bracket
Game 4: Pecos vs. Childress, late
Monday, July 3
Winner's bracket semifinal
Game 5: Lubbock Western vs. Midland Northern, 6 p.m., Field 1
Loser's bracket semifinal
Game 6: Game 4 winner vs. New Home, 6 p.m., Field 1
Tuesday, July 4
Loser's bracket final
Game 7: Game 5 loser vs. Game 6 winner TBA, Field 1
Wednesday, July 5
Winner's bracket championship
Game 8: Game 5 winner vs. game 7 winner TBA, Field 1
Thursday, July 6
If necessary game
Game 9: Game 8 winner vs. Game 8 loser TBA

Intermediate Tournament
At Roy Anderson Sports Complex, I-20 Service Road, Big Spring
Saturday, July 1
Game 1: Pecos 19, Midland 11
Game 2: Lubbock Northwest 13, Lockney 3
Sunday, July 2
Winner's bracket semifinal
Game 3: Pecos vs. Lubbock Northwest, late
Loser's bracket
Game 4: Midland vs. Lockney, late
Monday, July 3
Loser's bracket semifinal
Game 5: Game 3 loser vs. Game 4 winner, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, July 4
Winner's bracket championship
Game 6: Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 loser, TBA
If necessary game
Game 7: Game 6 winner vs. Game 6 loser, TBA

Junior Tournament
At Big Spring High School Steer Field, 8th and Owens, Big Spring
Saturday, July 1
Game 1: Pecos 11, Lubbock 1
Game 2: Midland 12, Childress 2
Sunday, July 2
Game 3: Abernathy 1, Midland 1: Abernathy wins by forfeit.
Loser's bracket
Game 4: Lubbock vs. Childress, late
Monday, July 3
Winner's bracket semifinal
Game 5: Pecos vs. Abernathy, 10 a.m.
Loser's bracket semifinal
Game 6: Midland vs. Game 4 winner, 5 p.m.
Tuesday, July 4
Loser's bracket final
Game 7: Game 5 loser vs. Game 6 winner TBA
Wednesday, July 5
Winner's bracket championship
Game 8: Game 5 winner vs. Game 7 winner TBA
Thursday, July 6
If necessary game
Game 9: Game 8 winner vs. Game 8 loser TBA

Senior Tournament
At Big Spring High School Steer Field, 8th and Owens, Big Spring
Saturday, July 1
Game 1: Pecos 14, Odessa East 4
Game 2: Childress 2, District 38 1
Sunday, July 2
Winner's bracket
Game 3: Pecos vs. Childress, late
Game 4: Odessa East vs. District 38, late
Monday, July 3
Game 5: Game 3 loser vs. Game 4 winner, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, July 4
Winner's bracket championship
Game 6: Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner, TBA
If necessary game
Game 7: Game 6 winner vs. Game 6 loser, TBA

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
UPCOMING EVENTS
7/06 6:30-8:30 Microchipping at Beer Garden's Yappy Hour
7/10 6:00 Adoption Center Volunteer Orientation
7/15 9:00-12:00 Shot & Chip Clinic at Dennis the Menace Park
7/16 3:30 Pedal for Paws at CycleBar in Midland
PLEASE VISIT THE EVENTS SECTION OF OUR WEBSITE
WWW.MIDLANDHUMANE.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION
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ADOPTION HOURS
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Willow is a 7 month old female grey tortoise shell who was found as a stray. Willow is shy, but sweet. She does not care for other cats and has not been around dogs.

Sanchez homers in 8th, White Sox beat Rangers 6-5

By Dave Royse
Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Texas Rangers had a lead late, and again the bullpen failed to hold it.

Reliever Jose Leclerc (1-2) gave up a two-run home run with two outs in the eighth to Chicago's Yolmer Sanchez and the White Sox beat the Rangers 6-5 on Sunday.

It was a sloppy, error-and walk-filled game in which both teams gave the other numerous chances. The White Sox committed a season-high four errors, including two on the same play that allowed a run to score.

"It was not the cleanest game," Chicago manager Rick Renteria said.

The Sox also nearly let the Rangers off the hook after taking the lead, loading the bases in the ninth before David Robertson (4-2) struck out Carlos Gomez to end the game.

Even that final strikeout was sloppy, as the ball got away from catcher Kevan Smith. He could have just thrown to first to finalize the game, because Gomez didn't run, but Smith instead grabbed the ball and dove to touch home plate before Joey Gallo could score from home.

The Rangers are tied for most blown saves in the American League with 17.

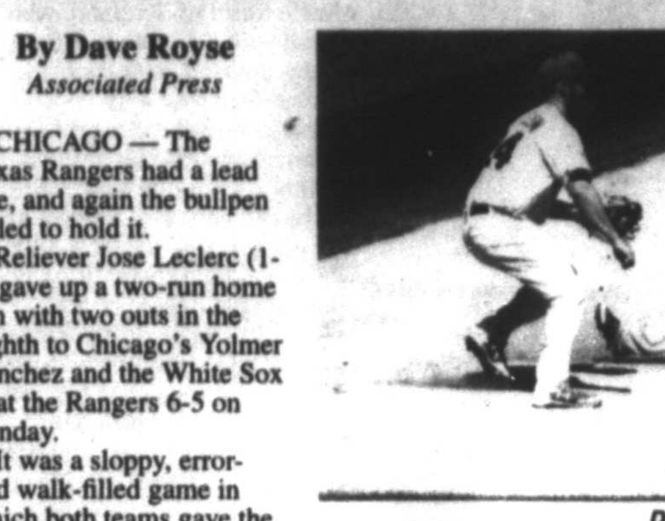
"It was one pitch, one moment — good hitters put good swings on hanging breaking balls," Rangers manager Jeff Banister said.

Actually, Banister said, the four pitches earlier in the inning that set up the game-winning home run were just as problematic when Chicago's Todd Frazier walked, after getting behind in the count 0-2.

"The walk was really what led to that situation, the inability to make a pitch there in that at-bat, (when) you have a guy down two strikes," Banister said. And while the bullpen again will be blamed, there were other problems throughout.

"We had an opportunity in the ninth against their closer and didn't get the job done," Banister said. "The biggest story is the seven walks and (a) hit batter, three of which scored today."

The White Sox were also frustrated by mistakes. Among the team's four errors, two came in the fourth inning when the Rangers' Robinson Chirinos stole second. Smith's throw to second sailed out into center field, allowing Chirinos to head for third. Center fielder Adam Engel retrieved it and tried to throw out Chirinos at third, but the throw was off target and Chirinos went home.



David Banka/Associated Press

Texas Rangers' Robinson Chirinos, right, is safe at third base as Chicago White Sox third baseman Matt Davidson (24) waits for the throw during the fourth inning of a baseball game Sunday in Chicago.

STARTERS

From 1C

nearly 75,000 over Seattle's Nelson Cruz. The Royals' Salvador Perez won at catcher.

Arenado overtook the Cubs' Kris Bryant, last year's NL MVP, to win at third base by 180,000. Arenado will be joined in the NL lineup by Cincinnati shortstop Zack Cozart, Rockies outfielder Charlie Blackmon, Miami outfielder Marcell Ozuna and San Francisco catcher Buster Posey.

"It would be even more fun if there were a few more guys going from the team," said Posey, whose Giants are last in the NL West.

There were 11 first-time starters last season in San Diego, the last year the winning league received home-field advantage in the World Series. Under baseball's new labor contract, the Series now starts in the ballpark of the pennant winner with the better record.

Catcher Gary Sanchez, injured second baseman Starlin Castro and pitchers Dellin Betances and Luis Severino also were picked from the Yankees. Cleveland is sending pitchers Corey Kluber and Andrew Miller, shortstop Francisco Lindor and outfielder Michael Brantley.

"I'm just happy for Cleveland," said the Indians' Terry Francona, who will manage the AL. "I think the fans and the city — everybody should be proud."

Marlins outfielder Giancarlo Stanton was picked as a reserve and plans to defend his Home Run Derby title on July 10. Judge also has been invited, and Los Angeles Dodgers rookie Cody Bellinger, who leads the NL with 24 homers, has said he will participate.

"It is going to be amazing," Stanton said. "Either way, the week was going to be cool, but this makes it even cooler."

Among the strong candidates overlooked were Carlos Carrasco, Jacob deGrom, Gio Gonzalez, Ivan Nova, Roberto Osuna, Anthony Rizzo, Travis Shaw, Andrelton Simmons, Justin Upton and Alex Wood.

Rosters were cut from 34 per league to 32 under the new labor deal, and online voting determines the last spot on each roster. Elvis Andrus, Xander Bogaerts, Didi Gregorius, Logan Morrison and Mike Moustakas are the AL candidates, and Justin Bour, Bryant, Anthony Rendon, Mark Reynolds and Justin Turner are on the NL ballot.

The AL had won four straight and went 11-3 in the years the All-Star Game determined World Series home field. Marlins Park is the third of four straight NL ballparks to host the All-Stars and will be followed by Washington in 2018.

ROCKHOUNDS REPORT

DRILLERS 5, ROCKHOUNDS 3
At Security Bank Ballpark

TOP HITTERS: Henry Ramos was 2-for-3 with a home run, a triple, three RBI and a walk to spearhead Tulsa's hitting. ... Midland's Richie Martin was 2-for-4 with a double, two RBI and a stolen base.

TOP PITCHERS: Rock-Hounds starter A.J. Puk took a no-decision in his home debut despite holding Tulsa to only two runs, four hits and four walks over six innings. The Oakland Athletics' 2016 first round pick struck out four. ... Drillers reliever Edward Paredes struck out three over two shutout innings.

HIGHLIGHTS: Martin's run-scoring double gave Midland a 1-0 lead in the first inning. ... The Rounds took a 2-0 lead on Viosergy Rosa's RBI single in the third. ... Tulsa tied the contest at 2 behind Ramos' two-RBI triple in the sixth inning. ... Midland regained the lead at 3-2 on Martin's RBI single in the bottom of the eighth. ... Tulsa rallied for three runs in the top of the ninth off Midland reliever Tyler Sturdevant. Ramos started it off with a solo home run to center. Blake Gailen and Samuel Ortiz followed with RBI singles for the Drillers.

NOTES: Midland outfielder Tyler Ramirez singled, walked and got hit by a pitch in four plate appearances during his Double-A debut. ... Rosa's 63 RBI lead the Texas League. ... Tulsa took a 1-0 lead in the three-game series.

TODAY'S PROBABLES: Tulsa — TBA; Midland — RHP Grant Holmes (5-7, 4.96 ERA).

TL standings

Second Half	W	L	Pct.	GB
North Division				
Tulsa	6	4	.600	—
Northwest Arkansas	6	4	.600	—
Springfield	5	5	.500	1
Arkansas	4	6	.400	2
South Division				
Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Antonio	7	3	.700	—
Frisco	4	6	.400	3
Corpus Christi	4	6	.400	3
Midland	2	8	.200	5

Sunday's Scores
Arkansas 3, Corpus Christi 2, 12 innings
Tulsa 5, Midland 3
San Antonio 1, Northwest Arkansas 0
Frisco 8, Springfield 4

Today's Games
Tulsa at Midland, 6:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Northwest Arkansas, 6:35 p.m.
Springfield at Frisco, 7:05 p.m.
Corpus Christi at Arkansas, 7:10 p.m.

DRILLERS 5, ROCKHOUNDS 3

Tulsa	ab	r	h	bi	Midland	ab	r	h	bi
Robinson ss	4	1	1	0	Boyd cf	5	1	1	0
Mejia 3b	3	1	1	0	Tarsovich 3b	5	0	1	0
Rios 1b	3	0	0	0	Schrock 2b	5	0	0	0
Ramos rf	3	1	2	3	Rosa 1b	5	0	2	1
Latimore lf	4	1	1	0	Murphy c	4	0	0	0
Scavuzzo gh	4	1	1	0	Sportman rf	3	2	2	0
Murphy c	4	0	1	0	Ramirez rf	2	0	1	0
Gailen cf	4	0	1	1	Martin ss	4	0	2	2
Ortiz 2b	4	0	1	1	Cogswell dh	4	0	1	0
Totals	**33**	**5**	**9**	**5**	**Totals**	**37**	**3**	**10**	**3**

Tulsa.....000 000 002 003 —5
Midland.....011 000 010 —3

E — Ramos (3). DP — Midland 2. LOB — Tulsa 5, Midland 10. 2B — Martin (7), Boyd (19), Sportman (17). 3B — Ramos (1). HR — Ramos (1). SB — Mejia (10), Sportman (7), Martin (7).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Tulsa						
Sopko	5.0	7	2	2	1	2
Paredes	2.0	1	0	0	0	3
Somsen W, 1-0	1.1	2	1	1	1	1
Hynes S, 1	0.2	0	0	0	0	1
Midland						
Puk	6.0	4	2	2	4	4
Kurcz	2.0	0	0	0	0	1
Sturdevant L, 1-1	1.0	5	3	3	0	1

WP — Sopko. Puk. HBP — by Paredes (Ramirez).
T — 2:50. T — 2,853.

MLB ROUNDUP

American League

INDIANS 11
TIGERS 8

DETROIT — Jose Ramirez homered twice, and Cleveland snapped Justin Verlander's decade-long streak of games with at least one strikeout, chasing the Detroit star in the fourth inning.

Verlander (5-5) had struck out a batter in 331 consecutive appearances and was tied with Curt Schilling for the sixth-longest streak since 1913. He hadn't gone without a strikeout since April 28, 2007, when he lasted only three innings against Minnesota.

On Sunday, he allowed seven runs and nine hits with three walks in 3 1/3 innings.

Mike Clevinger (4-3) allowed a run and two hits in six innings. He walked five and struck out seven.

The Indians held on after Detroit scored six runs in the ninth inning, including homers by James McCann and Nicholas Castellanos. Cody Allen retired the final batter for his 16th save in 17 chances.

ORIOLES 7
RAYS 1

BALTIMORE — Manny Machado hit a three-run homer, Kevin Gausman pitched seven innings of two-hit ball and Baltimore avoided a three-game sweep.

Mark Trumbo also homered and Seth Smith had two RBIs for the Orioles, playing their final home game until July 14.

Gausman (5-7) struck out nine and walked two in the finest of his 18 starts this season. The right-hander allowed only one runner past first base in lowering his ERA from 6.07 to 5.61.

Jesus Sucre ended Baltimore's shutout bid with an eighth-inning homer off Mychal Givens.

Tampa Bay starter Alex Cobb (6-6) gave up seven runs and six hits over 6 1/3 innings.

RED SOX 15
BLUE JAYS 1

TORONTO — Mookie Betts hit two home runs and matched a career-high with eight RBIs to help Boston rout Toronto.

Betts went 4 for 6 as AL East-leading Boston won for the sixth time in seven games, completing the three-game sweep. He hit an RBI single in the second, a three-run homer in the fourth, a two-run blast in the sixth, and a two-run single in the seventh. It was the second multihomer game of the season for Betts, who also hit two at Philadelphia on June 14. Betts had eight RBIs against Arizona on Aug. 14, 2016.

Drew Pomeranz (8-4) pitched six innings for his third straight road win.

Hanley Ramirez had three hits, including a two-run homer, as the Red Sox collected a season-high 21 hits.

Joe Biagini (2-8) took the loss as he was chased in the sixth inning by Betts' second homer.

ROYALS 6
TWINS 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Alcides Escobar had two hits and two RBIs and Scott Alexander picked up his first major league victory for Kansas City.

The Royals have won 15 of 21 games to move a game above .500 and into a tie with the Twins for second place in the American League Central.

Escobar went 7-for-16 with four extra-base hits, including a home run, with seven RBIs and scored four runs in the four-game series to raised his average 50 points since June 13.

Travis Wood, making his first start since Sept. 19, 2015, after 108 relief appearances, was removed in the fifth after facing three batters and retiring none. Brian Dozier and Robbie Grossman had RBI-singles in the inning.

Alexander (1-2) replaced Wood and induced Eduardo Escobar to ground into an inning ending double play with the bases loaded.

MARINERS 5
ANGELS 3

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Robinson Cano hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning and James Paxton retired the first 16 hitters he faced in Seattle's win over Los Angeles.

Paxton (6-3) continued his career-long dominance of the Angels, throwing 6 1/3 innings of two-hit ball in his best start since missing most of May with a forearm strain. The left-hander has a career 2.04 ERA against the Halos, the second-best among active pitchers.

Jean Segura had four hits and drove in two runs as the Mariners took two of three from their AL West rivals.

Danny Espinosa got the Angels' first hit off Paxton in the sixth, and Yunel Escobar chased him with an RBI single in the seventh inning of Los Angeles' third loss in four games.

Interleague

BRAVES 4
ATHLETICS 3, 12 INNINGS

OAKLAND, Calif. — Kurt Suzuki led off the 12th inning with his second home run of the game, helping Atlanta complete a three-game sweep.

One inning after closer Jim Johnson got his sixth blown save, Suzuki lined a shot to left on a 3-1 pitch from John Axford (0-1). Suzuki also homered off starter Sean Manaea to begin the second.

It's the third multihomer of Suzuki's career and first since 2011 when he was with Oakland. The veteran catcher had not gone deep against his previous club until these homers helped Atlanta finish its six-game West Coast trip on a positive note after a rocky beginning.

National League

PADRES 5
DODGERS 3

SAN DIEGO — Jhoulys Chacin pitched five scoreless innings, Manuel Margot homered and drove in two runs, and San Diego got a rare victory over the Dodgers.

The Padres lost seven of the first eight meetings with the Dodgers this season but defeated Kenta Maeda (6-4) for the second time in 13 weeks.

San Diego went ahead 5-0 against Maeda while Chacin (7-7) was recording his second scoreless outing in 17 starts this year.

DIAMONDBACKS 4
ROCKIES 3

PHOENIX — Ketel Marte lined a run-scoring single in the ninth inning and Arizona overcame the first earned run allowed by Fernando Rodney in 21 games.

Rodney (2-2) had his hitless outings streak end at 11 with three straight singles in the ninth inning, including Charlie Blackmon's tying hit. Rodney got a pair of pop ups with two on to end the inning.

Brandon Drury hit a one-out single in the bottom half and Chris Iannetta followed with a double off Adam Ottavino (1-3). Marte fell into a 1-2 hole against Chris Rusin before lining a one-hopper off the wall, sending the Diamondbacks rushing out of the dugout to mob him.

GIANTS 5
PIRATES 3

PITTSBURGH — Brandon Belt started San Francisco's comeback with an RBI single in a three-run seventh inning, then added a two-run homer in the eighth as the Giants got their season-high sixth straight win.

Jordy Mercer's two-run homer in the third off Jeff Samardzija (4-9) put the Pirates ahead.

Trevor Williams took a two-hit shutout into the seventh, when Hunter Pence walked leading off and Buster Posey doubled. Belt and Brandon Crawford hit consecutive run-scoring singles off left-hander Tony Watson (4-2), and Kelby Tomlinson's sacrifice fly gave San Francisco a 3-2 lead.

MARLINS 10
BREWERS 3

MILWAUKEE — Marcell Ozuna hit two home runs — the second moments after having his bat thrown out for having too much pine tar on it — and Miami beat Milwaukee.

The sticky situation began in the seventh, when Brewers second baseman Jonathan Villar had his bat tossed from the game for the same issue by plate umpire Hunter Wendelstedt.

2017 ALL-STAR ROSTERS

Tuesday, July 11
At Marlins Park, Miami
x-starter; p-player ballot elected; m-choice of MLB
(Years All-Star in parentheses)

American League
Manager - Terry Francona, Cleveland
Coach - Kevin Cash, Tampa Bay

Pitchers
p-Dellin Betances, N.Y.Yankees (4)
m-Yu Darvish, Texas (4)
m-Michael Fulmer, Detroit (1)
p-Dallas Keuchel, Houston (2)
p-Craig Kimbrel, Boston (8)
m-Corey Kluber, Cleveland (2)
m-Lance McCullers Jr., Houston (1)
p-Andrew Miller, Cleveland (2)
p-Chris Sale, Boston (6)
p-Ervin Santana, Minnesota (2)
p-Luis Severino, N.Y.Yankees (1)
p-Jason Vargas, Kansas City (1)

Catchers
x-Salvador Perez, Kansas City (5)
p-Gary Sanchez, N.Y.Yankees (1)

Infielders
p-Yonder Alonso, Oakland (1)
x-Jose Altuve, Houston (5)
p-Starlin Castro, N.Y.Yankees (4)
x-Carlos Correa, Houston (1)
p-Francisco Lindor, Cleveland (2)
x-Jose Ramirez, Cleveland (1)
p-Miguel Sano, Minnesota (1)
m-Jonathan Schoop, Baltimore (1)
x-Justin Smoak, Toronto (1)

Outfielders
p-Mookie Betts, Boston (2)
p-Michael Brantley, Cleveland (2)
p-Avisail, Garcia, Chicago (1)
x-Aaron Judge, N.Y.Yankees (1)
x-George Springer, Houston (1)
x-Mike Trout, L.A. Angels (6)

Designated Hitters
p-Nelson Cruz, Seattle (5)
x-Corey Dickerson, Tampa Bay (1)

Final Vote Candidates
SS Elvis Andrus, Texas
SS Xander Bogaerts, Boston
SS Didi Gregorius, N.Y.Yankees
1B Logan Morrison, Tampa Bay
3B Mike Moustakas, Kansas City

National League
Manager - Joe Maddon, Chicago Cubs
Coach - Don Mattingly, Miami

Pitchers
p-Wade Davis, Chicago (3)
p-Zack Greinke, Arizona (4)
m-Brad Hand, San Diego (1)
p-Greg Holland, Colorado (3)
p-Kenley Jansen, L.A. Dodgers (2)
p-Clayton Kershaw, L.A. Dodgers (7)
m-Corey Knebel, Milwaukee (1)
p-Carlos Martinez, St. Louis (2)
m-Pat Neshek, Philadelphia (2)
p-Robbie Ray, Arizona (1)
p-Max Scherzer, Washington (5)
m-Stephen Strasburg, Washington (3)

Catchers
p-Yadier Molina, St. Louis (8)
x-Buster Posey, San Francisco (5)

Infielders
x-Nolan Arenado, Colorado (3)
x-Zack Cozart, Cincinnati (1)
p-Paul Goldschmidt, Arizona (5)
m-Josh Harrison, Pittsburgh (2)
p-Jake Lamb, Arizona (1)
p-DJ LeMahieu, Colorado (2)
x-Daniel Murphy, Washington (3)
p-Corey Seager, L.A. Dodgers (2)
m-Joey Votto, Cincinnati (5)
x-Ryan Zimmerman, Washington (2)

Outfielders
p-Cody Bellinger, L.A. Dodgers (1)
x-Charlie Blackmon, Colorado (2)
p-Michael Conforto, N.Y. Mets (1)
x-Bryce Harper, Washington (5)
m-Ender Inciarte, Atlanta (1)
x-Marcell Ozuna, Miami (2)
p-Giancarlo Stanton, Miami (4)

Final Vote Candidates
1B Justin Bour, Miami
3B Kris Bryant, Chicago
3B Anthony Rendon, Washington
1B Mark Reynolds, Colorado
3B Justin Turner, L.A. Dodgers

MLB GLANCE

Standings

American League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	47	35	.573	—
New York	43	37	.538	3
Tampa Bay	43	41	.512	5
Baltimore	40	41	.494	6½
Toronto	37	44	.457	9½
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	44	37	.543	—
Kansas City	41	40	.506	3
Minnesota	41	40	.506	3
Chicago	39	43	.476	5
Detroit	36	45	.444	8
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	56	27	.675	—
Los Angeles	43	43	.500	14½
Seattle	41	42	.494	15
Texas	40	42	.488	15½
Oakland	35	47	.427	20½

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	48	34	.585	—
Atlanta	40	41	.494	7½
New York	38	43	.469	9½
Miami	38	44	.450	11
Philadelphia	27	53	.338	20
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	44	40	.524	—
Chicago	41	41	.500	2
St. Louis	39	42	.481	3½
Pittsburgh	33	45	.451	6
Cincinnati	35	48	.432	7½
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	55	29	.655	—
Arizona	52	31	.627	2½
Colorado	46	36	.571	7
San Diego	34	49	.415	20
San Francisco	33	51	.393	22

Scores and Schedules

American League
Sunday's Scores
Boston 15, Toronto 1
Cleveland 11, Detroit 8
Baltimore 7, Tampa Bay 1
Chicago White Sox 6, Texas 5
Houston 6, N.Y. Yankees 1
Kansas City 6, Minnesota 2
Seattle 5, L.A. Angels 3
Atlanta 4, Oakland 3, 12 innings

Today's Games
Baltimore (Miley 3-6) at Milwaukee (Espino 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
Toronto (Stroman 8-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Tanaka 6-7), 6:05 p.m.
Boston (Porcello 4-10) at Texas (Perez 4-6), 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Meyer 3-4) at Minnesota (Mejia 3-3), 7:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Rodon 0-1) at Oakland (Cotton 5-7), 8:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Kennedy 2-6) at Seattle (Moore 1-0), 9:10 p.m.

National League
Sunday's Scores
Chicago Cubs 6, Cincinnati 2
Philadelphia 7, N.Y. Mets 1
San Francisco 5, Pittsburgh 3
Miami 10, Milwaukee 3
Atlanta 4, Oakland 3, 12 innings
Arizona 4, Colorado 3
San Diego 5, L.A. Dodgers 3
Washington 7, St. Louis 2

Today's Games
Baltimore (Miley 3-6) at Milwaukee (Espino 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Matz 2-1) at Washington (Strasburg 9-2), 5:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Nova 9-5) at Philadelphia (Nola 5-5), 6:05 p.m.
Miami (Locke 0-4) at St. Louis (Wainwright 9-5), 6:15 p.m.
Cincinnati (Castillo 0-0) at Colorado (Hoffman 4-1), 7:10 p.m.

Texas boxes

ASTROS 6, YANKEES 1

New York	ab	r	h	bi	Houston	ab	r	h	bi
Gardner dh	5	0	0	0	Springer cf	5	1	2	0
Judge rf	4	0	2	0	Marisnick cf	0	0	0	0
G.Sanchez c	3	0	2	0	Reddick rf	3	0	1	1
Grgrius ss	3	0	0	0	Altuve 2b	4	0	1	0
Ellsbry cf	4	0	0	0	Bregman 2b	1	0	0	0
Headley 3b	4	1	1	0	Correa ss	5	0	4	3
Carter 1b	4	0	1	1	B.McCrm c	4	0	0	0
Wade 2b	2	0	0	0	Beltran dh	5	2	2	0
Rtrndyr ph	0	0	0	0	Ma.Gnza 3b	4	1	1	2
C.Frizer lf	3	0	0	0	Y.Grml 1b	4	3	3	2
Acki lf	3	1	0	0					
Totals	**32**	**1**	**6**	**1**	**Totals**	**38**	**8**	**14**	**8**

New York.....000 000 000—1
Houston.....030 201 20x—8

E—G.Sanchez 2 (8). DP—Houston 1. LOB—New York 9, Houston 10. 2B—Judge (13), Headley (16), Springer 2 (18), Reddick (18), Correa 2 (17), Beltran (18), Y.Gurriel (21). HR—Ma.Gonzalez (14), Y.Gurriel (10). SB—Wade (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
New York						
Severino L,5-4	5 1-3	9	6	6	1	7
Webb	2-3	1	0	0	0	0
German	2	4	2	2	0	1
Houston						
Fiers	4	2	0	0	4	7
Devenski W,5-3	2	0	0	0	0	4
Feliz	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hoyt	1	2	0	0	0	0
Tolleer	0	2	1	1	1	0
Diaz	1	0	0	0	0	1

Tolleer pitched to 3 batters in the 8th
HBP—by Severino (McCann). WP—German.
T—3:29. A—41,761 (42,060).

WHITE SOX 6, RANGERS 5

Texas	ab	r	h	bi	Chicago	ab	r	h	bi
DShields lf	4	0	0	0	Hanson rf	3	1	0	0
Mazara ph	1	0	0	0	Ma.Ctnr lf	2	2	1	1
Gallo pr	0	0	0	0	Abreu dh	4	1	1	1
Choo rf	5	1	2	0	T.Frzer 1b	2	1	1	1
Andrus ss	5	1	2	1	Davidson 3b	3	0	0	1
Beltre 3b	2	0	0	0	Y.Sanch 2b	3	1	1	2
Gomez cf	5	0	1	0	Ti.Andr ss	4	0	1	0
Napoli 1b	4	1	1	1	K.Smith c	2	0	0	0
Lucroy dh	4	0	1	2	Engel cf	2	0	0	0
Chirinos c	4	1	1	0					
Kozma 2b	3	1	0	0					
Odor ph	1	0	1	0					
Totals	**38**	**5**	**9**	**4**	**Totals**	**25**	**6**	**5**	**6**

Texas.....001 220 000—5
Chicago.....103 000 02x—6

E—T.Frazier (8), Y.Sanchez (3), K.Smith (2), Engel (1), Chirinos (1). DP—Texas 2. LOB—Texas 9, Chicago 4. 2B—Andrus (19), Abreu (22). HR—Napoli (16), Ma.Cabrera (9), Y.Sanchez (4). SB—Chirinos (1), Hanson (4). CS—Engel (1). SF—Davidson (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Texas						
Ross	5	4	4	4	5	3
Frieri	1	0	0	0	0	2
Bush	1	0	0	0	1	2
Leclerc L,1-2 BS,1	1	1	2	2	1	1
Chicago						
Quintana	4 1-3	6	5	3	2	5
Swarzak	1 2-3	1	0	0	0	3
Kahnle	1 1-3	0	0	0	0	2
Robertson W,4-2	1 2-3	2	0	0	1	2

HBP—by Ross (Smith).
T—3:43. A—26,208 (40,615).

Sunday's linescores

AMERICAN LEAGUE
ORIOLES 7, RAYS 1
Tampa Bay.....000 000 010 —1 5 1
Baltimore.....004 100 20x —7 7 0
Cobb, Whitley (7) and Sucre; Gausman, Givens (8), M.Castro (9) and C.Joseph. W—Gausman 5-7. L—Cobb 6-6. HRs—Tampa Bay, Sucre. Baltimore, Machado, Trumbo.

RED SOX 15, BLUE JAYS 1
Boston.....110 302 800—15 21 1
Toronto.....010 000 000 —1 5 0
Pomeranz, Abad (7) and Vazquez; Biagini, Loup (6), Sparkman (7), Beliveau (7), Leone (9) and Martin, Maile. W—Pomeranz 8-4. L—Biagini 2-8. Sv—Abad (1). HRs—Boston: Betts 2, Ramirez.

INDIANS 11, TIGERS 8
Cleveland.....022 403 000—11 14 1
Detroit.....001 000 106 —8 11 0
Clevinger, Goody (7), Otero (8), Logan (9), Armstrong (9), Allen (9) and Gomes; Verlander, C.Bell (4), Saupold (7), Stumpf (8), Greene (9) and Avila, J.McCann. W—Clevinger 4-3. L—Verlander 5-5. Sv—Allen (16). HRs—Cleveland, Ramirez 2, Chisenhall. Detroit, Castellanos, McCann.

ROYALS 6, TWINS 2
Minnesota.....000 020 000 —2 8 0
Kansas City.....003 210 00x —6 11 1
Santiago, Hughes (4), Belisle (8), Hildenberger (7) and J.Castro; T.Wood, Alexander (5), Moylan (7), Soria (8), Herrera (9) and S.Perez. W—Alexander 1-2. L—Santiago 4-8.

MARINERS 5, ANGELS 3
Seattle.....001 010 030 —5 7 0
Los Angeles.....000 000 130 —3 6 0
Paxton, Cishek (7), Vincent (8), Rzepczynski (8), Diaz (9) and Zunino; Chavez, Parker (8), Norris (7), Middleton (8), Street (9) and Maldonado. Gretana. W—Paxton 6-3. L—Chavez 5-9. Sv—Diaz (13). HRs—Seattle, Cano.

INTERLEAGUE
BRAVES 4, ATHLETICS 3, 12 INNINGS
Atlanta.....020 000 000 011 —4 9 0
Oakland.....000 000 200 010 —3 8 1
Teheran, Motte (7), Kind (7), J.Ramirez (8), Freeman (9), Jackson (10), Johnson (11), Vizcaino (12) and K.Suzuki; Manaea, Madson (8), Casilla (9), Hendriks (10), Coulombe (11), Axford (12) and Maxwell. W—Johnson 5-1. L—Axford 0-1. Sv—Vizcaino (2). HRs—Atlanta, Suzuki 2. Oakland, Davis.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
PHILLIES 7, METS 1
Philadelphia.....040 000 030 —7 12 2
New York.....000 010 000 —1 2 0
Pivetta, Benoit (8), Neris (9) and Knapp; Montero, Bradford (7), Ramirez (8) and R.Rivera. W—Pivetta 2-4. L—Montero 1-5. HRs—New York, Rivera.

CUBS 6, REDS 2
Chicago.....020 101 110 —4 11 0
Cincinnati.....000 000 020 —2 5 1
Arrieta, Grimm (8), Liehara (8), Edwards (8), Strop (9) and Contreras; Adleman, B.Wood (6), Brice (7), W.Peralta (9) and Mesoraco. W—Arrieta 8-6. L—Adleman 5-5. HRs—Chicago, Rizzo, Happ 2.

GIANTS 5, PIRATES 3
San Francisco.....000 000 320 —5 8 0
Pittsburgh.....000 200 010 —3 7 0
Samardzija, Gearrin (7), Okert (8), S.Dyson (9) and Posey; T.Williams, Watson (7), E.Santana (8), Bastardo (8) and Stewart. W—Samardzija 4-9. L—Watson 4-2. Sv—S.Dyson (2). HRs—San Francisco, Belt, Pittsburgh, Jaso, Mercer.

MARLINS 10, BREWERS 3
Miami.....003 011 131—10 17 0
Milwaukee.....101 010 000 —3 7 1
Straily, Barraclough (7), Phelps (8), Ramos (9) and Realmuto; Guerra, C.Torres (5), Scahill (6), Espino (8) and Pina. W—Straily 6-4. L—Guerra 1-3. HRs—Miami, Dietrich, Ozuna 2. Milwaukee, Arcia, Thames.

DIAMONDBACKS 4, ROCKIES 3
Colorado.....000 110 001 —3 10 1
Arizona.....000 201 001 —4 8 0
Marquez, Oberg (8), Benzatella (7), Oliveira (9), Rusin (9) and Hanigan; Widders, Walker, R.De La Rosa (8), J.De La Rosa (8), Rodney (9) and Iannetta. W—Rodney 3-2. L—Oliveira 1-3. HRs—Arizona, Owings.

Kyle Stanley notches emotional win at Quicken Loans National

By Ben Nuckols
Associated Press

POTOMAC, Md. — Kyle Stanley was in tears on the 18th green after he holed a 5-foot par putt to win the Quicken Loans National in a playoff over Charles Howell III. He wept again in the interview room as he spoke about the long slump between his first and second career victories and the doubts that his game would ever return.

He believed he could win again. But he never really had to think about it until midway through his round on a wild Sunday at TPC Potomac.

"There was some doubt there for a little bit. Yeah, I mean, it's no fun," Stanley said, wiping away tears. "You certainly question if you'll get back ... and have a moment like this. It makes this pretty special, for sure."

On a day when about a dozen players had realistic chances to win, Stanley moved into a share of the lead for the first time with a birdie on the par-5 10th as the leaders faltered behind him. He never had the lead alone until the trophy was his.

Stanley and Howell began the day four shots off the lead, playing together in the fourth-to-last group. Stanley got into the mix with birdies on the fifth, sixth and eight holes, none of the putts longer than 10 feet.

Howell nudged ahead momentarily with a 27-footer for eagle on the short par-4 14th, only for Stanley to match him with a two-putt birdie.

Both parred the final four holes to shoot 4-under 66s and finish at 7 under, and no one could catch them. Howell had a 21-foot putt to win on the final hole of regulation that rolled over the left edge of the cup.

Playing the par-4 18th again in the playoff, both missed their tee shots to the right, with Stanley getting lucky to draw a good lie. Both missed the green. Howell's chip came up short and he missed the 11-foot par putt. Stanley chipped to 5 feet and pumped his fist as the putt dropped.

Stanley's previous win came in 2012 at the Phoenix Open. Later that year, he was ranked a career-best 47th in the world. He declined steadily after that, bottoming out at No. 683 in May 2015.

Even before this week, he was having his strongest season since that 2012 campaign, with four top-10 finishes and three missed cuts in 19 starts.

For three days, the event had been a staid affair, with a lackluster field, small galleries and steady, sometimes dull golf from David Lingmerth, who led after each of the first three rounds. Tournament host Tiger Woods did not attend while he seeks treatment for his use of prescription drugs.

On Sunday, the crowds were bigger, the course was softer and chaos broke out. Then it started pouring. A pop-up storm temporarily soaked TPC Potomac and doomed the chances of Sung Kang, who didn't pack any rain gear in his bag and missed a 4-foot birdie putt in the heart of the downpour just before play was stopped for 5 minutes. When play resumed, he hit his tee shot into the water on the par-3 17th.

"It was so unfortunate," Kang said. "There was a zero percent chance of rain today and it was raining so hard."

His consolation prize was qualifying for his first British Open. The top four players who weren't already exempt earned spots, and Kang, who finished in an eight-way tie for fifth, got the final berth because of his world ranking.

The other British Open qualifiers were Stanley, Howell and Martin Laird of Scotland, who closed with a 67. He tied for third at 5 under with Rickie Fowler, who shot a 65.

Fowler embraced his role as the tournament's star attraction, making a career-best nine birdies, but he lamented the one hole that got away — the easy 14th, where his drive found the water and he made double bogey.

Howell, who hadn't played in more than two months because of a rib injury, notched his 16th career runner-up finish. He hasn't won in 10 years and never imagined he'd come so close this week.

"Going into this week I was extremely rusty," Howell said. "I really can't believe how well I played."

Lingmerth coughed up the lead immediately with a bogey on the first hole. His chances ended when he pulled his drive on the punishing par-4 11th into a hazard and made double bogey. He closed with a 73. Daniel Summerhays, who blew a three-shot lead at the Memorial a month ago, moved in front with a birdie on 2 but gave it back with a double bogey on 4. He shot 74.

Playing on a sponsor exemption, 20-year-old Australian Curtis Luck also held the lead briefly but coughed it up with bogeys on Nos. 8 and 9. His top-10 finish means he won't have to use a sponsor exemption at the Greenbrier Classic next week.

Stanley is heading home for a week off before he gears up for Royal Birkdale. At some point the tears will give way to satisfaction.

"I wish I didn't cry so much, to be honest," he said. "It just feels good to put the work in and see the rewards. I think that's where most of the emotion's coming from."

Alex Brandon/Associated Press

Kyle Stanley poses with the trophy after winning the Quicken Loans National golf tournament Sunday in Potomac, Md. Stanley won in a playoff.

GOLF SCORES

Quicken Loans National

Sunday
At TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm
Potomac, Md.
Purse: $7.1 million
Yardage: 7,107; Par: 70
(x-won on first playoff hole)
Final

x-K. Stanley, 500	$1,278,000	70-70-67-66—273
C. Howell III, 300	$796,800	71-69-67-66—273
Rickie Fowler, 163	$441,800	75-72-68-65—280
Martin Laird, 163	$441,800	67-72-69-67—275
K. Bradley, 84	$216,994	71-68-70-67—276
Sung Kang, 84	$216,994	66-69-71-70—276
Matt Kuchar, 84	$216,994	66-72-72-66—276
Spencer Levin, 84	$216,994	70-70-65-71—276
D. Lingmerth, 84	$216,994	65-65-73-73—276
Curtis Luck, 84	$216,994	68-71-67-70—276
Ben Martin, 84	$216,994	68-73-65-70—276
J. Wagner, 84	$216,994	66-71-71-68—276
Jason Day, 56	$130,125	69-74-67-67—277
Bill Haas, 56	$130,125	69-70-71-67—277
Geoff Ogilvy, 56	$130,125	67-65-74-71—277
Nick Watney, 56	$130,125	72-70-71-64—277
Nick Daltrey, 47	$99,400	68-68-73-69—278
S. Dechambeau, 47	$99,400	67-71-74-66—278
Patrick Reed, 47	$99,400	67-72-72-67—278
Kevin Streelman, 47	$99,400	68-72-69-69—278
J. Summerhays, 47	$99,400	66-68-70-74—278
Harris English, 38	$71,300	70-67-72-70—279
Danny Lee, 38	$71,300	75-68-72-69—279
Kevin Na, 38	$71,300	75-69-68-67—279
Patrick Rodgers, 38	$71,300	71-73-68-69—279
Billy Horschel, 33	$54,675	70-73-70-67—280
Jason Kokrak, 33	$54,675	72-68-71-69—280
J. Van Aswegen, 33	$54,675	72-66-74-68—280
Luke Donald, 26	$45,144	67-74-69-71—281
Tony Finau, 26	$45,144	69-75-69-68—281
Robert Garrigus, 26	$45,144	71-69-69-72—281
J. Randolph, 26	$45,144	71-73-70-68—282
Byeong-Hun An, 26	$45,144	70-74-66-72—282
Nick Taylor, 26	$45,144	66-72-73-71—282
Michael Kim, 20	$36,565	69-69-71-73—282
Andrew Loupe, 20	$36,565	75-69-69-74—287
J. Schauffele, 20	$36,565	71-73-70-68—282
Ben Crane, 16	$30,530	73-73-72-68—283
Matt Jones, 16	$30,530	68-74-71-70—283
Peter Malnati, 16	$30,530	72-67-72-72—283
Seamus Power, 16	$30,530	72-71-70-70—283
Scott Stallings, 16	$30,530	72-71-70-70—283
Brian Gay, 12	$24,850	75-71-69-74—284
Lucas Glover, 12	$24,850	68-76-72-68—284
Kelly Kraft, 12	$24,850	71-71-73-69—284
Wesley Bryan, 10	$19,681	75-68-71-71—285
James Hahn, 10	$19,681	67-73-73-72—285
Russell Henley, 10	$19,681	67-77-74-67—285
Trey Mullinax, 10	$19,681	71-70-71-73—285
Cameron Percy, 10	$19,681	70-70-70-75—285
Wyndham Clark, 16	$16,934	72-70-71-73—286
M. Hughes, 7	$16,934	68-74-71-73—286
Kyle Reifers, 7	$16,934	70-68-72-76—286
Hudson Swafford, 7	$16,934	74-70-74-68—286
Anun Atwal, 6	$15,975	68-67-75-77—287
Ryan Blaum, 6	$15,975	72-71-71-73—287
Martin Flores, 6	$15,975	66-75-72-72—287
Shawn Stefani, 6	$15,975	71-72-69-75—287
Robert Streb, 6	$15,975	70-71-74-72—287
Kevin Tway, 6	$15,975	72-70-75-70—287
Sam Saunders, 5	$15,407	68-72-73-75—288
Vaughn Taylor, 5	$15,407	72-72-78-66—288
Billy Hurley III, 4	$15,123	75-71-72-73—289
G. Schneiderjans, 4	$15,123	71-73-75-70—289
D.A. Points, 4	$14,768	69-74-73-74—290
Brett Stegmaier, 4	$14,768	72-70-76-72—290
Harold Varner III, 4	$14,768	72-70-75-73—290
Derek Fathauer, 3	$14,27[illegible]	72-71-81-67—291
Brandon Hagy, 3	$14,27[illegible]	72-72-71-76—291
J.J. Henry, 3	$14,27[illegible]	75-70-74-74—293
B. Holmes, 3	$14,27[illegible]	71-72-73-75—291
Tim Wilkinson, 3	$13,916	71-72-75-74—292
David Hearn, 3	$13,774	71-72-76-75—294
Grayson Murray, 3	$13,632	68-75-71-81—295

LPGA-KPMG Women's PGA Championship

Sunday
At Olympia Fields CC
Olympia Fields, Ill
Purse: $3.5 million
Yardage: 6,588; Par: 71
Final

Danielle Kang	$525,000	69-66-68-68—271
B. M. Henderson	$322,444	68-69-69-66—272
Chella Choi	$230,111	66-75-67-74—274
M. Hyang Lee	$148,585	69-67-72-67—275
Amy Yang	$148,585	65-71-71-68—275
Sei Young Kim	$148,585	69-66-72-68—275
Inbee Park	$93,565	73-67-69-68—277
Lexi Thompson	$93,565	71-69-69-69—277
Stacy Lewis	$75,329	74-67-70-67—278
Kelly W. Shin	$75,329	71-63-71-67—278
Lizette Salas	$61,963	71-72-67-69—279
Madeleine Sagstrom	$61,963	70-72-66-71—279
Jiyai Shin	$61,963	70-71-69-69—279
Jessica Korda	$47,606	70-72-68-70—280
Brittany Lincicome	$47,606	70-66-74-70—280
Sarah Jane Smith	$47,606	70-67-72-71—280
Sung Hyun Park	$47,606	71-70-67-72—280
Gerina Piller	$47,606	73-66-69-72—280
So Yeon Ryu	$47,606	69-68-71-72—280
Carlota Ciganda	$37,779	71-69-72-69—281
Nelly Korda	$37,779	69-70-71-71—281
Candie Kung	$37,779	71-68-69-73—281
Michelle Wie	$37,779	68-70-70-73—281
Moriya Jutanugarn	$37,779	69-68-71-73—281
Marina Alex	$31,865	71-68-74-69—282
Wei-Ling Hsu	$31,865	69-72-71-70—282
Brittany Altomare	$31,865	67-73-72-70—282
Suzann Pettersen	$31,865	71-72-66-73—282
Karine Icher	$25,623	71-73-71-68—283
Jenny Shin	$25,623	75-68-72-68—283
Joanna Klatten	$25,623	69-74-71-69—283
Gaby Lopez	$25,623	68-72-73-70—283
Austin Ernst	$25,623	74-69-68-72—283
Aditi Ashok	$25,623	69-69-73-72—283
Kim Kaufman	$25,623	68-71-69-75—283
Minjee Lee	$18,130	71-72-72-69—284
Mi Jung Hur	$18,130	71-73-70-70—284
Ai Miyazato	$18,130	72-72-67-73—284
Alena Sharp	$18,130	71-71-69-73—284
Ashleigh Buhai	$18,130	70-71-70-73—284
Angel Yin	$18,130	71-69-71-73—284
Haru Nomura	$18,130	73-66-72-73—284
Jane Park	$18,130	71-68-71-74—284
Emily K. Pedersen	$18,130	68-71-71-74—284
Jodi Ewart Shadoff	$18,130	70-66-74-74—284
Su Oh	$13,681	68-75-70-72—285
Georgia Hall	$13,681	76-67-69-73—285
Jaye Marie Green	$13,681	70-73-70-73—285
Ally McDonald	$13,681	69-70-73-73—285
Lee Lopez	$11,828	70-74-74-68—286
Holly Clyburn	$11,828	74-70-71-71—286
Ryann O'Toole	$11,828	73-70-71-72—286
Alison Lee	$11,828	68-72-74-72—286
Mirim Lee	$10,592	73-70-74-70—287
Karrie Chung	$10,592	74-69-74-70—287
In Gee Chun	$10,592	73-66-73-75—287
Jeong Eun Lee	$9,709	71-73-73-71—288
Amelia Lewis	$9,709	73-70-71-74—288
Dani Holmqvist	$8,686	75-67-76-71—289
Belen Mozo	$8,686	72-72-70-75—289
Katherine Kirk	$8,686	73-70-71-75—289
Linda Ko	$8,686	70-68-76-75—289
Lindy Duncan	$8,686	74-69-69-77—289
Bronte Law	$7,944	69-75-73-73—290
Lee-Anne Pace	$7,944	72-69-76-73—290
Cydney Clanton	$7,944	71-73-70-76—290
Caroline Hedwall	$7,592	70-70-75-76—291
Eun-Hee Ji	$7,326	75-69-74-74—292
Min Lee	$7,326	70-73-71-78—292
Kiara Spilkova	$7,019	71-68-82-73—294
L. Gonzalez Escallon	$7,019	73-70-76-75—294
Sandra Changkija	$6,796	70-74-78-74—296
Dori Carter	$6,796	72-72-76-76—296
Paula Creamer	$6,796	71-72-76-77—296

French Open

Sunday
At Le Golf National
Guyancourt, France
Purse: $7 million
Yardage: 7,249; Par: 71
Final

Tommy Fleetwood, England	67-68-71-66—272	
Peter Uihlein, United States	67-67-71-68—273	
Thorbjorn Olesen, Denmark	69-69-73-65—276	
Mike Lorenzo-Vera, France	71-69-70-66—276	
Alexander Bjork, Sweden	66-69-70-71—276	
Ryan Fox, New Zealand	73-67-70-67—277	
Li Haotong, China	71-70-70-67—278	
Ross Fisher, England	70-67-71-70—278	
Adrian Otaegui, Spain	68-66-74-70—278	
Jon Rahm, Spain	70-69-71-69—279	
Lee Westwood, England	71-67-71-70—279	
Alex Noren, Sweden	69-71-69-70—279	
Paul Dunne, Ireland	70-72-73-65—280	
Thomas Pieters, Belgium	66-71-69-74—280	
Andy Sullivan, England	68-70-68-74—280	
Pablo Larrazabal, Spain	68-73-72-68—281	
Maximilian Kieffer, Germany	71-68-72-70—281	
Gary Stal, France	69-73-69-70—281	
David Drysdale, Scotland	70-69-70-72—281	
Kristoffer Broberg, Sweden	68-71-70-72—281	
Adrien Saddler, France	68-73-68-72—281	
Paul Waring, England	64-72-72-73—281	
Also		
Bernd Wiesberger, Austria	70-69-74-70—283	
Francesco Molinari, Italy	71-70-71-74—286	
Martin Kaymer, Germany	69-73-77-71—290	
Daniel Im, United States	70-72-76-76—294	

Attention Readers
In Observance Of
Independence Day

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed

Tuesday, July 4 2016

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

CLASSIFIED WORD ADS

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Tues. July 4th	Mon. July 3rd @noon
Wed. July 5th	Mon. July 3rd @noon

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Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Tues. July 4th	Mon. July 3rd @noon
Wed. July 5th	Mon. July 3rd @noon

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Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Tues. July 4th	Mon. July 3rd @noon
Wed. July 5th	Mon. July 3rd @noon

CIRCULATION HOURS

Customer Service calls will be taken July 4th from 7 AM to 9 AM only.

We will re-open Wednesday, July 5th for regular business hours.

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BASIC

Kittel's Tour win contrasts with cycling's dirty past

By Andrew Dampf
Associated Press

LIEGE, Belgium — The thriving current state of German cycling stood out in sharp contrast to the sport's dirty past during the second stage of the Tour de France on Sunday.

As Marcel Kittel rode toward a commanding sprint victory to conclude a leg that began before large crowds in Duesseldorf, Germany, disgraced 1997 champion Jan Ullrich stood by the road as an uninvited spectator.

Kittel

"It makes me really, really proud to see that this sport is now well accepted again in my home country," Kittel said. "There was definitely a time where not so many spectators were standing next to the road. And those who were there were showing signs with EPO syringes or other (stuff)."

Without any teammates in the final 500 meters (yards) of a mostly flat stage concluding in Liege, Kittel wisely stayed on his rivals' wheels before bursting ahead at the final moment for his 10th career stage win in the Tour.

Meanwhile, three-time champion Chris Froome had to work hard to catch up with the main pack after falling to the pavement amid a mass crash on a wet corner.

Froome's Sky teammate Geraint Thomas held on to the leader's yellow jersey.

Froome was near the front of the peloton when a Katusha rider ahead of him lost control coming around a sharp turn with about 30 kilometers (20 miles) to go. The domino reaction also took down last year's runner-up, Romain Bardet.

Froome's shorts and several layers of skin were torn and he had to change bikes as three teammates paced him back to the peloton.

"I have no injuries thankfully. I've just lost a little bit of skin on my backside," Froome said. "That's the nature of the race. We knew it was slippery conditions and every time you put the race numbers on there's a big risk something could happen.

"Someone slid just a few wheels ahead of me and at those speeds you just can't avoid it," Froome added. "A few of us went down but thankfully everyone is OK and we got to the finish alright without losing any time to our rivals. That's the main thing."

Having won the opening time trial Saturday, Thomas remained five seconds ahead of Swiss rider Stefan Kueng in the overall standings.

With a 10-second bonus, Kittel moved up to third overall, six seconds behind Thomas.

Froome is sixth, 12 seconds behind.

"It was stressful. You kind of forget what the Tour is like," Thomas said. "The weather didn't help things at all."

In the sprint, Arnaud Demare of France finished second and Andre Greipel of Germany crossed third in a banner day for Germany.

A day like this would have been unthinkable just a few years ago when German TV stopped broadcasting the Tour because of a series of doping scandals.

Ullrich was suspended in 2006 in the fallout from the Operation Puerto blood-doping scandal in Spain and he retired a year later. There were also scandals involving prominent German riders like Patrick Sinkewitz and Stefan Schumacher. Even Erik Zabel, the popular rider who still holds the record of six green jerseys in the Tour's points classification, admitted to doping after he retired.

These days, a new generation of German riders led by Kittel and Greipel — who have won 21 Tour stages between them — plus four-time time trial world champion Tony Martin and classics specialist John Degenkolb, have drawn German fans back.

The Tour of Germany, which was canceled in 2009, is slated to return next year.

While Kittel and other Germany riders had campaigned for Ullrich to be invited by Tour organizers to Duesseldorf, race organizers refused.

So Ullrich showed up on his own account instead in Korschenbroich, a town along the stage route.

"The image of cycling and also the way people see it now has changed. They understand this is a sport that had a very tough time, a very big problem with doping," Kittel said. "They also, I think, understand that this is a sport that always has to pay attention to this heritage and that we are actively trying to work on it."

As Kittel rode through Duesseldorf, he was close to shedding tears over the fan turnout.

"It was a really touching moment," he said. "And a memory that I will never forget."

There were more emotions at the finish, when Kittel dropped to the ground and started crying.

"It was a big goal to start in Germany and win at the end of that stage," he said.

The Tour remains in Belgium for the start of Stage 3 on Monday, a 212.5-kilometer (132-mile) leg from Verviers to Longwy, France, that passes through Luxembourg. The rolling leg features three fourth-category climbs and two third-category climbs, including one at the finish. It should set up well for punchy riders like Verviers native Philippe Gilbert.

Tour De France results
Sunday
At Liege, Belgium
Second Stage
A 126.4-mile flat ride from Duesseldorf, Germany to Liege
1. Marcel Kittel, Germany, Quick-Step Floors, 4:37:06
2. Arnaud Demare, France, FDJ, same time
3. Andre Greipel, Germany, Lotto-Soudal, same time
4. Mark Cavendish, Britain, Dimension Data, same time
5. Dylan Groenewegen, Netherlands, LottoNL-Jumbo, same time
6. Sonny Colbrelli, Italy, Bahrain-Merida, same time
7. Ben Swift, Britain, UAE Team Emirates, same time
8. Nacer Bouhanni, France, Cofidis, same time
9. Michael Matthews, Australia, Sunweb, same time
10. Peter Sagan, Slovakia, Bora-Hansgrohe, same time
11. Andrea Pasqualon, Italy, Wanty-Groupe Gobert, same time
12. Pieter Vanspeybrouck, Belgium, Wanty-Groupe Gobert, same time
13. John Degenkolb, Germany, Trek-Segafredo, same time
14. Daniel McLay, Britain, Fortuneo-Oscaro, same time
15. Alexander Kristoff, Norway, Katusha Alpecin, same time
16. Matteo Trentin, Italy, Quick-Step Floors, same time
17. Dion Smith, New Zealand, Wanty-Groupe Gobert, same time
18. Angelo Tulik, France, Direct Energie, same time
19. Edvald Boasson Hagen, Norway, Dimension Data, same time
20. Alexey Lutsenko, Kazakhstan, Astana, same time
Also:
35. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Sky, same time
37. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, same time
43. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, same time
61. Andrew Talansky, United States, Cannondale Drapac, same time
71. Alberto Contador, Spain, Trek-Segafredo, same time
88. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, same time
146. Taylor Phinney, United States, Cannondale Drapac, same time
150. Nathan Brown, United States, Cannondale Drapac, same time
154. Thibaut Pinot, France, FDJ, same time

Ibaka, Raptors agree on $65 million, 3-year deal

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

When Toronto got Serge Ibaka before the trade deadline last season, the Raptors made clear that they had no intentions of letting him walk away this summer in free agency.

And now that's been proven.

Ibaka agreed to terms with the Raptors on a three-year contract with $65 million, a person with knowledge of the negotiations told The Associated Press. The person spoke Sunday on condition of anonymity because the deal cannot be signed until the NBA's offseason moratorium ends on Thursday.

The 27-year-old Ibaka was traded to Toronto from Orlando late last season. He averaged 14.2 points and 6.8 rebounds in 23 games with the Raptors.

"His style of play fits our style of play," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said when the trade was made.

Toronto clearly hasn't changed its thinking.

Ibaka is one of only 13 players in NBA history to make 100 3-pointers and record 100 blocks in the same season; he did it last season, along with Karl-Anthony Towns, Kristaps Porzingis and Brook Lopez.

He was sent to Toronto by Orlando, in exchange for Terrence Ross and a first-round draft pick — a big price that would have looked even bigger if the Raptors had lost Ibaka for nothing this summer.

Entering his ninth NBA season, Ibaka has career averages of 12 points and 7.3 rebounds. Ibaka spent his first seven NBA seasons in Oklahoma City, helping the Thunder reach the 2012 NBA Finals against Miami.

PACQUIAO

From 1C

should have been as calm. Between ringside analyst Teddy Atlas and the bloviating Stephen A. Smith, you would have thought this was the robbery of the century, when it was anything but.

It's also not a stain on boxing in any fashion. Fights are subjective, judges see different things and the fact is that Pacquiao simply couldn't reach down and find enough to take the decision out of their hands.

The people at ESPN who signed a deal with promoter Bob Arum for a series of Saturday night fights weren't crying foul afterward. They had to be ecstatic with an entertaining fight card that ended with enough controversy to let Smith babble on endlessly even at the end of a 4 1/2 hour prime-time marathon.

"As for Atlas, well, he's an acquired taste for the casual fan. It's one thing to play the role of outraged ringside expert, but Atlas is so in love with his own voice that even when he was talking to the fighters afterward he was giving long statements instead of asking pertinent questions."

As for Atlas, well, he's an acquired taste for the casual fan. It's one thing to play the role of outraged ringside expert, but Atlas is so in love with his own voice that even when he was talking to the fighters afterward he was giving long statements instead of asking pertinent questions.

Still, unlike the Aug. 26 charade with Mayweather and Conor McGregor, this was a real fight. Both fighters were bloodied and battered, yet both refused to give an inch even as the rounds went on and the blood kept flowing.

Mute the television and it looked like a very close fight. I had Pacquiao winning 115-113, but judges can be influenced by the crowd's frenzied backing of Horn just as television viewers can be influenced by analysts who insist that the way they see the fight is the only way it could possibly be seen.

The fact is, Pacquiao is an aging fighter who has been in too many ring wars. Time catches up with all fighters, and it looked for long stretches in Sunday's fight like it finally caught up with him.

Give Horn credit for beating a legend, faded as Pacquiao might be. Give both credit for fighting through head clashes and blood to fight to the final bell.

And enjoy the rematch, because there will surely be one.

STENHOUSE

From 1C

just a two-car team this year.

As the Roush group continued to rebuild, Stenhouse figured out his strengths. One of them, second-place finisher Clint Bowyer said, is clearly racing on restrictor plate tracks. Stenhouse's first victory was in May at Talladega.

"He does a good job of blocking. He's learned a lot. He's become a good plate racer," Bowyer said. "I remember when he came in, he was a little bit chaotic, but he's not now. He's got it figured out, and he's won two of them."

Stenhouse laughed at Bowyer's use of the word "chaotic" and chalked it up to coming through the ranks racing sprint cars. But actually having a car that can contend has been a significant part of the growing process.

"I think us dirt guys, we drive the car really hard," Stenhouse said. "I think a lot of the times as a race car driver you try to take the car and put it on your back. It's tough to do in the Cup Series. Everything has got to align right, and I think when I came into the Cup Series, I almost thought we were going to win our first race at Kansas that year and get our first win out of the way.

"Then really kind of struggled after that. I feel like just trying too hard and making mistakes and us not necessarily having the cars where we want them and everybody was just trying to do more than we were capable of for a long time."

Now that the rebuild has turned an obvious corner — two wins this season from Stenhouse, a spot in NASCAR's playoffs, improvement from Roush teammate Trevor Bayne and behind-the-scenes personnel moves that are now in Year 3 — it's up to Stenhouse to continue delivering on the track.

He knows there's still a lot of work to do toward building a consistent Ford entry for the 10-race playoffs this fall. With both wins on plate tracks, he still needs to prove he can win across the spectrum of tracks. But through 17 races so far this season, Stenhouse already has a career-high seven top-10s.

"I feel like our next accomplishments that we can do on the racetrack are probably short-track wins," he said. "We're still working on our mile-and-a-half program. We don't feel like we're capable of winning on a mile-and-a-half. We feel like we can run top 10 and get top-10 finishes, but we're not ready to go out and win those races yet.

THE SPOTLIGHT ON EMPLOYMENT

Midland Reporter-Telegram
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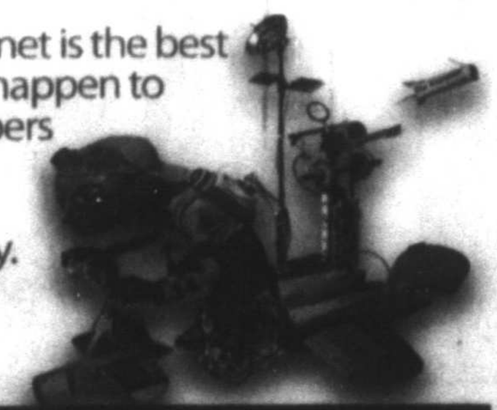

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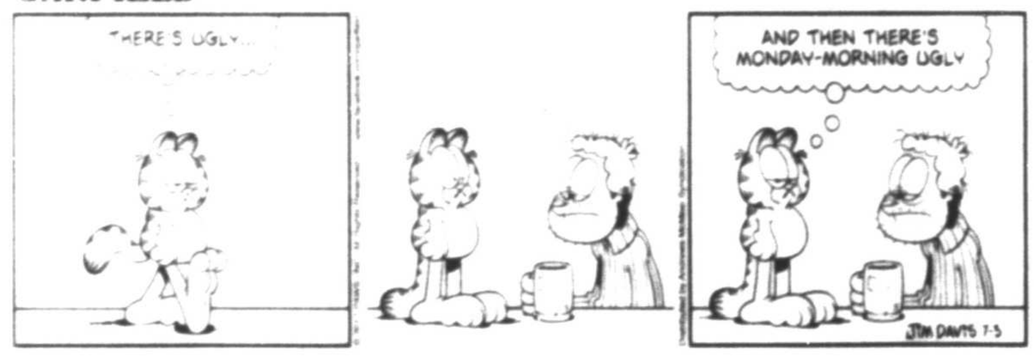
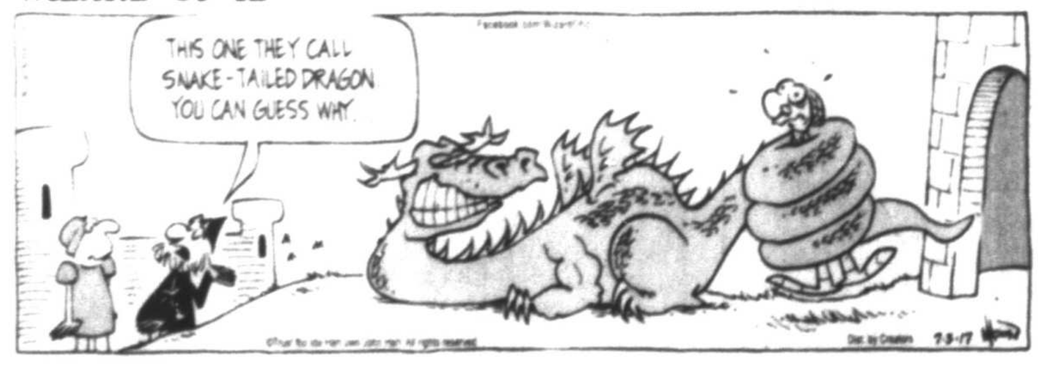


PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

WIZARD OF ID



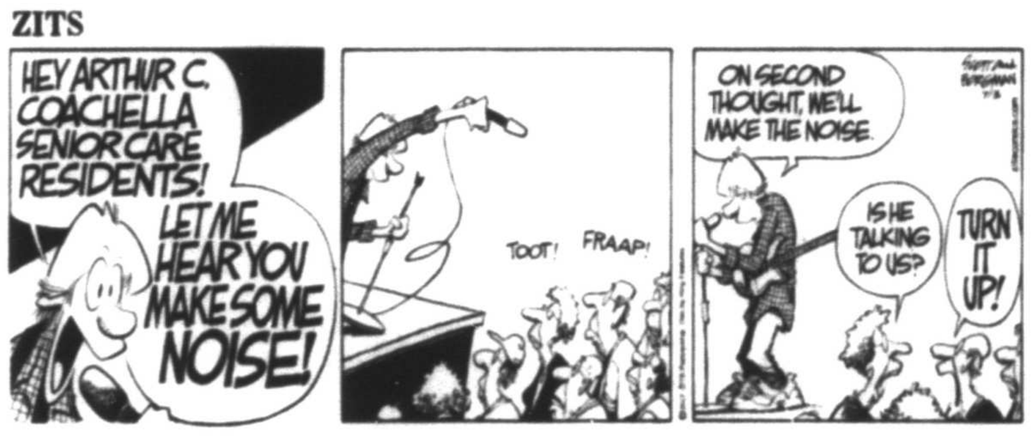
DILBERT

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

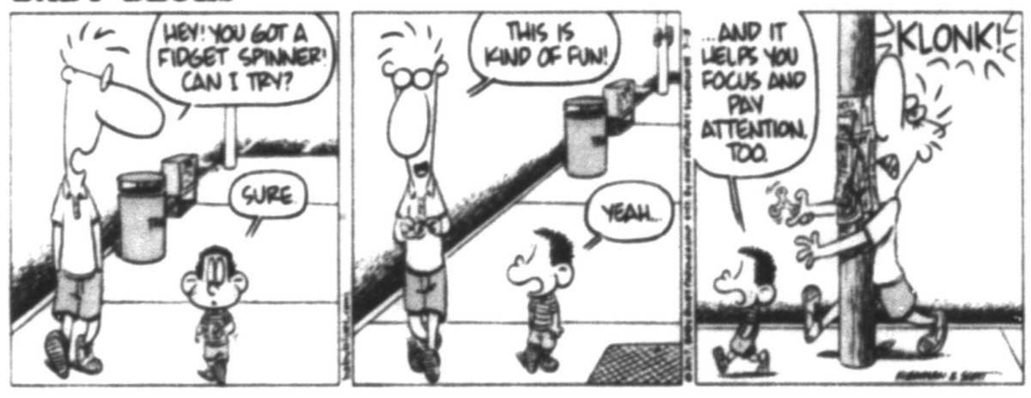
LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

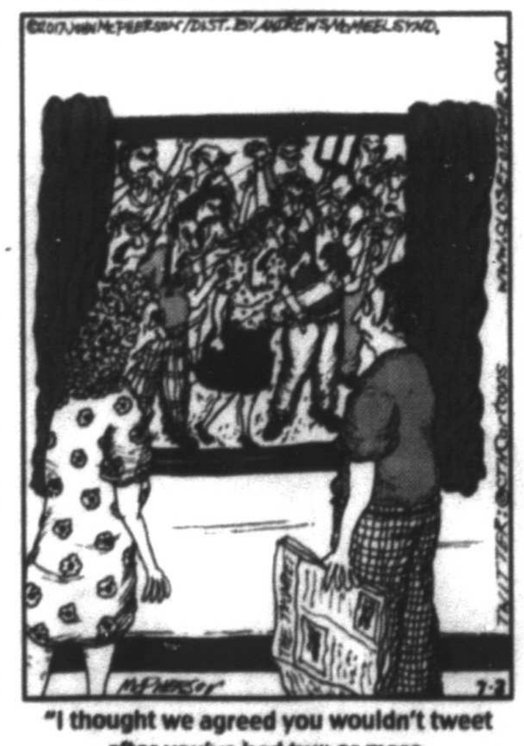


BABY BLUES



MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME



"I thought we agreed you wouldn't tweet after you've had two or more glasses of wine!"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"FINALLY, YOU'RE HOME... NOW MOM NEEDS A VACATION!"

LOCKHORNS

"IT'S OKAY, LEROY, I'LL RETURN IT... EVERYONE IN CUSTOMER SERVICE KNOWS ME."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"My toes love wearing sandals 'cause they get to have sun and fresh air."

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

		1				5		
			7		1		6	2
	9			2	3			
							4	3
7				3				6
8	4							
			2	7			1	
1	3		8		5			4
		6				7		

7/3/17

SOLUTION TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE

1	6	7	5	8	9	4	3	2
9	3	5	4	6	2	8	1	7
4	8	2	1	3	7	9	6	5
3	4	9	2	7	1	6	5	8
7	1	8	9	5	6	3	2	4
2	5	6	8	4	3	7	9	1
6	2	3	7	1	4	5	8	9
8	9	4	6	2	5	1	7	3
5	7	1	3	9	8	2	4	6

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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.

DYIGD

RACKN

FUTEFB

LUTCPS

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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.

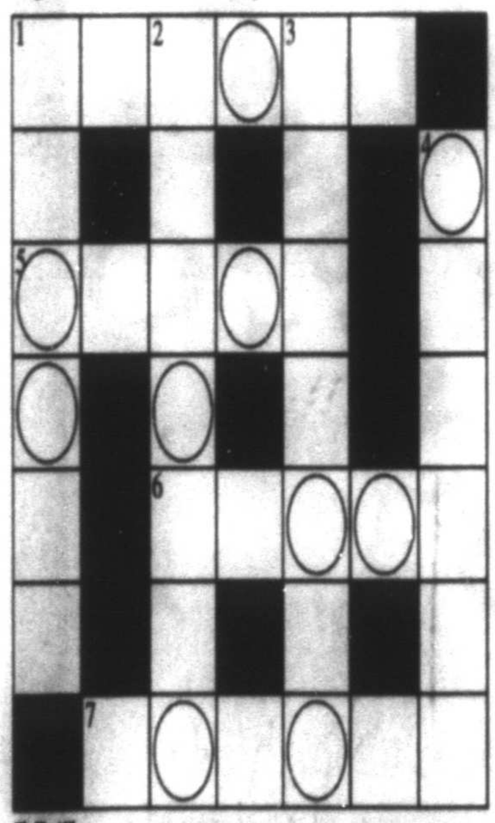
Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: LUNGE WELSH CATNIP FORMAL
Answer: When the royal marine mammals had a baby boy, he was the — PRINCE OF "WHALES"

JUMBLE® CROSSWORDS™

by David L. Hoyt



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Groom to be	NAFECI
5. Pseudonym	AIASL
6. Texas ___	STTAO
7. You can hold one	UEGDGR

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Imperfect	WLAFDE
2. Pilot	RVIAOTA
3. Type of pudding	ACDRSTU
4. Box ___	LUETTR

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.

7-3-17

CLUE: This president was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1978.

BONUS

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ANSWERS: 1A-Flance 5A-Alias 6A-Toast 7A-Orange 1D-Friend 2D-Aviator 3D-Custard 4D-Turtle B-Amer Salad

Send comments to TMS - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 "Hometown Proud" market chain
4 First-string squad
9 Actor McGregor
13 Election Day mo.
14 "Lord Jim" author Joseph
16 Field-plowing site
17 Law of the jungle, in the Old West
20 Freezer cubes
21 Top-notch
22 Texter's gratitude
23 1867 territorial acquisition dubbed "Seward's Folly"
28 Old King Cole was a merry one
29 Reason for unbalanced books
30 Southeast Asian language
31 __ hasty retreat
34 Walk-__: bit parts
35 1973 Helen Reddy chart-topper
38 CBS forensic series
40 African virus
41 ID on an auto title
44 Causes pain
47 Refreshing break
49 Melted yellow square on a burger
52 "Let me think ... "
53 Smell
54 U.S. intelligence org.
55 R. Kelly hit whose last title word is aptly rhymed with "sky" in the lyrics ... and a hint to the starts of the other four longest puzzle answers
61 Extremely
62 On __ knee: kneeling
63 Suffix with human
64 Celtic language
65 Pulled into piles, as leaves
66 Hi-__ graphics

DOWN

1 With one flat, musically
2 Largest living primate
3 Guacamole fruit
4 Perform on stage
5 You, to Yves
6 Opposite of WSW
7 Pianist Claudio
8 College focus
9 Little newt
10 Serves food to
11 Bow-and-arrow wielders
12 Santa Fe's st.
15 Dummy
18 Monster's loch
19 61-Across: Ger.
23 "You've Got Mail" ISP
24 NBA great Bryant
25 "The Clan of the Cave Bear" author Jean
26 Place setting disc
27 Elvis __ Presley
32 Bill with cocktails
33 Decorate
35 Like desperate circumstances
36 Baldwin of "30 Rock"
37 Laundry
38 __ of commerce
39 Hot seasons
41 Competes to get
42 "That's not true!"
43 Bridal bio word
45 "Star Trek: T.N.G." counselor
46 Flip of a hit single
48 Teller's comedy partner
50 Tarp, e.g.
51 Hockey venue
52 Bee home
56 Soapmaking supply
57 "Beats me," in texts
58 Mediocre grade
59 Tack on, as tax
60 Golf hole meas.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

			C	A	N	A	D	A	D	A	Y			
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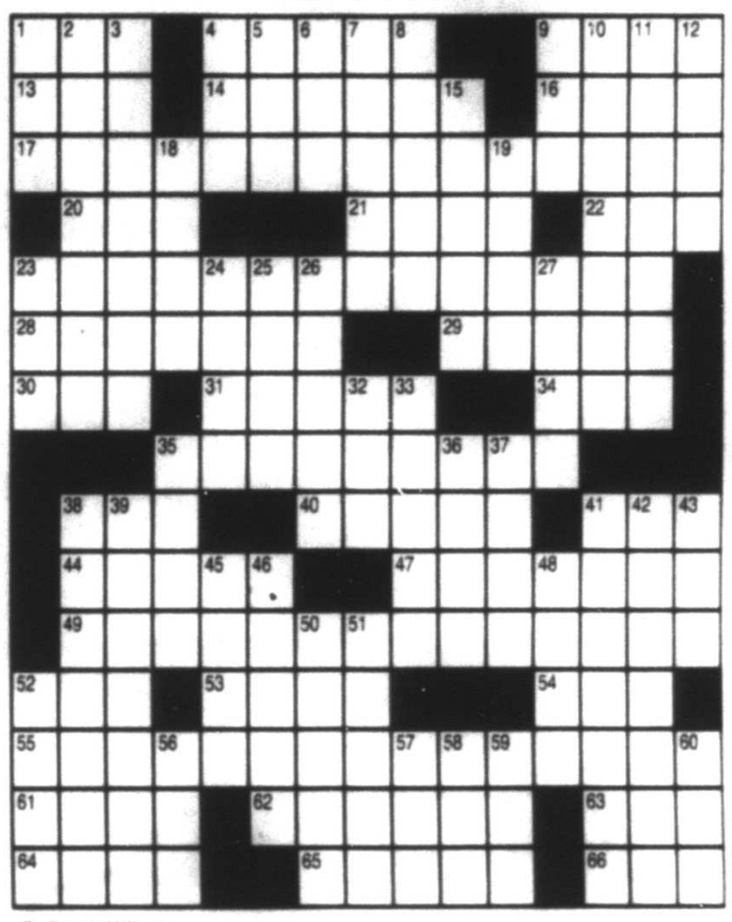
xwordeditor@aol.com 07/03/17



By Brock Wilson
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07/03/17

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Each Wuzzle is a word riddle which creates a disguised word, phrase, name, place, saying, etc. For example: NOON GOOD = GOOD AFTERNOON

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1.

NOTION

2.

OpinionnoiniqO

Print Your Answers Here:

1.

2.

Today's Answers:

1. Half a notion
2. Opposite (or Opposing) opinions

7-3

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1. Half a notion
2. Opposite (or Opposing) opinions

7-3

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Beginner/Intermediate Class

Adult
Ages 15+ *6:30-7:00*
Beginner Class

Hockey 101
Group 1 Ages 5-8 *6:00-6:30*
Group 2 Ages 9+ *6:30-7:00*
Beginner Class
Helmet & Gloves Recommended

For More Information
Jonathan Voyles
jonathanvoyles5@yahoo.com
432-352-3738

432-552-0200

Adjusments might be made after the first week of classes based on skill level and class sizes

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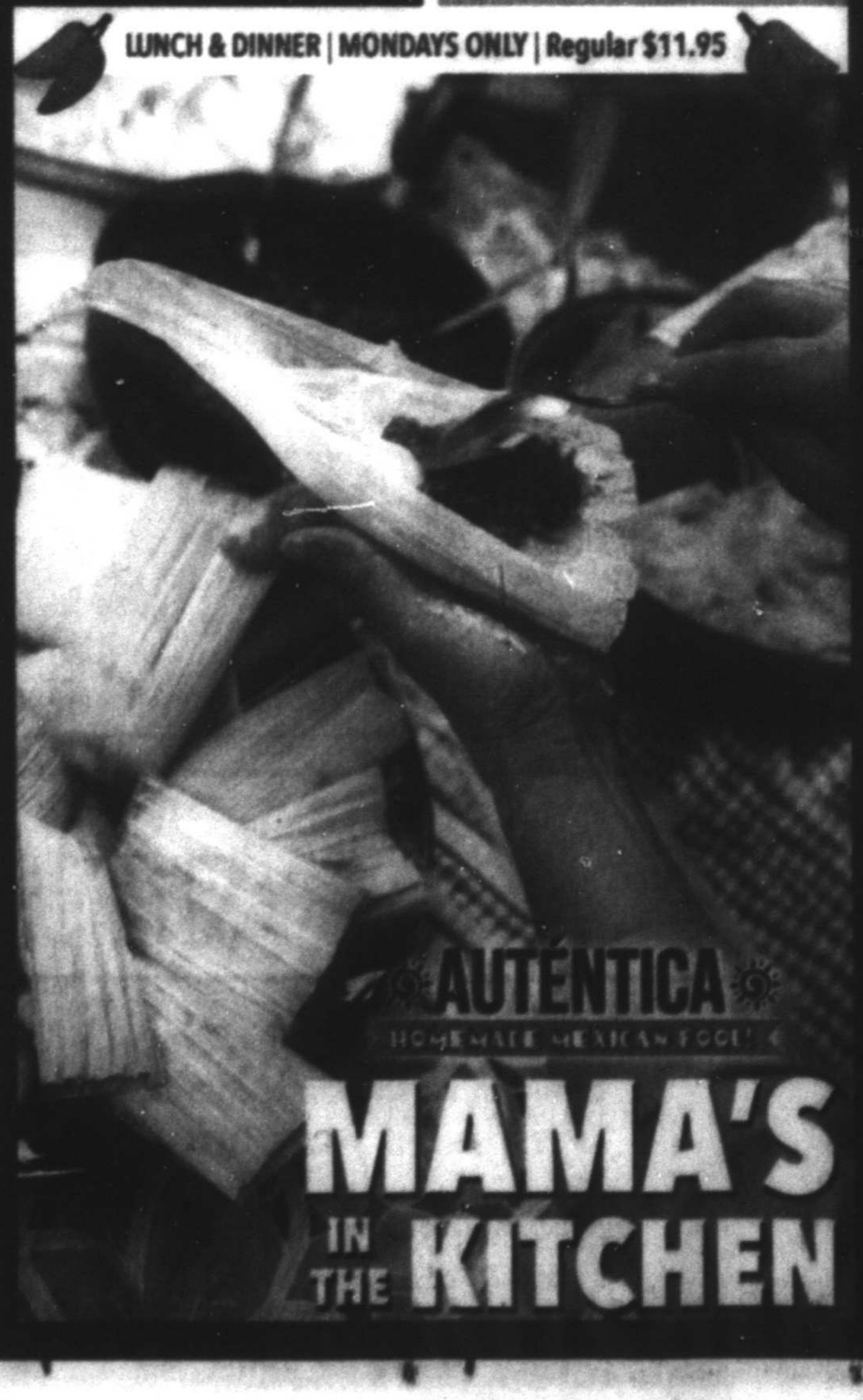

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Need person to have complete understanding of Quickbooks Enterprise. Need to be able to handle all payables and receivables. Needs to be able to handle payroll . Will also have to keep up with company taxes for the state of Texas as well as local taxes such as franchise and property taxes. Please provide previous employment experience along with all education. Please provide any any additional skills such as continuing education, and or computer skills. Apply in person @ 3820 Kermit Hwy or email resume to angela@trinitytongs.com.

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

CRMWD

Colorado River Municipal Water District

The Colorado River Municipal Water District, regional raw water supplier for the Permian Basin, is accepting applications for following positions.

Project Engineer - Responsible for providing engineering support for District facilities and operations. Position provides engineering and evaluation for projects, including preparing specifications and bid documents, system hydraulic evaluation, and overseeing construction. Intermediate level position, with Bachelor's Degree in Engineering required.

CRMWD is an equal opportunity employer. Benefits include health insurance, retirement plans, and sick, vacation and holiday leave.

Applications are required and are available at the District's office, 400 E. 24TH Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or by calling (432) 267-6341.

Downhole Tool Service Techs

National Oilwell Varco now hiring downhole tool service technicians. Competitive pay and benefits. Apply in person or submit resume online at nov.com/careers or 8301 Groening Road, Odessa, TX 79765. (near the H & P Yard). 432-563-1173

Field Sales Representative

WSI Enterprises, Inc. is looking for ambitious **Field Sales Representative** for the Permian Basin in Southern New Mexico with operations based out of Hobbs. Successful candidate will be responsible for growing sales by cultivating current customers and recruiting new customers. Responsibilities include promoting products, providing technical support and ensuring customer satisfaction. Wellhead experience required.

Excellent Benefit Package to include: Vacation, Personal Time Off, Medical, Dental and Vision insurance. 401k, Company Paid Life, Short Term and Long Term Disability.

Send resume to reports@wsienterprises.com

Field Service Representative

Quality- conscious individual to supervise installation of specialty tubular products, communicate service issues to customers on location. Reports to field service coordinator. Requires downhole tool or completion experience, good driving record. Full benefits, medical, dental, vision, and 401k. Please apply at Composite Lining Systems, 7812 W. Business 20, Midland, Texas.

Panel & Wiring Control Tech

Natural Gas Services Group has immediate openings for a **Panel & Wiring Control Technician.** This person must be able to program, install and trouble-shoot FW Murphy, Allen-Bradley and GE as well as bend conduit and pull/terminate wiring. Minimum 3 years' experience required. Compression experience preferred. Excellent Salary and Benefit package. You can apply in person at 12301 W CR 12301, Odessa, Texas or submit resume contact employment@ngsgi.com or call 432.262.2700.

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Inside/ Outside Sales

VAN ZANDT Controls, a leader in valve automation, instrumentation & controls is seeking high energy, qualified candidates for the following open positions:

Inside Sales / Applications Engr - Qualified candidate will have a minimum of 5 years of successful inside sales / quotations experience generating customer proposals and/or applications engineering. Degreed engineer or valve automation experience a plus.

Outside Sales Professional - Qualified candidate will have a minimum of 5 years successful sales experience; selling to the Permian upstream and midstream O&G industry.

Please send resume to chelsey@vzcontrols.com

Roustabout Crew

Looking for a roustabout crew to work in the Big Lake area. Must have a CDL, be responsible and flexible. Pay depends on experience. Call to apply 806-592-1046

HOSPITALITY-TRAVEL

Multiple Positions Needed!

Currently looking for Part-Time Breakfast Attendant, Front Desk Receptionist & Maintenance. Experience needed. Apply in person at: **Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 5309 W Loop 250 N, Midland, TX. 79707.**

MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS

Welder

Rush-Overland Manufacturing FT

Use hand-welding or flame cutting equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products. Responsible for performing welding repairs for heavy equipment and machinery and fabricating of metals parts and projects. 1-2 years work related experience preferred. Must have valid driver's license. To apply visit 2700 E. I-20 in Odessa, Tx. Please come ready to test. Bring helmet and gloves.

Hiring Experienced Professionals

Rush Overland Manufacturing is currently looking for:

- Field Service Technician
- Electronic Technician
- Heavy Equipment Painter
- Welder Fabricator/Helper

Apply at 2700 E. I-20 Odessa, TX 79766

Industrial Painter/Coater/Helper

Rush Overland Manufacturing is seeking an experienced Industrial Painter/Coater/Helper with references. Paid holiday & vacation Health and Benefits & 401K. Drug screen required.
Apply at 2700 E. I-20 Odessa, TX 79766

OTHER JOBS

Assembly Technicians

Natural Gas Services Group has immediate openings for **Assembly Technicians.** These individuals must have basic mechanical knowledge, familiarity with industry and equipment. Excellent Salary and Benefit package. You can apply in person at 12301 W CR 12301, Odessa, Texas or submit your resume to employment@ngsgi.com or call 432-262-2700.

Courier & Specimen Collector

Now hiring in Midland & Odessa. Midland hiring for a specimen collector apply at 711 W. Indiana Ave. Odessa hiring for a Courier & Specimen Collector apply at 635 N. Grandview.

Tong Mechanic

Looking for an experienced Tong Mechanic. Wanting someone to start immediately. Apply in person at 3820 Kermit Hwy. or email your resume to angela@trinitytongs.com

OTHER JOBS

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The Midland Reporter Telegram

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

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

Please email your resume to: jmaddox@hearstnp.com

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Saftey Supervisor

Safety supervisor for company servicing oil and gas industry. West Texas area. Responsible for employee safety training and recordkeeping, location safety audits. Oilfield experience a plus. Full-time with benefits. Fax resume to: Corporate Office 979-234-2599 or email to: applications@wpeserv.com

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES

The Hemingway Cigar & Wine Bar

Experienced waitstaff and barback needed. 3pm-11pm Mon-Sat shifts. Retail experience is a plus. TABC certification needed. Come in between 10am-3pm Mon-Fri to apply or pick up an application. Resume preferred but not required.

SKILLED LABOR

Positions Available at Watson Professional Group Inc:

SURVEYING: RPLS, SIT, Project Manager, Crew Chief, Draftsman, and Rodman/Field Hand (will train). Email resume to eahistrand@wpg-us.com Mail to: P.O. Drawer 11186, Midland, TX 79702

Sheet Metal Mechanics/AC Duct Installers

TMI Mechanical is seeking **Sheet Metal Mechanics / AC Duct Installers & Experienced Helpers** for immediate employment. We offer competitive pay, paid vacations & holidays, 100% employer paid medical. Must have good driving record.
Please call 432-686-0002 for interview.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Drivers & Mechanics

Catalyst Oilfield Services is currently hiring for CDL drivers and mechanics. Hazmat certification is required for all drivers.
Please contact Roman Hernandez at (432) 894-1416

Equipment Operators/ Drivers

Looking for a job working for a company offering competitive pay and excellent benefits? Elite Well Services is looking to fill immediate openings for Equipment Operators/Drivers. A CDL is required.
Apply in person at 2702 N Freeman Artesia NM or online at elitewells.com
Elite Well Services is an EOE.

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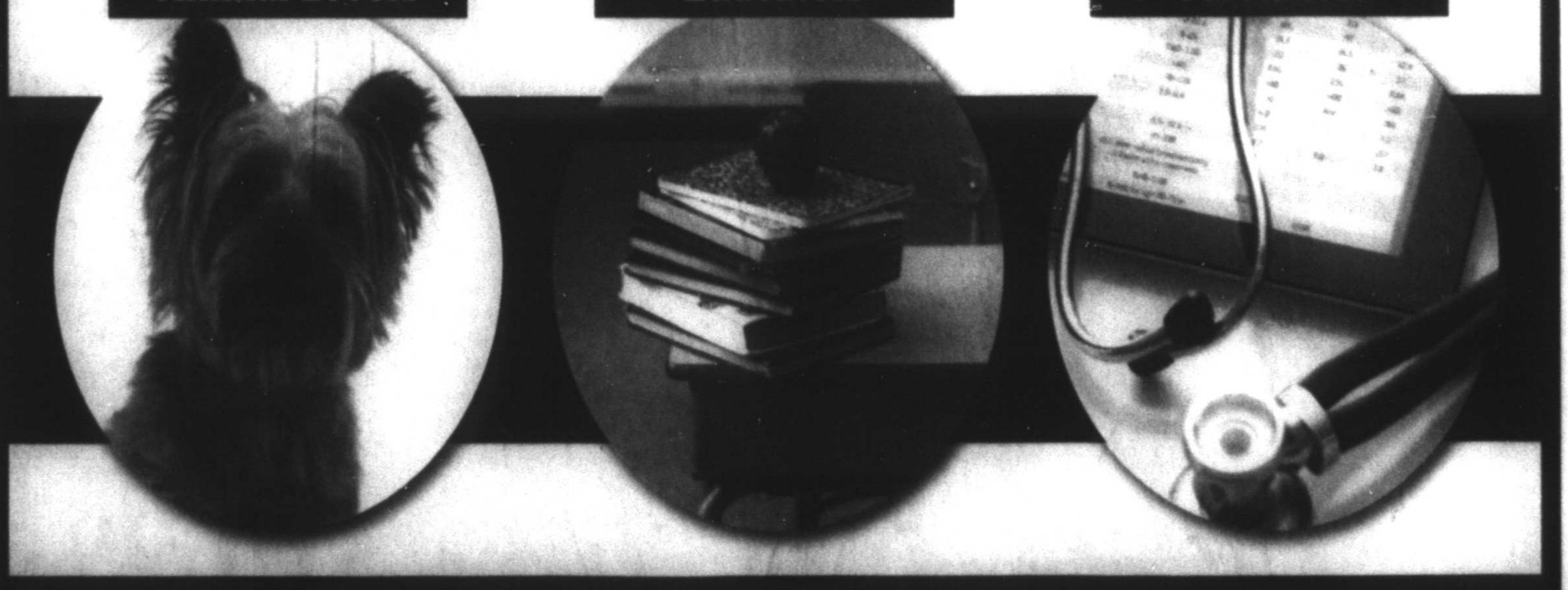

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31 Events and Notices

General Announcement

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Lost and Found

THIS PUP was found on June 27th in Midland TX off Golf Course and Lamesa Rd. If this is your pup please contact me with proof at 432-556-2157.

Classified CAN 682-6222

Work Wanted

A.M. PRO CONSTRUCTION providing metal shops, outdoor kitchen additions, kitchen & restroom remodeling, paint texture, electrical & stoneblock work. c:432-214-5793 office:432-262-3138

Autos For Sale-Lease

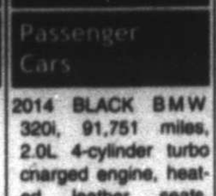
Passenger Cars

2014 BLACK BMW 320i, 91,751 miles, 2.0L 4-cylinder turbo charged engine, heated leather seats, moonroof, automatic folding mirrors, adjustable power seats, bluetooth cellphone calling capability, sport, comfort, and eco mode drive settings, great cargo space, great gas millage, key less entry, push button start. $14,000 or OBO.

KIA 2010 4K Koupe 97,400 miles, all 100,000 maintenance done & new tires. Asking $4,200. 580-678-8507 ask for Mike

MERCEDES BENZ SL500, 2006 Convertible. 46,000 miles. Black exterior, gray interior. Garage kept, regularly serviced. Great condition. $22,000. Call 432-553-8545 to inquire.

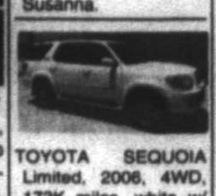
4WD and SUV



2013 FORD EDGE LIMITED, 35,500 miles. See full details, additional pics, & CARFAX report at www.cars.com/vehicle detail/detail/705177230/overview/. Call 823-312-7177.

4WD and SUV

NISSAN ARMADA Platinum 2012. Original miles 32,500. Always garaged. No kids, no pets, no smoking. Very clean, excellent condition. $32,500 Or better offer. (432) 559-1757, Susanna.



TOYOTA SEQUOIA Limited, 2006, 4WD, 173K miles, white w/ tan interior. Great condition. 1 Owner. $9,900. 432-349-6330.

RV Vehicles

2006 DAYTON 5th wheel, sleeps 6, very clean, central heat & air, lots of cabinets, clear title. $8,500. 432-894-8234.

Recreation Vehicles

1991 CHAMPION 184 Bass boat. Dual console, 150 Evinrude, electronics, motor guide trolling motor. Make an offer. 432-694-1270 or 432-528-0223

2014 ROYAL TRAVEL, 37' 5th wheel. 3 Slides, 2 A/C's. W/D, electric awning, large hot water heater, hide a bed sofa & queen size bed, sleeps 6, many extras. $30,900. Will deliver. 210-317-5357.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

FIBERGLASS 2016 5th wheel self contained 2 BD, 5 slideouts washer/dryer, dishwasher, large refergator, table & chairs, garden tub w/optional shower, 2 a/c. Winterized, lots of living/storage space $42,500 (obo) will deliver. 505-307-1954.

HARLEY Davidson, 2013 Street Bob. Custom bike. Saddlebags, windshield, Lizard lights, etc. 11,500 Miles. $5,000. Call or text for pictures, 432-352-7470.

MUST SELL 2014 travel trailer. 39' Park model. Large slideouts, air, washer/ dryer. Too many extras to list! $19,500. 210-445-2984.

ROCKWOOD 2013 Ultra Lite, 23', slide out, Murphy bed, large walkin shower, oven, full size refrigerator. Used 2 summers. $19,500. 432-570-5789

SILVERBACK BY Cedar Creek, 2007, 32 ft fully self contained, fiberglass full private bedroom great condition, two slideouts. $13,500 Must sell 432-413-0394.

Merchandise

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BABY KITTENS to give away to good home. 432-889-4044

Furniture

KING SIZE bed complete with frame & headboard. Excellent condition. $525. 432-694-8682

Musical Instruments

For sale used instruments. SCHERL & ROTH Violin $300 OBO. Yahama Trombone $700 OBO. 432-559-4039.

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Pets-Animals

Dogs

$500 REWARD! Chihuahua named Ruby. Call 432-561-4390

Real Estate Rental-Sale

Residential Rentals

Apartment Rent Unfurn

SENIOR LIVING, 55+ non smoking complex. Near Midland Memorial. 2 bedroom 1 bath. Covered parking by your door, $850 to $900 month. 694-9853

Condo Thome Rent Unfurn

3 Bdrm, 2 Ba, 2 car garage. Townhome in Highland Park. No pets. No small children. $2,850/ mo. $2,000 dep. 432-634-3283.

House Rent Unfurn

HOUSE FOR lease in Midland. Four bedrooms, three bathrooms, two car garage located at end of street in new neighborhood. No smoking. No pets. $3,500 deposit, $3,500 month one year lease. Equal Housing Opportunity Provider. 432-249-0955

Legal and Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Statements of Qualifications will be received until 5:00 PM, July 17, 2017, in the office of the Purchasing Manager, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following:

Request for Qualifications 17002624: The City of Midland is seeking to engage a professional consultant for the purposes of Auditing Services

The RFQ is now available. To receive a copy of the RFQ, please call 432-685-7234 or e-mail: purchasing@midlandtexas.gov

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.

City of Midland, Texas

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KITCHEN & BATH CABINETS Bathroom and Kitchen renovation specialists. Native Midlanders/ Friday Building Corporation 432-638-7495.

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FIXER UPPER, 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 1 carport. $67,000 as is. 3100 Franklin. 432-230-5281.

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BROWN CO. 1990+/- ac. high fenced, 20 +/- ac lake, lodge, creek, elevation, pecan bottoms, barns & pens. Stephens Ranch Hand RE. Teresa Stephens Lee, Broker. 325-647-5461.

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Beautiful historic building. 7 floors vacant in Corsicana, Tx. Chase Bank leases first floor. Tax abatement for 10 years. $4 million OBO. Cost to build today $12 million. Call 903-326-4851.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

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OFFICE SPACES available to lease Ranging from 200 sq. ft. - 2000 sq. ft. $15.50 per sq. ft. for 1 year lease. Call 432-685-9158.

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Lots and Land

Acreage

43.51 AC. COKE COUNTY, NEAR ROBERT LEE. ELECTRICITY, AGRICULTURE WATER TAP. ACCESS TO CRMWD LAND. WHITETAIL, TURKEY, HOGS, QUAIL, DOVE. $3,500/AC. OWNER FINANCING UP TO 30 YRS., 5% DOWN. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Ranches

★ BEAUTIFUL 562 acre ranch in the ★ Permian Basin area of Howard County. Call Linda Carter, Ranch Broker 903-236-0636. www.lindasland.com

Lots and Land

WEST TEXAS TRANS PECOS AREA, NEAR LAKE AMISTAD. 40 - 65 ACRES. MESQUITE, CEDAR, BRUSH COVER. WHITETAIL, JAVELINA, BLUE QUAIL, TURKEY, DOVE. STARING AT $2,064 DOWN, $342/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Commercial

READY-RANCH RR

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

• Reed County
*11,155 ac. N. of Snyder, 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 800 ft. min., creek, lakes, Whitetail deer, mule deer and quail $795/ac
*4,212 ac. Maverick 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, oak $3,550/ac
*565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $4,425/ac
• Howard County
*842 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some outland traffic $750/ac
*160 ac. big canyon, SOLD oaks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, jav $895/ac
• Martin County
*139 ac. Sulphur Springs SOLD deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal pen $1,150/ac

(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777
No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that know the Country!!!
Owner Financing Available

Attention Readers In Observance Of Independence Day

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed

Tuesday, July 4 2016

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

CLASSIFIED WORD ADS

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Tues. July 4th	Mon. July 3rd @noon
Wed. July 5th	Mon. July 3rd @noon

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY ADS

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Tues. July 4th	Mon. July 3rd @noon
Wed. July 5th	Mon. July 3rd @noon

RETAIL DISPLAY ADS

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Tues. July 4th	Mon. July 3rd @noon
Wed. July 5th	Mon. July 3rd @noon

CIRCULATION HOURS

Customer Service calls will be taken July 4th from 7 AM to 9 AM only.

We will re-open Wednesday, July 5th for regular business hours.

Placing an ad in Classifieds is very easy.

All you have to do is call 432-682-6222.

We'll help you create an effective, easy to read ad, that is delivered daily to thousands of homes in Midland & surrounding areas.

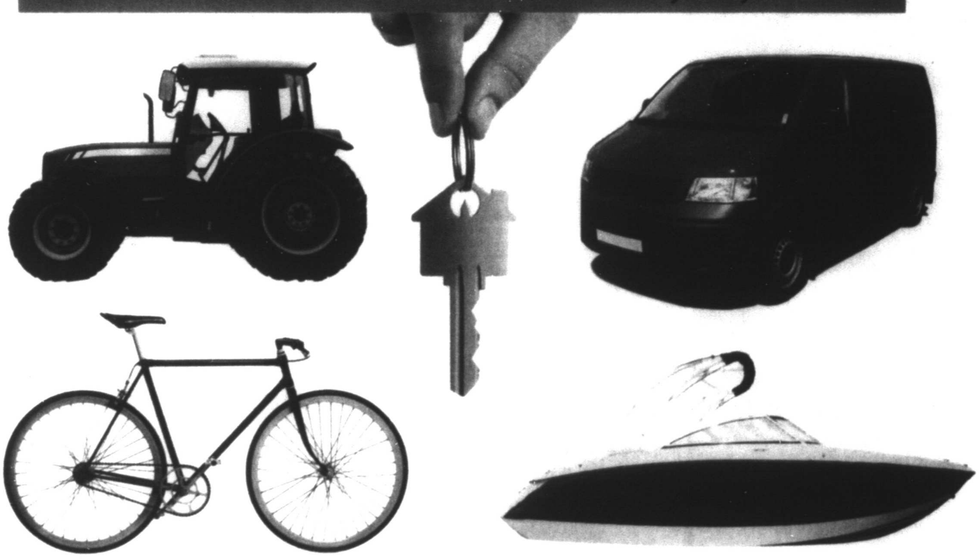
If you expect value and results from every advertising dollar,

Call 432-682-6222 TODAY!

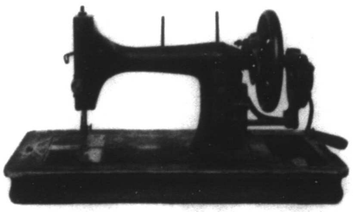
The Classifieds

Your Local Marketplace for Shopping & Selling

New Deals in Print & Online Every Day!



Homes for Sale
Garage Sales
Cars, Trucks & Vans
Musical Instruments
Boats & Personal Watercraft
Apartments for Rent
Motorcycles & Scooters
Furniture & Appliances



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Midland Reporter-Telegram

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