

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2018

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2018 ELECTION RESULTS

See results on local and state elections, including photos and interviews with candidates.

Pages 2/4A

First...for now

Beauchamp, Johnson advance to runoff

By Simone Jasper
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The Republican nominee for Midland County judge will be decided in a runoff between James Beauchamp and Terry Johnson.

Beauchamp received 39.66 percent and Johnson received 32.30 percent of the 12,041 total votes cast in Tuesday's primary election. With less than 50 percent of the vote, the candidates will again be on the ballot May 22.

"I'm happy that I'm in first place, of course," Beauchamp said. "But at the same time, I think there's still a lot of work to be done as far as getting the trust and confidence of voters in Midland County."

Beauchamp during his campaign said his experience as former Midland County Republican Party chairman helped him understand the frustrations of voters. Before all primary election results were in, he spoke to the Reporter-Telegram about strategies for a potential runoff.

"I think what you do is, you continue to make your case to voters," Beauchamp said. "This will give us another couple of months to do just that."

His opponent, Johnson, said he felt he had a good chance of being a runoff candidate if the race made it to that point. He thought he presented a consistent message leading up to the primary election.

"We'll start all over tomorrow," Johnson said. "We'll start from where we are today."

Please see JUDGE/2A

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

County judge candidate James Beauchamp stays updated on election results from his home Tuesday night.

Robnett grabs GOP nomination for 441st District seat

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

Jeff Robnett got news Tuesday that even the flu was no match for.

The Midland High graduate is closer to a life-long dream as he defeated a field of four to win the Republican nomination for the judge's seat in the 441st District Court.

Robnett picked up 6,066 of the 11,765 total votes cast to not only claim first place, but he garnered the 50 percent, plus one vote, needed to win the nomination. Sean



Guerrero finished second with 27.82 percent of the vote. Wayne Frost and Isaiah Roby Jackson finished third and fourth, respectively.

He will face

Please see ROBBETT/2A

Election Winners

Mike Conaway	Cheryl Craddock	Elizabeth Leonard	Randy Prude
U.S Representative District 11	Railroad Commissioner	238th District Court Judge	County Commissioner Precinct 4
Conaway collected 50,820 votes inside District 11 to distance himself from Paul Ryan, who earned 11,047 in his first campaign for Congress. Conaway will face Jerrica Lou Leader winner of the Democratic primary.	Craddock defeated challenger Weston Martinez by a 3-to-1 margin in Tuesday's primary. She will face Democrat Roman McAllen in the November general election.	Leonard claimed the Republican nomination as the judge for the 238th District Court with a decisive victory over Chris DeAnde on Tuesday night in the Republican primary election. DeAnde's name in Midland County don't appear to have a candidate for this seat.	Prude, who represents Precinct 4, garnered 68.61 percent of the 4,377 votes that were cast in the race. With no Democratic candidate filing for the Precinct 4 seat, Prude will not have an opponent in November.
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The big number

3

earthquakes were recorded in the Pecos/Fort Stockton area in the last 90 days. Page 5A

Word of the Day: feasible

Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 5A.

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Seliger appears to have won nomination

Not all votes were in as of press time Wednesday morning

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

It looked as if incumbent Kei Seliger again will win the nomination to be state senator for District 31 by a narrow margin, but victory hung by one county that hadn't reported primary day results as of press time early Wednesday morning.

Seliger collected 40,250 of 79,735 votes cast with 296 of 300 precincts reporting, according to the Texas Secretary of State's Office, putting the senator at 50.48 percent, which would avoid a runoff with Mike Canon, who lost to Seliger by a small margin in the 2014 primary. The race to be the Republican nominee also included Victor Leal, a former Muleshoe mayor and restaurateur.

All major counties — including Midland, Ector, Randall and Potter — had reported as of midnight Tuesday. Complete results were not in from Andrews County.

Canon had received 31.28 percent of the dis-

trict-wide vote, and Leal received 18.24 percent at press time.

Canon, a former Midland mayor, handily won his home county with 66.83 percent of the vote, 3 percent lower than when he ran against Seliger in 2014.

"We fought the good fight," Canon told the Reporter-Telegram on Tuesday night, adding that he wasn't conceding because all of the counties hadn't reported yet. "We tried to get our messages out."

He added that if the election doesn't head into a runoff, "I guess we didn't convince enough people of what we were concerned about and what we were trying to do."

"If (Seliger) won, I owe him congratulations," Canon said.

Seliger has been the state senator for District 31 since 2004. In 2014, he defeated Canon by collecting 52.52 percent of the vote. The turnout for this year's primary bested 2014 by more than 9,000 votes cast.

In total, Canon won five counties, including Ector (53.04 percent).

Conaway claims another GOP nomination

From staff reports

Mike Conaway had no problem winning another Republican nomination as he claimed more than 82 percent of the votes counted as of press time.

Conaway collected 50,920 votes inside District 11 to distance himself from Paul Myers, who earned 11,047 in his first campaign for Congress.

Conaway may also have made a huge statement to the winner of the Democratic primary — Jennie Lou Leeder. With both counting more than 200 of the 274 precincts from the 29 counties across the vast district, Conaway posted a vote total that was more than nine times what Leeder collected (5,493).

"I'd like to thank all those who voted in the primaries today and over the last two weeks, and joined in on the conversa-

tions we've been having about the best path forward for our country," Conaway said in a statement. "As we continue to work to support President Trump's agenda, it's critical that Republican voters stay engaged in the political process through the general election in November."

"Suzanne and I are grateful for the outpouring of support we've received, and we're looking forward to protecting the America we know and love for future generations to come."

Conaway is chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, chairs the House Russia investigation and sits on the House Armed Services Committee and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Conaway has served seven terms in the U.S. House. The 29-county 11th district includes Midland, Odessa and San Angelo.

Randy Prude again wins Precinct 4 seat

From staff reports

Randy Prude will serve another term as Midland County commissioner after defeating challenger Carla Repman in Tuesday's primary election.

Prude, who represents Precinct 4, garnered 68.61 percent of the 4,377 votes that were cast in the race. With no Democratic candidate filing for the Precinct 4 seat, Prude will

not have an opponent in November.

Prude has served on the Commissioner's Court since 1999 and has played a role in more than 20,000 county decisions, according to information provided to the Reporter-Telegram.

On his campaign finance reports, Prude listed \$1,550 in total political contributions. Repman raised more than twice that amount, reaching a total of \$4,295.

ROBNETT

From 1A

Democrat Sara Ruth Spector in the November general election. Spector didn't have an opponent in the Democratic Party primary. The winner replaces Judge Rodney W. Satterwhite.

But Tuesday night was about Robnett, who was blown away by "the honor" of winning this four-person field and avoiding a runoff. He said Tuesday night he told his wife, "We would get third." He said his social media and word-of-mouth campaign inspired thousands to drive the long-time Midlander and former school board member to victory.

Robnett has been through judicial elections before. He fell in the race for the 238th seat in 2012. "I am so honored and feel so thankful," Robnett said. "I wish you could have seen the text mes-

sages and internet stuff since Nov. 11. ... I am having a hard time soaking it all in. This is absolutely fantastic news."

Robnett, who has done civil and criminal work for about three decades, campaigned as an attorney with his own law office. He told those on the campaign trail of his responsibilities as a father of nine (six of whom are adopted).

"My 9-year-old asked me 'Why would anybody vote for you,'" Robnett said, joking. Robnett said he is ready to go toward the general election. He admitted purchasing signs and promised he wouldn't rest until the general election is over. He complimented Guerrero, Frost and Jackson for running admirable campaigns.

"It could have easily turned out another way," Robnett said.

The voters had a different idea and gave Robnett the best medicine possible.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

District Judge, 238th Judicial District, Elizabeth Leonard center reacts with her aunt, Carole Cooper, left and sister Joan Gudorf, right as early election results show her in the lead Tuesday at the Midland County Annex.

Leonard appears headed to re-election after primary rout

By Stewart Doreen
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It was expected that Elizabeth Byer Leonard was going to be tough to beat as she sought re-election as judge of the 238th District Court.

A 65-point victory is still pretty impressive for the Republican with more than 20 years of legal experience, including the last five as district judge.

Leonard claimed the Republican nomination — and therefore it appears another term — as the judge for the 238th District Court with a decisive victory over Chris DeAnda on Tuesday night in the Republican primary election.

Leonard collected 9,706 of the 11,707 votes cast.

From the moment she started campaigning, Leonard stressed she was the candidate with the experience best-suited for the courtroom. She stressed her 135 jury trials and her work on the Midland County Mental Health Court, which provides help to defendants with mental illness.

She said the program has expanded into jail psychiatric services and the Midland Behavioral Health Leadership Team.

She also talked about her work in cutting the waiting time for those seeking jury trials.

"We have been moving the docket," Leonard said, "not having the backlog."

She also campaigned on her resume, which showed she was an attorney/landman for an oil and gas company and a prosecutor for more than 10 years in Midland and Ector counties.

Leonard said winning an election to keep her seat was different than winning the seat for the first time in 2012. She said Tuesday night's victory shows her support has grown because she is a "known entity."

She didn't have a Democratic challenger in November 2012 and ran unopposed in the 2014 election — which began her first full term. Democrats in Midland County don't appear to have a candidate for this seat.

JUDGE

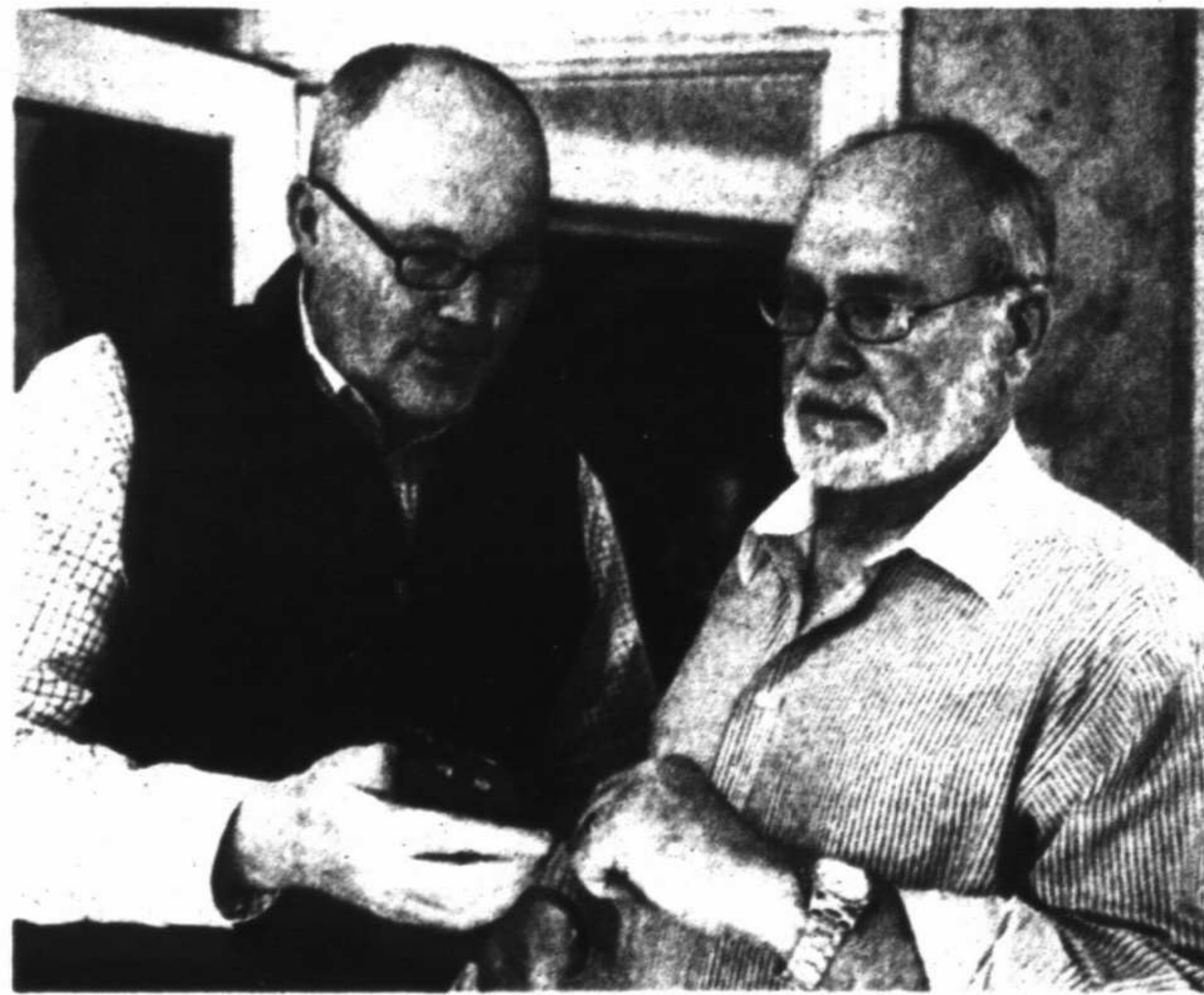
From 1A

We'll push harder, and we'll do more."

During the campaign, Johnson said he would be "fully transparent" in the county judge position. He thinks primary voting numbers showed people are ready to give their input.

"It's one thing to have a say," he said. "I think people are wanting to have input in their government."

Beauchamp and Johnson were running against Stephen M. Robertson, who missed the runoff after receiving 28.04 percent of the votes. During the campaign, Beauchamp led his competitors in money raised with \$65,554 in total political contributions, according to his campaign finance reports. Beauchamp was the only candidate reporting no outstanding loans, and he previously told the Reporter-Telegram that his expenditures focused on direct voter contact. Johnson reported raising \$44,990 — the lowest amount of contributions for the three candidates. Johnson, who owns TCO



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

David Christmas and Terry Johnson look over voting results Tuesday evening at Johnson's home.

Field Services, said most supporters were working people and business owners, according to a previous Reporter-Tele-

gram story.

The Republican nominee will face Democratic candidate Steven Schaferman in November. The men

are seeking the position of Mike Bradford, who isn't running for a fourth term as county judge.

Christi Craddick wins nomination for second term on Railroad Commission

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Christi Craddick took another step in her quest for a second term on the Railroad Commission.

The Midland native defeated challenger Weston Martinez by a 3-to-1 margin in Tuesday's primary. She will face Democrat Roman McAllen in the November general election.

Craddick also handily won Midland County with nearly 80 percent of the vote.

"I appreciate the votes for hopefully a next term, certainly through the primary," Craddick said in a phone interview from Austin.

She said there's a lot going on in the state's oil and gas industry that her agency oversees.

"The industry is changing and we're trying to keep up with those changes to be able to regulate fairly and consistently," she said.

Asked about charges the Railroad

Commission is too close to the industry, she said the agency serves the industry but also regulates the industry and she feels it has done a good job of striking a balance between the two.

"They've developed new technology, and we want our rules and regulations to adapt to that new technology, and we want boots on the ground to inspect their facilities. Those are the two top priorities," she said.

She said she is taking her Democratic opponent seriously and isn't taking re-election for granted.

"We plan to continue doing what we've been doing into the fall: educate the public about the agency and about the industry. It's important they understand what you do. We're No. 9 on the ballot, and we want to make sure they work their way down the ballot," Craddick said. "The Railroad Commission is the most important agency in the state, overseeing an industry that's 30 percent of the state

economy."

Martinez said he was disappointed more voters didn't understand his platform, and that he plans to continue his efforts to improve transparency in the agency.

"Now, I'll watch it unfold," he said in a phone interview. "The future is bright for people like me who want to focus on the people, who want to drain the swamp and have more transparency."

"I'll keep a close watch on all that the Railroad Commission does and continue fighting for transparency and to ensure owners of oil and gas businesses are treated fairly and uniformly," Martinez said. "I'll work to change the name of the agency and to look at rules that are killing jobs in Texas. We'll work hard. Being involved politically, I can have influence without being in office. I'll be staying involved, no doubt."

TODAY IN MIDLAND

WORD OF THE DAY

brought to you daily by Jumburrito... feasible [fea-si-ble] adjective 1: capable of being done or carried out a feasible plan 2: capable of being used or dealt with successfully: suitable 3: reasonable, likely gave an explanation that seemed feasible enough

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Things to do

- Storytime at the Library, 10:30 a.m. (birth-2 years), 11:30 a.m. (2-6 years), Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.
Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. 36. For more information call 682-8595.
Trivia Game Night, 7 p.m., True Texas BBQ, 5407 Andrews Highway Free.
Home Free, 7:30 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$33.50-\$53.50. wagnernoel.com.
Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment, 8 p.m., Torino's, 3303 N. Midkiff Road. challengeentertainment.com.

Cookies with a Cop

Midland Police Department will have "Cookies with a Cop" 3:30-5 p.m. today at Midland Community Theater, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. All Midlanders are invited for free cookies and lemonade and meet MPD officers. Source: City of Midland

MISD meetings

- Proposed secondary boundary modifications 5:30 p.m. today Abell Junior High School, 3201 Heritage Blvd.
Budget workshop 11:30 a.m. Thursday Administration building - Room 620, 615 W. Missouri Ave.
Proposed secondary boundary modifications 5:30 p.m. Thursday Alamo Junior High School, 3800 Storey Ave.

Most viewed on mrt.com

- State Department warns of dangerous Mexico spring break destinations (12,160)
See how West Texas oil business hub Midland has changed through the years (8,683)
New on Netflix, HBO, Amazon and Hulu March 2018 (7,314)
Santa Monica beach house owned by Howard Hughes, Cary Grant, Joan Fontaine for sale for \$12 million (7,200)
Suspect in death of Trinity University cheerleader arrested on charges of murder, sexual assault (6,957)
The under-the-radar gems of Texas worth traveling to this spring break (6,814)
Transgender Texas athlete Mack Beggs wins second state title (6,345)
The "Hobby Lobby challenge" is the viral meme America needs right now (6,249)
No driving and home confinement for 20-year-old charged with killing woman and baby in DWI wreck (4,961)
Sheriff: Aryan Brotherhood members among 23 arrested in Central Texas meth sting (4,507)
Rare Selena Photos: Queen of Tejano's 'Que Cries' serenade enchants Twitter (4,436)
One of the world's most venomous snakes found lurking in child's toolbox (4,417)
50 'old' movies every young person needs to watch (3,978)
Houston native owns the most expensive home ever sold in NYC (3,644)
Ureel's wife files for divorce following salacious trial (3,006)



Those attending the Texas Independence Day celebration raise their glasses of Texas spring water in a "Toast to Texas." The annual event was Friday at the Haley Library. James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

trans-Atlantic radio-telephone conversations took place between New York and London.
In 1955, the first TV production of the musical "Peter Pan" starring Mary Martin aired on NBC.
In 1975, the U.S. Senate passed its filibuster rule, allowing 60 senators to limit debate in most cases, instead of the previously required two-thirds of senators present.
In 1994, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled that a parody that pokes fun at an original work can be considered "fair use." (The ruling concerned a parody of the Ray Charles song "Oh, Pretty Woman" by the rap group 2 Live Crew.)

Today in History
By The Associated Press
Today is Wednesday, March 7, the 68th day of 2018. There are 299 days left in the year.
Today's highlight
On March 7, 1965, a march by civil rights demonstrators was violently broken up at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, by state troopers and a sheriff's posse in what came to be known as "Bloody Sunday."
On this date:
In 1926, the first successful

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 5-0-7
Pick 3 day: 7-8-3
Pick 3 evening: 1-7-3
Pick 3 night: 2-5-4
Daily 4 morning: 8-9-2-7
Daily 4 day: 5-1-6-2
Daily 4 evening: 1-7-3-6
Daily 4 night: 0-3-9-2
Cash Five: 3-9-14-17-22
Triple Chance: 1-3-12-17-24
30-32-36-45-48
Mega Millions: 1-4-26-35-39
MB: 22 Megaplier: 5
All or Nothing morning: 1-2-4-6-8-9-10-12-18-20-21-23
All or Nothing day: 3-4-7-12-13-15-16-17-18-20-21-23
All or Nothing evening: 1-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-15-16-20-22
All or Nothing night: 1-2-4-8-10-11-12-15-16-22-23-24

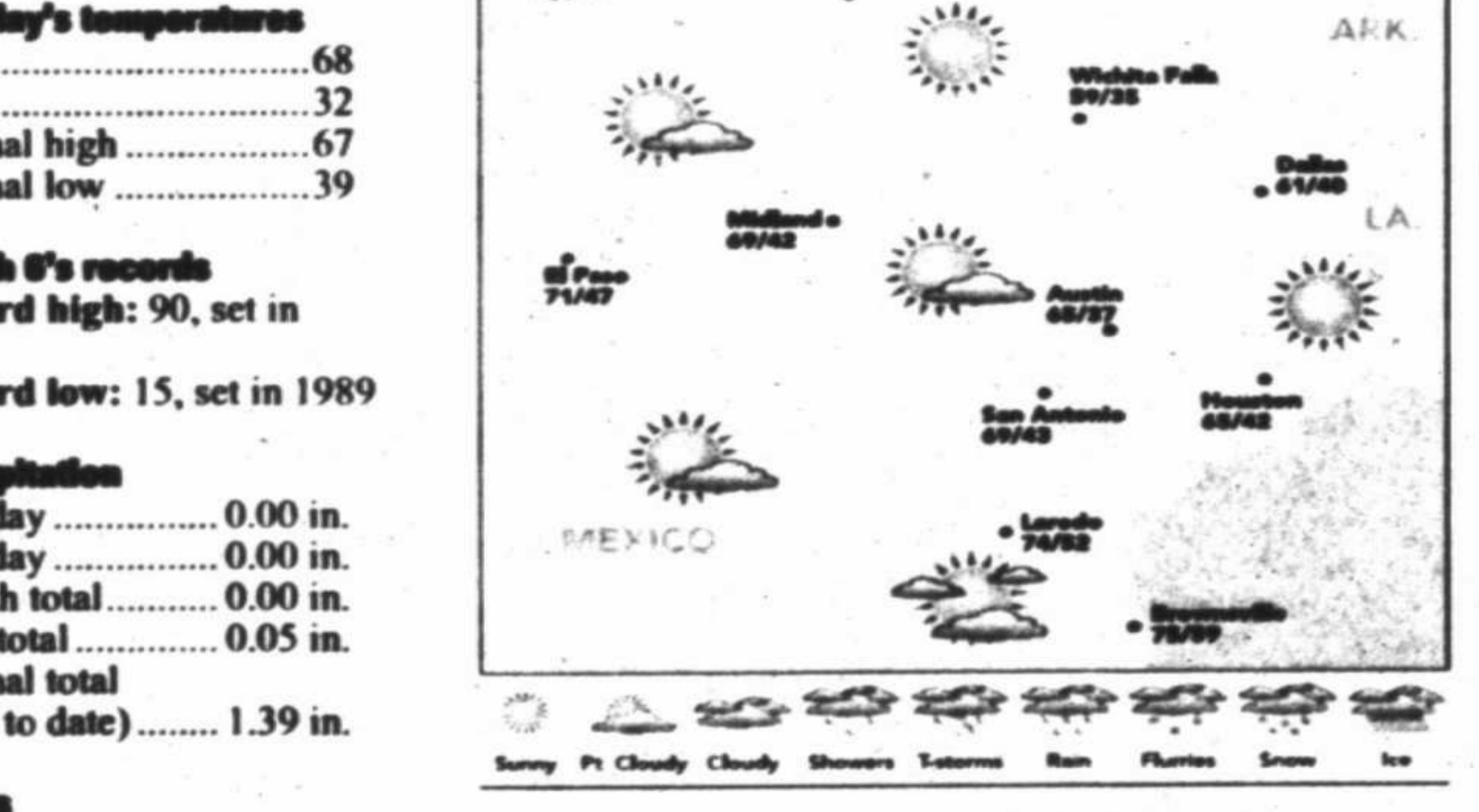
Weather

Today's temperatures
High: 68
Low: 32
Normal high: 67
Normal low: 39
March 6's records
Record high: 90, set in 1946
Record low: 15, set in 1989

Precipitation
Monday: 0.00 in.
Tuesday: 0.00 in.
Month total: 0.00 in.
Year total: 0.05 in.
Normal total (year to date): 1.39 in.

Winds
Average wind speed: 6.4 mph
Highest sustained wind speed: 14 mph
Highest gust speed: 19 mph

Forecast for Wednesday, March 7, 2018



Today's forecast
High: 66
Low: 42
Conditions: Sunny during the day/mostly cloudy at night
Winds: 5-15 mph
Chance of rain: none
Sunrise: 7:09 a.m.
Sunset: 6:51 p.m.

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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult
Note: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.
A baby born today has a Sun in Pisces and a Moon in Scorpio if born before 4:22 p.m. Afterward, the Moon will be in Sagittarius.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, March 7, 2018: This year you open up to new opportunities that seem to appear from out of the blue. This fortunate period continues through the beginning of next fall, so use it well. Communication excels during this time. If you are single, you easily meet intriguing people. You might choose to date a lot until you feel as if you have met someone you would like to know better. If you are attached, the two of you seem to revive your interest in each other. Together, you could decide to pursue a new mutual interest. SAGITTARIUS often introduces you to avant-garde ideas.
ARIES (March 21-April 19) You are in a partner or close associate. You feel as if no one can change your mind about the direction you have chosen to head in. Understand what is happening with a loved one. When eyeing a risk, look at the long term. Thought: Go with spontaneity.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You finally sense some movement in the right direction. Opportunities appear through others. Be open and receptive to conversations that could be a bit uncomfortable at times. Listen to what others share, and imagine what it's like to be them. Thought: Opt for a great chat.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You seem to be on top of a difficult situation, but could be weighing which way would be best to proceed. You will figure it out by having several important conversations. Give yourself the space to figure out what you want. Thought: Go along with another person's request.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) Your emotions run the show. You discover the importance of discussing your personal life with a close friend. You gain confidence just by being around this person. Be willing to discuss a professional matter as well, especially if the issue affects you. Thought: Off to the gym.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You might feel the need to head in a new direction and create a greater sense of satisfaction for yourself.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Communicate what you would like to share. Your way of dealing with a problem could be overly optimistic, yet it is likely to work. Let your emotions flow. Conclude a conversation with a comprehensive summary to make sure that everyone is on the same page. Thought: Celebrate!
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You ask valid questions as you seek out answers. You could be overwhelmed by everything you need to understand. Keep reaching out to others and seeking new insights. The more people you ask, the more complete your perspective will be. Thought: Meet a friend.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Generally, you are considered to be a source of knowledge in certain areas, and you often give wise advice and insightful feedback. Avoid getting caught in trivial discussions, as you could get frustrated waiting for people to see the big picture. Thought: Let the fun begin!
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You might feel let down by a particular series of events and by a lack of creativity. You could be tired of always hearing the same solution. Pull away from the issue, and allow yourself to let go. You might be surprised by what comes up. Thought: Suddenly feeling rejuvenated.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You might opt to attend a series of meetings. You'll need to gather more information and learn to take notes with a grain of salt. Though you might have a reason to celebrate, being a skeptic would be wise. Check all facts before making a decision. Thought: Catch some zzz's.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Follow your sense of what needs to happen. You'll do your best to guide people and events in the direction that you visualize being best. Don't worry about closing a door that has been uncomfortable for you to walk through. Thought: At a favorite neighborhood hangout.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You have a clear sense of direction. The best way to touch base with a lay person, especially someone with whom you often butt heads, is through a work-related matter. The best way to talk about other issues afterward. Thought: Follow the music.
BORN TODAY Actor Bryan Cranston (1956), actress Liana Prokun (1980), actress Jenna Fischer (1974)

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Scenes from Election Night



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

District judge, 238th Judicial District, Elizabeth Leonard stays up to date on election results on Tuesday, at the Midland County Annex.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

County Commissioner Robin Donnelly right talks with Sean Guerrero, candidate for district judge, 441st Judicial District left, while they wait for election result information on Tuesday at the Midland County Annex.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Jeff Robnett with his wife Dila and some of their children, Storrie, Jaco, Coll, Lilly and Oliver on Tuesday.



Carolyn Kester/Associated Press

Rep. Beto O'Rourke speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in 2013 in Washington. Texas Democrats have turned out in force ahead of their state's first-in-the-nation primary Tuesday even though their party remains a longshot to win much. Democratic early voting across Texas most-populous counties more than doubled the last non-presidential cycle in 2014. But the party hasn't won Texas statewide office since 1994.

Democrats hoping strong turnout spurs them in deep-red Texas

By Will Weissert and Paul J. Weber
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Democrats in deep-red Texas kicked off the nation's 2018 midterm primary elections Tuesday with a surge in turnout, dozens of women seeking office and early signs of mid-term anger toward President Donald Trump.

The biggest question as polls closed was whether Texas is just the start of what's to come nationwide. Energized Democrats in Texas appeared poised to show up for a midterm primary in numbers not seen in more than a decade, despite the long odds of ousting Republican U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz in November and other statewide officeholders.

Cruz and his Democratic challenger, U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke, easily clinched their party nominations for the Senate, while several congressional races packed with candidates were expected to head to May runoff. Republican Gov. Greg Abbott also cruised to his party's nomination for re-election.

But in an uneasy sign for the GOP with control of Congress on the line this fall, Democrats turned out in force in Texas — one of the safest turf for Republicans, who've dominated the nation's biggest conservative state for a quarter-century.

College students waited more than an hour to vote in liberal Austin, far-flung rural counties offered Democratic candidates for the first time in years and a tide of anti-Trump activists helped propel nearly 50 women to make a run for Congress. Many were running in a record eight open

congressional races this year in Texas — two of which are up for grabs after longtime GOP incumbents abandoned plans for re-election amid scandal.

The surge of Democratic voters included some former Republicans switching this cycle, including 61-year-old Sarah Chiodo of Dallas, who said she changed parties after Trump was elected.

"I hope that our political environment changes. I'm not happy with it today," she said after voting at a Dallas church. "I find it very divisive and dividing of many people and negative. So I'm looking to vote for people who are positive who care about all."

Democratic early voting across Texas' 15 most-populous counties more than doubled that of the last non-presidential cycle in 2014, while the number of Republican early ballots cast increased only slightly. Total Democratic early votes exceeded Republican ones roughly 465,000 to 420,000, though those figures combined accounted for less than 9 percent of the state's total registered voters.

Still, Democrats haven't won any of Texas' 29 statewide offices since 1994, the nation's longest losing streak. That's expected to continue this cycle despite any possible "Trump effect" because Democrats fielded little-known candidates against top Republicans, such as Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick. Even Attorney General Ken Paxton, who has been indicted on felony securities fraud charges, had no serious favored for re-election.

Laura Smith, 60, casting a Republican ballot in Dallas, said: "I love President Trump. Absolutely love him." "He has guts. He's not afraid. He's strong. He's a leader," said Smith, who works in a dentist's office.

A record six Texas Republicans and two Democrats are leaving Congress, meaning the state will be losing clout on key House committees. But none of those open seats are expected to flip. They've drawn so many hopefuls from each party, that most primary races won't have anyone winning a majority of Tuesday's votes, meaning runoff elections May 22 will determine who will be on November's general election ballot.

Democrats have a better shot in November of unseating three Republican congressional incumbents — Rep. Pete Sessions in Dallas, Rep. John Calhoun of Houston and Rep. Will Hurd in a district stretching hundreds of miles from San Antonio to El Paso. Hillary Clinton beat Trump in all three districts in 2016, but Democratic primary runoffs may be necessary in all three races. O'Rourke, a former punk rock guitarist, is one of the Democrats leaving his House seat and has launched a longshot bid to unseat Cruz. Neither O'Rourke nor Cruz had faced serious primary challengers, but O'Rourke has outpaced Cruz and the incumbent has warned conservatives against complacency, suggesting that liberals will "crawl over broken glass in November to vote," against Trump and the GOP.

The Democrats have had their own internal strife in Texas over congressional hopeful Laura Moser, who moved from Washington to her native Houston to try and unseat Calhoun. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, fearing Moser may be too liberal to win the general election, blasted her for comments from a 2014 Washington magazine article in which Moser said she'd "rather have her teeth pulled out" than live in rural Paris, Texas.

Things to know from Tuesday's Texas primaries

AUSTIN — Texas kicked off primary season ahead of the 2018 midterm election, with implications for Democrats and Republicans alike in an election year that could alter the direction of Congress and statehouses around the country for the first two years of President Donald Trump's term.

Things worth keeping an eye on Tuesday as Texans cast ballots:

THE TRUMP EFFECT AND DEMOCRATIC TURNOUT

Democrats remain underdogs to knock off Republican U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz and Gov. Greg Abbott, but there's been a surge in numbers of Democratic candidates and voters that reflects nationwide momentum for the left since Trump's election.

There is at least one Democratic candidate in every congressional district — 36 of them — for the first time since 1992. Democrats have 25 contested congressional primaries, and Senate nominee Beto O'Rourke raised \$2.4 million in the first three months of 2017, more than Cruz's \$1.9 million haul.

Registered Democrats outnumbered Republicans in early voting in the most populous counties tracked by the state. Democrats cast more than 400,000 ballots compared to Republicans' 353,000. In the 2014 midterm primaries, Republicans posted a 3-2 advantage in early voting.

"We have candidates everywhere, and that means we are reaching voters who haven't heard from Democrats in a long time," says Texas Democratic Chairman Gilberto Hinojosa. "That's a good thing for November."

The president won Texas during the 2016 nominating process and in the November election. Now he's a central figure in midterm primaries. Republican Congressional candidates across the state have pledged loyalty to Trump.

It's most obvious in the Republican House primaries for seats opened by retiring GOP incumbents. One example is Kathleen Wall, who is running for a southwest Texas seat now held by Rep. Ted Poe. One of her 30-second ads alternates between images of Trump and Wall, while a voiceover offers attributes of the two: "Successful businessman. Successful businessman... Talks tough (Trump). Also tough (Wall), winning a race nobody thought (Trump) could win (Wall). Great hair (Trump). Greater hair (Wall)."

NATIONAL DEMOCRATS VS. LIBERAL GROUPS

It's not uncommon for the Democratic House caucus to split as liberal groups try to elect a Democrat but many moderate Democrats are skeptical of a liberal agenda. In a caucus, voters are asked to vote for a candidate, but in a primary, voters are asked to vote for a candidate and a party.

In a caucus, voters are asked to vote for a candidate, but in a primary, voters are asked to vote for a candidate and a party. In a caucus, voters are asked to vote for a candidate, but in a primary, voters are asked to vote for a candidate and a party.

the comments would be used by Republicans to make Moser unselectable in the 7th Congressional District, but their intervention has mollified Texas Democrats, including some of her opponents.

Liberal groups also have cried foul. Moser is running to the left of other leading candidates, and Our Revolution, Sen. Bernie Sanders' political organization, endorsed her in the wake of the DCCC memo.

The battle is sure to intensify if Moser qualifies for an expected runoff.

GOP HOUSE DISTRICTS THAT WENT FOR CLINTON

Three Texas congressional seats — the 7th District in metro Houston, the 23rd District from San Antonio across border country and the 32nd District near Dallas-Fort Worth — are among the 23 Republican-held seats nationally that sided with Hillary Clinton over Trump in the 2016 presidential race.

Democrats need to flip 24 GOP seats to reclaim a majority in the U.S. House.

The Houston seat is likely headed to a runoff. The question is whether Moser, the liberal criticized by national Democrats, is among the two candidates. The San Antonio-border country seat could yield a runoff, as well, between Gina Ortiz Jones, an Air Force veteran, and Jay Hultberg, a former federal prosecutor.

BETO O'ROURKE VS. TED CRUZ

A key matchup in November will be the Senate race between O'Rourke and Cruz, who easily won their party nominations.

The Democratic congressman outpaced the Republican senator in the last quarter of 2017 and has touted his candidacy's grassroots appeal for Texas Democrats who haven't had much to cheer about lately. Cruz, who held only nominal primary opposition himself, isn't taking the race lightly. The senator also is using his stature with endorsements in several of the 21 contested Republican House primaries.

Even before the polls closed Tuesday, Cruz held a conference call to start raising in an O'Rourke as a "third party" that won't carry him to victory in June.

LOSING LEADERSHIP

Texas has eight sitting House members who are not seeking re-election — six of them Republicans — meaning the state will be losing a lot of experience and leadership in Washington.

The outgoing incumbents include powerful committee chairs including Rep. Louie Gohmert, R, who heads the House Freedom Caucus and Lamar Smith, R, who chairs the House Education, Science and Technology Committee.

Some of them have been vocal critics of President Trump, but they could be replaced by more moderate Republicans, including Rep. Louie Gohmert, R, who heads the House Freedom Caucus and Lamar Smith, R, who chairs the House Education, Science and Technology Committee.

Lexus SUV hits MFD engine

From staff reports

A Midland woman was charged with driving without a license after colliding with a Midland Fire Department engine Tuesday morning, according to a press release from the city's spokeswoman.

Engine 10 was southbound on the Loop 250 service road with its lights and sirens activated. The engine attempted to proceed through the Loop 250 and State Highway 191 intersection and was struck on the passenger side by the SUV that was eastbound on the south service road of SH 191, according to the press release.

No one was injured in the wreck that occurred at

about 11 a.m. The investigation is ongoing.

Engine 10 is based out of Station 10, 4501 Sinclair Ave. It has been removed from service while damage is assessed, and an alternate engine has been moved into Station 10, according to the release.

MFD currently is conducting Emergency Vehicle Driver Training taught by the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service. The course is four days of classroom instruction this week, two additional days of classroom training and then behind-the-wheel exercises with a driving simulator, according to the city's spokeswoman.

Texas' first Amazon Books store opens in Austin with better prices for Prime members

By Maria Halkias
The Dallas Morning News

The physical world of Amazon Books has made it to Texas. The online retailer today opens its first store so far this year and it's in Austin's Domain Northside.

The store is designed to hold all the books considered great reads by Austinites and more put together by a team that curates customers' online preferences to fill the shelves. All books face out in Amazon's version of a bookstore. Below the book is a review card saying why customers said they loved the read. Prices are on the back of books and there are price scanners around the 4,800-square-foot store, but Prime members are encouraged to bring their phones to find their prices, said Mariana Garavaglia, director of stores for Amazon Books. "Prime members get the same prices in stores and online."

The stores are all about discovery, "the voice of the customer" and more than 20 years of online retailing experience, she said. Amazon Books' "team of curators" decide on what to stock by looking at customer reviews, ratings, Kindle e-book reading behavior, sales and pre-orders, plus their own "depth of knowledge

and passion for books," she said. On average, books in the Austin store have a rating of 4.3 stars or above. Stores also stock "hidden gems," which Garavaglia said, is similar to the online experience where shoppers are alerted to lesser-known books with similar tones, settings or plots. All stores have local features. Austin has a children's section, but no coffee bar.

Amazon opened its first bookstore in its headquarters city of Seattle in 2015 and now has 14 in California, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Texas and Washington. Other planned stores for this year are also in new markets: Long Tree, Colorado and its first two in the Washington D.C. area, in Georgetown and Bethesda, Md. (Washington D.C. metro area is often cited as Amazon's HQ2, but so is Austin.)

Amazon calls its bookstores a physical extension of its online book selling and are intended to integrate "the benefits of offline and online shopping," Garavaglia said in an interview Monday. Stores also sell Amazon's electronics.

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Official threatens fence in dispute with US on border access

By Susan Montoya Bryan
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

A U.S. Senate candidate who serves as New Mexico's top land manager posted signs Tuesday along the U.S.-Mexico border aimed at blocking border patrol operations on a one-mile stretch of state trust land over concerns that the federal government is not compensating the state for using the land.

Land Commissioner Aubrey Dunn told The Associated Press that if his office can't reach an agreement over an easement with the federal government, he will install a fence to block access to the property.

Dunn, elected in 2014 as a Republican, announced earlier this year he was running for the U.S. Senate after becoming a Libertarian. He previously considered running for governor and the U.S. House.

Dunn first outlined his concerns in a letter sent last month to federal officials. He said it's an issue of state sovereignty and that revenue earned from development or use of trust land helps fund public education in the state.

"I'm shutting down the federal government just as I would shut down any business trespassing on state trust lands," Dunn said. "Border security is important, but so are our kids, and they have a right to collect the money earned from the lands they own."

U.S. Customs and Border Protection said it is evaluating Dunn's concerns. The agency said in a statement Tuesday that part of the strategy for securing the border includes developing and leveraging partnerships with state and local stakeholders.

There were no reports that operations had been interrupted Tuesday after Dunn posted the signage



Josh Bachman/The Las Cruces Sun-News via AP

Aubrey Dunn, New Mexico State Land Commissioner, stands near a section of the U.S./Mexico Border where his office says a section of the border wall has been constructed on state trust land, Tuesday in Santa Teresa, N.M. He says the federal government has overstepped its authority and is trespassing on state trust land along the U.S.-Mexico border without compensating the state. Dunn on Tuesday posted signs aimed at blocking border patrol operations along the one-mile stretch of state land.

and cordoned off the road with tape, but at least one challenger in the Senate race, Republican Mick Rich, suggested Dunn's move was a political stunt.

Dunn argued the land commissioner's responsibilities to collect revenue from trust lands are clear and that making the issue public was the only way to get the government's attention.

The debate about installing more fencing and barriers along the border heated up recently when a federal judge sided with the Trump administration over a challenge to waivers that had been issued to clear the way for construction in parts of California and New Mexico.

There's no timeline for when work might begin to replace barriers along a 20-mile stretch near Santa Teresa, New Mexico. The

State Land Office began researching the effects construction could have after some state Democratic lawmakers proposed legislation aimed at blocking construction on state trust land.

The State Land Office oversees millions of acres, including a patchwork along the state's southern border with Mexico.

Dunn's staff determined that one parcel between the Santa Teresa port of entry and El Paso had been initially conveyed to what was then the territory of New Mexico under the 1898 Ferguson Act. New Mexico officials contend the parcel was never part of the buffer zone that was established by a 1907 presidential proclamation to ensure federal authorities could patrol along the southern border.

Dunn said a survey by

the Bureau of Land Management and other records show the state owns the entire parcel and that the federal government never received permission from the state to build the border barrier that has existed there for years, or to use the roads in the area.

There also are questions about whether a right of way is needed for another area where the federal government has installed lights and is maintaining a road along the border.

Easement and rights of way fees would cost roughly \$30,000 for the parcels in question, according to preliminary estimates by the State Land Office.

"This trespass issue is not a new issue," Dunn said. "There's been quite a bit of federal encroachment."

Dove, Lance have different views on boom-and-bust cycles

By Ryan Collins
Bloomberg

Two top oil company executives are taking contrasting views on how fracturing is changing the industry's life cycle.

Crude production is outgrowing the boom-and-bust cycles of the past as the cost of getting a barrel out of the ground falls to new lows, Pioneer

Natural Resources Co. Chief

Executive Officer Tim Dove said. But ConocoPhillips CEO Ryan Lance said that the ups and downs are getting steeper and faster, presenting a new challenge for explorers. "When we embark upon this new history of shale drilling," the market is "not probably going to be in as much of a boom-and-bust mentality," Dove said during an interview on Bloomberg TV Tuesday. "We'll be

in more of a manufacturing mode."

But Lance took a different view earlier at the CERAWeek by IHS Markit conference in Houston.

"Peak to peak and trough to trough," the boom-and-bust cycles are "getting closer together," Lance said during a Q&A with oil historian Daniel Yergin. The executive said that makes it more difficult for companies to manage risk and make drilling decisions.

REGION BRIEFS

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

WEST TEXAS USGS: Three quakes recorded in West Texas since Feb. 26

The U.S. Geological Survey recorded three earthquakes in the Pecos/Fort Stockton region in the last 10 days.

According to the USGS, earthquakes took place on Feb. 26 and March 4 near Pecos and March 1 near Fort Stockton.

The USGS reported a 2.6-magnitude earthquake, 20.5 miles south of Pecos on Feb. 26. On March 1, a 2.9-magnitude quake was reported 26.7 miles west-northwest of Fort Stockton. Lastly, a 2.8-magnitude quake was reported at 7:57 a.m. Sunday, 21.7 miles south-southeast of Pecos.

The quakes were the first in the region since Feb. 11 and the 42nd in the last 365 days, according to the website earthquaketrack.com.

The 42 quakes reported in the last year trail the 491 earthquakes reported near Kiowa, Kansas, in the last 365 days, according to earthquaketrack.com. The USGS reported a 4.1-magnitude quake near Kiowa on Tuesday. Kiowa is about 79 miles southwest of Wichita.

A quake with a magnitude of 2.5 to 5.4 is "often felt, but only causes minor damage," according to Upenn, an educational site for seismologists. There are about 30,000 quakes each year, according to the site.

SUTHERLAND SPRINGS 2 arrested after claiming church shooting was fiction

Two people have been arrested after appearing at the Texas church where more than two dozen worshippers were gunned down and claiming the attack was staged.

The pastor of First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, southeast of San Antonio, tells the San Antonio Express-News that the pair appeared Monday and claimed the shooting was fabricated by the U.S. government.

Wilson County authorities identified the pair as 54-year-old Robert Usery and 56-year-old Jodie Mann. Usery is charged with making a terroristic threat and Mann with obstructing a deputy.

OKLAHOMA Lawsuit filed over fatal gas rig explosion

McALESTER — A wrongful death lawsuit has been filed over a natural gas rig explosion in southeastern Oklahoma that killed five men.

The lawsuit by Diana Walbridge, the widow of 60-year-old Parker Walbridge of Crescent, alleges negligence by Red Mountain Energy and Red Mountain Operating, both of Oklahoma City, and Patterson-UTI Drilling and Patterson-UTI Energy, both of Houston.

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, March 7, 2018 | Page 6A

Trumpism is a psychology, not an ideology

■ Even the 'ideas' that the president has championed consistently — despite countervailing evidence and expertise — are grounded not in arguments but in instincts

For the last couple of years I've been banging my spoon on my high chair about how Trumpism isn't a political or ideological movement so much as a psychological phenomenon.

This was once a controversial position on the right and the left. Former White House chief strategist Stephen Bannon devoted considerable resources to promoting Trumpist candidates who supposedly shared President Trump's worldview and parroted his rhetoric, including anti-globalism, economic nationalism and crude insults of "establishment" politicians. Those schemes largely came to naught.

The intellectual effort to craft or divine a coherent Trumpist ideology didn't fare much better. Just over a year ago, Julius Krein launched a new journal called American Affairs to "give the Trump movement some intellectual heft," as Politico put it. As I wrote at the time, American Affairs' dilemma was that by associating itself with Trump, it would be forced to either defend the incoherence of his behavior or break with him to defend its own consistency.

Six months later, after the debacle of

JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service



Trump's response to the neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, Krein recanted his support for the president.

On the left, there's an enormous investment in the idea that Trump isn't a break with conservatism but the apotheosis of it. This is a defensible, or at least understandable, claim if you believe conservatism has always been an intellectually vacuous bundle of racial and cultural resentments. But if that were the case, Commentary magazine's Noah Rothman recently noted, you would not see so many mainstream and consistent conservatives objecting to Trump's behavior.

Intellectuals and ideologically committed journalists on the left and right have a natural tendency to see events through the prism of ideas. Trump presents an insurmountable challenge to such approaches because, by his own admission, he doesn't consult any serious and coherent body of ideas for his decisions. He trusts his instincts.

Trump has said countless times that he thinks his gut is a better guide than the brains of his advisers. He routinely argues that the presidents and policymakers who came before him were all fools and weaklings. That's narcissism, not ideology, talking.

Even the "ideas" that he has championed consistently — despite countervailing evidence and expertise — are grounded not in arguments but in instincts. He dislikes regulations because, as a businessman, they got in his way. He dislikes trade because he has a childish, narrow understanding of what "winning" means. Foreigners are ripping us off. Other countries are laughing at us. He doesn't actually care about, let alone understand, the arguments suggesting that protectionism can work. Indeed, he reportedly issued his recent diktat on steel tariffs in a fit of pique over negative media coverage and the investigation into Russian election interference. His administration was wholly unprepared for the announcement.

News emanating from the White House is always more understandable once you accept that Trumpist policy is downstream of Trump's personality.

The president's attack on his attorney general's conduct as "disgraceful" makes no political, legal or ideological sense, but it is utterly predictable as an expression of Trump's view that loyalty to Trump

should trump everything else.

Likewise, his blather about skipping due process to "take the guns" was politically bizarre but perfectly consistent with his poor impulse control and well-established tendency to tell people in the room with him what they want to hear.

And, of course, his decision to promote and protect his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, is purely psychological. Giving Kushner the responsibility to settle the Israeli-Palestinian conflict for all time seems like the premise of a sitcom — yet is wholly congruent with Trump's management style.

Still, many of Trump's biggest fans stick by him, mirroring Trump's mode of thinking and discovering ever more extravagant ways to explain or rationalize the president's behavior. (Krein's abandonment of Trump was an exception to the rule.) When Trump attacked Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Jerry Falwell Jr. of Liberty University tweeted his support, floating the idea that Sessions was an anti-Trump deep cover operative who endorsed Trump to undermine his presidency from within.

It seems Trumpism is infectious. If this infection becomes a pandemic — a cult of personality — one could fairly call Trumpism a movement. But psychology would still be the best way to understand it.

OPINION EXTRA

Younger people expect more of Midland than where the beer's flowing

After the city of Midland's Planning and Zoning Commission voted 6-0 in favor of allowing alcohol sales at Regal's Tall City Stadium 14, a member of the commission justified his vote by saying: "As time rolls on and as Midland continues to have a younger overall group of citizens, some of these things will be more important to keep some of these younger families here."

Let me be on the record as saying if loosening alcohol ordinances is key to delivering a younger demographic, then I'm not sure what that says about the future.

Maybe I'm becoming my father, but I can't believe opening up businesses to serve alcohol is really a priority of the younger people coming to Midland. First of all, there is already a movie theater in town and another within reasonable driving distance where a potential movie-watcher can have their alcohol, if that is really important to them. Second, I would hope the next generation of Midlanders sees the opportunities that are here, specifically high-paying jobs and being part of a special community. I also hope our community's priorities start with improving its schools, its infrastructure, its medical facilities, its quality of place and its opportunities for Midlanders to live a healthier, happier life.

Is there anything wrong with what Regal put before P&Z this week? I don't think so. Do I expect the City Council to pass the same item when it comes before them at a later date? Yes, I do.

Regal put together a better plan than two years ago. Most importantly, its one-drink maximum appears to put to rest the idea of someone — young or old — getting drunk at the theater and then hopping in their car for a dangerous ride home.

However, the council already has lost the family-friendly argument that could have been made when it gave Regal's neighbor, Chuck E Cheese's, an alcohol license of its own. (Somebody will have to tell me why alcohol really is needed to be a part of watching your kid be a kid. But I guess that's a different issue.)

I hope this community's current and future leaders can come up with better reasons to make Midland more appealing to those who move here from afar. Do we need better retail or more hip eating establishments? Certainly. But catering to that future Midlander because there is a belief that serving alcohol at a theater will be the difference between that person leaving or staying is not doing justice to those who want to live in our community.

If I were showing my age and adding to the evidence that maybe I am a real fuddy duddy, I would offer that I never sat in a theater with my Hot Tamales and my oversized bucket of butter popcorn and thought, "You know what's missing? A beer." The overpriced Coke is just fine with me.

There soon could be beer on tap and other alcohol pouring at Midland's other theater. That is what some people, I guess, call progress. There are reasons why it might be appropriate this time around. I hope, in the future, those reasons don't include satisfying the expectation of some — particularly today's younger crowd, according to one official — who believe more opportunities to drink alcohol is what a community should strive for.

— Stewart Doreen
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Midland Reporter-Telegram

A Midland newspaper

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The left has a Farrakhan problem

■ Just as mainstream conservatives must ostracize the alt-right, the center-left should guard against progressives making excuses for Nation of Islam leader

RICH LOWRY

King Features Syndicate



"Time's up," the slogan of the Hollywood anti-harassment movement, has a very different meaning for Louis Farrakhan.

At his annual Saviours' Day conference in Chicago last weekend, the Nation of Islam leader boasted, "And Farrakhan, by God's grace, has pulled the cover off of that Satanic Jew, and I'm here to say your time is up, your world is through."

Farrakhan is as immodest as he is anti-Semitic. He may seem like yesterday's Jew-hater, since he could never gather the kind of crowds he did for the so-called Million Man March in Washington, D.C., 20 years ago. Yet he still has a following. Thousands showed up to hear him spew his usual garbage during his Saviours' Day speech, including one of the organizers of the Women's March.

The CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, Jonathan Greenblatt, calls Farrakhan "quite possibly, the most popular anti-Semite in America today." Certainly, the haters of the alt-right don't measure up. The white nationalist, Richard Spencer, would surely love to get Farrakhan's crowds and have such a relatively robust institutional presence and publishing operation, let alone manage to maintain influence with more mainstream figures.

Tamika Mallory, the Women's March organizer, wasn't abashed about her attendance at the rally. She posted a video on Instagram of herself at the event, and showed no sign of distress at Farrakhan's greatest hits ("the powerful Jews are my enemy"; Jews are "the mother and father of apartheid"; "when you want something in this world, the Jew holds the door"; the Jews control Mexico, and a swath of Europe; and any number of other vicious lies).

Called out on her presence at the speech, Mallory tweeted a response worthy of a fellow traveler with the Nation of Islam: "If your leader does not have the same enemies as Jews, they may not be THE leader!" What enemies could she be speaking of?

Mallory further pushed back by stating, "I am a strong black woman." Actually, her putrid equivocation over Farrakhan speaks to the opposite of strength.

She added that the black community is "com-

plex." So is any community, but that doesn't justify tolerating rank hatred.

And it wouldn't be an argument with a left-wing activist if she didn't cite the buzzword of the hour, explaining that she has "done intersectional work for 20+ years."

Ah, yes, intersectionality. Farrakhan has his own notions of that. In 2006, he declared that "it's the wicked Jews, the false Jews that are promoting lesbianism, homosexuality." He's updated this theme slightly to account for transgenderism — "the Jews were responsible for all of this filth and degenerate behavior that Hollywood is putting out turning men into women and women into men."

Mallory isn't the only Women's March organizer with a soft spot for the lunatic minister. Carmen Perez is another admirer. "There are no perfect leaders," she explains, although there is a lot of daylight between normal human imperfection and Farrakhan's paranoid rantings. Yet another organizer, Linda Sarsour, took part in a Nation of Islam event in 2015.

Are these activists too minor to bother about? Well, if tea party organizers 10 years ago had been friendly toward David Duke, we would — understandably — have heard no end of it.

Just as mainstream conservatives must ostracize the alt-right, the center-left should guard against progressives making excuses for Farrakhan. With the exception of Jake Tapper of CNN, though, the media has ignored the latest eruption of the Farrakhan story.

As a reminder of how much this hygiene is necessary, Rep. Danny K. Davis of Illinois popped up to justify his relationship with Farrakhan. He told the website The Daily Caller, "The world is so much bigger than Farrakhan and the Jewish question and his position on that and so forth." Could anyone say this about David Duke and remain in office?

Farrakhan's time should be up, but it never quite is.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Trump aide Cohn departs after trade disagreement

By Zeke Miller and Jonathan Lemire
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Top economic adviser Gary Cohn is leaving the White House after breaking with President Donald Trump on trade policy, the latest in a string of high-level departures from the West Wing.

Cohn, the director of the National Economic Council, has been the leading internal opponent to Trump's planned tariffs on imports of steel and aluminum, working to orchestrate an eleventh-hour effort in recent days to get Trump to reverse course. But Trump resisted those efforts, and reiterated Tuesday he will be imposing tariffs in the coming days.

Cohn's departure comes amid a period of unparalleled tumult in the Trump administration, and aides worry that more staffers may soon head for the doors.

The announcement came hours after Trump denied there was chaos in the White House. Trump maintained that his White House has "tremendous energy," but multiple White House officials said Trump has been urging anxious aides to stay.

"Everyone wants to work in the White House," Trump said during a joint press conference with Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven. "They all want a

piece of the Oval Office." In a statement, Cohn said it was his honor to serve in the administration and "enact pro-growth economic policies to benefit the American people."

Trump praised Cohn despite the disagreement on trade, issuing a statement saying Cohn has "served his country with great distinction."

Cohn is a former Goldman Sachs executive who joined the White House after departing the Wall Street firm with a \$285 million payout. He played a pivotal role in helping Trump enact a sweeping tax overhaul, coordinating with members of Congress.

Cohn's departure was anticipated, but met with disappointment on Capitol Hill and among the business community.

"I hate to see Gary go," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell told The Associated Press. "I think he did a great job."

Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., who is trying to persuade the administration to target the steel and aluminum tariffs as narrowly as possible, acknowledged his side of the argument was increasingly outnumbered in the administration.

"I'm sorry to see him go," Toomey said, calling Cohn "a very important voice in encouraging free trade."

Josh Bolten, the President and CEO of the Business Roundtable, which opposes the coming tariffs, called Cohn's exit "a real loss for President Trump and the American people."

Trump loved to boast about the former executive's wealth, but Cohn's tenure in the White

House was rocky. Cohn nearly departed the administration last summer after he was upset by the president's comments about the racial violence in Charlottesville, Va. Cohn, who is Jewish, wrote a letter of resignation but never submitted it.

"Citizens standing up for equality and freedom can never be equated with white supremacists, neo-Nazis, and the KKK," Cohn told The Financial Times at the time. "I believe this administration can and must do better in consistently and unequivocally condemning these groups and do everything we can to heal the deep divisions that exist in our communities."

The comments came as Cohn was under consideration to serve as chairman of the Federal Reserve.

Earlier in the administration, Cohn found himself on the losing side of several contentious battles with Trump's more nationalist-minded aides — including then-chief strategist Steve Bannon — on policies including the announcement of plans to pull the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement.

Cohn had also hoped to steer more than \$1 trillion into infrastructure investments. But the multiple rollouts by the Trump administration failed to gain traction, often overshadowed by controversial statements made by the president himself.

Cohn often faced ridicule among some inside the White House for being a registered Democrat who last year met with former Republican officials pushing a form of a carbon tax that was designed to reduce the

risks from climate change.

Yet his stock improved to the point that he was one of names Trump was floating for chief of staff last month, when it looked like John Kelly was on thin ice. He was a frequent ally of Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump in internal staff struggles.

Cohn told other White House aides in recent weeks that he would have little reason to stay if Trump followed through with his tariff plans, according to a White House official familiar with his views. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

"I mean it is no secret that he disagreed with Trump on trade and he was opposed to the policy," said Stephen Moore, who served as an economic adviser to Trump's campaign.

The White House did not immediately announce a replacement for Cohn, whose deputy, Jeremy Katz, departed in January. Among those under consideration for Cohn's job are CNBC commentator Larry Kudlow and Office of Management and Budget director Mick Mulvaney, according to a person familiar with the discussions.

In a tweet earlier Tuesday, Trump sought to portray himself as the architect of the White House staff changes, writing, "I still have some people that I want to change (always seeking perfection)."

Trump acknowledged he is a tough boss to work for, saying he enjoys watching his closest aides fight over policy. "I like conflict," he said during the press conference.

Cohn was nowhere in sight at the press conference and a

seat reserved for him in the East Room was filled by a different aide.

Dating back to the campaign, Trump has frequently and loudly complained about the quality of his staff, eager to fault his aides for any mishaps rather than acknowledge any personal responsibility. But the attacks on his own staff have sharpened in recent weeks, and he has suggested to confidants that he has few people at his side he can count on, according to two people familiar with his thinking but not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations.

Coinciding with the heated debate over tariffs, Trump's communications director Hope Hicks, one of his closest and most devoted aides, announced her resignation last week, leaving a glaring vacancy in the informal cadre of Trump loyalists in the White House.

Turnover after just over a year in office is nothing new, but the Trump administration has churned through staff at a dizzying pace since taking office last January, and allies are worried the situation could descend into a free-fall.

Making matters worse, the list of prospects to replace departing aides grows shorter as the sense of turmoil increases. Vacancies abound throughout the West Wing and the administration at large, from critical roles like staff secretary to more junior positions in the press office.



Cohn

As Trump weighs tariff, US steelmakers enjoy rising profits

By Paul Wiseman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration has chosen an odd time to offer special protection to the U.S. steel industry.

As President Donald Trump prepares to impose a 25 percent tax on imported steel, America's steelmakers are actually faring pretty well. The U.S. steel industry last year earned more than \$2.8 billion, up from \$714 million in 2016 and a loss in 2015, according to the Commerce Department. And the industry added more than 8,000 jobs between January 2017 and January 2018.

Even before Trump mentioned the tariff last Thursday, the price of the benchmark U.S.-made hot-rolled steel had reached the highest level since May 2011, according to S&P Global Platts. The price surged even higher on the tariff news.

"We finished 2017 in a good position. We look forward to 2018," U.S. Steel CEO David Burritt told industry analysts Feb. 1, according to a transcript at the website Seeking Alpha. He continued: "We're seeing increased demand from our customers and have reached some projects to ensure that we can make enough steel to support our customers' needs."

Still, the steel companies complain they're victims of unfair foreign competition.

"The industry isn't doing as bad as their press releases say it is," says steel analyst Charles Bradford, president of Bradford Research. "Any time world economic growth is over 3 percent, the steel industry usually does OK." The International Monetary Fund says the global economy grew 3.7 percent last year and expects it to grow 3.9 percent in 2018. The U.S. economy grew 2.3 percent last year, an improvement on 1.5 percent growth in 2016.

Also raising demand for steel: Florida and Texas are rebuilding after last year's ruinous hurricanes.

Ned Hill, a professor at Ohio State University's John Glenn College of Public Affairs who studies economic development, says that after decades of cost-cutting and restructuring, American steel is "a vastly improved industry. It seems to me that they've established a competitive equilibrium."

In the 1980s, American steelmakers needed 10.1

man-hours to produce a ton of steel; now they need 1.5 man-hours, says Joe Inance of S&P Global Platts.

Most American steel is now made at super-efficient mini mills, which use electric arc furnaces to turn scrap metal into steel. (Traditional integrated steel mills make steel from scratch, feeding iron ore and coking coal into blast furnaces.) Some mini-mills need just 0.5 man-hours to produce a ton of steel, Inance says.

Increased productivity means today's steel mills don't need as many workers. Steel industry employment peaked at 650,000 in 1953. By the start of this year, U.S. steelmakers employed just 143,000.

The industry definitely faces long-term problems. Massive overproduction by China has flooded world markets with steel and kept world prices lower than they would have been. Some countries subsidize their steel producers and allow them to sell steel at unfairly low prices.

Watchdog: Trump adviser Kellyanne Conway violated Hatch Act

By Zeke Miller
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A federal watchdog says White House counselor Kellyanne Conway violated the federal law prohibiting government officials from using their positions to influence political campaigns.

The Office of Special Counsel, which is unrelated to Robert Mueller's office, says Conway violated the Hatch Act twice last year when she spoke out in support of Republican Roy Moore and against his Democratic rival, Sen. Doug Jones, in the Alabama Senate race.

"Ms. Conway, in her official capacity, attempted to influence the Alabama special election by advocating for the success and failure of candidates in that race," the report stated. Her comments came in separate interviews with Fox News and CNN.

Special Counsel Henry Kerner sent his office's findings to President

Donald Trump on Tuesday "for appropriate disciplinary action." Because she is a presidential appointee, it is up to Trump to decide what — if any — punishment she will receive.

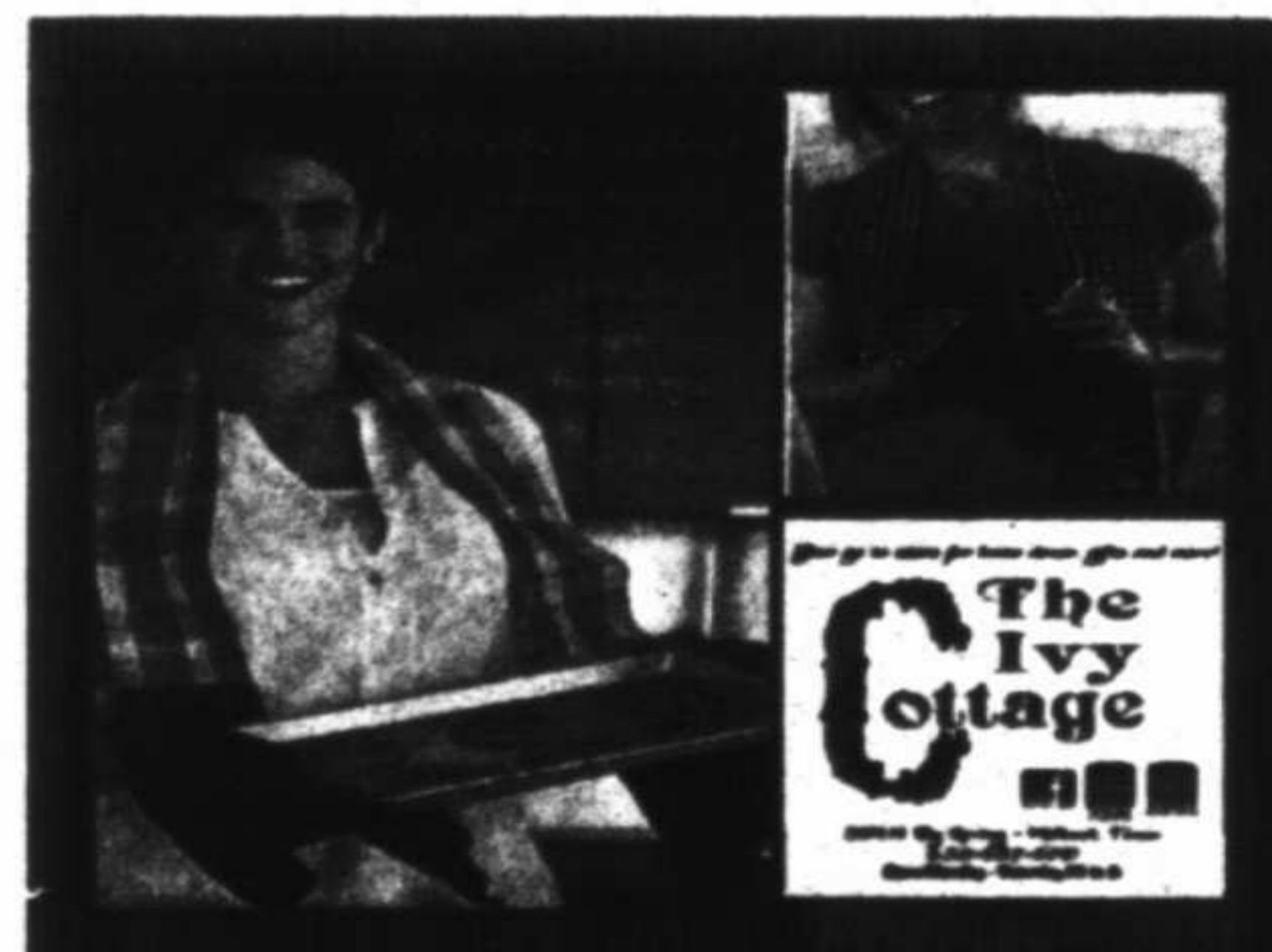
The White House disputed the independent agency's findings.

"Kellyanne Conway did not advocate for or against the election of any particular candidate," deputy press secretary Hogan Gidley said in a statement. "She simply expressed the President's obvious posi-

tion that he have people in the House and Senate who support his agenda."

"In fact, Kellyanne's statements actually show her intention and desire to comply with the Hatch Act — as she twice declined to respond to the host's specific invitation to encourage Alabamians to vote for the Republican," Gidley added.

Career government officials found to have violated the Hatch Act can be fired, suspended or demoted, and fined up to \$1,000.



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BEST BURRITO

For #MeToo movement, a mixed reception in nations outside US

By David Crary
Associated Press

Thanks to the vast reach of social media and the prevalence of sexual misconduct in virtually every society, the #MeToo movement has proven itself a genuinely global phenomenon. Yet its impact varies widely from country to country, from potentially momentous to inconsequential.

No other nation has experienced anything close to the developments in the United States, the movement's birthplace, where scores of prominent men — among them politicians, media stars and movie moguls — have lost jobs and reputations after facing sexual misconduct allegations.

As the global women's movement prepares for International Women's Day on Thursday, it's clear the record elsewhere is mixed.

In Western Europe, some VIPs have been discredited and some new anti-harassment laws are in the works. Worldwide, the fallout includes backlashes against women who speak out, divisions within feminist ranks and minimal repercussions for accused harassers. And in many countries, the U.S. included, the movement has consisted primarily of well-educated professionals, largely leaving out working-class and poor women. Some skeptics have coined the hashtag #WeFew.

In some countries where the movement hasn't caught fire, analysts have suggested that resistance to American cultural trends is among the factors.

"I wish it hadn't started in the U.S.," said Anne Marie Goetz, a professor of global affairs at New York University and a former United Nations adviser on women's issues.

"The fastest way to discredit any women's rights struggle is to say it comes from somewhere else," Goetz said. "That's been a longstanding putdown of feminist movements all around the world."

In China, discussion of #MeToo has sometimes been censored on social media and branded as a destabilizing, foreign movement. To thwart the censors, social media users have made creative use of hashtags such as #RiceBunny — a phrase that in China is pronounced "me too."

The hashtags, and women's accounts of harassment, proliferated in January after Luo Xixi, an academic now based in the U.S., accused a renowned Beijing-based professor of sexual misconduct when she was a graduate student. Other women lodged similar allegations, and the professor was fired. But questions linger as to whether a feminist movement can gain greater clout in the face of government resistance.

In India, sexual misconduct allegations against more than 60 academics sparked divisions among feminists. A crowd-sourced list of alleged harassers was posted on Facebook by a U.S.-based law student, with contributions from students in India. But the list contained few details about the allegations or accusers, and was criticized by some women as unfair.

India passed a law in 2013 to combat workplace sexual harassment, but gender-equality activist Sudarshana Kundu said many women remain hesitant to speak up.

"There is culture of silencing that is prevalent," she said by email. "Organizations are worried about their credibility and counsel their women employees to not report instances and instead seek conciliation."

Perhaps no country has had a more complex reaction to #MeToo than France, long identified as a haven for romance. The government is preparing new legislation on sexual violence and harassment, and some lawmakers want to impose fines for sexist catcalls. Yet despite sexual misconduct allegations against several prominent men, they have maintained their jobs and status. French feminist ranks, meanwhile, have experienced divisions, notably when actress Catherine Deneuve co-signed a letter depicting #MeToo accusers as puritanical, only to apologize after facing a backlash.

In Britain, organizers decided to discontinue an annual men-only charity gala after a Financial Times investigation found that female hostesses, required to wear short skirts and high heels, were groped by some of the hundreds of senior executives who attended the event in January.

"It is quite extraordinary to me that in the 21st century allegations of this kind are emerging," Education Minister Anne Milton told the House of Commons. "Women have the right to feel safe wherever they work."

Harassment allegations last

year led to one high-level resignation, of Defense Secretary Michael Fallon, and prompted political leaders to propose a new grievance procedure for people working in Parliament.

Even in Nordic countries ranked high for gender equality, there has been #MeToo turmoil. In Iceland and Sweden, women in numerous professional sectors mounted social media campaigns to raise awareness about widespread sexual misconduct; the Swedish government has proposed tightening its rape law to stipulate that explicit consent is required before sexual contact.

In many parts of the world, including Africa and much of Latin America, the #MeToo movement has had only modest impact. Many countries in those regions have weak support systems for women who do report sexual assault.

Many Brazilian women chose to push back against sexual harassment during this year's Carnival celebrations, with block parties of all-female musicians, plus shirts, necklaces and crowns with messages like "my breasts, my rules," and several anti-harassment campaigns. But overall, the movement has not caught on in Brazil, which has one of the world's highest homicide rates for women.

In South Africa, also plagued by a high rate of violence against women, feminists are frustrated by the almost total lack of repercussions for prominent men linked to sexual misconduct.

"We need more hashtags and awareness, but more importantly we need action and accountability," wrote Shaazia Ebrahim in

an opinion piece. "If we continue to allow sexism on the highest platforms in South Africa, we shouldn't be shocked about our gender-based violence statistics."

The fatalism of some South African women was reflected in recent interviews conducted by Norwegian student activists working in Johannesburg.

Sebato Mafisa, 24, said many South African men did not consider groping to be wrong. "It's the culture," she said. "There's nothing you as a woman can do about it."

Anne Marie Goetz, the NYU professor, said #MeToo's future may depend on how effectively it surmounts dividing lines.

"It's about solidarity across all kinds of boundaries — rich or poor, black or white, North or South," she said. "If you get an explosion of #MeToo, you start getting the protection of numbers, and a growing mass of evidence that there's a real problem — not just one individual making this up."

Cynthia Enloe, who teaches gender studies at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, and works with feminists in many countries, is convinced that #MeToo will have staying power as more women in developing nations gain formal employment.

"Maybe the hashtag version will fade, but not the energy behind guaranteeing women's respect in the workplace," Enloe said by phone from Iceland. "It's not about Hollywood and celebrities; it's about whether your boss stands up for you when someone else in the workplace tries to treat you as a sex toy."

Nor'easter packing heavy snow, wind threatens new outages

By Kristen De Groot
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Utility workers took advantage of milder temperatures and sunshine Tuesday in their scramble to restore power to thousands of customers around the Northeast, as another snowy, blowy nor'easter threatened a new round of outages.

The National Weather Service issued a winter storm warning that stretched from eastern Pennsylvania to most of New England, from late Tuesday night into Thursday morning.

Heavy, wet snow and gusting winds could take down trees and snap power lines already weakened from last week's storm, adding to stress for customers who've gone days without power.

The outages turned to outrage for a New Jersey man whose home had been without electricity since Friday, who threatened to kidnap a utility company employee and blow up a substation. Robert Winter, 63, was charged with making terroristic threats, according to police in Vernon.

More than a foot of snow is forecast for some interior areas, the weather service said. Pennsylvania's Poconos Mountains and parts of western Massachusetts could see up to 18 inches.

Damaging winds are in the forecast with gusts of up to 60 mph at Cape Cod, 45 mph at the Jersey shore and 30 mph around suburban Philadelphia.

Depending on the storm's track, communities along the Interstate 95 corridor could see either lots of rain, heavy snow, or a mix of each.

Target, seeing better candidates, raises starting pay, again

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Target is raising its minimum starting pay for workers for the second time in less than a year after seeing a bigger and better pool of candidates.

The Minneapolis retailer, which hiked starting pay to \$11 an hour last fall, said all workers this spring will receive a minimum of \$12 per hour.

Target said in September that it planned to raise starting hourly pay to \$15 an hour by 2020.

On Tuesday, CEO Brian Cornell said that the number of job applicants rose by 60 percent in the days after Target increased its minimum wage by \$2, to \$11 per hour.

The pay increase was announced at Target's annual investor conference in Minneapolis.

The American job market has been warming for years, meaning that employers are having a harder time attracting and keeping employees.

Last month, the U.S. Department of Labor reported that wages grew at the fastest pace in eight years

in January. U.S. employers added a robust 200,000 jobs during the month, and the unemployment rate hovered at 4.1 percent for the fourth consecutive month.

But Target has essentially been raising their minimum wage each year since 2016, when it boosted pay from \$9, to \$10.

Walmart said in January that it would boost its starting pay for U.S. employees, though it close dozens of

its Sam's Club warehouse stores as well. Employees at Walmart Inc. previously started at \$9 an hour, with a rise to \$10 after completing a training program.

Target said in September that at \$11, its starting hourly wage was higher than the minimum wage in 48 states. It says the pay hike will affect thousands of its more than 300,000 workers, but it has declined to quantify the percentage of its workforce.

But the higher cost of employment, among other things, has been noticed by Wall Street. Despite huge sales numbers posted Tuesday for the fourth quarter, profit for Target Corp. was less than expected, and its shares slumped 5 percent.

Experts: Prosecutors get edge if accusers testify vs. Bill Cosby

By Michael R. Sisak and Michael Rubinkam
Associated Press

NORRISTOWN, Pa. — Letting jurors hear from Bill Cosby's dozens of accusers would strengthen prosecutors' he-said-she-said case by showing the one criminal case against him fits an alleged five-decade pattern of sexual misconduct, legal experts said Tuesday.

Prosecutors are eager to widen the scope of Cosby's April 2 retrial as they attempt to portray the once-beloved entertainment icon as a serial predator who made a sadistic habit of

drugging and molesting women.

At Cosby's first trial last year, which ended in a hung jury, Judge Steven O'Neill barred prosecutors from mentioning Cosby's past and allowed just one other accuser to testify.

O'Neill did not rule Tuesday on arguments made over two days by prosecutors and defense lawyers on how many, if any, of Cosby's other accusers will be allowed to take the stand. He's also yet to rule on whether the defense can mention details of a financial settlement Cosby paid in 2006 to the accuser in his criminal case, Andrea Constand. Cosby's lawyers said

jurors should only get to hear testimony about the alleged 2004 assault that led to the criminal charges against Cosby, not "ancient allegations" that would confuse, distract and prejudice the jury against the 80-year-old comedian.



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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, March 7, 2018 | Section B

Colonoscopy is 'best' screening available for colon cancer

■ Colorectal cancer is third-leading cause of U.S. cancer deaths in men and women

Editor's note: Midland Health provided this column, which originally was published March 2017 in recognition of Colon Cancer Awareness Month.

**By Drs. Mrunal Patel
and Govind Patel**
Midland Health

March is National Colon Cancer Awareness Month. Talk to your doctor about getting screened for colon cancer.

Colorectal cancer is the third-leading cause of U.S. cancer deaths in both men and women. Each year, nearly 137,000 people are diagnosed with colorectal cancer, often referred to as colon cancer, in

COMMENTARY

the U.S. and more than 50,000 people die from it annually. On average, the lifetime risk of developing colon cancer is about 1 in 20. The disease, however, is largely preventable with regular screening and is treatable with early detection.

Beginning at age 50, both men and women at average risk for developing colorectal cancer should have a screening colonoscopy, and then repeat the procedure every 10 years.

What is colorectal cancer?

Colorectal cancer usually develops slowly over a period of many years. Before a cancer develops, it usually begins as a non-cancerous polyp, an abnormal

growth of tissue lining the colon or rectum. One specific type of polyp, called an adenoma, has the greatest risk of becoming a cancer.

Colorectal cancer signs and symptoms

Most early colorectal cancer doesn't produce any symptoms. This is why screening for colorectal cancer is so important. The following signs or symptoms, however, might indicate need for further testing for colorectal cancer: bloody stools, narrower than normal stools, unexplained abdominal pain, change in bowel habits, anemia or weight loss.

Who is considered high risk?

Certain people are have higher than av-

erage risk of developing colorectal cancer.

■ Although colorectal cancer can strike at any age, 91 percent of new cases and 94 percent of deaths occur in people older than 50. Colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates are currently highest in African American men and women.

■ People with a family history of colorectal cancer, multiple family members with certain other cancers (uterus, bladder, stomach, etc.), inherited forms of colorectal polyps or cancer or a history of inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis) are examples of risk factors for developing colorectal cancer.

■ Processed meat has been classified as carcinogenic, according to recent World Health Organization report. This

Please see SCREENING/2B

TAPPING RESOURCES



Meals on Wheels volunteer Bob Crites delivers a turkey dinner Nov. 1 in conjunction with H-E-B's Feast of Sharing. From ride-sharing apps to grocery deliveries, digital door locks to "smart" medicine dispensers, more help than ever is available to help people live safely and comfortably in their own homes as they get older.

Services, technologies can help with aging in place

By Katherine Roth
Associated Press

There is nothing quite as devastating for many older people as having to leave the comfort of home because of poor health or limited mobility.

But a new generation of services and technology is making it possible to stay at home longer, safely and happily, experts say.

"Most people would rather stay in their own homes as they age, and technology has made that easier in so many ways," says Amy Goyer, a family and caregiving expert with the AARP and author of "Juggling Life, Work, and Caregiving," published by the AARP and the

American Bar Association.

"There are a lot of resources to tap into, even for those on a limited budget."

She recommends starting with the "caregiving" page of AARP.org and your local Area Agency on Aging network (see www.aag.org), which is federally funded and also can lead you to a range of state and local resources.

Beyond technology, a little creativity often goes a long way toward helping people manage to live at home longer, Goyer says.

"If a person can't do stairs, for example, consider ways to put everything they need on the main floor, like maybe bringing a washing machine up from the basement," she says.

Here are some of the latest services and technologies that make it easier to "age in place."

SAFETY

Digital locks, which can be part of a smart home system, can be set so the door is unlocked for a small window of time to allow a caregiver into the house. Different codes can be set up for different people. They can be monitored from afar on phones, as can digital doorbells, which might help both the hearing and mobility impaired.

Digital medication dispensers can

Please see AGING/2B

**ESTHER
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Washington Post
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Counting calories won't cure childhood obesity

■ To reduce number of overweight kids, contributing factors — such as poor diet, lack of safe outdoor spaces — must be fixed

As with every other marker of affluence in America, the line between a healthy childhood and one marred by obesity is firmly drawn between whites and Asians on one side and blacks and Hispanics on the other.

And despite reports that obesity rates among children have started to level off or decrease, a new study arrives at a different conclusion. Researchers led by Duke University's Asheley Cockrell Skinner examined Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data on children's height and weight from 1996 to 2016 and "found no evidence of a decline in obesity prevalence at any age. In contrast, we report a significant increase in severe obesity among children aged 2 to 5 years since the 2013-14 cycle, a trend that continued upward for many subgroups."

Income and education levels are usually a good proxy for healthy weight, so it's not surprising that this newest study, published in the journal *Pediatrics*, also found that children who are white and Asian-American have significantly lower rates of obesity than those who are African-American, Hispanic or of other races. This is obvious to people who get to see the inside of public elementary schools.

Last year, I taught in a majority-white suburban elementary school district where 66 percent of students were white and only 31 percent were low-income. The students were, by far, a fit bunch, even though a quarter of the town's residents were obese in 2015.

The schools offered ample sports teams for both girls and boys as well as after-school clubs for physical activities such as running. The community's park district provided multiple sporting opportunities, and there were neighborhoods and public spaces with plenty of safe, well-lit parks and hiking trails.

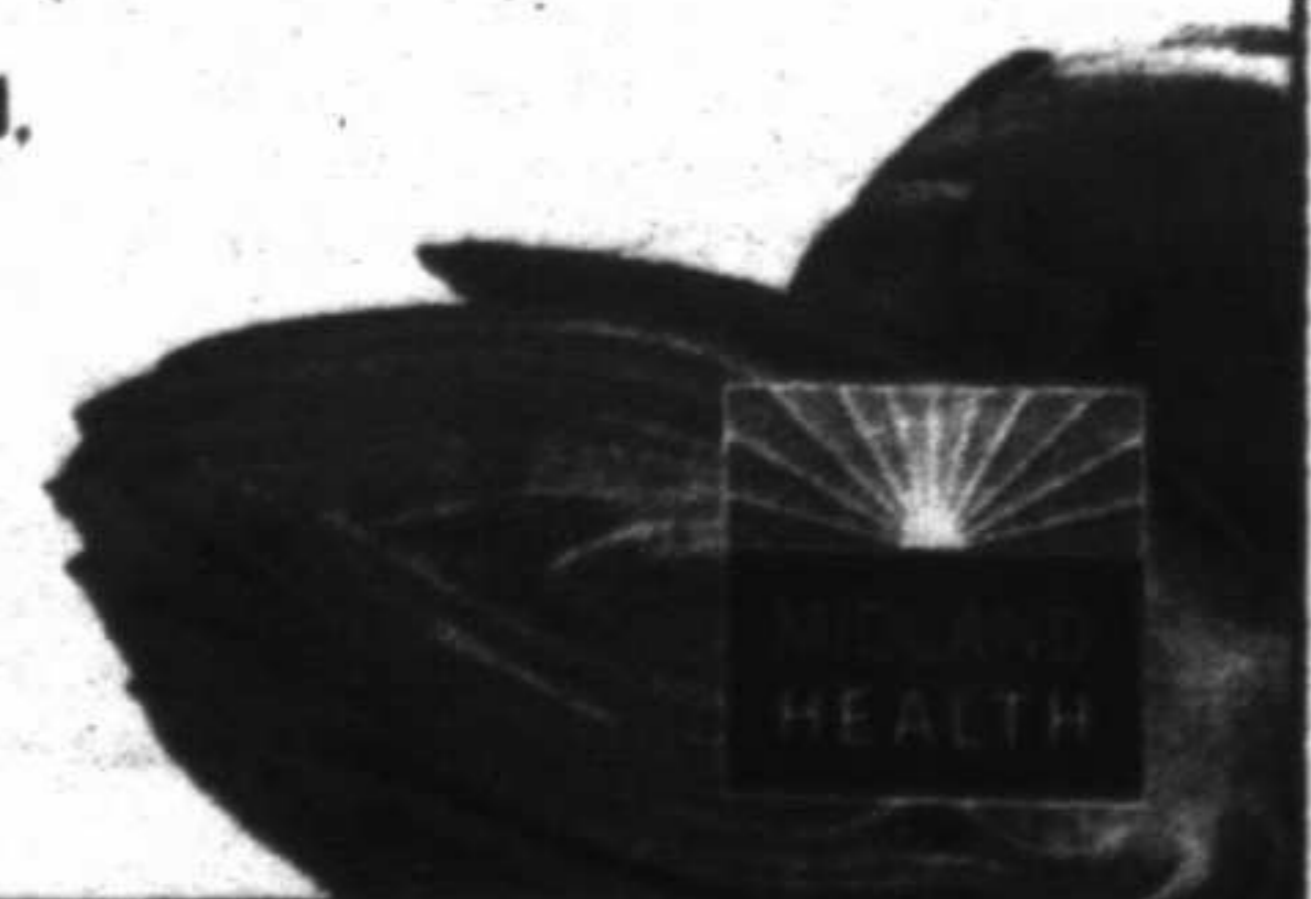
School lunch service was nothing out

Please see CEPEDA/2B



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AGING

From 1B

send text notifications to loved ones to let them know whether someone has taken their pills. Cameras can be installed so loved ones know whether home health aides have come by. And there is a wide range of medical alert systems, some even including a GPS.

"My aunt fell in a parking lot and luckily someone was there and picked her up, but if they hadn't been there, a medical alert system could have made a world of a difference," Goyer says.

Also, simple things such lowering thresholds, improving lighting, putting in railings and removing small rugs can make a home much safer.

Transportation
Many counties and community agencies have some kind of senior taxi run by volunteers to take seniors to doctors' appointments, grocery stores, senior centers and other errands. Ride-sharing companies have also proven helpful for many. The site www.GoGoGrandparent.com, for example, is designed to be easy to use for seniors — they don't need to use a phone — and taps into local ride-sharing services. It can be paid for by relatives living out of town, who also receive notifications of pickups and drop-offs.

Justin Boogaard co-founded the company with friend David Lung in 2016 to help Boogaard's grandmother maintain her mobility and independence.

"Her independence, and the independence given back to her family is something we believe the world needs," he says. "We screen drivers and use only those with the best reviews. We filter them to make sure they have cars with room for walkers, canes, foldable wheelchairs or service dogs, and we step in to help if something's not going right."

FOOD

"Meals are a big thing when you're trying to set everything up for aging at home, and a lot of people don't have the energy or ability to cook for themselves," Goyer says.

In addition to Meals on Wheels, which is administered by local communities and delivers reasonably priced prepared meals to those unable to cook for themselves, "there are all kinds of interesting options out there for all kinds of budgets," she says. Services like BlueApron and HelloFresh will deliver either ingredients or meals, and Pea Pod, Amazon Fresh and InstaCart can deliver groceries and other items across most of the country.

"Even grocery stores that don't have a delivery service will often deliver grocery bags out to the car for those who can drive up," Goyer says.

SUPPORT

CEPEDA

From 1B

of the ordinary: cheeseburgers, nacho-supreme entrees and oven-baked chicken nuggets. (Notably, though, no chocolate milk was served.)

Snacking, however, was a different story. My school had an approved snack list that prohibited candy bars, salty chips and sugary beverages. There was a strict policy of no cupcakes, sweet treats or pizzas for classroom celebrations. These rules were enforced by all staff and followed by every student.

This year, in contrast, I'm teaching at a school that is comprised of 91 percent low-income students, only 5.6 percent of whom are white. Thirty-six percent of the residents in the community are obese, and there are few safe public areas where people can exercise. There aren't many low-cost ath-

letic facilities accessible to residents, and organized sports opportunities for kids are hard to find.

School meals — both breakfast and lunch — are billed as free of additives, preservatives, artificial ingredients, high-fructose corn syrup and "mystery meats." However, the food itself strains credulity on that score.

Sample menu items: chocolate-chip breakfast bars, animal crackers and milk, and "Pop-Tart Fridays" for breakfast. Honey-battered chicken corn dogs with crispy tater tots and cheese-filled breadsticks with chocolate milk for lunch.

And the snacks flow. Students show up to class with bottles of fruit-flavored sugar water and family-sized bags of hot corn chips or full-sized bags of cookies to munch on. The school holds popcorn sales every Friday and quarterly candy fund-

raisers. Pizzas are offered as incentives for academic effort, and cupcakes are de rigueur for birthdays.

As a staff member facing enormous pressures to educate students who have overwhelming life challenges, it's difficult to judge those who indulge in the calorie extravaganza. Cheap treats provide our needy and oftentimes violence-scarred students easy instances of much-appreciated delight for pennies on the dollar.

In America, the land of plenty, we use food to soothe ourselves when life gets rough. Those living in poverty contend with underemployment, homelessness, substance abuse, broken families and chronic disease — 61 percent of black non-Hispanic children and 51 percent of Hispanic children have experienced at least one adverse childhood experience, according to Child Trends, a nonprofit

research organization. This practically requires comfort food because there are few other consolations to turn to.

Meanwhile, the affluent can live active, balanced lives, often facing far fewer crises that cause them to pacify themselves with fatty, sugary and salty treats.

Sure, we can talk about providing calorie counts on menus, limiting people's access to junk foods and strapping step-counters on kids to promote activity and reduce obesity.

But until we fix a majority of the factors that contribute to childhood poverty — segregated neighborhoods, environmental hazards, the lack of safe outdoor spaces, underemployment — there's no amount of positive nutritional advice or encouragement to exercise that will slow the rise of childhood obesity.



MRT file photo

Meals on Wheels volunteers prepare turkey dinners Nov. 1 in conjunction with H-E-B's Feast of Sharing. From ride-sharing apps to grocery deliveries, digital door locks to "smart" medicine dispensers, more help than ever is available to help people live safely and comfortably in their own homes as they get older.

The Agency on Aging and other local groups often have lists of services, many run by volunteers, that can provide help with household chores as simple as changing a light bulb or doing the laundry. Caregivers, too, should make sure they have supports in place for themselves as well as their loved ones.

SOCIAL NETWORK

Isolation and loneliness are health threats that should not be taken lightly, Goyer says.

Faith-based organizations often have networks of people who can stop by and say hello every so often. Goyer says it's also worth looking into national programs like the Foster

Grandparent Program, which pairs seniors with younger people, and also the Senior Companion Program and the Senior Corps volunteer program. All are administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the same organization that runs the Americorps volunteer program, and can be found at www.nationalcivildesign.org.

Many communities have started a Village to Village Network, where people can pool resources to get things done more efficiently; for example, someone who can drive might deliver groceries to a neighbor in exchange for a cooked meal.

"Sometimes it takes some creative thinking to figure out all the pieces of the puzzle," Goyer says

Obituaries



Deva Leona McFarland

Deva Leona McFarland, 94, of Midland, Texas, formerly of Alamogordo, New Mexico, died March 5, 2018 at Legacy Ranch Alzheimer's facility in Midland. Interment will be at Monte Vista Cemetery in Alamogordo, New Mexico on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. MST.

Mrs. McFarland was born September 1, 1923 in Waynoka, Oklahoma to Henry and Edna Sacket. She was living in Clovis, New Mexico where she met her husband Jerry H. McFarland who was serving in the United States Army Air Corps and stationed at Cannon Air Force Base. They were married on September 18, 1943, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

She and Jerry moved to Alamogordo in 1961 and were members of the First Baptist Church. Deva had several different jobs over the years including telephone operator while living in Clovis. She was an avid card player and seamstress/knitter and received her Life Master in Contract Bridge on July 1, 1988. She was a co-owner of the bridge studio in Alamogordo in the 1980s.

Survivors include a son, Michael McFarland and his wife Cheryl of Florida; two daughters, Jerry Lynn Marino and her husband Lee of Pennsylvania and Deva Eileen Stewart and her husband Vic of Texas; three grandchildren, Shannon Murley and her husband John of Ohio, Amanda Fitzer and her husband Jim of Pennsylvania, and Meghan Pimentel and her husband Anthony of South Dakota; one great-granddaughter, Kyra of Pennsylvania; and three great-grandsons, Elliott of Ohio, Sterling of Pennsylvania, and Chase of South Dakota.

She is also survived by her sister Joy Prothro of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Deva was predeceased by her husband, Jerry, on January 4, 2008; one brother, Jack Sacket; and two sisters, Maxine Pratt and Janet Wood.

Should friends desire, memorial contributions can be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America, 322 Eighth Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10001 or online at alzfn.org.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland.

Texas. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

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



James Elton Rasco Jr.

James Elton Rasco Jr. passed from this earth on Thursday March 1, 2018 after a short but valiant fight with cancer of the pancreas. He was born in Big Spring, Texas on August 17, 1959 to James Elton Rasco Sr. and Carol Lewis Rasco. His parents moved to Midland in 1968. Jimmy attended Midland schools and graduated from Midland High School in 1978.

After high school he went to work for Southwest Golf, building golf courses, primarily in Indonesia and the Far East. Here he met the love of his life, Hanna Argolan of Bali. They were married there and later returned to the United States where he worked for several heavy equipment companies, ending his career with Warren Caterpillar in Odessa, Texas. Jimmy is survived by his loving wife, Hanna, his daughter Melinda Ann Rasco Walker and his son in law Ben Walker all of Midland.

He is also survived by his mother, Carol Rasco, his sister Pam Rasco Franceschi and her husband Jeff, his sister Jamie Lyn Rasco Turney and her husband, Kenny and his brother, Billy Rasco and his wife Leigh. His father, James Elton Rasco, Sr. preceded him in death. He also leaves behind his and Hanna's close friends Sid and Tangie Hutchinson who have never left his side during this struggle. He also leaves behind his dear friends and loved ones; Linda Nagy, Naghmel Fly, Beau and Barbara Estes and Ginny Estes.

They would like to thank Dr. Mangat and the staff at Allison Cancer Center and the personnel of Home Hospice for their support during Jimmy's illness.

Death Notices

Stephen "Steve" Spain

Stephen "Steve" Spain, of Midland, passed away on Monday, March 5, 2018.

Services are pending on Saturday, March 24, 2018 with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Survey respondents: Back-seat seat belts aren't necessary

■ Many people believe sitting in the back is safer than the front

By Fran Kritz

Special to The Washington Post

If you're reading this story from the back seat of car, there's a good chance you're not wearing a seat belt. A recent survey by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, or IIHS, found that 28 percent of respondents don't always click a seat belt when they're in the back of a car.

The most common reason for not buckling up in the back, according to the 1,172 survey respondents, is that there is no need, because the rear seat is safer than the front. But that's not always true.

"Adults have gotten the message that it's safer for kids to ride in the back seat properly restrained, but when it comes to their own safety, there is a common misperception that buckling up is optional," said Jessica Jermolukin, a senior research engineer at IIHS.

According to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, or NHTSA, in 2015, 4.3 percent of 22,441 fatalities — or 966 deaths — involved unrestrained people in rear seats. And IIHS research finds that unbuckled rear-seat travelers are eight times as likely as buckled rear-seat passengers to be injured or killed in a crash.

"While the rear seat retains its reputation as the safest part of the car, in reality that is now the front seat for adults and older teenagers," said Kristy Arbogast, director of engineering at the Center for Injury Research and Prevention at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The rear seat hasn't become more dangerous, Arbogast

Please see SURVEY/2B

SCREENING

From 1B

association was observed mainly for colorectal cancer, but associations were also seen for pancreatic cancer and prostate cancer. The experts concluded that each 50-gram portion of processed meat eaten daily increases the risk of colorectal cancer by 18 percent.

Eating a varied diet, choosing most foods from plant sources and limiting the intake of foods high in saturated fat will help protect people from developing colorectal cancer.

How can we prevent colon cancer?

Colorectal cancer can be prevented 9 out of 10 times through early detection with proper screening. Screening helps prevent colorectal cancer by finding precancerous polyps so they can be removed before they turn into cancer. Only about 50 percent of those who should be getting colonoscopies are doing so. And, more than 60 percent of Americans 50 or older — about 42 million people — have

not utilized any screening method for colorectal cancer.

Why is screening for colorectal cancer important?

Fewer than half of Americans over 50 have any colorectal cancer testing at all. If everyone were tested, tens of thousands of lives could be saved each year. Colorectal cancer screening saves lives in two important ways:

By finding and removing polyps before they become cancerous and by detecting the cancer early when it is most treatable.

What is the best colon cancer screening test?

Colonoscopy is the only method that has a high sensitivity for all polyps, both small and large, and which presents the capability of removing them at the time of the procedure.

A colonoscopy allows for a complete evaluation of the colon and removal of potentially precancerous polyps. It is the only colorectal

cancer screening tool that is both diagnostic and therapeutic. It has received the "Gold Standard" rating above all other screening options by American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, American Gastroenterological Association, American College of Gastroenterology and the American Cancer Society and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Essential to a "precancerous" polyp?

The term "precancerous" polyp can have two possible interpretations. One interpretation describes the evolution of the lining of the colon from normal colon cells to colon cancer. In this evolution, the patient first develops a polyp, and the cells on the polyp then become atypical or dysplastic. Next, the polyp degenerates into an early cancer, and finally, there is an invasive colon cancer.

Dr. Mirunal Patel and Dr. Govind Patel are with Perelman Gastroenterology.

HEALTHBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Volkssport club to meet

Midland Walkabout Volkssport Club's March walk is Saturday at Big Spring State Park. Participants who want to carpool will meet 7:30 a.m. at the parking lot of JumBurrito, 4509 N. Midkiff Road. For more information, call 687-2588 or visit midlandwalkabout.org.

Midland soon will have second community garden

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

Community garden accepting applications

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

Lifestyle class set

The Lifestyle Medicine Center's next class is on the benefits of physical activity. It's set for 6 p.m. Thursdays. Classes are open to the public and patients of the Lifestyle Medicine Center.

Each class is \$5. To register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events. For more information, call 221-5433.

Upcoming classes are: March 22 - Plant-based Nutrition and Diabetes; March 29 - Meditation and Finding Balance.

Midland Health events

■ **Becoming a Mom** class, 6:30 p.m. today at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus; 221-1150; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.
 ■ **Breastfeeding Class**, 6 p.m. Monday, Midland Memorial Hospital; Amber Cunningham, -221-3283, childbirtheducation@midlandhealth.org; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

Weekly support groups & hotlines (subject to change)

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

■ **Overeaters Anonymous**; 3 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, St. Stephen's Catholic Church, 553-1031.

■ **Survivors of sexual abuse**; interactive Bible

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

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

■ **PDAP meetings**: 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays: Parents group and younger group (12-17), 1208 W. Wall St.; college group (18-26), 2503 W. Ohio Ave.; older group (27 and over), First Presbyterian Church 11:30-1:30 p.m. Wednesdays: older group, 1208 W. Wall St., includes lunch.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous** — hotline 580-7868.
 ■ **Serenity Group**, 8 p.m. daily, 3101 N. "A" St., Building C; 685-3100, 710 Group, 7 a.m., noon and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 710 Ohio Ave.; 682-8162.

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

■ **12-Step Group of Alcoholics Anonymous**, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 553-7220.
 ■ **Al-Anon** (support group for family members of alcoholics), Serenity Group 3101 N. "A" St. Bldg. C, noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

■ **Narcotics Anonymous** — hotline 582-2926.
 ■ **Laundry Group**, 8 p.m. daily and noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 104 N. Marshall St.

■ **Xodus Group**, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St., 634-7609.

■ **CODA Group**, 12-step program for relationships, 7 p.m. Fridays and Sundays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 599-4490.
 ■ **La Hacienda Alumni**, support group for former patients, 7 p.m. Thursdays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 553-7220.

Finding a doctor

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

Hope Chest

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

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

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

The program office is at

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

MMH payment options

Midland Memorial Hospital recognizes that our community is facing challenging financial times. Resources are tight and families are having to make important decisions about what to spend money on now and what has to wait.

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

Source: Midland Memorial Hospital

How sick are you?

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

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

Help line for long-term or disabled care

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

For more information, call 855-937-2372.

Contact your Hospital District representative

Midland Memorial Hospital 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland, Texas, 79701

Phone: 221-1111
 Website: www.midlandhealth.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidlandMemorialHospital
 Twitter: twitter.com/MidlandMemorialHospital
 MidlandMemorial President Russell Meyers 221-1584

Directors — District 1: Tracie Greene, District 2: Dwain Tomlin, District 3: Larry Mercer, District 4: Cressinda Hyatt, District 5: Cari Chaplin, District 6: Joe Kiowski, District 7: Jeffrey Beard

Children can learn to overcome fear of nightmares

CHRISTINE HALL

Centers

People of all ages experience the horror of nightmares. Unfortunately for children, these nightmares can cause difficulty distinguishing what is a nightmare and what is reality. A nightmare is a dream that results in some form of fear. It occurs during the individual's REM sleep and often awakens them. Some people vividly recall the content of the nightmare, while others awake frightened but cannot remember it.

Children can begin to believe the nightmares are real, and consequently, become afraid of the dark, afraid of being alone and may even display behaviors such as seeing and hearing things. When a child has nightmares, it is important to help them cope with the fear and anxiety. The following tips from the National Sleep Foundation to help a child overcome the effects of nightmares.

■ **Listen and understand.** Try to understand your child's fears. Don't dismiss or make fun of them.

■ **Be reassuring.** It is important to reassure your child if he or she is afraid. Communicate the idea that they are safe.

■ **Teach coping skills.** Teach your child coping skills and discuss alternative ways to respond, such as "being brave" and thinking positive thoughts. You could talk about how you deal with something that you are afraid of.

■ **Have fun in the dark.** Make being in the dark fun. Play flashlight tag. Have a treasure hunt and search for things that glow in the dark.

■ **Use your imagination and be creative.** Use your imagination to fight imaginary fears, such as monsters. Many families have found "monster spray" to be a wonderful way to help a child cope with bedtime fears. Whenever possible, have your child be actively involved in coming up with solutions to help them gain a sense of mastery and control.

■ **Have a security object to help your child feel more relaxed at bedtime and throughout the night.**

■ **Use a nightlight.** No matter what your child seems to be afraid of, a nightlight can help. Nightlights are fine as long as they do not prevent your child from falling asleep. Another thing to try is leaving the bedroom door open so that your child doesn't feel isolated from the rest of the family.

■ **Avoid scary television shows.** Keep your child away from scary TV shows, movies or stories that may add to his or her fears. This also includes video games, YouTube and social media.

■ **Relaxation training.** Teach your child relaxation strategies to help him or her relax at bedtime and fall asleep. It is physically impossible to be relaxed and scared at the same time.

■ **Discuss your child's fears during the day.**

Talk to your child about his or her fears during the day and how he or she can be less frightened at night. Additionally, build your child's self-confidence during the day. If he or she feels secure during the day, this can help him or her feel more secure at night, too.

■ **Set limits.** At the same time that you are reassuring your child, you do need to set limits. Setting limits is necessary to prevent your child's "being scared" behavior from being reinforced.

■ **Have him or her stay in their own bed.** Don't encourage your child to get out of bed. Your child should stay in bed and find out for himself or herself that they really are safe so that they can learn to overcome their fears. It is much better for you to stay with your child in their room than it is for him or her to join you. If your child is too frightened to stay in their room alone, it is OK to occasionally stay with him or her until they fall asleep. Don't do this too frequently, or even two nights in a row, as they may come to depend on your presence. If your child gets up in the middle of the night and comes into your room, it is better to take them right back and gently tuck them into bed.

■ **Use the star system.** Some children get reinforced for being scared at night by getting lots of attention for being afraid. If this is the case, switch the scenario. Tell him or her how proud you are of them for being brave. Set up a star system so he or she can earn stars for being brave and sleeping on their own. After earning a certain number of stars, your child can turn them in for a treat, such as watching a favorite video, going to the park or baking chocolate chip cookies.

It is important to remember that nightmares are common in young children as they develop and their imagination grows. Children begin learning that bad does exist in the world, and the more they see — whether it be movies, trauma or family issues — it can influence the nightmares they have. If a child becomes more emotional because of a situation, it can increase that child's fear and result in a heightened anxiety. Supporting your child during this time and teaching them the skills to work through the fear can help your child overcome nightmares.

SURVEY

From 2B

said, "it's that the front seat has become safer." Improvements to the front seat include lap and shoulder belts with advanced features that reduce forces experienced in a crash and that minimize slack from the belt — few rear seat belts are so designed — and new types of air bags for the driver and passenger, said Jason Levine, executive director of the nonprofit Center for Auto Safety.

While some car models have side rear air bags, these are generally expensive add-ons. People often turn them down to save money or to purchase other extras, such as heated seats and music systems, Levine said.

Thirty-four states and the District of Columbia have laws that allow police officers to ticket a driver if the driver or the front-seat passenger is not wearing a seat belt, while only 18 states have the same laws for rear-seat riders. Those laws, along with police checks, public education campaigns, and seat-belt reminder systems, have helped increase use of seat belts in all seats, according to the Governors Highway Safety Association. The reminders are the annoying ping-ping and flashing that occur when the driver or

front-seat passenger is not buckled in. Front seat belt reminder systems became mandatory in the 1970s for cars sold in the United States, but those reminders are largely missing from the back seat. Only about 7 percent of 2018 model cars have rear-seat reminders.

A 2012 law called for a final rule requiring all new cars to have such systems by 2015, Levine said. In October, the Center for Auto Safety sued the U.S. Department of Transportation to compel the agency to publish rules on rear-seat-belt reminder systems. In reply, DOT said last month that it will propose a rule by October. But the nonprofit center — founded in 1970 by Consumers Union and Ralph Nader — said it will not drop the lawsuit because DOT has missed publicly announced deadlines three years in a row.

There is no data on injuries and deaths among unbelted passengers in hired cars, but in 2015, three high-profile deaths made the issue more prominent. CBS correspondent Bob Simon was killed after the chauffeur-driven sedan he was riding in crashed. Simon, riding in the back seat, was unbelted. That same year, John Nash, winner of the Nobel Prize in economics, and his wife, Alicia, were unbelted

in the back seat of a taxi when the vehicle crashed on the New Jersey Turnpike. Both were killed.

The most recent data — from 2014 — from the Taxi and Limousine Commission in New York City is that only about 38 percent of taxi passengers buckle up. Uber and Lyft occasionally send reminders to members to buckle up in the back, but the ride-sharing companies have no formal strategy on this issue. "We take safety very seriously ... and ... are always looking for ways to engage with riders and drivers to encourage good safety practices, like wearing seat belts," said Nadia Anderson, who leads road and traffic safety initiatives for Uber.

Until the Department of Transportation issues its rule, reminders from the driver may be among the best strategies to get passengers in the back to buckle up. Saul Newman, an associate dean at American University who lives in Silver Spring, Maryland, no longer drives carpool now that his three children are grown, but he retains a rule from those many trips when he gives friends a lift. "I keep my eyes fixed on the rearview mirror," he said, "and don't start the drive until each passenger in the back is belted in."

Measles outbreaks remain problem in Europe, Africa, Asia

■ Drive to vaccinate children was an issue in Italy's recent general election

By Maria Cheng
 Associated Press

LONDON — While parts of the world have all but banished measles, Europe is still getting hit with large outbreaks where some people don't get vaccinated.

Measles is still a bigger problem across parts of Africa and Asia, where outbreaks can be particularly devastating in malnourished children or those with other illnesses such as tuberculosis or AIDS. Most of the 89,000 measles deaths in the world each year are in developing countries.

In Europe, there were more than 21,000 cases of measles and 35 deaths last year, a fourfold increase in cases compared to the previous year. With more than 5,000 cases each, Romania and Italy had the biggest epidemics — and the drive to vaccinate children

against measles became a leading issue in Italy's general election on Sunday. A look at some of the hurdles slowing efforts to stop the spread of this preventable disease:

Q: Why does measles spread so fast?
 A: Measles is among the world's most contagious diseases. The virus is spread in the air through coughing or sneezing.

It can be prevented with a vaccine that's been in use since the 1960s. Health officials say that vaccination rates of at least 95 percent are needed to prevent epidemics.

In some regions of Italy, the rate is about 85 percent, one of the lowest in Europe. Epidemics have also emerged in countries including Ukraine, Greece and Romania, where officials have noted declines in overall vaccination coverage, problems with the vaccine supply and poor disease surveillance systems.

Q: Why is Europe a hotbed for measles?

Please see MEASLES/4B

Doctors group: Many Type 2 diabetics can relax blood sugar control

■ American Diabetes Association disagrees that burdens of striving for lowest A1C score outweigh benefits

By Lenny Bernstein
 Washington Post

Many of the nation's 29 million people with Type 2 diabetes should relax their blood sugar control, an influential physicians group recommended Monday, arguing that the current standard is causing substantial harm without commensurate benefits.

But the American Diabetes Association, the leading organization in the fight

against the condition, said it disagrees with the new recommendation from the American College of Physicians and would not change its advice that Type 2 diabetics pursue tighter blood glucose control.

The conflict may prove confusing for health-care providers and people with Type 2 diabetes, who make up 9.3 percent of the U.S. population.

"Yes, it will be," said Jack Ende, president of the American College of Physicians, which represents 152,000 doctors, most of them internal medicine physicians. "But we really believe this is important enough that we have to get the

Please see DIABETES/4B

MEASLES

From 4B

A: Vaccine skepticism remains high in many parts of Europe after past immunization problems.

In France, a national hepatitis B vaccination campaign that was suspended in 1998 amid concerns of bad side effects led to widespread wariness of immunizations.

And during the 2009 swine flu pandemic, numerous European critics alleged that the push for swine flu vaccinations was the result of drug-makers' undue influence on the World Health Organization.

A 2016 global survey of vaccine confidence led by researchers at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine found Europe to be the region that was least confident in vaccine safety.

WHY IS THE VACCINE CONTROVERSIAL?

In 1998, British researcher Dr. Andrew Wakefield published a paper in the medical journal *Lancet* suggesting a link between the MMR vaccine — measles, mumps and rubella — and autism.

No other studies have found any connection. The paper was later retracted, 10 of its co-authors renounced its conclusions and Wakefield was stripped of his license to practice medicine in the U.K. after officials found him guilty of "serious professional misconduct."

After the paper was published, however, vaccination rates dropped in Britain, the U.S. and elsewhere, leading to years of measles epidemics across Europe. In the U.K., at least a dozen medical associations including the Royal College of Physicians have issued statements verifying the safety of the MMR vaccine.

HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE VACCINE?

A full dose of the

MMR vaccine, a standard component of routine childhood immunization in many countries, is believed to be about 97 percent effective at preventing measles.

Measles typically begins with a high fever and also causes a rash on the face and neck. While most people who get measles recover, it's one of the leading causes of death among young children, according to the WHO.

Serious complications, including blindness and swelling of the brain, are more common in young children and adults over 30. Through vaccination programs, measles has been eliminated in the Americas, and many other countries have pledged to stop the disease's spread by 2020.

HOW CAN VACCINATION RATES BE INCREASED?

One strategy is to make immunization against certain diseases legally mandatory and not allow children to attend school unless they can show proof of vaccination.

Italy recently introduced a new law requiring parents to vaccinate their children against measles and nine other childhood diseases. Romania also passed a similar bill, including hefty fines for parents who didn't vaccinate their children.

Similar laws exist elsewhere: After an outbreak of measles at Disneyland, California changed its laws to make it more difficult for parents to have their children opt out of being vaccinated. That ultimately led to higher rates of vaccination.

High rates are needed to induce "herd immunity," to help protect vulnerable people: infants too young to be vaccinated and people who can't be vaccinated for medical reasons, such as those with weak immune systems.

DIABETES

From 3B

message out, since we've seen more harms than benefits."

In Type 2 diabetes, the body fails to use and store glucose properly because it is unable to produce enough of the hormone insulin or does not use insulin well. Typically, this form of diabetes develops in adulthood, especially among people who are overweight, not physically active or have a family history of the disease, though it is increasingly appearing in younger people. (In Type 1 diabetes, which is much less common and often occurs in childhood, the pancreas completely stops producing insulin.)

The condition can lead to complications that include strokes, heart problems, kidney disease, blindness and amputations. In 2016, diabetes was the seventh-largest killer of Americans, with 80,000 deaths attributed to the disease, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

For decades, a main tenet of diabetes management has been the importance of controlling the amount of glucose in the blood. Experts believe that reduces the chances of complications. Patients have been told to aim for a hemoglobin A1C of 6.5 to 7 percent, which is a measure of glucose over the previous two to three months.

But prompted by what it considered conflicting advice, the college of physicians decided to review the research on the subject and the reasoning of other groups. It determined that the burdens of striving for the lowest score outweigh the benefits. The guidance issued Monday suggests that most Type 2 diabetics and their doctors aim for scores of between 7 and 8, though all care should be "personalized." For older people and those with other medical issues,

the recommendation would not apply.

The physicians group said the harms include "hypoglycemic events," commonly known as low blood sugar, which, in the short term, can cause people with diabetes to feel woozy, lose track of their surroundings or lose consciousness. In the long run, they can lead to cardiovascular problems, Ende said.

The group also concluded that the burden of taking one or more medications to achieve tight glucose control can be greater than the benefit, in both side-effects and financial cost. Side-effects include weight gain, gastrointestinal problems, congestive heart failure, joint pain, fractures and genital fungal infections, according to the paper the organization released Monday, which was published in its journal, *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Many people first try to control Type 2 diabetes with diet and exercise. The first medicine often prescribed is metformin, but others are sometimes necessary, and some people must inject themselves with insulin.

William Cefalu, chief scientific, medical and mission officer for the American Diabetes Association, said the organization is "concerned" about the guidelines offered by the physicians group. He said the same research reviewed by the college of physicians has convinced the ADA that tighter glucose control is preferable.

One study even showed a "legacy effect" of tight control four years after the research was concluded, he said.

"We take exception when they say 7 to 8 percent in most patients," Cefalu said. The ADA has recommended for years that Type 2 diabetics strive for a score of 7. The organization updates its guidelines for physicians and patients annually, he said.

Medicare doesn't have to be a mystery for caregivers

Bob Moos

U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



The phone call can come at any hour. Your elderly parent has fallen ill and needs your help. If you haven't gotten the call yet, chances are you will. About 70 percent of our parents will require some kind of personal care during their old age. Sometimes, the care will extend for years.

Caregivers often find themselves at wits' end, careening from one crisis to another and having little time to confront the problem that cropped up yesterday, let alone tackle the one that just reared its head today. The challenges can quickly become overwhelming.

Having a working knowledge of Medicare may help you keep your balance and ensure that your parent, or other loved one, receives the appropriate care. Medicare doesn't have to be a mystery. There are simple ways to get answers to your questions.

The best overview of the Medicare program is the official "Medicare and You" handbook. It's mailed to all beneficiaries every fall and provides an up-to-date description of all services and benefits. It's also readily available on Medicare's main website, www.medicare.gov.

If you have a particular question, you may want to visit with a Medicare customer service representative at 800-633-4227. Medicare also works closely with State Health Insurance Assistance

Programs to provide free health insurance counseling. The Texas number is 800-252-9240.

Caregivers find Medicare's secure website — www.mymedicare.gov — especially useful. After setting up a personal account for your parent, you can view the details of your elder's coverage, track recent health care claims and keep up to date on preventive services your parent qualifies for.

Medicare can also help you locate the right health care providers for your parent. Its "Compare" web pages — at www.medicare.gov — are a good place to begin your search for a nursing home, hospital, home health agency, dialysis facility or physician that fits your parent's needs.

Medicare can reduce many out-of-pocket medical expenses, but it doesn't cover everything. Understanding what Medicare covers, as well as what it won't cover, can save you time and spare you frustration when navigating the caregiving maze. Here are a few key points:

Besides basic hospital and physician services

and optional prescription drug benefits, Medicare covers home health care. To qualify, a beneficiary must be homebound, under a physician's care and in need of part-time skilled nursing care or rehabilitative services such as physical therapy.

Medicare also helps pay for oxygen, catheters and other medical supplies that a doctor prescribes for home use. The same is true for medically necessary equipment such as oxygen machines, wheelchairs and walkers.

Medicare covers skilled care in a nursing home for limited periods following hospital stays. But it doesn't cover long-term stays. Patients who need custodial care (room and board) must pay out of pocket unless they're eligible for Medicaid or have private long-term care insurance.

Medicare pays for hospice care for someone with a terminal illness whose doctor expects will live six months or less. The hospice benefit also includes brief periods of respite care at a hospice facility, hospital or nursing home to give the patient's caregivers an

occasional rest. Besides long-term nursing home stays, Medicare typically doesn't cover regular dental care or dentures, regular eye exams or eyeglasses and hearing exams and hearing aids. Likewise, it won't pay for non-emergency ambulance trips — unless a doctor certifies they're medically necessary.

Money can quickly become a worry when managing a parent's health care. If your parent lives on a limited income, you should check whether he or she qualifies for help with prescription drug costs or with other Medicare-related premiums, deductibles and copayments.

For help with drug costs, contact Social Security at www.socialsecurity.gov or 800-772-1213 and ask about the "Extra Help Program." For help with other Medicare costs, go to www.medicare.gov or call 800-633-4227 and ask about the "Medicare Savings Programs."

It's common for caregivers to suffer from stress, loss of sleep and poor health themselves. So it's important to eat properly, get regular exercise and set aside some time each week to do something you enjoy. You can't care for someone else if you don't look after yourself.

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



AP file photo

An Uber car drives through LaGuardia Airport on March 15, 2017, in New York. Uber offering to take patients in every U.S. market where it operates to their next medical appointment. The ride-hailing service said Thursday that its Uber Health business will handle rides set up by doctor's offices or other health care providers and then bill that business, not the patient, for the service.

Uber, Lyft offer rides to medical appointments

Ride-sharing companies partner with health care providers in effort to reduce number of missed appointments

By Carolyn Y. Johnson
Washington Post

Ride-sharing companies have plunged into the health care business, seeing a big opportunity in ferrying the 3.6 million people who miss medical appointments each year to their doctors' offices.

On Thursday, Uber announced the public launch of Uber Health, a dashboard that will allow health care providers to schedule rides for patients. Lyft has crafted a number of partnerships over the past few years, working with health insurers, hospital systems and medical transport services to help patients get to and from medical care, in non-emergency situations.

No-show patients are a real problem in medicine, but it's far from clear ride-sharing services scheduled by providers are the solution. A study of nearly 800 Medicaid patients in West Philadelphia found that offering to schedule free Lyft rides to and from primary care appointments didn't decrease the number of missed appointments compared to a group of people not offered the service. That work, published in the journal *JAMA Internal Medicine* last month, calls into question whether simply expanding the availability of ride-sharing services will solve the underlying

problem. "We really thought ride-shares would be super convenient. We were pretty surprised, actually, it did not work out," said Krisda Chaiyachati, a primary care provider at the University of Pennsylvania and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center. "I think we [as providers] tend to apply our choices of how we live our lives, and we kind of impose it on our patients' lives. We probably all use ride-sharing services — I used one this morning to apply to a sick person or a poor person, and that might not be true."

Individual companies have reported benefits. CareMore Health System found in a pilot study in 2016 that using Lyft was cheaper than other forms of transportation and patients spent less time waiting for a ride. American Medical Response, a leading medical transportation company, has reduced complaints by 50 percent since partnering with Lyft.

Chaiyachati said the study might provide clues about what kinds of patients could benefit from ride-sharing help. The study examined the use of ride shares in getting patients to primary care appointments, but it's possible that it might be more useful in settings where adherence to appointments may be more critical, such as oncology.

"The study results really contradicted what we've seen with other partners, again and again," said Gyré Renwick, a vice president of Lyft Business. Renwick said Lyft has been

targeting groups of people, including elderly and poor patients in areas underserved by public transportation and people for whom missing an appointment — such as for dialysis or cancer treatment — could have major health repercussions and cause expensive hospitalizations.

Uber has been piloting its health service since last summer. One lesson learned from the experience is that many of the patients who use the service haven't used Uber before and may not even have a smartphone. The company has had to use text messages to alert people without the Uber app or a smartphone and phone calls for some people.

"We've moved to a paper-based communication strategy, where we have forms we can provide for our customers," said Jay Holley, head of partnerships at Uber Health. "Circle the make, model, license plate number [of the ride], and help people in the most analog possible way for a tech company."

Who pays for the service depends on the partnership. Patients on Medicaid have transportation benefits that can be billed for the service. Providers often pay for the rides out of their own funds.

One of the benefits of the digital services is accountability, for an area of medical spending that has been ripe for fraud, waste and abuse. Instead of paper receipts and faxes, the companies' digital platforms can help ensure that rides are taking place as scheduled.

Study: 'Sexting' becoming normal teen behavior

■ 1 in 4 teenagers reported receiving a sext; 1 in 7 reported sending one

By Eli Rosenberg
Washington Post

A new data study shows that the number of teenagers sending and receiving sexts is on the rise.

The analysis, which was published (last) week in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, showed that more than 1 in 4 teenagers reported that they'd received a sext, defined by the study as a sexually explicit image, video or message sent that is sent electronically.

About 15 percent of people, slightly more than 1 in 7, reported sending a sext.

The study consisted of an analysis of 39 previous studies with 110,000 participants, split between girls and boys between 11 and 18. The average age was 15. The analysis appears to show a higher prevalence of sexting than previous studies, a data point the study's authors note may be related to the proliferation of smartphones.

The study reported that teens were more likely to send and receive sexts with each year of increasing age, a conclusion that "lends credence to the notion that youth sexting may be an emerging, and potentially normal, component of sexual behavior and development," it reported.

But authors noted a few troubling indicators: They found 12 percent of people reported that they had forwarded a sext without consent and 8.5 percent said that a sext of theirs had been forwarded without their consent.

"If we look at things like sexual behavior with teens, if it's consensual and both teens wanted it and are OK with it, you are not going to see the negative psychological health. If it was nonconsensual or coerced, that is where you see the negative mental health problems, and we see the same thing with sexting," study co-author Jeff Temple, a psychiatry professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch, told CNN.

High school sexting has for years been the focus of negative attention, particularly in light of its connection to revenge



N.Y. Times file photo

Bret Meull, the principal at Canon City High School, where more than 100 students at the high school were apparently exchanging nude pictures, calls up an app Nov. 6, 2015, to show what students are using to hide photos on their cellphones, in Canon City, Colo. While trading raunchy photos can be viewed legally as violating child pornography laws, few prosecutors want to ruin a teenager's life for a one-time display of immaturity.

pornography and other forms of harassment. While impulsive decision-making has long been a side effect of adolescence, digital photos can live forever, particularly if they are disseminated widely. The practice of sending nude pictures of people under the age of 18, even between two consenting teenagers, is illegal in many states. In Virginia, a bill to reclassify the crime from a felony to a misdemeanor is currently working its way through

the state's legislature.

But the study's authors wrote that their work lent itself to push for more education and understanding around teenage sexting, instead of more punitive measures.

"Consequently, efforts and resources to criminalize sexts should be redirected to educational programs on digital citizenship and healthy relationships."

A fact sheet distributed in the

JAMA recommends that parents talk to their children about sexting and remind them about its potential consequences, particularly if photos are distributed without consent.

Citing the mean age that children get their first smartphone is about 10, the authors wrote that "it is important for middle school educators, pediatricians, and parents to have ongoing conversations with tweens regarding sexting and digital citizenship."

The study noted that given the young age many children receive cellphones, more studies are needed of sexting among 10- and 11-year-olds. A 2011 study reported that 1 percent of children 10 to 11 had some involvement in sexting.

"As tweens and kid smartphone ownership gets younger and younger, we are going to see an increase in the number of teens who are sexting," Temple said.



At the Heart of Preventative Care

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

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

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 14 | Food Is Medicine Seminar

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

lifestyle medicine
center



SPORTS

To submit information to the sports department, email sports@mrt.com

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, March 7, 2018 | Section C

Lee starts strong, rolls past Tascosa

By Will Korn
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In its drive for back-to-back playoff berths, the Lee boys soccer team understood the importance of a strong start in Tuesday's home match.

Facing visiting Amarillo Tascosa, which had won its only match of the season on Jan. 18, Lee needed to make an early statement and collect a critical three points to remain near the top of the District 2-6A table as the second half of the schedule gets underway.

Beginning with a breakthrough goal in the sixth minute by Johnny Thang, the

Rebels did just that in a 4-0 regulation whipping of Tascosa at Grande Communications Stadium.

With the victory, Lee improved to 12-6-1 overall and 4-0-1-1, 13 points in district play. Tascosa (1-16-2 overall, 0-0-6-0, 0 pts) remained winless in district action.

Before Tuesday's match, Lee head coach Scott Hicks emphasized taking control early and playing ahead to his players. Tascosa competed with plenty of intensity,



Barron

but appeared to be more than outmatched over the 80 minutes.

"I told them we've got three points on the line and we've got our sights set on trying to make the playoffs again this year," Hicks said. "You just never know about a team that has struggled and if (we knew) if we could get something in on them early, we felt like we had a pretty good chance of controlling this game and getting the three points we need. I felt like



Aranda

we did. (Tascosa) fought hard, they really play hard and they did have some chances there to finish some goals."

Thang handed Lee a 1-0 lead in the sixth minute on a laser shot from about 20 yards out. Then in the 19th minute, sophomore forward Daniel Santos Barron broke away from Tascosa's defense and finished from just inside the 18-yard box to double the Rebels' lead.

Barron said he and his teammates were thrilled to take the field after a 10-day break in the district schedule and they believed they could control the evening.

Please see **BOYS/3C**

LADY PANTHERS WIN BIG



Lee catcher Giselle Dominguez attempts a play Tuesday at home against Odessa Permian at Gene Smith Field.

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Permian newcomers lead rout of Lee in 2-6A opener

By Christopher Hadorn
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Odessa Permian's Shadie Davis and Alexis Morales made their impact felt in their first-ever District 2-6A softball game Tuesday, much to the chagrin of Lee.

Davis went 3 for 3 with a home run, a double, four RBI and three runs scored to lead the Lady Panthers to a 13-1 drubbing of the Lady Rebels in six innings during both teams' district opener at Gene Smith Field.

Meanwhile, Morales, an Andrews transfer, notched the win in the circle

after holding Lee (10-9-2, 0-1 in District 2-6A) to one run, five hits and no walks over six innings, while striking out four.

The Lady Rebels played competitively for five innings before unraveling in sixth when Permian (14-0, 1-0) broke the game open with nine runs, while sending 13 batters to the plate.

"We didn't come to compete in all aspects of the game," Lee head coach Mandy Davis said. "Permian did. They just outplayed us."

Davis, a junior who played on junior varsity last season, drifted the ball in all three at-bats.

Davis' biggest hit occurred in the third when she launched a two-run homer to

center field that hit the Lee athletic field house.

In the fifth, the Lady Rebels showed Davis the ultimate sign of respect by intentionally walking her with a runner on first.

"It felt good to put one on top of that building," Davis said. "I know it's going to stay there for a while. Every time I came up to bat I was ready. I felt ready from the get go. The minute we stepped on the field, I was ready to hit it."

Trailing 4-1, Lee had an opportunity for a big inning in the fourth when Kirklynd Newsom reached base via a bunt

Please see **OPENER/2C**

Big second half sparks Tascosa to rout of Lee

By Will Korn
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The Lee girls soccer team was desperate to find an offensive spark Tuesday night against visiting Amarillo Tascosa.

The Lady Rebels hadn't scored a goal since their District 2-6A opener against Tascosa on Feb. 10 and were also contending with a potentially rough 10-day break in the district schedule.

Still, Lee had plenty of opportunities to snap out of its funk in the first half but couldn't capitalize. Then in the second half, Tascosa took full control of the match with five unanswered goals in a 5-0 district rout of Lee at Grande Communications Stadium.

The Lady Rebels (8-8-1 overall, 0-1-5-0, 2 points in 2-6A) sunk to last place in the district standings, while Tascosa (4-8-4, overall, 1-0-4-1, 4 points) moved into fifth.

Following a fairly even first 40 minutes, Tascosa struck first in the 43rd minute on a well-placed shot from about 18 yards out. Twelve seconds later, the visitors increased their lead to 2-0 on a precise blast that found the upper right corner of the goal.

In the 47th minute, an angled shot by a Tascosa forward was re-directed after a deflection and into the goal for a commanding 3-0 advantage.

Lee head coach Mark Hinshaw, whose team has now been shut out in five consecutive matches, said a failure to take advantage of early scoring chances snowballed into defensive breakdowns as the contest progressed.

"(There's) not a whole lot to say about a night like (Tuesday)," Hinshaw said. "It was an accumulative thing when you look at it. We missed two two-on-ones and perhaps that led to some frustration to the girls. (Then) we came out and within the first five to six minutes of the second half, the two very things we preached at halftime, were gross mistakes that we made."

"I've said this time and time again: Regardless of who you play in this district or in the state in 6A, if you make mistakes, you get punished harshly for them. Our communication faltered and we opened up like a sieve in the middle of the field and they punished us for it."

Tascosa head coach Freddy Montes said his players applied intelligent defensive pressure to win possession in key spots during the second half. He added that his team was prepared to earn three points and move back into the district's playoff hunt.

"We told them in the second half to keep (up) the intensity," Montes said. "I was surprised how quickly we scored back-to-back but we were playing well, we were possessing the ball, we put pressure in the right places and that kept us high up the field."

"The girls know where we were sitting and how important this game was, starting the second round of (district) matches," Montes said. "They had that extra motivation. I really loved the intensity they came out with."

Follow Will on Twitter: [@WILL_MRT](https://twitter.com/WILL_MRT)

Big 12 Tournament could decide NCAA tourney fates

By Dave Skrett
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Texas Tech spent a good portion of the regular season leading the Big 12 standings, only to watch Kansas rally down the stretch and claim its unprecedented 14th consecutive conference crown.

The Red Raiders want another shot at the Jayhawks.

Both will have to survive two games this week to set up a third meeting at the Sprint Center.

Kansas is the top seed and the Red Raiders are second for the Big 12 Tournament, which starts with a pair of games Wednesday night but truly gets going with a quadruple-header on Thursday. It promises to be one of the most tightly contested tournaments since the league's inception, with nine teams harboring NCAA Tournament hopes — four of which would feel much better about their prospects with a couple wins.

The Jayhawks (24-7) and Red Raiders (23-5) are comfortably in the field of

Please see **BIG 12/3C**



Texas forward Mohamed Bamba (4) during Feb. 17 in front of Oklahoma guard Theo Young (11) and forward Brady March (20) in the first half of an NCAA game in Norman, Okla. Bamba was named to the AP All-Big 12 team Tuesday.

Sue Ogrocki/Associated Press

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

Australian Football League Melbourne vs. St. Kilda, 2 a.m., FSP
College Football St. Francis-PA at Oklahoma, 6 p.m., FSSW+, FCSP
Cross Country Sking Men's & Women's Sprints from Drammen, Norway, 8:30 a.m., OLYHD
Golf Asian Tour: ISPS Hanada New Zealand Open, Final Round, 10 a.m., GOLF
EPGA: Hero Indian Open, 1st Round, 11:30 p.m., GOLF
Major League Baseball Spring Training: Chicago Cubs at Cleveland, 7 p.m., MLB
Men's College Basketball ACC 2nd Round: Louisville vs. Florida State, 11 a.m., ESPN
ACC 2nd Round: NC State vs. Boston College/Georgia Tech, 1 p.m., ESPN2
ACC 1st Round: Virginia Tech vs. Notre Dame/Pitt, 6 p.m., ESPN2
Big East 1st Round: Georgetown vs. St. John's, 6 p.m., FS1
Big 12 1st Round: Oklahoma State vs. Oklahoma, 6 p.m., ESPN2
SEC 1st Round: Georgia vs. Vanderbilt, 6 p.m., SEC
ACC 2nd Round: North Carolina vs. Syracuse/Wake Forest, 8 p.m., ESPN2
Big 12 1st Round: Texas vs. Iowa State, 8 p.m., ESPNU
SEC 1st Round: South Carolina vs. Ole Miss, 8 p.m., SEC
Big East 1st Round: Marquette vs. DePaul, 8:30 p.m., FS1
Men's Soccer UEFA Champions Rd of 16, Leg 2: Tottenham Hotspur FC vs. Juventus FC, 1:30 p.m., FS1, FXDEP
UEFA Champions Rd of 16, Leg 2: Manchester City FC vs. FC Basel, 1:30 p.m., FS2, ESPN2
Copa Sudamericana: general Diaz FBC vs. Barcelona SC, 4 p.m., FXDEP
Copa Sudamericana: Sporting Cristal vs. CA Lanus, 6:30 p.m., FXDEP
National Basketball Association Toronto at Detroit, 7 p.m., ESPN
Cleveland at Denver, 9:30 p.m., ESPN
NBA G League Lakeland at Oklahoma City, 11 a.m., ELVN
Fort Wayne at Texas, 7 p.m., FSSW, ELVN
National Hockey League Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7 p.m., NBCSN
Tennis ATP: BNP Paribas Open, 1 p.m., TENNIS
Women's Soccer She Believes Cup: USA vs. England, 6 p.m., ESPNNews

WHAT'S ON DECK

JC Baseball Midland College at Odessa College, 2 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL American League BALTIMORE ORIOLES - Options RHP Stan Cichon, RHP Michael Holly and RHP Vito Trivelpiece to Seattle (R).
CHICAGO WHITE SOX - Options OF Chris Iannetta and RHP Thayne Vissis to Charlotte (R) and RHP Jose Ruiz to Winston-Salem (Carroll).
REARMOURED INF. Jake Burger, RHP's Dylan Cooney and Michael Ynoa, C Alberto Gonzalez and LHP Jordan Gammuto to minor league camp.
DETROIT TIGERS - Options SS Daniel Leija to Toledo (R).
KANSAS CITY ROYALS - Placed RHP Jesse Hahn on the 10-day DL. Agreed to terms with OF Jon Jay on a one-year contract.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS - Released DH Brandon Moss.
TEXAS RANGERS - Agreed to terms with RHP Tom Leonard on a one-year contract.
National League ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS - Options SS Domingo Lopez to Jackson (R).
ATLANTA BRUINS - Agreed to RHP Josh Flann on a one-year contract.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES - Options RHP Drew Anderson to Lehigh Valley (R).
BASKETBALL NBA - Fined Boston G Marcus Smart \$15,000 for public criticism of officiating.
Women's NBA PHOENIX MERCURY - Traded G Darlene Rodriguez to Minnesota for the No. 12 pick in the 2018 draft.
INDIANA FEVER - Traded G Shanon Armstrong to Phoenix for the No. 8 pick in the 2018 draft.
FOOTBALL National Football League NFL - Announced the retirements of Ed Hochuli and Jeff Toppo. Promoted back judge Shawn Hochuli and side judge Alan Kemp to referees.
BALTIMORE RAVENS - Signed DE Brent Urban to a one-year contract.
BUFFALO BILLS - Agreed to terms with RB Chris Ivory on a one-year contract.
CAROLINA PANTHERS - Agreed to terms with QB Graham Gano on a four-year contract with a \$10 million signing bonus.
CHICAGO BEARS - Placed the transition tag on RB Kyle Fuller.
PITTSBURGH STEELERS - Placed the transition tag on RB Le'Veon Bell.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS - Re-signed S Dashaun Evans to a multiyear contract. Waived RB Stevie Hilliard and Dan Orlovski and DT Nevin Brown.
HOCKEY National Hockey League NHL - Fined Jonathan Cheechoo announced his retirement.
ARIZONA COYOTES - Recalled G Adam Hill from Tucson (AHL) on an emergency basis. Signed F Tyler Deshaeney to a three-year, entry-level contract.
BOSTON BRUINS - Rearmoured G Dan Vladar from Boston (AHL) to Providence (RHL).
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS - Agreed to terms with D Erik Gustafsson on a two-year contract and re-signed F Tyler Bostrom on a one-year contract.
DALLAS STARS - Recalled F Reece Weir and G Mike McFadden from Texas (AHL).
MINNESOTA WILD - Agreed to F Peter Dinklage to a one-year contract.
UTAH JEWELRY - Agreed to F Peter Dinklage to a one-year contract.
USAHA - Announced American amateur Mike Alexander accepted a one-year sanction for an anti-doping violation.
COLLEGE MAINE - Fined men's basketball coach Mike Blake.

REGION V BASKETBALL

At the Tiger Hill Middle School Wednesday-Thursday Single elimination
Men
Wednesday's Games
Game 1: Cameron College (WV, 19-11) vs. McClintock Community College (WV, 25-4), 1 p.m.
Game 2: South Plains College (TX, 20-9) vs. Ranger College (TX, 22-8), 3 p.m.
Game 3: Howard College (WV, 22-8) vs. Colin County Community College (WV, 22-9), 6 p.m.
Game 4: Odessa College (TX, 25-9) vs. Taylor College (TX, 25-7), 8 p.m.
Friday's Semifinals
Game 5: Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 1 p.m.
Game 6: Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner, 3 p.m.
Saturday's championship
Sanford arena, 2 p.m.
Women
Wednesday's Games
Game 5: Odessa College (TX, 19-10) vs. Colin County Community College (WV, 25-4), 1 p.m.
Game 6: Midland College (TX, 17-10) vs. Ranger College (TX, 22-8), 3 p.m.
Game 7: Florida Phillips College (WV, 22-9) vs. Westwood College (WV, 19-8), 6 p.m.
Game 8: New Mexico JC (WV, 28-2) vs. Ranger College (TX, 21-8), 8 p.m.
Friday's semifinals
Game 9: Game 5 winner vs. Game 6 winner, 6 p.m.
Game 10: Game 7 winner vs. Game 8 winner, 8 p.m.
Saturday's championship
Sanford arena, 4:30 p.m.

NHL GLANCE

Table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and their records.

MLB SPRING TRAINING GLANCE

Table with columns for American League and National League, listing teams and their records.

HS SOFTBALL/BASEBALL ROUNDP

SOFTBALL

ODESSA HIGH 8, MHS 6
ODESSA — Sparked by a seven-run third inning, Odessa High upended Midland High in Tuesday's District 2-5A opener at the Radliff Softball Complex.
Lady Bronchos winning pitcher Sierra Camacho helped her cause at the plate by doing 2 for 4 with a home run and two RBI.
OHS catcher Myka High went 3 for 4 with a double, two RBI and a run scored, while teammate Skylar Herrera had two hits and three RBI.
The Lady Bulldogs' offense was led by Ali Monarez, who was 3 for 3 with a home run, a triple, four RBI and two runs. Alyssa Flores and Deanna Machuca both had two hits for

MHS (12-7-2), which led 2-0 through two innings prior to Odessa High's big third.

ODESSA HIGH 8, MIDLAND HIGH 6
MHS 000 000 2-0 8 3
OHS 007 010 x-0 12 1
Ali Monarez, Deanna Machuca (3) and Myka High. Sierra Camacho and Myka High. W - Camacho. L - Monarez. 2B - OHS: Neel Suarez. High. 3B - MHS: Monarez. HR - MHS: Monarez. OHS: Camacho.
Records: MHS 12-7-2, 0-1 in District 2-5A. OHS 15-2-1, 1-0.
Next: MHS at San Angelo, 5:30 p.m. Friday; OHS at Lubbock High, 2 p.m. Saturday.

BASEBALL

LEE 9, ABILENE HIGH 4
The Lee baseball team had a five-run first inning and a four-run sixth to beat Abilene High in a non-district game at Ernie Johnson Field.
Ty Coleman went 2-for-4

with a double, home run, three RBI and two runs scored, while Kasey Blackmon was 2-for-3 with a double, two RBI and run scored for the Rebels (7-5).
Isaac Madrid got the win on the mound.

LEE 9, ABILENE HIGH 4
Abilene 000 010 1-4 4 2
Lee 500 004 x-0 9 3
Johnson, unknown (R), unknown (R) and unknown. Isaac Madrid, Austin Day (R), J.J. Melendez (R) and Chase Peterson. W - Madrid. L - Johnson. 2B - Lee: Kasey Blackmon, Ty Coleman. HR - Lee: Coleman.
Records: Lee 9-3.
Next: Lee at Carlsbad (HLM) Tournament, Thursday.

MHS 12, CENTRAL 6
SAN ANGELO — The Midland High baseball team had 13 hits and had three three-run innings to beat San Angelo

Central in a non-district game.
For MHS (12-2), Mario Rodriguez was 3-for-3 with two doubles, three RBI, a walk and three runs scored; Sam Matchus was 3-for-5 with a double, two RBI and a run scored; Cooper Fier was 2-for-4 with a triple, walk and three RBI, plus got the win on the mound; while Sean Porter was 2-for-5 with a double, RBI and two runs scored for the Bulldogs.

MIDLAND HIGH 12, SAN ANGELO CENTRAL 6
Midland 213 300 9-12 13 1
Central 010 000 3-6 5 1
Cooper Fier, Riggs McDonald (4), Hunter Ingram (R) and Wyatt Taylor and Sam Matchus (R). Chris Rice (R), Rene (R) and Shawn W. Just. L - Rice. 2B - MHS: Sam Matchus, Sean Porter, Mario Rodriguez. 2. Tyler Wade. SAC: Vince 3B - MHS: Just.
Records: Midland High 12-2.
Next: MHS at Highland Park Tournament, Thursday.

OPENER

From IC
single, putting two runners aboard with one out.
However, the Lady Rebels came away empty with no runs, as the key play occurred when Jasmine Gonzales was tossed out on a close play at third base. Gonzales was trying to advance on a pitch in the dirt that got away from Permian catcher Hannah Banker momentarily.
Lee scored its only run in the second frame when Zymra Carrasco hit an opposite field double to plate Newsom.



Lee's Emily Gonzalez (10) throws to first against Permian on Tuesday at Gene Smith Field.

they scored all nine runs with one out.
"We've got some big bats in the lineup and when they're on, they're on," Williams said.
Carrasco and Emily Gonzalez, Lee's pitchers, each had a perfect inning of work. But they were both undone by big innings that Davis pitched were caused by poor pitch location.
"We just weren't hitting our spots," Davis said. "Permian, I am not taking anything away from them. Permian is a great hitting team, but any team can hit a ball down the middle."

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

Table with columns for ODESSA PERMIAN 13, LEE 1, 6 INNINGS, listing statistics for both teams.

Otherwise, Morales was in control for the most part, retiring the side in order three times.
"Her ball was moving the way we needed it to move," Lady Panthers head coach Kristin Williams said of Morales. "She hung a few, but she overcame it and the defense played well behind her, so that was a true team effort for sure."
In addition to Davis' heroics, Permian's heavy hitting lineup was helped by third baseman Aliyah Lara, who went 2 for 4 with a double, a triple, two RBI and a run.
Permian second baseman Monique Pando also made her presence felt by going 3 for 4 with a double, two RBI, two runs scored and a stolen base.

The Lady Panthers racked up eight hits, three for extra bases, during the crooked sixth inning when

LOCAL SPORTS BRIEFS

LADY KATS NAMED ALL-REGION
Garden City senior sisters Madison and Payton Hastings were named to the All-Region II Girls Basketball team by the Texas 6-Man Coaches Association.
Rankin juniors Avery Wyatt and Vanessa Godette were also named to the first team.
Garden City junior Lyndee Walker was named to the Second Team.
MC MEN'S GOLF RANKED NO. 3
The Midland College men's golf team is ranked No. 3 the first NJCAA Division I men's

Golf rankings of the spring semester.
Indian Hills (Iowa) is ranked No. 1, followed by McLennan Community College at No. 2.
Four other teams from the Western Junior College Athletic Conference are ranked in the Top 20 — No. 6 Westman Texas College, No. 10 Odessa

Preds beat Stars 2-0 for franchise-record 9th straight win

By Teresa M. Walker
Associated Press
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Pekka Rinne stopped 26 shots, Ryan Hartman scored at 5:33 of the third period and the Nashville Predators beat the Dallas Stars 2-0 Tuesday night for a franchise-record ninth straight victory.
The Predators extended the NHL's longest active winning streak. The defending Western Conference champs also padded their lead atop both the conference and the Central Division.
Rinne recorded his seventh shutout this season, tying Tampa Bay's Andrei Vasilevsky for most in the NHL. Rinne now is 17-1-1 over his last 19 games.
Nick Bonino scored an empty-netter with 13.6

seconds left after Stars defenseman John Klingberg caught a skate on his own net, causing him to trip and lose the puck.
The Stars, currently in the first wild card spot, lost for the second time in as many nights after falling in overtime Monday night.
Kari Lehtonen made 32 saves for Dallas.
Mike Fisher was in the starting lineup for his first game back in Nashville since being signed on Feb. 26. He received an ovation 10 seconds into the game during a stoppage in play while a catfish was removed from the ice. Fisher went to the box for hooking less than 2 minutes into the game.
The former captain came out of the box, got the puck and fed a pass to Rys Johansen, who was stopped by Lehtonen.
Kevin Fiala hit a post in the first period, and Ryan Ellis hit the post at the end of a power play in the second. Lehtonen, who replaced goalie Ben Bishop after he left Monday night's overtime loss to Ottawa after the first period, turned away shot after shot. Lehtonen got a helping hand from Mattias Janmark to clear the puck away from the goal line late in the 2nd in the midst of a sustained possession by Nashville.
Hartman broke the scoreless tie with a backhand from the left circle over Lehtonen's right shoulder off a feed from Austin Watson. For Hartman, it was his second goal and first at home since the Predators picked him up from Chicago at the trade

deadline last week.
Dallas coach Ken Hitchcock took his timeout with 47.6 seconds left and had Lehtonen out for the extra attacker. Klingberg was collecting the puck deep for one last rush when he tripped.
Notes: Smith played his 500th career game. ... The Predators are outscoring opponents 39-18 in this winning streak. ... With Bishop scratched with a lower-body injury, the Stars recalled G Mike McKenna from their AHL affiliate. They also recalled F Roope Hintz, who was scratched.
Up next
Stars: Host Anaheim on Friday night.
Predators: Host the Ducks on Thursday night.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
2/22 6:00 Volunteer Orientation at Adoption Center
4/05 6:30-8:30 Microchip Clinic at Deer Garden's Yappy Hour
8/26 4th Annual Hot Dog Run 5K and 1K
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COMING SOON TO MIDLAND!
THIS PROGRAM WILL HELP RESIDENTS TRAP STRAY CATS & HAVE THEM VACCINATED & ALTERED.
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Boys

From 1C

"We were happy to play again after a long break and we have confidence in ourselves to get the win," Barron said through senior forward, captain and translator, Luis Aranda. "Ultimately, we got our chances and we made them happen."

What appeared to be a 2-0 halftime lead suddenly turned to 3-0 in the 40th minute, as sophomore forward Marco Jurado alertly tapped in a rebound following a shot by John Thompson on Tascosa goalkeeper Josue Torres. Hicks said Jurado's tally was critical to build even

District 2-6A soccer standings

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists teams like Permian, Odessa, Tascosa, Lee, and Amarillo with their respective records.

more momentum heading into the second half, knowing Tascosa wouldn't simply step aside. Back on Feb. 24, Tascosa trailed Wolforth Frenship by three goals in Amarillo

before rallying to tie the match late. "It was huge," Hicks said. "I was sitting there thinking 'These guys were down to Frenship 3-0 and they came back' and I said

"Man, we need to get at least one more in" and we did. It was a little bit more comforting at halftime to think 'If we just play smart and not give up anything easy, we've got a chance to lock this up.'"

In the 45th minute, Tascosa was charged with an own goal after a tight cross into traffic from Aranda. Lee next takes on Midland High — 1-0 regulation winners over Odessa Permian Tuesday — at 7:30 p.m. at Grande Communications Stadium in a battle for first place in district.

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

AP All-Big 12 team led by high-scoring guards who also pass

By Stephen Hawkins Associated Press

A pair of high-scoring guards who also share the ball with their teammates highlight The Associated Press All-Big 12 men's basketball team.

Kansas senior Devonte Graham and Oklahoma freshman sensation Trae Young, the league's top two in both scoring and assists, were the only unanimous picks on the AP All-Big 12 first team released Tuesday. They also took the top individual awards.

Graham was named the Big 12 player of the year with his 17.6 points and 7.2 assists per game while helping lead the Jayhawks win their record 14th consecutive conference title this season. He ranked second in the league in both categories behind top Big 12 newcomer Young, the national leader with 27.5 points and 8.9 assists per game.

Kansas' Bill Self took his fourth consecutive coach of the year honor, and seventh in 13 seasons.

Texas Tech senior Keenan Evans, West Virginia senior Jevon Carter and Texas freshman post player Mohamed Bamba were the other first-team picks in voting by a panel of 18 journalists who regularly cover the Big 12 in the league's five states. Bamba is the Big 12 rebounding leader with 10.6 per game.

Graham got nine of 18 votes for player of the year, while Young got seven and Evans two. Young was listed as top newcomer on 14 ballots, including five that also had him as the top

overall player. Self got 10 votes for top coach, while Chris Beard of Big 12 runner-up Texas Tech got seven. The remaining vote went to first-year Oklahoma State coach Mike Boynton after the Cowboys became the first team with a regular season sweep of a Self-coached Kansas team.

The 2018 AP All-Big 12 team, with players listed with school, classification, height, weight, class and hometown ("u" denotes unanimous selections):

- FIRST TEAM u-Devonte Graham, Kansas, Sr., 6-2, 185, Raleigh, North Carolina. u-Trae Young, Oklahoma, Fr., 6-2, 180, Norman, Oklahoma. Mohamed Bamba, Texas, Fr., 6-11, 225, Harlem, New York. Jevon Carter, West Virginia, Sr., 6-2, 205, Maywood, Illinois. Keenan Evans, Texas Tech, Sr., 6-3, 190, Richardson, Texas.

- SECOND TEAM Udoka Azubuike, Kansas, So., 7-0, 280, Delta, Nigeria. Barry Brown Jr., Kansas State, 6-3, 195, St. Petersburg, Florida. Sviatoslav Mykhailiuk, Kansas, Sr., 6-8, 205, Cherkassy, Ukraine.

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- HONORABLE MENTION Vladimir Brodziansky, TCU; Jeffrey Carroll, Oklahoma State; Sagaba Konate, West Virginia; Manu Lacombe, Baylor; Jo Luat-Acui Jr., Baylor; Malik Newman, Kansas; Zhane Smith, Texas Tech; Mitchell Solomon, Oklahoma State; Lindell Wigginton, Iowa State.

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BOYS

MIDLAND HIGH 1, PERMIAN 0 ODESSA — The Midland High boys soccer team got a key road win when it shut out Odessa Permian at Ratliff Stadium in District 2-6A action. Fernando Quintero scored the lone goal in the second half for the Bulldogs (9-5-2, 3-2-0-1, 14 points in district). Permian fell to 9-9-1 overall and 2-1-3-0, 7 points in district. No other information was available at press time. Midland High will next play

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GIRLS

MIDLAND HIGH 2, PERMIAN 0 ODESSA — Kylie VonHolle scored two more district goals and the Midland High defense was stellar in a shutout victory over Odessa Permian at Ratliff Stadium on Tuesday night. VonHolle scored an unassisted goal in the 21st minute and then added an insurance goal in the 47th minute off an assist by Raqi Houston.

The win for MHS (11-3-3 overall, 4-0-2-0, 12 points in district) snapped a two-game skid that ended the first half of 2-6A action.

"When you lose two games, it's easy to get discouraged," MHS coach Cooper Barham said. "Our main focus was to bounce back from that and getting back to the way we know how to play. I liked how my girls responded by coming up to play tonight and showing out with a victory."

The shutout was the second of the season by MHS over Permian (13-5-1, 2-0-3-1, 7 points) as the Lady Bulldogs

got a 3-0 victory on Feb. 9. Once again, the defense played an outstanding game.

"One of our starting center backs was out because of illness and Kansley Vanderburg stepped right in and played awesome," Barham said. "And our back four played really well. It's important you play well when you play a great team like Permian. We were strong defensively and really happy with how we stayed organized and played for 80 minutes."

MHS next plays Lee at 5:30 p.m. Friday at Grande Communications Stadium.

NBA ROUNDUP

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James Harden had 23 points and 11 assists, and Trevor Ariza added 15 points for the Rockets, who are on the second-longest win streak in franchise history.

Russell Westbrook scored 32 points and Carmelo Anthony added 23 for Oklahoma City, which is in a logjam of teams trying to fight their way into third place in the West.

Oklahoma City had beaten several of the league's top teams this season. The Thunder have two wins over Golden State, a victory over Toronto and a win over Cleveland this season. The Rockets avoided that fate by going 17 of 33 on 3-pointers and 29 of 34 on free throws.

MAVERICKS 118 NUGGETS 107 DALLAS — Yogi Ferrell rode hot 3-point shooting to a season-high 24 points, Dirk Nowitzki also was strong from long range to score 17 and Dallas beat Denver.

Ferrell and Nowitzki both made their first five 3s, and Ferrell finished 9 of 11 from the field to help one of the NBA's worst teams hand the Nuggets a loss they didn't need in the tight Western Conference playoff race.

A second-year guard who came to Dallas on a 10-day contract last season, Ferrell finished 6 of 7 from long range. The 39-year-old Nowitzki, in his 20th season, all with the Mavericks, was 5 of 7.

Rookie Dennis Smith Jr. had 18 points and a career-high 11 assists as the Mavericks won for just the second time in nine games.

Wilson Chandler scored 21 points for the Nuggets, who couldn't follow up a win at Cleveland with a chance to sweep a three-game road trip.

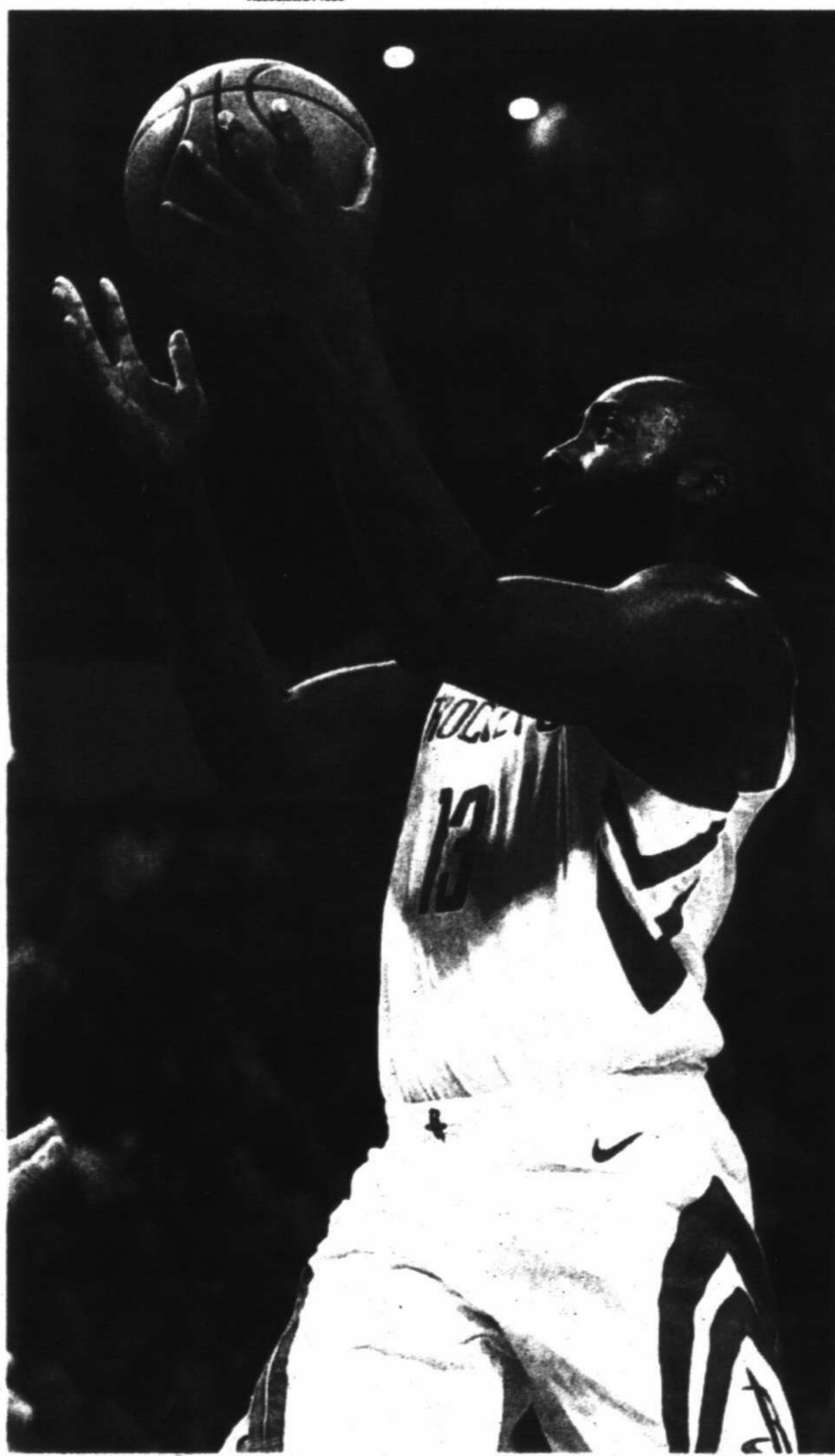
WIZARDS 117 HEAT 113 WASHINGTON — Bradley Beal scored 30 points on 12-of-16 shooting and Washington had its best 3-point shooting night of the season to beat Miami.

Beal went 6 of 7 from beyond the arc, leading a Washington team that finished 14 for 24 there while snapping its first three-game losing streak of the season.

Tommy Satoransky added 19 points and Markieff Morris had 16 points and 13 rebounds. Morris' baseline 3-pointer off Beal's feed made it 113-109 with 1:06 left in overtime.

The 10th-place Wizards improved to 11-6 in their extended stretch without All-Star point guard John Wall as he recovers from knee surgery. They moved within a half-game of Indiana and maintained a one-game lead on Philadelphia in the Eastern Conference.

Dwayne Wade scored 22 points but missed on a potential game-tying jumper with 4.1 seconds left in overtime for Miami.



Houston Rockets guard James Harden (13) goes up for a shot Tuesday against Oklahoma City Thunder in the first half of an NBA game in Oklahoma City.

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C.J. Miles added 14 points, and Delon Wright and Serge Ibaka each had 10 as the Eastern Conference leaders won for the 12th time in 13 games and completed their first season sweep of the Hawks since 2001-02.

The Raptors are 27-5 at home, the best record in the NBA. Toronto, which trailed by one to begin the fourth quarter, improved to 4-16 when behind

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76ERS 128 HORNETS 114 CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Robert Covington scored 22 points. Ben Simmons strided with a triple-double and Philadelphia handed Charlotte its fourth straight loss.

Simmons had 16 points, 13 assists and eight rebounds as the 76ers won for the third time in the last four games. Dario Saric scored 19 points, Joel Embiid added 18 and JJ Redick clipped in with

14 as seven 76ers finished in double digits in what might have been the final blow to the Hornets' playoff hopes.

While the 76ers shot 57.5 percent from field — including 16 of 33 from 3-point range — Charlotte's All-Star point guard Kemba Walker couldn't find the bottom of the net. Walker was limited to a season-low five points on 1-of-9 shooting.

Dwight Howard had a season-high 30 points and grabbed six rebounds, while Nic Batum had 12 points and 10 assists for Charlotte, which fell seven games out of the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference with 17 games remaining.

Big 12

From 1C

68, though they still have plenty on the line. Kansas is seeking a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament while Texas Tech is seeking a title.

"I'm not a second-place guy," Red Raiders coach Chris Beard said. "We're going to put ourselves in a position every year where we're going to compete for this thing. Whether we get it done or not, that depends on a lot of things. We intend to be a part of the fight. So I'm not satisfied at all."

"I am pleased," he added, "that we were part of the fight for the championship this year, in our second year ... but I intend to be part of the fight in Kansas City and in the national tournament."

Even though Kansas has dominated the Big 12 for more than a decade, the tournament has been a different animal. Iowa State has won three of the past four titles, though the rebuilding Cyclones (13-17) are the only team this season that most people don't give a shot at the championship.

They play Texas on Wednesday night, while Oklahoma plays Oklahoma State in the other opening game. The Sooners may be the best example of the brutal nature of the Big 12, which was ranked as the top RPI conference in the nation. Led by star guard Trea Young, they were ranked fourth in the nation in mid-January, but went 8-10 in the league and plummeted to the No. 9 seed for the tournament.

That puts them in that pack of four teams, all 8-10 in the league and with 18 wins overall, that are trying to solidify their NCAA Tournament hopes ahead of Selection Sunday.

"Some of us have more bruises than others, but I think the Big 12 is the strongest conference from top to bottom in America," said Oklahoma State coach Mike Boynton, whose Cowboys (18-13) are also trying to play their way into the dance. "I'm not sure if it's close."

As the Big 12 Tournament draws near, here are some of the key story lines:

Beard's health

Texas big man Mo Bamba is still recovering from a sprained toe that sidelined him the last two games,

and coach Shaka Smart said the 7-footer is "making progress." Whether he plays against the Cyclones, or later in the tournament if the Longhorns advance, remains to be seen.

Bubble boys

The Longhorns (18-13) are part of the logjam with Oklahoma and Oklahoma State fighting for NCAA Tournament positioning. Also in the mix is Baylor (18-13), which earned a bye into the quarterfinal thanks to tiebreakers and will face third-seeded West Virginia on Thursday night.

Stress test

Fourth-seeded Kansas State (21-10) and No. 5 seed TCU (21-10) are likely in the NCAA field, but a loss for either of them could mean the first-four game that the Wildcats played in last season. Kansas State had a brutally weak schedule that hurt its RPI, while the Horned Frogs were just 9-9 in the league.

Bad omens

The Jayhawks once owned the Sprint Center, but it's been a house of horrors lately. They lost to Washington in the building in early January, and face a tough quarterfinal against the Sooners or Cowboys, who went a combined 3-1 against coach Bill Self's squad this season.

NCAA record

The Big 12 has landed seven NCAA Tournament bids three of the last four seasons, and had six teams in the field last year. But if things break the right way in Kansas City, and in other tournaments across the country, it's possible it could qualify eight or nine — something it's never done before.

"It just shows you the balance of the league. Even Iowa State, if they don't have the injuries at the end of the year, they might have another win or two in their arsenal," Kansas State coach Bruce Weber said. "It's the best league. I've done this 39 years, been in the Big Ten when it's been really good, the Midwest Valley, watched other leagues — it's the best I've ever been part of, one through 10."

NBA GLANCE

Summary table of NBA game results and statistics, including team names, scores, and key player performances.

Boys

From 1C

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and coach Shaka Smart said the 7-footer is "making progress." Whether he plays against the Cyclones, or later in the tournament if the Longhorns advance, remains to be seen.

Bulldog boys The Longhorns (18-13) are part of the logjam with Oklahoma and Oklahoma State fighting for NCAA Tournament positioning. Also in the mix is Baylor (18-13), which earned a bye into the quarterfinal thanks to tiebreakers and will face third-seeded West Virginia on Thursday night.

Stress test Fourth-seeded Kansas State (21-10) and No. 5 seed TCU (21-10) are likely in the NCAA field, but a loss for either of them could mean the first-four game that the Wildcats played in last season. Kansas State had a brutally weak schedule that hurt its RPI, while the Horned Frogs were just 9-9 in the league.

Bad omens The Jayhawks once owned the Sprint Center, but it's been a house of horrors lately. They lost to Washington in the building in early January, and face a tough quarterfinal against the Sooners or Cowboys, who went a combined 3-1 against coach Bill Self's squad this season.

NCAA record The Big 12 has landed seven NCAA Tournament bids three of the last four seasons, and had six teams in the field last year. But if things break the right way in Kansas City, and in other tournaments across the country, it's possible it could qualify eight or nine — something it's never done before.

"It just shows you the balance of the league. Even Iowa State, if they don't have the injuries at the end of the year, they might have another win or two in their arsenal," Kansas State coach Bruce Weber said. "It's the best league. I've done this 39 years, been in the Big Ten when it's been really good, the Missouri Valley, watched other leagues — it's the best I've ever been part of, one through 10."



Charlie Helberg/Associated Press

Texas Rangers pitcher Matt Moore throws during a baseball spring training workout Feb. 15 in Surprise, Ariz. Moore hopes for a revival with the Rangers after tying for the most losses in the NL last season in San Francisco.

Moore looks to rebound from rough 2017

By Jose M. Romero
Associated Press

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Early in spring training, many pitchers take the same approach to starts. The basic work-on-stuff, build-innings-and-conditioning, reach-pitch-limit kind of thing.

For Matt Moore, it was a little different.

After a poor year with the San Francisco Giants last season, the Texas lefty faced them Monday in his second outing.

He allowed a run on one hit, a pair of walks and a wild pitch over 2 2/3 innings, striking out two. Moore left after giving up an RBI single to Austin Jackson.

"I was looking forward to it,

absolutely," Moore said. "Not like I have anything out for them, it's just that those are the guys that I sat in the dugout with for the last year and a half, and got to know them pretty well. It was fun to just compete against them."

The Giants traded Moore to the Rangers for prospects in the offseason after he spent part of 2016 and all of 2017 in the Bay Area. He's in his seventh season in the majors at only 28 years old, and is coming off a season of career lows.

Those included 15 losses, 107 earned runs allowed and a 5.52 ERA. The Giants exercised his contract option last September, and Moore thought he'd still be around.

"I was surprised. You only

know what people are writing in the paper and such," Moore said. "I hadn't heard my name out there and then kind of just got a call one day and this might happen, might not."

Moore has no hard feelings, and was able to smile again after a tough year when he learned he was going to Texas. He's on his third team in three years.

"Last year I felt like I fell short in too many of those games where the deciding runs, deciding situations, too many times was I not coming through for the guys for whatever reason," Moore said. "Being on a team, that's all you want to do. You want to feel like you're contributing in a positive fashion and you're pulling on

the same side of the rope as everybody else is."

Moore, a 2013 AL All-Star with Tampa Bay, figures to be in a Rangers rotation that could open the season with six pitchers. Cole Hamels, Martin Perez, Doug Fister and Moore are penciled in for four spots.

In trying to fix what didn't work last season, Moore is keeping his back foot on the rubber as long as possible to keep the direction of his pitches true. He's also not trying to rely as much on a cut fastball.

"We think that he's primed to have one of those strike back-type years, trend upwards," Rangers manager Jeff Banister said. "We feel good about it. Still young, still got a good lively arm."

Dolphins owner says he won't make players stand

By Steven Wine
Associated Press

MIAMI — Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross says he won't force his players to stand for the national anthem, even though he believes kneeling is a counterproductive way to promote social justice.

Ross' comments Tuesday in a statement released by the Dolphins came after the New York Daily News reported that he said all of the team's players will stand for the anthem in 2018. Ross was in New York on Monday to be honored by the Jackie Robinson Foundation and receive its ROBIE Lifetime Achievement Award.

"I have no intention of forcing our players to stand during the anthem, and I regret that my comments have been misconstrued," Ross said in his statement.

"I've shared my opinion with all our players: I'm passionate about the cause of social justice, and I feel that kneeling is an ineffective tactic that alienates more people than it enlists."

Colin Kaepernick started the NFL anthem movement when he was with the San Francisco 49ers in 2016 to protest racial inequality and police brutality.

President Donald Trump has criticized the movement, saying it's disrespectful to service members.

"I know our players care about the military and law enforcement too," Ross said in his statement, "because I've seen the same players who are



Phelan M. Ebenhack/Associated Press

Miami Dolphins owner Stephen M. Ross, second from left, stands on the sideline Sept. 20, 2015, during the national anthem before an NFL game against the Jacksonville Jaguars in Jacksonville, Fla. Ross said, in a statement released by the Dolphins on Tuesday that he won't force his players to stand for the national anthem, even though he believes kneeling is an ineffective way to promote social justice.

fighting for social justice engaging positively with law enforcement and the military. I care passionately that the message of social justice resonates far and wide, and I will continue to support and fund efforts for those who fight for equality for all."

Dolphins players Julius Thomas, Michael Thomas

and Kenny Stills knelt during the anthem before games last season. At one point coach Adam Gase established a team rule requiring players either to stand for the anthem or stay in the tunnel. When protesting players told Gase waiting in the tunnel was interfering with their game preparation, he relaxed the rule and allowed them to

resume their sideline kneeling. Stills was the Dolphins' nominee for the NFL's Walter Payton Man of the Year Award, which honors involvement in the community and performance on the field. He's expected to be back with Miami with 2018, but Julius Thomas and Michael Thomas are less likely to return.

No franchise tag for Cousins, now set to hit free agency

By Stephen Whyne
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Kirk Cousins' time with the Washington Redskins is all but over after they chose not to use the franchise tag on the quarterback as expected.

The Redskins have agreed to acquire Alex Smith from the Kansas City Chiefs, effectively pushing Cousins into free agency following a tumultuous six years with the club that drafted him. Cousins will be the top free agent available when the league year opens in mid-March and should have no shortage of suitors.

The 29-year-old Cousins is coming off his third consecutive 4,000-yard passing season. In his time as a full-time NFL starter, he has completed 67 percent of his passes for 81

touchdowns, 36 interceptions and a 97.5 QB rating.

The deadline to use the franchise or transition tag was 4 p.m. Eastern on Tuesday.

Despite previously saying Washington could win with Cousins, coach Jay Gruden said at the scouting combine that "it's time for us to move on" and find some continuity at the position.

The Redskins now seemingly have that in Smith, who will join the Redskins once the trade becomes official March 14 and has agreed to a four-year extension with \$71 million guaranteed.

Cousins could easily

command more than that on the open market with the New York Jets, Denver Broncos, Minnesota Vikings, Arizona Cardinals and Cleveland Browns among the teams interested in upgrading at quarterback.

After becoming the first QB in NFL history to play two consecutive seasons on the franchise tag — making almost \$44 million in the process — Cousins is looking for long-term stability in the wake of almost-weekly questions about his future in Washington persisted over the past few years. Agent Mike McCartney declined to comment on the plans of the Cousins camp in an email to The Associated Press on Tuesday.

This is perhaps the first time in Cousins' football career that he has been No. 1 on any list.

He did not have any scholarship offers as a high school senior, was not considered a top prospect after four years at Michigan State and got picked in the fourth round in 2012 by the Redskins — the same draft they traded up to make Robert Griffin III the No. 2 pick.

Only 39-year-old Drew Brees, who's expected to re-sign with the New Orleans Saints, threw for more yards last season than Cousins, who is the best option available in a crop that includes Case Keenum, Sam Bradford and Josh McCown. Though during the 2017 season it was reported that Cousins could set a record for QB contracts, it's unclear how close he might come to the \$135 million, five-year deal with \$92 million guaranteed that Matthew Stafford signed with the Detroit Lions.

The driving distance report that didn't go very far

DOUG
FERGUSON
Associated Press



PALM HARBOR, Fla. — Whatever was said between Jack Nicklaus and USGA chief executive Mike Davis didn't show up in the annual report on driving distance.

Nicklaus has said for nearly half his life that the ball goes too far, an opinion based more on the 415 golf courses his company has designed than the record 18 major championships he won. He believes the culprit is the ball, not the clubs used to hit it or the players swinging them.

Two weeks ago, Nicklaus sounded an alarm that change might be on the way.

"I had dinner with Mike Davis, and Mike said, 'We're getting there. We're going to get there,'" Nicklaus said at the Honda Classic.

Nicklaus said he figured that would mean another 10 years of research, but that Davis told him the USGA was getting closer to agreements with the R&A "to do something and be able to help."

After two weeks of anticipation, the governing bodies delivered data that showed an average gain of 3 yards across seven tours worldwide in 2017, enough of a spike in one year for them to describe it as "unusual and concerning," and one that requires closer inspection.

More research. The PGA Tour, the only tour with laser technology to measure every shot, had an increase of 1.9 yards. Throw out the eight different courses used in 2017 — expansive Erin Hills instead of Oakmont, Quail Hollow instead of soggy Baltusrol — and the increase was a half-yard.

What does it all mean? That nothing has changed when it comes to advancements in golf, and the resistance primarily from architectural circles.

It's a conflict nearly as old as the Royal & Ancient game.

The debate over golf balls in particular surfaced in the mid-1850s when Allan Robertson was making the featherie and had a falling out with his apprentice, Old Tom Morris, when he switched over to the gutta percha.

Tiger Woods used a replica of the gutta percha during a practice round at St. Andrews before the 2000 British Open. He drove his Nike golf ball to the edge of the ninth green. He hit driver and a 5-iron just over the green with the guttie.

One more anecdote from St. Andrews: The R&A was so concerned about how far players were hitting the modern golf ball that it lengthened the Old Course, along with adding pot bunkers, to protect against low scores. That was the Haskell golf ball, which replaced the gutta percha. The year was 1905.

"It's not like we're making the game too easy," said Dustin Johnson, described by his peers as an athletic freak. "Because I've never felt the game was easy."

Davis expressed his own concerns at the USGA's annual meeting last month when he looked ahead to the U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills. The course was 4,423 yards for the first U.S. Open there in 1896. The USGA has lengthened it to just over 7,400 yards for 2018.

"Don't read into this that we are proposing going back to hickories and gutta percha balls in the future," Davis said. "But it does make you wonder what golf courses will look like if we stay on this trajectory."

Is the spike of 3 yards across seven tours a concern?

The fact this "annual" report is only 3 years old suggests that the USGA and R&A need more study — just what Nicklaus wants to hear — before doing anything drastic. That could include anything from rolling back the overall distance standard for golf balls, reducing the size of drivers or finding a way to shrink the players.

Anticipation of the report led to a memo from PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan to his players. He pointed out there were three instances of a significant gain in distance since 2003, and five cases where average distance decreased.

He also noted that the average club-head speed had increased by 1.5 mph in the last 10 years.

"We do not believe the trends indicate a significant or abnormal increase in distance since 2003 or from 2016 to 2017," Monahan said.

Those might have been the most powerful words Monday. Because while the USGA and R&A set the rules, the PGA Tour delivers the product that draws people to the game. The PGA Tour delivers the players to the U.S. Open and British Open, tournaments (with TV contracts) that financially support the governing bodies.

The entertainment level of the sport is strong. Equipment companies pay players handsomely with hopes consumers will want to play the same products.

Most fans don't care what club is used to hit the shot. The care about whose hands are holding the club.

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

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WEDNESDAY PRIME TIME MARCH 7, 2018. Table listing TV programs and channels for various stations including KMD, KOSA, KWWT, KPEI, KMLM, KWES, KPBT, KUPD, KOSA, FLEX, HBO, HDQ, HDOS, MAX, PLEX, SHOW, TMC, ABE, ABC, BET, BRAVO, CHC, CHN, DISC, DISNEY, ESPN, ESPN2, FX, HALLMARK, HISTORY, LIFETIME, MSNBC, NBCSN, NBCU, SYFY, TBS, TCM, TLC, TNT, TVLAND, USA, WGN.

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Memories of long-ago assault revived by #MeToo movement

DEAR ABBY: Years ago, my husband and I hosted a St. Patrick's Day party in our apartment for friends. There was a lot of drinking going on. I had to be at work early the next morning, so I went to bed while the party went on. I awoke a short while later to one of the men attempting to rape me. He stopped and attempted an apology by saying, "But you are just so pretty."

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.



your husband would be so forgiving is, frankly, shocking. It may take the help of a licensed mental health professional to put this behind you, if that's possible. I sincerely hope you will reach out to a therapist who treats post-traumatic stress as well as victims of sexual assault, and include your husband in some of the sessions. DEAR ABBY: I'm a 55-year-old gay man with a problem. My 22-year-old son doesn't know I'm gay. It was after my divorce that I started seeing men again. I married my life partner of 13 years last year. My husband thinks I should sit my son down and tell him. I want to tell my son and be honest with him about my relationship with my husband, but my son is very religious and I'm afraid this will drive a wedge between us. Plus, I'm afraid of what ideas my ex would fill his head with about me. Please advise. — CON-

GOREN BRIDGE With Bob Jones Open book

Neither vulnerable, South deals. NORTH ♠43 ♥J862 ♦A1053 ♣AK6 WEST ♠AK9852 ♥QJ10 ♦64 ♣Q42 EAST ♠10 ♥9753 ♦KJ98 ♣J875 SOUTH ♠QJ76 ♥AK4 ♦Q72 ♣1093 The bidding: SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♠ 2♠ 3NT 4NT All pass Negative Opening lead: Eight of ♠ Today's deal is from a match between ladies teams from Austria and England. South was Nicola Smith, long a mainstay of the English ladies team. Most English players use the "weak" no-trump, showing 12-14 points. That was obviously not the case for Smith and her partner.

Smith won the opening spade lead with her queen and took stock of her meager assets. There were only six tricks on top, so there was much work to be done. She started by banging down her ace and king of hearts, felling two honors from West and getting her total up to seven tricks. She crossed to dummy with the ace of clubs and led a low diamond, winning with her queen when East played low. Eight tricks. Smith now ducked a diamond to East's nine. East continued with the king of diamonds to dummy's ace and the whole hand was known when West discarded a spade to this trick. West had started with 6-2-2-3 distribution and the clubs were sure to be splitting 4-3. Smith cashed dummy's king of clubs and exited with a club, knowing that whoever won this trick would have to give her a ninth trick. Should East win, she could cash another club and a diamond, but would then have to lead into dummy's jack-eight of hearts. Should West win, which is what happened at the table, West would have to give South the jack of spades for her ninth trick. Well played!

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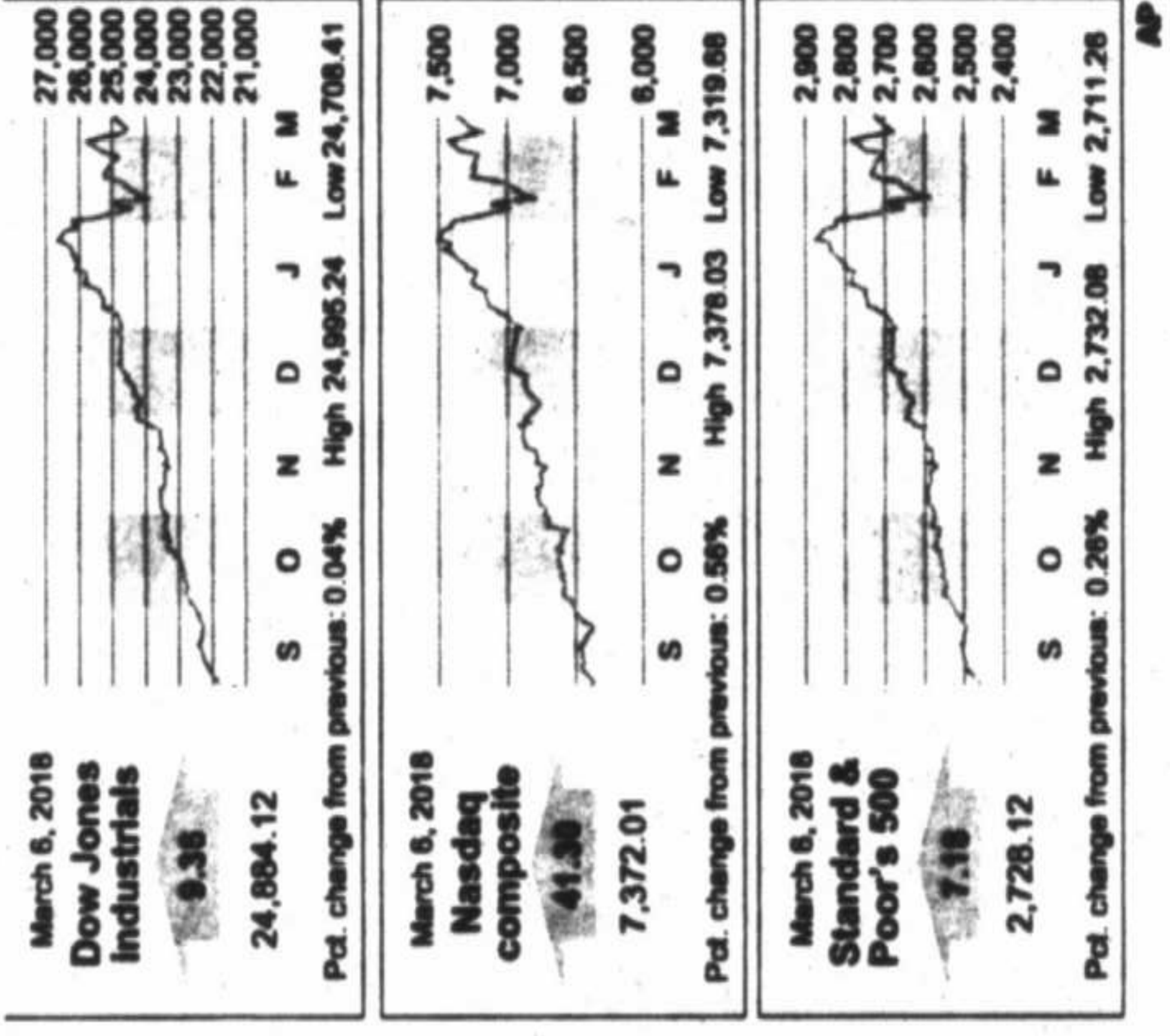


THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange transactions, listing various stocks and their prices.

A DAY ON WALL STREET



Summary tables for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, including Most Active, Gainers, and Losers lists.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of Mutual Funds, listing fund names, assets, and performance metrics.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market listings, including various technology and growth stocks.

PERMIAN BASIN STOCKS

Table of Permian Basin Stocks, listing energy-related companies and their market data.

Read Basin Business and the Oil Report every Sunday to catch up with business news before the region.

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Minimum Requirements:

- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
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- Class A CDL and Haz Mat is preferred but not required
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Physical Demands:
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Benefits: Medical, dental, vision, life insurance. Paid vacation after 1 year of service, and 401K
Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc.
1401 S. Grandview
Odessa, Texas 79761

Moving Company
Moving company looking for furniture moving help. Must be honest and dependable good starting pay. Call Jack at 432-512-9582.

OUT OF CITY DELIVERY DRIVER/ MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES

- Must have a clean, valid license & acceptable driving history
- Late night/early morning hours
- Obey all traffic laws
- Strong commitment to safety to a must
- Professional communication with management, co-workers and customers
- Ability to lift, push or pull up to 80-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 mail resume to P-118 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram
201 E. Street, Midland, TX 79701

Warehouse
Please apply in person at: 5208 Wadley 79701

Field Service Technicians, Shop Technicians & Mechanics
New Service and Equipment Company is seeking Field Service Technicians, Shop Technicians and Mechanics. Experience preferred. However, we are willing to train. Hourly pay and excellent benefits of group health, dental, life insurance and vacation pay. There is an opportunity to own ownership and be awarded bonuses. Presentation is mandatory 45% plus after one year of employment. You can also be 20% E. May 1st in Midland. Apply in person at: 201 E. Street, Midland, TX 79701 or go online to www.endeavorenergy.com for application and contact us at hr@endeavorenergy.com

Manager & Cashiers
Seeker's Culture Shows Bonus for Manager Trainee & Cashiers
Full-time & Part-time position must have own transportation
Apply in person Mon-Fri 8-5
6000 E University, Ste 11, Odessa, Tx

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night Time Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE
Must be able to work at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Monday night 8am-5pm. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-9 nights per week. We will train the right person.
\$11.00 per hour
These positions require some physical lifting of 5-10 lbs. Must be able to read and understand all signs in the store. No alcohol or recreational drug use. Must be available to work during the hours listed above.
Resumes should be sent to: hr@mrt.com. Please include your phone number and address. We will contact you if you are selected.
Apply in person at: 201 E. Street, Midland, Texas 79701
MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

2-1-1 INFORMATION & REFERRAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Accepting applications for the position of 2-1-1 Information and Referral Community Outreach and Resource Coordinator. Job duties include developing and implementing a community and business outreach plan. Job duties include developing and implementing a community and business outreach plan, developing public education and information materials, and networking with agencies to gather resource information for the 2-1-1 database of resources.

Minimum qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in a social/human service or related field and minimum of two years experience with a non-profit community or social health services agency in the Permian Basin. Bilingual (English and Spanish) preferred. Certified Information and Referral Specialist (CIRS) OR must obtain Alliance of Information and Referral Systems CIRS within 18 months of employment. Position requires ability to work in a team-oriented environment, strong customer service orientation and skills, and ability to build and maintain strong community relationships.

Please submit resume to:
 gail.dickinson@workforcepb.org
 FAX: 432-681-8788

Permian Basin Workforce Board is an equal opportunity employer with equal opportunity programs.
 Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

ESCROW OFFICER & ESCROW ASSISTANTS

West Texas Abstract & Title Company is currently looking for an escrow officer and an escrow assistant for immediate employment with a thriving company which offers many excellent benefits who has a strong customer service background and who is detail oriented. Must have good communication and problem solving skills with the ability to multi task. The position will be assisting closers in the last steps of the real estate closing process. Title company experience is preferred and/or a strong communication skill to work with clients throughout the closing process. Salary will be DOE. If you are looking for a rewarding career that can take you to any level you want to achieve, please drop off resumes at or send to West Texas Abstract & Title Company, Attn: HR Department at 3700 N Big Spring St, Midland, TX 79705. WTA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a part of the FNF family.

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES

Restaurant Positions

Osaqa Japanese Steakhouse FT
 Would you like to make \$15 to \$20 an hour, depending on position? Now hiring Hibachi Chefs, Waitresses, Hostesses, Cashiers, Bartenders, Bus Help, Dishwashers & Kitchen Help. Come apply in person: 11am-2pm at 1287 Tradewinds Blvd. 79708 or online at: www.osaqa.com

SALES JOBS

Multi-Media Sales Executive

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

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

Multi-Media Sales Executives maximize advertising sales potential, through the development of quality business relationships and promotion of new/existing advertising products. This position requires a heavy amount of prospecting and lead-development with local businesses. We pride ourselves on simplifying the marketing process for our customers, while helping advertisers track the impact of their campaigns and understand their advertising options. In short, we help our customers grow their business.

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

The Ideal Candidate:
 - You're self-motivated and results oriented
 - You have an outgoing, resilient personality
 - You enjoy the thrill of the hunt by bringing in new business
 - You're confident and not willing to accept average

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

What's in it for you?
 - Paid training
 - Competitive Base Salary & Commissions
 - Medical, Dental and Vision Coverage
 - Flex spending accounts
 - Short & Long-Term Disability Insurance
 - 401K with company match
 - Paid time off & more!

Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbins@hearstnp.com
 No Phone Calls Please.

SKILLED LABOR

Accounting Clerk

Accounting Clerk must have experience with Microsoft Office/QuickBooks and a good understanding of Accounting. Pay based on experience. Benefits Pkg. Send resume to: Production LR Cos. P. O. Box 9423, Midland, TX. 79708 or mawhart@productionlr.com

Laborers and Carpenters

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring laborers and carpenters. Reliable transportation a must. You may apply or leave an application at 5208 W. Wedley Avenue, Midland, Texas.

PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING

Instrumentation & Electrical Technician

Maintains all electrical equipment used to monitor and control oil well services equipment. Home nightly.

Qualifications:
 - High school education or equivalent.
 - 6 months experience maintaining and repairing electronic instrumentation and automation equipment.
 - Valid operator's license with clean driving record

Comprehensive Benefits package!
 - Medical, Dental, & Vision
 - Prescription Drug
 - 401 K
 - Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
 - Company Paid Life
 - Tuition Reimbursement
 - Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnd.com/careers/job-openings

PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING

Local Drivers

Local truck drivers needed. Home nightly, local routes, scheduled shifts 5am-5pm (14/7 rotational) never on call, optional overtime.

Qualifications:
 - High school education or equivalent.
 - Valid operator's license
 - Clean driving record.
 - DOT compliant

Comprehensive Benefits package!
 - Medical, Dental, & Vision
 - Prescription Drug
 - 401 K
 - Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
 - Company Paid Life
 - Tuition Reimbursement
 - Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnd.com/careers/job-openings

Plumber Apprentices

Plumber apprentices needed for new commercial projects. Must possess valid DL. Experience preferred. Good work environment with competitive pay and standard benefits. Call 432-682-6222

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SKILLED LABOR

PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING

Transportation Truck Driver

Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Belly Dump Truck and hauling water/caliche to drill rigs, fracturing crews, etc. Hauls water/caliche from well locations to proper disposal facilities.

Qualifications:
 - High school education or equivalent.
 - Experience can range from commercial truck driving experience preferred to one year as a water truck driver required.
 - Valid Class A CDL with Tanker endorsement.
 - Clean driving record.
 - Salary competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Comprehensive Benefits package!
 - Medical, Dental, & Vision
 - Prescription Drug
 - 401 K
 - Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
 - Company Paid Life
 - Tuition Reimbursement
 - Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnd.com/careers/job-openings

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

CDL Driver

CDL Driver needed. Slover Roofing Supply. Apply in person at 3010 W. Front Street, Midland Texas. Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm.

CDL DRIVERS

As a rapidly growing concrete manufacturing company, Ingram Concrete is currently seeking CDL DRIVERS for our Midland facility. Excellent benefits with pay rates and compensation based on driving experience. Paid weekly and home daily/weekends. Guaranteed hours year round and bonus potential. New pay rates. Come be a part of our family style atmosphere.

Please apply at 2808 N. FM 1786 in Midland or call (432) 561-9922 for additional information.

Ingram Concrete is an EOE M/F/D/V



Delivery Driver

Wanted: DELIVERY DRIVER for local oilfield chemical service company. Good pay, good benefits. Requirements: - High School Diploma or GED - CDL - Must be willing to acquire or currently possess: Hazmat endorsement, Tanker endorsement. Call Tim (409) 386-4161




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Legal and Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BID
Midland County Hospital District is Requesting Proposals for:
Cost Reporting Services
for
Midland Memorial Hospital.

Specifications may be secured at Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital located at 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland TX 79701 on or after Wednesday, March 7, 2018.

All proposals must be received in the Department of Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital by 12 Noon, Tuesday, March 27, 2018.

All proposals must be sealed and labeled "RFP # 1244-036718"

Under no circumstances will faxed proposals from bidders be accepted.

All proposals must be price protected until March 27, 2019.

All proposals will remain confidential until after an award has been made. Offerors will then be allowed to review the proposals in the purchasing office according to the policy and procedures of Midland Memorial Hospital. Midland County Hospital District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive formalities.

Bids shall be addressed to:
Amy Jean Fultz
Director of Supply Chain
Midland County Hospital District
400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway
Midland, Texas 79701
Amy.fultz@midlandhealth.org

Legal and Public Notices

Public Notice
Bid #2018-003

Midland College is accepting competitive sealed bids for airblade hand dryers. Bid packets may be picked up Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., in the Purchasing Office, located at 3800 North Garfield, Midland, Texas. Bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 27, 2018 in the Purchasing Office, at which time they will be opened and read aloud. For bid packet information contact Barbara Fennell, Director of Purchasing, (432)688-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. A final determination may be made at a future board meeting. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids submitted.

General

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Motorcycles

2012 Prowler 700 Series Arctic Cat. blue 2-seater 4XA. Garage kept. Must see riding \$8,500. 432-348-0041.



Recreation Vehicles

Houseboat - Stardust
endless Super Wheel 55FT. Powered with two 350 Chevy engines, low hours, central lift, upper deck & water slide, Kohler generator, sleeps 8, Lake Amistad, Del Rio, TX. \$65,000. 432-250-3807.



Merchandise

Office Furniture:
1 Executive desk 78" in by 42" top \$300. Work table 86 by 36" \$150. Roll top desk 50W x 48H \$200. Text (432) 230-2336 for item pictures.

2 BEDROOM 2 bath, mobile home in Greenwood. Fenced yard, clean and ready to go. \$800 month. \$800 deposit. 432-558-5081.

2 BEDROOM house near Midland Memorial Hospital. Wood floors, fenced yard. \$1,200 monthly. Please call 432-230-8887.

FSBO 2005 Boeing, 3 bedroom 2 bath, 2 car garage. Old Midland Owner. \$225,000. 10% down plus closing cost. Call 432-631-8974.

For Sale McCray Fusion Machine. Ready To Work For More Info Please Call 858-740-4187

Single country plot near the mausoleum in Rest Haven for \$1785,432 413-1883

Real Estate

FOR SALE
Real Estate Rental-Sale

Residential Rentals
Apartment Rent Utilities

EFFICIENCY APARTMENT located behind 907 W. Dakota. \$700 monthly, utilities paid \$300 deposit. Call Melissa 432-280-9767.

Condo - Theme Rent Return
4419 Crockett Ave. 2 master bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large living area, backyard, close to school, and waterfront, no pets allowed. \$1,400 a month 1,100 sq ft. For more info call (902)-432-0888

HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER ON FAIRWAY OAKS
4br/3.5 bath. Completely remodeled including new appliances. Home sits on the 15th green of Fairway Oaks Golf Course in Abilene, Texas. Minutes on the Golf Course. 214-797-0785. Email: seablay@yahoo.com. Sharon Ann Sibley

LOT OR Building site Lake Leon (Eastland, TX.) on deep water out of flood plain, storage building & carport. lots of trees. Call 254-488-0298 for more information.

FOR SALE! CHAMPION (Redman) Double Wide 28 X 60 - 3 Bedrooms - 2 bath - 2 living areas - may be moved - has - deck - fence - storage - This is a beautiful home and is only 7 months old, if you are ready to move in, it is move in ready! Must move due to health. Call Sue (432) 661-8737

LIQUIDATION OF 2 divorced homes in Midland, TX. 1908 W. Kansas & 2012 N. Garfield. Call for prices. 214-398-0244 Realtor

48.16 ACRES WCR-113 Just South of I-20 off I-10! \$24,000. Carry Home. The Real Estate Co. (432) 382-1873

SHOP YARD for lease. CR 60 Properties, LP Broker/Owner 432-230-8138

Lots and Land

22.18 AC. COKE COUNTY. NEAR ROBERT LEE. WELL, ELECTRICITY. LEVEL, MESQUITE, CEDAR COVER. GREAT FOR RETIREMENT OR WEEKEND CABIN. WHITETAIL, QUAIL, Doves & TURKEY. \$3,999 DOWN. \$85/MO. CALL/VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-878-8720 ranchandproperty.com

40 AC. N. OF COMSTOCK. NEAR LAKE AMSTAD. W. TX BRUSH COUNTRY. DEER, JAVELINA, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. \$2,800 DOWN. \$33/MO. CALL/VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-878-8720 ranchandproperty.com

85 AC. CEDAR SPRINGS. ELECTRICITY, LIVE OAK, CEDAR COVER. AXIS DEER, WHITETAIL, HOGS & TURKEY. \$2,500/AC. FIXED RATE 30 YEAR OWNER FINANCING. 9% DOWN. CALL/VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-878-8720 ranchandproperty.com

2 spaces available in the Devotion Garden, of Rest Haven North. Valued at \$2,400 a piece, will sell for \$2,000 a piece. Call (432) 558-0810

400 +/- acres, north-west Menard County. 2 water wells, mobile home, deer, black buck, antelope, turkey, Nice Live Oak rolling country. Sammy Martin Broker. 325-285-4244. www.huntingproperties.usa.com

LAKE FRONT ACRES. Lake Brownwood gated community, 4.95 acres, located on deep water can be divided into 5 lots of just less than 1 acre, or 2 lots of 1.8 acres, 1 lot of approximately .90 acres. Single lots \$78,500. More than 1 lot price negotiable. 800-789-5209

Land For Sale On the north truck route Farm 1, Tx. Call (432) 631-8522

COMMERCIAL YARD/BUILD TO SUIT FOR LEASE 5 ACRES, FENCED 2 AC CALCHED. \$2200/MONTH ANY EAST OF MIDLAND 432-684-7794

Midland Industrial Warehouse, 2703 W Industrial, 1900-4500 s.f. Deck High storage units, 830-388-0218

FEATURED RANCHES FOR SALE

24,400 acres located in DeWitt County, Texas. This is a ranch with high level of production. Mesquite and live oak cover the bottom. This ranch has the perfect "hands-on" charm. The property is well watered with the nice improvements and there are over 100 permits. One-half mile. \$550/acre.

10,666 acres located in DeWitt County, Texas. This is a ranch with high level of production. Big improvement throughout the ranch including a new well, fence, and more. The ranch has a beautiful view of the property. Classified Ranch. \$525/acre.

25,785 acres located in DeWitt County, Texas. This ranch is located on a well watered area with a beautiful view of the property. Classified Ranch. \$525/acre.

14,393 acres located in DeWitt County, Texas. This is a ranch with high level of production. Big improvement throughout the ranch including a new well, fence, and more. The ranch has a beautiful view of the property. Classified Ranch. \$525/acre.

7,785 acres located in DeWitt County, Texas. This is a ranch with high level of production. Big improvement throughout the ranch including a new well, fence, and more. The ranch has a beautiful view of the property. Classified Ranch. \$525/acre.

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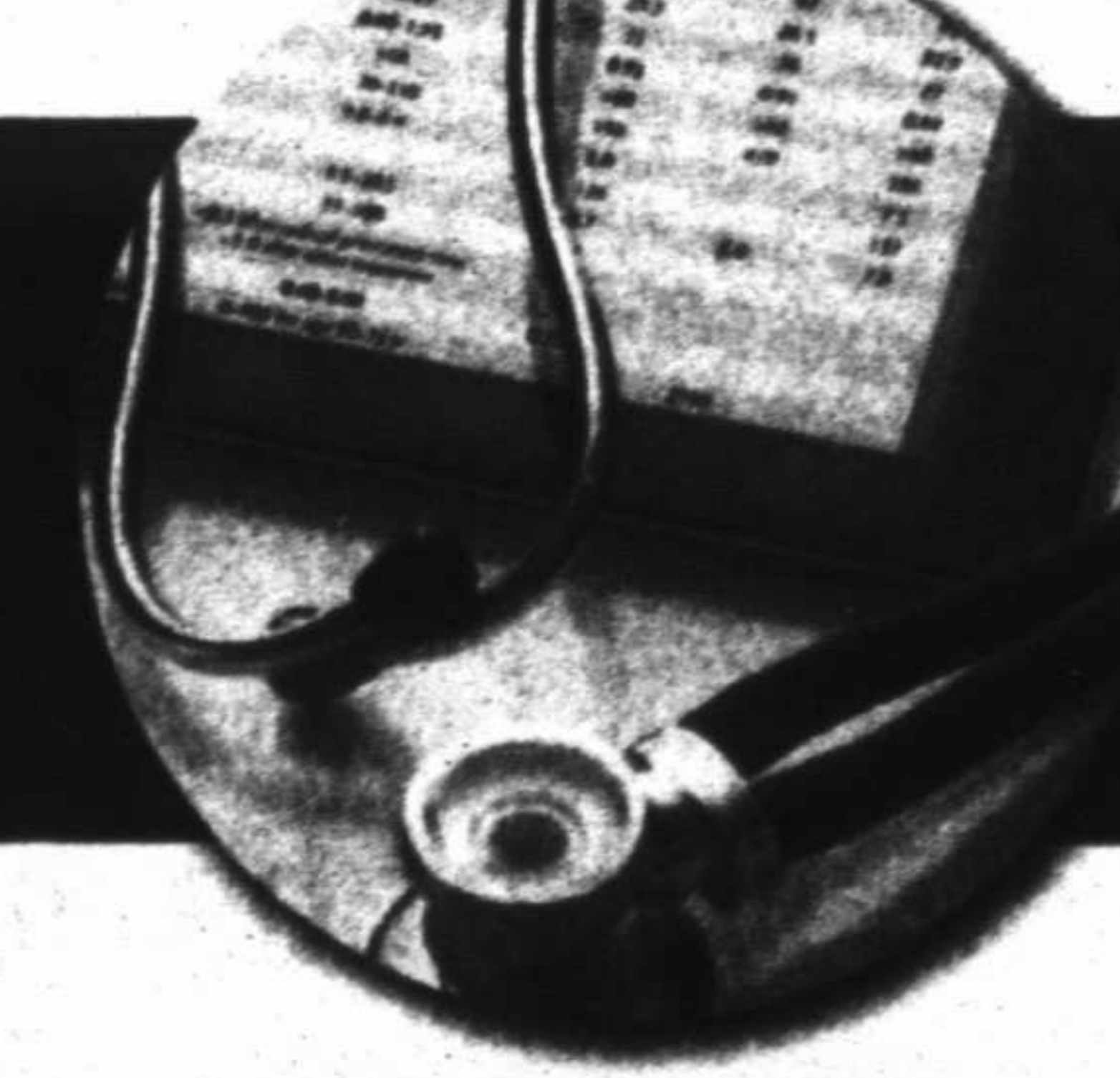
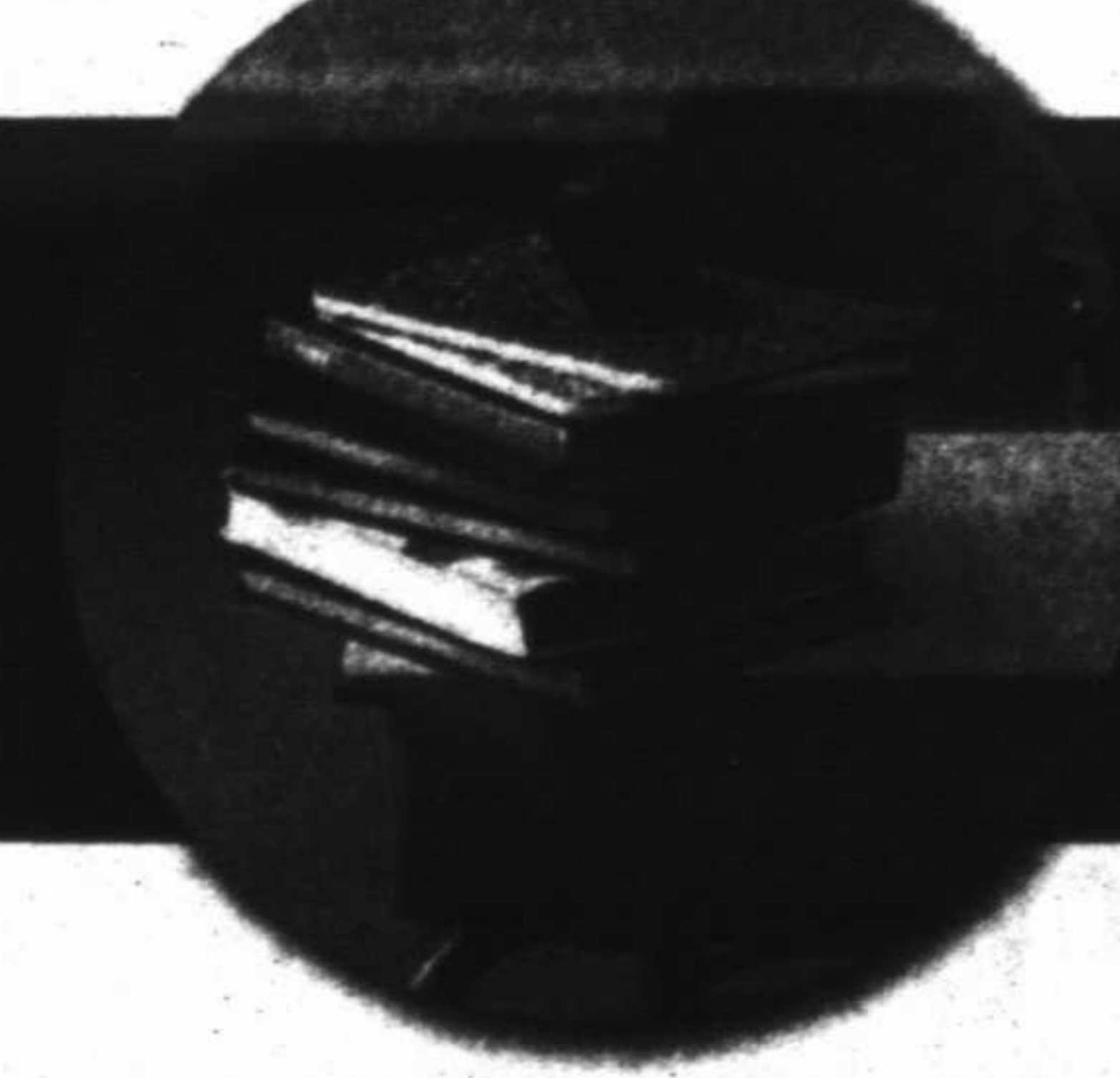
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These Midlanders each play a
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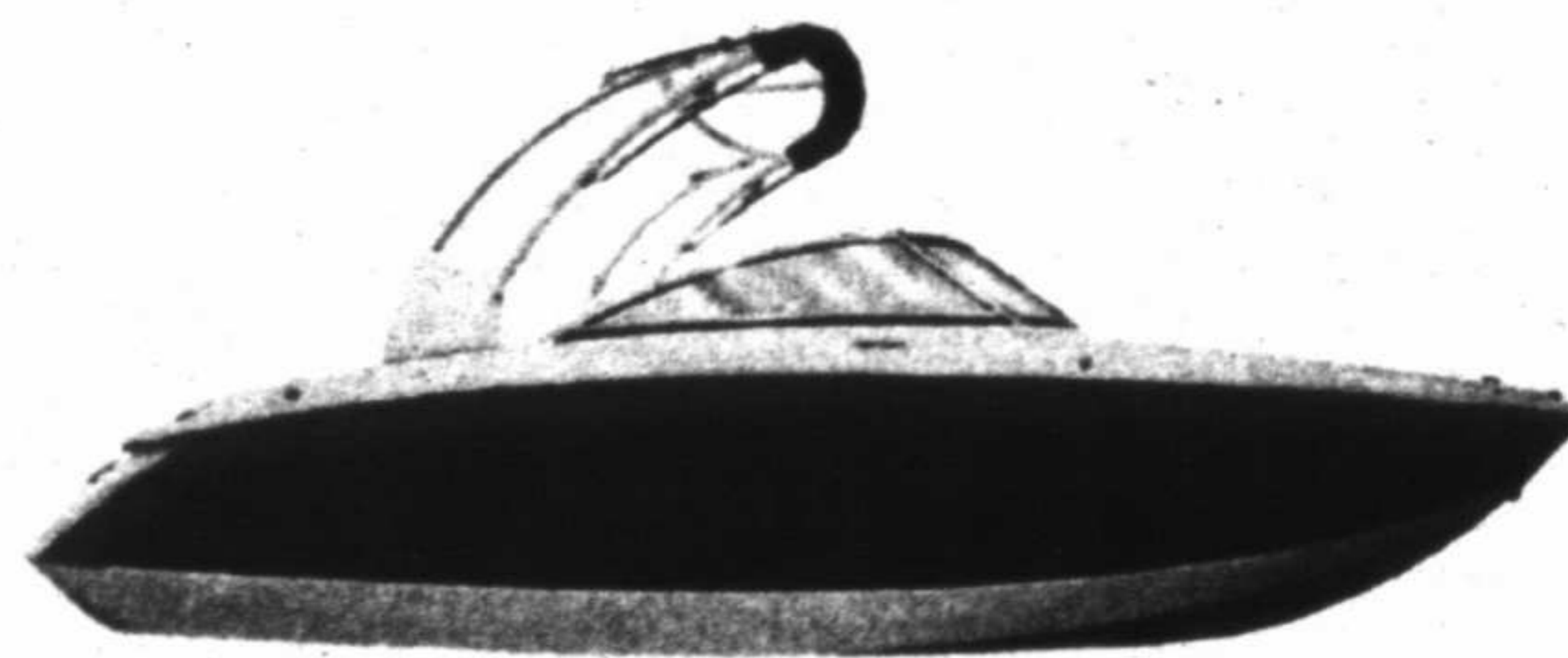
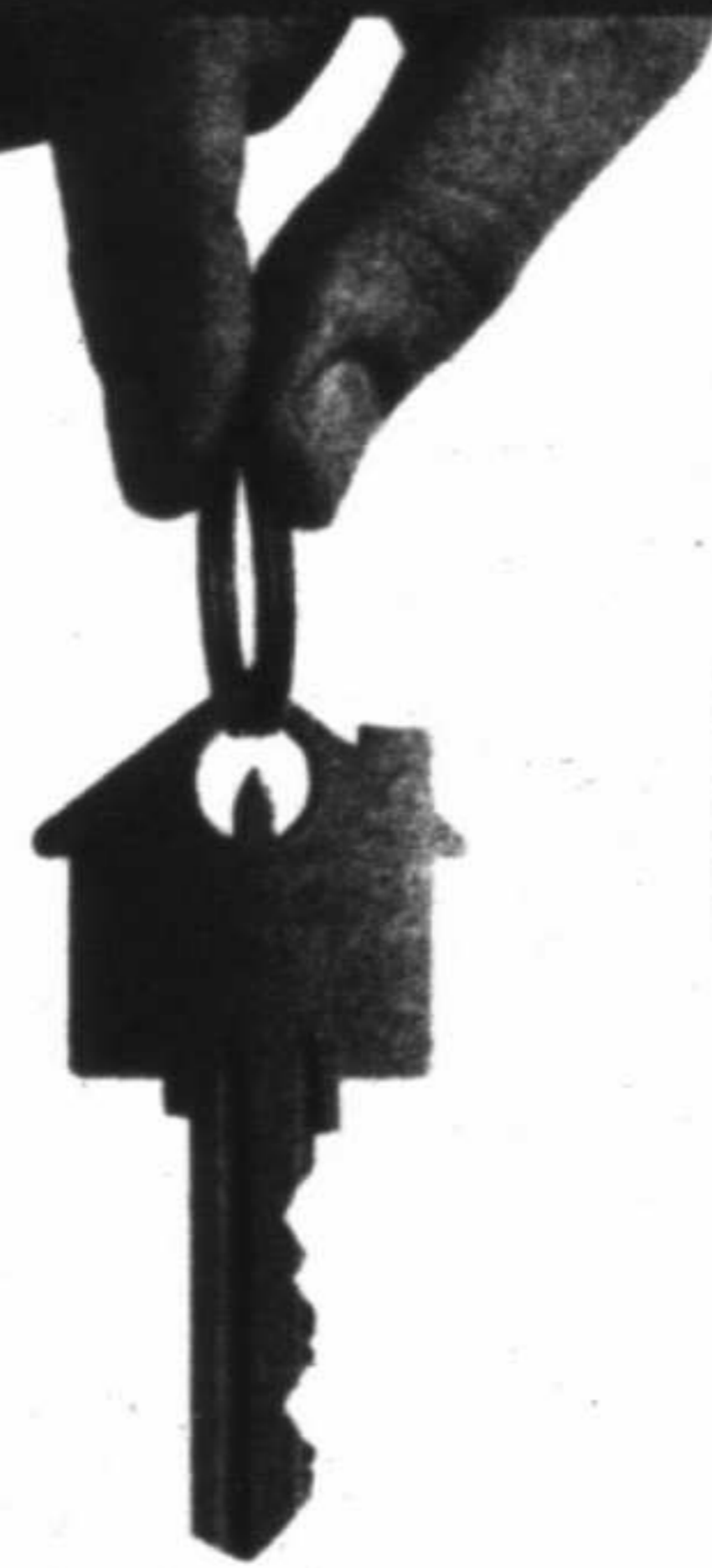


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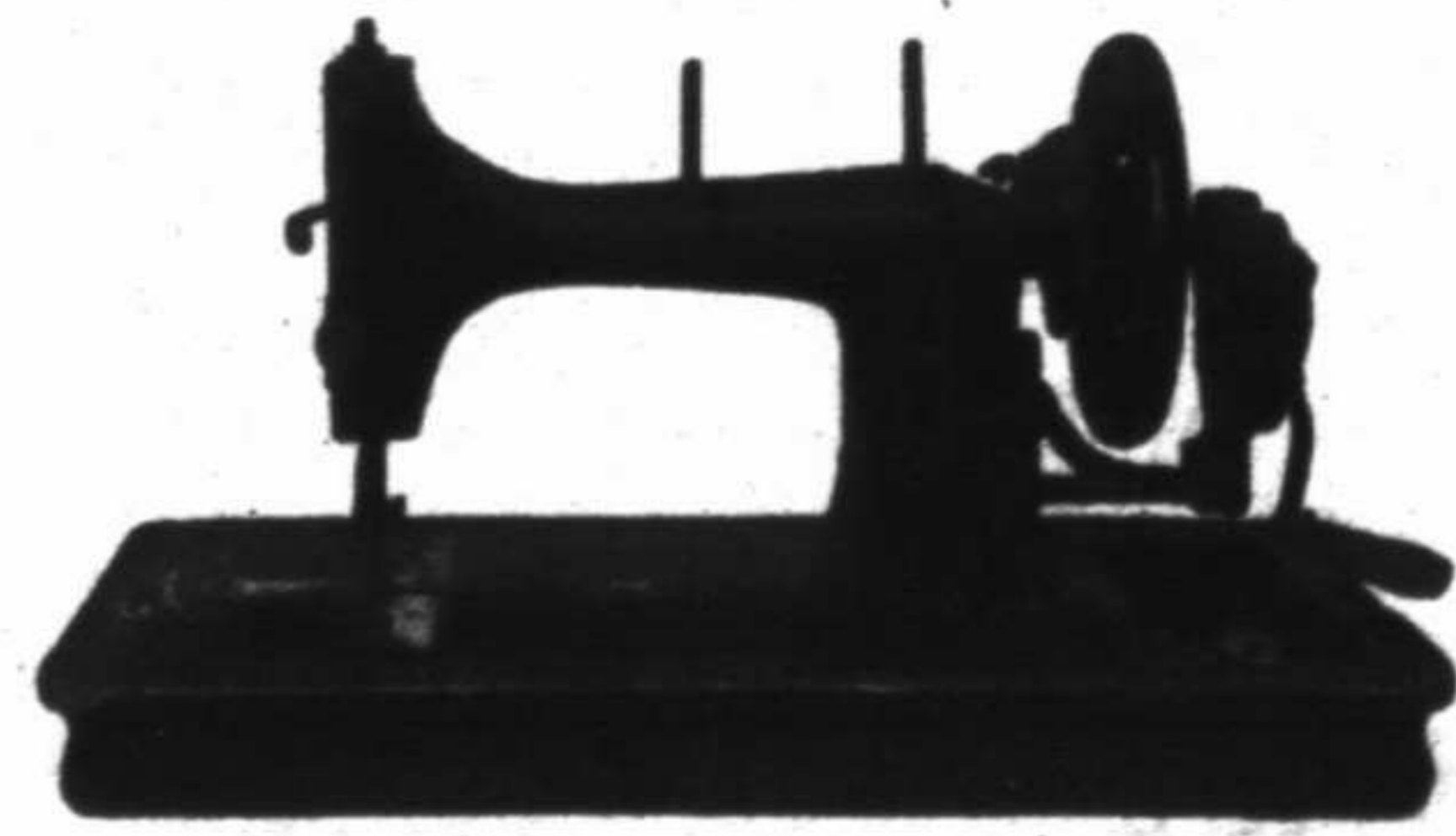
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