MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 mrt★com *320,000 readers in print and online*

TOMLINSON

More companies have told Gov. Abbott the "bathroom bill" would be bad for business.

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SWEET INCENTIVE

TCU started offering an incentive to full-time students of $3,000 a year to all band members. Read more in Education.

Page 2B

MISD slices off too much with tax rate decrease

■ Fund-balance issues to force proposed increase of I&S rate

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

Midland ISD's lowering of the interest and sinking portion of the total tax rate was apparently too much.

On Monday, during the school district's monthly meeting, board members heard details that the decision to lower the I&S rate from 0.10 to 0.08 cents per $100 valuation has negatively impacted the I&S fund balance (savings account) to the point that board members feel they have to raise the rate.

More MISD news

Some insurance premiums set to increase for MISD employees

Page 2A

The total school district tax rate is made of two parts. The maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rate provides funds for maintenance and operations. MISD's M&O rate is $1.04005 per $100 valuation. The I&S tax rate, according to the Texas Education Agency, provides funds for payments on the debt that finances a district's facilities. Currently, that rate is 0.08.

Last fiscal year, MISD paid $16.765 million in debt service payments. However, during the same period, the district's I&S fund balance decreased from $4.19 million to $2.31 million. Midland ISD officials said their preference is to have at least $4 million in the reserve fund for times when the district needs its savings account to kick in, such as when property values drop.

So, MISD trustees are calling for an increase in its I&S tax rate from 0.08 to 0.0875 cents per $100 valuation. The tax rate will be up for public debate at the district's tax rate and budget public hearing, scheduled for Aug. 21. For the owner of a property valued at $200,000, such a rate increase will mean an extra $15 in the MISD portion of the tax bill.

For older residents, the tax rate will still be frozen at whatever rate it was when a property owner turned 65 and qualified his or her home, MISD officials said.

Please see **TAX**/3A

POPCORN PANDEMONIUM

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Members of the audience throw popcorn during the Summer Mummers performance Aug. 1 at the Yucca Theatre. Throwing popcorn is part of Mummers tradition. "Psychedelic Trip to the Summer of '69" runs weekends through Sept. 2. More photos will be published in a future edition and at mrt.com.

MDC approves contract with college district

■ Agreement will expand dual-credit career and technology program

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

More high school students will get the chance to develop their careers before going to college.

The Midland Development Corp. board on Monday approved a contract with the Midland Community College District to help expand Midland College's dual-credit career and technology program, which in the past school year served 301 Midland Independent School District students. All involved hope to more than double that number in two years.

"It's been a long process working with the MDC and MISD," MC President Steve Thomas said ahead of the vote.

Thomas said the college will create a health sciences academy and a business/IT academy at the Advanced Technology Center. Plus, MDC funds will go toward training current faculty and hiring new faculty.

"I applaud the MDC for taking this important initiative to train a new generation of skilled technicians to help sustain and increase Midland's workforce," Thomas said in a press release issued after the meeting.

The release said the Abell-Hanger Foundation has indicated it wants to increase its financial support to boost enrollment in the programs. The foundation has awarded $25,000 annually to upgrade technology at the ATC.

Sharla Hotchkiss, District 3 City councilwoman and Texas Workforce Investment Council member, said after the meeting she commended all parties involved for recognizing the need for vocational

Please see **MDC**/2A

Dos Soles may be able to sell alcohol

■ Planning & Zoning Commission OKs restaurant's request for specific-use permit

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

Patrons who would like a cocktail with their enchiladas at Dos Soles Mexican Restaurant are a step closer to being able to order one.

The Planning & Zoning Commission on Monday approved by 7-0 vote Dos Soles' request for a specific-use permit for the sale of all alcoholic beverages from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Sundays.

"We're happy and very excited (about the approval)," restaurant manager Adriana Angel said after the meeting. Angel said business has been slow and the owners hope liquor sales will bring in more customers. Dos Soles — located at 218 N. Midkiff Road, on the corner of Midkiff and Illinois Avenue — has been open for 16 months.

Angel said the restaurant doesn't like to use canned food in its dishes and the salsa is made fresh daily.

"We invite everyone to come in and try our food and enjoy our beer," owner Graciela Magana said.

Added Angel: "Come in and give us a try."

The request now goes to City Council for consideration.

In other business

■ Organic growth: Pristine Organic Cleaners is looking to expand elsewhere, though it isn't planning on moving too far. Pristine is currently located in the Red Oak Shopping Center, 1307 N. Loop 250 W. Suite 10B, near the Scharbauer Sports Complex.

Commissioners unanimously approved

Please see **P&Z**/2A

Visit us on social media

Price of oil
$49.58 ▲ $0.55
September 2017

Did you know?
Aa2 That's Midland's bond rating according to Moody's Investors Service. Page 2A

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

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Vol. 89, No. 150
Daily $2, Sunday $3

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE
2017 WELLNESS TOUR
August 16-19, 2017 | Midland, TX | midlandwellnesstour.com

Revenue Sources

	Total principal	Interest to maturity	Total principle & interest to maturity
Ad valorem tax	$51,140,000	$19,361,682	$70,501,682
Water & Sewer	$54,660,000	$28,784,086	$83,444,086
Scharbauer Sports Complex (4B tax)	$13,620,000	$1,763,558	$15,383,558
Midland Center (Hotel/motel tax)	$27,245,000	$18,639,000	$45,884,000
Totals	$146,665,000	$68,548,324	$215,213,324

City of Midland: Moody's affirms 'Aa2' bond rating

By Stewart Doreen
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Moody's Investors Service affirmed an "Aa2" bond rating for the city of Midland and revised the outlook from negative to stable on Aug. 3, according to city officials.

The Aa2 rating and stable outlook reflect the large and stable tax base, conservative fiscal management, healthy reserve position and low debt burden, according to a press release from the city.

City Finance Director Pam Simecka told the Reporter-Telegram that the negative outlook last year was because of oil price issues and that Moody's — when applying a negative rating — expected the Aa2 rating to go down in a short period of time.

The change this year has to do with the higher oil price and the ability of local companies to produce at a lower cost, she said.

Analysts expect the city of Midland "will exhibit modest growth over the near term as the local economy shows signs of recovery amidst a prolonged low oil price environment," according to the report. "Over the past five years, the city's AV (assessed valuation) grew at an average annual rate of 9.6 percent including 3 percent for fiscal 2018."

The report also noted "the city's conservative fiscal management, build-up reserves during boom years and stabilized local economy point to maintenance of above average fund balance and liquidity over the near term."

According to the city's debt transparency report — as of Sept. 30 — Standard & Poor's gave the city a "AA+" rating and Fitch gave the city a "AAA" rating.

The same transparency report showed outstanding principal on all city debt reaching $146.6 million, total interest reaching $68.548 million and total principal and interest payments totaling $215.2 million. Those numbers included $15.38 million in total debt payments for the Scharbauer Sports Complex and $45.88 million in total payments for the debt taken out to build the Midland Convention Center.

Total debt payments related to just the ad valorem tax (property taxes) was $70.5 million ($51.14 million in principal and $19.36 million in interest).

Some insurance premiums set to increase for MISD employees

By Stewart Doreen
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The Midland ISD school board on Monday heard details of a plan that calls for insurance premiums for non-employee medical plans to increase 10 percent.

The district cited increasing health-care costs and increasing use of medical and pharmaceutical services as reasons for the first increase in medical plan premiums in eight years. The district will continue to pay for 100 percent of the "employee-only" portion for Plan I.

Medical insurance revenues collected totaled $15.182 million during the 10 months of the current period, according to the district. That amount was more than $1.7 million higher than the same period last year. The revenue also was about $2.4 million less than expenses paid ($17.6 million). It was the second-straight year expenses outpaced revenue by more than $2 million. Those figures presented to the board do not include the summer months when claims are higher, MISD officials said.

"Our plan has steadily been losing money, and we've been having to dip into the fund balance to cover medical costs," according to a Benefits Office memo to all MISD employees.

Last month during a budget workshop, MISD trustees said teachers should receive a 1.726 percent increase to their salaries and the district will pay for increases to health care benefits. When everything is taken into account, the increase in total compensation for teachers will be closer to 4 percent, according to trustees. Monday night, trustees again cited their efforts to offer a total compensation package included raises and covering the rising costs of insurance.

The memo states Midland ISD is self-insured, which means the district pays for all claims out of premiums collected. The district's health-care administrator is Blue Cross Blue Shield, which is responsible for processing district claims, not paying for medical claims, according to the memo.

New monthly premiums for Plan I are:

- Employee/children: $302.50 (currently is $275)
- Employee/spouse: $415.80 ($378)
- Employee/family: $667.70 ($607)

Other changes to Plan I are:

- Prescription deductible: $400
- Individual medical deductible: $4,000 (family deductible $8,000)

New premiums for Plan II are:

- Employee only: $77 ($70)
- Employee/children: $418 ($380)
- Employee/spouse: $547.80 ($498)
- Employee/family: $814.00 ($740)

Other changes to Plan II are:

- Individual medical deductible: $2,250 (family deductible $5,500),
- Individual out-of-pocket deductible: $5,500 (family deductible $9,000).

Other changes to both plans include removing CVS from the pharmacy network. CVS was charging Clue Cross Blue Shield more than other pharmacies, MISD officials said.

Additional employee benefits include:

- District employees can see a board-certified doctor 24 hours a day, using "MD Live."
- The MISD Care Clinic will remain open and available for all employees and dependents enrolled in the district's medical plan.

Funeral Wednesday in Houston for former Gov. Mark White

Associated Press

HOUSTON — A funeral will be held Wednesday in Houston for former Texas Gov. Mark White, who died over the weekend at age 77.

The office of current Gov. Greg Abbott announced White will then lie in state Thursday afternoon at the Texas Capitol in Austin.

White, a Democrat who served as Texas governor from 1983 until 1987, fought kidney cancer for years. His family said White died Saturday in Houston.

White's funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Second Baptist Church.

On Thursday, White's body will be transported from Houston to Austin where the former governor will lie in state, in the Capitol Rotunda , from noon until 3 p.m.

Burial will follow at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, with a private ceremony for White's family.

MDC

From 1A

education in high school.

The board voted 3-0 to approve the deal. Board members Wesley Bownds and Gary Douglas were absent.

Starting with the 2017-18 school year, the MDC will provide MC with $250,000 each year through 2019-20. The college will receive $300,000 in 2020-21 and 2021-22 for a five-year grand total of $1.35 million.

Enrollment is projected at 520 students in the first year, 690 in the second and 730 from the third year on.

The agreement calls for MC to remodel and equip two new energy technology labs and upgrade equipment in the existing automotive technology, diesel technology and health sciences labs at the ATC. New faculty will be required to have direct industry experience.

Thomas said during the meeting that the business community has high interest in the program and some companies might donate equipment.

The model used in the much-lauded Early College High School program will be applied to the career and technical programs.

"The MDC wants this to be the beginning of a long-term partnership with Midland College," Vice Chairman Keith Stretcher said in a written statement before Monday's meeting. "We want to continue to work with Midland College to assist in meeting the educational needs of Midlanders."

The MDC is an economic development group funded by the voter-approved quarter-cent Type A sales tax. The MDC's mission is to "promote and advance opportunities that enhance and diversify the strength and stability of the Midland economy," according to its website. While historically focused on using financial incentives to draw businesses to Midland, its focus has changed in recent months. The group is putting its efforts into improving the community's roads, health care and educational opportunities.

The MDC this year partnered with the University of Texas of the Permian Basin to establish a "maker space" and business incubator at the Center for Energy and Economic Development building. In addition, the group put money toward the construction of UTPB's engineering college so that it could expand its degree offerings.

The MDC also has partnered with the Small Business Development Center at UTPB to establish an "entrepreneurial challenge" in an effort to develop small businesses and startups by giving them seed money to help them grow.

In an update Monday on the challenge, SBDC representatives said four businesses have been chosen: a farmer who reclaimed a building to grow microgreens, a trucker who brings people to Midland, a microbrewery and an app builder. SBDC Regional Director Enrique Romero said other communities have reached out to the organization seeking to establish their own entrepreneurial challenge programs after learning of the MDC's efforts. He assured board members that the MDC's program takes precedence.

Stretcher said the MDC will continue to recruit businesses if they provide high-paying jobs and expand the tax base. However, businesses will receive funds only after meeting certain benchmarks. "There will no longer be any contracts that are not performance-based," he said.

In other business

- The board approved the 2017-18 budget, which anticipates $9.5 million in sales tax revenue, $1 million more than was anticipated for the current fiscal year. Year-to-date, $7,486,950.20 has been collected, with $819,179.51 in June.

Total expenditures are expected to be $15,505,490 for 2017-18; however, the MDC has budgeted to spend $11,185,648 in economic incentives. The total estimated balance on Oct. 1 is slated to be $25,334,204, a decrease of $5,975,490.

- The board approved Executive Director Pam Welch's retirement and to hire her as a consultant until Jan. 31. Welch will work to finalize business deals currently in the works. The board also voted to approve Chairman Brent Hilliard to pursue hiring a new executive director, though not by securing the services of an executive search firm.

P&Z

From 1A

Pristine's request for a zone change from planned district for a shopping center to an amended planned district at its future location in Building 1 at Red Oak. The business currently operates a drop-off center in Building 2, co-owner Dan Corrales told the Reporter-Telegram after the meeting. The new, larger site will enable Pristine to have on-site cleaning equipment and drive-thru service.

Corrales said the change is being made because the company anticipates growth and to meet Midlanders' preference to use drive-thrus. Also, Pristine in February won the dry cleaning contract with the city of Midland. The business cleans the clothing of the police, fire, wastewater and transportation departments. The large drive-thru will make it easier to unload large quantities of linens to be cleaned.

- Room to rise: Natural Gas Services Group's request for a zone change was approved 7-0. The company is looking to construct a three-story building on Veterans Airpark Lane near Big Spring Street in ClayDesta. The current zoning of local retail district 2 (LR-2) only allows for building heights up to 2 1/2 stories. Commissioners approved a change to office district 2 (O-2), which supports heights up to seven stories.

Parkhill Smith and Cooper's Eric West, in representing NGSG, said there wasn't an issue with takeoffs and landings at the adjacent Midland Airpark and the required Federal Aviation Administration Form 7480 had been submitted. City staff said airports director Justine Ruff had been notified and they had hoped to get feedback from her before the next City Council meeting.

- Watch the red X: A request by John K. Sanderlin for a zone change from LR-2 to light industrial (LI) was granted. The applicant wants to build an oilfield services warehouse on a 10-acre site near State Highway 191 and Farm-to-Market Road 1788.

While city staff recommended approval, the request will require an Airport Overlay Zone 4 waiver. The AOZ — also known as the "big red X" — is an area where high-density development is restricted because it is in the path of the horizontal takeoffs and landings of spacecraft at Midland International Air & Space Port.

Obituaries

Bettye Jane "BJ" Hale

Funeral services for Bettye Jane "BJ" Hale, 83, of Lamesa will be held Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at Branon Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Gwen Aldridge officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Branon Funeral Home. Bettye passed away at Midland Memorial Hospital Sunday, August 6, 2017 after a short illness.

She was born November 17, 1933 in Lamesa to Clarence Sivley and Virgie Lou (Pate) Davis. Grannie Jane, as her grandchildren called her, loved her family and she loved the Lord. Bettye was a prayer warrior and considered it a privilege to pray for others. She was an avid reader and her favorite subjects were the Bible and nutrition. She was employed at Medical Arts Hospital for over 20 years. Lifetime resident of Lamesa, she moved to Midland and had resided at Polo Park Estates since 2015.

Bettye is survived by her children, Anease Benton and husband, Ricky of Midland and Kevin Hale and wife, Linda of Collinsville; grandchildren, Benjamin Blackketter and wife, Hilary, David Blackketter and wife, Lauren, Daniel Benton and wife, LaDonna, Landon and Cody Hale and Rachel Strickland; great-grandchildren, Reagan Blackketter, Luke, Lexie and Jacob Benton, Jordan and McKaylah Strickland; sister, Jimmie Smith of Frisco; and brother, Clarence Ray Davis of Brownwood.

She is preceded in death by her parents; brother, Leo Davis; and sister, Clarice Fulfer. The family suggests memorials to the charity of your choice. To send condolences online, please visit *www.bran onfuneralhome.com.*

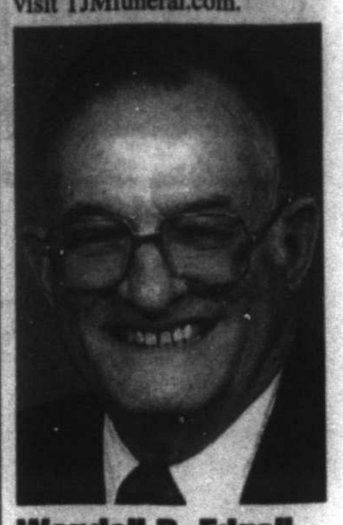
Marijann F. Holmes

Marijann F. Holmes, age 83, of McKinney, Texas, passed away August 2, 2017.

She was born on June 11, 1934 to Floyd Arlo and Faye Elizabeth (Smith) Forrest in Big Spring, Texas. Marijann graduated from Texas Tech University. She was a member and active alumnae of Kappa Kappa Gamma, initiated in the founding pledge class at Texas Tech. She was involved with many philanthropies over the years such as, National Charity League, Make A Wish and her great love P.E.O. Marijann married George D. Holmes on August 11, 1961. Marijann was a member of Emerald Bay Community Church in Bullard, Texas.

Marijann is survived by her daughter, Libby Holmes Coapman and husband, Gregg of Prosper, Texas; son, George Holmes and wife, Luann of Austin, Texas; grandchildren, Carson Coapman, Lucas Coapman, Addison Holmes and Georgia Holmes; and numerous other loving family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, George; and brother, Don "Timber" Forrest. A memorial service will be held at 3:00 p.m., Saturday, August 12, 2017 at Emerald Bay Community Church, 160 La Salle Rd., Bullard, Texas, 75757. To convey condolences or to sign an online registry, please visit TJMfuneral.com.



Wendell R. Edgell

Wendell R. Edgell, 91, went to heaven to be with his wife of 65 years on August 4, 2017.

Wendell was born in Salina, Kansas on August 12, 1925 to Elmer Ellsworth Edgell and Eva Schmidt Edgell. He was raised in McPherson, Texas. During World War II, he was a member of the Army Air Corps from 1943 to 1945 where he flew B-17s as a flight engineer and B- 29s as an electrical mechanic gunner. After the War, he attended Wichita State University. He met and married Carrol N. Edgell in Wichita, Kansas in 1948. He graduated with a degree in Geology.

As a couple, Wendell and Carrol moved from one small West Texas town to another as Wendell was just getting his start. They had two sons, Richard B. Edgell who was born in Midland, and David Edgell who was born in El Paso where Wendell worked for El Paso Natural Gas. They moved back to Midland twice and finally stayed in 1975. He was proud of both of his sons, one who became a lawyer and the other who taught at Texas Tech.

He was a Texas Master Gardener and a member of the AAPG, Permian Basin Geological and New Mexico Geological Societies.

Wendell is preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Clarence and Keneth Edgell.

He is survived by his sons, Richard and David Edgell.

There will be a graveside service at Fairview Cemetery on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. followed by memorial service at First United Methodist Church in the Glass Chapel at 12:00 p.m. officiated by Melissa Shuler.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-5555

Death Notices

Darren Lawrence Taylor

Darren Lawrence Taylor, 32, of Midland, Texas passed away on Sunday, August 6, 2017. The family will receive friends on Thursday, August 10, 2017 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Funeral services will be held on Friday, August 11, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints, 4805 Gateway St., Midland.

He is survived by his daughter, Lyllie Taylor; parents, Deborah and William Taylor; three sisters; one brother; and maternal grandparents.

WORD OF THE DAY
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Exquisite
[ik-skwiz-it, ek-skwi-zit]
adjective
1. of special beauty or charm, or rare and appealing excellence, as a face, a flower, coloring, music, or poetry.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
AT YOUR SERVICE
ISSN 0890-5932
A Hearst Newspaper
Published each morning by the Hearst, Midland Reporter-Telegram Division, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701. Periodicals postage paid at Midland, TX 79711. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Most viewed at mrt.com

1. Mugshots: July's Top Crime 88,482
2. Concert-goer dead after accident outside Rock the Desert 41,614
3. MPD: Midland woman died in collision outside Rock the Desert 25,505
4. Midland man dies in 1 of 2 Friday night wrecks 11,441
5. DPS: Alcohol is a factor in fatality SE of Midland County 10,436
6. Multi-agency operation brings attention to online solicitation 10,411
7. MPD: RTD concert-goer dies in wreck on FM 1788 outside festival grounds 8,488
8. Human trafficking, solicitation operation results in 34 arrests 6,361
9. Trio shares 1st round lead at Men's City Championship 3,127
10. Man charged with sexual assault 2,900
11. Favorite BBQ: KD's Barbecue GOLD 2,837
12. Man arrested on child injury charge 2,182
13. Lacy: Price tag of second bond proposal is $100 million 2,128
14. Oil companies in Midland speak out on 'bathroom bill' 1,968
15. Midland County Fair grand finale will light up the night sky 1,926
16. Concho celebrates 10 years on NYSE 1,887
17. Small Bites: Taco di Vino opens, Dino's Pizza closes 1,876
18. Column: Deadly year on roads can be summed up in two words: driver error 1,874
19. Road trippers have chance to earn free Chick-fil-A meals 1,801
20. Midlanders should support efforts to fix roads 1,772

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Area youth gather at the Rock the Desert Skatepark on Saturday during the annual Christian music festival. Check out a photo gallery from this weekend's festival at mrt.com

Things to do

■ Watercolor art classes by Sara Drescher, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. To register, email sara@artbysaradb.com.

■ Bridge game play, 1 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $8. For more information call 682-8595.

■ Bingo, 6 p.m., Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.

■ Midland Quilters Guild: Quilt Trunk Show with pieces by local quilters, 6:30 p.m., Alamo Heights Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1305 N. Midland Drive. For more information, call 432-694-0561 or visit Midland Quilters Guild on Facebook.

■ Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment, 7 p.m., Basin Burger House.

■ Two-Dollar Tuesdays with the same price for games, shoes, select beers and arcade card after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

■ Karaoke with Ali, 8 p.m., Your Place, 3704 W Wall St.

■ Karaoke and pool tournament at The Lone Star Bar, 621 W Wall St.

Meetings

City Council
10 a.m.
Council Chambers City Hall
300 N. Loraine Ave.

Republican women meeting

Midland County Republican Women are to meet 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Midland Country Club, 6101 N. State Highway 349.

The speaker will be retired Lt. Col. Jeffrey F. Addicott, a professor of Law and the director of the Center for Terrorism Law at St. Mary's University School of Law and a recognized authority on national security law, terrorism law and human rights law.

Tickets are $20 in advance and $30 at the door. To register, email mcrwomen@mcrw.us.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 6-8-5
Pick 3 day: 4-8-8
Pick 3 evening: 7-0-6
Pick 3 night: 9-0-6
Daily 4 morning: 6-5-3-4
Daily 4 day: 4-7-3-0
Daily 4 evening: 6-2-6-7
Daily 4 night: 6-6-0-5
Cash Five: 13-16-17-26-37
Triple Chance: 6-12-18-23-25 27-37-45-48-49
Texas Two Step: 11-21-26-30 BB: 33
All or Nothing morning: 1-2-3-4-8-9-12-13-16-18-21-23
All or Nothing day: 2-3-5-8-9-10-14-15-18-21-22-24
All or Nothing evening: 1-2-5-6-9-12-13-14-15-16-18-20
All or Nothing night: 1-4-5-8-9-15-16-17-19-20-21-24

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Weather

Monday's temperatures

High	89
Low	73
Normal high	95
Normal low	70

Aug. 7's records
Record high: 99 set in 1972
Record low: 25 set in 1997

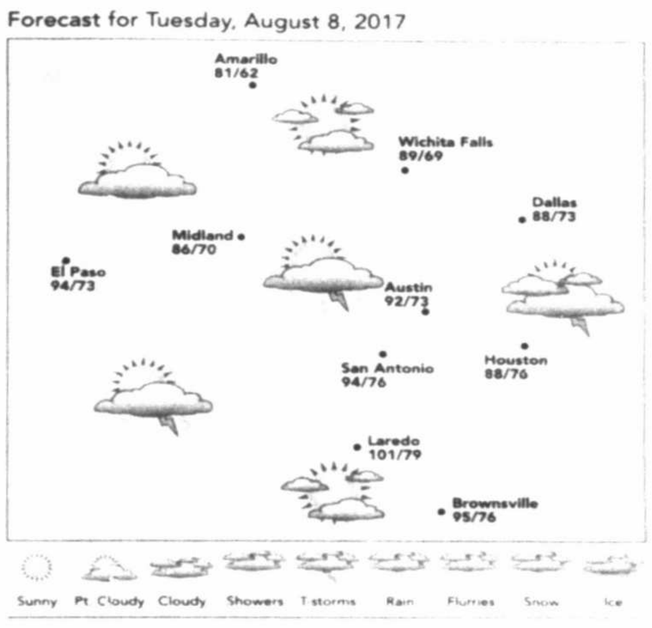
Precipitation

Monday	0.02 in.
Sunday	0.00 in.
Month total	1.50 in.
Year total	11.72 in.
Normal total (year to date)	8.3 in.

Winds
Wind speed: 13 mph
Gust speed: Not available

Today's forecast
High: 87
Low: 71

Forecast for Tuesday, August 8, 2017



Conditions: Mostly cloudy today and tonight
Winds: East 10 mph today/east 5-10 mph tonight
Chance of rain: 30 percent today
Sunrise 7:09 a.m.
Sunset 8:39 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

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 Leo and a Moon in Aquarius if born before 5:56 p.m. (ET). Afterward, the Moon will be in Pisces.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017:

This year you find that there is an element of unpredictability in your life. Your attitude about these spontaneous happenings will lead to unusual insights that could define your year. The more open you are, the more successful you will be. If you are single, you will date several different people. You might feel as if there is a psychic connection between you and the person you choose to get close to. If you are attached, the two of you open up to new possibilities. As a result, you find that your life together gets even more exciting. PISCES inspires you to daydream more.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ It's business as usual after yesterday's lunar eclipse. You might feel as if you can take in a breath of fresh air. Know that you could have a strong reaction to what you hear midday. The more calm and centered you are, the better the outcome will be. **Tonight:** Share news.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You are more in control of a work situation than you realize. Others look to you to take the lead. You might not want to take the reins, but you'll step up to the plate regardless. A serious conversation with a loved one could have a surprising outcome. **Tonight:** Where the fun is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance, or to an expert who can help you understand where someone else is coming from. You'll need to set aside your biases before you can accept a different perspective and/or identify with other points of view. **Tonight:** A must appearance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ One-on-one relating elicits strong results. You might be able to make a change that has been on the back burner for a while. A boss could act in a most unexpected way. Can you deal with this person's unpredictability? Distance yourself if need be. **Tonight:** Escape into the night.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Today could demand a lot of focus in various areas of your life. You will see a different perspective when you deal with a creative project. You might be holding yourself back. Surprising news is likely to invigorate you. **Tonight:** Spend quality time with a loved one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Be aware of what is going on in your mind. You might decide to focus on each item or project separately. Later in the day, schedule your meetings. Defer to others in this situation, and you will gain a lot of wisdom and knowledge as a result. **Tonight:** The only answer is "yes."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your playfulness could lighten up someone's mood in the morning, but by midafternoon, your focus changes. You have a lot on your plate. You might want to defer to someone else. Know when you have had enough or need to head in a new direction. **Tonight:** Run errands.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Getting past a personal issue or a domestic matter could be trying. Expenses seem to be at the core of the problem. Allow more openness, and encourage more sharing. Another person's idea will prove to be more helpful than you had originally thought. **Tonight:** Live for the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You might be in the position of having to convince others of how right one of your ideas is. You could be confused by another party's unpredictability. Do not attempt to box this person in; instead, go along with his or her spontaneity. Embrace the moment. **Tonight:** Make it early.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Be aware of your spending limits when handling your funds. You might have opted to take a risk, but perhaps you are getting cold feet at the last minute. You can choose to worry, or to let it go, but the call is yours to make. **Tonight:** Hang out with a close friend at a favorite spot.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Go for more of what you want. You have been focused on a major issue for a while. A friend can't seem to let go of his or her negativity. Try to listen to this person's feedback without internalizing it. Weigh the pros and cons of an expenditure later in the day. **Tonight:** All smiles.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You could be weighing the pros and cons of handling a personal matter differently from how you have in the past. You could be taken aback by an older relative who expresses a very conservative point of view. Open up to new possibilities later in the day. **Tonight:** As you like it.

BORN TODAY
Actor Dustin Hoffman (1937), tennis player Roger Federer (1981), singer/songwriter J.C. Chasez (1976).

TAX

From 1A

According to district estimates, the 0.0075 increase in the I&S tax rate could raise the fund balance to $4 million by the end of the 2017-18 fiscal year. Should that rate carry over to the 2018-19 fiscal year -- and assuming no change in the property values -- the I&S fund balance could top $5 million.

Unlike the M&O rate, the board can raise the I&S rate as needed as, according to Superintendent Orlando Riddick, there is an obligation in the law that a district has to be able to pay its debt. A worthy goal, he said, is to keep that fund balance in a position that is proportional to what a district should be taxing.

Lowering that rate in 2016 as much as MISD trustees did provided problem with the fund balance, although it should have been expected. Officials, during a conversation with the board, said that the MISD board approved the tax rate knowing such a drastic decline was possible.

Last year, board members lowered the rate when they also approved an election for voters to ratify an increased M&O rate. Riddick said Monday that had voters approved the tax ratification election (or TRE), they could have moved funds from the M&O fund balance to help with any shortcomings on the I&S side.

"I don't think it was detrimental to lower it," Riddick said of the decrease last year. "They were providing property tax relief during that time."

"You want to be sure you are doing due diligence for the taxpayers so you can honor and respect the dollars they are investing this school district," Riddick added.

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Jeff Chiu/Associated Press

Sandra Collins, executive director and founder of enGender, reads a book to campers at the Bay Area Rainbow Day Camp on July 12 in El Cerrito, Calif. Collins says, "A lot of these kids have been bullied and had trauma at school. This is a world where none of that exists, and they're in the majority. That's a new experience for kids who are used to hiding and feeling small."

Transgender camp teaches kids they're 'normal, not alone'

By Jocelyn Gecker
Associated Press

EL CERRITO, Calif. — In some ways, Rainbow Day Camp is very ordinary. Kids arrive with a packed lunch, make friendship bracelets, play basketball, sing songs and get silly. But it is also unique, from the moment campers arrive each morning.

At check-in each day, campers make a nametag with their pronoun of choice. Some opt for "she" or "he." Or a combination of "she/he." Or "they," or no pronoun at all. Some change their name or pronouns daily, to see what feels right.

The camp in the San Francisco Bay Area city of El Cerrito caters to transgender and "gender fluid" children ages 4 to 12, making it one of the only camps of its kind in the world open to preschoolers, experts say. Enrollment has tripled to about 60 young campers since it opened three summers ago, with kids coming from as far as Los Angeles, Washington, D.C. - even Africa. Plans are underway to open a branch next summer in Colorado, and the camp has been contacted by parents and organizations in Atlanta, Seattle, Louisiana and elsewhere interested in setting up similar programs.

On a sunny July morning at camp, the theme was "Crazy Hair Day," and 6-year-old Gracie Maxwell was dancing in the sunshine as a Miley Cyrus song blasted from outdoor speakers. The freckled, blue-eyed blonde wore her hair in a braid on one side, a pigtail on the other and snacked on cereal as she twirled and skipped.

"Once she could talk, I don't remember a time when she didn't say, 'I'm a girl,'" said her mother, Molly Maxwell, who still trips over pronouns but tries to stick to "she."

"Then it grew in intensity: 'I'm a sister. I'm a daughter. I'm a princess,'" Maxwell said. "We would argue with her. She was confused. We were confused."

Living in the liberal-minded Bay Area made it easier. The Maxwells found a transgender play group, sought specialists, and at 4 years old, let Gracie grow her hair, dress as a girl and eventually change her name.

"I see her now, compared to before. I watch her strut around and dance and sing and the way she talks about herself. If she was forced to be someone else," the mother trails off. "I don't even want to think about that."

Gender specialists say the camp's growth reflects what they are seeing in gender clinics nationwide: increasing numbers of children coming out as transgender at young ages. They credit the rise to greater openness and awareness of LGBT issues and parents tuning in earlier when a child shows signs of gender dysphoria, or distress about their gender.

"A decade ago, this camp wouldn't have existed. Eventually, I do believe, it won't be so innovative," camp founder Sandra Collins said. "I didn't know you could be transgender at a very young age. But my daughter knew for sure at 2."

Collins' experience as the mother of a transgender girl, now 9, inspired her to start the camp, and another for 13- to 17-year-olds called Camp Kickin' It.

"A lot of these kids have been bullied and had trauma at school. This is a world where none of that exists, and they're in the majority," Collins said. "That's a new experience for kids who are used to hiding and feeling small."

Fourth-grader Scarlett Reinhold, Collins' daughter who was born a boy, says at camp she can be herself. "I feel comfortable for being who I am and who I want to be," says Scarlett, a confident 9-year-old in a frilly skirt who wears her dark hair long and wavy.

There is little comprehensive data on young children who identify as transgender, but experts say as the number of young people coming to their clinics increases, the prevailing medical guidance has shifted.

The favored protocol today is known as the "gender affirmative" approach, which focuses on identifying and helping transgender children to "socially transition" - to live as the gender they identify with rather than the one they were born with until they're old enough to decide on medical options like puberty blockers and later, hormone treatments.

The Center for Transyouth Health and Development at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles, started a decade ago with about 40 patients, now has over 900 people, ages 3 to 25, enrolled in its program, with 150 on its waiting list, said Johanna Olson-Kennedy, the clinic's medical director.

"I just think there's a lot more openness to the understanding that trans adults start as trans kids," Olson-Kennedy said. "When people say, 'Isn't this too young?' my question back to them is, 'Too young for what? How young do people know their gender?' The answer to that is some people know it at 3, and some people know it at 30."

Diane Ehrensaft, director of mental health at the University of California, San Francisco's Child and Adolescent Gender Center, says enrollment there has tripled over the past few years with a "sea change - maybe we can even call it a tsunami - in the number of little kids showing up with their families."

She fields a growing number of calls from families overseas, including South Africa, Ethiopia, Hong Kong, Belgium, England and other countries that lack resources.

Studies show transgender adults have higher rates of suicide and depression than the general population. A 2016 study by the University of Washington's TransYouth Project,

Please see CAMP/5A

More companies are added to governor's 'enemies' list

■ 'Bathroom bill' shows Abbott and others are more interested in promoting political careers than making Texas a greater place to do business

By Chris Tomlinson
Houston Chronicle

■Commentary

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott has dozens of new companies to add to his enemy's list.

Houston's most important and prestigious firms have sent him an open letter calling his plans to humiliate transgender people, by requiring them to use public restrooms that match their birth certificate, a clear and present danger to the Texas economy.

"We support diversity and inclusion, and we believe that any such bill risks harming Texas' reputation and impacting the state's economic growth and ability to create new jobs," the letter said. "We appreciate your leadership in Texas and urge you to avoid any actions, including the passage of any 'bathroom bill,' that would threaten our continued growth."

Who are these immoral, liberal weirdos who signed the letter?

■ Jeff Shellebarger, president, Chevron North America E&P and chair of the Greater Houston Partnership.

■ Ryan Lance, chairman and CEO of ConocoPhillips.

■ Bruce Culpepper, president of Shell Oil Co.

■ Linda DuCharme, president of ExxonMobil Global Services Co.

■ Jeffrey A. Miller, president and CEO of Halliburton.

■ Steve Stephens, CEO of Amegy Bank.

■ Tom Ryan, chairman and CEO of Service Corp. International.

■ Lisa Davis, CEO for Global Energy at Siemens AG.

■ Bobby Tudor, chairman and Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co.

■ Welcome Wilson Sr., chairman at GSL Welcome Group, LLC.

Not exactly a rogues' gallery. They are the elite of Houston's business community and just a small sampling of the more than 50 major employers who signed the letter.

In a previous column, I wrote about the dozens of Dallas employers who oppose a bathroom bill. But since then, dozens more from Austin and San Antonio have also written to Abbott and the leaders of the Texas Legislature, urging them to drop this misguided pandering to a small number of Republican primary voters.

Other employers who oppose the bill include Frito-Lay North America–PepsiCo Inc., Baker Hughes, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Lyft, Neiman Marcus, Uber, Bain and Co. and PayPal.

At the beginning of the special session, Abbott promised to publish a list of those who oppose his legislation. Turns out he can also add the state's top cops to the list, including Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo, Harris County Sheriff 's Assistant Chief Debra Schmidt, San Antonio Police Chief William McManus, Austin Police Chief Brian Manley and El Paso Chief Deputy Sheriff Sylvia Aguilar.

"It's bad law," Acevedo said. "It's bad political theater. And at the end of the day it is bad for Texas."

And lest anyone think the religious community is united in support of the bathroom bill, Abbott gets to add 200 clerics and religious leaders on his naughty list, too, following a religious opposition rally last week.

Abbott should also add most Texas Republicans, according to a Texas Association of Business poll of 1,500 Republican primary voters. Poll results indicate only 26 percent support the measure.

"Texas business has long opposed the bathroom bill because it is unnecessary and will have significant negative economic impact on Texas," Jeff Moseley, CEO of the Texas Association of Business, said. "The significance of these surveys, is the voice of individual Republican primary voters echoing the business perspective with over 60 percent of the opposing respondents saying that the bill is unnecessary and distracts from the real issues facing Texas today."

Does any of this matter to Sen. Lois Kolkhorst, the Republican from Brenham who carried the bill? No. Instead, she employs the same "protect the women-folk" tactic used to stoke fears of black men during Texas' dark days of segregation and lynching.

"I pick daughters over dollars," Kolkhorst said, as if only her supporters love their children.

Kolkhorst and her ilk at the Capitol can't find a single valid justification for the bathroom bill other than unrealized, irrational fear of society's most marginalized people. Transgender men and women are the ones who are physically abused, discriminated against and denied employment, but Kolkhorst's bill does nothing to protect them.

Frankly, I'd rather not spend time railing against the bathroom bill, nor would any of these true Texas leaders who signed these letters. But Abbott, Kolkhorst and their ringleader, Lt. Gov. Dan

Please see TOMLINSON/5A

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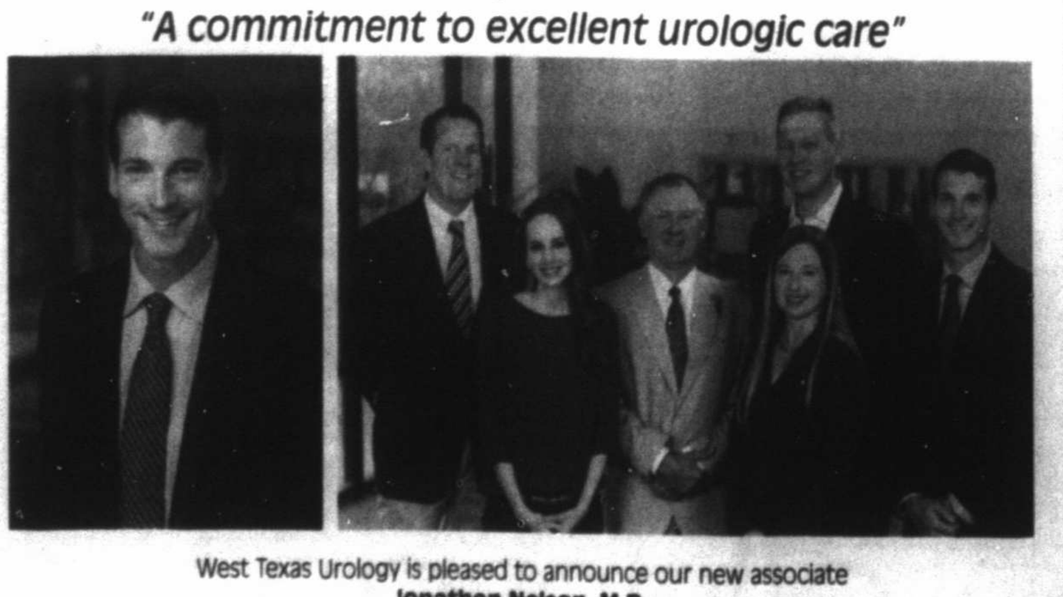

West Texas Urology is pleased to announce our new associate
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Dr. Nelson is now scheduling new patients for appointments beginning August 1st at both the Odessa and Midland office locations.
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Midland Magazine's 20 Under 40, presented by My Community Federal Credit Union, is an annual recognition program for Midland's emerging leaders. The program showcases young, dynamic leaders living or working in Midland County who are under the age of 40. The program recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves in their careers and/or in the community.

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

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

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

AP file photo

A sage grouse is seen July 25, 2005, near Fallon, Nev. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke says a new federal plan to protect the threatened sage grouse will better align with conservation efforts in 11 Western states where the bird lives.

Feds to give states more flexibility in protecting wild bird

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Interior Department on Monday unveiled a plan to protect the threatened sage grouse that gives Western states greater flexibility to allow mining, logging and other economic development where it now is prohibited.

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke announced the strategy for the ground-dwelling bird that has suffered a dramatic population decline across its 11-state range. Zinke insisted that the federal government and the states can work together to protect the sage grouse and its habitat while not slowing economic growth and job creation.

While the federal government has a responsibility under the Endangered Species Act to protect the bird, officials also have an obligation "to be a good neighbor and a good partner," Zinke said. The new plan ensures that conservation efforts "do not impede local economic opportunities," he said.

The plan comes after a 60-day review Zinke ordered in June of a 2015 plan imposed by the Obama administration. The plan set land-use policies across the popular game-bird's 11-state range intended to keep it off the federal endangered species list.

Mining companies, ranchers and governors in some Western states — especially Utah, Idaho and Nevada — said the plan ordered by former Interior Secretary Sally Jewell would impede oil and gas drilling and other economic activity.

Environmental groups said Jewell's plan did not do enough to protect the sage grouse from extinction.

The ground-dwelling sage grouse, long associated with the American West, has lengthy, pointed tail feathers and is known for the male's elaborate courtship display in which air sacs in the neck are inflated to make a popping sound.

Millions of sage grouse once roamed the West but development, livestock grazing and an invasive grass that encourages wildfires has reduced the bird's population to fewer than 500,000 across 11 states from California to the Dakotas.

States affected by the plan are California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

Zinke said in June that "state agencies are really at the forefront of efforts to maintain healthy fish and wildlife populations" across the country, adding that the Trump administration is committed to ensuring that state voices are heard in decisions affecting land use and wildlife management.

In particular, Zinke said he has received complaints from several Western governors that the Obama administration ignored or minimized their concerns as the 2015 sage-grouse plan was developed. Republican governors in Idaho, Utah and Nevada want more flexibility and have urged that conservation efforts focus on bird populations in a particular state rather than on habitat management that frequently results in land-use restrictions.

The new plan is intended to provide flexibility to states instead of a "one-size-fits-all solution," Zinke said.

On the other side, Democratic Gov. John Hickenlooper of Colorado and Republican Gov. Matt Mead of Wyoming told Zinke earlier this year they opposed any changes that would move "from a habitat-management model to one that sets population objectives for the states."

Here's where the Texas Legislature is on special session issues

Gov. Greg Abbott called the 85th Texas Legislature back for a special session beginning July 18, initially to pass legislation needed to keep five state agencies in operation, and then to address a longer list of proposals for everything from restroom regulations to local tree ordinances. The governor opened a total of 20 for consideration; this is our regularly updated look at the Legislature's progress during the 30-day special session.

Still pending
Sunset legislation
During this year's regular session, lawmakers failed to pass "sunset" legislation needed to prevent some state agencies from closing. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick held key sunset legislation hostage in a successful effort to force a special session on other issues. In announcing the special session, Abbott said he would only add an additional 19 issues to the agenda after the Senate passed sunset legislation. On the third day of the special session, the Senate did just that, and Abbott significantly expanded the session's agenda. The House has since passed its own sunset bills, but neither chamber has yet agreed to the other's version.
Related bills: HB 1, HB 2, SB 20, SB 60

Still pending
Teacher pay and retirement benefits
Abbott asked the Legislature to put more money into the Teacher Retirement System amid concerns that retired teachers would no longer be able to afford their medication amid rising health insurance premiums and health care costs. Both chambers have passed measures that would inject $212 million into the system — but the bills would draw funding from different sources. Abbott also wants school districts to rearrange their budgets to increase teacher salaries by an average of $1,000, a measure educators vehemently oppose and have criticized as an "unfunded mandate." Neither chamber has passed such a measure yet.
Related bills: HB 20, HB 198, SB 19, SB 97, SJR 1

Still pending
School finance reform
At first, Abbott said he would task legislators with creating a commission to study the school finance system. But in July, he added immediate school funding reform to the session's agenda amid complaints from Democrats and moderate Republicans in the House that the state's beleaguered system for funding public schools deserved more concrete action. The governor also tasked legislators with helping small, rural districts struggling after the expiration of a $400 million state aid program. Both the House and Senate have passed school finance measures, but no bill has passed both chambers yet.
Related bills: HB 21, HB 23, HB 30, HB 191, SB 16

Still pending
School choice for kids with disabilities
During the regular session, the Senate passed a measure to subsidize private school tuition using state funding. But school-choice proposals have long faced significant opposition in the House, particularly from Democrats and rural Republicans. Abbott has narrowed the issue for the special session by calling for "private school choice" specifically for students with disabilities. The Senate has passed a bill on this issue.
Related bills: HB 253, SB 2

Still pending
Property taxes
There's a constitutional prohibition on the state levying a property tax, but that's a major source of revenue that keeps cities, counties and special-purpose districts operating. Amid Texans' complaints about rising property tax bills – often driven by rising property values – Abbott called on the Legislature to tackle measures aimed at reining in increases in local property taxes. Local government officials argue the bills would hamstring their ability to deliver services their residents expect. The Senate passed a bill requiring property tax rate elections if a local entity's revenues would exceed 4 percent from the year before. A House committee raised that trigger to 6 percent, but the full House has yet to vote on the bill. The lower chamber is also considering more than a dozen other property tax proposals, including one that would abolish school property taxes altogether.
Related bills: HB 3, HB 4, HB 32, HB 72, HB 74, HB 81, HB 82, HB 108, HB 155, HB 165, HB 192, SB 1

Still pending
Caps on state government spending
Under the Texas Constitution, state spending cannot grow faster than the state's economy. Ahead of each legislative session, state leaders set a growth rate for state spending based on the estimated rate of growth in Texans' personal income over the next two years. Abbott has asked lawmakers to require future legislatures to limit how much state spending can grow to the estimated combined growth in population and inflation, a figure that is often lower than the one lawmakers currently use. The Senate has passed a bill on this issue.
Related bills: HB 41, HB 127, HB 208, SB 9,

Still pending
Caps on local government spending
Abbott asked lawmakers to cap how much additional money local governments could spend each year without an election, drawing immediate criticism from city and county officials. They say such a limit would make it difficult to develop long-term financial plans and fund maintenance and services that residents want from their local governments. Neither chamber has passed a bill directly related to this issue yet.
Related bills: HB 206, SB 18

Still pending
Limits on local tree regulations
Dozens of cities and towns across Texas have ordinances protecting trees on private property; in many cases, property owners either have to pay a fee or plant new trees if they cut down larger trees on their land. Lawmakers are looking at measures that would weaken those local ordinances or make them illegal. Both chambers have passed bills related to this issue, but neither chamber has agreed to the other's version yet.
Related bills: HB 7, HB 70, SB 14

Still pending
Speeding local government permitting
Lawmakers want to make it easier for developers to get approval for projects in cities. Abbott wants state law changed so that permits would be approved automatically if cities don't respond to them fast enough. Lawmakers are also looking at outlawing construction permitting rules currently in place in Austin that expedite permitting for projects that include certain worker protections. The Senate has passed a bill on this issue. The House has passed three bills related to permitting from groundwater conservation districts.
Related bills: HB 164, SB 13, HB 26, HB 27, HB 275

Still pending
Preventing local rule changes on already acquired properties
This measure would prohibit cities and towns from enforcing any local regulation on a property that was not in place when that property was purchased. Critics have expressed concern that the measure could have far-reaching consequences on environmental, health and other local ordinances in place in communities across the state. Neither chamber has passed a bill directly related to this issue yet.
Related bills: HB 188, SB 12

Still pending
Texting while driving
Texas will be under a statewide texting-while-driving ban starting Sept. 1. But Abbott has complained that this measure leaves in place a "patchwork quilt" of driving safety regulations that differ across cities and counties. He has called on lawmakers to effectively pre-empt local ordinances in more than 40 Texas cities that are stricter than the statewide ban. The Senate has passed a bill on this issue.
Related bills: HB 171, SB 15

Still pending
Bathrooms, showers, locker and changing rooms
Among the most contentious issues during the regular session, proposals to bar transgender men, women and children from restrooms that do not match their biological sex are back under consideration in legislative overtime. Efforts to pass such restrictions fizzled out in May as part of an ongoing fight that's pitted Republicans against businesses and Republicans against Republicans. Lawmakers are now considering proposals that would affect bathrooms overseen by both school districts and local governments like cities and counties. The Senate has passed a bill on this issue.
Related bills: HB 46, HB 50, SB 3, SB 91

Still pending
Union dues deduction
State lawmakers are considering for the second time this year a measure that would end the practice of collecting membership dues automatically from the paychecks of certain public employees who are in labor unions or other associations. The proposal would apply to public school teachers, corrections officers and other government employees but would exempt firefighters, police officers, emergency first responders and charitable organizations — a carve-out that's received a lot of pushback, even from some of the law enforcement groups that would benefit from the exemption. The Senate has passed a bill on this issue.
Related bills: HB 156, SB 7

By Texas Tribune

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CAMP

From 4A

published in the journal Pediatrics, found trans children who live as their preferred gender and are supported by their parents have the same mental health outcomes as other kids their age.

At Rainbow Day Camp, a therapist is on hand to talk if kids want. Therapy sessions are extended to parents at a support group after morning drop-off. Many counselors are transgender, which offers campers upbeat role models.

"I want to show these kids what a confident, happy, successful trans person looks like," said camp director Andrew Kramer, 30, who goes by AK and came out as a transgender man at 26. "We teach them they are normal, deserving of love, and not alone."

One family traveled from Africa to enroll their son in the camp for its full three-week summer session. The 9-year-old goes by the name Nao at Rainbow but has not publicly come out as a transgender girl. The family asked that their last name and the country where they live be kept confidential, fearing repercussions there.

Nao's mother, Miriam, said she watched her child blossom at camp. Nao was happier and less prone to outbursts, made friends, opened up about school bullying, and wants to return next summer.

"I think for the first time, (Nao) feels like just a normal kid," Miriam said.

Before flying home, she said, Nao wrote a note to the camp's counselors. It read: "Thank you, for making me feel so happy."

TOMLINSON

From 4A

Patrick, are willing to risk the state's economic future to distract from the state's real problems.

Texans need an overhaul of the tax system to spur economic development. They need schools that will prepare Texas children to succeed in a more complex and technically advanced world. We need good roads, bridges and high-tech infrastructure to attract the businesses of the future.

Come to think of it, Texans should keep their own lists of politicians who are solving the state's problems, and those who are creating trouble where there was none.

Abbott, Patrick and Kolkhorst have proved more interested in promoting their political careers than making Texas a greater place to do business.

OPINION

Immigration solution doesn't seem possible

ROSS DOUTHAT
New York Times News Service

The last time Gallup asked Americans if they thought immigration to the United States should increase or decrease, 35 percent chose a decrease, 24 percent an increase, and 38 percent preferred the present rate. Support for increasing immigration has been rising for a decade, but it remains relatively low. To the extent that there is a middle-ground position, it is for something like the status quo.

From polling like this you would imagine that recent immigration reform efforts would have worked in that middle space, trying to tweak the mix of new arrivals without increasing the immigration rate. But instead, most recent attempts at a "comprehensive" bill have sought not only amnesty for illegal immigrants, but an increase in low-skilled immigration, above the already brisk post-1960s pace.

Bipartisan bills dramatically at odds with the shape of public opinion are generally bad for both parties. And sure enough, the attempts at immigration reform under George W. Bush and Barack Obama helped give us a much-reduced Democratic Party and a GOP helmed by Donald Trump.

They also helped give us the new reform proposal authored by Sens. Tom Cotton of Arkansas and David Perdue of Georgia and endorsed by the president. The Cotton-Perdue bill is written for the 35 percent of Americans who want less immigration, which it achieves by creating a points-based system for applications (with points for English proficiency, education, a good job offer, and so on), limiting family-based migration, and cutting the number of legal immigrants we take by roughly half.

The case for such cuts runs as follows. We are nearing our historical peak for the foreign-born share of the population, assimilation looks slower than for previous cohorts and may be stalling, growing diversity may be increasing social distrust, and our partisan landscape is increasingly shaped by ethnic patronage and white-identity politics. An immigration slowdown would make assimilation somewhat easier and give American politics time to adjust to the country's transformation. It would also modestly curb the growth of inequality, reduce some strain on social programs, and offer a slight wage boost to less-educated natives, who are presently in dire socioeconomic straits.

But of course there are counterarguments. Immigration may hurt the wages of high school dropouts, but it offers modest economic benefits to most natives and obvious benefits to the immigrants themselves. And some of the trends that worry immigration skeptics have improved over the last decade. Illegal immigration from Mexico and points south has slowed substantially since the mid-2000s. The future of immigration looks more Asian than Latin American. Conservative fears of a disappearing southern border or an ever-expanding Spanish-speaking underclass should be tempered somewhat by these shifts.

Moreover, as writers like Robert VerBruggen of National Review and Lyman Stone at The Federalist have pointed out, you can address many of the costs of mass immigration by embracing the new bill's points system without also making its steep cuts.

That's because a system that focused more on skills and education and job prospects would automatically put less pressure on wages at the bottom. It would increase immigration's economic benefits, and reduce its fiscal costs. And it would presumably bring in a more diverse pool of migrants, making balkanization and self-segregation less likely.

So that's probably the immigration compromise we're waiting for: a version of the Cotton-Perdue points system, the shift to highly skilled recruitment and one that keeps the overall immigration rate close to where it is today.

But there are two obvious impediments.

The first problem is that the Cotton-Perdue proposal is associated with a president whose ascent was darkened by race-baiting and whose ability to broker any deal is seriously in doubt. By making immigration central to his campaign, Trump helped make this bill possible. But his campaign rhetoric also makes it more polarizing than its substance deserves, and his incompetence makes its legislative prospects dim.

The second problem is that mainstream liberalism has gone a little bit insane on immigration, digging into a position that any restrictions are ipso facto racist, and any policy that doesn't take us closer to open borders is illegitimate and un-American.

That's how we got the strange spectacle of CNN's Jim Acosta, ostensibly a nonpartisan reporter, hectoring the White House's Stephen Miller last week with the claim that Emma Lazarus' poem about the "huddled masses" means that the U.S. cannot be self-interested in screening new arrivals.

It was a telling moment, as was Acosta's self-righteousness afterward. Liberalism used to recognize the complexities of immigration; now it sees only a borderless utopia waiting and miscreants and racists standing in the way.

As long as these problems persist — a right marred by bigotry, a liberalism maddened by utopianism — it is hard to imagine a reasonable deal.

But as long as a deal eludes us, the chaotic system we have is well-designed to make both derangements that much more powerful, both problems that much worse.

GUEST VIEW

Tax reform is fiendishly difficult in the US

Bloomberg

President Donald Trump has been talking about tax reform for months, but true to form, his administration is moving away from a specific proposal rather than toward one. And that's fine with Democrats: They've just set conditions for cooperating on taxes that are as much about gaining political advantage as advancing the prospects of reform.

What a shame. The U.S. tax system is such an atrocity of self-defeating complexity that it offers enormous scope for improving both fairness and efficiency — an overhaul that should please liberals and conservatives alike. But to grasp this possibility, both parties need to start looking for ways to agree, not disagree.

The key to this win-win opportunity is simplification. A needlessly complex code hurts businesses and economic growth because firms and households worry more about minimizing tax liabilities than maximizing economic gain. But it's also unfair, because the rich and their advisers can game the system so much more effectively than ordinary taxpayers.

The core of successful tax reform — last achieved in the U.S. more than 30 years ago — must be an effort to limit, and as much as possible eliminate, deductions and other preferences from personal and corporate taxes, while using the proceeds to lower tax rates.

This basic strategy could address multiple defects in the current code: unintended spikes in tax rates due to small changes in income; vastly different tax rates paid by companies and households with similar incomes; the subsidy that flows from low-income renters to high-income homeowners with mortgages; the mountain of profits parked in low-tax jurisdictions abroad; the bias in favor of debt finance over equity finance; the carried-interest loophole; and on and on.

The Republicans aren't opposed to this approach — they typically pay lip service to it — but they seem completely incapable of producing a plan. Earlier this year they had one specific idea, to apply so-called border adjustment to corporate taxes, but their latest vapid declaration on taxes withdrew even that suggestion. So they're back to zero actual proposals.

Senate Democrats, meanwhile, have revealed their rules of engagement for tax reform: They can't support a plan unless it's revenue-neutral, avoids cutting taxes for the wealthy and moves through regular order rather than being fast-tracked to avoid a filibuster. These demands, if offered in good faith, are not unreasonable — and the Republicans were wrong to reject them. But why set conditions for negotiations at this stage?

In principle, making the tax code more fair and efficient isn't hard. If tax reform fails to happen, it will be partly because of the power of special interests, which jealously guard the status quo. But it will be mostly because of Washington's dysfunctional parties, which want to embarrass their opponents more than they want to help their constituents.

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USAFacts data useful for policymakers

ALBERT HUNT
Bloomberg

Steve Ballmer, the former chief executive of Microsoft, knows more than a little about numbers. He's looked carefully at government spending and arrived at an unexpected conclusion.

"Government spending is more efficient than I thought," he said in a telephone interview. As for the 24 million Americans employed by government at all levels, he says, "I look at that and say, 'yeah, yeah' and most of that is good: firemen, policemen, soldiers, teachers."

The tech billionaire has launched a new product, USAFacts, an interactive website that compiles data to analyze how taxpayer money is actually spent. Still a work in progress, it assembles information from myriad government sources at the federal, state and local levels into one accessible place.

Ballmer doesn't bring an ideological or policy agenda to the project. He's trying to capture the spirit of the late Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., who famously observed, "Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not to his own facts."

Credible data is essential to policymakers. There may be a strong case for reining in the growth of federal entitlements like Social Security and Medicare, but data shows that it can't be done through resort to the politician's standard pledge to dismantle bloated bureaucracies.

"Actually, transfer programs are run very efficiently, with not a lot of overhead costs," Ballmer said.

A particular interest of the former Microsoft CEO and his wife, Connie Snyder, is economic opportunity and mobility. Separately, they are planning initiatives to address intergenerational poverty. One conclusion Ballmer draws from the data he has seen so far is that government investment in improving opportunities for less fortunate Americans "is much lower than I would have thought."

The data USAFacts assembles — a searchable compendium of information that's all available elsewhere — should help inform public-policy debates.

Take tax reform. USAFacts makes it easy to see that liberals who argue that there's gobs of gold to be mined by sticking it to rich people and corporations may be deluding themselves.

"You're not going to balance the budget with corporate tax reform," Ballmer said.

The data show that of all government revenue raised in 2014 (the latest year for which complete state, local and federal figures are included), corporate income taxes contributed only a little more than 7 percent.

As Congress debates tax changes, it is instructive to look at how the benefits from current deductions tilt to the affluent. The home-mortgage deduction, depicted as the lifeblood of middle-class mobility, provides an average of only $84 a year for the middle-earning fifth of taxpayers and $373 to the next highest quintile. For the top 1 percent of earners, the average annual benefit is almost $7,000. Write-offs for charitable deductions and for state and local taxes help the richest taxpayers even more.

The numbers also make it clear why there was such an uproar over recent Republican efforts to dismantle Obamacare. Of the $157 billion Americans spent in 2015 on nursing home costs, more than 55 percent is picked up by Medicaid or Medicare, with only a quarter paid by private insurance. Three-fifths of the beneficiaries of Medicaid, which Republicans sought to slash, are children or people with disabilities.

It's interesting to browse USAFacts for numbers known to health-care professionals but jarring to casual observers. Consider these: 19 percent of Americans are at risk for depression, 16 percent for binge drinking and 30 percent for obesity.

More familiar is data showing that violent crime has been cut in half over the past quarter-century. But there are surprises there, too. If you think violent crime is most pervasive in the big cities of the Northeast, you're wrong. It's the South that's the worst danger zone; in 2015 it had 407 violent crimes per 100,000 people compared to 313 per 100,000 in the Northeast.

Ballmer has enlisted scores of geeks, economists and statisticians who continue to develop more useful stuff. For example, they're doing state-by-state comparisons and plan to expand into global factual perspectives.

It's an interesting start, paid for by Ballmer with the hope that agreement on facts might create common ground on policy. In the era of President Donald Trump, that's taking on quite a challenge.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Trump looks to loyal voters as support slips, agenda stalls

By Julie Pace and Laurie Kellman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After six months of infighting, investigations and legislative failures, President Donald Trump is trying to combat new signs of weakness in his Republican base and re-energize his staunchest supporters.

White House officials have been urging the president to refocus on immigration and other issues that resonate with the conservatives, evangelicals and working-class whites who propelled him to the Oval Office. The president has ramped up his media-bashing via Tweet, long a successful tactic for Trump, and staged rallies hoping to marshal his base to his defense.

The effort underscores Trump's shaky political positioning not yet seven months into his presidency. Trump has remained deeply unpopular among Democrats, and there are signs that his support among Republicans may be softening. His advisers are aware that a serious slip in support among his core voters could jeopardize hopes for a major, early legislative accomplishment and would certainly increase Republicans' worries about his re-election prospects.

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway acknowledged the concerns Sunday on ABC, saying the president's approval rating "among Republicans and conservatives and Trump voters is down slightly."

"It needs to go up," she said.

In a Monday morning tweet, Trump dismissed his adviser's statement. "The Trump base is far bigger & stronger than ever before," he wrote on Twitter. He later insisted that his support "will never change!"

But polling doesn't support Trump's claim. A recent Quinnipiac University survey showed the president's approval dipping into negative territory among whites without college degrees — a key group of supporters for the president. The percentage of Republicans who strongly approve of his performance also fell, with just over half of Republicans saying they strongly approved of Trump. That's down from the two-thirds of Republicans who strongly approved of the president's performance in June.

Just one-third of all Americans approved of his job performance, a new low in the poll.

The president's struggles already have prompted public speculation about his political future. The White House pushed back angrily Sunday against a New York Times report about Republicans preparing for 2020 presidential race that may not include Trump. The report described Vice President Mike Pence as laying groundwork in case Trump does not run. Pence called the report "disgraceful."

The chatter has been fueled by Trump's unsuccessful attempt to shepherd health care legislation through Congress, the drip-drip of revelations about his associates' ties to Russia and the churn of turnover and turmoil at the White House. The president's advisers have tried to drown out the bad news by focusing on his agenda.

"They are telling him just enact your program," Conway said of the president's base. "Don't worry about a Congress that isn't supporting legislation to get big ticket items done. And don't worry about all the distractions and diversions and discouragement that others, who are trying to throw logs in your path, are throwing your way."

In a televised event at the White House last week, the president endorsed legislation that would dramatically reduce legal immigration to the United States. The bill is unlikely to ever become law, but that mattered little to Trump's advisers. Their barometer for success was the reaction from conservatives like commentator Ann Coulter, who called the White House's embrace of the controversial legislation "the best moment of the Trump presidency since the inauguration."

Immigration is expected to continue being a focus for Trump in the coming weeks, including a push for the border wall. Officials also are weighing a more public role for White House policy adviser Stephen Miller, a favorite of Trump backers whose hard-line immigration policies irritate some congressional Republicans.

The appointment of White House chief of staff John Kelly also fits in to that effort. While Kelly was brought in primarily to bring much-needed discipline to the West Wing, officials note that he, too, is viewed favorably by some Trump loyalists for his early execution of the administration's immigration policy as secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Kelly's appointment was particularly welcomed by senior strategist Steve Bannon, who has taken on the task of ensuring Trump doesn't drift from the promises he made to his base during the campaign.

Several White House officials and Trump advisers insisted on anonymity in order to discuss the ways the administration is moving to shore up support for the president.

Like Trump's embrace of the legislation curtailing legal immigration, some of what the president has to offer his core supporters is more show than substance. In late July, Trump announced on Twitter that he was banning transgender people serving in the military — a policy shift sought by social conservatives — despite the fact that the Pentagon had no plans in place to enact the change. The policy is now being crafted.

Alice Stewart, a conservative who worked for the presidential campaigns of Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, said Trump is right to make overtures toward his coalition of loyal supporters, even if some of his moves are incomplete.

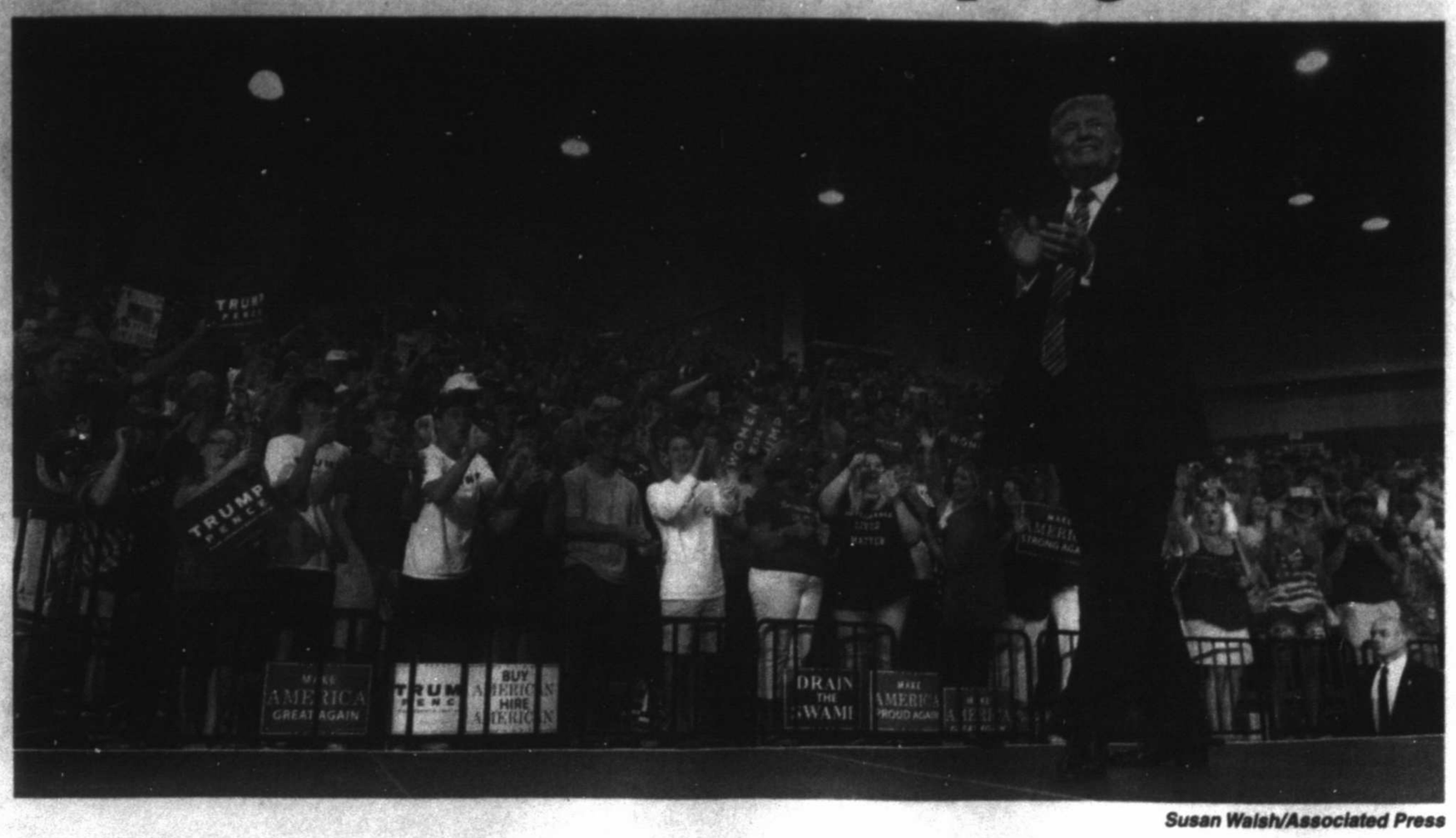
"I think people realize half a loaf is better than none," Stewart said.

Mitch Harper, a former GOP state legislator and Republican activist in Indiana, said Trump will get credit from conservatives even for partial measures simply because he is "articulating things that they have not heard anyone articulate in a long time."

And what about the results? Harper said Trump supporters "are willing to wait."

Indeed, even some of Trump's advisers still marvel at the loyalty of the president's supporters. For now, conservatives are pinning the blame on Washington's failure to get health care done not on Trump, but on the handful of Republican senators who blocked legislation aimed at overhauling "Obamacare."

"I think on health care the president is viewed as someone who did everything they could," said Matt Schlapp, who heads the American Conservative Union.



Susan Walsh/Associated Press

President Donald Trump arrives to speak at a campaign-style rally at Big Sandy Superstore Arena on Thursday in Huntington, W.Va. After six months of infighting, investigations and legislative failures, Trump is trying to combat new signs of weakness in his Republican base and re-energize his staunchest supporters. White House officials have been urging the president to refocus on immigration and other issues that resonate with the conservatives, evangelicals and working-class whites who propelled him to the Oval Office. The president has ramped up his media-bashing via Tweet, long a successful tactic for Trump, and asked his base to rally to his defense.

Obamacare caretaker? Trump's health care role could shift

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With Republicans unable to advance a health care bill in Congress, President Donald Trump's administration may find itself in an awkward role as caretaker of the Affordable Care Act, which he still promises to repeal and replace.

The Constitution says presidents "shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed." So as long as former President Barack Obama's law is on the books, that doesn't seem to leave much choice for Trump, even if he considers "Obamacare" to be "a disaster."

"It's either caretaker or undertaker," quipped economist Joe Antos of the business-oriented American Enterprise Institute. "I think in the end it's going to be 'caretaker' because they'll finally realize nobody is going to blame Obama. Having the thing blow up is going to be considered in the public eye to be Trump's fault."

Every move by Trump's health chief will be scrutinized by Democrats for evidence of "sabotage," a charge they're already making. Meanwhile, the administration will try to use its rule-making power to bend Obama's law toward Republican priorities.

The Trump administration's first sign-up season, for 2018 coverage, starts in about three months, on Nov. 1.

Some things to watch for:

Intense scrutiny:

Consumer organizations, state officials, Democrats, insurers, and groups representing various health care interests will keep close tabs on the actions of Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price and his deputy, Seema Verma, who runs the federal agency that administers health insurance programs.

"We are going to hold HHS accountable to fully implement the law," said lawyer Mara Youdelman, who heads the Washington office of the National Health Law Program, an advocacy group. "The Affordable Care Act is the law of the land, and everyone who is working for the administration should be committed to upholding the law of the land."

Former Obama administration officials intimately familiar with the program will be looking over the shoulders of the Trump team — Twitter accounts at the ready.

Price so far has sent mixed signals. His department recently canceled contracts for community groups to provide sign-up assistance in 18 cities. His official rhetoric about the law has been harsh, maximizing its faults without recognizing the health benefits of 20 million more people with insurance.

But the department did work with Alaska on a waiver that's been praised for helping to stabilize that state's insurance market. And early on, the agency issued a regulation that made several changes insurers had requested to help things run more smoothly.

About 10 million people are signed up for private insurance in subsidized markets, and 11 million more have coverage through expanded Medicaid.

Don't overlook that computer system:

Few things were as damaging to Obama's aura of cool competence as the failure of the HealthCare.gov computer system when it went live in the fall of 2013. Few people managed to sign up that first day, and it took weeks for a technological rescue team to sort through layers of problems, restoring acceptable functionality.

After that chastening experience, Obama administration officials constantly kept tinkering with the website, trying to improve its technical capacity and usability for consumers.

It's unclear what the Trump administration has been doing since he took office in January. No media preview of 2018 open enrollment has been announced.

The administration may have made its own job harder by cutting in half the sign-up season for next year. This time, open enrollment will run from Nov. 1-Dec. 15. Previously, it ran through Jan. 31.

Trump touts new sanctions on North Korea

By Catherine Lucey
Associated Press

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. — President Donald Trump on Saturday touted new sanctions the U.N. Security Council approved for North Korea, saying they will have a "very big financial impact."

The Security Council unanimously approved the sanctions on North Korea, including banning coal and other exports worth over $1 billion.

The U.S.-drafted measure, negotiated with North Korea's neighbor and ally China, is aimed at increasing economic pressure on Pyongyang to return to negotiations on its nuclear and missile programs.

Trump wrote on Twitter: "The United Nations Security Council just voted 15-0 to sanction North Korea. China and Russia voted with us. Very big financial impact!"

A few hours later, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said in a statement that Trump commended the Security Council for its action and appreciated the cooperation of China and Russia in passing the resolution.

Trump's national security adviser, H.R. McMaster, stressed in an interview that aired earlier in the day that it is "impossible to overstate the danger" posed by North Korea.

In an interview with MSNBC's Hugh Hewitt that aired Saturday, McMaster said Trump has been "deeply briefed" on the strategy on North Korea. Tensions have mounted with Pyongyang's two recent successful tests of intercontinental ballistic missiles.

McMaster reiterated the administration's position that all options, including a targeted military strike, are on the table.

Still, he acknowledged this "would be a very costly war, in terms of — in terms of the suffering of mainly the South Korean people."

McMaster continued: "So what we have to do is — is everything we can to — to pressure this regime, to pressure Kim Jong Un and those around him such that they conclude it is in their interest to denuclearize."

The comments came as Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was in the Philippines for a regional summit expected to focus heavily on concerns with North Korea.

Tillerson has no plans to sit down with North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho at the event.

Tillerson's reluctance to sit down with his North Korean counterpart is despite his growing push for Pyongyang to return to the negotiating table with the U.S.

Tillerson said this week that such talks would have to be predicated on the North giving up its nuclear weapons aspirations and that the conditions for such talks haven't yet been met by North Korea's government.

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Marge Simpson was originally supposed to have bunny ears underneath her blue hair.
Some worms will eat themselves if they can't find any food!

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Psalm 16:11
"You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."

READERS' CHOICE AWARDS 2017 MRT GOLD

Sneak Preview

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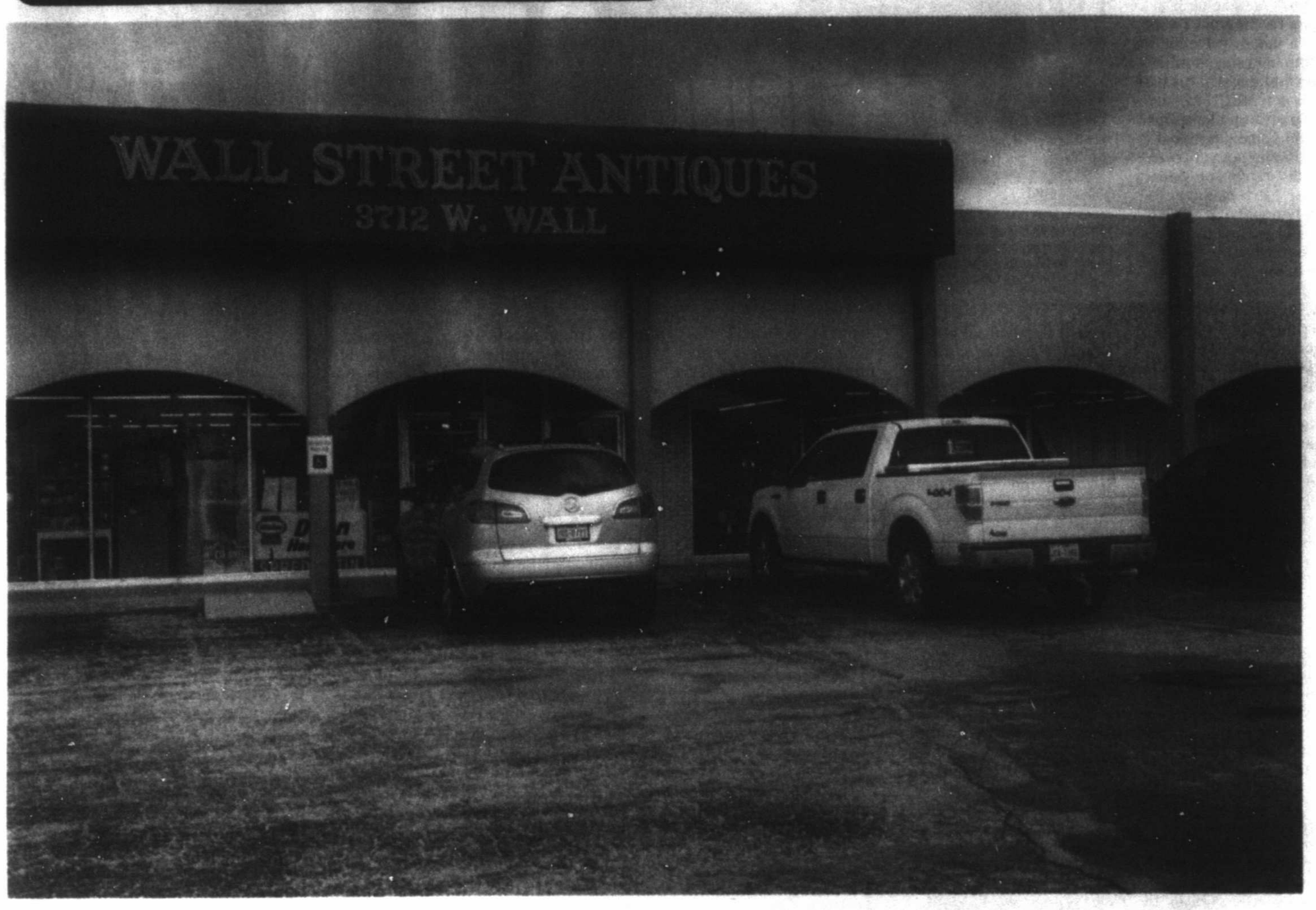

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In 2007 Teresa became owner of Wall Street Antiques. Since then, the store has grown to become the largest dealer mall from El Paso to Ft. Worth.

Teresa and the staff strive to keep their 19,000 sq. ft. building full to the rafters with furniture, glassware, porcelain, advertising signs, oil field signs, vintage jewelry and clothing, militaria, coins and stamps, western art and decor, lighting, paper ephemera, lamps and parts, hardware, primitives, flatware, comic books, records and much more.

Teresa, who grew up in Midland, has always been interested in antiques or "junk."

"What I really like is Midland memorabilia such as yearbooks, photos, postcards - anything that has to do with old Midland," she said.

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For more information about estate sale services contact Teresa Newman at 432-894-2333 or 432-689-8852 or email at wallstantiquesmidland@gmail.com. Wall Street Antiques can be found online at www.wallstantiquesmidland.com.

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THE READERS HAVE SPOKEN!

Winners of the 2017 Readers' Choice edition revealed Sunday, August 20

EDUCATION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt★com | Tuesday, August 8, 2017 | Section B

Make list, budget for back-to-school shopping

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

The dog days of summer are upon us, and that means the new school year is but a short time away for many students. Back-to-school commercials are in full swing, and parents are gearing up to shop for the new school year.

Families with children in grades K-12 plan to spend an average of $687.72 on back-to-school shopping, according to the National Retail Federation's annual survey. Consumers will be purchasing school supplies such as notebooks, folders, pencils, backpacks and lunchboxes. Total spending for K-12 and college is expected to reach $83.6 billion, a more than 10 percent increase from last year.

To make the most out of your back-to-school shopping, the Better Business Bureau serving the Heart of Texas recommends the following:

Sign up for email alerts at your favorite stores

Monitoring pricing early on is key to finding good deals on quality products. Many sites will have an informed community of savvy shoppers on its blog or in forums sharing exclusive coupons, rebates and insider information on where and when to find the best prices and products. These alerts will assure you don't miss out on the hottest items and/or limited opportunities.

Make a shopping list

Even if you don't have a school supply list yet, you can still purchase items early, such as clothes and in-class school essentials like pens, notebooks and backpacks. Make a list for each child, and go back through old supplies you may still have left over from last year.

Create a budget

Do a quick price search online for the items on your

Please see BBB/2B

Sales-tax holiday is this weekend

The sales tax holiday for 2017 is Friday through Sunday. Most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks priced less than $100 be will be exempt from sales tax.

The sales tax exemption includes items bought online, according to the state comptroller's website.

Midland Park Mall will have extended hours of operation during these three days. On Friday and Saturday, the mall will be open 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. (individual store hours may vary).

At Wal-Mart, which is open 24 hours, the sales-tax exemption will go into effect sometime after midnight.

Other retailers will adhere to normal business hours:

- Target: Friday and Sunday, 8 a.m.-11 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m.-midnight.
- Staples: Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.- 7p.m.; and Sunday, noon-6 p.m.
- Office Depot: Friday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

From staff reports

SLEEPING BAGS FIT FOR NASA

Elizabeth Conley/Houston Chronicle

Dulce Sanchez, Cypress Ridge senior, works on sleeping bag liners that will be sent to the International Space Station for NASA and used by astronauts July 13 in Houston. The project is part of NASA HUNCH (High School Students United with NASA to Create Hardware), a program that pairs the space program with high schools to manufacture items used by astronauts.

Project weaves astronaut needs, student skills

By Jacob Carpenter
Houston Chronicle

In space, bigger isn't always better when it comes to a good night's sleep.

On the International Space Station, about 250 miles above the Earth's surface, some American astronauts are too tall for their Russian-made sleeping bags. It's a daily inconvenience resulting from the fact that Russians tend to send shorter astronauts into space. The Americans are squeezing into sleeping bags that run a bit too snug.

So NASA's making a change, and some Houston-area teenagers are helping.

New sleeping bag liners manufactured by students and recent alumni from the Cy-Fair and Conroe Independent School districts will arrive at the International Space Station next month, the result of a unique collaboration between NASA and local high schools. The liners are slightly larger than the Russian products, allowing American astronauts additional wiggle room at night.

The lack of gravity in space makes a bed obsolete, so astronauts use a sleeping bag with a sheetlike liner. Students from the two districts will complete 96 of the liners. Six are in space already, a new batch will blast off next month and others will get used in training and educational settings.

"It didn't really hit me until I saw that NASA logo on it, even though I've been working on these all summer," said Emily Fernandez, a 2017 Cypress Woods High School graduate who is working on the project.

The liners are the product of HUNCH (High School Students United with NASA to Create Hardware), a governmental program that employs high school-age students to manufacture space-related hardware.

Students get hands-on experience crafting real-world products, while NASA gets cost-effective labor and an opportunity to connect with the next generation of engineers, researchers and labor.

HUNCH has partnered with about 90 schools in 25 states. The agency provides the materials, equipment, training and safety protocols — as well as $10 per hour for the students. Recent projects include cargo bags, a storage locker and a galley table, all of which have been used on the International Space Station.

The products all undergo rigorous review to ensure quality, as students learned last month during a "fit test" at the Johnson Space Center. The smallest stain or slightly askew stitch gets noticed by NASA, said Mekayla Hughes, a soon-to-be junior at Cypress Ridge High School.

"The hardest thing is to be careful because if you snip a hole in there or something, the whole bag can be rejected and you have to restart," Hughes said.

At Cy-Fair ISD, the sleeping-bag liner project has been organized through teacher Maureen Thomas' fashion design class. Thomas said her students have learned how to sew, read a computer-assisted design layout and execute a long-term project, among other skills. Thomas said her students have completed two previous NASA HUNCH projects — modeling and making a cargo bag and a zero-gravity trash can — and received plaudits from agency officials.

"At first they just wanted to see how they were going to work and what quality we would produce," Thomas said. "But they said they were amazed at the quality and thought that they fit beautifully."

Committee recommends $286M bond for ECISD

By Ruth Campbell
Odessa American

With work by the Ector County Independent School District's Bond Advisory Committee wrapped up, the next steps are consideration by the ECISD Board of Trustees, educating the public and marketing it.

The committee recommended a $286,672,291 bond, reduced from $339,705,796 after some changes were made. Superintendent Tom Crowe said he consulted with Chief Operations Officer David Morris and PBK, an architecture and engineering firm, to bring down the potential total.

Crowe said he had reservations about trying to sell anything more than $300 million, so he looked for ways to bring down the costs.

The group will present its recommendation and reasoning to the board during a 6 p.m. Aug. 15 meeting. The board will meet to consider calling a Nov. 7 bond and tax ratification election on Aug. 17. The deadline to call a November 2017 bond election is Aug. 21.

Crowe said the board can vote to approve the plan, reject the plan or modify it.

Priorities include:

- Life cycle projects for $29,563,545. These are items such as roofing, HVAC, plumbing and window replacements at every campus. Because of the recent hail storm, Crowe said the price of some of the roofs was reduced because replacement would be covered by insurance.
- A new comprehensive high school, with 2,500 students for $131,000,480.
- Convert Ector Middle School back to a high school for $30,037,460.
- A new middle school for $62,514,557.
- Secure front-entry vestibules at $1,123,500. Crowe said keypads, intercoms and buzzers will be used across the district. Some already have been installed, along with welcome centers as the ones at the administration building and Odessa High School.
- Priority 1 fire and life safety upgrades for $5,317,044. A priority 1 designation means it must be done in the next one to two years.
- Districtwide fiber network for $27,115,705. Crowe said it's likely the project would qualify for federal E-Rate funds, which would reimburse ECISD about 85 percent. "We still have $27 million in, but that way we may be able to do some other things with the money that comes back," Crowe said.

Rounding up, on a $287 million bond, for a home with an average taxable value of $104,244, it would add $167.83 per year, or $13.99 a month.

The current ECISD tax bill for a $104,244 home is $1,198 at $1.15 per $100 valuation. The total school bill with the added taxes would be $1,366.64.

On the life cycle investment, Crowe said when districts are in tight budget years, those projects get deferred. The district's buildings also have to be brought up to standard.

Please see ECISD/2B

MIDLAND COLLEGE PROFILES

By Rebecca Bell

Cosmetology lab instructor is a woman of many talents

■ Debbie Kelly is first female emcee for Summer Mummers and has styled Donald Trump's hair

Editor's note: This is one in a series on Midland College students and alumni.

Kelly

She has more than 30 tattoos, has the distinction of being the first-ever female emcee for Summer Mummers and has styled Donald Trump's hair. Debbie Kelly, the flamboyant MC student and cosmetology lab instructor, is certainly a woman of many talents.

"I'm really just a divorced, 52-year-old grandmother from Lovington, New Mexico," Kelly said.

She may be a grandmother, but the spunky red-head is living life to its fullest. She graduated from Lovington High School in 1983 and from Vogue College of Cosmetology in Hobbs, New Mexico, in 1987. She moved to Midland in 1991 and has participated in business and entertainment endeavors ever since.

Kelly owned French Chateau salon located in San Miguel Square for 14 years. She sold the business in 2011, but continued working there until January. After she sold the hair salon, she began working as a lab instructor in the MC cosmetology department.

"I fell in love with Midland College and the educational environment. I decided that as long as I'm working at the college, I may as well take a few classes," she said. "I have owned small businesses in the past, and I really like the idea of entrepreneurship, so an associate degree in small business management seemed like a good idea. I'll graduate in May 2018, and then I plan to start taking classes toward Midland College's baccalaureate degree in organizational management. My goal is to have a bachelor's degree by the time I'm 55."

In addition to working approximately 30 hours a week in the cosmetology program and being a full-time student, Kelly is tournament director for the Lone Star Poker Tour, which hosts free Texas Hold 'em Poker tournaments in Midland and Odessa. Players accumulate points throughout the season to qualify for quarterly tournaments with cash prizes. The tour offers a grand prize of $5,000 per season to play in a World Series of Poker circuit event or championship event in Las Vegas.

Being an avid poker player, Kelly has qualified to play in the Las Vegas championship on four separate occasions, the most recent was 2013. In 2007, Kelly placed 199th out of more than 1,200 women in the championship.

Kelly also finds time to volunteer with Midland Community Theatre. She recently appeared in "Hunchback of Notre Dame," "Awesome '80s Prom," "Jesus Christ Superstar" and the McLaren Comedy Festival. During the summer, Kelly can be found at the Yucca Theatre performing in and volunteering with Summer Mummers. For the past six years, she has been bar chair. She also acts in Mummers, and this year is emcee — the only woman to hold this coveted Summer Mummers position. She is doing all this with a broken ankle, which is the result of a Summer Mummers accident.

Please see PROFILE/2B

EDUCATIONBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Education Impact Series to host TED speaker

The Abell-Hanger Foundation, in partnership with Educate Midland, will host Sir Ken Robinson Aug. 15 at the Horseshoe Pavilion. Robinson, who will address innovation and creativity in education, has gained recognition from the TED (Technology, Entertainment and Design) Conference.

The free event is the inaugural Education Impact Series lecture. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and Robinson's book signing and an education resource fair will precede the lecture. The main program kicks off at 6:30 p.m. with opening performances from the Midland Festival Ballet and local students Adyson and Ashton Alexander.

To register, visit the Educate Midland office or website, or call 818-2623.

LHS to host cheerleading clinic

Lee High School cheerleaders and their booster club will be hosting a cheerleading clinic 8 a.m.-noon Aug. 19 at the school gym. The clinic is for kindergarteners through eighth-graders.

Camp participants will receive a T-shirt and have the opportunity to perform at the Rebels' first home game Sept. 8.

Registration is $50 before Aug. 14 and $60 at the door. To register, call 528-8105.

School start dates

The beginning of the 2017-18 academic year is about to begin. The first day of school for Midland schools is:

■ Midland ISD: Aug 28
■ Greenwood ISD: Aug. 17
■ Midland Christian School: Aug. 14
■ Trinity School: Aug. 17
■ Midland Classical Academy: Upper School - Aug. 21; Lower School - Aug. 21-22
■ St. Ann's School: Aug. 14
■ Midland Academy Charter School: Aug. 17
■ Premier High School: Aug. 28
■ Richard Milburn Academy: Aug. 21
■ Hillander School: Aug. 28

Contact your representative

■ **Midland ISD**
Address: 615 W. Missouri Ave., Midland, TX, 79701
Phone: 240-1000
Website: midlandisd.net
Facebook: facebook.com/midlandisd/
Superintendent: Orlando Riddick 240-1001
District 1: James Fuller, District 2: Robert Marquez, District 3: Tommy Bishop, District 4: John Kennedy, District 5: Karen Nicholson, District 6: Rick Davis, District 7: Bryan Murry

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Some Texas community colleges to offer bachelor's degrees

Dallas Morning News

Some Texas community colleges are expanding their curriculums to offer bachelor's degrees and help meet the increased need for nurses and teachers.

The 2017 Legislature approved letting community colleges offer bachelor's degrees in high-need areas like applied sciences, applied technology and nursing.

Until now, few Texas community colleges — traditionally two-year schools — have had state approval to offer four-year bachelor's programs. Most have been in rural areas with limited access to higher education.

Community colleges must get approval from an accrediting body, plus the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, to offer bachelor's degrees.

Collin College officials hope to have a four-year nursing degree program running by 2019. The Dallas County Community College District plans to offer an early childhood education degree, according to the newspaper.

Collin College already offers an associate's degree in nursing, providing a pathway to become a registered nurse.

Donna Hatch, dean of nursing at Collin College, said about 90 percent of her students go on to earn bachelor's degrees through partnerships with other universities. Offering a bachelor's through Collin College could mean significant savings for students, she said; tuition is about $42 per semester hour there, compared with other schools' costs that can top $200.

"Being able to earn a bachelor's for under $10,000, to me, is huge and will attract many to the field," she said.

DCCCD Chancellor Joe May said he's been told by area superintendents that they can't find enough quality educators with strong pre-kindergarten teaching backgrounds. The area is about 4,350 teachers short, he said.

"This is such a critical area that if we don't get this right, nothing is going to come out right in terras of their educational and career opportunities," May said.

Distributed by the Associated Press

Karen Warren/Houston Chronicle

The TCU band plays before the start of the first quarter of the EV1.Net Houston Bowl game between TCU and Iowa State, at Reliant Stadium on Dec. 31, 2005. Faced with a dwindling marching band — one that lagged far behind its Big 12 peers, despite its location in a hotspot of high school band talent — TCU in 2015 started offering an incentive to full-time students of $3,000 a year to all band members.

TCU offers $3,000 incentive to students who join band

By Ryan Osborne
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Searching high and low for college money? At TCU, you can just join the band.

Faced with a dwindling marching band — one that lagged far behind its Big 12 peers, despite its location in a hotspot of high school band talent — TCU in 2015 started offering an incentive to full-time students of $3,000 a year to all band members.

"You can earn $12,000 over four years in how we pitch it," band director Brian Youngblood said.

This year, the marching band has 235 members, up from 150 in 2014.

The money was designed to entice nonmusic majors who were arriving on campus with high school marching band experience.

Catherine Lillie, now a junior, is an example.

After four years in the marching band at Colleyville Heritage High School, Lillie was unsure whether she wanted to continue playing percussion at TCU.

She planned to major in political science, and a band schedule, as she knew first-hand, could be burdensome, with long rehearsals in the heat and events on the weekends. The time commitment was similar to a part-time job.

Then, in 2015, Lillie talked to a former Heritage classmate who was in the TCU band.

"He told me, 'Hey, before you even think about doing it or not doing it, just know you're going to get $3,000,'" Lillie said.

Now, two years later, Lillie said joining the band was the right choice, "even if they took away the money tomorrow." But at the time, the cash "definitely factored into" her decision, she said, and that's exactly what the TCU band directors were hoping for.

Before the incentive, Youngblood and director Bobby Francis had estimated that the band's size would continue to dwindle, possibly dipping down to 100 members in several years.

The problem was on display each Saturday, when the football team played Big 12 conference opponents whose bands were often more than twice TCU's size.

Texas Tech often averages about 400 band members, while Baylor, the University of Texas and the University of Oklahoma average about 300. Those schools also compete heavily for Metroplex students, and in the case of the public schools, they often are more affordable than TCU.

North Texas is traditionally home to some of the best high school bands in the state and nation, from Argyle to Hurst L.D. Bell to Flower Mound.

"Places like DFW and Houston are hot spots for recruiting band students for universities across the country," Francis said.

"Many out-of-state universities aggressively recruit students from our area and offer incredible scholarships and other incentives, such as out-of-state tuition [waivers] to entice them."

The problem

For TCU, part of the problem, at least compared to its Big 12 counterparts, was enrollment size. The expectation, Francis said, is for marching bands to make up about one out of every 100 students at a college.

At that rate, TCU, with an undergraduate enrollment of about 9,000 students, should have a marching band of about 90.

"It's very much driven by the undergraduate population," Youngblood said.

But Youngblood and Francis also attributed the decline in the band, oddly enough, to TCU's rise in popularity among prospective students.

In 2011, after the football team won the Rose Bowl and the school continued to recruit out-of-state students, applications to the school surged, rising from 14,097 to 19,166.

As the admissions became more selective, fewer students arrived on campus with high school marching band experience. Either the students with band experience weren't admitted or they made the cut but missed out on competitive scholarships and chose more

Please see TCU/4B

ECISD

From 1B

Proceeds from the $129.75 million bond passed in 2012 went to build three new elementary schools, additions to Permian and Odessa high schools, a performing arts center at OHS and tennis courts at Permian.

The oldest ECISD campus, Austin Montessori, dates back to 1937 and many campuses were built in the 1950s, district information shows. The newer ones are Cavazos, Johnson and Jordan elementary schools, built in 1989 and George H.W. Bush New Tech Odessa, originally opened as the Career Center, in 1997.

Crowe said even if you've taken steps to maintain buildings that are 40 to 80 years old, eventually something major will have to be done to it to bring it up to standard. When many of these buildings were constructed, Americans with Disabilities Act, or ADA standards, did not exist, he said.

Asked whether some people would think ECISD hasn't taken care of what it's got, Crowe said he wished he could say for certain that wasn't true. He added that PBK representatives have walked every facility in ECISD and said what the maintenance and custodian crews have done with the old buildings is "almost unbelievable."

Although residents would vote on the $286,672,291 bond all at once, Crowe said construction would happen gradually. He added that it takes three and a half years to build a high school and two and a half to build a middle school.

Because the district is maxed out on its maintenance and operations taxes, it will have to go for a tax ratification election, or TRE, along with the bond. Officials have estimated that the TRE would generate more than $16 million in additional revenue for maintenance and operation purposes.

The district has a $1.04 per $100 valuation M&O rate, but it has room on its interest and sinking rate at 11 cents per $100. That is its debt capacity. The district's total tax rate is $1.15 per $100 valuation.

To adopt a maintenance and operation rate above $1.04 per $100 valuation, the district has to conduct a rollback election, or TRE. With a TRE, the highest allowable M&O rate is $1.17 per $100, which equates to an additional 13 pennies of tax revenue and corresponding state revenue.

If it passed, Crowe said the 13 cents would take effect in January 2018.

Crowe said going for the TRE means the district has to pass a new budget that includes all the things it removed. He said some of the funds would be put back into ECISD's health insurance reserves and its fund balance. Then money would be set aside for hiring staff and buying supplies and materials as new schools open.

With overcrowded schools, Crowe said additional staff is needed anyway, so "a few teachers will be added" at the new schools, but teachers would mostly be shifted around because fewer instructors would be needed with fewer students.

Crowe said counselors, assistant principals, cafeteria workers, maintenance and custodial workers would have to be hired. In sports, teacher/coaches would be hired and shifted to other campuses.

To meet desegregation requirements, Crowe said the district's boundary lines would have to be gerrymandered.

"But what we also have to remember is we're 72 percent Hispanic. You're going to have 72 percent Hispanic wherever you draw your lines. ... The only thing you're going to have to watch is African American so that will be what we have to watch," Crowe said.

He said economically disadvantaged and wealthier people live all over Odessa.

"This really is the most diverse community I've ever been in as far as there's no segregation of ... poor over here and rich over here," Crowe said.

Noting that as of July 31 enrollment at Buice, Downing, Buddy West and Jordan elementary schools has been closed, Crowe said the community is not solely dependent on oil and gas anymore.

PROFILE

From 1B

"I had just finished announcements between acts," Kelly said. "I was walking down the stairs leading from the stage to the floor, and I tripped and fell. Of all evenings to fall — it just so happened that there was a film crew right behind me videoing a documentary on Summer Mummers and the first female emcee. Now I have the honor of being the first woman emcee and the first emcee to break an ankle during a performance."

Kelly enjoys life in Midland, but is no stranger to traveling the globe. She has worked for CHI hair care products as an educator and has traveled extensively both in the U.S. and internationally. She has also styled hair during pageant competitions for the Miss USA, Miss Teen USA and Miss Universe organizations, and this is where she met Donald Trump when he was owner of the organizations.

"He came backstage during one of the pageants and wanted someone to 'touch up' his hair," Kelly said. "I was available, so I told him I'd be happy to do it. Yes, it is his real hair, and yes, he did request more hair spray."

Kelly is not one to turn down a challenge. When her MC English teacher, Glenda Lindsey Hicks, mentioned the opportunity to enter poems in the Hilda Simmons Levitt Poetry contest, Kelly figured she may as well give it a try.

"I had never written poetry (or anything else for that matter), but I figured I didn't have anything to lose," she said. "Dr. Hicks is very encouraging, and while my poem didn't win an award, I found the whole process to be very relaxing, and I really enjoyed it. I'm looking forward to writing more poetry in the future."

When she is home, Kelly enjoys spending time with her three dogs — Maximillian, a great Pyrenees/wolf hybrid; Bella, a white labrador/pit bull hybrid, and Adonis, a red-nosed pit bull. She also loves to cook and entertain friends with her famous homemade pasta. She sings in the choir at All Saints Anglican Church and takes voice lessons at Midland College from Vivian Moss.

And what about those 30 tattoos?

Pointing to the tattoo on her wrist that she has in honor of her 7-year-old granddaughter, Noelle, Kelly said, "I was born on a Friday, the 13th, so every time the 13th of a month falls on a Friday, I get a tattoo. I can't remember when I started this tradition, but I have over 30. The next Friday the 13th is in October, so I'm already planning to get another one then.

"Besides getting a tattoo on Friday, the 13th and finishing my bachelor's degree by the time I'm 55, I have no definite goals," she said, laughing.

Rebecca C. Bell is dean of Community Relations, at Midland College.

BBB

From 1B

list, and add them all up. Be sure to clip coupons and make note of discount codes and any cash-back or rebate programs. If your goal is to reduce spending, now is the time to decide how much you want to cut. Consumers may want to consider spending a bit more on high-quality products that will last longer and save money in the long run.

Take advantage of discounts

Many stores offer student and teacher discounts on items such as laptops and uniforms. Retailers will also try to make room for fall fashion and the newest models, so there are savings to be had if you do a little research.

Check the refund and exchange policies

Keep your receipts and find out the exchange or return policy for items purchased during this time period. Keep in mind, some items may be non-refundable or have restocking fees associated with them.

Heather Massey is the Regional Director for the Permian Basin office of Better Business Bureau serving Central, Coastal, Southwest Texas and the Permian Basin. She is available for media interviews and speaking engagements. You can reach her by phone: 741-2592 or email: hmassey@permianbasin.bbb.org.

For more consumer information, BBB Business Reviews or to file a complaint, visit your local Better Business Bureau online at bbb.org/central-texas.

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TUESDAY PRIME TIME — AUGUST 8, 2017

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

		G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
BROADCAST	KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle	Fresh Off the Boat	Black-ish "Lemons"	Black-ish "God"	Somewhere "Fate Takes a Holiday" (N)		Local 2 News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
	KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Enemy Combatant"		Bull "Too Perfect"		NCIS: New Orleans "Swift, Silent, Deadly"		CBS 7 News (N)	(:35) The Late Show		(:35) J.Corden
	KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Mama's Family	ALF	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	P. Mason "The Case of the Crimson Kiss"		Twilight Zone
	KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Lethal Weapon "Ties That Bind"		The Mick	Brooklyn 99	Fox 24 News (N)	TMZ	Modern Family	Two and a Half	Hot In Cleveland	Met Your Mother
	KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Our Messiah	Housecall	Update News	Walls of Jerusalem	Light of the Southwest "Part 1"		Light of the Southwest "Part 2"		Creation Magazine	Mission: M25	Restore Zion	HaYesod
	KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsW-est 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 Now	America's Got Talent "Judge Cuts 4" Seal joins the judge's panel. (N)				World of Dance "World Final" (SP) (N)		NewsW-est 9 (N)	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
	KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour (N)		S.Dead "Resurrecting Richard III"		Ireland's Wild Coast		Ireland's Wild Coast		Charlie Rose (N)		Newsline	Tavis Smiley
	KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		Enamorandome de Ramon		La doble vida de Estela Carrillo		La Tierra Prometida		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto	Deportivo
	KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	The X-Files "Vienen"		X-Files "Trust No. 1"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0	Access H.
PREMIUM	FLIX	340	575		165		(5:15) Gangsta G...		★★ The Alamo ('04, West) Dennis Quaid.						★★ The Accidental Spy			
	HBO	300	550	14	14		BillMaher	News (N)	First Look (8:15)	★★ Max Payne			Hard Knocks (SP) (N)		Insecure	Diana, Our Mother		(:40) Ballers
	HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(5:30) Blair Witch ...		Thrones	Insecure	(:20) VICE	(:50) Keeping Up With the Joneses					(:40) Victor Frankenstein	
	HBOS	304	552	16	102		(5:00) Straight Outta Compton			Room 104	★★ About a Boy Hugh Grant.			(:45)	★★ My Big Fat Greek Wedding			BillMaher
	MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:00) ★★ Ted 2		★ Risky Business			(:40)	★ Miss March			(:10)	★ Ride Along 2 Ice Cube.	
	MAX2	382	558	18	122		Movie	★ Incarnate Aaron Eckhart.			★★ Into the Blue			(:50)	★★ Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior			Movie
	PLEX		96				(4:50) ★ The Fortun...		★★★ The Great Escape ('63, War) James Garner, Steve McQueen.					(:55)	★★★ Fat Man and Little Boy			
	SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	(5:45) ★ Snowden Joseph Gordon-Levitt.				Ray Donovan "Abby"		Access	Dying Here "Lingchi"	Twin Peaks			Movie
	TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:05) ★ Paranoia		★ The Man Who Knew Infinity Dev Patel.				★★ The Land			(:45)	★★★ All or Nothing	
CABLE	A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Remini: Scientology "Auditing"		L. Remini "Enemies of the Church"		Remini: Scientology abuse, heartbreak and harassment. (N)		Shocking stories of			(:05) L. Remini "Auditing"		(:05) Remini "Enemies of the Church"
	AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(4:30) ★ Ocean's El...		★★ Focus ('15, Com/Dra) Margot Robbie, Will Smith.						★★★ The Departed ('06, Thril) Leonardo DiCaprio.			
	BET	58	-		40		★★★ This Christmas ('07, Com) Idris Elba, Delroy Lindo.						Being Mary Jane (N)		Being Mary Jane		Martin	Martin
	BRAVO	65	76		41		Below "Swing Shift"		Below Deck		Below Deck (N)		A Night	Wives	Watch	Below Deck		A Night
	CNBC	46	52		39	72	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		The Profit (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
	CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360 (N)		A. Cooper 360 (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		A. Cooper 360	
	DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Deadliest Catch		Deadliest Catch (N)		Deadliest Catch (N)		Unabomber (N)		ManhuntUnabomber		To Be Announced	
	DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Bizaard.	StuckMid	Bunk'd	Bizaard.	Andi M.	Underc.	Underc.	Bunk'd	Jessie	StuckMid	Andi M.
	ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	SportsCenter Road		ESPN Films "Baltimore Boys" (N)				ESPN Films "Morningside 5" (N)		SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)	
	ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NFL Live		Baseball Little League World Series (L)				SportsCenter (N)		ESPN Films "Baltimore Boys" (N)			ESPN (N)
	FNC	45	48	53	23	55	The Story		Tucker Carlson		The Five		Hannity		Tucker Carlson		The Five	
	FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Chopped		Chopped		Chopped		Chopped (N)		Chopped		Chopped	
	FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(5:00) You Again		Fosters "Telling" (N)		The Bold Type (N)		The Fosters "Telling"		The 700 Club		★★ Big Daddy	
	FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	MLB Baseball Texas Rangers at New York Mets Site: Citi Field -- New York, N.Y. (L)						Rangers Live (L)	Camp (L)/ Knockout	Texans AllAccess	Stars Insider	Bull Riding Championship	
	FX	31	56	59	64	69	(4:00) ★ Fast & Furio...		★★ Furious 7 ('15, Action) Paul Walker, Jason Statham, Vin Diesel.						★★★ Fast & Furious 6 Vin Diesel.			
	HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
	HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Good Bones (N)		H.Hunt	H.Hunt	Fixer Upper	
	HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Forged "The Cutlass"		Forged in Fire (N)		Forged in Fire (N)				(:05) Amer. Ripper (N)		(:05) Forged in Fire	
	LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Dance Moms "Same Old Frenemies Part 2"		Dance Chat (N)	(:50) Chloe Does (N)	Dance Moms "Abby Flies the Coop" (N)		(:05) Sharp Talk "This Girl Is on Fire" (N)		DanceMom (N) (8:15) DanceMom		Dance Chat	(:55) Chloe Does It
	MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball (N)		All in (N)		Rachel Maddow (N)		The Last Word (N)		The 11th Hour (N)		Rachel Maddow	
	NBCSN	38	13				(5:00) Mecum Auto Auctions: Muscle Cars & More "Harrisburg"								Mecum Auto Auctions "Harrisburg"			
	NICK	55	-	39	34	37	H.Danger	H.Danger	Thunder	Thunder	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
	SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Ink Master		Ink Master		Ink Master		Ink Master (N)		Ink Mstr	Tattoo	Tattoo	Tattoo
	SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:30) ★★★ Hellboy	Ron Perlman.			Face Off (N)		★★★ Zombieland	Woody Harrelson.			Face Off	
	TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Wrecked "Speed"	Conan (N)		Wrecked "Speed"	Conan
	TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(4:30) ★ Mutiny on ...		★★★★ The King Steps Out				(:45) ★★★ The Unguarded Hour				★ Gentlemen Are Born	
	TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado (N)		Jenni Rivera: Ma (N)		Sin senos (N)		Señor de cielos (N)		Al rojo	Titulares	Sin senos no paraiso	
	TLC	51	61	32	38	52	OutDaughtered "Good Quints Gone Bad"		OutDaught. "Extreme Quint Makeover" (N)		OutDaughtered (N)		(:05) Rattled (N)		(:05) OutDaughtered		(:05) Rattled "I Think I'm Pregnant Again"	
	TNT	24	34	40	26	50	(5:00) ★★ American Sniper (2014, War) Sienna Miller, Luke Grimes, Bradley Cooper.				Animal Kingdom "Treasure" (N)		Animal Kingdom "Treasure"		Law & Order "Just a Girl in the World"		Law & Order "Great Satan"	
	TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	MASH	(:35) MASH	(:10) MASH	(:50) Ray	(:25) Ray "SuperBowl"		Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
	USA	26	55	42	27	49	Modern Family	Modern Family	WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries. (L)				Shooter "The Dark End of the Street" (N)		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Rhodium Nights"		The Sinner "Part I"	
	WGN	19	85				M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	★★★ Inception ('10, Act) Joseph Gordon-Levitt. A skilled thief has a final shot at redemption if he can execute his toughest job to date.						★★★ Inception (2010, Action) Leonardo DiCaprio, Ellen Page, Joseph Gordon-Levitt.			

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Gym client vents her anger at bad-mouthing by trainer

Dear Abby

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

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I work out at the same gym. Over the past several months, it has gotten back to me that one of the trainers, "Bob," has been talking negatively about me to some of the other members.

My boyfriend works out with another trainer there, and during his workout, I approached him and his trainer and expressed my anger about what Bob was doing. I said I was fed up and that I wanted to confront him.

My boyfriend told me to keep my mouth shut and say nothing. He said I shouldn't take it personally, that Bob is just being a hater. He also said the person who told me shouldn't have. I disagree. I don't think it matters how it got back to me — it did!

Last week, while his regular trainer was away, my boyfriend trained with Bob! I feel it was disloyal, but he disagrees. He thinks I should just let it go. What do you think? — GYM DILEMMA

DEAR GYM DILEMMA: Because the bad-mouthing has happened more than once, talk to the manager of the gym about what's going on. Bob may not like you, but that doesn't give him the right to make the gym an unpleasant place for clients to visit. If your boyfriend were loyal, he would have told Bob to knock it off. And he would not have worked out with him when his regular trainer was away; he would have chosen someone else.

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law lives in another state, so she often mails my daughter's gifts to us after she buys the items online. Then she expects me to wrap them. The icing on the cake? She's now saying I need to add bows to these gifts, but she doesn't send any money for the wrapping paper or bows.

I think this is very rude. My daughter thinks her aunt takes the time to purchase these gifts, when she's only pressing a button and that is it. With everyone shopping online more and more, is this a new trend, to have the parents wrap gifts instead of the person giving them? — ONLINE GIFT GIVING

DEAR ONLINE: It's only a trend if you decide to let it become one. Feeling as you do, it's time you had a discussion with your sister-in-law concerning how you feel about this arrangement and what you expect from her.

DEAR ABBY: My wife of 55 years passed away five months ago and I am lonely. How long should I wait before establishing a relationship with another woman?

A certain lady and I go to church together, so we are well acquainted. I never thought about being with her until my wife died. She and my wife were friendly acquaintances.

What is the right time to wait? Six months? A year? I never thought I could be lonely. Well, think again! — READY FOR THE FUTURE

DEAR READY: There's no timetable for grieving. If you feel you are ready for companionship, all you need to do is pick up the phone and call the lady you have in mind. To do that is not disrespectful to your late wife. It's a tribute to the happiness you experienced being part of a couple.

Goren Bridge

With Bob Jones

Endgame surprise

North-South vulnerable, South deals

NORTH
♠ A 2
♡ 10 9 4 3
◊ J 8 2
♣ A 7 6 5

WEST
♠ Q J 9 4 3
♡ 5
◊ 9 7 3
♣ K 8 4 3

EAST
♠ 8 6
♡ K Q J 8 7
◊ K 10 5 4
♣ 10 2

SOUTH
♠ K 10 7 5
♡ A 6 2
◊ A Q 6
♣ Q J 9

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1NT	Pass	2♣	2♡
2♠	Pass	3NT	All pass

Opening lead: Five of ♡

A good player in need of an extra trick will keep plugging to the endgame, hoping to find a nice surprise. Watch French great Henri Swarc, South in today's deal, do just that.

Swarc played dummy's 10 on the opening heart lead and captured East's jack with the ace. The queen of clubs was covered by the king and won in dummy with the ace. Another club was led from dummy, picking up the 10 from East, and South cashed his two club tricks. Swarc led a spade to dummy's ace and exited with dummy's last club to West while discarding a heart from his hand. West shifted to the queen of spades, ducked by South, and then switched to a low diamond. Swarc played low from dummy and won East's 10 with his queen. Swarc cashed the king of spades leaving this position:

NORTH
♠ Void
♡ 9 4
◊ J 8
♣ Void

WEST
♠ J 9
♡ Void
◊ 9 7
♣ Void

EAST
♠ Void
♡ K Q
◊ K 5
♣ Void

SOUTH
♠ 10
♡ 6
◊ A 6
♣ Void

Swarc exited with a heart to East, who had to lead a diamond away from his king after cashing his last heart. Swarc could also have exited with the 10 of spades to West. We'll leave it to interested readers to work out that position.

Parents buy preschool to keep it operating

■ Plano school remains open after parents buy building, secure license and permits

By Meara Isenberg
Dallas Morning News

When the parents at a beloved Plano preschool realized they couldn't stop it from closing, they did the next-best thing.

They bought it.

"It was devastating in the beginning," said Elisa Boston, whose 9-month-old daughter, Mia, attends the school. "Once we found out that more parents felt the same way, we turned that energy into determination and said, 'No, actually the school's not going to close.'"

One parent purchased the school building from its corporate owner, another helped secure licensing, while others made sure the school's director and other staffers remained on board.

Their massive efforts paid off.

"We closed the Grove School on (July 28) and reopened as the Orchard on (July 31)," said Jacquie Murphey, director of The Orchard School. "It was so amazing that we pulled it off."

From securing state licensing and building permits to completing fire and health inspections, most of the school's 26 parents found a way to contribute to the cause.

"It took everything that you can imagine to start a business in three months, and to do it without any idea," said Erika Scheibe, mother of 9-month-old Juliana. "One of the parents went to a licensing class. There were other parents who helped secure all the teachers. Everyone helped in their own special way."

'No alternative'

The parents got busy after officials with KinderCare Education informed them that the school on Independence Parkway, then known as The Grove School, would be closing because it was not profitable.

Parents said they didn't want to lose the school, which enrolls youngsters from 6 weeks to 5 years old, in large part because of its "Healthy Me" curriculum, which helps children learn about healthy foods and diet with a hands-on approach that includes an onsite garden.

The hefty tuition -- it cost $1,425 per month for infants and $1,065 for 4- and 5-year-olds -- means The Orchard School isn't for everyone. Murphey understands but says the price allows the school to do more for its students and its teachers.

"It's a little bit higher because we do take care of our teachers monetarily," she said. "We want to make sure that we have the right people in the building. We want to give them the best education possible."

Despite the price tag, Scheibe believed there was really "no alternative" for her daughter's education.

"I saw the potential for what my daughter was going to learn throughout her years here. I couldn't pass that up," she said.

And so she and the other parents met daily to plan and make strategies to achieve their common goal -- saving their children's school.

Friday marked a successful end of The Orchard School's first week of operation. However, to the kids who spent the afternoon in the garden picking parsley and cutting mint with tiny green scissors, the week was no different than the ones before it.

Five-year-old Jack Kelly worked hard in his Batman T-shirt and superhero-worthy Skechers to keep the garden safe from its arch-enemy.

"I'm cutting the weeds," Jack said. "Weeds don't belong in the garden."

The school offers a Bridges Enrichment Program, which gets the kids' hands dirty as they venture outside for a half-hour in the morning and afternoon. When his class went out to harvest spices and vegetables, Jack was sure not to return empty-handed.

"What is this called?" he said aloud, holding up a spiny leaf for Murphey to see.

"Heather," she replied.

"Heather," he quietly repeated to himself.

'A different experience'

In addition to the time spent outdoors, The Orchard specializes in teachers spending more time with individual students, Murphey said.

"We give them a different experience than any other preschool out there," Murphey said. "We are not managing chaos like other centers. We are able to teach our research-based curriculum, and the children get more attention."

The curriculum is shared with all of the school's students, regardless of age. Both Schiebe's and Boston's 9-month-old babies sat by the garden Friday, clutching fresh-cut cloves in their tiny hands.

But just how much of an impact can a specialized curriculum have on children who may not have spoken their first word?

According to Murphey, a big one.

"It's part of teaching them the senses," she said. "We want to start at an early age, letting them know where their food comes from."

And at The Orchard School, the roles may be just a little bit reversed from typical early-education centers.

"They don't get upset when they are leaving parents," she said. "But they do get upset when they leave for the day."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

NM school teaches people how to drive a train

By Jenny Brundin
Colorado Public Radio

AP file photo

A steam engine pulling in at the Los Pinos siding on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad June 18, 2015, near Antonito, Colo. Dating back to 1880 with a mission to tap the resources of the southern Rockies, the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad is the highest and longest steam-operated railroad in the country. A National Historic Landmark, tourist trains lumber daily between Chama and Antonito, Colorado during the summer and fall seasons.

CHAMA, N.M. — In the thick of swirling plumes of coal-fired smoke and greasy engine parts, 11 men, mostly middle-aged and clad in blue overalls and steel-toed boots, are getting ready for a day of class. Everyone's standing in the tiny rail village of Chama, New Mexico, gazing at clanging, heaving locomotives.

"It's a strange beast," said Tom Chenal, a sheep farmer who hails from New Jersey. For him, it almost seems alive, "like it's got a heartbeat or something."

Each of the men here are signed up for a rare and remote school near the Colorado-New Mexico border: the Cumbres & Toltec engineer and fireman school.

Dating back to 1880 with a mission to tap the resources of the southern Rockies, the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad is the highest and longest steam-operated railroad in the country. A National Historic Landmark, tourist trains lumber daily between Chama and Antonito, Colorado, during the summer and fall.

"This whole operation here is very much a time capsule," said Ed Beaudette, the railroad's manager of engineering and operations. "It's one of those few places where you can get out of your modern Mercedes or Cadillac and step onto the gravel pavement, and look around and then you are back in 1925."

It's day two of the four-day class, and instructors prepare the men for their first day in Engine 487. They'll be operating their own train, separate from the steam horse that conducts the sightseers. Before they arrived, the students read hundreds of pages of manuals as homework.

"If you get nervous or if you don't know the next step, don't be scared to ask questions; we're here to help you guys," conductor Chris Aira told the men.

The students rotate turns in the locomotive — in groups of three — as the train travels through alpine meadows, aspen groves, steep mountain canyons, and climbs past a sheer rock face to the 10,022-foot Cumbres Pass Summit. Later, when they run the full 64-miles of the railroad, they'll inch along the 800-foot Toltec Gorge and follow the rushing Rio de los Pinos.

"In general, it starts out with a mild amount of terror," Beaudette said of the students' demeanor. Not to worry, alongside them in the locomotive are professional railroaders.

"As soon as they actually get something moving, the terror tends to go away and they really get wrapped up in it. They come off all smiles," he says. "It's really quite an adrenalin-producing experience for them."

Even though they're trainees, it seems like a well-orchestrated team in the locomotive. Engineer instructor Ronnie Lopez explains to Tom Chenal how to negotiate the tricky start on one of the steepest segments, telling him to ease back the brake and give it some throttle.

Andy Taylor, on fireman duty, shovels coal into the blazing hot firebox. He keeps an eye on the pressure gauge, shooting for 195. At 200, safety valves lift and you'll waste steam and water. At the moment, the train is plodding uphill, so it's a lot of work. Taylor said he began lifting weights and running extra miles nine months before he came here so he wouldn't — if you'll forgive the pun — "run out of steam, so to speak."

Skip Auten from Parker, Colorado, monitors water levels as he pumps water into the boiler.

"I found out I'm not that cut out to shovel coal but I am cut out to turn knobs," he said, laughing.

Operating what one of the men called "a hulking beast" is both very physical and a delicate balancing act: the right mix of water, steam pressure and heat. Chenal says it's the same with driving Engine 487.

Trainees have to stick their heads out the window a fair bit to see the track and the grade coming.

John Grigsby, a saw mill operator from Arkansas, said you need to listen to the train. "You don't have to have a speedometer because there isn't one and as you ride, the railroad kind of tells you what to do, by feel."

Distributed by the Associated Press

50 bikers escort bullied 6th-grader to school

By Amber Ferguson
Washington Post

Call it the kindness of strangers, a simple gift. Or call it what you will. We know it when we see it and this vignette from DeKalb, Indiana, is the real thing. The deed surely will not be forgotten by 11-year-old Phil Mick.

At Christmastime last year, Phil and his mother, Tammy Mick, attended an event held by a motorcycle shop in DeKalb for families who couldn't afford a holiday celebration. There they met Brent Warfield of KDZ Motorcycle Sales & Service.

Phil's mother confided to Warfield that her son had been getting physically bullied for the past two years. Mick told The Washington Post she suspected it after he came home with bruises. Kids at his school would hit, punch and call Phil names, she said. The 11-year-old told WTSP he was being bullied for being overweight.

The boy's plight struck a chord with Warfield. "I was bullied when I was younger," he told The Washington Post. "I know what it's like to be picked on."

"I told his mom, 'I've got a bunch of big-hearted biker friends who would love to help.'"

A couple of days before the start of school this week, Warfield took Phil to the mall to get new clothes and some school supplies.

Then Warfield, who is the director of United Motorcycle Enthusiasts, put a message on his Facebook page inviting Indiana bikers to escort Phil to school. He wrote, "Were hopefully going to make a positive [impact] for Phil and hopefully show the other kids that bullying isn't cool."

The first day of school rolled around Aug. 1. That morning, a group of bikers met Phil and his mom for breakfast at Richard's, a local restaurant. When they left, people on bikes were out in the parking lot, Warfield said. Some of the bikers had traveled over an hour to escort Phil to school. Some took the day off work.

Before the ride, a member from the Christian Motorcyclists Association led a prayer wishing Phil a safe school year.

Phil hopped on the back of a bike for his first motorcycle ride, and the group, resplendent on their Harleys and in their leather jackets, thundered down the street.

The glorious growl of 50 big bike engines reverberated off the brick walls of DeKalb Middle School as they pulled up, sending a message no one could miss.

Principal Matt Vince fully approved, he told the Brown County Democrat. "Standing up against bullying — we need more of that. And they did it in a positive way."

"Phil was just in heaven. He wasn't apprehensive or scared. He walked in with confidence," Warfield said. "This is his new start. He was happy as heck."

ESTHER J. CEPEDA
Washington Post Writers Group

Hunger on campus is a real problem with real solutions

When people my age look back on their college days, they often recall being "starving" students. But, back in a time when it was possible to complete a university education with some scholarships, a modest student loan and a part-time job, few of my peers were ever truly hungry.

Fast forward to today: Due to hiring norms, it's difficult to embark on any kind of stable career trajectory without at least an associate's degree. And the cost of college is estimated to have more than doubled in the past 30 years and outpaced inflation by 2 to 4 percent — the idea that you could mostly pay out-of-pocket for college as you go is laughable.

More often, students — particularly those who are the first in their family to go to college — are cobbling together hefty financial aid and full-time jobs to attend school. And these students are increasingly going hungry.

According to the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness (NSCAHH), food insecurity among students who attend both four-year universities and community colleges is a stark reality.

A 2016 NSCAHH survey of nearly 4,000 students across 34 institutions of higher learning found that 48 percent of respondents reported food insecurity in the previous 30 days.

And while there's a misperception that hunger on campus is solely a commuter school issue — 25 percent of community college students qualified as having very low food security — students at four-year schools weren't far behind at 20 percent.

As with other societal inequalities, students of color were likelier to be hungry. Fifty-seven percent of black students reported food insecurity, compared with 40 percent of non-Hispanic white students. (A separate study by researchers from the University of Connecticut found that 31 percent of Latino students reported having low food security and 25 percent were classified as having very low food security.)

Lastly, as a group, 56 percent of all first-generation students were food insecure, compared with 45 percent of students who had at least one parent who had attended college.

No matter which way you look at the data, large numbers of students of all races and ethnicities — even those who hold part-time jobs and receive at least some financial aid — are at times hungry on campus.

This leads to a cascade of challenges and terrible outcomes. When faced with the choice to eat or buy a required textbook, students make rational choices: They choose to eat.

When students are hungry, they miss class — sometimes to pick up an extra shift at work, sometimes because they get sick because their immune systems are weak from malnutrition.

Now you've got students who can't make it to class, can't concentrate when they are there or don't have the book so they can do the work. If they end up dropping the class or — far worse — dropping out of school, it leaves them with no degree and student loans that must be repaid.

If this happens to people in families with a strong track record of attending and graduating from college, they will probably be an anomaly.

But when it happens to the first person in a family to attempt higher education, not only have they failed themselves but they've become a cautionary tale about the no-safety-net-high-wire act of trying to better yourself. All the adults in that family will forever be scarred by one student's inability to pull off this feat that every high school college counselor proclaims is both indispensable and attainable.

As ever, there are solutions, even if they're not easy.

First, forget cutesy concerns about the legendary "Freshman 15" pounds that students gain. Instead, encourage your alma mater or local college to create campus food pantries, campus community gardens and food recovery programs. Or make a donation to such efforts.

Call your legislators and ask them to improve student access to existing federal programs, including expanding the SNAP eligibility requirements for college students, simplifying the application process for financial aid (especially for homeless students), and adding food security measurements to the annual National Postsecondary Student Aid Study.

If none of these efforts appeals to you, then try this: Next time you run into a college student, ask him or her if you can treat them to a meal — they'll surely appreciate the offer either way.

TCU

From 2B

affordable options, Francis said.

"Band kids are smart," Francis said, "but they're not out practicing the SAT every Saturday. They're participating in band competitions."

Youngblood and Francis said they noticed the drop-off immediately — they estimated that before 2011, about 300 students were arriving with previous band experience. That number then dropped to about 100, with about 70 joining the marching band each year.

The need for an incentive, an idea the two band directors had kicked around for years, was even more apparent.

'You can earn $3,000'

After administrators approved the idea, the plan was put into place: Each full-time student in the marching band would receive a $3,000 award for completing a full semester, plus the football bowl game.

Two-hour rehearsals on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and attendance on game days are required. But after football season, no more time commitments are needed until the following August.

The additional money was also a welcome reward for the music majors, who comprise about 60 percent of the band. Music majors are eligible for School of Music scholarships, but they are often only partial awards.

"You're putting in the hours, so it makes it more like a job," said senior drum major Jacob Collins, who commutes from North Richland Hills and uses the incentive for gas money and other expenses.

Miles said he believes the money has also kept more music majors in the band, though they're not required to be.

"Rolling out that $3,000 is enticing," he said. "Some music majors want to be in the symphony and the orchestra, and a lot of what marching band does is loud and playing out. So they're not really turned on to the idea. But if you offer a little incentive there, they are."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Baylor, former Manager of Year, dead at 68

By Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press

Wherever he went, Don Baylor left his mark on baseball. He was an MVP and Manager of the Year, respected as a powerful slugger, punishing runner and commanding presence in any clubhouse.

And during nearly a half-century as a pro, baseball left its mark on him. Lots of them, in fact. When Baylor retired, he'd been plunked more than anyone in major league history.

Baylor was hit by fastballs, sliders and a bunch of pitches 267 times in his career. Baylor set the modern-day record in 1987 while playing for Boston, on the day he turned 38. After the game, the Red Sox gave him the souvenir ball.

"I can think of other ways to get a birthday present," Baylor said.

Baylor, the bruiser who also held the bruise record for almost three decades, died Monday of cancer. He was 68.

His family said in a statement that Baylor died in his hometown of Austin after a 14-year battle with multiple myeloma.

"One of the nicest men I've known unless you were a middle infielder on a DP," former Baltimore teammate and Hall of Fame pitcher Jim Palmer tweeted.

Baylor won the 1979 AL MVP with the California Angels, playing all 162 games and leading the majors with career bests of 139 RBIs and 120 runs. His 36 home runs were also his most.

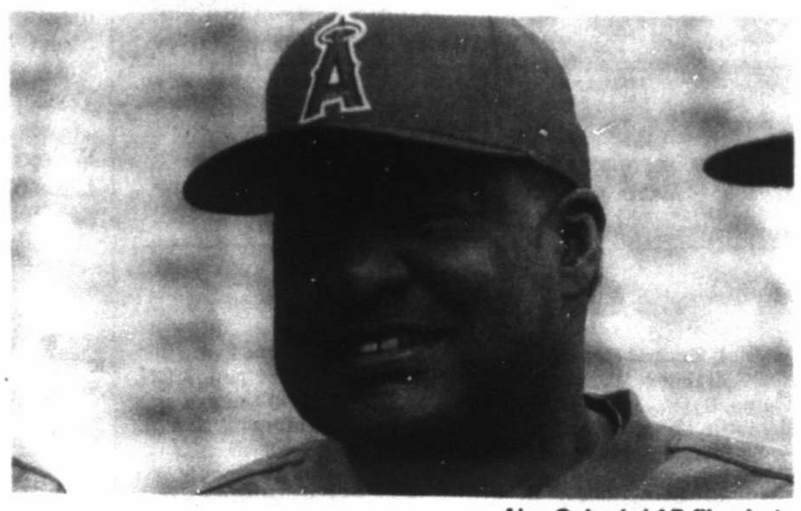
Baylor later became the first manager of the Colorado Rockies, guiding them to his only playoff appearance as a skipper in the franchise's third season in 1995 and being honored for that accomplishment.

Just three others have won MVP and Manager of the Year awards — Frank Robinson, Joe Torre and Kirk Gibson.

It was the great Robinson who helped give Baylor a nickname that stuck forever.

Baylor was a 20-year-old rookie in 1970 on a team that eventually won the World Series when he was asked about trying to break into the Orioles' loaded outfield. Brash beyond his years, Baylor said he wasn't too worried, that once he got into one of his grooves, things would be OK.

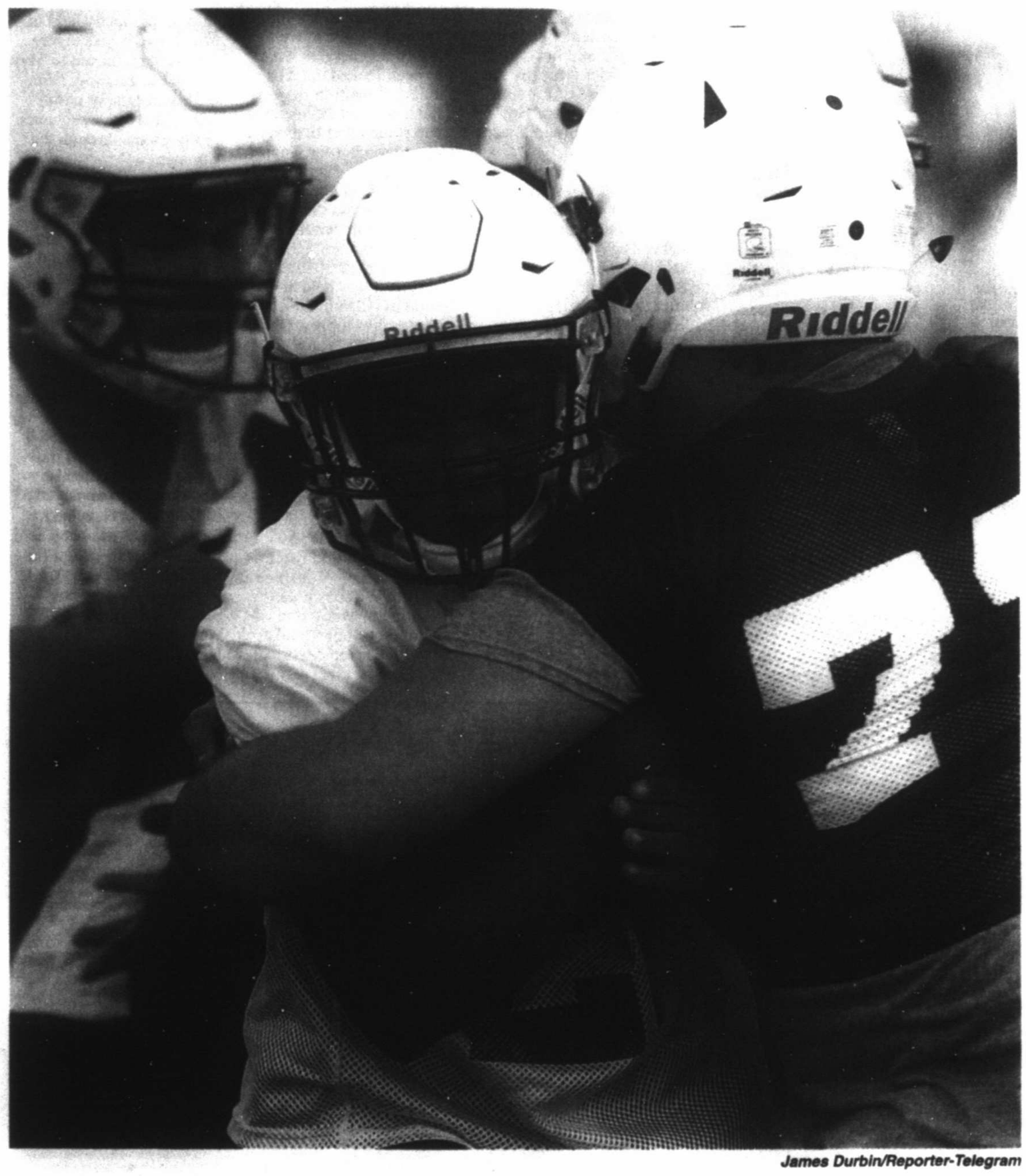
Please see **BAYLOR**/3C



Alex Gallardo/ AP file photo

Los Angeles Angels' Don Baylor poses for a photo before a baseball game against the Oakland Athletics, in this April 23, 2015, file photo, in Anaheim, Calif. Don Baylor, the 1979 AL MVP with the California Angels who went on to become manager of the year with the Colorado Rockies in 1995, has died. He was 68. Baylor died Monday, at a hospital in Austin, his son, Don Baylor Jr., told the Austin American-Statesman.

Power through!



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Josh Traylor runs the ball during the first day of Lee football practice on Monday. For more photos go to mrt.com

SEC trying to climb back to college football summit

By John Zenor
Associated Press

Alabama and the Southeastern Conference are trying to climb back atop the college football mountain.

The SEC was toppled— at least temporarily — from that summit by the Atlantic Coast Conference last season. A powerhouse Crimson Tide team has a much shorter climb back after a down-to-the-last-breath loss to the ACC's Clemson in the national championship game .

'Bama has won 17 consecutive SEC games by an average of 21 points but coach Nick Saban insists "there's a lot of parity in our league."

Despite Saban's perspective, there's no debating that the battle for No. 2 has been more heated than the competition for the top spot the past few seasons. Exhibit A: Alabama's 54-16 win over Florida in the last SEC championship game.

Alabama remains the decisive favorite to win a fourth consecutive SEC title despite losing four first-round NFL draft picks. No team has won the league four times in a row — or three for that matter before the Tide's run — since Steve Spurrier and Florida dominated from 1993-96.

The first test might just be Alabama's biggest of the regular season. The Tide opens with another ACC power, Florida State, in Atlanta's new Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

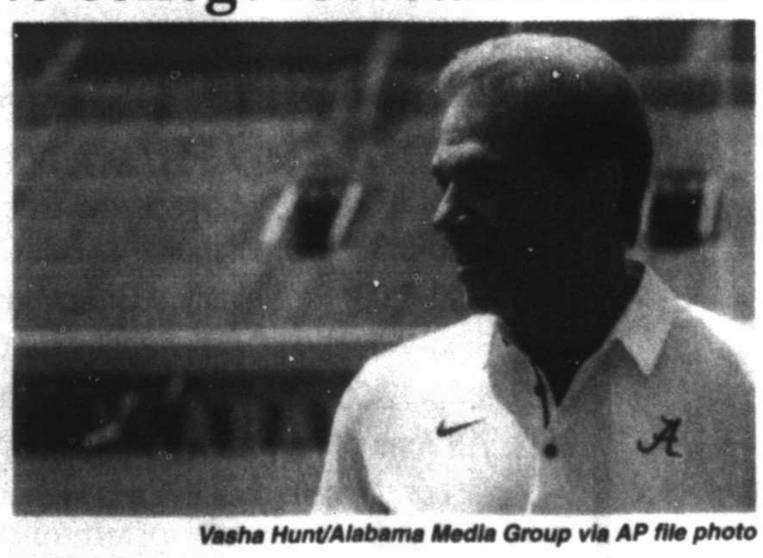
"All the guys that did play in that (Clemson) game are really hungry to get back out there and play and show the world that we are one of the top teams in the nation," 'Bama receiver Calvin Ridley said.

Quarterback Jalen Hurts, the SEC offensive player of the year, gives Saban a returning starter at quarterback for the first time since 2013. He heads a group of promising young passers including Georgia's Jacob Eason, Mississippi's Shea Patterson and South Carolina's Jake Bentley.

Not to mention transfers Jarrett Stidham at Auburn and Malik Zaire at Florida .

In the SEC West, teams like LSU, Texas A&M and Auburn are trying to play catch up to the Tide. Georgia, Florida and Tennessee are among the East Division teams hoping

Please see **SEC**/4C



Vasha Hunt/Alabama Media Group via AP file photo

Alabama head coach Nick Saban holds a football as he waits for the 2017 team picture before fan day in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Alabama remains the decisive favorite to win a fourth consecutive SEC title despite losing four first-round NFL draft picks.

Former Patriots standout Wilfork retires

Associated Press

Former New England and Houston defensive tackle Vince Wilfork announced his retirement from the NFL in a barbecue commercial Monday, a fitting farewell for a big guy who loved to eat.

Wilfork tweeted a video showing him un-taping his ankles, hanging up his cleats and grabbing grilling tongs. The video then shows the 35-year-old defender dancing, cooking ribs and smoking a cigar while wearing his trademark overalls.

"No more cleats," he says. "I'm moving on to smoke meats, fellas. Peace out. I'm outta here. Later."

The video ends by noting that "Vince's Farewell Tailgate" will take place Sept. 7 in New England. The defending Super Bowl champions open the season that Thursday night against Kansas City.

Wilfork's next stop could be the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. He certainly has enough numbers and rings to merit first-ballot consideration.

"Congrats on a #HOF career bro... Now you can sit back and barbeque all you want," retired NFL receiver and fellow Miami Hurricanes star Reggie Wayne tweeted.

Wilfork played 13 NFL seasons, including the last two in Houston. He said earlier this summer he was contemplating retirement after the Texans declined to offer him a new contract.

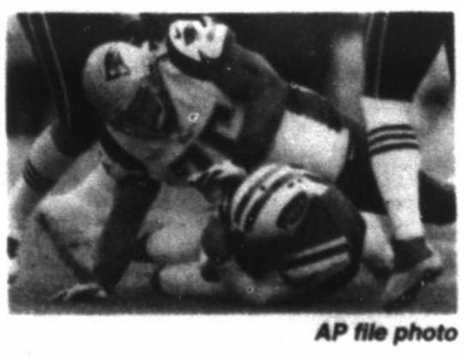
The Texans recognized Wilfork's retirement on Twitter, saying "Thanks for the memories @wilfork75. We'll always have this." The caption came with a photo of Wilfork wearing overalls and talking to Houston coach Bill O'Brien.

Wilfork was drafted by New England in 2004 out of Miami and anchored the Pats' defensive line for 11 seasons. He was named to five Pro Bowls and helped the Patriots win two Super Bowls.

Wilfork's final game came in New England, a playoff loss in January. He received a cheer from opposing fans when he was shown on the scoreboard in the final seconds and responded with a wave. He struggled to get off the field as one Patriots player after another came to wish him well. Most believed it was his finale, although Wilfork stopped short of calling it a career.

He made the playoffs in all but one of 11 seasons.

Wilfork finishes his career with 559 tackles, 26 passes defensed, 16 sacks, four forced fumbles and three interceptions.



AP file photo

New England Patriots defensive tackle Vince Wilfork (75) tackles New York Jets' Geno Smith (7) during the first half of an NFL game in this Dec. 21, 2014, file photo, in East Rutherford, N.J. Former New England and Houston player Wilfork announced his NFL retirement Monday.

'HOUNDSWATCH

SUNDAY'S SCORE
Midland 6, San Antonio 0

TODAY'S GAME
Midland at NW Arkansas, 7:05 p.m.

INTERNET
www.milb.com

RECORDS
Midland 20-24
NW Arkansas 16-28

Sunday	Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Midland 6, San Antonio 0	Midland at NW Arkansas, 7:05 p.m.	Midland at NW Arkansas, 7:05 p.m.	Midland at NW Arkansas, 7:05 p.m.	Midland at NW Arkansas, 7:05 p.m.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

High School Basketball
SC30 Select Showcase Game, 8 p.m., ESPNU

Little League Baseball
Southeast Semifinal, 2 p.m., ESPN
Southwest Semifinal, 7 p.m., ESPN2

Major League Baseball
Texas at NY Mets, 6 p.m., FSSW
St. Louis at Kansas City, 7 p.m., FS1
Houston at Chicago White Sox, 7 p.m., AT&T
Chicago Cubs at San Francisco, 9 p.m., MLB

Men's Soccer
UEFA Super Cup: Real Madrid CF vs. Manchester United, 1:30 p.m., FS1, ESPNDEP
Copa Libertadores: Club Atletico Lanus vs. The Strongest, 5 p.m., FXDEP
Copa MX: Atlante vs. Club Tijuana, 6:50 p.m., ESPNDEP
Copa MX: Zacatepec vs. Tigres UANL, 6:50 p.m., UDN
Copa Libertadores: CA River Plate vs. Club Guarani, 7:30 p.m., FXDEP
Copa MX: America vs. Potros UAEM, 8:50 p.m., UDN
Copa MX: Club Necaxa vs. CF Monarcas Morelia, 12 a.m., GALA

Tennis
WTA: Rogers Cup, 10 a.m., beIN
ATP: Rogers Cup, 11:30 a.m., TENNIS

Track and Field
IAAF World Championships, London Night 5, 1 p.m., NBCSN

Women's National Basketball Association
Seattle at Connecticut, 6 p.m., Twitter

RADIO

Major League Baseball
Texas at NY Mets, 6 p.m., KBEST 95.7 FM (Big Spring), KPET 105.1 FM/1400 AM (Lamesa)
Houston at Chicago White Sox, 7 p.m., KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring)

Texas League Baseball
Midland at Northwest Arkansas, 7 p.m., KCRS 97.5 FM, 550 AM

WHAT'S ON DECK

High school

HS Volleyball
Lee vs. Bushland/Canyon, TBA, Canyon
Monahans at MHS, 2 p.m.
Wall at Greenwood, noon
Midland Christian at Trinity, 6 p.m.
Kermit at MCA, 6 p.m.

TEXAS LEAGUE

ROCKHOUNDS ADD TWO TO ROSTER

The Midland RockHounds announced on Sunday night that outfielder Tyler Marincov and right-handed pitcher James Naile have returned to the active roster after lengthy stays on the disabled list.

Marincov had been out since June 21 with a broken bone in his left hand after getting hit by a pitch. At the time of the injury, Marincov was batting .275 with nine home runs and was among the Texas League leaders with 49 RBI.

Naile had been out since May 14 with an abdominal strain and had a 1-1 record with a 3.22 ERA in nine games, six of which were starts. He made two appearances with the Arizona Rookie League A's and Advanced-A Stockton before joining Midland.

The RockHounds, who have a half-game lead in the Texas League South Division wild card standings over Corpus Christi, start a three-game series at Northwest Arkansas on today.

TL STANDINGS

TL standings

Second Half
North Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Springfield	28	16	.636	—
Tulsa	28	16	.636	—
Arkansas	19	25	.432	9
Northwest Arkansas	16	28	.364	12

South Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Antonio	26	17	.605	—
Corpus Christi	20	22	.476	5½
Midland	**20**	**24**	**.455**	**6½**
Frisco	17	26	.395	9

Sunday's Scores
Midland 6, San Antonio 0
Springfield 5, Northwest Arkansas 2
Arkansas 8, Tulsa 4
Frisco 7, Corpus Christi 6

Monday's Games
No games scheduled

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

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
DETROIT TIGERS — Placed SS Jose Iglesias on the bereavement list.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Recalled RHP Jake Junis from Omaha (PCL).
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Activated OF Cameron Maybin from the 10-day DL. Designated OF Shane Robinson for assignment. Optioned RHP Eduardo Paredes to Salt Lake (PCL). Recalled LHP Jose Alvarez from Salt Lake. Assigned OF Ramon Flores outright to Salt Lake.
National League
ATLANTA BRAVES — Sent RHP Sam Winkler to Gwinnett (IL) for a rehab assignment.
CHICAGO CUBS — Agreed to terms with 2B Mike Freeman on a minor league contract.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Assigned OF Danny Ortiz outright to Indianapolis (IL). Optioned RHP Dovydas Neverauskas to Indianapolis.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Activated OF Dexter Fowler from the 10-day DL. Optioned OF Stephen Piscotty to Memphis (PCL).
SAN DIEGO PADRES — Recalled RHP Carter Capps from El Paso (PCL). Optioned LHP Buddy Baumann to El Paso.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Activated LHP Gio Gonzalez from the paternity list. Optioned RHP Erick Fedde to Syracuse (IL).
American Association
CLEBURNE RAILROADERS — Signed RHP Joe Jones. Released RHP Bryce Beeler.
GARY SOUTHSHORE RAILCATS — Sold the contract of LHP Carlos Diaz to the Miami Marlins.
LINCOLN SALTDOGS — Released LHP Nick Hornbaker.
Can-Am League
OTTAWA CHAMPIONS — Signed INF Jason Coker. Released RHP Chris Motta.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NEW YORK KNICKS — Signed G Damyean Dotson. Re-signed G Ron Baker.
NBA G League
WISCONSIN HERD — Named Jordan Brady coach.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
BUFFALO BILLS — Signed WR Anquan Boldin.
CHICAGO BEARS — Waived PK Andy Phillips. Signed WR Alton Howard and OL Brandon Greene. Placed G Eric Kush on injured reserve.
DETROIT LIONS — Removed DE Armonty Bryant and G Brandon Thomas from the PUP list.
HOUSTON TEXANS — DT Vince Wilfork announced his retirement.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Activated RB Latavius Murray from the PUP list.
Canadian Football League
EDMONTON ESKIMOS — Released OL Tony Washington. Added DL Kalong Kashama to the practice roster.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
SAN JOSE SHARKS — Re-signed F Barclay Goodrow to a two-year contract.
American Hockey League
GRAND RAPIDS GRIFFINS — Signed C Mike Borkowski to a one-year contract.
SOCCER
Major League Soccer
SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC — Acquired MF/F Lamar Neagle from D.C. United for a 2018 fourth-round draft pick.
TENNIS
ITF — Announced Sara Errani has been banned for two months, retroactive to Aug. 3, after testing positive for retrozole in a test taken in February.
COLLEGE
PAC-12 CONFERENCE — Announced the Faculty Athletic Representatives' Committee waived the intra-conference transfer penalty and cleared Utah senior WR Darren Carrington to play after transferring from Oregon shortly before fall camp began.
BELMONT — Named Kat Banks assistant softball coach.
FLAGLER — Named Special Jennings assistant women's basketball coach.
ILLINOIS STATE — Named Brian Collins assistant men's basketball coach.
LA SALLE — Named Scott Yurgalevicz director of golf/men's & women's golf coach.
TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY — Named Otis McDaniel assistant track and field coach.

FCS PRESEASON POLL

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. James Madison (134)	0-0	4034	NR
2. North Dakota State (19)	0-0	3874	NR
3. Sam Houston State (7)	0-0	3610	NR
4. South Dakota State (2)	0-0	3385	NR
5. Eastern Washington	0-0	3270	NR
6. Jacksonville State (1)	0-0	3081	NR
7. Richmond	0-0	3041	NR
8. North Dakota	0-0	2871	NR
9. Youngstown State	0-0	2658	NR
10. Villanova	0-0	2628	NR
11. Wofford	0-0	2543	NR
12. Chattanooga	0-0	1995	NR
13. New Hampshire	0-0	1741	NR
14. Charleston Southern	0-0	1710	NR
15. Central Arkansas	0-0	1685	NR
16. Citadel	0-0	1545	NR
17. Lehigh	0-0	1369	NR
18. UNI	0-0	924	NR
19. Samford	0-0	893	NR
20. Illinois State	0-0	876	NR
21. Grambling State	0-0	692	NR
22. Fordham	0-0	604	NR
23. Cal Poly	0-0	427	NR
24. Albany	0-0	418	NR
25. Western Illinois	0-0	367	NR

Others: North Carolina Central 326, Weber State 322, Northern Arizona 307, McNeese 281, San Diego 250, Montana 215, North Carolina A&T 198, Kennesaw State 154, Liberty 134, Tennessee State 102, UT Martin 90, South Dakota 87, Harvard 36, Saint Francis U 31, Delaware 27, Princeton 23, South Carolina State 22, Nicholls 21, Southeastern Louisiana 20, Southern Utah 17, Penn 14, Duquesne 14, Stony Brook 13, Maine 11, Montana State 8, Mercer 6, Southern Illinois 5, Alcorn State 4, William & Mary 4, Eastern Illinois 3, ETSU 3, Wagner 3, Eastern Kentucky 2, Indiana State 1, Bethune-Cookman 1, Dayton 1.

Four MISD baseball players honored

From staff reports

Four Midland ISD baseball players have been named to the Collin Street Bakery/ Texas Sports Writers Association's Class 6A All-State Baseball Team.

Becker

Lee junior third baseman Adam Becker was a second team pick, Lee junior shortstop Ty Coleman was a third team selection, while Midland High junior catcher Sam Matchus and sophomore second baseman/pitcher Tyler Wade were selected as honorable mentions on the Texas all-state team recently released.

Coleman

Becker hit .429 with four home runs and 20 RBI with a team-high 45 hits for the Rebels last season.

Matchus

Coleman batted .410 with three home runs, 19 RBI and a team-high 12 doubles for Lee, which made it to the Class 6A playoffs.

Last season, Matchus hit .329 with eight RBI, helping MHS reach the postseason for the 20th consecutive season under head coach Barry Russell.

Wade

Wade hit .339 with one home run and 12 RBI for MHS.

MHS splits in El Paso to open season

From staff reports

EL PASO — The Midland High volleyball team split its first two matches of the season on Monday at Franklin High School.

MHS defeated El Paso Chapin, 25-14, 25-21, 25-20, before falling to El Paso Franklin, 25-15, 25-21, 25-12.

Hayley Branco led the Lady Bulldogs with 20 kills on the day, Makaylee Carter had 27 assists, Macy Kidwell had 21 assists. Reagan Squire led in digs with 21, and Gentry Forman had four blocks to go with 10 kills.

MHS returns home at 2 p.m. today to face Monahans in the MHS gym.

MHS DEF. EL PASO CHAPIN 25-14, 25-21, 25-20
EL PASO FRANKLIN DEF. MHS 25-15, 25-21, 25-12
MHS cumulative statistics
Kills: Hayley Branco 20, Merrick Beach 14, Gentry Foreman 10, Caroline Harper 5, Kaitlyn Kennedy 5, Bailey Goodrum 3, Reagan Squire 1, Brighton Butler 1, Makaylee Carter 1
Assists: Makaylee Carter 27, Macy Kidwell 21, Squire 5, Foreman 1, Butler 1, Goodrum 1
Digs: Squire 21, Butler 15, Branco 11, Carter 5, Kidwell 4, Beach 3, Harper 2, Foreman 1
Aces: Carter 3, Kidwell 2
Blocks: Forman 4, Beach 3, Branco 2, Harper 1
Record: MHS 1-1
Next: Monahans at Midland High, 2 p.m. today

PGA Championship to move to May in 2019

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Players are allowed to wear shorts during practice rounds at the PGA Championship. That won't be necessary in two years when it moves to May.

The PGA of America is moving its major championship to May for the first time in 70 years when it goes to Bethpage Black on New York's Long Island in 2019 as part of a long-term plan that involves a major shift in the golf calendar, including The Players Championship going back to its March date, The Associated Press has learned.

Two officials involved in the discussions say the PGA of America and PGA Tour will discuss details of the move as early as Tuesday at Quail Hollow Club, site of this year's PGA Championship. They spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the move has not been announced.

The change has been in the works for four years, one official said. The catalyst behind the movement was golf's return to the Olympics, along with the PGA Tour's desire to wrap up its FedEx Cup before the NFL begins.

The move to May also puts the PGA Championship in the middle of the major championship season — after the Masters, before the U.S. Open — instead of being stuck at the end in August when courses typically are softer because of the summer heat and sports fans have one eye turned toward football.

Still to be determined is the how the rest of the PGA Tour schedule is constricted to finish around Labor Day. One official said the playoff event in Boston is likely to go away after 2018. Another official said one plan is for the Greenbrier Classic, typically held in July, to move to the fall.

The PGA Championship has been in August since 1969 with two exceptions. Jack Nicklaus won in February 1971 when it was held at PGA National in South Florida, and last year it was held the final weekend in July at Baltusrol ahead of the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

The PGA is scheduled for Harding Park in San Francisco in 2020, so there was always the possibility of moving to May during the next Olympic year. However, that would mean the PGA gets bounced around the calendar every four years.

The PGA of America was interested in building continuity, and a move to May could energize what has been looked upon as the last of the four majors. That also would allow it to go to some areas that were deemed too hot for August, such as Texas, Florida and parts of the Southeast. It already has said the PGA Championship would return to Southern Hills in Tulsa before 2030. The last time it was held at Southern Hills, in 2007, temperatures topped 100 degrees.

The move also could serve as a boost to golf courses around the country — the PGA of America has some 27,000 golf professionals — going into the heart of the season.

But it also eliminates other parts of the country from hosting the PGA.

One official said two traditional sites — Whistling Straits in Wisconsin and Hazeltine in Minnesota — would not be able to host the PGA Championship in May. Officials feel comfortable with the weather and agronomy for Bethpage Black, and they are hopeful for good weather in 2023 for Oak Hill in Rochester, New York.

The Players Championship, traditionally held in March two weeks before the Masters, moved to May in 2007 to get away from the biggest major of the year and create a sequence of big events through the summer.

By going back to March, and creating space for the PGA Championship in May, it allows the tour to end its season around Labor Day instead of late September when the NFL is in full swing, and it keeps a strong sequence of events leading into the FedEx Cup playoffs.

The PGA Championship celebrates its 100th anniversary next year, and it has a long history of moving around the calendar. The first one was played in October in New York. Since then, it has been held in every month except for January, March and April.

The last time it was played in May was 1949, when Sam Snead won at Hermitage Country Club in Virginia.

PRO RODEO LEADERS

Through July 30
All-around
1. Tuf Cooper, Weatherford, Texas $163,025
2. Caleb Smidt, Bellville, Texas $124,333
3. Ryle Smith, Oakdale, Calif. $116,840
4. Trevor Brazile, Decatur, Texas $107,420
5. Russell Cardoza, Terrebonne, Ore. $96,452
6. Josh Peek, Pueblo, Colo. $94,220
7. Clayton Hass, Weatherford, Texas $84,952
8. Dakota Eldridge, Elko, Nev. $83,109
9. Trell Etbauer, Goodwell, Okla. $67,908
10. Marcus Theriot, Poplarville, Miss. $65,203
11. Rhen Richard, Roosevelt, Utah $62,462
12. Josh Frost, Randlett, Utah $51,162
13. Cody Doescher, Oklahoma City, Okla. $46,472
14. Kyle Whitaker, Chambers, Neb. $44,348
15. Jordan Ketscher, Squaw Valley, Calif. $44,154
16. Seth Hall, Albuquerque, N.M. $42,302
17. Curtis Cassidy, Donalda, Alberta $40,964
18. Jolo LeMond, Andrews, Texas $35,794
19. Paul David Tierney, Oral, S.D. $34,694
20. Morgan Grant, Didsbury, Alberta $31,826

Bareback Riding
1. Tim O'Connell, Zwingle, Iowa $165,544
2. Tanner Aus, Granite Falls, Minn. $106,683
3. Wyatt Denny, Minden, Nev. $99,760
4. Jake Brown, Cleveland, Texas $85,496
5. Caleb Bennett, Tremonton, Utah $78,963
6. J.R. Vezain, Cowley, Wyo. $78,001
7. Bill Tutor, Huntsville, Texas $77,854
8. Clayton Biglow, Clements, Calif. $77,740
9. R.C. Landingham, Hat Creek, Calif. $76,524
10. Jake Vold, Ponoka, Alberta $69,596
11. Richmond Champion, The Woodlands, Texas $69,582
12. Evan Jayne, Marseille, France $66,106
13. Justin Miller, Billings, Mont. $60,592
14. Ty Breuer, Mandan, N.D. $59,857
15. Mason Clements, Santaquin, Utah $57,872

Steer Wrestling
1. Ty Erickson, Helena, Mont. $134,222
2. Tyler Waguespack, Gonzales, La. $94,490
3. Tyler Pearson, Louisville, Miss. $84,858
4. Olin Hannum, Malad, Idaho $77,932
5. Ryle Smith, Oakdale, Calif. $77,589
6. Baylor Roche, Tremonton, Utah $74,617
7. Dakota Eldridge, Elko, Nev. $70,448
8. Scott Guenthner, Provost, Alberta $70,702
9. Nick Guy, Sparta, Wis. $65,079
10. Tanner Milan, Cochrane, Alberta $63,626
11. Jon Ragatz, Beetown, Wis. $54,765
12. J.D. Struxness, Appleton, Minn. $54,707
13. Matt Reeves, Cross Plains, Texas $53,688
14. Sterling Lambert, Fallon, Nev. $51,024
15. Jacob Talley, Keatchie, La. $49,884

Team Roping (header)
1. Kaleb Driggers, Albany, Ga. $107,643
2. Erich Rogers, Round Rock, Ariz. $100,613
3. Luke Brown, Stephenville, Texas $82,115
4. Clay Smith, Broken Bow, Okla. $80,310
5. Coleman Proctor, Pryor, Okla. $72,740
6. Cody Snow, Los Olivos, Calif. $70,857
7. Jr. Dees, Aurora, S.D. $69,610
8. Riley Minor, Ellensburg, Wash. $67,308
9. Garrett Rogers, Baker City, Ore. $64,835
10. Levi Simpson, Ponoka, Alberta $61,342
11. Charly Crawford, Prineville, Ore. $60,589
12. Dustin Egusquiza, Mariana, Fla. $59,324
13. Tom Richards, Humboldt, Ariz. $58,588
14. Dustin Bird, Cut Bank, Mont. $55,464
15. Lane Ivy, Adrian, Texas $42,778

Team Roping (heeler)
1. Junior Nogueira, Presidente Prudente, Brazil $110,343
2. Cory Petska, Marana, Ariz. $100,613
3. Paul Eaves, Lonedell, Mo. $85,299
4. Russell Cardoza, Terrebonne, Ore. $81,497
5. Tyler McKnight, Wells, Texas $77,254
6. Jake Long, Coffeyville, Kan. $73,586
7. Billie Jack Saebens, Nowata, Okla. $72,740
8. Wesley Thorp, Throckmorton, Texas $71,653
9. Brady Minor, Ellensburg, Wash. $67,308
10. Joseph Harrison, Overbrook, Okla. $65,227
11. Jake Minor, Ellensburg, Wash. $64,835
12. Jeremy Buhler, Arrowwood, Alberta $61,342
13. Kory Koontz, Stephenville, Texas $55,498
14. Buddy Hawkins II, Columbus, Kan. $54,298
15. Travis Graves, Jay, Okla. $49,615

Saddle Bronc Riding
1. Jacobs Crawley, Boerne, Texas $144,236
2. Zeke Thurston, Big Valley, Alberta $126,676
3. Cody DeMoss, Heflin, La. $96,580
4. Layton Green, Meeting Creek, Alberta $87,145
5. Colburn Bradshaw, Beaver, Utah $77,396
6. Jake Wright, Milford, Utah $74,881
7. Harry Souden, Welch, Okla. $70,917
8. Jesse Wright, Milford, Utah $65,766
9. Taos Muncy, Corona, N.M. $65,222
10. Sterling Crawley, Stephenville, Texas $64,734
11. Heith DeMoss, Heflin, La. $62,805
12. Clay Elliott, Nanton, Alberta $62,796
13. Avery Read, Spearman, Texas $60,016
14. Brody Cress, Hillsdale, Wyo. $57,766
15. Ryder Wright, Milford, Utah $56,026
16. Tyrel J. Smith, Sand Coulee, Mont. $48,367
17. Rusty Wright, Milford, Utah $46,208
18. Cort Scheer, Elsmere, Neb. $45,455
19. Cody Wright, Milford, Utah $42,554
20. Jake Watson, Hudsons Hope, British Columbia $41,398

Tie-down Roping
1. Tuf Cooper, Weatherford, Texas $143,959
2. Caleb Smidt, Bellville, Texas $113,285
3. Shane Hanchey, Sulphur, La. $94,110
4. Marcos Costa, Childress, Texas $89,516
5. Marty Yates, Stephenville, Texas $80,194
6. Trevor Brazile, Decatur, Texas $76,250
7. Cooper Martin, Alma, Kan. $74,228
8. J.C. Malone, Plain City, Utah $67,160
9. Randall Carlisle, Athens, La. $66,773
10. Tyson Durfey, Weatherford, Texas $65,336

Steer Roping
1. Chet Herren, Pawhuska, Okla. $60,524
2. Jason Evans, Glen Rose, Texas $59,944
3. Scott Snedecor, Fredericksburg, Texas $59,933
4. Vin Fisher Jr., Andrews, Texas $57,190
5. John Bland, Turkey, Texas $44,260
6. J. Tom Fisher, Andrews, Texas $43,932
7. Jolo LeMond, Andrews, Texas $37,759
8. Troy Tillard, Douglas, Wyo. $36,615
9. Tony Reinal, Wharton, Texas $36,611
10. Chris Glover, Keenesburg, Colo. $35,135
11. Cody Lee, Gatesville, Texas $34,084
12. Bryce Davis, Ovalo, Texas $32,219
13. Rocky Patterson, Pratt, Kan. $31,906
14. Tuf Cooper, Weatherford, Texas $27,716
15. Brian Gerl, Belle Fourche, S.D. $25,803
16. Trevor Brazile, Decatur, Texas $25,350
17. Garrett Hale, Snyder, Texas $25,170
18. Shay Good, Midland, Texas $24,529
19. J.P. Wickett, Sallisaw, Okla. $22,117
20. Reo Lohse, Kaycee, Wyo. $18,625

Bull Riding
1. Sage Kimzey, Strong City, Okla. $182,290
2. Garrett Smith, Rexburg, Idaho $141,558
3. Ty Wallace, Collbran, Colo. $121,464
4. Joe Frost, Randlett, Utah $94,769
5. Roscoe Jarboe, New Plymouth, Idaho $89,102
6. Tim Bingham, Honeyville, Utah $82,757
7. Cole Melancon, Liberty, Texas $79,840
8. Brennon Eldred, Sulphur, Okla. $76,574
9. Trevor Reiss, Linden, Iowa $75,657
10. Jordan Spears, Redding, Calif. $70,592
11. Dustin Boven, Waller, Texas $67,016
12. Trey Benton III, Rock Island, Texas $66,949
13. Guthrie Murray, Miami, Okla. $65,580
14. Brady Portenier, Caldwell, Idaho $63,826
15. Jordan Hansen, Okotoks, Alberta $59,158
16. Tyler Bingham, Honeyville, Utah $56,964
17. Tanner Learmont, Cleburne, Texas $54,502
18. Josh Frost, Randlett, Utah $52,306
19. Shane Proctor, Grand Coulee, Wash. $50,847
20. Boudreaux Campbell, Crockett, Texas $50,610

Barrel Racing
1. Tiany Schuster, Krum, Texas $230,659
2. Stevi Hillman, Weatherford, Texas $154,142
3. Kassie Mowry, Dublin, Texas $115,201
4. Nellie Miller, Cottonwood, Calif. $112,501
5. Ambariehgh Moore, Salem, Ore. $106,744
6. Kathy Grimes, Medical Lake, Wash. $99,805
7. Hailey Kinsel, Cotulla, Texas $94,279

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION

UPCOMING EVENTS
8/03 6:30-8:30 Microchipping at Beer Garden's Yappy Hour
8/06 6:00-8:00 PetSplash at Sherwood Aquatic Center, Odessa
8/14 6:00 Adoption Center Volunteer Orientation
8/26 9:00-12:00 Shot & Microchip Clinic (location TBD)
9/23 7th Annual Furr Ball at Petroleum Club of Midland

PLEASE VISIT THE EVENTS SECTION OF OUR WEBSITE
WWW.MIDLANDHUMANE.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION

ENHANCED ADOPTION CENTER
is located within Midland's PetSmart Store
ADOPTION HOURS
Monday thru Saturday 12-7 & Sunday 12-6
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Pippi is a 2 yo female Chihuahua mix who was found as a stray. She's active, very playful, & loves toys. She seems to like other dogs & would probably do well in a home with another dog.

Dodgers' rotation has depth to go with star power

By Noah Trister
Associated Press

It may seem like everything has gone right for the Los Angeles Dodgers this year, but that's actually not the case.

Clayton Kershaw hasn't pitched since July 23 because of a back injury, and promising left-hander Julio Urias was lost to shoulder problems.

The reason the Dodgers are on pace to win 115 games is because no matter who has been on the mound, their starting pitching has been sharp. Los Angeles has six players with at least 16 starts for the Dodgers, and they all have ERAs of 3.84 or lower.

And that doesn't even include Yu Darvish, who had 10 strikeouts in his debut for the Dodgers on Friday night after being acquired in a trade from Texas.

This past week has been a microcosm of the season. Los Angeles went 5-1, and in the five wins, starters Kenta Maeda, Alex Wood, Darvish, Rich Hill and Hyun-Jin Ryu allowed four runs in 32 innings.

It was a dominant stretch that didn't even include Kershaw, who is set to rejoin the team Monday night in Phoenix.

The depth of this staff has allowed the Dodgers to withstand injuries, not just to Kershaw and Urias, but also to Maeda (hamstring issue in May) and Ryu (bruised foot in July). And Hill and Brandon McCarthy have had blister concerns.

Kershaw, Wood, Maeda, Ryu, McCarthy and Hill have all thrown at least 83 innings, but only Kershaw has pitched more than 110. What matters is that those six pitchers have been effective — and that their injuries haven't overlapped enough to cause any major problems.

With Darvish now in the mix, the Dodgers will have some interesting decisions to make down the stretch. If everyone is healthy, the postseason rotation would almost certainly include Kershaw, Darvish and Wood, who is 13-1 with a 2.33 ERA. Hill's strikeout numbers make him an enticing option as well, but Ryu and Maeda may not be done making their cases yet.

Here are a few other developments from around baseball:

Quotable

Dave Dombrowski has rarely been one to make headlines with his public comments, but Boston's president of baseball operations added some juice to the rivalry with the Yankees after New York general manager Brian Cashman acquired Sonny Gray from Oakland at the deadline.

"I think that Brian has made them the Golden State Warriors and we're the significant underdogs," Dombrowski said. "Like he said earlier in the year, that he didn't know how the Red Sox would lose a game, I think it'll be the same: I don't know how they'll lose a game right now."

Dombrowski was alluding to a preseason comment by Cashman, who compared the Red Sox to the Warriors after Boston acquired ace pitcher Chris Sale.

For what it's worth, it's Dombrowski's Red Sox who have now won six in a row to take a three-game lead over New York atop the AL East.

Highlight

The Detroit Tigers had an amusing moment in Friday night's win over Baltimore when they collectively seemed to forget how many outs there were . Justin Verlander struck out Jonathan Schoop for the third out of the bottom of the third inning, but the Tigers began throwing the ball around the horn and remained on the field before realizing the inning was over.

Line of the week

Paul Goldschmidt, Diamondbacks, hit three home runs, including a tiebreaking shot in the ninth inning of Arizona's 10-8 win over the Chicago Cubs on Thursday.

MLB ROUNDUP

Interleague

PIRATES 3
TIGERS 0

PITTSBURGH — Trevor Williams allowed one hit over seven dominant innings to outduel Detroit's Jordan Zimmermann and lead the Pittsburgh Pirates to a 3-0 victory on Monday night.

Williams (5-4) struck out five and walked two, giving up only a leadoff single to Brian McCann in the third. Williams threw a career-high 107 pitches and never allowed a runner to third base as the Pirates won their third straight to pull within four games of idle Chicago in the NL Central.

Francisco Cervelli gave the Pirates the early lead with an RBI double off Zimmermann (7-9) in the second. John Jaso provided some late insurance with a pinch-hit two-run homer in the seventh.

Zimmermann struck out three and walked two in seven innings. The Tigers have dropped three straight following a four-game winning streak.

TWINS 5
BREWERS 4

MINNEAPOLIS — Eddie Rosario doubled home the tying run in the seventh inning and scored the winning run on a balk as the Minnesota Twins defeated the Milwaukee Brewers 5-4 on Monday.

After Eduardo Escobar drew a leadoff walk in the seventh, Rosario hit a smash to right field that fooled Domingo Santana, who took two steps in before watching the ball sail over his head. Escobar scored to tie the game at 4.

Rosario was still at third with two out when the Brewers employed a dramatic shift on left-handed hitting Jason Castro. With no fielder near third base to hold him on, Rosario danced halfway down the baseline, causing reliever Oliver Drake (3-4) to step off the rubber and look Rosario back.

When Drake stepped back on the rubber, Rosario made another break for home. This time Drake flinched and plate umpire Bill Welke called a balk, sending Rosario home.

Reliever Buddy Boshers (1-0) retired one batter in the seventh to earn the victory in relief of starter Ervin Santana.

CARDINALS 11
ROYALS 3

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Matt Carpenter hit a three-run homer in St. Louis' six-run fourth inning, and the Cardinals beat the Kansas City Royals 11-3 on Monday night for their third consecutive victory.

Paul DeJong and Kolten Wong also connected for the Cardinals, who returned to .500 at 56-56. Carlos Martinez (8-9) pitched eight innings of two-run ball for just his second win in his last nine starts.

St. Louis also got some help from Kansas City during its outburst in the fourth. Ian Kennedy (4-8) walked No. 9 hitter Greg Garcia on five pitches with the bases loaded, and shortstop Alcides Escobar and catcher Drew Butera each committed an error.

NATIONALS 3
MARLINS 2

WASHINGTON — Max Scherzer pitched seven sharp innings in his first start since he was sidelined by neck spasms, and the Washington Nationals beat the Miami Marlins 3-2 on Monday night.

Bryce Harper homered for Washington, and pinch hitter Adam Lind singled in the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning. The Nationals expanded their lead in the NL East over second-place Miami to 14 games.

Brandon Kintzler (2-0) worked the eighth and Sean Doolittle got three outs to earn his sixth save with Washington. Both pitchers were acquired shortly before the July 31 non-waiver trade deadline.

REDS 11
PADRES 3

CINCINNATI — Joey Votto homered for the third straight game and pulled into a tie with Ted Kluszewski on the Reds' career list Monday night, leading Cincinnati to an 11-3 victory over the San Diego Padres.

The Reds homered four times in all, with Patrick Kivlehan hitting his first career grand slam. Adam Duvall and Zack Cozart also connected.

Votto's 251st career homer off Jhoulys Chacin (11-8) moved him into a tie for fifth place with Big Klu, the first baseman who cut the sleeves off his uniform to free his big upper arms. Votto's 136th homer at Great American bumped him ahead of Jay Bruce for the ballpark record.

National League

Darren Daulton remembered for his leadership, friendship

By Rob Maaddi
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Darren Daulton was the teammate everyone respected and the player all Philadelphia Phillies fans adored.

A day after Daulton died following a four-year battle with brain cancer, the city and franchise mourned the loss of perhaps the greatest leader to wear those red pinstripes.

Daulton

"Darren Daulton the ballplayer was and always will be synonymous with great leadership and winning. Darren Daulton the person was and always will be synonymous with caring and compassion," former teammate and longtime radio analyst Larry Anderson said Monday.

Daulton, nicknamed "Dutch" since his childhood, was a three-time All-Star catcher during 14½ seasons with the Phillies. He was the cleanup hitter for the improbable 1993 NL championship team, which lost to Toronto in six games in the World Series after finishing last the previous season.

Daulton controlled a clubhouse that included wild characters such as Lenny Dykstra, Mitch Williams, John Kruk, Pete Incaviglia and others. He was the man along a stretch of lockers called "Macho Row."

"I played with several tough dudes in my career, but Dutch was the toughest," Dykstra said. "Catchers characteristically are the 'coach on the field.' Dutch was more than that. He was our anchor and our leader, ensuring that our focus was always between the lines when we played. His stewardship and incredible toughness were the inspiration for that magical year in 1993, when we put it all together, and made baseball fun again in Philly."

Despite being plagued by injuries and slowed by several knee operations, the left-handed hitting Daulton batted .245 with 137 homers and 588 RBIs in 1,161 games. He led the NL with 109 RBIs in 1992.

Daulton finished his career with the 1997 World Series champion Florida Marlins, batting .389 (7 for 18) with two doubles and one homer in a seven-game series against Cleveland.

"Darren was one of the toughest players to ever play the game," former Marlins manager Jim Leyland said.

Daulton was diagnosed with glioblastoma in July 2013. It's an aggressive form of brain cancer that also took the lives of his former teammate Tug McGraw and former coach John Vukovich. Daulton, who died Sunday, was 55.

"I believe he was truly loved on a different level than most," Williams said. "He was the captain of our chaos, the most respected player among his peers and those great players who came before him. He was our rock, our leader in that clubhouse of guys in 1993."

BAYLOR

From 1C

newspaper and, playfully in his role as judge of the club's Kangaroo Court, made sure to read it aloud in the Baltimore locker room.

With that, "Groove" was born.

Years later, as judge of the Kangaroo Court for the New York Yankees, Baylor once fined coach Don Zimmer. So why pick on such a beloved figure?

"Just for being Don Zimmer," Baylor said.

As judge of the Kangaroo Court in Boston, Baylor levied a $5 fine on Red Sox ace Roger Clemens — right after he had struck out a record 20 batters against Seattle. The offense? Giving up a hit to former University of Texas teammate Spike Owen on an 0-2 pitch.

Baylor had a chance to go to Texas, too. He was a second-round pick by Baltimore in 1967 and chose baseball over a chance to be the first black football player at Texas. Two years later, the Longhorns became the last all-white team to win a national championship.

No doubt, Baylor was rugged enough for either sport.

"He was a tough man, and he didn't have to tell you he was tough," Milwaukee manager Craig Counsell said of his first big league skipper.

Kansas City manager Ned Yost knew that firsthand, having played behind the plate.

"Don was kind of a fearsome guy, especially if you were a catcher or a second baseman," Yost said. "If he was at second base, you're hoping this guy hits a double instead of a single because you'd know you were going to get crushed at home plate. He's a big guy."

Burly in later years, Baylor was also known for speed as a younger player, including a career-high 52 steals with Oakland in 1976. He finished with 285 steals.

But on June 15, 1974, Baylor had the distinction of being the first player caught stealing twice in the same inning. He came in as a pinch-runner against the White Sox, was charged with a caught stealing at second when he was safe on an error, and after stealing third, was thrown out trying to steal home.

In his final three seasons, Baylor went to three straight World Series from 1986-88, winning the title and hitting one of his four postseason homers in Minnesota's seven-game victory against St. Louis in 1987.

Baylor's tying two-run shot in the fifth inning of Game 6 with the Twins trailing 3-2 in the Series fueled an 11-5 victory. He was on losing teams with Boston in '86 and Oakland in '88.

"Don used power and speed to earn American League MVP honors with the Angels in 1979 and contributed to three straight pennant winners in a great 19-year major league career," Commissioner Rob Manfred said.

"Throughout stints with 14 different major league teams as a player, coach or manager, Don's reputation as a gentleman always preceded him," he said.

Washington manager Dusty Baker became emotional talking about Baylor. They competed on the diamond starting as Double-A players and were close friends off the field.

"His first wife picked out my first wife's engagement ring," Baker said. "First time I had ever gone to Baltimore was when we drove up to see Donnie."

"I was a better basketball player but he was a stronger baseball player," Baker said. "I was just listening to Tupac today about death around the corner. Indeed, you just don't know how close death is to all of us."

Baylor spent six years with Colorado and two-plus seasons as manager of the Chicago Cubs, from 2000-02. His career record was 627-689. He was most recently the hitting coach for the Angels.

In 2014, while catching the first pitch from Vladimir Guerrero before the Angels' season opener in Anaheim, Baylor backhanded the ball and wound up breaking his leg in an accident that's still painful to watch on YouTube. True to his nature, with help, Baylor walked off the field.

"When a man of his integrity just walks through a clubhouse, it's almost larger than life, because you know what he stands for," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "You know the bar he set not only for himself, but for a team, and I think it's tangible."

Baylor went to junior college before joining the Orioles organization, made his big league debut in 1970 and spent six years with Baltimore. After a year in the first of two stints with Oakland, Baylor played six seasons for the Angels.

Mostly a designated hitter but also an outfielder and first baseman, Baylor had at least 20 homers in three straight seasons for the Yankees before hitting 31 for the Red Sox in 1986. He was a career .260 hitter with 338 homers and 1,276 RBIs. Baylor's HBP record was later broken by Craig Biggio.

A couple weeks ago, Claire Smith paid tribute to Baylor when she was honored with the J.G. Taylor Spink Award for baseball writing at the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. Baylor was among her closest friends, and she honored him in her acceptance speech.

"Thank you, Groove, my gentle giant," she said.

Home run king Bonds says he wishes he'd played one more year

By Janie Mccauley
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Bonds so badly wanted to play one final season.

On the 10th anniversary of breaking baseball's all-time home run mark, Bonds told The Associated Press on Monday night that believes he would have hit 800 homers or come very close.

Bonds said it "stung" to walk away from a decorated 22-year career with little notice immediately after a record-setting 2007 season with the San Francisco Giants in which he topped Hank Aaron's mark.

Bonds said there were never discussions about him playing for the Giants in 2008. He also said he didn't push for it because, "I was just told I'm not coming back and that was it."

The 53-year-old Bonds now works for the Giants. He was at AT&T Park on Monday night, the same place he hit No. 756 to pass Aaron.

Bonds finished with 762 home runs. The seven-time NL MVP finished his career under the cloud of steroids allegations.

"Yeah, it should have only been nine (years ago). I should have played one more year. I should have had the chance to," Bonds said, standing behind the batting cage.

"It's all right, though. Those 22 were still good. I wish I could have gotten to retire better, or just walk away better, whatever it was, however you want to call it," he said.

Bonds waved from the broadcast booth when he was shown on the big board before the top of the third inning, when highlights of his record-setting homer were played.

"I was what (38) away from 800? I'd have been real close. I would have never hit under 20-something, no matter what," Bonds said.

Hours earlier, Bonds spent time chatting up his 2007 manager, current San Francisco skipper Bruce Bochy, and giving some guidance to Pablo Sandoval and Jarrett Parker between their turns taking batting practice.

Bonds said he hadn't even thought about this being 10 years since his milestone home run until hearing from the team with an invite to the ballpark Monday, when the Giants hosted the World Series champion Chicago Cubs.

MLB GLANCE

Standings

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	63	49	.563	—
New York	59	51	.536	3
Tampa Bay	58	55	.513	5½
Baltimore	55	58	.495	7½
Toronto	52	59	.468	10½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	59	50	.541	—
Kansas City	57	54	.514	3
Minnesota	54	56	.491	5½
Detroit	51	60	.459	9
Chicago	41	69	.376	18

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	71	40	.640	—
Seattle	57	56	.504	15
Los Angeles	55	57	.491	16½
Texas	53	58	.477	18
Oakland	50	62	.446	21½

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	66	44	.600	—
Miami	52	58	.473	14
Atlanta	51	59	.464	15
New York	49	60	.450	16½
Philadelphia	40	69	.367	25½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	58	52	.527	—
Milwaukee	59	54	.522	½
St. Louis	56	56	.500	3
Pittsburgh	55	57	.491	4
Cincinnati	46	66	.411	13

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	79	32	.712	—
Colorado	64	48	.571	15½
Arizona	63	48	.568	16
San Diego	49	62	.441	30
San Francisco	44	69	.389	36

Scores and Schedules

American League

Monday's Games

Pittsburgh 3, Detroit 0
Minnesota 5, Milwaukee 4
St. Louis 11, Kansas City 3
Baltimore at L.A. Angels, late.

Today's Games

Detroit (Boyd 5-5) at Pittsburgh (Kuhl 4-7), 6:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Sabathia 9-4) at Toronto (Happ 4-8), 6:07 p.m.
Boston (Sale 13-4) at Tampa Bay (Pruitt 6-2), 6:10 p.m.
Colorado (Marquez 9-4) at Cleveland (Kluber 9-3), 6:10 p.m.
Texas (Cashner 7-8) at N.Y. Mets (Flexen 0-1), 6:10 p.m.
Houston (Rauchet 9-1) at Chicago White Sox (Holland 5-11), 7:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Garza 5-5) at Minnesota (Mejia 4-6), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Wacha 8-4) at Kansas City (Vargas 13-5), 7:15 p.m.
Seattle (Miranda 7-5) at Oakland (Graveman 2-3), 9:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Hellickson 7-5) at L.A. Angels (Bridwell 5-1), 9:07 p.m.

National League

Monday's Games

Pittsburgh 3, Detroit 0
Washington 3, Miami 2
Cincinnati 11, San Diego 3
St. Louis 11, Kansas City 3
Milwaukee at Minnesota, late
Chicago Cubs at San Francisco, late

Today's Games

Detroit (Boyd 5-5) at Pittsburgh (Kuhl 4-7), 6:05 p.m.
Miami (Worley 1-2) at Washington (Cole 1-1), 6:05 p.m.
Colorado (Marquez 9-4) at Cleveland (Kluber 9-3), 6:10 p.m.
San Diego (Perdomo 5-6) at Cincinnati (Romano 2-3),6:10 p.m.
Texas (Cashner 7-8) at N.Y. Mets (Flexen 0-1), 6:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Lefter Jr. 1-2) at Atlanta (Teheran 7-9), 6:35 p.m.
Milwaukee (Garza 5-5) at Minnesota (Mejia 4-6), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Wacha 8-4) at Kansas City (Vargas 13-5), 7:15 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 10-4) at Arizona (Godley 5-4), 8:40 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Quintana 6-9) at San Francisco (Bach 7-7), 9:15 p.m.

Monday's linescores

INTERLEAGUE
PIRATES 3, TIGERS 0

Detroit ..... 000 000000—0 1 0
Pittsburgh ..... 010 000 20x—3 5 0
Zimmermann, Wilson (8) and McCann; Williams, Kontos (8), Nicasio (9) and Cervelli. W_Williams 5-4. L_Zimmermann 7-9. Sv_Nicasio (2). HRs_Pittsburgh, Jaso.

TWINS 5, BREWERS 4

Milwaukee ..... 003 100000—4 8 0
Minnesota ..... 001 200 20x—5 8 4
Suter, Hader (5), Jeffress (6), Drake (6), Torres (7) and Suiac; E.Santana, Hildenberger (7), Boshers (7), Pressly (8), Belisle (9) and Castro. W_Boshers 1-0. L_Drake 3-4. Sv_Belisle (2). HRs_Milwaukee, Broxton.

CARDINALS 11, ROYALS 3

St. Louis ..... 010 600032— 11 10 1
Kansas City ..... 010 100001— 3 7 2
C.Martinez, Tuivailala (9) and Molina. Kelly, Kennedy, Moylan (7), Buchter (8) and Butera. W_C.Martinez 8-9. L_Kennedy 4-8. HRs_St. Louis, Wong, Carpenter. DeJong. Kansas City, Moustakas. Hosmer. Moss.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
NATIONALS 3, MARLINS 2

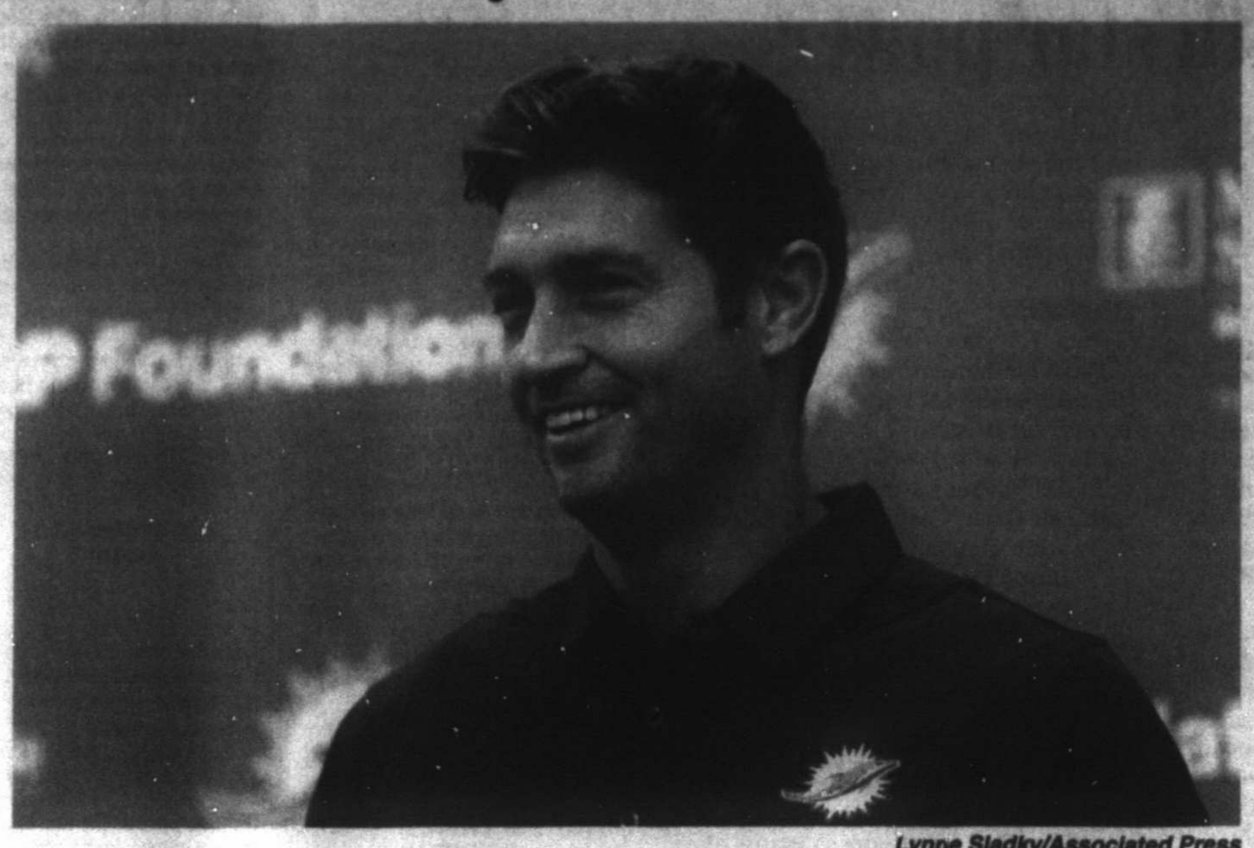
Miami ..... 000 011000—2 6 0
Washington ..... 010 10001x—3 7 1
O'Grady, Despaigne (2), Steckenrider (8), Tazawa (7), Garcia (8) and Realmuto; Scherzer, Kintzler (8), Doolittle (9) and Wieters. W_Kintzler 4-2. L_Garcia 0-2. Sv_Doolittle (9). HRs_Miami, Stanton. Washington, Harper.

REDS 11, PADRES 3

San Diego ..... 000 200010— 3 8 0
Cincinnati ..... 102 00234x— 11 8 0
Chacin, McGrath (7), Capps (8), Maton (8) and Hedges; Adleman, Wood (5), Lorenzen (6), Peralta (7), Iglesias (9) and Barnhart. W_Wood 1-4. L_Chacin 11-8. HRs_San Diego, Pirela 2. Cincinnati, Duvall, Kivlehan, Cozart, Votto.

Gase: Cutler didn't delay retirement to stand on sideline

By Steven Wine
Associated Press



Lynne Sladky/Associated Press

New Miami Dolphins quarterback Jay Cutler speaks at a news conference during an NFL football training camp, Monday, in Davie, Fla. Cutler has agreed to terms on a $10 million, one-year contract, as starting quarterback Ryan Tannehill remains out with a left knee injury.

DAVIE, Fla. — New Miami Dolphins quarterback Jay Cutler won't play in the team's exhibition opener Thursday, but look for him to be starting soon enough.

"He didn't come out of retirement to stand on the sideline," coach Adam Gase said.

Cutler missed Monday's practice because it took place as he landed in South Florida to sign a $10 million, one-year contract. The 34-year-old Cutler decided to delay the start of his network TV career for the chance to replace Big Spring graduate Ryan Tannehill and be reunited with Gase, his former offensive coordinator with the Chicago Bears.

"A situation like this doesn't come along very often," said Cutler, wearing a polo shirt bearing the Dolphins logo. "I know Adam very well; I know the system. And you're talking about a playoff team with a lot of really, really good players and a lot of potential."

Cutler is expected to leapfrog longtime Dolphins backup Matt Moore for the starting job while Tannehill remains out with a left knee injury that likely will sideline him for the entire season.

Gase reached out to Cutler shortly after Tannehill was hurt Thursday and said the former Bear needed no persuading to launch a comeback. But Cutler likened the conversations with Gase to college recruiting, saying the decision to return was difficult.

He parted with the Bears in March after eight seasons, and was then hired by Fox as an analyst to work in its No. 2 NFL broadcast booth.

"The last four months I've been in a different mindset, getting ready for the Fox deal," Cutler said. "I was pretty good with where I was in my life; I was around the kids a lot and felt pretty content. So I went back and forth on this. My wife talked me into it more than anybody else. ... I think she got tired of me being around the house."

In 2015, Cutler had a career-best quarterback rating while with Gase, who then joined the Dolphins. What will Cutler's learning curve be with the offensive scheme?

"I'm pretty sure he's already got it," Gase said. "He's good."

Ramping up Cutler's arm strength may take longer, Gase said.

"I'm sure he wasn't in the backyard throwing a hundred balls a day," the coach said.

Cutler said his two sons and pickup basketball games at his alma mater, Vanderbilt, helped him stay in shape. He missed time last year with a sprained right thumb and a labrum injury that required season-ending right shoulder surgery in December, but said he's healthy now and confident his arm will be fine.

"It'll come back pretty quickly," Cutler said. "I'm not worried about the throwing part. Getting used to the guys and the more detailed stuff, that's what we're going to have to hit the fast-forward button on."

The acquisition of Cutler has potential to divide a locker room where Moore enjoys strong support, especially after he helped Miami clinch a playoff berth while Tannehill was sidelined last December.

But Gase is popular with his players and said he explained to them why he wanted Cutler.

"I was very upfront with everything," Gase said. "We felt this gave us an opportunity to have two really good quarterbacks on our team. We wanted to make sure if something happened, we weren't going to have a falloff. I think our guys understand that."

That includes Moore. He said he still considers himself a contender for the starting job after a drama-free conversation with Gase about the need to sign Cutler.

"It was very simple and straightforward," he said. "It wasn't very Hollywood. And I get it."

Receiver Kenny Stills said that while Moore is "our guy," there's no quarterback controversy among the players.

"We're confident in the people upstairs to do the right thing for this team," Stills said.

Still to be determined is how quickly Cutler can shake off the rust and lingering doubts about his attitude, toughness and decision-making, all of which were often questioned in Chicago.

He went 51-51 as a Bears starter. Among his teammates was guard Jermon Bushrod, now with Miami.

"I know the guy," Bushrod said. "I've seen how he is in the huddle. I've seen how he is in the locker room. The message portrayed by some of the major broadcasting networks isn't what we see or feel.

"People are going to have things to say. But if you win games, nobody says anything."

The Bears went 9-23 the past two years, but coach John Fox said he was happy with Cutler both seasons and excited for him to get an opportunity in Miami.

"He was a smart, tough guy who worked hard," Fox said. "I know everybody here wishes him nothing but the best."

Cutler's comeback came about after Tannehill's left knee buckled a week into training camp. Tannehill decided against surgery after missing the final four games of last season with two sprained ligaments in his knee, but the latest injury likely will require an operation.

Tannehill stood near midfield Monday watching practice, wearing a brace on his left knee and conversing with the coaching staff and quarterbacks.

"We were talking about the stages you go through," Gase said. "We were both saying we keep going out of order — from denial to anger to depressed, and back to denial. It's tough."

There's already speculation about Tannehill and Cutler beyond this season, but the Dolphins' new quarterback isn't worried about 2018. He's worried about Tuesday.

"I just want to get to the next meeting and figure out where the dining room is," Cutler said. "Then we'll start running the offense and learning some guys' names."

Siemian gets 1st start but hasn't nailed down Broncos QB job

By Arnie Stapleton
Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — Trevor Siemian hasn't officially won the Denver Broncos' quarterback job just yet but he has earned the starting nod over Paxton Lynch in Denver's preseason opener at Chicago.

Siemian will get first crack against the Bears on Thursday night while Lynch will start Denver's second game, at San Francisco on Aug. 19, coach Vance Joseph announced Monday following his team's indoor practice.

"I think Trevor's earned that much, you know, to be the first guy out," Joseph said.

That doesn't signal that the Broncos see Siemian as the clear leader in the biggest position battle in the NFL this summer .

"No, no, no, No, no, no, no, no, guys," Joseph said, adding seven more "no's" for emphasis.

"He's first out, he's been first all training camp. He's been first out all spring. OK?" Joseph said. "It's an open competition. The games matter. The games start Thursday. So, I want to get to the games, so we can get to the bottom of this, OK?" It's obvious to observers at practice, however, that Sieman — solid and steady with glimpses of the spectacular like two deep, accurate throws Monday — has begun to pull away from Lynch, who has regressed since starting our training camp with a pair of solid practices.

Lynch had a rare turnover-free practice Monday but he started out erratic — 1-for-4 with a sack, a scramble and a wild overthrow on his first series — and blundered by throwing away the ball on fourth down from the 12 when Emmanuel Sanders was covered by Bradley Roby.

A similar play last year by Lynch drew the ire of then-coach Gary Kubiak, who implored Lynch to "give your guys a chance!"

Siemian was solid save for an interception by cornerback Lorenzo Doss when receiver Jordan Taylor slipped.

Bolles Gets The Nod: While Lynch, the Broncos' top draft pick last year, is showing he's still a work in progress, this year's first-rounder has quickly shown plug-and-play ability. Left tackle Garett Bolles was listed as the starter on the depth chart Monday, ahead of veteran Ty Sambrailo.

"Well, we watched the spring, we've watched the first two weeks of training camp and he's played well and in my opinion he's earned a right to start the game," Joseph said. "That being said, we're still competing there with Donald (Stephenson) and Ty."

Bolles isn't getting caught up in seeing his name atop the depth chart, saying he has four preseason games to really state his case and "I've got Donald and Ty pushing me."

Backing Up The No-Fly Zone: Doss, a third-year cornerback, and third-round draft pick Brendan Langley both got the message Monday when Langley was listed ahead of Doss as Chris Harris Jr.'s primary backup at right cornerback.

Doss, who has three interceptions in camp, knows he'll have to be more consistent in coverage to leapfrog the rookie, and Langley, one of the most athletic big corners in the draft, knows he can get some playing time early on if he keeps progressing.

"I would say this about the depth chart, it's a starting point," Joseph said. "Those two guys are competing for that fourth corner spot, which is a big deal for our football team. They're one snap from being a starter on sub (packages).

"What went into that? The spring drills, the training camp practices thus far. That's what's determined that he's ahead of him right now, but Doss has played really well. He's made a lot of plays and Langley has a long way to go as far as learning what to do as an NFL corner. So, it's open."

Notes: Joseph said he hasn't finalized plans for his QBs but "it's going to be more than most starting quarterbacks would play the first couple of weeks." ... Ex-Broncos S David Bruton was honored by team President Joe Ellis with a framed jersey commemorating his seven seasons in Denver. ... Joseph said ILB Todd Davis (shoulder) and S T.J. Ward (hamstring) won't play against Chicago.

Washington Huskies, USC appear primed for another year atop Pac-12

By Greg Beacham
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Pac-12 divisional races will be short on drama if preseason projections actually translate into regular-season results on the West Coast.

Washington and Southern California are major favorites to earn a showdown in the conference title game in Santa Clara in December, and both are considered national title contenders.

In a conference crowded with untested young teams and perennial powers in search of bounce-back seasons, the Huskies and Trojans are built around talented starting quarterbacks who have already shown the mettle to win big games. Defending Pac-12 winner Washington made the College Football Playoff while USC won the Rose Bowl last season, and large portions of those championship teams are back in uniform this fall.

Washington is coming off its best season in a quarter-century . Quarterback Jake Browning led the Huskies to an 8-1 record in Pac-12 play last year, but coach Chris Petersen isn't assuming his Huskies are guaranteed a spot atop the North.

"I don't think you reload," Petersen said. "That's not our mentality at all. At all. We rebuild. That's just the mindset. We're not even kind of the same team we were last year. So that's always our process. We start from ground zero. We take nothing for granted."

The Huskies' only regular-season loss came at home to USC and quarterback Sam Darnold , who led the Trojans to nine consecutive victories to end the season. USC returns with its usual array of NFL-bound playmakers, but coach Clay Helton isn't taking anything for granted, either.

Helton said he opened his training camp with a brief reminiscence about the epic Rose Bowl triumph over Penn State.

"But then I asked the next question: 'Are you satisfied?'" Helton said. "And to a man, not one hand rose. Because we understand what USC is about. It's about winning Pac-12 titles, and it's about winning national championships. And the fact of the matter is we did not accomplish that. That's always our goal and always our expectation."

The rest of the league is fighting to catch up to the preseason favorites.

The Colorado Buffaloes are out to prove their rapid ascent wasn't a fluke. Stanford and Oregon are eager to chase Washington for the top spot they shared for years, while Washington State and UCLA could prove to be threats with their own standout quarterbacks.

The favorites

North: Washington. Nobody is betting against Petersen's machine yet, but the Cardinal and Ducks have the rosters to make it interesting if the Huskies have the injury problems they avoided last season.

South: USC. The Trojans' usual stratospheric expectations aside, they're the only program in the division without serious rebuilding questions. Utah is perennially solid, while Colorado has ample motivation.

Top players

Luke Falk, QB, Washington State. The Cougars' big-armed passer needs 27 touchdown passes to match the conference record set in 2012 by USC's Matt Barkley. There's little doubt he'll get them in Mike Leach's high-octane offense.

Ryan Nall, RB Oregon State. The Beavers don't get much national attention, but the speedy tailback is primed for a breakout year.

Josh Rosen, QB, UCLA. The touted passer missed half of his sophomore season with injuries. With Jedd Fisch becoming his third offensive coordinator in three years, he could swiftly return his NFL draft stock to its former heights.

Lowell Lotulelei, DT, Utah. Star Lotulelei's 320-pound little brother is the heir to the Utes' tradition of vaunted defensive line play.

New faces

Willie Taggart moves back to the West Coast to take on the third rebuilding project of his head coaching career at Oregon, where Mark Helfrich was fired two years after reaching the national title game. He pulled Jim Leavitt away from Colorado as defensive coordinator. Justin Wilcox got a slightly late start to his first head coaching job at California, which has one winning season since 2011. Wilcox hired former Eastern Washington coach Beau Baldwin as his offensive coordinator.

On the hot seat

Both schools in the Grand Canyon State are at crossroads. Arizona's Rich Rodriguez finished last in the South with his first losing record after five years in charge, while Arizona State's Todd Graham is coming off two straight losing seasons. Jim Mora's seat has no real heat at UCLA, but the Bruins want a bounce-back year as well.

SEC

From 1C

to close the gap with their West counterparts, who have held an eight-year monopoly on SEC titles .

The Gators have won the East crown in each of coach Jim McElwain's first two seasons but are aiming higher. "Getting that taste of nine wins, we now want to get more than that," Florida defensive back Duke Dawson said.

The favorites

East: Georgia. Kirby Smart's second team has a strong backfield with Nick Chubb and Sony Michel, and Eason has a year of seasoning. LB Roquan Smith is among 10 returning defensive starters.

West: Alabama. Like Eason, Hurts has bigtime backs — plus star receiver Ridley — to target. The defense has seven NFL draft picks to replace but also returning standouts like defensive backs Minkah Fitzpatrick and Ronnie Harrison and tackle Da'Ron Payne.

Top players

Minkah Fitzpatrick, DB, Alabama. Versatile defender could play either safety or cornerback.

Derrius Guice, RB, LSU. Leonard Fournette's backfield mate has center stage to himself.

Hurts, The Tide is expecting him to be a better passer after an impressive freshman season somewhat marred by late-season struggles, especially in the playoffs.

Arden Key, LB, LSU. Had 12 sacks last season. Missed spring practice for unspecified personal reasons.

Christian Kirk, WR/RS, Texas A&M. Led the nation with three punt returns for touchdowns. His 83 catches topped the SEC, producing 928 yards and nine touchdowns.

Frank Ragnow, C, Arkansas. Hasn't allowed a sack the past two seasons and has started 26 straight games.

New faces

Ex-Ole Miss coach Ed Orgeron is back in the SEC West at LSU. His former program is trying to regroup from the July 20 resignation of Hugh Freeze while in the final stretch of an NCAA investigation. Interim coach and co-offensive coordinator Matt Luke is leading the Rebels. Alabama offensive coordinator Brian Daboll has been a much talked-about hire.

On the hot seat

Texas A&M's Kevin Sumlin is trying to avoid another November slump after three straight 8-5 seasons. Auburn's Gus Malzahn hasn't beaten top rivals Georgia and Alabama in three seasons. Getting warmish: Arkansas' Bret Bielema and Tennessee's Butch Jones.

SUDOKU

"THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES" By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

4			7		8			
1					9			2
	7	6					4	
	2			1	3			
5	1						6	3
			4	8			2	
	3					4	5	
8			9					7
			1		5			9

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

5	4	6	9	3	8	1	2	7
7	2	9	1	6	5	4	3	8
1	3	8	2	4	7	9	6	5
4	8	3	7	2	9	5	1	6
6	1	2	5	8	4	3	7	9
9	5	7	3	1	6	8	4	2
8	7	4	6	5	3	2	9	1
2	9	5	4	7	1	6	8	3
3	6	1	8	9	2	7	5	4

8/8/17

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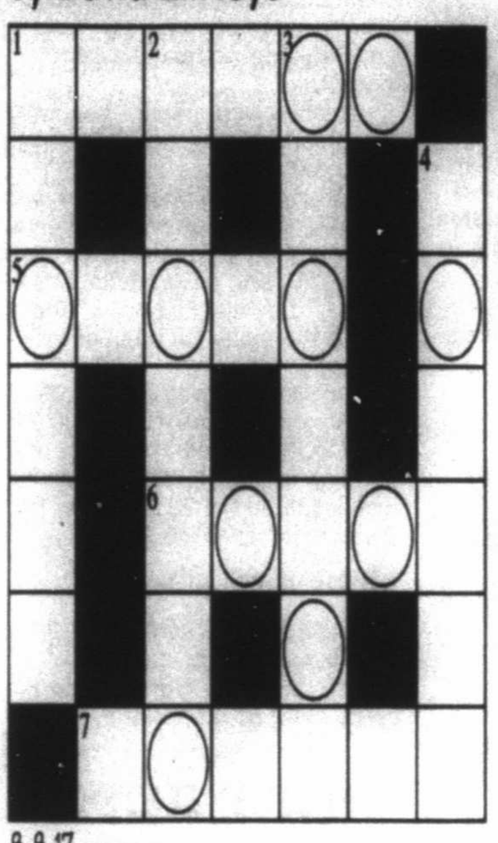
JUMBLE® CROSSWORDS™

by David L. Hoyt



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. ___ supplement	BAHRLE
5. Cart	GNWOA
6. Victor's opponent	SEORL
7. Prince ___	DRDAWE

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Moaned, roared	DEHLOW
2. Partied	GREEDAL
3. Memory loss	ISMANEA
4. ___ interest	AHEDRS

How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

8-8-17

CLUE: ___ ___ was 24 when she won a "Best Supporting Actress" Oscar for her role in "Cactus Flower."

BONUS

©Send comments to TCA - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, Ill. 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

ANSWERS: 1A-Harlan 5A-Wagon 6A-Loser 7A-Edward 1D-Honked 2D-Regaled 3D-Nimbus 4D-Shared B-Goldie Hawn

Send comments to TMS - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1400, Chicago, Ill. 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GWUNS

THUMO

SLCOTY

KAWYEL

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: YOUTH TULIP CHOPPY STRAND
Answer: When the owls made their plans, they were — IN CAHOOTS

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Blue gem, briefly
6 See
10 Units of electrical resistance
14 "You __ serious": "I don't believe it"
15 When doubled, toy train sound
16 Actress Cusack
17 Bungle
18 Don't have
19 Number after dix
20 *Spider-Man's alter ego
23 DOJ anti-narcotics arm
24 Gen-__: boomers' kids
25 Lustrous patterned fabric
27 Rim
30 SOS responder
33 Vain dresser
34 Protestant minister
36 Leaving out
40 Mined metal
41 Pseudonym ... and what the end of each answer to a starred clue is
43 Texter's guffaw
44 Like shish kebab
46 A __: based on deduction rather than experience
48 Family reunion attendees
49 Be an omen of
51 __ in the back: betray
52 Prickly plant
55 Burn soother
57 "Ben-__"
58 *Striped African equine
64 Superstar
66 BMW competitor
67 Studio warning sign
68 Sushi bar soup
69 Corp. VIP
70 Bump in the night, say
71 Cancún cash
72 Place for Girl Scout badges
73 Furry sci-fi creatures

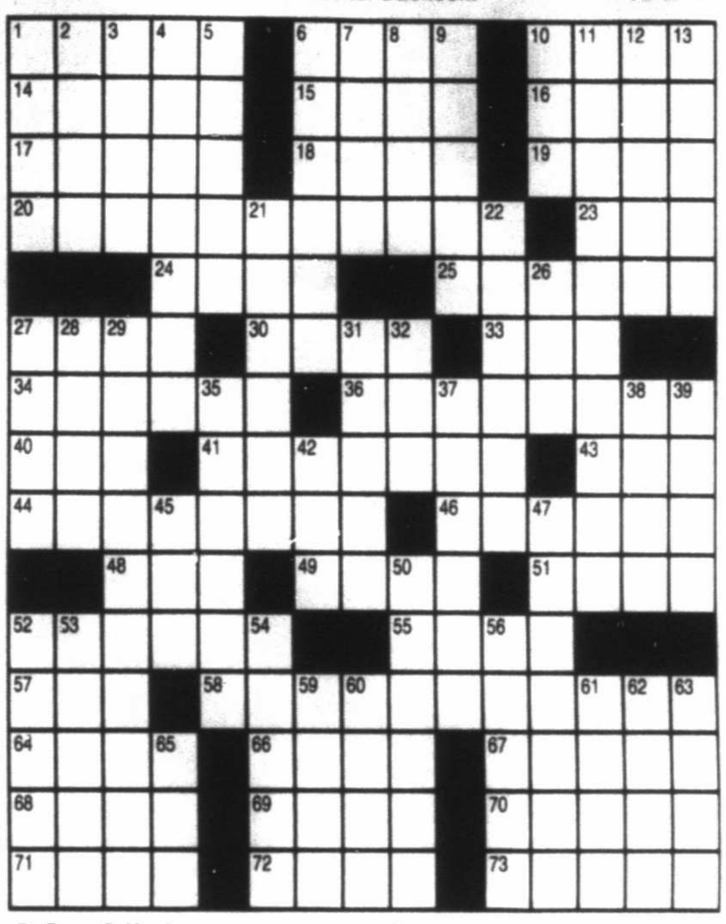
DOWN

1 End table accessory
2 Soul singer India.__
3 Irksome one
4 Reference aids in reference books
5 Sock away
6 Mercedes line of autos
7 __-Pei: wrinkly dog
8 Small indentation
9 Hitched together, as oxen
10 Spanish eye
11 *Midsize SUV
12 Perplexing passages
13 Tiptoe, say
21 One shaping a rosebush
22 Roof support
26 Witty remark
27 Long narrative poem
28 Chocolate option
29 *Hellenic religious symbol
31 Apartment type
32 Start-the-day ABC talk show, familiarly
35 "Let me in!"
37 Drives forward
38 "You've Got Mail" director Ephron
39 Smooth-talking
42 Platte River st.
45 Punster
47 "Finally got it"
50 From Copenhagen, e.g.
52 Zoo primate
53 WWII hero Murphy
54 Reactions to fresh comments
56 Depleted atmospheric layer
59 Luminous glow
60 Mid-month date
61 "Charles in Charge" actor Scott
62 Take a chance on
63 Warring son of Zeus and Hera
65 Lav, in Leeds

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

P	S	H	A	W		U	S	I	E		B	V	D	
L	E	O	N	E		S	H	O	E		S	O	A	R
O	X	Y	G	E	N	M	A	S	K		H	Y	P	O
P	T	A		N	E	A	L			B	A	S	I	N
			A	I	R	P	L	A	N	E	M	O	D	E
G	A	B	L	E	D			T	E	E	U	P		
O	G	L	E			S	T	E	I	N		R	A	P
Y	O	U	C	A	N	T	W	I	N	E	M	A	L	L
A	G	E		N	O	L	A	N				I	N	F	O
		A	S	K	M	E				M	R	T	O	A	D
L	U	N	C	H	E	O	N	M	E	A	T			
A	N	G	U	S			O	A	R	S		C	A	P
S	H	E	L		N	A	M	E	C	H	A	N	G	E
S	I	L	L		O	L	A	V		L	I	B	R	A
O	P	S			W	A	D	E		Y	M	C	A	S

xwordeditor@aol.com 08/08/17



By Susan Gelfand

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08/08/17

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1.

B OONS

2.

☐ Meaty
☐ Shower

Print Your Answers Here:

1.

2.

Today's Answers:

1. All out of balloons
2. Meteor shower

8-8

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2. Meteor shower

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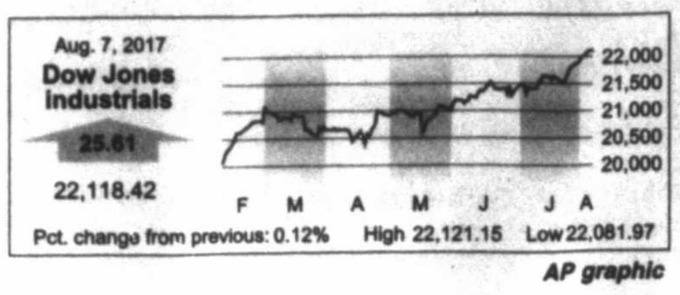
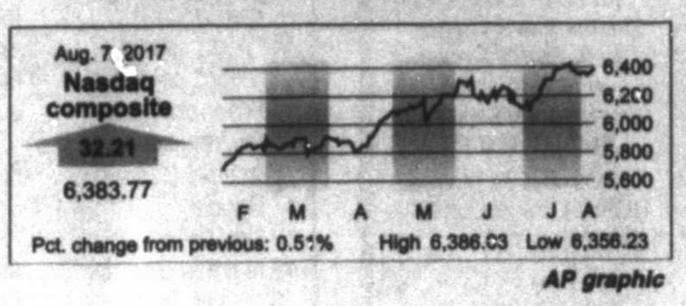
BUSINESS & OIL

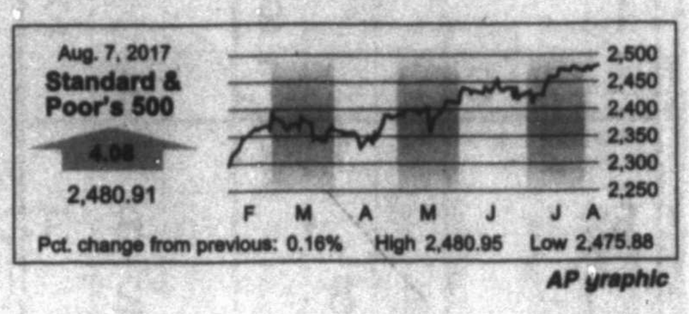
A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



AP graphic



AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Monday: $49.39
Previous: $49.58

POSTED

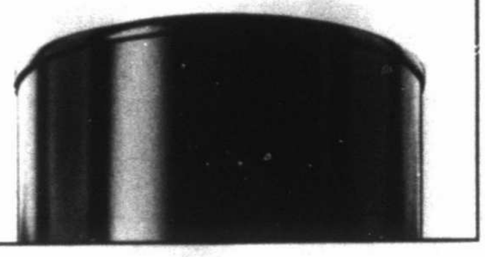
Monday: $46.00
Previous: $46.00

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Monday: $42.50
Previous: $42.50

NATURAL GAS

Monday: $2.801
Previous: $2.774



NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
TevaPhrm	807014	18.59	-2.01
BkofAm	395093	24.96	-.01
ChesEng	369240	4.35	-.18
SPDR Fncl	352336	25.35	-.04
Snapinc A n	334079	13.39	-.13

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
AcomInt rs	12.44	+2.95	+31.1
OnDeckCap	5.00	+.78	+18.5
Jupai n	9.30	+1.42	+18.0
BitauloH	37.72	+5.49	+17.0
Eros Intl	9.35	+1.15	+14.0

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
DB AgDS	22.38	-7.82	-25.9
ArmsFloor	14.25	-3.03	-17.5
IntPotash	3.22	-.61	-15.9
MSDLEur	16.85	-2.30	-12.0
BiglanHld	335.22	-41.81	-11.1

DIARY

Advanced	1,374
Declined	1,505
Unchanged	132
Total issues	3,011
New Highs	115
New Lows	47
Volume	2,807,856,329

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
22ndCentry	210090	2.47	...
NthnO&G	56680	1.00	-.20
CherwinEn	42934	43.15	-1.53
SRC Eng	29114	8.32	-.15
Globalstar	28541	2.00	+.06

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Intellichk	2.64	+.19	+7.8
AbdnIsrael	19.97	+1.27	+6.8
GabGoAn n	17.77	+1.07	+6.4
AurynRs n	2.86	+.17	+6.3
AsteriasBio	3.50	+.20	+6.1

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
OrchidsPP	8.80	-1.33	-13.1
PowrREIT	7.20	-.65	-8.3
Contango	5.53	-.41	-6.9
Myomo n	8.11	-.58	-6.7
BluerkRad	10.56	-.70	-6.2

DIARY

Advanced	165
Declined	167
Unchanged	24
Total issues	356
New Highs	14
New Lows	14
Volume	100,328,949

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Symantec	206391	28.87	-.30
Apple Inc	205933	158.81	+2.42
NxStageMd	192764	29.67	+6.53
Mylan NV	188261	32.00	-.92
Microsoft	175726	72.40	-.28

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
MycKard n	31.45	+14.30	+83.4
FstFintch lf	2.33	+.56	+31.6
NxStageMd	29.67	+6.53	+28.2
Abeona wt	4.74	+.74	+18.5
SensusHlt n	5.50	+.85	+18.3

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Zymerba n	6.67	-8.39	-55.7
Gemphire n	9.93	-8.73	-46.8
FstFnB wt	12.41	-4.46	-26.4
PacSpAc un	10.42	-3.16	-23.3
KBS Fash rs	2.13	-.38	-15.1

DIARY

Advanced	1,481
Declined	1,391
Unchanged	218
Total issues	3,090
New Highs	112
New Lows	70
Volume	1,633,641,406

Another milestone for stocks: Most boring market in decades

Associated Press

NEW YORK — This year's run to a record for the stock market has been one of the calmest in decades. Just don't get too comfortable.

Only twice this year have investors had to deal with a 1 percent drop for the Standard & Poor's 500 index in a day. That's far fewer than typical.

The last time stocks sailed through such an uneventful first seven months was when a group of burglars was arrested for breaking into the Watergate complex in 1972. Broaden the scope to include when the S&P 500 fell or rose by 1 percent in a day, and this could be the least volatile year for stocks since 1964, if the current pace holds.

But as central banks start to wean markets off the stimulus they've injected into the global economy, many money managers say they're preparing for a bumpier ride ahead.

For now, markets have been so calm that the biggest loss for the S&P 500 last week was just 0.2 percent. Compare that to the whiplash investors felt during the summer of 2011, when the S&P 500 swung by more than 4 percent each day during one four-day stretch.

Investors fortunate enough to be in the market have enjoyed all the upside of owning stocks with almost none of the traditional downside. Stocks are supposed to be volatile, and investors have long accepted that having to stomach big swings in price is one of the costs of owning them. But the largest stock fund by assets, Vanguard's Total Stock Market Index fund, has already returned 11.2 percent in 2017 with only a few big down days.

"At the surface, it is surprising" how calm stocks have been, says Greg Davis, Vanguard's chief investment officer. "But it's not surprising if you think about a world where central banks have been unbelievably accommodative. I think investors still think central banks will step in if there's any stress in the financial markets."

The Federal Reserve and other central banks around the world have slashed interest rates and thrown trillions of dollars of stimulus at the global economy since the 2008 financial crisis. Not only that, profits for S&P 500 companies started growing again late last year, inflation remains low and economies around the world finally seem to be in a synchronized move higher. All that has helped convince investors to step in as buyers whenever stocks seem vulnerable to a slide, which keeps markets smooth.

But the Fed is now slowly moving in the opposite direction: It has raised short-term rates modestly three times in the last year. The central bank also expects to begin paring its vast portfolio of bond investments "relatively soon." Investors on both sides of the Atlantic, meanwhile, are handicapping how long it will be before the European Central Bank pulls back on its bond-buying program.

That could force a return to more typical levels of volatility. Over the last half century, the S&P 500 has had a median 26 days where it fell by at least 1 percent during a year. The worry is that the stock market may not only get back to that level but overshoot it. Stocks are pricier, which raises the risk: One popular measure that compares stock prices to corporate earnings over the prior 10 years says the S&P 500 is at its most expensive level since the dot-com bubble in 2001.

If central banks aren't the trigger to reawaken market volatility, analysts say it could be anything that comes as a big surprise to investors, such as a natural disaster, international conflict or unexpected drop in corporate profits.

In a recent survey of investment managers at about 100 firms by Northern Trust Asset Management, 63 percent called the market's lack of volatility a warning sign that may lead to a sell-off for stocks. That's even though half the respondents expect corporate profit growth to increase, and most forecast stable economic growth, conditions that are typically favorable for the stock market.

"Volatility is so low, and so much hope is baked into current prices, that it has the potential to disappoint," says Rob McIver, portfolio manager at Jensen Investment Management.

Some investors would actually welcome a return to topsy-turvy markets. It could lead to higher revenue for Wall Street banks, as nervous clients make more trades. And it could offer bargain-hunting opportunities for mutual funds run by stock pickers, who have been broadly falling short of index funds' performance.

Of course, stocks have remained calm this year even in the face of some typically unnerving events. Washington has been unable so far to meet the big expectations investors had at the start of the year for pro-business reforms. North Korea had its first successful test of an intercontinental ballistic missile. The price of oil is still bouncing up and down.

Strategists at BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager, say they think the calm market is partly a result of how unusually stable growth has been for the economy and that the market can remain unruffled as long as the economy holds up.

BlackRock strategists also say that the market tends to be either calm or very volatile, and it's not unusual for it to roll through long periods of tranquility before getting punctured by a bout of crisis.

"Low volatility does not necessarily mean markets are complacent," BlackRock's global chief investment strategist and others wrote in a recent report. "It is simply what we should expect — most of the time."

Tech firms drive US stock indexes to new highs

Gains in technology companies helped lift U.S. stock index higher Monday, nudging the market once again into record territory.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index closed at an all-time high, as did the Dow Jones industrial average. The latest gain extended the Dow's winning streak to 10 days.

Traders bid up shares in microchip makers and other technology companies. Grocery chains, drugstore operators and other consumer-focused companies also helped drive the market higher. Energy companies declined the most along with the price of crude oil. Banks and industrial companies also lagged.

Investors were mostly focused on the latest company earnings and deal news.

"Earnings have been strong, particularly revenue growth has come in stronger than initial estimates," said Quincy Krosby, chief market strategist at Prudential Financial. "And overall the guidance has been strong."

The S&P 500 index rose 4.08 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,480.91. The Dow gained 25.61 points, or 0.1 percent, to 22,118.42. The Nasdaq composite added 32.21 points, or 0.5 percent, to 6,383.77.

Metal prices mixed

Gold added 10 cents to $1,264.70 an ounce. Silver held steady at $16.25 an ounce. Copper rose 2 cents to $2.91 a pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $116.16 Down 2.57

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $4.19 Down 0.18

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $96.04 Up 0.83

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $1.46 Up 0.02

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $5.64 Up 0.07

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $24.60 Down 0.60

ProPetro Holdings (PUMP)
Closing Price $12.20 Down 0.59

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $30.77 Down 0.34

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $13.14 Down 0.10

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $17.64 Up 0.13

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel		14	5.51	+.05	-46.0
AT&T Inc	1.96	14	38.52	+.09	-9.4
Abraxas	...	...	**1.68**	**-.02**	**-34.6**
AdaDvsEq	**.92e**	...	**14.88**	**+.03**	**+17.1**
AMD		...	13.43	+.31	+18.4
Alibaba		46	158.84	+5.51	+80.9
Ambev	.06e	6	6.15	+.03	+25.3
Amgen	**4.60**	**15**	**174.58**	**+.73**	**+19.4**
Anadarko	**.20**	...	**44.37**	**-.52**	**-36.4**
Annaly	1.20a	10	12.10	+.09	+21.4
Apache	**1.00**	...	**44.39**	**-.83**	**-30.1**
Apple Inc	2.52	19	158.81	+2.42	+37.1
ApldMatl	**.40**	**17**	**43.96**	**+1.14**	**+36.2**
ApldOptoel		32	69.69	+5.09	+197.3
Archrock	.48	...	10.15	-.15	-23.1
ATMOS	**1.80**	**25**	**86.88**	**-.31**	**+17.2**
AutoNatn		10	40.34	+.64	-17.1
AutoData	2.28	30	112.17	+.78	+9.1
BP PLC	**2.38**	**27**	**36.75**	**+.42**	**-1.7**
BcoBrad s	.37e	...	10.02	+.12	+39.4
BkofAm	.48f	15	24.96	-.01	+12.9
B iPVxST rs		...	11.09	-.10	-56.5
BarringsCp s	1.20	...	16.00	+.40	+3.4
BasicEnS			45		
BerkHa A	**...**	**182666985.00**	**-3014.99**		**+9.4**
BlkHillsCp	**1.78**	**21**	**70.33**	**+.82**	**+14.7**
BrghtFn n		...	61.72	-2.85	-10.5
BrMySq	**1.56**	**23**	**58.30**	**+.35**	**-3.7**
BrodsCm	.22	45	12.18	-.20	-2.5
BrownFA s	**...**	**30**	**51.45**	**+.82**	**+11.2**
BrownFB s	**...**	**...**	**49.02**	**+.50**	**+9.1**
CVS Health	2.00	14	79.12	+1.15	+.3
CallonPet	**...**	**32**	**16.33**	**-.25**	**-32.8**
Caterpillar	3.12	30	114.71	+.36	+23.7
Celestic g	...	8	11.64	-.03	-1.8
CntryLink	2.16	10	22.34	-.13	-6.1
ChesEng	...	10	4.35	-.18	-38.0
Chevron	**4.32**	**62**	**109.78**	**-.33**	**-6.7**
Chicos	.33	12	9.11	-.12	-36.7
Cimarex	.32	43	92.48	-1.52	-31.9
Cisco	1.16	16	31.84	+.04	+5.4
Citigroup	1.28	14	69.04	+.06	+16.2
CitfsNRs	...	7	7.76	+.11	-7.7
CocaCola	**1.48**	**28**	**45.64**	**+.14**	**+10.1**

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
ColgPalm	**1.60**	**24**	**71.74**	**+.26**	**+9.6**
Comcast s	.63	22	39.61	+.01	+14.7
ConAgra	**.85f**	**19**	**34.17**	**+.19**	**-13.6**
ConchoRes	**...**	**...**	**116.16**	**-2.57**	**-12.4**
ConocoPhil	**1.06**	**36**	**45.17**	**-.39**	**-9.9**
CrackerB	4.80f	24	152.38	-.67	-8.7
CrosTim	**1.10e**	**15**	**14.93**	**-.07**	**-16.9**
DCP Mid	3.12	19	32.65	-1.10	-14.9
DTE	3.30	23	108.93	-.01	+10.6
Delcath rs		...	10	-.00	-89.3
DevonE	**.24**	**98**	**32.40**	**-1.26**	**-29.1**
Disney	**1.56**	**18**	**106.35**	**-1.34**	**+2.0**
DowChm	**1.84**	**20**	**63.88**	**-.23**	**+11.6**
EOG Resco	**.67**	**...**	**89.67**	**-.78**	**-11.3**
EnCana g	.06	19	9.73	...	-17.1
Energen	.08	...	49.36	-.59	-14.4
EnPro	**.88**	**50**	**74.36**	**+.03**	**+10.4**
ENSCO	.04	2	5.00	-.32	-48.6
EntProdPt	1.68f	20	26.61	+.03	-1.6
Ericsson	.11e	...	6.23	-.03	+6.9
ExxonMbl	**3.08**	**30**	**80.16**	**-.06**	**-11.2**
Facebook	...	36	171.98	+2.36	+49.5
FstData n	...	...	18.18	-.40	+28.1
FordM	.60a	12	10.92	-.03	-10.0
FrptMcM	...	...	14.70	+.29	+11.4
GATX	**1.68**	**11**	**63.61**	**+.83**	**+3.3**
GabMultT	**.84e**	**...**	**9.41**	**+.01**	**+30.0**
GAInv	**1.15e**	**...**	**35.05**	**+.05**	**+12.4**
GenElec	**.96**	**24**	**25.83**	**-.15**	**-18.9**
Gerdau	.02e	...	3.68	+.16	+17.2
GoPro	...	...	10.16	+.31	+16.6
GtPlainEn	**1.10**	**19**	**31.38**	**+.16**	**+14.7**
HP Inc	.53	12	19.32	-.05	+30.2
Hallibrtn	.72	...	41.45	-.54	-23.4
HertzGl	...	...	15.24	+.92	-29.3
HorizPhm	...	...	13.30	+.60	-17.8
iShBrazil	**1.03e**	**...**	**38.61**	**+.51**	**+16.4**
iShEMkts	**.84e**	**...**	**44.25**	**+.30**	**+26.4**
iShBoxIG	**3.87**	**...**	**120.77**	**+.03**	**+3.1**
iS Eafe	**1.70e**	**...**	**67.49**	**+.03**	**+16.9**
iShR2K	**1.77e**	**...**	**140.44**	**+.23**	**+4.1**
Intel	**1.09**	**19**	**36.43**	**+.13**	**+.4**
InterDig	1.20	8	71.90	+.55	-21.3
JD.com	...	...	47.56	+1.16	+86.9

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
JohnJn	**3.36**	**20**	**132.86**	**-.32**	**+15.3**
KimbClk	**3.88**	**20**	**121.42**	**+.10**	**+6.4**
Kinross g	...	59	4.13	-.05	+32.8
LegacyRes	.60m	...	1.46	+.01	-31.1
LendingClb	...	...	5.46	+.25	+4.0
Lubys	**...**	**...**	**2.81**	**-.06**	**-34.3**
MarathnO	.20	...	12.35	-.55	-28.7
McDnlds	3.76	26	154.97	+1.15	+27.3
Merck	1.88	16	62.84	-.26	+6.7
MeritMed	**...**	**54**	**42.40**	**+1.08**	**+60.0**
MetLife	1.60	10	48.53	-5.39	-9.9
MexcoEn	...	...	5.64	-.11	+12.8
MicronT	...	11	28.59	+.67	+30.4
Microsoft	1.56	25	72.40	-.28	+16.5
Mylan NV	...	6	32.00	-.92	-16.1
Nabors	.24	...	7.05	-.52	-57.0
NOilVarco	.20	76	31.79	-1.39	-15.1
NokiaCp	.17e	...	6.50	-.02	+35.1
NSTFB	**.55e**	**...**	**14.98**	**+.04**	**+5.7**
NTXQI	**.85**	**...**	**14.79**	**+.04**	**+7.5**
Nvidia	.56	55	172.35	+5.14	+61.5
NxStageMd	...	...	29.67	+6.53	+13.2
OasisPet	...	...	7.80	-.25	-48.5
OcciPet	**3.08f**	**...**	**61.83**	**-.26**	**-13.2**
OnSmicnd	...	30	16.54	+1.23	+28.0
PDC Engy	**...**	**...**	**48.07**	**-1.19**	**-37.9**
ParTech	**...**	**22**	**9.14**	**+.05**	**+63.8**
ParkDrl	**...**	**...**	**1.30**	**...**	**-50.0**
PattUTI	**.08**	**...**	**18.32**	**-.77**	**-31.9**
Penney	...	17	5.39	-.05	-35.1
PennaRE	**.84**	**8**	**12.14**	**+.35**	**-36.0**
Pmian	.63e	24	8.73	-.07	+13.2
Petrobras	...	...	8.94	+.08	-11.6
Pfizer	**1.28**	**14**	**33.31**	**-.33**	**+2.6**
PioNtrl	.06	...	129.64	-5.70	-28.0
PlainsAAP	**2.20**	**28**	**25.20**	**-.42**	**-22.0**
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	144.56	+.91	+22.0
Proshr	**3.15**	**23**	**130.22**	**+.07**	**+11.1**
PrmEgy	**...**	**...**	**48.15**	**...**	**-10.8**
PUVixST rs	...	...	29.04	-.75	...
ProctGam	**2.76f**	**24**	**91.44**	**+.77**	**+8.8**
RangeRs	.08	19	17.35	-.53	-49.5
RegionsFn	.36	16	14.87	-.07	+3.6
RiteAid	...	41	2.44	+.11	-70.4
RockCtl	1.32	23	127.07	+8.07	+37.0

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Rowan	.40	5	10.97	-.48	-41.9
RoyDShllA	3.76	87	57.38	+.04	+5.5
SpdrDJIA	3.98e	...	220.85	+.28	+11.8
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	247.87	+.46	+10.9
SpdrOGEx	.73e	...	30.76	-.51	-25.7
SabnR	2.32e	18	38.85	-.30	+10.5
SanderFm	**.96**	**14**	**136.57**	**+2.04**	**+44.9**
Schlmbrg	2.00	59	66.55	-.99	-20.7
SiriusXM	.04	37	5.60	+.04	+25.8
Smucker	3.12f	16	122.57	+1.10	-4.3
SnapInc A n	...	...	13.39	-.13	-45.3
SwstnEngy	...	47	5.20	-.08	-51.9
SpiritRTC	.72	10	8.35	+.01	-23.1
Sprint	...	...	8.62	-.08	+2.4
SP CnSt	1.28e	...	55.43	+.41	+7.2
SP Engy	2.04e	...	65.14	-.50	-13.5
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	25.35	-.04	+9.0
Staples	.48	...	10.18	-.01	+12.4
Symantec	.30	...	28.87	-.30	+20.8
TeleFEsp	**1.20e**	**...**	**11.46**	**...**	**+24.6**
TerraVia	...	...	.05	+.00	-95.5
TevaPhrm	1.36e	8	18.59	-2.01	-48.7
3M Co	4.70	24	207.44	-.21	+10.2
Torchmark	**.60**	**17**	**78.98**	**-.09**	**+7.1**
Transocn	...	8	8.75	-.32	-40.6
TrtContl	**.96e**	**...**	**25.02**	**+.07**	**+13.5**

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
TurqHillRs	...	33	3.26	-.02	+.9
22ndCentry	...	...	2.47	...	+126.6
Twitter	...	...	16.40	+.11	+.6
TylerTech	**...**	**54**	**169.78**	**-.75**	**+18.9**
UBSI	**1.32**	**18**	**34.60**	**-.30**	**-25.2**
US OilFd	...	...	10.10	-.03	-13.8
USSteel	.20	...	24.19	+.69	-26.7
Vale SA	.29e	...	10.35	+.38	+35.8
ValeantPh	...	3	15.37	+.24	+5.9
ValeroE	2.80	22	68.00	+.17	-.5
VanEGold	.12e	...	22.20	-.12	+6.1
VerizonCm	2.31	10	46.86	-.05	-8.5
ViacomB	.80	8	30.58	+.36	-12.9
VulcanM	**1.00**	**38**	**120.82**	**-1.02**	**-3.5**
WEC Engy	2.08	22	64.30	+.21	+9.6
WPX Engy	...	...	10.23	-.18	-29.8
WalgBoots	1.60f	17	81.51	+.45	-1.5
WealthInt	...	...	4.25	-.10	-14.8
WellsFargo	1.52	13	52.54	-.30	-4.7
WhitingPet	...	...	4.90	-.32	-59.2
WmsCos	1.20	44	31.02	+.04	-.4
WindstrM rs	.60	...	2.12	-.11	-71.1
XcelEngy	**1.44f**	**22**	**48.20**	**+.23**	**+18.4**
Xerox rs	.25p	12	32.51	+.29	+41.3
Zyngа	...	...	3.60	+.03	+40.1

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We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
22,092.81	17,883.56	Dow Jones Industrials	22,118.42	+25.61	+.12	+11.92	+19.37
9,763.66	7,622.92	Dow Jones Transportation	9,384.66	+7.03	+.08	+2.55	+17.99
738.62	616.19	Dow Jones Utilities	733.59	+1.72	+.23	+11.22	+6.28
12,012.85	10,281.48	NYSE Composite	11,987.77	+2.89	+.02	+8.42	+11.12
6,460.84	5,034.41	Nasdaq Composite	6,383.77	+32.21	+.51	+18.59	+22.46
2,484.04	2,084.59	S&P 500	2,480.91	+4.08	+.16	+10.81	+13.76
1,795.14	1,475.36	S&P Midcap	1,752.90	+1.42	+.08	+5.56	+12.18
25,845.72	21,583.94	Wilshire 5000	25,745.39	+35.28	+.14	+9.90	+13.78
1,452.09	1,156.08	Russell 2000	1,414.17	+1.85	+.13	+4.20	+14.93

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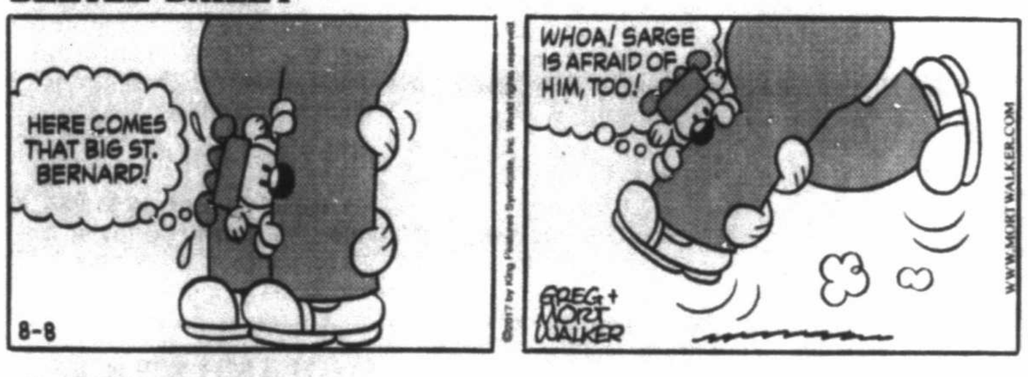
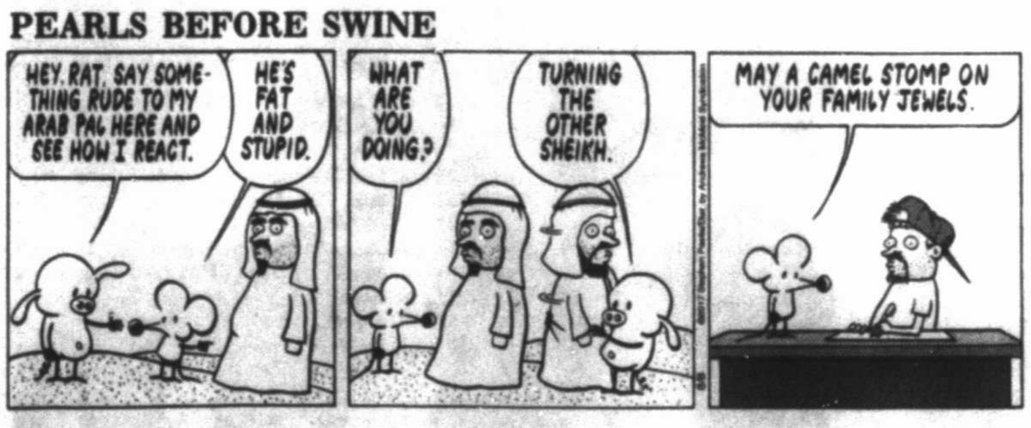


CLASSIC PEANUTS

SHOE

GARFIELD

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID

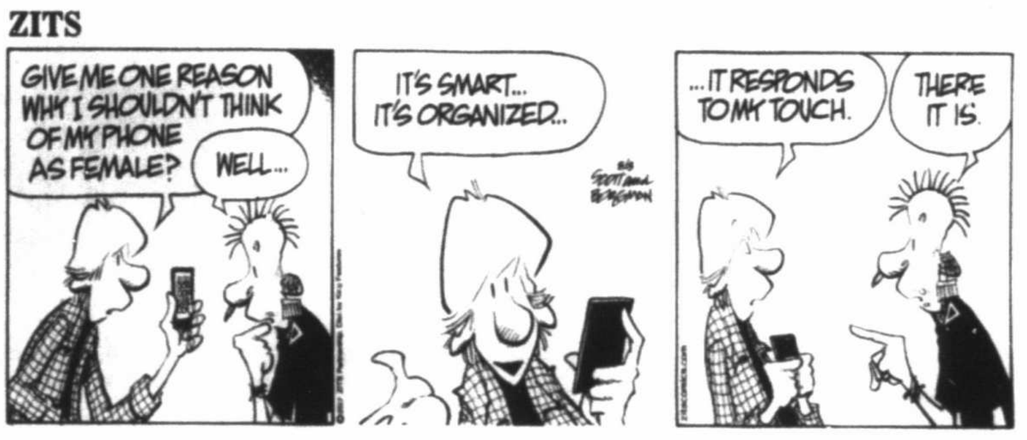
DILBERT

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS



BABY BLUES

MUTTS

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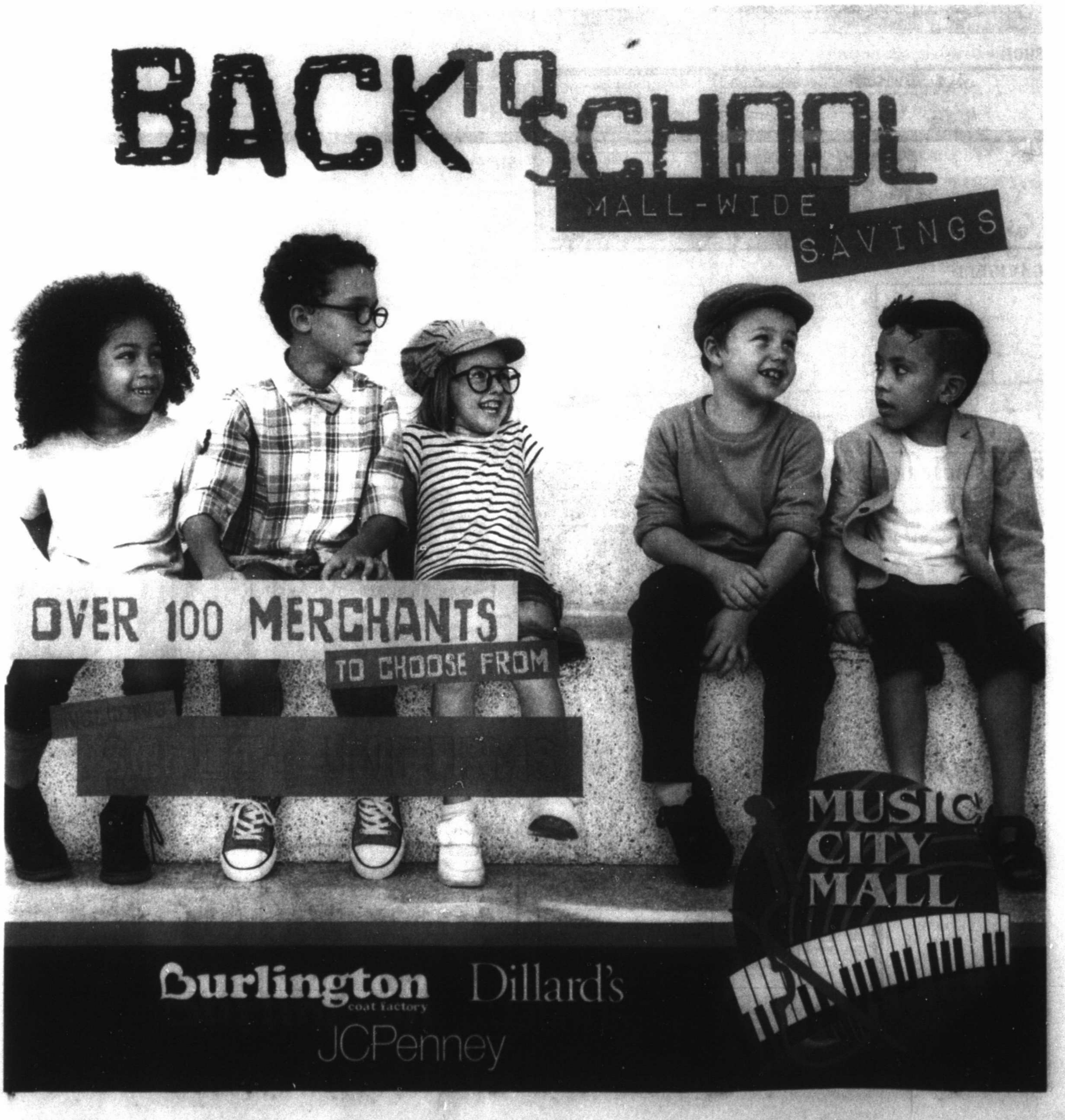

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Now hiring Male Specimen Collector. Please come by to apply at 711 W. Indiana Ave, Midland. Phelobotomist needed full/part time. Apply at 635 N. Grandview, Odessa.

Receptionist/ Medical Record
Medical office looking for full time receptionist, medical office experience required also looking for part time medical record and filing employee. Students welcome to apply. Fax resume to 432-522-2950.

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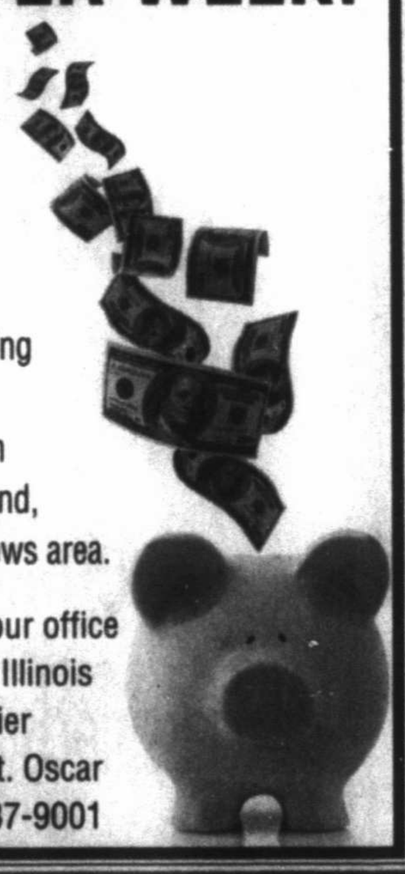

Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Oscar Ronquillo 432-687-9001

OTHER JOBS

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

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE
Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occassionally. We will train the right person.
$10.00 per hour

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

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

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

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE
Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person.
$10.00 per hour

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

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
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RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES

Director of Food Services
Responsible for the kitchen and food service activities of First Baptist Church of Midland. Applicant must have food service experience and basic computer skills. Management experience and bilingual preferred. Please email idean@fbc-midland.org.

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Legal and Public Notices

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF SAN JUAN
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

KELSEY VALDEZ,

Petitioner,

vs. NO. D-1116-DM-2017-00115

JAMES GARRISON,

Respondent.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION

JAMES GARRISON is hereby notified that the Petitioner KELSEY VALDEZ, has filed suit against him in the above entitled cause of action requesting an Order of Paternity, Custody, Visitation and Support. JAMES GARRISON is required to serve upon the Petitioner an answer or motion in response to the Petition within thirty (30) days and file a copy of the answer or motion with the Court as provided in Rule 1-005 NMRA 2005.

If JAMES GARRISON fails to file a timely answer or motion, default judgment may be entered against him granting Petitioner an Order of Paternity. Custody, Visitation and Support.

A hearing on the Petition to Establish Paternity, Custody, Visitation and Support shall be set before the Honorable Daylene A. Marsh at 851 Andrea Drive, Farmington, New Mexico, 87401 and unless you personally appear in this cause an order may be entered granting the Petitioner the relief they seek.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah V. Weaver, Esq.
Attorney for Petitioner
6582 E. Main St.
Farmington, NM 87402
(505) 327-2600
(505) 327-2621 facsimile

Legal and Public Notices

Project Name:
Midland International Air & Space Port
Construct Runway Incursion Mitigation (Runway 10 End), Construct Taxiway, and Rehabilitate Apron
Midland, Texas
Project No. 01975716 and 01975616

Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors would like to notify all Texas certified HUB/DBE businesses that we will be accepting bids for the above listed project until August 15, 2017 at 5pm. Please submit all bids to s.huerta@jonesdp.com or fax them to 432-332-0724 Attn: Sandra Galvan

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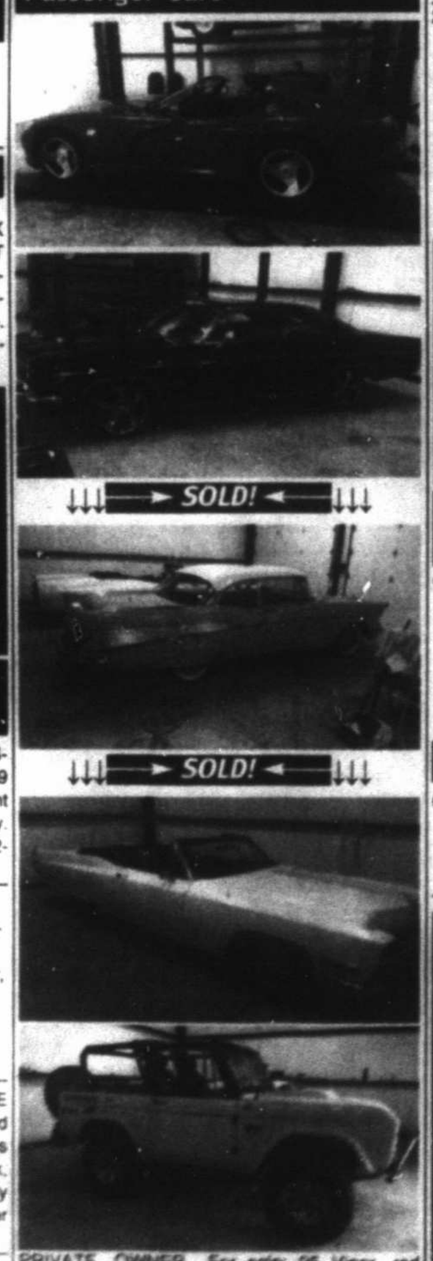
Passenger Cars



PRIVATE OWNER. For sale: 95 Viper, red $32,990. 66 Impala SS 427, black $25,000; 57 Chevy Bel Air, 2 dr., turquoise fender skirts, rear fire rack $35,000. 68 Cadillac convertible, new upholstery and top, white $25,000. 74 Bronco, fiberglass body, yellow, 302 H/O, too many options to list $22,000. Tim 432-664-2716.

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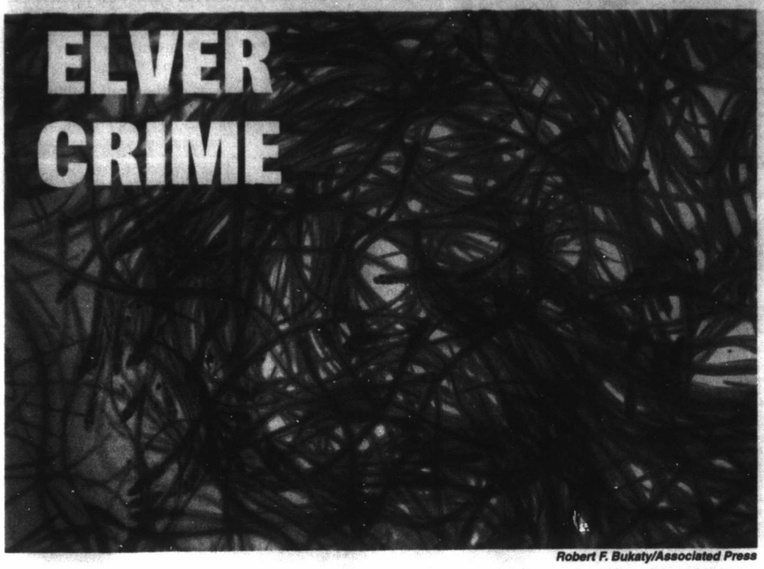

Robert F. Bukaty/Associated Press

Baby eels swim in a bucket May 25 after being caught near Brewer, Maine. Changes in the worldwide fisheries industry have turned live baby American eels into a commodity that can fetch more than $2,000 a pound at the dock, but the big demand and big prices have spawned a black market that wildlife officials say is jeopardizing the species.

Poached eels: US strikes at illegal harvests as value grows

By Patrick Whittle
Associated Press

BREWER, Maine — Changes in the worldwide fisheries industry have turned live baby American eels into a commodity that can fetch more than $2,000 a pound at the dock, but the big demand and big prices have spawned a black market that wildlife officials say is jeopardizing the species.

Law enforcement authorities have launched a crackdown on unlicensed eel fishermen and illicit sales along the East Coast.

Although not a well-known seafood item like the Maine lobster, wriggling baby eels, or elvers, are a fishery worth many millions of dollars. Elvers often are sold to Asian aquaculture companies to be raised to maturity and sold to the lucrative Japanese restaurant market, where they mainly are served grilled.

But licensed U.S. fishermen complain poaching has become widespread, as prices have climbed in recent years. In response, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies are investigating clandestine harvesting and sales.

Operation Broken Glass, a reference to the eels' glassy skin, has resulted in 15 guilty pleas for illegal trafficking of about $4 million worth of elvers. Two people are under indictment, and more indictments are expected.

In Maine, more than 400 licensed fishermen make their living fishing for elvers in rivers such as the Penobscot in Brewer and the Passagassawakeag in Belfast every spring. They say law enforcement is vital to protecting the eels and the volatile industry.

Randy Bushey, of Steuben, has been fishing for elvers since 1993. He said he saw his income balloon from as little as $5,000 per year in the 1990s to more than $350,000 in 2012. He said tighter quotas mean he's earning less these days, and in the most recent season he made about $57,000.

"I've seen the best, and I've seen the worst," Steuben said. "I want to see it preserved. I want to see it straightened out."

The elvers are legally harvested in the U.S. only in Maine and South Carolina. The American eel fishery was typically worth $1 million to $3 million per year until 2011, when the economics of the industry changed. Asian and European eel stocks dried up, and the value of American eels grew to more than $40 million in 2012 because of demand in China, South Korea and other Asian countries.

Investigators also turned their eyes to poaching in 2011, the Department of Justice told The Associated Press. The investigation of people who catch, sell or export elvers illegally has ranged from Maine to South Carolina; a New York seafood distributor was among those netted.

In one case, federal prosecutors said, three men pleaded guilty in November 2016 to trafficking more than $740,000 worth of elvers harvested illegally from the Cooper River in the Charleston, South Carolina, area. In another, Richard Austin pleaded guilty in federal court in Norfolk, Virginia, to trafficking more than $189,000 in illegally harvested elvers from 2013 to 2015.

The federal agencies involved in the poaching investigations say there's no end date for their probe. The Department of Justice declined to speculate on how many poachers there are and how many arrests are expected. A conviction for violating the Lacey Act, which prohibits illegal wildlife trade, can carry a penalty of up to five years in prison and a fine of as much as $250,000.

Investigators go undercover to track poachers, posing as people illegally fishing for elvers. They also follow eel migrations, hoping to catch illegal fishermen on the spot. Investigators also track catch records, which are required by states, to look for possible illegal fishing and selling along the supply chain.

The legwork is necessary because illegal trade in elvers jeopardizes the species' long-term sustainability, said Jeffrey H. Wood, acting assistant attorney general with the Department of Justice's environmental division.

Maine's fishery for elvers is the biggest on the East Coast, making it the sole reliable source of the eels in the U.S. To prevent overfishing, fishermen are limited to catching them for only a few weeks every spring.

The eels hatch in the ocean waters of the Sargasso Sea, a weedy patch of the Atlantic Ocean between the West Indies and the Azores. They then follow currents back to rivers and streams from Greenland to Brazil. Mature eels that avoid hazards including fishermen's nets, predatory fish and the turbines of hydroelectric plants will one day return to spawn in the Sargasso.

The baby eels are tiny at the time of harvest, weighing only a few grams when they are scooped with dip-nets or trapped with larger nets that resemble small soccer goals.

A well-managed eel fishery is critical to the health of the rivers and streams they swim in, said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Deputy Chief of Law Enforcement Ed Grace. Eels are important to the marine ecosystem because they serve as both predator and prey, feeding on fish and mollusks and serving as food for larger fish, seabirds and turtles.

Justice Dept. tries to shore up forensic science, testimony

By Sadie Gurman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department is trying to shore up faltering confidence in forensic science and how its experts describe their findings in court, a push that comes months after similar efforts dating to the Obama administration were suspended.

The department said Monday it is reviving work on federal standards for forensic expert testimony, an effort initiated following revelations in 2015 that FBI experts had overstated the strength of evidence involving microscopic hair analysis in hundreds of cases dating back decades.

Longstanding concerns remain about the reliability of certain forensics evidence in criminal cases across the country, as research increasingly shows that techniques such as comparisons of hair found at crime scenes, handwriting analyses, bite-mark evidence and certain ballistics tests are scientifically flawed.

Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein said he is forming a "forensic science working group" whose top missions will be setting uniform standards for how experts testify about such evidence and creating a program to monitor the accuracy of forensic testimony. It will also conduct a broad look at the personnel and equipment needs of the nation's overburdened crime labs, among other aims. He made the announcement during a private gathering of forensics professionals in Atlanta.

"We must use forensic analysis carefully, but we must continue to use it," he said, according to prepared remarks. "We should not exclude reliable forensic analysis — or any reliable expert testimony — simply because it is based on human judgment."

The working group takes the place of an Obama-era commission of independent scientists that aimed to improve the reliability of forensic science and advise the attorney general on the use of scientific evidence in the criminal justice process.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions allowed the National Commission on Forensic Science to expire in April, raising concerns among defense attorneys and other advocates about the future of the Justice Department's work in that arena. They believed the commission and its array of voices offered a better chance for an independent look at questionable techniques that have long been used in American courtrooms than would an internal Justice Department committee.

Peter Neufeld, a former member of the national commission and a co-founder of the Innocence Project, praised the effort to set guidelines for forensic testimony but said keeping the working group within the Justice Department is misguided.

"What is most unfortunate is that they want to make the entire effort to improve forensic science an in-house working group, as opposed to an independent, transparent and science-driven, proactive entity," he said. "It misses the point that forensic science is not simply about public safety, it's about achieving justice."

Rosenstein said the working group would consider the more than 250 comments and suggestions the department received in response to the commission's disbanding.

The new group will be led by Ted Hunt, a longtime prosecutor from Missouri whose online biography says he has worked on more than 100 felony trials, most of which have involved DNA or other forensic evidence. He was also involved with the commission.

A 2015 Justice Department review of lab examiners' testimony found errors relating to hair analysis in at least 90 percent of trial transcripts and covered a period before 2000.

Here's some suggestions for gift-giving the online way

Dear PropellerHeads: I've heard the best gifts come in small packages. If I am being honest, I am always drawn to the biggest, shiniest package. Is it the thought that counts?

A: OK. I'm going to say it, our readers are getting deep these days. Is bigger better? Yes, and duh.

But we shouldn't ignore the thought. The great thing is, you don't have to wait for someone to think about all of the things that you may like and wait impatiently for them to show up in whatever size package. There's a box for that.

By now we're all familiar with subscription and "of-the-month" clubs, but things have really gone bananas since someone thought up that sock-of-the-month club you got Grampy for Christmas that one time. Just as subscription boxes and services can curate all of your desires, I've decided to curate a few options here:

Feeling pretty?

Birchbox (birchbox.com): This company is the gold standard on sending great beauty products to your door monthly. For $10, it's not hard on the wallet either. There are tons of others in this market too, like Play! By Sephora (sephora.com/play), also at $10 a month, and even Walmart has a Beauty Box (beautybox.walmart.com) for $5 a month.

Feeling hairy?

Dollar Shave Club (dollarshaveclub.com): Keep all your scruff tamed for an initial fee of $5 and then $9 a month for upkeep (or $3 a month for the cheaper option). Or you could try the aptly named Harry's (harrys.com) with a free trial ($3 shipping).

Need some new threads?

Stitch Fix (stitchfix.com): Fill out a style profile and personal stylists will select items for you to try that meet your preferences. You pay $20 for the styling fee, but you can then apply that to any items you decide to purchase from your Stitch Fix delivery. Only keep what you want to buy and send the rest back.

Hungry?

Blue Apron (blueapron.com) and Hello Fresh (hellofresh.com): Perfectly portioned ingredients and instructions on how to prepare delicious meals delivered to your door for a little less than $60 a week.

Hungry, but lazy?

Graze (graze.com): At $14 a box you get a variety of non-GMO snacks for your chomping pleasure. Need an exclusive Dorito flavor or Japanese gummy in your life, try Munchbox (munchbox.hk) for about $10 a month to get your snack on.

For that special someone...

Bespoke Post (bespokepost.com): For the gentleman in your life with a taste for the finer things. Stuff he didn't know he wanted but will appreciate at about $45 a month, skip as many boxes as you like or get them all.

Barkbox (barkbox.com): For your real BFF. He loves a good nap, long walks on the beach, and sniffing butts. Anything his fluffy heart could desire for $20-$30 a month.

And for the nerds...

Bitsbox (bitsbox.com): Filled with activities for kids who want to learn how to code. They develop their projects through an app on the website. This will set you back $40 per month.

Crates from Kiwi Co. (kiwico.com): An age appropriate crate (Tinker Crates, Kiwi Crates, etc.) for your little one with creative and STEM themed activities for about $20 a month.

Monthly Mystery Box by Geek Fuel (geekfuel.com): For $50, a box full of all things nerdy. The question is does it lose its value if you take it out of the box?

So is it the thought that counts? Since these companies have done all of the thinking for you, I don't feel bad saying it's the stuff that counts. Happy capitalism!

When the PropellerHeads at Data Directions aren't busy with their IT projects, they love to answer questions on business or consumer technology. Email them to questions@asktheropellerheads.com or contact us at Data Directions, Inc. 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Visit our website at www.asktheropellerheads.com.

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