MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2017 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

DIGITAL LIFE

Social media changes the way toys are created, marketed.

Page 2B

PRESERVING HISTORY

A controversial frac sand mine is coming to Atascosa County whether residents like it or not, but they've promised to continue fighting the project, slated for an area where historians still hunt for remnants of the bloodiest battle in Texas history.

Page 5A

Teaching young people to respect cops in the times we live in

By Ken Herman
Austin American-Statesman

■ COMMENTARY

In Latin and in law it's known as "in loco parentis." It's often a concept of last resort, one not pursued lightly because it runs counter to our better instincts. The literal translation is "in place of a parent."

The best societies are built on the notion that parents — more than governments, more than judges — know what's best for their children.

It's not always true.

Schools are an in loco parentis situation, one that most of us agree on because most parents aren't qualified to educate their children.

Senate Bill 30, approved this week by a Texas Senate committee and probably headed to the Senate floor soon, embraces in loco parentis on a very specific educational matter, one that most parents should be qualified to handle: the interaction of young people and cops during traffic stops, a common occurrence that always starts with some tension and sometimes ends with tragedy.

"Chairman Birdwell and I were just talking about how sad it is that we have to be having this conversation," state Sen. José Menéndez, D-San Antonio, said, referring to state Sen. Brian Birdwell, R-Granbury, during a Tuesday committee hearing on the bill.

Moments earlier, Sen. Charles Perry, R-Lubbock, talked about the bill and "the times we live in."

There are lots of things in which the phrase "the times we live in" seems appropriate. Few are sadder than the topic that SB 30 seeks to address.

SB 30, which has bipartisan support, simply seeks to educate young people on how to interact with a cop by adding a section about that to the driver's license manual and by teaching about it in our public schools.

And, acknowledging this is a two-sided problem, the bill also calls for requiring cops to complete a "civilian interaction training program."

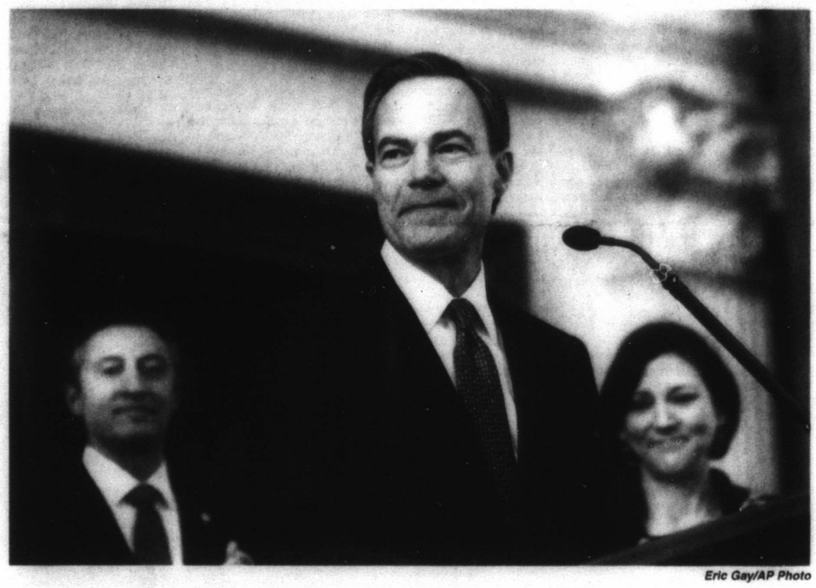
Prior to the Tuesday hearing at which the Senate Criminal Justice Committee sent SB 30 to the full Senate, an impressive and diverse group of supporters — lawmakers, law enforcers, community activists — gathered for a Capitol news conference. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, a Republican, was there and called it one of the session's most important bills.

One of the bill's sponsors, Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, said the bill is "real simple." The problem it addresses, of course, is not. Neither is the solution. The bill is the product of hours of discussions among diverse interest groups.

The details of the courses are to be determined, but we know in general what

Please see COPS/2A

This week in Texas



Eric Gay/AP Photo

In this Jan. 10, photo Texas Speaker of the House Joe Straus, R-San Antonio, stands before the opening of the 85th Texas Legislative session in the house chambers at the Texas State Capitol after he was re-elected for a fifth consecutive term in Austin. Texas' rainy day fund has more than $10 billion at a time when slumping oil prices have left Texas facing a shortfall of as much as $6 billion just to maintain current spending levels. State House lawmakers are clamoring to close that gap by tapping the rainy day fund, but the Senate's draft budget avoided doing that via an accounting gimmick.

What to watch: Texas isn't alone in rainy day fund fight

By Will Weissert
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Is it raining in Texas? That depends on who you ask.

The rainy day fund contains $10-plus-billion at a time when slumping oil prices have left the state facing a potential $6 billion shortfall just to maintain current spending levels in the 2018-2019 budget the Legislature is now devising. Democrats and Republicans in the House want to spend some of that to forego widespread cuts.

But in its version of the budget, the Senate avoided raiding Texas' piggy bank by using an accounting gimmick that would temporarily divert $2.6 billion previously earmarked for highway funding. House Speaker Joe Straus decried that as "counting money twice."

"I'm not interested in cooking the books just to avoid a vote on the rainy day fund," said Straus, a San Antonio Republican.

It's a common fight across conservative America, where legislatures often won't touch cash reserves, preferring to hoard money for untold future calamities at the expense of keeping themselves afloat during current budget boondoggles.

The National Association of State Budget Officers says rainy day funds nationwide had an all-time high fund balance of $79.6 billion in fiscal year 2015 and slipped only to $73.3 billion in fiscal year 2016, despite the prolonged oil

Please see WATCH/2A

GAIL HEATHINGTON
Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center

Midland receives a number of volunteer hours

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. Numerous nonprofit agencies will be celebrating their volunteers at a luncheon or with a small token gift. But April isn't the only time to recognize our fine volunteers. Chevron has been sponsoring the 52 Faces recognition of Midland volunteers for a couple of years now and they should certainly be commended. What a wonderful way to recognize the hundreds of thousands of active volunteers in our community. I know I personally look forward to seeing which worthy individual is being honored and which organizations in our community are benefitting from the hours they provide.

52 faces

John Moesch is one of 52 Faces of Community

Page 1B

It seems since Baby Jessica was caught in the well, Midland has been recognized as a city with extremely charitable, giving people. Individuals and businesses alike are known for their philanthropy. Honestly, it seems like we should be able to recognize an individual every day of the week, given how many volunteers there are around Midland.

Meals on Wheels requires 246 volunteer hours per week to cook and deliver to the many shut-ins that they serve. The Midland Children's Rehabilitation

Please see HOURS/2A

Weather
Sunny
83/57
Get your complete forecast on 7C

Did you know?
The Midland High Soccer team will play Keller High Friday at noon at Abilene's Shotwell Stadium. Page 2C

The big number
The average price of gasoline is $2.34 a gallon nationwide. Page 3A

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

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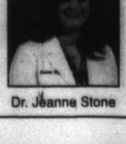
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Obituaries

Clement Enos George III (Clem)

Clement Enos George III (Clem), a Midlander since 1948, passed away Wednesday, March 22, 2017.

An only child, Clem grew up in Tucson, Arizona. He entered his beloved University of Arizona in 1938, joined the Sigma Nu fraternity, and studied Mining Engineering and Business Administration. He has been an avid Arizona Wildcat for over 80 years.

Clem met Betty Suggett of Ft. Worth, Texas in 1941, at a Sigma Nu/Chi Omega dance and they married on December 29, 1943. Betty predeceased Clem on September 6, 2011.

As with many college ROTC cadets at the time, in May of 1942, Clem was inducted into the United States Army Air Corps as a Second Lieutenant. He served as Head of the Air Corps Supply stationed at Boling Field - Washington D.C. and at La Guardia Field - New York City. While in New York, his fondest memory was dancing with Betty to Guy Lombardo at the Roosevelt Grill.

One of Clem's primary duties in the Air Corps was the responsibility for the control and maintenance of President Truman's airplane, as well as being a supervisor over 200 civilians and 16 enlisted men. He ended his military service to our country as a Captain in January 1946.

After the war, Clem entered graduate school at The University of Texas, Austin and graduated in 1948, number one in his class with a Master's degree in Geology. On March 1, 1948, Clem rode the train from Ft. Worth to Midland to report to work with Stanolind Oil and Gas. He always mused that it was a half day of work because it was a Saturday!

In September of 1950, Clem went to work for Anderson Pritchard, and then in January 1954, became an Independent Geologist and Oil and Gas Operator.

Clem served as the Chairman of the Society of Independent Geologist in 1968 and served on The University of Texas Geological Foundation in Austin for seven years (1970-1977.) Clem served as a director of Midland Commercial Bank & Trust from 1970 to 1984. In 2015, he was awarded the Pioneer Award with Midland Geological Society. Clem's interest in the stock market dominated his time from 1990 on. All children and grandchildren had to know daily how GE closed.

Clem's love of history, travel, sports, and old movies was ingrained into his two children, Meredith and Kenn, and his six grandchildren. If you did not know what happened in 1066 you were in Big Trouble! (Answer: Battle of Hastings)

Clem's children and grandchildren have all been part of the Boston Red Sox Fan Club, because of Clem's unwavering support since 1936, in spite of the curse of the Bambino. What a joyous day for Clem when the curse was broken. Clem hosted multiple grandchildren, Meredith, and Kenn to relish in person three World Series wins.

Clem is survived by two children, Meredith and husband Ed of New Mexico and Kenn and wife Tricia of Dallas; grandchildren, Kenneth George II and wife Carolyn, and great-grandchildren, Kenneth III and John, of Chevy Chase, Maryland, Patrick George and wife Elizabeth, Clement George and wife Molly, Elizabeth Gosselin and husband Chase, all residing in Dallas, Edward Tinsley IV and wife Kelly, and Ede Booth and husband Morgan; great-grandchildren Lawler and Scarlett, all residing in Houston.

Our family would like to thank Clem's wonderful and devoted caregivers. They are true friends and so much appreciated: Lisa and Kevin Roberts, Gracie Lara, Lori Carrillo and Fred Jimenez; and a very special thank you to a special friend, Dr. John Foster.

A service for Clem will be held at a future date. Until then . . . . . Go BoSox and Bear Down Wildcats!

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

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

John Scharbauer Dublin, Jr.

John said, "*I have always thought that I had a little guardian angel sitting on my shoulder,*" and with that we begin...

After a rewarding life of 95 years, John Scharbauer Dublin, Jr., surrounded by devoted family and friends, died Saturday, March 11, 2017.

To commemorate John's life, a service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at the 1st Community Credit Union Spur Arena in San Angelo.

John was born December 29, 1921 in Midland Texas to John S. Dublin, Sr. and Minnie Terry Dublin.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Chris and Jan Dublin of San Angelo; daughter-in-law, Janet Dublin of Schertz, Texas; grandchildren, John L. Dublin of Whitney, Texas, Amy Dublin of Mountain Home, Arkansas, Jeff Dublin of Schertz, Texas, and Trisha Dublin, El Paso, Texas; special friend, Bobbie Walker; and cousin, Sammye Stone.

He is also survived by Harriet Faudree's children, Matt Faudree, Ellen Bell, Margaret Williams, Charlotte Kimberlin, Martha Parks, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Virginia McBurnett Dublin; son, Lawrence Craig Dublin; Harriet Faudree Dublin, his second wife; and also by his beloved granddaughters, Kristen Faudree and Amy Bell.

John served honorably in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II from 1942 until 1945. While stationed in England, John as a PFC was put in charge of replacing the gun turret sights on four squadrons of Martin B-24s with the newer Fairchild electric version.

He laughed, saying, "When they put me in charge, they gave me my own jeep. Everyone else was riding bicycles."

John grew up as an only child and attended public school in Midland, Texas. After graduation, he enrolled in New Mexico Military Institute. "I really went there to learn to play polo rather than for an education."

After the war, John saw his first cutting horse exhibition. "I can do that," he said. John started working with a young mare and in 1949 entered the first National Cutting Horse Event of his career. His first efforts won three 2nds, each paying $75. He continued to ride cutting horses for most of the next 50 years.

John had a unique relationship with his father. They shared respect for each other and their business relationships were based on trust and hard work. Everything was 50/50. John always said, "My dad was my best friend and playmate. He was my teacher. We had a wonderful relationship. My son, Chris, and I have that same relationship." In 1948 at the age of 53, John's father died of a heart attack soon after John returned from the war.

In his own words, John believed that he had been in the cow business all his life. He enjoyed success in many different arenas. He was a rancher and a businessman. His passion was the western way of life: ranching and horses. As a judge, contestant, and breeder, John took pleasure in supporting The National Cutting Horse Association and the American Quarter Horse Association. John was a volunteer and past president of the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo Association with more than 50 years involvement.

Pallbearers will be Chris Dublin, John L. Dublin, Matt Faudree, Gary Hodges, John Hruska, and Kermit Wendland.

Special thanks to Dr. Norma Cerna and the staff at Shannon Hospital.

Please send memorials or donations to San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo Association Foundation. Contact Brittni at 325-653-7785.

Guests may register online at *www.harper-funeralhome.com*.

Marie Walker

On Thursday, March 23, 2017 the heavens rejoiced and the angels sang on the arrival of Marie Walker, lovingly known as Mema.

Marie was the second daughter born to Anna "Annie" Helena Streit Hoeldtke and William Fredrick "Willie" Hoeldtke on June 16, 1928 in Oklaunion, Texas.

She spent her younger years in Bowie, Texas on the family farm. While attending Bowie High School, she met Robert C. Walker and they married May 26, 1945 in Bowie, Texas by Pastor Danielson of the St. Peter's Lutheran Church. To this union, three children were born - Robert C. Walker, Jr.; David F. Walker; and Anne E. Walker.

Mr. Walker went to work for Continental Oil Company in 1945, having thirteen different assignments during the first year, Marie became a master at moving households at a moment's notice. They later settled in Midland, Texas in April 1960. Never one to sit idly by, Marie became active in her Church. She served as secretary for Grace Lutheran Church and later as treasurer for Midland Lutheran Church. She was a secretary for Getty Oil and Texaco Phillips. Marie was a masterful homemaker be it sewing clothes for her family, knitting, crocheting, cooking from scratch, and growing and canning vegetables.

Marie is preceded in death by her husband, Robert Walker; her son, David Walker; her daughter, Anne Cihonski and husband Rick; her sisters, Alberta Boehm and husband Richard, Lydia Ellison and husband Bill, Geraldine Gerling and husband Bob; her brother, George Hoeldtke; and her brother-in-law, Felix Wiley.

She is survived by her son, Robert C. Walker, Jr. and wife Sandy; her daughter-in-law, Wanda Walker; her many grandchildren, Raquelle Trimble and husband Jerry, Robert C. Walker III and fiancé Jenny Bouldin, David Walker, Jr., Matthew Walker and wife Kimberly, Jon Walker and wife Emmeline; her many great grandchildren, Brian Walker, Chance Trimble, Chasidee Trimble, Lucy Walker, baby boy Walker (only Mema knows the name); her sister, Ruby Wiley and sister-in-law, Penny Hoeldtke; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held Monday, March 27, 2017 at Ellis Funeral Home from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; family will not be present.

A funeral service is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at Midland Lutheran Church. Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home of Midland, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Hospice of Midland, 911 West Texas, Midland, Texas 79701; National Marfan Foundation, 382 Main St., Port Washington, New York 11050; or Midland Lutheran Church, 2705 West Michigan Avenue, Midland, Texas 79701.

Online condolences can be made at *www.ellisfunerals.com*.

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WATCH

From 1A

price slump punishing state revenue in Texas and other energy-producing locales. Just nine states tapped their cash reserves in fiscal year 2016, and fewer still appear ready to do so this fiscal year.

Texas' aversion to rainy day fund spending is especially acute, though. The budget officers' association lists Texas' rainy day fund as worth more than $10.1 billion, equivalent to 19 percent of total state expenditures for fiscal year 2017. It reports that that's a greater percentage than anywhere except sparsely populated Wyoming, whose about $1.5 billion cash reserves exceed 100 percent of state expenditures, and Alaska, where the $3.5 billion rainy day fund represents nearly 83 percent of state spending this fiscal year.

There's precedent here. In 2011, Texas cut $5.4 billion from public schools rather than draw more substantially from the rainy day fund. That came amid pressure from then-Gov. Rick Perry, who was preparing a presidential run and wanted to bolster his tea party credentials by keeping Texas' cash reserves as intact as possible. Perry's successor, Gov. Greg Abbott, now has said he'd prefer to avoid tapping the rainy day fund — but it may yet happen.

While waiting on the rainy day fund's fate, here are key legislative issues to watch this week:

Senate budget

The draft budget is set to hit the Senate floor Tuesday. It includes cuts to higher education and Medicaid and no extra funding for public schools while defunding an Abbott-championed pre-kindergarten program. Despite some believing that President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown might save Texas money, the Senate is seeking to maintain border security spending at $800 million.

Debate may prove arduous, but the proposal should still pass the Senate relatively unscathed. The House looks like another story.

Voter ID

Also poised for a Senate floor vote is a bill modifying Texas' strict voter ID law by incorporating some temporary changes ordered after it was ruled discriminatory last year.

Federal appeals courts declared that the law disproportionately penalized poor and minority Texans, and ordered a workaround for November's presidential election. That let people without required ID vote by signing an affidavit.

The bill seeks to make permanent much of that temporary fix while mandating up to 10 years in prison for anyone convicted of lying on such affidavits.

Dueling education priorities

The House and Senate continue to advance different priorities for public education — meaning neither may get what it wants.

The Senate, as early as this week, could approve a voucher plan offering state subsidizes for children attending private and religious schools. But that issue is a House non-starter.

Instead, the House should soon debate and pass a bill making sweeping changes to Texas' school finance system — which the state Supreme Court ruled was flawed but minimally constitutional last summer.

A school finance fix, though, may face a tough road in the Senate, where some are weary of tackling such a complex issue when they've not been ordered by a court to do so and without a special legislative session to focus solely on the topic.

COPS

From 1A

must be covered.

"Say that you end up having a disagreement with the law enforcement officer," West said at the committee hearing. "Do you try to argue your case on the street or do you wait? Do you comply and then complain? And if you decide to complain, where do you complain?"

Many of us don't need a course on that. Too many of us do.

State Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, a bill sponsor, said the message is simple for anyone who thinks a cop is treating them unfairly, or worse: "You don't try to settle it on the streets of Texas. You go to internal affairs; you go to your parents; you go to your minister and allow everyone to then deal respectfully with one another."

Traffic stop rules and protocols change. Whitmire noted cops used to want you to get out of your car. Now they don't, unless asked.

"I was blessed to have parents that taught me that," Whitmire said of how to interact with police. "And I have mentors that taught me that. But unfortunately, a lot of young people, I think, are having to learn that for themselves (or) maybe learn from peers. And that's not always the good instruction."

I asked West what it means that SB 30 is needed.

"The reality is that we've had problems," he said. "But the question is how do we find solutions to those problems."

He's correct. These are the times we live in, as Perry said. And it was clear Perry was concerned about — though not unsupportive of — the proposed solution.

Perry told West that "we continue to lay social problems, be it common sense or otherwise, at the feet of our public education system." Perry said some things used to be common sense: "You typically don't have a disagreement with someone wearing a gun and a badge in a disrespectful manner. But that's not the days we live in today."

All Perry was looking for — and he got it — was assurance from West that SB 30 wouldn't require a full class in how to interact with cops. West said it would just be a module in a class.

Menéndez later pinpointed the problem: "Sometimes, young people don't see law enforcement as peacekeepers, and we have got to do what we can to restore that relationship."

James Nash, an African-American pastor from Houston, stood with SB 30 supporters at the press conference and committee hearing. He said some young people see cops as "the enemy."

"For too long," Nash said, "our youngsters have been told by others that we don't have to respect police."

Mull that for a moment. And consider that, although all police deserve respect, a few — a very few — forfeit it.

"We talk about bridging the gap between law enforcement and the community, which is very powerful," Nash said. "We've got a march coming up this weekend. But what do we do after the marches? ... How do we reach our young men who have been told that all police officers are bad?"

"Young people want to be respected," the reverend said, "but they have to be taught how to respect law enforcement."

This has become something that must be handled in loco parentis. SB 30 is a measure of the times we live in.

STATEBRIEF

FROM WIRE REPORTS

BROOKSHIRE

Suspect arrested in Houston-area hit-and-run, 2 cyclists die

Officers have arrested a man suspected of driving a vehicle in a Southeast Texas hit-and-run that left two bicyclists dead and another hurt.

Waller County jail records show Victor Kevin Tome of Dallas was being held Sunday on charges including murder, aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury, accident involving death, accident involving serious bodily injury and burglary.

Authorities say Tome was arrested Saturday a few hours after the accident in Brookshire, 40 miles west of Houston. Officials say two riders died, while a third suffered a leg injury.

Investigators say the driver ran from the scene and allegedly broke into a home, but agreed to surrender after being confronted by the resident.

Jail records didn't immediately list bond or an attorney to speak for Tome.

HOURS

From 1A

Center needs 64 volunteer hours every week to provide life-changing hippotherapy services. In 2016, Big Brothers Big Sisters had more than 750 hours spent with Littles. The Pickwick Players and Midland College students provided more than 3,500 hours assisting with Theatre School, Centerstage and Applause. The Midland County Public Library had 82 volunteers provide 1,764 hours.

These numbers are astounding — especially when you realize these are only the numbers from a few of the wonderful nonprofit organizations in our community. There are more than 800 nonprofits in Midland. Play with the math on that and you just have to be amazed.

And speaking of amazing, what about all the local businesses and individuals that support events and organizations time after time. Midland is an oil and gas community. We live by it. I'm not sure there is another community in Texas with such a philanthropic attitude. I won't individually name them — the list is much too long. You need only receive an event invitation to see the long list of companies that have put up their money to support the organizations and their missions. And at each and every one of those companies, there are individuals who also give their personal time and money.

Chances are, you know of an individual who goes above and beyond for our community. It may be your neighbor or a co-worker. Why not nominate them for 52 Faces? The Midland Reporter Telegram has made the nomination process so easy that everyone should be submitting names. It literally takes less than 10 minutes to fill out the form — and what nicer way to recognize the volunteer Sunday School teacher, the woman who reads to the elderly, the man who helps build homes for Habitat, or that board member who works so hard for a nonprofit organization just because they believe in the mission. So Chevron — thank you for being a great community member. Midland Reporter Telegram — thank you for recognizing the amazing servants of our community in this partnership. And Midlanders, thank you for nominating these wonderful volunteers. It is a blessing to be a part of such a community.

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JimBurrito
Ceraceous
[suh-rey-shuh s]
adjective
1. waxlike; waxy

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AP file photo

In this Jan. 10 photo, Rep. Eric Bedingfield, R-Greenville, walks through the House chamber during the first day of legislative session at the South Carolina Statehouse in Columbia, S.C. Bedingfield once shunned marijuana use, but when his eldest son died of an overdose last Easter, ending a six-year struggle with opioid addiction, the conservative Republican co-sponsored this year's medical cannabis legislation.

Medical pot bill in S. Carolina bolstered by conservatives

By Seanna Adcox
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — South Carolina Rep. Eric Bedingfield once shunned all marijuana use, but when his eldest son's six-year struggle with opioid addiction ended with his overdose a year ago, the conservative Republican co-sponsored medical cannabis legislation.

"My mindset has changed from somebody who looked down on it as a negative substance to saying, 'This has benefits,'" Bedingfield said recently.

The 50-year-old teetotaler believes marijuana may effectively wean addicts from an opioid dependence. Ultimately, the Marine veteran hopes medical marijuana can be an alternative to people being prescribed OxyContin or other opioid painkillers to begin with, helping curb an epidemic he's seen destroy families of all economic levels.

Two decades after California became the first state to legalize medical marijuana, efforts to let patients legally access pot are slowly taking root in the South.

Although 28 states allow comprehensive medical marijuana programs, only two of those are in the South. Arkansas and Florida voters approved theirs through the ballot last November. Neither is in place yet. A law signed in Louisiana last year, also not yet in effect, doesn't allow the smoking or vaping of marijuana.

This year's renewed push in South Carolina is bolstered by some of the state's most conservative legislators, such as Bedingfield, whose opinions have shifted due to personal losses or the pleadings of parents and pastors in their districts.

Three years ago, state lawmakers passed a very narrow law allowing patients with severe epilepsy, or their caregivers, to legally possess cannabidiol, or CBD, a non-psychoactive oil derived from marijuana. Bedingfield voted against that idea.

Bill Davis, a Christian author who leads a Bible study for people fighting drug addiction, said he was bedridden before trying marijuana. Diagnosed two years ago with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, a lung disease with no cure, he was put on an experimental drug with "horrible side effects."

"I had to decide whether I wanted to die of lung disease or kidney or liver failure," Davis said.

Then he started vaping marijuana, which he says allows him to control the amount of CBD and THC he receives.

"I'm praying this state will allow me to be treated legally for me to live" using "a plant that God made," he said.

Republican Rep. Jonathon Hill said he signed onto the bill after hearing Davis' story over dinner at his home.

"He is living, walking proof that there can be some very real benefits," he said.

A bill allowing people with a debilitating medical condition, or their adult caregivers, to legally possess 2 ounces (57 grams) of marijuana advanced last month to the House's full medical committee. Its Republican backers tout the bill's "seed-to-sale tracking" as guarding against recreational use. A Senate subcommittee is considering an identical bill.

"We shouldn't be forcing a choice between breaking the law or not taking care of members of your family," said Republican Rep. Bill Herbkersman.

Marijuana was the only thing that gave his brother an appetite and kept the pain at bay before he died of skin cancer in 2011, Herbkersman said.

"They call it a gateway drug, but sometimes it's just a gateway to a little bit better life, or what you have left of a life," he said.

The idea still has strong opposition — chiefly from South Carolina's law enforcement agencies, including State Law Enforcement Division Chief Mark Keel.

Jarrod Bruder, director of the state Sheriffs' Association, told the House panel that sheriffs can't support legalizing a drug the federal government still puts in the same class as heroin and cocaine.

His predecessor, however, stunned observers when he stood to support the bill.

Jeff Moore, who retired in 2014 after 32 years leading the association, credits marijuana with saving his son's life. But he says it also prevents his son, an Army veteran, from coming home to South Carolina for fear of being arrested.

In 2008, six weeks into his son's first of two tours in Iraq, their convoy was surrounded in Mosul. He watched as five of his friends were killed by an IED and he fought for his life for 2 ½ hours. He suffers from PTSD and traumatic brain injury as that battle scene and others replay in his mind. He was honorably discharged after two suicide attempts, Moore said.

Eventually, his son's father-in-law, a Vietnam veteran, convinced him to move near him in Michigan, where he can legally smoke a high-CBD, low-THC strain of marijuana. Moore says does not get him high. He's stopped drinking, returned to college and organized an all-veteran support group. He is also an elder in his church, Moore said.

"His life has made a complete, 180-degree turnaround. Had he stayed in South Carolina, he'd have ended up killing himself," Moore said.

Opponents: Arkansas exposure bill targets transgender people

By Tafi Mukunyadzi
Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — An Arkansas lawmaker wants to expand the state's indecent exposure law in a move that opponents say could criminalize transgender people's use of bathrooms. Republican Rep. Bob Ballinger's proposal would make it a crime for people to knowingly expose their sex organs to someone of the opposite sex in a public place under circumstances likely to cause alarm. Ballinger said the measure was needed to protect children in situations such as when a father takes his daughter into the men's restroom. The bill would make it a crime for the men to deliberately expose themselves to the child.

But American Civil Liberties Union of Arkansas legal director Holly Dickson says laws already are in place to address people acting with criminal intent in public restrooms. Dickson says Ballinger's bill is just a way to make it a crime for transgender people to use bathrooms that correspond with their gender identity.

"This bill is intimidating. It can lead to increased harassment. It will chill transgender people's participation in public life," Dickson said.

She noted the impact statement attached to the proposed measure, which says there were only seven convictions for violations of Arkansas' current indecent exposure law from 2013 to 2015.

"It is creating problems where there are no problems," Dickson said.

The Human Rights Campaign said in a statement that the measure "exposes Arkansas to tremendous risk of the kind of financial, legal, and political blowback that has beset North Carolina since the passage of HB2."

The NCAA pulled seven championship events from the state because of the North Carolina law that requires transgender people to use restrooms at schools and government buildings corresponding to the sex on their birth certificate. North Carolina's law also excludes gender identity and sexual orientation from local and statewide anti-discrimination protections.

This year's NBA All-Star game was moved from Charlotte, North Carolina, to New Orleans, and some musicians canceled concerts in the state as a result of the law's passage a year ago.

Republican Gov. Asa Hutchinson has said Arkansas does not need legislation like North Carolina's.

National Center for Transgender Equality executive director Mara Keisling said the Arkansas bill is clearly aimed at the transgender community and could have an impact on the state's economy.

"It makes Arkansas a harder place to grow jobs. As there have been more diverse workplaces, companies have to set up shop where they can send employees," Keisling said.

But Ballinger said he saw a gap in the indecent exposure law and that he doesn't believe his proposal will affect the transgender community.

"It doesn't seem like there'd be a problem," Ballinger said.

The House has already passed the bill. It will now go to the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

Another bill has been proposed in the Arkansas Legislature that would require people in public schools and government buildings use bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond to their gender at birth. The bill, which the governor has opposed, is pending in committee.

Berkeley killing renews debate over gender pronouns

By Paul Elias
Associated Press

BERKELEY, Calif. — Pablo Gomez Jr. was a University of California, Berkeley, senior majoring in Latino studies and a prominent campus activist when authorities say he stabbed to death a popular elementary-school teacher.

Soon, the crime that police described as "very brutal and unusual" in a city that reported just two homicides last year was sucked up into the debate over gender identity when it was reported that Gomez preferred to be called "they" rather than "he."

Even in famously liberal Berkeley, with its long history of protest, the uproar came as a surprise, overwhelming the online news site, www.berkeleyside.com, that first reported on Gomez's preference.

"I didn't see it as something that would anger anyone," reporter Emilie Raguso said.

After Raguso's report, conservative commentator Ann Coulter ridiculed the pronoun change and mocked Gomez's activist background. Breitbart.com and other conservative political websites picked up the story.

On the university campus, where the debate over nontraditional pronouns has simmered, some students said Gomez's case is different.

"I think you give away your right to make a demand like that when you are arrested for killing somebody," said junior Jonothan Chow, a member of the College Republicans Representatives of UC Berkeley's Gender Equity Resource Center, where Gomez was a member, declined requests to comment on the controversy, as did other gay rights activist groups in Berkeley.

Victim Emile Inman, a 27-year-old native of France, was found in her home in January with a "We Stand with Standing Rock" sign in the front window she shared with other young roommates a few miles from campus.

Hours earlier on Jan. 6, police found Kiana Schmitt, 24, seriously injured outside an apartment just north of campus. Police have declined to say how Schmitt was connected to Gomez.

NATIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

CALIFORNIA

US gas prices down a penny over 2 weeks, to $2.34 a gallon

CAMARILLO -- The average price of a gallon of regular-grade gasoline dipped about a penny nationally during the past two weeks, to $2.34.

Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that the price drop comes as crude oil prices also slipped during the same period.

Gas in San Francisco was the highest in the contiguous United States at an average of $3.01 a gallon Friday. The lowest was in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at $2.01 per gallon.

The U.S. average diesel price is $2.57, also down one cent.

LOS ANGELES

Koppel says Hannity is 'bad for America'; Hannity fires back

Veteran newsman Ted Koppel told Fox News host Sean Hannity that he is "bad for America" in an interview that aired on CBS' "Sunday Morning" that quickly became a trending topic on social media Sunday.

Hannity fired back on Twitter alleging that his interview had been cut significantly from 45 minutes to less than two. The Fox news host said he provided many examples of media bias in the cut footage and challenged the network to air the full segment.

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GOP struggles to govern despite a monopoly in Washington

By Thomas Beaumont and Bill Barrow
Associated Press

The Republican Party of "no" for Democrat Barack Obama's eight years is having a hard time getting to "yes" in the early Donald Trump era.

The unmitigated failure of the GOP bill to replace Obamacare underscored that Republicans are a party of upstart firebrands, old-guard conservatives and moderates in Democratic-leaning districts. Despite the GOP monopoly on Washington, they are pitted against one another and struggling for a way to govern.

The divisions cost the party its best chance to fulfill a seven-year promise to undo Obama's Affordable Care Act and cast doubt on whether the Republican-led Congress can do the monumental — the first overhaul of the nation's tax system in more than 30 years — as well as the basics — keeping the government open at the end of next month, raising the nation's borrowing authority later this year and passing the 12 spending bills for federal agencies and departments.

While the anti-establishment bloc that grew out of the tea party's rise helped the Republicans win majorities in Congress in 2010 and 2014, the internal divide, complicated further by Trump's independence, threatens the GOP's ability to deliver on other promises.

"I think we have to do some soul-searching internally to determine whether or not we are even capable as a governing body," said Rep. Kevin Cramer of North Dakota in the bitter aftermath of the health care debacle.

Despite a commanding majority in the House, an advantage in the Senate and Trump in the White House, Republicans hardly seem to be on the same team.

"There are some folks in the Republican House caucus who have yet to make the pivot from complaining to governing," said Republican pollster Whit Ayres. "And this is a White House controlled by a politician who is not really trying to lead a party."

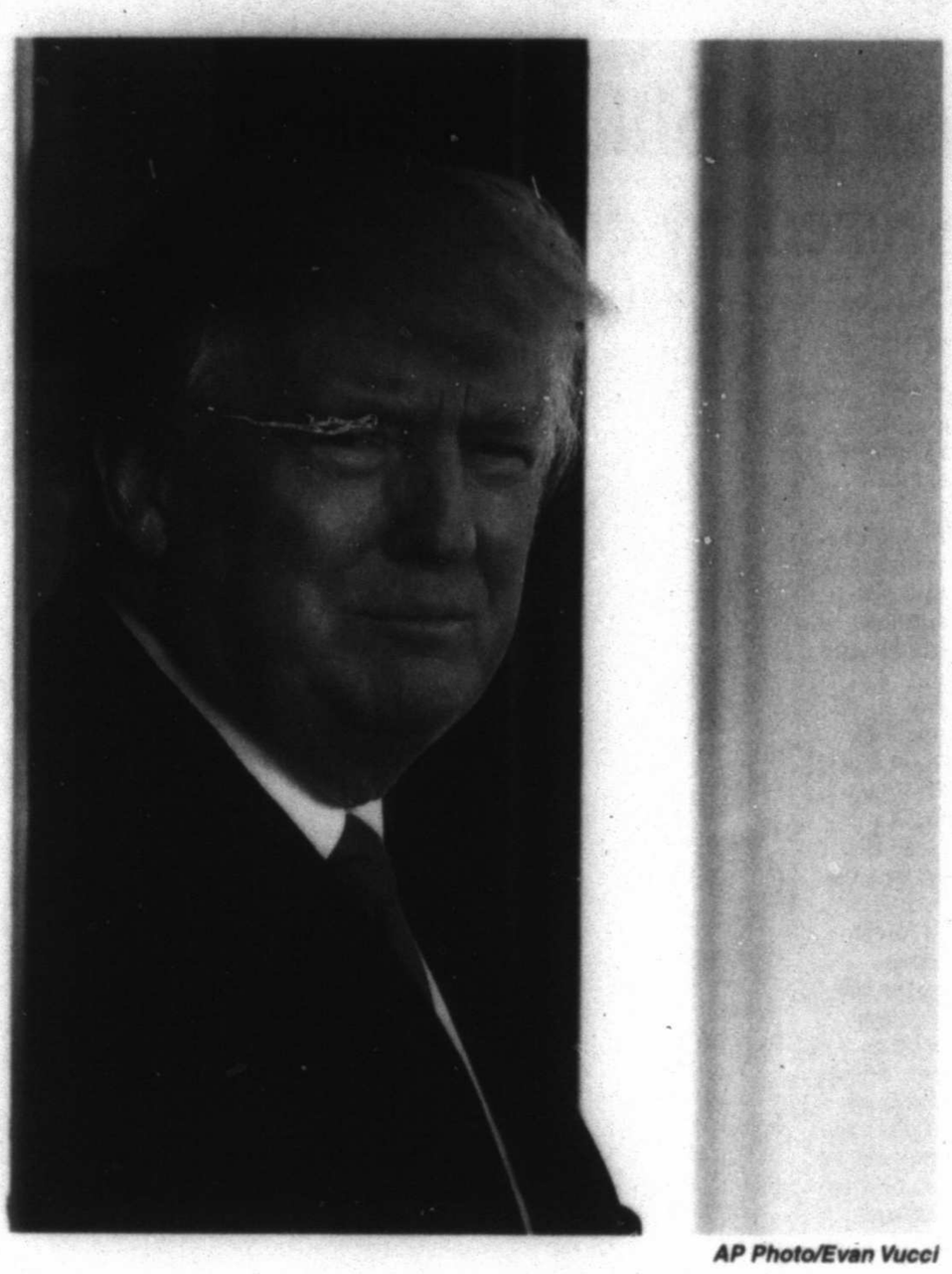
Trump took aim at members of his own party Sunday, saying on Twitter that "Democrats were smiling in D.C. that the Freedom Caucus," a group of conservative House members whose opposition to the bill, had "saved" Obama's health care law.

White House Budget Director Mick Mulvaney said the Trump White House wondered how a Republican Congress and president could not come together. "We're asking the same questions. We really are," Mulvaney said while appearing on NBC's "Meet the Press." "Is the Republican Party capable of governing?"

The GOP health care bill exposed philosophical fissures masked by years of rejecting and resisting all things Obama. The legislation's provision to repeal essential health benefits such as maternity care and emergency services was designed to appeal to hard-line conservatives who don't think the government should be in the health care business.

Michigan Rep. Justin Amash said he and his conservative colleagues wanted a full-blown departure from the Obama law, rather than what Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., was offering, but were given little voice.

"From the beginning of the process, I think the way it was set up did not bring the disparate parts of the conference together," Amash said.



AP Photo/Evan Vucci

In this March 20 photo, President Donald Trump awaits the arrival of Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi at the White House in Washington. Trump campaigned as an outsider, celebrating his lack of political experience by selling himself as a dealmaker willing to buck Republican orthodoxy and his own party's leadership. He alone would reshape Washington.

Analysis: The outsider dealmaker faltering in White House

By Johnathan Lemire
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump campaigned as an outsider — celebrating his lack of political experience by selling himself as a dealmaker willing to buck Republican orthodoxy and his own party's leadership. He alone would reshape Washington.

He's tried governing the same way. His actions are a blitz. He rarely consults old Washington hands. And he hangs the threat of retribution over anyone who challenges him. And now he and his party have been dealt a stinging defeat on a signature campaign promise, a defeat that further weakens a president whose approval rating has hovered under 40 percent and humiliates Republicans who have pledged for seven long years to undo President Barack Obama's health care law.

Trump's haphazard approach Friday to the health care bill — first demanding a House vote despite an uncertain result, then suddenly suggesting he'd support a future bipartisan solution — underscored Trump's political identity: He is an independent, seemingly uninterested in leading a political party or unifying the federal government. The failed vote — despite Republican control of the White House and both houses of Congress — highlighted severe cracks within the GOP that Trump's presidency won't easily mend.

Trump now wants to turn to tax reform, an ambitious, complicated plan at the center of his agenda, and he does so wounded by the health care collapse as well as the uncertain legal status of his travel ban and an ongoing federal investigation into possible contacts and coordination between his campaign aides and Russian officials.

The loss exposed a limit to Trump's go-it-alone style, one forged over decades in the business world and seemingly proven effective by his improbable win. The novice campaigner used the sheer force of his celebrity and personality to draw loyal

Please see **TRUMP/5A**

Many governors welcome demise of GOP health care bill

By Geoff Mulvihill
Associated Press

CHERRY HILL, N.J. — Governors of both parties had warned Congress for weeks that the Republican health care bill threatened to saddle their states with big costs and potentially leave millions of people without coverage, especially because of the cutbacks planned to Medicaid.

The bill's withdrawal on Friday left in place the status quo under the Affordable Care Act. That was welcomed by several governors in the states that opted to expand Medicaid under former President Barack Obama's law.

The Medicaid expansion has provided coverage for 11 million people in the 31 states that accepted it.

"I am pleased today's vote has been held as this bill would drastically affect the Commonwealth's ability to ensure essential care for thousands of people," Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker, a Republican in a Democratic-leaning state, said in a statement after the bill was pulled from consideration. "This version does not reflect the needs of states and does not contain many critical aspects of health care reform that our administration has communicated to the federal government." Jerry Brown, California's Democratic governor, was fiery when he spoke in Washington, D.C., earlier in the week, calling the Republican measure "a dangerous bill." His state estimated annual costs of $6 billion starting in 2020, when the Medicaid changes would have hit.

In a Twitter message Friday, Brown said he was relieved the bill was withdrawn, adding: "The #ACA endures. But for tomorrow, we must gird ourselves for the battles yet to come."

Reducing the amount of federal money for Medicaid was the chief concern among governors because the state-federal program accounts for such a large share of most state budgets. People who lose their health coverage tend to show up in emergency rooms, where the cost for their care is expensive and often falls back on the state.

The bill would have ended Obama's Medicaid expansion and reduced future federal financing for the federal-state program.

Failure on health bill also hurts prospects for tax overhaul

By Stephen Ohlemacher
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Republicans' failure to repeal Barack Obama's health care law deals a serious blow to another big part of President Donald Trump's agenda: tax reform.

Trump and House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., say they will soon turn their attention to the first major re-write of the tax code in more than 30 years. But they will have to do it without the momentum of victory on health care.

Just as important, the loss on health care will deprive Republicans of $1 trillion in tax cuts.

The GOP health plan would have repealed nearly $1 trillion in taxes enacted under Obama's Affordable Care Act. The bill coupled the tax cuts with spending cuts for Medicaid, so it wouldn't add to the budget deficit.

Without the spending cuts, it will be much harder for Republicans to cut taxes without adding to the federal government's red ink.

"Yes this does make tax reform more difficult," said Ryan. "But it does not in any way make it impossible."

"That just means the Obamacare taxes stay with Obamacare. We're going to go fix the rest of the tax code," he added.

House Republicans couldn't round up enough votes Friday to repeal and replace a law they despise, raising questions about their ability to tackle other tough issues.

"Doing big things is hard," Ryan conceded as he vowed to press on.

Rep. Jodey Arrington, R-Texas, acknowledged that Friday's turn of events made him doubtful about the Republicans' ability to tackle major legislation.

"This was my first big vote and our first big initiative in the line of things to come like tax reform," said the freshman. "I think this would have given us tremendous momentum, and I think this hurts that momentum."

Rep. Mike Kelly, R-Pa., said, "You always build on your last accomplishment."

Nevertheless, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said Friday the administration plans to turn quickly to tax reform with the goal of getting an overhaul approved by Congress by August.

"Health care is a very complicated issue," Mnuchin said. "In a way, tax reform is a lot

Please see **TAX/5A**

Trump's border-wall proposal faces many obstacles

By Alicia A. Caldwell
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump has now laid out exactly what he wants in the "big, beautiful wall" that he's promised to build on the U.S.-Mexico border. But his effort to build a huge hurdle to those entering the U.S. illegally faces impediments of its own.

It's still not clear how Trump will pay for the wall that, as described in contracting notices, would be 30 feet (9 meters) high and easy on the eye for those looking at it from the north. The Trump administration will also have to contend with unfavorable geography and many legal battles.

A look at some of those obstacles:

Money

Trump promised that Mexico would pay for his wall, a demand Mexico has repeatedly rejected. Trump's first budget proposal to Congress, a preliminary draft that was light on details, asked lawmakers for a $2.6 billion down payment for the wall. An internal report prepared for Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly estimated that a wall along the entire border would cost about $21 billion. Congressional Republicans have estimated a more moderate price tag of $12 billion to $15 billion. Trump himself has suggested a cost of about $12 billion.

It's unclear how much money Congress will approve. Lawmakers have been balking at his plans to sharply cut other federal spending to pay for the wall and other boosts to border security, while increasing military spending. White House spokesman Sean Spicer told reporters this past week that the administration was still looking at how the wall would be funded, adding that it hasn't given up on Mexico footing the bill.

Geography

Roughly half of the 2,000-mile U.S.-Mexico border is in Texas and marked by the winding and twisting Rio Grande. A 1970 treaty with Mexico requires that anything built near that river not obstruct its flow. The same treaty applies to a stretch of border in Arizona, where the Colorado River marks the international boundary.

Some fencing that is already in place along the frontier is built well off the river, in some places nearly a mile (about a kilometer) away from the border.

Trump will have to navigate not only the treaty maintained by the International Boundary and Water Commission but also various environmental regulations that protect some stretches of border and restrict what kind of structures can be built and where. The contracting notices of March 17 say the Trump administration wants the wall dug at least 6 feet (almost 2 meters) into the ground. Along parts of the border in California, environmentally sensitive sand dunes required that a "floating fence" was built to allow the natural movement of the sand.

Legal challenges

Nearly all of the land along the Texas border is privately held — much of it by people whose families have been in the region for generations — and buying their land won't be easy, as Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama discovered. Lawyers for both administrations fought in court with private landowners. Obama's efforts to buy privately held land in the Rio Grande Valley have carried over into Trump's term.

The Trump administration appears to be preparing for the legal fight and included a request for more lawyers to handle such cases in its budget proposal. Spicer said this past week the administration would "take the steps necessary" to fulfill Trump's promise to secure the southern border.

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

■ Child Painting Event: Lego Batman and Batgirl, 6 p.m., Chick-fil-A, 3805 E. 42nd St., Odessa. $25 per painter. kiddsandcanvasparties.com.

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

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

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

Parking downtown

The city of Midland is strengthening enforcement of downtown parking laws in order to make more customer parking available for local businesses.

Midland Police Department's traffic unit recently hired a parking enforcement officer who will focus solely on downtown parking laws. The funding for the position was provided by the Downtown Midland Management District, which promotes and develops downtown through funds that are raised by downtown property owners. Many of these businesses have expressed a desire to see more enforcement downtown that will ensure turnover in downtown parking spots and make more customer parking available.

Warnings will be administered during a grace period before ticketing takes effect.

Free parking for the public is available in the basement and first level of the Wall Street Lofts garage located at 108 E. Texas Ave., as well as the future site of the Midland Chamber of Commerce located at 300 and 310 W. Illinois Ave., which currently is a paved lot. More public parking is expected to be acquired downtown and will be announced in the future as it becomes available.

Source: City of Midland

MC's Davidson Lecture event

An Evening with Dr. Sanjay Gupta presented by the Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series, is 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Chaparral Center at Midland College, 3600 Garfield St.

Gupta is a practicing neurosurgeon and medical correspondent for CNN.

The lecture is free. For more information, visit midland.edu.

Meeting

Commissioners' Court
9 a.m.
Midland County Courthouse auxiliary courtroom.
■ 500 N. Loraine Ave.

Farmers to help schools

Local farmers can nominate a Midland public school for a chance to win $25,000 and $10,000 STEM grants through America's Farmers Grow Rural Education Program, which is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund.

To nominate public school districts, visit www.GrowRuralEducation.com or call 1-877-267-3332.

The Easter Bunny is coming

The Easter Bunny is coming to Midland Park Mall beginning Friday.

Kids can have their photo taken through April 15 and gather for breakfast on April 8.

Bunny Photo Experience is at the JCPenney Court. To make an appointment, go to simon.noerrbunny.com. The mall's Caring Bunny event for special-needs children is 10 a.m.-noon April 2.

Bunny Breakfast, sponsored by the Midland Northside Lions Club, is 7-10 a.m. April 8 at the food court. Tickets are $6.

What's on the radio

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

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

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

How sick are you?

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

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

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

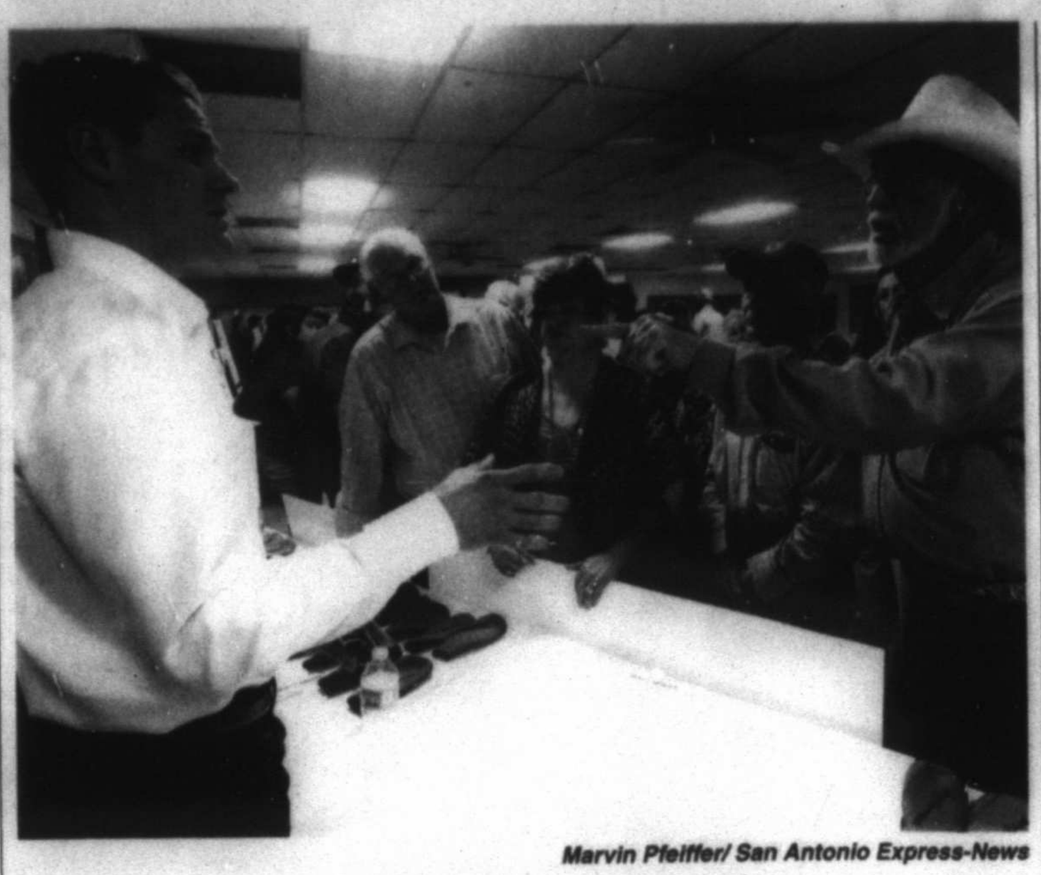
Today in history

In 1836, the first Mormon temple was dedicated in Kirtland, Ohio, by Joseph Smith Jr.

In 1942, during World War II, Congress granted American servicemen free first-class mailing privileges.

In 1964, Alaska was hit by a magnitude 9.2 earthquake (the strongest on record in North America) and tsunamis that together claimed about 130 lives.

Ten years ago: NFL owners voted 30-2 (with Cincinnati and Arizona dissenting) to make the video replay system a permanent officiating tool.



Marvin Pfeiffer/ San Antonio Express-News

T.J. Doyle (left), president of Sand Mining of Texas LLC, addresses a concern of Jesse Green (right) during a community meeting at VFW Post 6970 in Poteet on March 23. The meeting was set up to discuss Pennsylvania based Preferred Sands plans to create a mine and plant that could process 300-400 tons of sand per hour through a Texas company, Sand Mining of Texas LLC, that it set up in the fall.

Frac sand mine planned for site of the Battle of Medina

■ Atascosa County residents worry about impact on community

By Jennifer Hiller
San Antonio Express-News

POTEET — A controversial frac sand mine is coming to Atascosa County whether residents like it or not, but they've promised to continue fighting the project, slated for an area where historians still hunt for remnants of the bloodiest battle in Texas history.

Neighbors to the planned mine had asked for — but did not receive — a public hearing on the project before the state agency that oversees environmental permits approved the plans March 1. But they did get to meet with company executives to ask questions about the site at a meeting Thursday night that drew more than 200 from the community.

Pennsylvania-based Preferred Sands plans a mine and plant that could process 300-400 tons of sand per hour through a Texas company it set up in the fall, Sand Mining of Texas LLC. It owns or controls about 2,500 acres mostly in Atascosa County, but also stretching into southern Bexar County. A mixture of sand, chemicals and water is used in oil fracking to blast open crevices in rock to extract hard-to-get oil.

The mine has drawn fierce opposition from the community, which organized a protest group, called Not Just Dust — Bruce Road. A sign posed on the outside of the VFW Post where the meeting was held asked, "What the frack?" Others posted in the ground or held by residents read "Protect Our Air," "Protect Our Water" and "Stop Dangerous Traffic."

Elected officials and residents sent more than 200 letters to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the state's environmental agency, in protest or to ask for a hearing about the proposed mine.

The agency, though, does not have to hold public hearings for such facilities.

The mine falls under the state's permit-by-rule process, a speedier application for facilities that produce a trivial amount of air emissions. Under its application, the mine said it would emit as much as 26 tons per year of particulate matter, 54.6 tons of nitrogen oxides and 30.5 tons of carbon monoxide from its plant. The plant would have to emit significantly more to trigger a lengthy permit process that would include public hearings.

Residents expressed as much frustration with the state agency and the permitting process as they did with the mine itself.

"Where is TCEQ?" asked Janet Bartek. "Why aren't they protecting us?"

A creek that runs through the sand mine's property also comes through Bartek's land, and she's concerned about storm runoff during floods. Bartek doesn't want her dozen grandchildren playing near the creek any more. She's also frustrated with local and state elected officials who have told residents there isn't much that can be done to stop something like a sand mine from moving into a rural area.

"People are saying we don't have any laws," Bartek said. "Make some laws. We're not getting support anywhere."

T.J. Doyle of Preferred Sands said he realizes the sand mine will have an impact on the community.

"We hope it's more positive than negative," Doyle told the crowd.

He asked for feedback and concerns. Doyle said construction plans for the facility are on hold while it considers whether it can mitigate some of the impact on residents — perhaps moving its plant, now sited directly across from homes, to another location, but the company couldn't make any promises, he said. Moving the plant would take it off of property that can't be mined and place it on property that could otherwise be mined, Doyle said.

The mine will also build roads on its property so that it can move trucks on and off site without traveling down gravel roads or passing as many houses as it originally planned. It's working with Atascosa County and the Texas Department of Transportation to pay for roadwork, including improvements to the intersection of Old Pleasanton Road and U.S. 281, where it would be difficult to safely cross large numbers of trucks.

The local VFW that hosted the community meeting was a packed. The format, though, didn't suit everyone who attended. The company brought several executives and contractors, everyone from geologists to engineers, stationing them at tables around the room with large displays. There was a brief presentation at the start from both the community opposition group and the company, and a chance to visit face-to-face with various executives and representatives, but Doyle said he did not want to do a Q&A.

"Why are they trying to get out of answering the questions?" one man called out.

Another left the meeting before it even started, angry that the company wouldn't speak to the entire room.

"Good luck," he told other residents as he walked outside the VFW. "I'm wasting my time."

Doyle said they wanted to avoid a traditional public meeting format where they would be speaking from the front of the room. "It creates an us-verses-them preachy scenario," he said.

Neighbors said they have a range of worries, from their likely soon-to-be diminished property values to the noise and dust from 24-hour truck traffic. People tap the Queens City or Carrizo-Wilcox aquifers here, some with water wells as shallow as 60 feet.

"Obviously this is not what we would have chosen to have in our backyards, but it's here," said Jessica Hardy.

Hardy last week visited one of Preferred Sands other mines in Wisconsin. That site, though, was set into a hilly area and blocked by pine trees — neighbors didn't have a direct view of the mining operations as they would in Atascosa County.

"It was pretty devastating to see how big everything was," Hardy said. "We pulled over on the side of the road after we left. We just needed a minute."

There's also the 200-year-old mystery of the Battle of Medina.

Archival records indicate that about 1,300 rebel bodies from the Battle of Medina litter the countryside, although no one has proved the precise location of the fight. On Aug. 18, 1813, 1,400 Tejanos, Anglos and American Indians with the Republican Army of the North, defending the first republic of Texas, were crushed by more than 1,800 Spanish Royal army forces. About 1,300 rebels died in battle or were executed. Only 55 Spanish troops were killed.

The Spanish forces included a young lieutenant, Antonio López de Santa Anna, who would become the Mexican president best known in Texas history for ordering a predawn assault on the Alamo on March 6, 1836.

A historical marker at Bruce Road and Old Applewhite Road, about 20 miles south of downtown San Antonio, commemorates the battle. It's across from the proposed mine.

Doyle said the company did an archaeological study that didn't turn up any artifacts.

Preferred Sands also has mines in Nebraska, Arizona and Wisconsin. The company has said that it would follow the guidelines and regulations of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration. Its Arizona mine is on Navajo Nation land, and it is well versed in what to do when artifacts are discovered, company officials said.

The frac sand mine would be just north of the Eagle Ford Shale, a 400-mile-long field producing around 1 million barrels of oil per day. Frac sand is more commonly mined in Brady, in the state's geographic center, though most of the frac sand used in Texas wells comes by train from farther flung locations such as Minnesota or Wisconsin.

In the past decade, a boom in shale drilling has set off a boom in sand, too.

TRUMP

From 4A

supporters and frequently bend the Republican Party to his whims. He defied the party leadership repeatedly, skipped a debate, refused to sign a loyalty pledge and turned the scathing power of his Twitter account on fellow Republicans even after he clinched the nomination and the party pined for unity.

"This is who he is. He's a dealmaker. He knows how to do deals and there's no deal here," said Ed Cox, chairman of New York state's Republican party, who has known Trump for decades, sometimes as friend, sometimes as foe. "He always wants to move on to the next thing, even going it alone."

But experts say that maverick style has hurt his ability to govern effectively.

"Donald Trump's 'Art of the Deal' doesn't work in Washington. Politics is a profession and you have to know how to collect votes," said Douglas Brinkley, a presidential historian at Rice University. "Trump is a salesperson and he oversold what he can get done."

Brinkley said Trump's failure stood in stark contrast to the master negotiations conducted by presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Lyndon Johnson, who enjoyed majorities in both houses of Congress and achieved sweeping legislative accomplishments. Instead, Trump's initial struggles were reminiscent of the problems Jimmy Carter faced when he declared that his fellow Democrats were "an albatross around my neck" while facing intraparty rebellion.

More than two dozen members of the House Freedom Caucus oppose the health care plan because they say it doesn't go far enough to undo Obamacare. Some moderate Republicans, meanwhile, were turned off by a recent Congressional Budget Office analysis predicting 24 million people would lose coverage in a decade. Republicans seemed willing to risk Trump's wrath, taking comfort in the political safety their deep-red home districts provide against his possible attacks.

Trump was once a Democrat. He favored abortion rights most of his adult life, has shown little stomach for fighting over social issues and espoused views on trade similar to those of liberal Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders.

He often doesn't work in specifics, allowing supporters to read in what they want, and he's been frequently mercurial, abruptly shifting stances — like when he abandoned his vow to send Hillary Clinton to prison — yet rarely losing support of his loyal backers. That degree of unpredictability gave some credibility to his ultimatum to force a Friday vote or keep Obamacare in place, despite his years-long crusade against it.

Trump's commitment to the bill seemed wavering. He said Friday "there were things in this bill that I didn't particularly like" and, for the first time, suggested that he would support a bipartisan health care measure. He also claimed that "I've never said repeal and replace Obamacare within 64 days," a surprising statement considering he vowed to do so "on day one" nearly every night on the campaign trail.

"He's left everything on the field when it comes to this bill," White House press secretary Sean Spicer said before the vote was pulled. "He pulled out every stop, he has called every member, he has tweeted every tweet, he has done every single thing he can."

Though Trump publicly abstained from blaming House Speaker Paul Ryan, the White House suggested some fault lay with members who opposed the measure, with Spicer declaring "they would have go to back and answer to their constituents." That act of political defiance should seem familiar to the occupant of the White House, according to one longtime Trump ally.

"The people who are defeating this are the ones most like Trump — ones willing to break from the pack," said former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who also questioned the wisdom of setting a hard deadline to pass the legislation.

"If it was a negotiating tactic, it wasn't a good one," said Gingrich, who suggested that relations between Trump and Ryan, always strained, would get worse. "The president feels burned. I suspect you'll see him far more engaged on matters like tax reform, which he is passionate about. But it will be more complicated now."

The failure to get the health plan through the House, a task considered easier than in the Senate, may portend even greater difficulty in passing complicated tax reform and the rest of Trump's ambitious agenda.

"Doing big things is hard," said Ryan.

TAX

From 4A

simpler."

Don't tell that to House Republicans who have been struggling with the issue for years.

The general goal for Republicans is to lower income tax rates for individuals and corporations, and make up the lost revenue by reducing exemptions, deductions and credits.

Overhauling the tax code is hard because every tax break has a constituency. And the biggest tax breaks are among the most popular.

For example, nearly 34 million families claimed the mortgage interest deduction in 2016, reducing their tax bills by $65 billion.

Also, more than 43 million families deducted their state and local income, sales and personal property taxes from their federal taxable income last year. The deduction reduced their federal tax bills by nearly $70 billion.

Mnuchin said he had been overseeing work on the administration's tax bill for the past two months. He said it would be introduced soon.

Mnuchin said the White House plan would cut individual and corporate tax rates, though he didn't offer specifics.

House Republicans have released a blueprint that outlines their goals for a tax overhaul. It would lower the top individual income tax rate from 39.6 percent to 33 percent, and reduce the number of tax brackets from seven to three.

The House plan retains the mortgage interest deduction but repeals the deduction for state and local taxes.

On the corporate side, the plan would repeal the 35 percent corporate income tax and replace it with a 20 percent tax on profits from selling imports and domestically produced goods and services consumed in the U.S.

Exports would be exempt from the new tax, called a border adjustment tax.

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The State of Florida is bigger than England.

On immigration, there's a reason for your sign

■ You have to put in the effort to sound like a racist

RUBEN NAVARRETTE

Washington Post Writers Group

With apologies to Jeff Foxworthy, I don't know what makes someone a redneck. But, in the immigration debate, I have a pretty good idea of what makes someone a racist.

You won't learn it from listening to how the issue is discussed on conservative talk radio. Or as I call it: "Immigration for Dummies."

For instance, many right-wing radio hosts are in denial and insist they have absolutely no idea how the GOP got labeled as "racist." They assume it's simply because they want to stop illegal immigration, most of which comes from Mexico and Latin America. It's as if Republicans were just sipping iced tea at the Lincoln Day Banquet and a stranger came up and hung a sign on them with that awful word on it. They don't deserve to be saddled with that title, the hosts say.

C'mon, folks. Let's get real. Republicans are always preaching to the rest of us about how we need to take responsibility for our actions. So it's only fair that they own up to the offensive things they've said and done over the years when it comes to immigrants — both legal and illegal.

Recently, a reader defended President Trump for dividing families through deportations and then put me on notice: "Please don't respond to me if you're going to call me a racist."

That was not my plan. Generally speaking, the "racist" label fits if you can't talk about the immigration issue without describing immigrants by using a d-word: dangerous, defective, diseased, damaged or detrimental to society.

For example, there is nothing wrong with running for president and making border security a major part of your campaign.

But you might be a racist if you say something like: "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. ... They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems to us. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists."

A member of Congress is free to speculate about what the America of tomorrow will look like given changing demographics.

But you might be a racist if, like Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa, you say that you're not worried about whites becoming a minority because "Hispanics and the blacks will be fighting each other before that happens."

It's fine if, as a reader, you fire off an email to a Mexican-American columnist saying that Trump should deport every illegal immigrant.

But you might be a racist if you make value judgements and declare that you want these folks removed because "Mexicans are such SCUMBAGS."

It's understandable that one could worry about the strain that immigration puts on our environment, resources, infrastructure, and programs.

But you might be a racist if you claim that "Mexicans will destroy us just by being here."

It comes with the territory if you tell that columnist that you take exception to something he has written.

But you might be a racist if you tell him to "get the [expletive] out of here and go back to your drug-infested thieves of the world."

It's acceptable if you're an elected official who is passionate about patching up a porous border and fixing a broken immigration system.

But you might be a racist if you compare immigrants to — drawing from actual quotes — cows, rats, dogs, grasshoppers, cockroaches or livestock.

Americans should be able to have a real discussion about whether too much immigration causes overpopulation.

But you might be a racist if you use insulting language about how the supposed promiscuity of Latinas leads to high reproductive rates.

Finally, it's natural to get angry when horrendous crimes are committed by illegal immigrants who shouldn't even be in this country. The heartbreaking case of a 14-year-old girl in Rockville, Maryland, who was allegedly sexually assaulted by two older students who are here illegally is just one recent example.

But you might be a racist if you use tragedies like this to make sweeping generalizations about whole groups of people and "Willie Hortonize" every illegal immigrant in this country as menaces to society who are prone to violence and predisposed to engage in criminal activity — even while many Americans continue to invite these brutes into our homes so they can raise our children while we go to work.

In the immigration debate, you don't get called a racist by accident. You have to put in the effort. Sadly, a lot of Americans pull it off.

OPINION EXTRA

Leaders in Washington should stop blaming, start governing

Who's to blame for the failure of the Republican bill to repeal and replace Obamacare? Who cares? What matters now is that Democrats stop gloating, Republicans stop sulking, and each party come to the table to improve a health-care system that both parties agree needs work.

After the bill collapsed on Friday afternoon, President Donald Trump accused the Democrats of obstruction, Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer accused the president of incompetence, Speaker Paul Ryan said health care was done, and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi bragged that it was a great day. No one had the courage to pick up the pieces and point the way forward.

The Affordable Care Act has provided health-care coverage to millions more Americans, but there are still some 30 million with no insurance. Premiums are too high. The individual mandate isn't encouraging enough people to buy into the system. Some of its regulations and taxes make little sense. Insurance markets are too thin, providing consumers too little choice. Health-care savings accounts do too little to encourage savings.

Republicans have viable ideas to address these issues, including high-risk insurance pools and capping the tax exclusion that companies get for providing employees with health insurance. It's regrettable that none of these ideas were seriously considered in the rush to repeal Obamacare.

Equally regrettable is that Republicans appear to be giving up and moving on to other issues. If they can't get everything they want, they seem to have concluded, they'll take nothing. It's a bad strategy. As Sen. John McCain said Saturday, Republicans need Democrats to reform health care. The art of governing is compromise – and not just within the majority party. The sooner Ryan accepts the fact that Democrats can be a cudgel to use against the Freedom Caucus, the more successful he and Congress will be.

Ronald Reagan was known to say that he would happily take 70 or 80 percent of what he wanted and come back for the rest later. Yet instead of living by Reagan's rule, Republicans are hung up on the Hastert Rule, named for Dennis Hastert, the former (and now disgraced) House speaker: Only bills that can get through without Democratic votes are brought to the floor. This led the party to produce a deeply flawed health-care bill that, ultimately, did not win strong support from the Republicans' moderate or tea party wings.

At the same time, Democrats steadfastly refused to reach across the aisle to produce a bipartisan alternative. Gloating only makes that more difficult.

On Friday, Schumer said that Democrats are ready to work with Republicans to improve the Affordable Care Act on one condition: that Republicans take repeal off the table. This is not an auspicious step. Democrats ought to allow Republicans to call a new bill whatever they want. The details are what matters, not the label.

Michael R. Bloomberg, Bloomberg

Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Plutocracy doesn't come cheap

■ Those people complaining about the Obamas' travel costs are silent now

DANA MILBANK

Washington Post Writers Group

How many Americans does it take to keep President Trump and his family in the lifestyle to which they are accustomed?

Well, think of it this way. The Washington Post last week had a scoop on the Secret Service requesting an additional $60 million in its next budget: $27 million to protect the president's wife and son in their three-floor penthouse at Trump Tower in New York, where they live instead of the White House, and $33 million for additional travel costs.

The average family of four in the United States pays about $4,000 a year in federal income taxes. That means the entire tax bill for 15,000 families for the year will go toward these additional protection measures for Trump. And the Secret Service is just a slice of the overall expense. Figure in costs incurred by authorities in Florida and New York, the Pentagon and others, and costs related to the Trump sons' international business trips, and we're well over $100 million a year.

That's the annual federal income-tax bill for some 25,000 American families. Each trip Trump takes to his Mar-a-Lago club in Florida, where he has gone most weekends since his inauguration, is estimated to cost taxpayers in excess of $3 million. And an unknown chunk of the taxpayers' money subsidizes Trump businesses in the form of rent, restaurant bills and publicity. In April, Trump will host Chinese leader Xi Jinping at what Trump dubs the "Southern White House," which is a Trump property where the initiation fee has doubled to $200,000 since Trump won the presidency.

The taxpayer subsidization of Trump's rich-and-famous lifestyle is but one of the bait-and-switch maneuvers by Trump, who said during the campaign that "I would rarely leave the White House because there's so much work to be done." The man ran as a populist and is governing as a plutocrat.

Trump's budget, unveiled shortly before one of his Mar-a-Lago jaunts, would cut many of the government's efforts to help low- and middle-income Americans: aid for small manufacturers, financial assistance to rural regions, affordable housing, job training and home heating. Analyses of previous Trump proposals have shown that the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans would get nearly half of the tax benefits.

On March 18, The Washington Post's Philip Rucker and Robert Costa reported on the unexpected influence of a "coterie of ascendant Manhattan business figures" around Trump aligned with son-in-law Jared Kushner: Gary Cohn and Dina Powell, formerly of Goldman Sachs, and two other businessmen recruited by Kushner, Chris Liddell and Reed Cordish. They, along with finance and industry heavies in the Cabinet such as Wilbur Ross, Steven Mnuchin and Rex Tillerson, are providing a counterweight to adviser Stephen Bannon's populism.

Plutocracy doesn't come cheap, in ways big and small. Tillerson, the secretary of state, kicked the press corps off his plane, which means taxpayers will probably pick up tens of thousands of dollars in travel costs that had been paid by media organizations. (The administration said Tillerson flew on a smaller plane to save money, but the military 737 he took is often used by officials traveling with reporters.)

A budget-conscious president would spend weekends at Camp David rather than hopping on Air Force One, at $200,000 an hour, to Palm Beach. The Post's Philip Bump estimated spending on Trump travel and protection, if it continues at current rates, at $526 million for his presidency. This dwarfs what was spent by Trump's predecessors, even though Trump in 2012 tweeted that Obama's "vacation is costing taxpayers millions of dollars — unbelievable!"

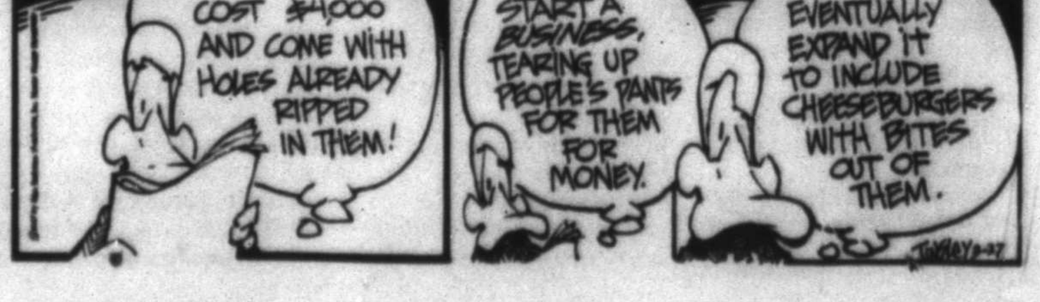
Trump has already used his office to boost Trump properties by dining at the Trump International Hotel in Washington and playing golf on his courses. And the Trump administration has told the Trump Organization that this is just fine. The General Services Administration last week declared that the Trump Organization is in "full compliance" with the terms of its lease of the Trump International facility, even though the agreement says no "elected official of the government of the United States" can get "any benefit" from the lease. Trump stepped down from day-to-day management of his company, but he and his family still stand to make out financially.

Trump, who has often pointed out that he's exempt from conflict-of-interest rules, isn't just any elected official. This week, when asked by Time's Michael Scherer about credibility problems over his false intelligence claims, Trump had an imperious justification: "I'm president, and you're not."

Or, as another big-spending politician once put it: L'etat, c'est moi.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



With eye toward Trump, Arab leaders to seek consensus

By Karin Laub and Mohammed Daraghmeh
Associated Press

DEAD SEA, Jordan — With an eye toward Washington, leaders of a fractured and conflict-ridden Arab world hold their annual summit this week, seeking common positions and possible leverage as President Donald Trump weighs his approach toward the region.

From their hotel on the Dead Sea, they have a view of the Israeli-occupied West Bank on the opposite shore — a visual reminder of the stalled Palestinian quest for statehood, an issue that host Jordan says will take center stage this year.

Here is a look ahead.

AP Photo/Evan Vucci, File

In this March 14 file photo, President Donald Trump stands with Saudi Defense Minister and Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman before lunch in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington. With an eye toward Washington, leaders of a fractured and conflict-ridden Arab world hold their annual summit Wednesday seeking common ground as President Donald Trump weighs his approach toward the region. The stalled Palestinian quest for statehood, is an issue that host Jordan says will take center stage.

Who's attending?

Jordan's King Abdullah II plays host. Key participants include King Salman of Saudi Arabia, Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres and Staffan de Mistura, the U.N. and Arab League envoy for Syria, are coming, along with U.S. and Russian envoys. The leadership summit is scheduled for Wednesday.

Syria's seat will remain empty. President Bashar Assad hasn't been invited to an Arab summit since his country was suspended from the 22-member Arab League in late 2011, several months after an uprising against him turned into a civil war.

Palestine on the horizon?

The leaders are to reaffirm a Saudi-led peace plan that offers Israel full relations with dozens of Arab and Muslim states in exchange for its withdrawal from lands captured in 1967. The Arab Peace Initiative, which would pave the way for a Palestinian state in east Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza, was first proposed in 2002. This week, the summit is being asked to endorse the plan "as is," a request promoted by Abbas, who says reopening it to negotiations would further weaken the Palestinians.

Such a reaffirmation undercuts Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's talk of "regional peace," in which Israeli-Arab normalization would precede a deal with the Palestinians. It would also remind Netanyahu and Trump, who in recent comments seemed to pull back from a two-state solution, that the Arab world backs that idea.

In previous summits, the Arab Spring uprisings of 2011 and their chaotic aftermath overshadowed the Palestinian issue. This year, Jordan wants it high on the agenda. The stakes are high for the kingdom, which has a large Palestinian population and custodianship of a major Muslim shrine in contested Jerusalem.

"We firmly stand behind the Arab Peace Initiative," Jordanian government spokesman Mohammed Momani said Sunday. "We want to establish the two-state solution. We want to bring justice to the Palestinian people."

Egypt-Saudi rapproachment?

The summit could offer an opportunity for Egypt and Saudi Arabia to defuse months of tensions, mainly over Syria.

Saudi Arabia is a leading supporter of the Syrian opposition, while Egypt, fearful of Islamic militants among the rebels' ranks, has pushed for a political solution that might keep Assad in power. Salman has also sought closer ties with Turkey and Qatar, which have tense relations with Egypt. On another contentious point, Saudi Arabia had hoped, in vain, that Egypt might contribute ground troops to a Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen.

In October, the Saudis abruptly suspended oil aid to Egypt just days after Egypt backed a U.N. Security Council resolution on Syria drafted by Assad ally Russia. Under the initial oil deal, Saudi Arabia agreed in April 2016 to provide Egypt with 700,000 tons of fuel monthly for five years on easy repayment terms.

The shipments resumed several days ago, signaling possible rapprochement that could perhaps be sealed at the summit.

Amr Adly, a Cairo-based analyst at the Carnegie Middle East Center, said the two countries have different priorities, with Saudi Arabia focused on containing its main regional rival, Iran, while Egypt seeks to combat the Muslim Brotherhood, a region-wide movement that Cairo views as a terrorist group.

Syria, anyone?

Don't look to the summit for a new push to end the Syrian civil war.

Leaders remain divided over Assad's role, if any, in a possible political transition. Some argue that in shutting Assad out early on in the war, the Arab League created a vacuum that allowed non-Arab Russia, Iran and Turkey a greater say over an eventual solution. The trio now serves as guarantor of a shaky cease-fire between the Syrian government and the opposition, while U.N.-brokered talks in Geneva aim to coax them toward a political transition.

De Mistura, the international Syria envoy, said last week that he is not expecting breakthroughs in Geneva. He also urged Russia, Iran and Turkey to regain control of a "worrisome" situation on the ground in Syria, following repeated violations of a cease-fire reached in December.

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said last week that the Trump administration is still working on its Syria strategy, but that the top goal in the region is to defeat the Islamic State group, which holds territory in Syria and Iraq. The U.S. has significantly widened its footprint in northern Syria in recent weeks, including airlifting allied Kurdish fighters ahead of a battle for Raqqa, the de facto IS capital.

Trump has promised closer cooperation with Russia, an unsettling prospect for the Arab world's staunchest Assad opponents.

What about Iran?

A Trump administration warning that it is putting Shiite Iran "on notice" has been welcomed by the Sunni Arab camp headed by Saudi Arabia. Tehran and Riyadh back opposite sides in the wars in Syria and Yemen, and a more aggressive U.S. stance toward Iran would presumably help the Saudis contain their regional archrival. As with Syria, Trump hasn't formulated a detailed Iran policy yet.

The summit might make do with a standard warning to Iran.

Momani, the Jordanian spokesman, said Sunday in response to a question from reporters that "any attempt to destabilize the Arab countries in any form, by deed or speech, is rejected and condemned in the strongest terms."

Why the London attacker's links to Saudi Arabia might matter

By Aya Batrawy
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — The British man who killed four people in a rampage in London last week had made three trips to Saudi Arabia in his lifetime. Though millions of foreigners from around the world live and work in the kingdom, Khalid Masood's time there immediately raised questions about whether the country's ultraconservative brand of Islam impacted his worldview and radicalized him.

The answer is not so simple. Before he stabbed a police officer to death and rammed his vehicle into people on the famed Westminster bridge March 22, Masood had been convicted twice of violent crimes involving knife attacks. As with so many other terror attacks across the world, investigators are trying to piece together how the apparent convert to Islam, who was athletic and popular in high school, became radicalized.

Some suggest it may have been the 52-year-old's lengthy stints in prison in the UK that had the greatest impact on him. Investigators are also trying to determine who Masood associated with in Saudi Arabia and whether his time there set him on his future path.

The path to radicalization is often mined with a complicated mix of personal failures, a deep sense of discrimination, mental health problems and a superficial understanding of religion. Some are moved too by slick propaganda efforts that capitalize on this combustible combination.

The Islamic State group was quick to claim Masood as "a soldier of the caliphate" but it was unclear whether he had any direct contact with the extremist group or if he was even inspired by their violent ideology.

For now, there are no clear answers.

With so many possible motives and reasons, here's a look at why Masood's time in Saudi Arabia has sparked attention:

The Saudi connection

Masood spent two years in Saudi Arabia between 2005 and 2006, and between 2008 and 2009. The Saudi Embassy in London says he worked as an English teacher. His last and most recent visit appears to have been in March 2015, when he obtained an "Umra" visa to perform an Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, as millions of Muslims do annually.

Though Saudi Arabia quickly condemned the London attack, some people believe that prominent Saudi officials were behind one of the world's most stunning acts of terrorism — the Sept. 11 attacks.

Under new legislation, U.S. family members of those killed on 9/11 are gearing up to sue Saudi Arabia for the attacks. They point out that 15 of the 19 Sept. 11 hijackers were Saudi citizens, as was al-Qaida's late founder Osama bin Laden — though the Saudi government stripped him of his citizenship in 1994.

Is Saudi Arabia a hotbed of extremism

The answer depends on who you ask.

A decade after the 9/11 attacks, clerics across the Arabian Peninsula encouraged young men to join in jihad in Syria.

Though the government made it illegal to encourage fighting abroad in 2014, many Saudi clerics continue to use the pulpit to spread an ultraconservative doctrine known as Wahhabism, which holds a dim view of non-Muslims and regards Shiite Muslims as apostates. The kingdom actively exports this worldview by building and funding mosques and religious schools across the globe.

Additionally, across the Gulf, private funding for extremist groups and jihadi fighters continues despite official efforts to stem the flow.

However, extremist groups such as al-Qaida and IS perceive the Saudi government as an enemy of Islam that is too closely aligned with the West. The Islamic State group has killed dozens of Saudi citizens and police throughout the kingdom since 2014, and the country weathered a wave of al-Qaida bombings, shootings and kidnappings from 2003-2006. The country's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, who also serves as interior minister overseeing police, survived a suicide bombing by al-Qaida intended to kill him.

Sceptics of the kingdom point to the case of Tashfeen Malik, who along with her husband Syed Rizwan Farook carried out the December 2015 shootings in San Bernardino, California that killed 14 people. Malik had traveled to Saudi Arabia, where her father has been a resident since the 1980s. Friends say she became more conservative after her time in the kingdom.

Saudi authorities say there is no indication Malik was radicalized there.

How has Saudi Arabia dealth with terrorism post 9/11?

The country has created a groundbreaking program, which rehabilitates extremists through months of indoctrination by moderate Islamic clerics, sociologists and psychologists. It claims a success rate of around 87 percent.Saudi Arabia has also helped establish and fund the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Center, contributing more than $100 million to help finance it. The kingdom also

Please see LINKS/8A

US-backed forces capture Syrian air base from IS

By Philip Issa
Associated Press

BEIRUT — U.S.-backed Syrian Kurdish forces captured a strategically important air base from Islamic State militants in north Syria on Sunday in the first major victory for the group since the U.S. airlifted the forces behind enemy lines four days ago.

The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces announced they had captured the Tabqa air base, 28 miles west of Raqqa, the Islamic State group's de facto capital in Syria.

The U.S., which has provided substantial air and ground support to the SDF, ferried hundreds of SDF forces, as well as U.S. military advisers and U.S. artillery, behind IS lines earlier this week.

The airlift was a major development to the SDF's multi-front campaign to bear down on Raqqa, as U.S.-backed Iraqi forces simultaneously press their assault to seize Mosul from the militants, in neighboring Iraq. SDF forces are within 10 kilometers (6 miles) of Raqqa from the north.

Tabqa air base was captured by IS militants from the Syrian government in August 2014. Shortly afterward, the group announced it had killed about 200 government soldiers at the base, in a mass killing recorded and distributed on video over social media.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group also reported the SDF advance.

Meanwhile there were conflicting reports over whether civilians had begun evacuating Raqqa due to concerns over the stability of the nearby Tabqa Dam.

The militants said U.S.-led coalition airstrikes had locked up the dam's gates, causing the water level behind it to rise. The activist group Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently reported that IS had ordered Raqqa residents to evacuate, though without their furniture. Tabqa Dam is 25 miles upstream of Raqqa on the Euphrates River.

U.S.-led coalition forces said the dam was structurally sound.

U.S.-backed Syrian Kurdish forces were in control of a spillway north of the dam "which can be used to alleviate pressure on the dam if need be," the coalition said in a letter to The Associated Press.

The coalition says the dam has not been structurally damaged, to its knowledge, and says it has not targeted the dam.

The Observatory said there were no evacuations happening from Raqqa, as did the activist-run Raqqa 24 media center.

Raqqa 24 said engineers employed by the militants had restored power to the dam's gates and the structure was functioning normally.

The reports from Raqqa came as a leading Syrian opposition group called on the U.S.-led coalition to stop targeting residential areas in and around the city.

The Syrian National Coalition said in a statement that it was "increasingly concerned" about civilian casualties in the campaign against the extremist group. The exiled opposition coalition is taking part in U.N.-mediated talks in Geneva.

The SNC said it believed coalition forces were behind an airstrike that killed at least 30 civilians sheltering in a school in the countryside outside Raqqa on March 21. The coalition has said it is investigating.

The U.S. has provided substantial air and ground support to the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, who are closing in on Raqqa as well as the Tabqa Dam.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said coalition airstrikes have killed 89 civilians in Raqqa province in the past week, including 35 in a school in the village of Mansoura.

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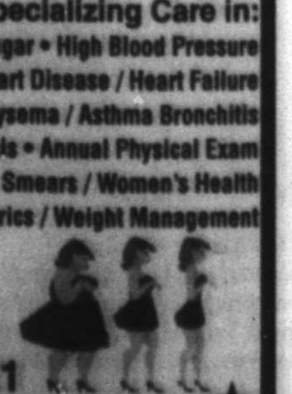
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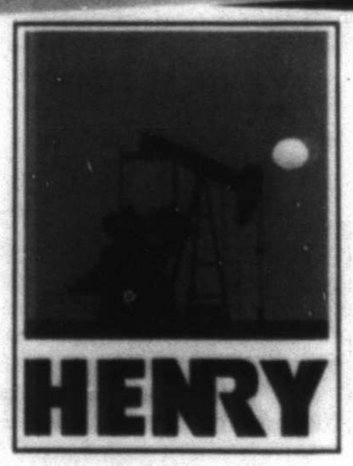
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"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

AP Photo/Vadim Ghirda

Bulgarian ex-Premier Boiko Borisov, leader of the center-right GERB party, gestures during a statement at the party's headquarters, in Sofia, Bulgaria, Sunday. Bulgaria's center-right GERB party, of former Prime Minister Boiko Borisov, leads by 4 percent in Sunday's parliamentary elections, according to two separate exit polls conducted by the Alpha Research and the Gallup International Bulgaria polling agencies.

Center-right party tops Bulgaria election; Socialists yield

By Veselin Toshkov
Associated Press

SOFIA, Bulgaria — The center-right GERB party of former Prime Minister Boiko Borisov took the lead in Bulgaria's parliamentary election on Sunday, a pair of exit polls showed, a result that if confirmed by official returns indicates support for the country keeping its European identity.

The Alpha Research exit poll said GERB won 32.2 percent of the vote, with the Socialist Party coming in second with 28 percent, while a separate exit poll by Gallup International Balkan had GERB with 32.8 percent and the Socialists with 28.4 percent.

The leader of the Socialists Party later conceded defeat and said the party would not take part in a coalition government with GERB.

Official results are expected today. If they confirm the exit polls, Borisov, a political maverick who combines man-in-the-street rhetoric with a pro-European Union disposition, will be handed a mandate to form his third cabinet.

GERB did not win enough votes to govern alone, and will likely form a coalition government with the United Patriots, an alliance of three nationalist parties that the exit polls showed placing third.

Borisov, 57, resigned as prime minister after his party lost the November 2016 presidential election. Parliament was dissolved in January, and the president appointed a caretaker government that will stay until a new government is formed.

Borisov said GERB had the "duty to form a government because this is the will of the people and because we triggered these early elections." He declined to say what parties may be in a future coalition, pending final results.

Support for the nationalist alliance reflected widespread anger over an influx of migrants to this southeastern European nation that borders Greece, Turkey and Romania, and over Turkey's open support for a party representing Bulgaria's sizeable Muslim minority.

Along with immigration, the election campaign focused on the future of the European Union, which Bulgaria joined in 2007, and the influence of Russia and Turkey on domestic politics.

Socialist Party leader Kornelia Ninova, who campaigned on forging closer relations with Russia, conceded defeat Sunday evening. Ninova congratulated GERB as the election's winner, and ruled out any option of serving in a coalition government with the center-right party.

The Socialists, a party made up mostly of ex-communists, want EU sanctions against Russia lifted and tried to woo voters with promises of higher salaries and pensions.

If "GERB fails to form a government, we will try to do so," Ninova said.

The GERB party's popularity faded during Borisov's previous term as prime minister because of the slow pace of reforms to eliminate graft and poverty and to overhaul the judicial system. Bulgaria is the EU's poorest member.

It is now pledging to fight corruption and to raise minimum wages, and supports EU sanctions on Russia over its role in the Ukraine crisis.

A populist party named Volya (Will) may end up entering Parliament. Exit polls showed it winning about 5 percent of the vote, exceeding the 4 percent minimum threshold.

The party is led by Veselin Mareshki, a wealthy businessman whose anti-establishment message combines patriotic rhetoric with promises of strict immigration controls and friendlier relations with Moscow.

The Central Election Commission said voter turnout for the election stood at nearly 43 percent at 5 p.m., a larger showing than in previous elections.

The election sparked protests at the Turkish border by Bulgarian nationalists who were determined to keep Bulgarian citizens living permanently in Turkey from coming in to vote. The protesters claimed Turkish officials were forcing expatriate voters to support DOST, a pro-Ankara party running for the first time.

Some 10 percent of Bulgarians are of Turkish origin or Muslim. More than 300,000 Bulgarians have settled permanently in Turkey, but still hold Bulgarian passports and are eligible to vote.

The border tensions prompted a spat between the two nations' leaders. While Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has criticized what he described as "pressure" on ethnic Turks in Bulgaria, Radev retorted that his country would not accept democracy lessons from Turkey.

"We will not allow any interference of foreign powers in Bulgaria's internal affairs," Borisov said Sunday.

Merkel party wins state vote as election year starts

By Geir Moulson
Associated Press

BERLIN — Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative party easily won an election in Germany's western Saarland state Sunday, an unexpectedly strong performance as Merkel prepares to seek a fourth term in a national vote later this year.

The outcome was disappointing for her center-left rivals, the Social Democrats, in their first electoral test since nominating Martin Schulz in January as Merkel's rival for the chancellery.

The party, which saw a boost in poll ratings with Schulz's nomination, fell far short of its hoped-for first place finish and won too little support for a new left-wing government in the region of nearly 1 million people on the French border.

Conservative governor Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer's popularity appeared to have trumped what has become known as the "Schulz effect."

"In uncertain times, people trust the political force that governs reliably," said Peter Tauber, the general secretary of Merkel's Christian Democratic Union. "The CDU is the only political force that distanced itself clearly from working with the populists of left and right."

The CDU polled 40.7 percent in the election for Saarland's state legislature. The Social Democrats received 29.6 percent of the vote.

Saarland is currently run by a "grand coalition" of the conservatives and Social Democrats, similar to Merkel's governing alliance in Berlin. Sunday's result means no other coalition is politically feasible.

Pre-election polls suggested a significantly tighter race. They pointed to the possibility of a Social Democrat-led government with the opposition Left Party — a prospect that may have turned off some voters.

The Left Party, born from the merger a decade ago of ex-communists with other left-wingers and relatively strong in Saarland, won 12.9 percent. The left-leaning Greens dropped out of the state legislature, falling short of the 5 percent needed to keep their seats.

The nationalist Alternative for Germany, or AfD, won 6.2 percent of the vote. That means it is now represented in 11 of Germany's 16 state parliaments, but Sunday's result was far short of the party's double-digit showings elsewhere last year.

AfD rode discontent over the influx of migrants to Germany in 2015 and 2016, but that issue has faded somewhat from headlines and the party has suffered from infighting. No other party wants to work with it.

LINKS

From 7A

announced in late 2015 a new military coalition of 34 Muslim majority countries to fight terrorism in the region.

The country has arrested more than 3,000 terror suspects since 2015 and is part of the U.S.-led coalition bombing IS group targets in Syria.

Saudi Arabia and the U.S. also share intelligence on extremist groups. Under President Donald Trump, CIA Director Michael Pompeo awarded Crown Prince Mohammed with a medal for his intelligence-related counterterrorism work in February.

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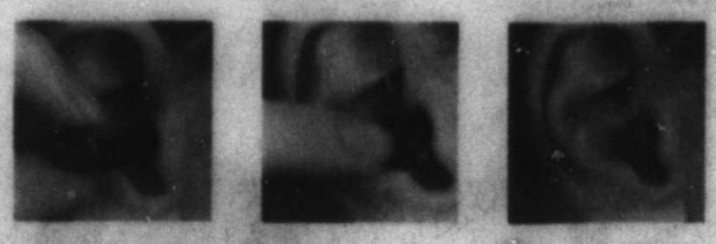

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52 FACES

OF COMMUNITY
PRESENTED BY CHEVRON AND MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

RECOGNIZING MIDLAND'S UNSUNG HEROES & VOLUNTEERS

PHOTO BY JAMES DURBIN

JOHN MOESCH

SENIOR LINK MIDLAND AND WEST TEXAS RADIO GROUP

Professional and community involvement: Vice president and general manager of West Texas Radio Group, two-term and current board president of Senior Link Midland, newly appointed to the board of directors of the American Red Cross, board of directors for Texas Association of Broadcasters and Meals on Wheels driver.

How did you decide to serve the community as a volunteer with Senior Link Midland? I drove my first Meals on Wheels route in 2000 and was hooked. It is such a valuable service, providing not only a hot meal but valuable interaction with our area's homebound seniors. A lot of times we are the only interaction they will enjoy all day. In 2002, I joined the board of directors and quickly discovered what an amazing group of passionate people there were in all facets of the organization. It has been an honor to be part of such a wonderful group.

What talents and skills do you share with the community through your role at Senior Link and West Texas Radio Group? My role at Senior Link enables me to share my collaborative and motivational skills to be a voice for our area seniors. One of the joys of my role as VP/GM of West Texas Radio is the ability to help a large number of organizations by spreading the word over our three stations about their group or events. Whether it's the West Texas Food Bank, PDAP, Midland County Public Library or Odessa Crisis Center — to name a few — my staff and I are able to help events be more successful and raise awareness about the valuable services the organizations provide.

What unexpected lesson have you learned while serving as a volunteer and through your nonprofit work? That giving of yourself and your talents to others really is the most important thing.

Why is volunteerism a priority for you? It connects you to your community. There is a certain type of interaction and connection that you can get only when volunteering in your town.

How long has Midland been your home, and why have you stayed? I have been in Midland since 1998. I have stayed because the people of West Texas, by and large, really care about their community. My radio career has allowed me to help many organizations and introduced me to so many tremendous people.

What else would you like our readers to know about you? I love to run! Lee Hartmann, former director of United Blood Services, introduced me to running in March 2009, and I fell in love with it. I just completed my 24th marathon, and it has enabled me to see some cool parts of the country.

"JOHN CARES SO MUCH FOR THE HOMEBOUND SENIORS ON HIS ROUTE"

John is the current board president of Senior Link Midland. He has been on the board for several years and delivers Meals on Wheels regularly. John cares so much for the homebound seniors on his route and goes over and beyond to be sure they are well-cared for beyond the meal.

John's innovative thinking helped Senior Link Midland to create an additional program called One Day at a Time. We realize it takes so much more than a noontime meal to keep homebound seniors in their homes. This program fills an important gap. One Day at a Time provides food, heaters, fans, air conditioners, blankets, medical equipment and assistance with rent, taxes, utilities, etc. John has helped head up important fan/air conditioning drives for seniors to be sure they are kept cool in the summer heat.

John also volunteers to be master of ceremonies for our Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent annual banquets and does an incredible job.

John helps countless nonprofits through his position at West Texas Radio Group. He goes over and beyond to be sure valuable messages are delivered over the airwaves to better the lives of West Texans.

***Kathleen Kirwan-Haynie**, Senior Link Midland interim executive director*

"HE HAS BEEN SUCH A STRONG SUPPORTER OF THE WEST TEXAS FOOD BANK"

I light up whenever I have the opportunity to see my friend, John. He has been such a strong supporter of the West Texas Food Bank, and as such, has helped spread awareness about hunger in West Texas.

His direction and operation of the West Texas Radio Group provide entertainment for all of West Texas, and really, who are we without music? I cannot say enough about how much it means to have his friendship and support.

Keep up the good work, John. West Texas certainly wouldn't be the same without you.

***Libby Campbell**, West Texas Food Bank executive director*

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Car ownership could give way to alternatives

Book by Cadillac subcription service lets users trade in car up to 18 times per year

By Brian Fung
Washington Post

Recent years have seen an explosion in services that offer a product for a flat monthly fee. No longer the domain of magazines or newspapers, the subscription model now supports everything from streaming music to clothing shipments.

Now, that approach is increasingly coming to the automobile. Since its debut in February, between 4,000 and 5,000 people have signed up for a Cadillac pilot project that lets drivers swap one automobile for another almost as easily as they can switch TV shows, according to the company.

The program, known as Book by Cadillac, charges $1,500 a month and lets drivers cancel anytime. The premium service grants access to 10 Cadillac models. Using a smartphone, customers can trade in their vehicles up to 18 times a year. So far, the program has only been available in the New York City area, but in light of its popularity, it could expand to other big cities, Cadillac said.

"There's potential for global expansion," said Andrew Lipman, a Cadillac spokesman. "There are a lot of ways we can expand this. But we want to hone in and perfect the program here in New York first."

The Cadillac project is targeted at consumers of luxury vehicles. But GM has also explored a similar business model in its more mainstream Chevrolet line, with a test program launched earlier this month known as Maven Reserve. That service allows drivers in Los Angeles and San Francisco to rent a Chevy Tahoe or Volt for up to 28 days for a flat monthly fee. Both programs appear superficially similar to leasing, but are more expensive, cover maintenance and insurance and come with added perks, such as Cadillac's on-the-fly swapping system and Maven's offer of $100 worth of fuel and a dedicated parking space for each rental.

The two programs reflect a big bet on the future of car ownership. At a time when rising debt and lower wages have forced some Americans, particularly younger ones, to put off major purchases such as homes and cars, alternatives to traditional car ownership are poised to become more common, said Johanna Zmud, a senior research scientist at Texas A&M's Transportation Institute. Other factors contributing to a long-term shift in ownership patterns are changing marriage rates, said Zmud, as well as a growing tendency for Americans to congregate in dense urban areas.

Shifting beliefs about ownership are not only giving rise to vehicle sharing, but also greater flexibility in vehicle types. Rather than purchasing and holding onto the same car for a decade or more, consumers who use car subscription services are able to choose different vehicles to suit different needs on-the-fly. For example, the same car subscription could allow drivers to select a fuel-efficient sedan for weekday commutes while letting them switch to an SUV for weekend getaways.

Some competitors to GM have begun to offer this feature, as well. Car2Go, which serves Washington, New York City, Portland, Oregon and Austin recently expanded its fleet of tiny, zippy Smart cars to include larger Mercedes-Benz sedans and SUVs. Those vehicles can be rented on daily, hourly and by-the-minute rates. For short trips across town, Car2Go's prices are competitive with those of ride-hailing services such as Uber or Lyft.

Both of GM's programs are substantially more expensive. Even Maven Reserve, which is targeted at Chevy drivers, costs upward of $1,100 a month. Beyond the largely affluent markets where it's being tested, it is unclear whether there is much of a market for GM's subscription services. BMW had considered offering a similar platform for its vehicles, but balked at the business case, according to the Wall Street Journal.

Still, with societal trends pushing Americans to give up the hunk of metal and alloy sitting in their driveways, it's clear that experiments with new business models are not going away.

IN YOUR FACE

Sarah Halzack/Washington Post

Luca Kim watches as his dad, Eric Kim, plays Pie Face.

Social media changes toy business

By Sarah Halzack
Washington Post

When K.C. Miller got her seven grandchildren together for the holidays, things got a little messy in the kitchen. They weren't cooking some elaborate recipe: They were playing Pie Face, a game in which a dollop of whipped cream is served up from a plastic "throwing arm" to someone who has positioned his face in its path. As everyone tried to remain stoic while getting bopped with a white blob, Miller took photos and videos on her iPhone.

"We'd play these videos, and we'd just howl at how funny they were," said Miller, a 62-year-old resident of Gilbert, Arizona. And then she posted some of them on Facebook, wanting to share the high jinks with others.

Pie Face, made by Hasbro, was the single best-selling item in the games category in 2016 and the fourth best-selling toy overall, according to market research firm NPD Group. And Miller was hardly alone in sharing her family's laughs online: Hasbro's customer research found that more than 50 percent of people who buy Pie Face make and share a video of themselves playing it.

Pie Face is a symbol of a new era in toymaking, one in which social media is allowing the industry to marshal the everyday shopper, to become a product's most powerful advertiser. And its mega-popularity has helped fuel a flurry of action from toymakers to create games that offer a "shareable moment" — a brief visual morsel that parents and grandparents will post on Instagram or Facebook and that teens will put on Snapchat or YouTube.

It's a new breed of toy that can't just be fun for players in real time. It has to be demonstrative, performative, even.

The desire to strike social gold is shaping the game business in a variety of ways: Toymakers are mining viral social clips for inspiration for new products. They are scrambling to crank out new games faster than ever to ride digital

Please see **TOYS**/4B

Safe behavior, products can protect the online world

By Debbie Carlson
Chicago Tribune

The online world is a scary place — viruses and malware that steal information make their way onto computers, and hackers hijack devices and demand a ransom to get back stored information.

There are safe ways to be online, and security experts say a combination of safe behavior and products helps keep users protected.

A good defense is as important as a good offense. Avoid clicking on suspicious links in "phishing" emails — those that look as if they're from legitimate senders like banks and other institutions — and don't download files from unknown websites.

"You have more power than you think. You have control over clicking on links in email and what programs you use. The reason why (hacking) works is it's human nature to be curious," said Monica Eaton-Cardone, chief information officer of Global Risk Technologies, an international technology firm that provides dynamic risk mitigation.

But don't get upset if you do fall victim, said Adam Levin, chairman and founder of identity-theft mitigation firm CyberScout and author of "Swiped: How to Protect Yourself in a World Full of Scammers, Phishers, and Identity Thieves."

"Internet breaches have become the third certainty of life," he said.

Use your anti-virus and anti-malware software programs. Eaton-Cardone said nontechnical people sometimes get frustrated by default security settings. The settings can be so high that they prevent users from going to otherwise safe websites. That sometimes leads people to disable the software, leaving themselves vulnerable to attacks, she said. A simple fix is to adjust the security settings to be less aggressive but still keep the user safe.

Eaton-Cardone and Jerry Beilinson, electronics editor for Consumer Reports, said free anti-virus software like Avast does the job fine. She also likes Malwarebytes for free malware software. Paid software like BullGuard Internet Security ($59.95) and Kaspersky Internet Security ($79.99) rate higher in Consumer Reports testing because they offer more features and convenience, he said.

Eaton-Cardone said a big

Please see **ONLINE**/4B

New iPad is cheaper than predecessor

By Hayley Tsukayama
Washington Post

Apple announced several new products Tuesday morning, including a cheaper version of the iPad and a new red shade for the iPhone. Consumers began placing their orders for the new devices Friday.

If you've been thinking about treating yourself to something new and are intrigued by Apple's announcements, here are some things to consider before you buy.

The strongest selling point for the new 9.7-inch iPad is its price. The tablet now starts at $329, which is $70 less than its previous price. It has a retina display and comes in three colors: gold, silver and space gray.

The new iPad appears to be a replacement for the iPad Air 2, so it's best to think of it as a successor to that product — an in-between, easy-to-carry tablet for watching video and Web browsing. It is about 20 percent thicker than its predecessor but is still pretty trim at 1.03 pounds.

The lower price tag comes with a few tradeoffs, however. It doesn't have Apple's latest processor but packs the same one from the iPhone 6S and 6S Plus, meaning that it is a little slower than the latest iPhone. The new tablet also has no support for the Apple Pencil or Apple's Smart Keyboard — those appear to still be reserved for the iPad Pro line.

That will probably be fine for most people. If you're looking for a full laptop replacement, however, it's probably not your best option.

Apple also upped the storage space on the iPad mini to 128 GB, for $399, which could make the smaller tablet more appealing as a travel companion for watching video — if you don't mind the price. The smaller size makes it a little more plane-friendly than a full-size tablet.

As for the new red iPhone, deciding whether to pay $749 for it is almost entirely a cosmetic decision. The anodized red hue is a head-turner and benefits the AIDS awareness campaign Red. Apple has already put a similar color on its iPods, but this is the first time it has come to the iPhone.

If you're really digging the color or if you are an AIDS research supporter, those are the reasons to buy. There's no difference in the actual hardware, so you won't be upgrading anything apart from your style.

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BROADCAST	KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Dancing With the Stars (N)				Quantico "Mockingbird" (N)		Local 2 News/ 10	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
	KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	Big Bang Theory	Kevin Can Wait	Donuts (N)	Great Indoor (N)	Scorpion "It Isn't the Fall That Kills You"		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert		(:35) J.Corden
	KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	MacGyver "The Heist"		Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Reluctant Model"		Twilight Zone
	KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	24: Legacy "8:00 PM-9:00 PM" (N)		APB "Fueling Fires" (N)		Fox 24 News	TMZ	Modern Family	Two and a Half	Hot in Cleveland	Met Your Mother
	KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Faith for Families	The Wings of Truth	Update News	Mani Erfan	Light of the Southwest "Part 1"		Light of the Southwest "Part 2"		Update News	Housecall	Restore Zion	Sounds of Shofar
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	KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	SVU "Ballerina"		Law&O: SVU "Hell"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0	Access H.
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	BRAVO	65	76		41		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump R. (N)		Sweet OK	Sweet OK	Watch	Vanderpump Rules		Atlanta
	CNBC	46	52		39	72	Marijuana Country		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		American Vice (N)		American Vice		American Vice	
	CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		A. Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360	
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	DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Good Luck	StuckMid	GoodLuck	Liv/Mad	Liv/Mad	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Jessie	Jessie	Girl M.	Friends
	ESPN	32	35	48	31	36	NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament (L)				NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
	ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	SportsCenter		H.S. Basketb. Powerade Jam Fest			30 for 30 "Playing for the Mob"			30/30 "Without Bias"		Tonight	J & J (N)
	FNC	45	48	53	23	55	The First 100 Days		The O'Reilly Factor		TuckerCarlsonTon		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		TuckerCarlsonTon	
	FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Cupcake Wars		Cake Wars (N)		Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
	FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(5:00) ★ The Waterboy		Young (N)	Daddy (N)	Twins: Happily (N)		(:05) Young	Daddy	The 700 Club		★ The Waterboy	
	FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Championship Spot. "Girls' Basketball"		Mavs Pre (L)	NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at Dallas Mavericks Site: American Airlines Center -- Dallas, Texas (L)					Maverick-ks Live (L)	SportsDay OnAir	NBDL Basketball Austi/Tex.	
	FX	31	56	59	64	69	(5:00) ★★ Lucy		★★★ Jack Reacher ('12, Act) Rosamund Pike, Tom Cruise.						★ The Equalizer Denzel Washington.			
	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	Renovation		Love It or List It		Love It or List It		H.Hunt	House	House	House	Love It or List It	
	HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers (N)		(:05) Pawn	(:35) Pawn	(:05) Pawn	(:35) Pawn	(:05) Amer. Pickers	
	LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	(5:00) ★★ Rumor Has It Kevin Costner.		★★ Valentine's Day ('10, Com) Julia Roberts, Kathy Bates. A group of friends attempt to navigate the perils and pitfalls of Valentine's Day.						Little Women: LA "On Thin Ice"		★★ Valentine's Day Kathy Bates.	
	MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		11thHour	Hardball	Rachel Maddow	
	NBCSN	38	43				NHL Live	NHL Hockey	Chicago Blackhawks at Tampa Bay Lightning (L)				(:15) NHL Overtime (L)		Mecum Auto Auctions "Kansas City, MO"			
	NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Hunter	Rank the	Thunder	GShakers	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
	SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
	SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(4:30) ★★★★ Red		★★ Red 2 ('13, Act) Helen Mirren, Bruce Willis.						★★ Volcano ('97, Act) Anne Heche, Tommy Lee Jones.			
	TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	American Dad	American Dad	Conan Dax Shepard, Michael Peña		Seln. "The Opera"	Conan
	TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(4:45) ★ National Ve...		★★★ Kiss Me Kate Kathryn Grayson.				★★ Anchors Aweigh ('45, Mus) Gene Kelly.					Movie
	TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		La fan		La Doña		El Chema		Al rojo	(:35) Titular.	La Doña	
	TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Long Lost Family		Long Lost Family		Long Lost Family		Long Lost Family		Long Lost Family		Long Lost Family	
	TNT	24	34	40	26	50	Bones "The Doom in the Gl. ..."		NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at San Antonio Spurs Site: AT&T Center -- San Antonio, Texas (L)						NBA Basketball New Orleans Pelicans at Utah Jazz Site: Vivint Smart Home Arena -- Salt Lake City, Utah (L)			
	TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	MASH	(:35) MASH	(:10) MASH	(:50) Ray	(:25) Loves Ray		Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
	USA	26	55	42	27	49	Modern Family	Modern Family	WWE Monday Night Raw						(:05) Friday Night Tykes		(:05) Chrisley	(:35) Chrisley
	WGN	19	85				P. Interest "The Day the World Went Away"		Person of Interest "Synecdoche"		Person of Interest ".EXE"		Underground "Ache"		Met Your Mother	Mother "Hooked"	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother

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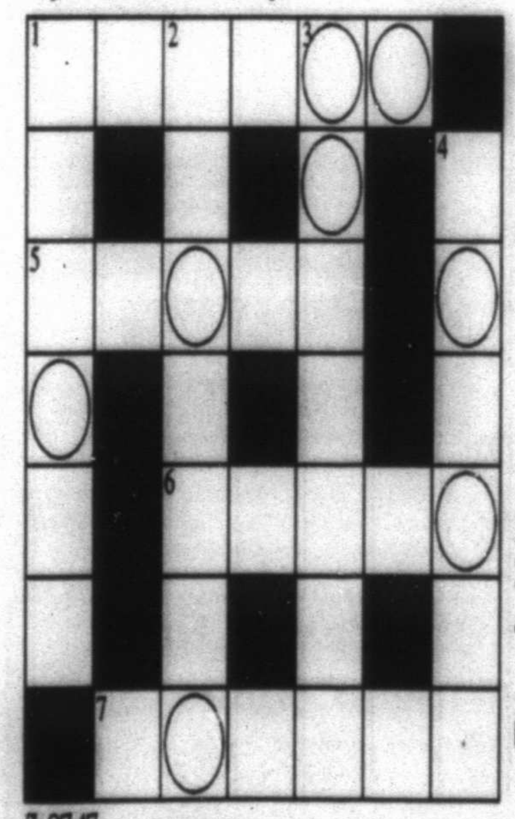
JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Pick	LCESTE
5. Defamation	BELLI
6. Rustic	RALRU
7. Tired	PLESYE

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Quiet	NILTSE
2. Abundant, loose	LAIBLRE
3. Gram ___	ALICREO
4. Barrage	ELVOLY

How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

3-27-17

CLUE: ___ ___ serves more than 2 billion customers each year.

BONUS

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ANSWERS: 1A-Select 5A-Libel 6A-Rural 7A-Sleepy 1D-Silent 2D-Libram 3D-Calorie 4D-Volley B-Taco Bell

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.

AHWET

LIGUT

TROYNH

MILYFS

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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)

Saturday's Jumbles: WINCE TWICE LONGER INFAMY
Answer: His son complained about having to cut the grass. He wished he'd stop his — "MOW-NING"

TOPS@ iTUNES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Movies

iTunes Movies U.S. charts for week ending March 19:

iTunes Movies US Charts:
1. Passengers (2016)
2. Moana (2016)
3. Patriots Day
4. Fences
5. Why Him?
6. Sing
7. Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them
8. Doctor Strange (2016)
9. Arrival
10. Hacksaw Ridge

iTunes Movies US Charts - Independent:
1. Fittest On Earth: A Decade of Fitness
2. Moonlight
3. Manchester By the Sea
4. My Scientology Movie
5. 20th Century Women
6. Solace
7. Mean Dreams
8. Captain Fantastic
9. Knight of Cups
10. Loving

Apps

App Store Official Charts for the week ending March 19:

Top Paid iPhone Apps:
1. Minecraft: Pocket Edition, Mojang
2. Surgeon Simulator, Bossa Studios Ltd
3. Heads Up!, Warner Bros.
4. Bloons TD 5, Ninja Kiwi
5. Prune, Joel McDonald
6. The Escapists, Team17 Software Ltd
7. NBA 2K17, 2K
8. Botanicula, Amanita Design
9. Plague inc., Ndemic Creations
10. Geometry Dash, RobTop Games AB

Top Free iPhone Apps:
1. NCAA March Madness Live - Men, NCAA Digital
2. ESPN Tournament Challenge, ESPN
3. Bitmoji - Your Personal Emoji, Bitstrips
4. Snapchat, Snap, Inc.
5. Instagram, Instagram, Inc.
6. Messenger, Facebook, Inc.
7. YouTube - Watch, Upload and Sh..., Google, Inc.
8. Uber, Uber Technologies, Inc.
9. Google Maps - Navigation & Tra..., Google, Inc.
10. Facebook, Facebook, Inc.

Top Paid iPad Apps:
1. Minecraft: Pocket Edition, Mojang
2. The Escapists, Team17 Software Ltd
3. Surgeon Simulator, Bossa Studios Ltd
4. Geometry Dash, RobTop Games AB

ONLINE

From 2B

difference between free and paid programs is people need to remember to run checks manually with the free programs.

Get a new router if it's more than a few years old, Beilinson said. Routers offered by internet service providers are fine, but buying even a high-end router is more cost-effective than renting, he said.

Any router that doesn't have WPA2-AES, the latest encryption standard, should be replaced, Beilinson said. The new-generation routers are more user-friendly. For instance, they send users notices to update firmware, and offer greater coverage in homes. Top models include Linksys AC2600 ($229.99) and eero Home Wifi System (three-pack, $499).

Use a password manager, Levin, Beilinson and Eaton-Cardone said. These systems store users' passwords securely, either in the cloud or on their computer, so people only need to remember one password when they log into their pages on devices other than their home computers.

Most password managers have both free and paid versions, with Dashlane (Premium, $39.95), LastPass (Premium $1/month) and 1Password (Premium, $2.99/monthly) among popular versions, they said.

Some people remain squeamish about trusting a single system with all their passwords, and the experts said it's understandable to feel a bit apprehensive. Some password managers have been infiltrated, Levin said.

But that data holding passwords is encrypted. The main issue is if hackers figure out the main password to log into the site.

People who are wary about these systems can create their own passwords and save them on an encrypted flash drive, Levin said.

Eaton-Cardone said she's not worried about password manager security and recommends people use them.

"At the end of the day, everything gets hacked," she said. "I look at it this way. A password manager is a great idea for two reasons. One, it's going to encourage you to use different passwords for every site you go to. If you have to remember all those passwords, you're never going to put yourself through that kind of hell. You'll think of something, and it wouldn't be secure anyway. Second, if I have a third-party vendor, this vendor is taking on such liability they have a lot more to lose if they experience a hack than I do."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Toys

From 2B

waves before they crest. And they are approaching their marketing campaigns differently, knowing that shared clips might do a fair amount of the lifting.

Pie Face, in fact, first came on Hasbro's radar thanks to social sharing. In 2015, the team there spotted a viral clip of a grandfather and grandson playing the game, which was originally produced in limited numbers by a small company in Britain. Hasbro moved aggressively to buy the rights to manufacture and distribute the game.

Other companies, too, are looking to social phenomena for cues. This summer, Buffalo Games & Puzzles is set to release a game called Flip Tricks, a riff on the cadre of "bottle flip challenge" videos that have sprung up on YouTube. In the clips, people toss plastic bottles in the air, trying to make them somersault midflight but land right side up. Flip Tricks attempts to codify the phenomenon a bit, providing more durable bottles and spelling out head-to-head or solo challenges.

"If something's already gone viral, and you're building a product around that, then you already have this built-in marketing that is stronger than any traditional advertising," said Ben Jamesson, a vice president at Buffalo Games.

Social trends go boom and bust at warp speed, and so toymakers say that they have to move at a breakneck pace to capitalize on them. Such was the case with Speak Out, another Hasbro creation. In this game, players wear a mouthguard-like plastic mold that stretches their faces to look cartoonish and makes it hard to talk. Players must say a phrase to a partner and get them to guess their garbled words.

Hasbro typically takes 12 to 18 months to conceptualize and manufacture a game from scratch. With Speak Out, the process was compressed to 11 weeks. The idea for it was sparked by Web videos of people putting in dental mouthpieces and getting the giggles when they tried to speak clearly, and Hasbro didn't want to be late to the social-sharing party.

"Everything has changed. The mind-set is the biggest thing — we have to act like entrepreneurs," said Jonathan Berkowitz, senior vice president of Hasbro Gaming. "We just have to run when we see an opportunity."

Making a game into an Instagram or Facebook lodestone doesn't necessarily mean the idea for it starts on social media.

Josh Loerzel, vice president of sales and marketing at Zing Toys, says there's a particular aesthetic that lends itself to a grabby, share-worthy bit: There's got to be some "visual eye candy," Loerzel said, and a goofy sense of humor.

A Zing product called Wet Head is an example of this: In the game, one player wears a yellow helmet equipped with a water chamber. Others take turns pulling pegs out of the helmet, and eventually, one of those pulls ends up soaking the wearer with water.

A version of the game was released about a decade ago, but was sent to the dustbin because it didn't catch on. But when Zing acquired the company that originally made it, executives decided to revive it, betting it would take off this time thanks to social media sharing. They've now sold more than 1 million of them in North America.

"You look really funny with the hat on," Loerzel said. "And then there's that reaction moment when you get wet and everyone's laughing at you. It's really funny to watch."

Hasbro is counting on similar, social-friendly laughs with Egged On, a game to be released later this year in which players take a set of rubberized eggs and fill some of them with water. You take turns breaking them on your head, and eventually, someone gets soaked.

Juli Lennett, toy industry analyst at NPD Group, says toymakers are smart to capitalize on a shopper mind-set that her firm is seeing apply to a variety of consumer goods.

"The way we look at it is that, enabled by social media, today's consumer doesn't want to follow the stars — she wants to *be* a star," Lennett said in an email. "He doesn't covet status brands — he wants to build his *own brand*."

healthy living

PAID CONTENT

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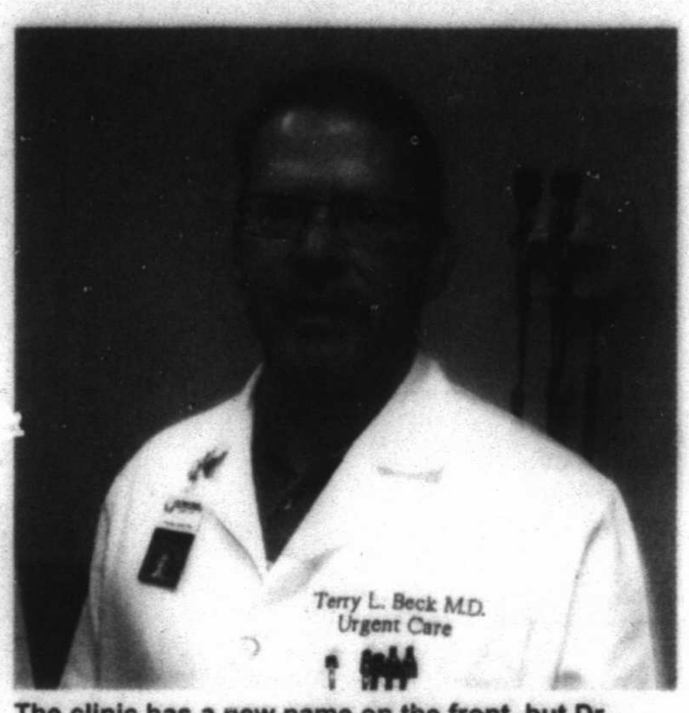
A change in name only

First Med of Midland is now WestTex Urgent Care—Still locally owned and operated by Dr. Terry Beck



The clinic has a new name on the front, but Dr. Terry Beck is still the name behind the health care. Stop in at WesTex Urgent Care's open house Saturday afternoon from 1-3:30 at the north location.

Help them celebrate their Grand Re-Opening this Saturday from 1:00-3:30 p.m.

For several years Dr. Terry Beck and his caring and experienced staff have cared for colds, sore throats, minor injuries, allergies and other medical needs. Both locations—the original First Med of Midland at 3401 Greenbriar Ste. 200—just back from the corner of Midland Drive and Wadley—and the newer location behind the I-20 WalMart at 210 West Longview Ste. A, have treated lots of medical needs in that time.

Starting next week they will both be known as WesTex Urgent Care. Dr. Beck and his staff will still be providing that same care you've come to depend on. Dr. Beck still owns both facilities. Only the name will be changing.

To celebrate, Dr. Beck invites you the WesTex Urgent Care open house this Saturday, April 1, from 1:00-3:30 p.m. at the North location, 3401 Greenbriar. There will be free hot dogs, soft drinks, T-shirts, games and general fun for the whole family.

You'll get to meet Dr. Beck and his staff and learn more about how they can help you and your family with minor health issues and ask questions about how they treat patients.

Dr. Beck is a trained emergency medicine physician, with years of experience at treating all kinds of illnesses and traumas. One reason he started the clinic years ago was because he saw so many patients go to the hospital ER who didn't need to be there.

At WesTex Urgent Care you can be seen more quickly than at the ER, you're not as likely to get moved back in line by a major trauma, and you're relieving the load at the hospital ER. If Dr. Beck or his staff determines that you do need to go to the hospital for treatment, they can call the hospital and alert the medical staff that you're coming, and what treatment or diagnostics to have at the ready when you arrive.

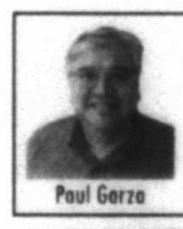
Both the north and the south clinic locations have X-ray machines so if your question involves whether it's broken or just sprained, they can discover that for you on site.

They can also help with bioidentical hormone therapy from BioTE. If you suffer from inability to sleep, fatigue, lack of focus, moodiness, weight gain muscle weakness, joint pain or reduced sexual desire you may have a hormone imbalance. A simple blood test can show if this is the case and can help determine your optimal dose of BioTE. This therapy can also reduce age-related illnesses.

At either location there's never an appointment to be made and both clinics are open seven days a week.

Go by the north location this Saturday and get acquainted with everyone at WesTex Urgent Care.

WesTex Urgent Care, owned and operated by Midlander Dr. Terry Beck, has two locations. 210 W. Longview, Ste. A and 3401 Greenbriar, Ste. 200. The website is www.westexurgentcare.com.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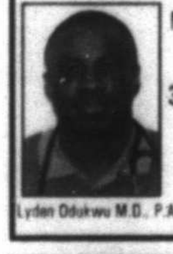
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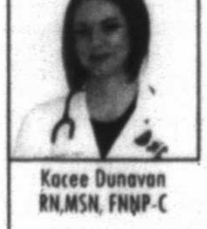
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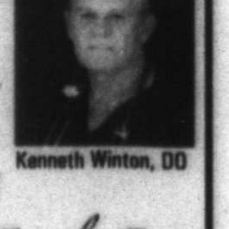
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Senior leads Chaps in weekend sweep of Luna

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Midland College baseball coach David Coleman said that people tend to stop what they're doing and pay attention when Eric Senior comes to the plate.

The sophomore outfielder from Toronto, Ontario, is having a big year for the Chaparrals and had another big weekend against Luna Community College at Christensen Stadium.

On Sunday, Senior drove in five runs to help MC beat Luna, 13-5, in the first game of a doubleheader, then he capped off a six-run fifth inning in the second game with a game-ending two-run homer to right to beat the Rough Riders 13-3.

"He's been really good," said Coleman of Senior. "You get a guy in the five-hole who can drive in runs and that's what he does well. When he comes up, they quit eating popcorn, they quit tweeting and they quit reading their phones and they watch when he comes to the plate. You've got a chance to see something magical happen. That ball that he hit at the end of the game, there's a lot of left-handed hitters that can't hit the ball that far. He makes it look so simple and easy. He brings electricity and he's a middle of the order guy that can do some damage."

Senior

Added Senior: "I'm swinging pretty well. The guys in front of me are doing a good job to get on base and I've been able to drive them in. Coach Coleman has been working with me on my hitting and it's been coming along really well. But everybody seems to be swinging the bat well and I couldn't believe that Braden (Hayward) had two home runs today."

Hayward

It was a big weekend for the Chaparrals (20-8, 11-1 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference) who swept Luna (7-25, 4-8) in a four-game series as MC got solid pitching and big hits up and down the lineup.

"The offensive numbers were outstanding, but what goes unnoticed is that we really pitched and we really played defense," Coleman said. "We had very few defensive miscues. We all know that if you can pitch and play, you have a chance. Offensive performances like what we had this weekend, you're not going to get those all the time."

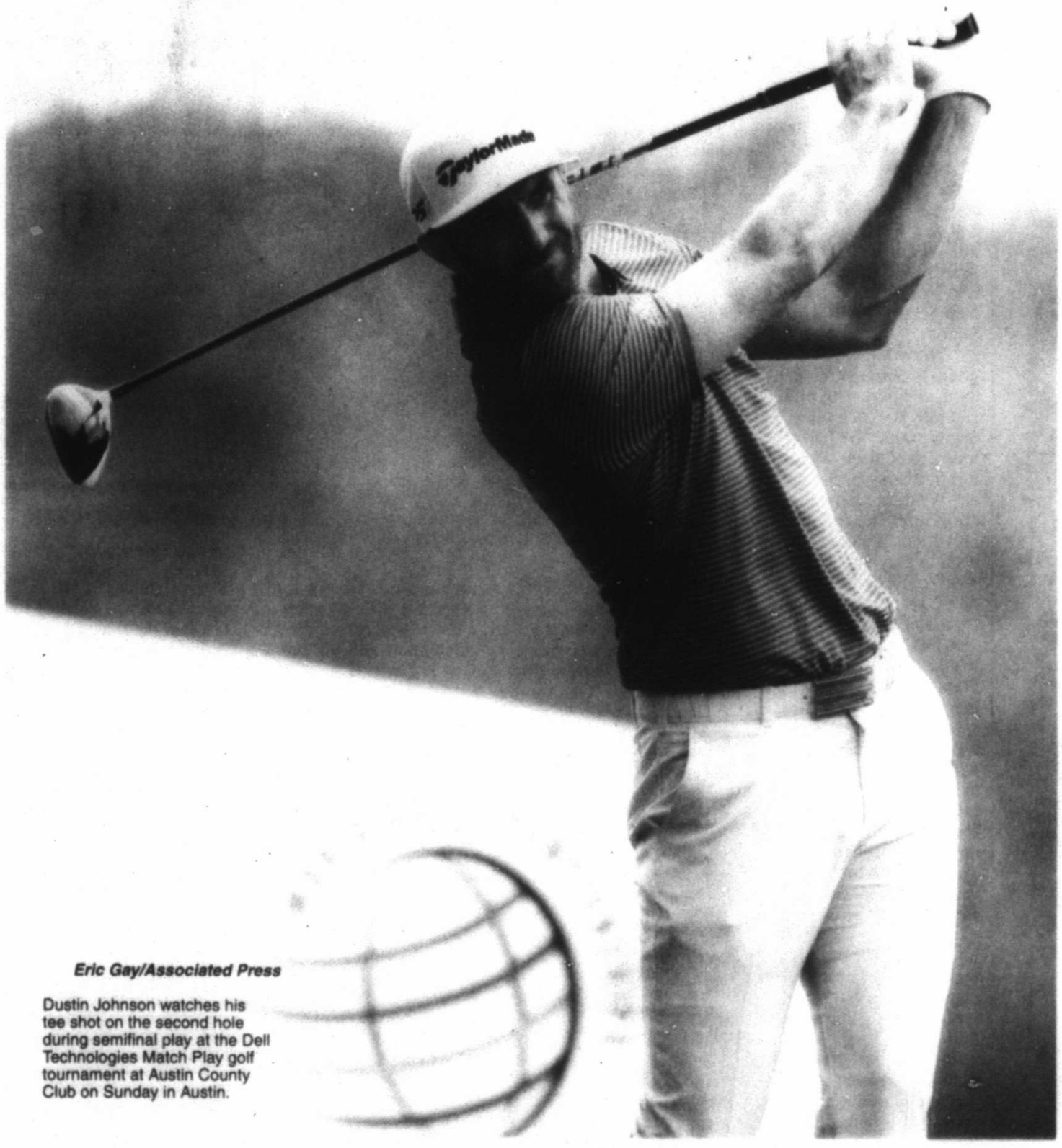
Coleman was pleased with his starting pitching on Sunday as Jonathan Nicholson went six strong innings before giving way to Jose Castro in the seventh. Then in the second game, Logan McCrummen went the distance as he allowed three runs on six hits, with one walk and two strikeouts. Coleman added that Castro, who allowed one walk and struck out two in his shutout inning of work, seems to coming along and could be another reliable arm coming out of the bullpen.

The MC offense helped Nicholson in the first game by jumping out to a 6-0 lead after three innings.

Meanwhile, Nicholson retired the first nine batters he faced and ended up allowing five runs (four earned) on eight hits, one walk, to go with five strikeouts.

In addition to Senior going 3-for-5 with a home run, five RBI and two runs scored,

Please see **CHAPS**/2C



Eric Gay/Associated Press

Dustin Johnson watches his tee shot on the second hole during semifinal play at the Dell Technologies Match Play golf tournament at Austin County Club on Sunday in Austin.

Johnson wins Match Play to sweep World Golf Championships

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Dustin Johnson won the Dell Technologies Match Play with more drama than he needed to cap off an otherwise dominant week that made him the first player to sweep the four World Golf Championships.

The scorecard will show Johnson never trailed in any of his seven matches over 112 holes, ending with a 1-up victory over Jon Rahm for his third straight victory that left no doubt who was No. 1 in the world.

The look of concern, especially as Rahm made a bold charge in the final hour Sunday, spoke to a long day.

Johnson was 4 up with six holes to play when the Spanish rookie with a big game and no fear hit driver over the water and onto the 13th green to win the hole with a birdie. He stuck a wedge close on the 15th for another birdie. Rahm hit a shot through the trees on the 16th and won the hole with a 30-foot birdie.

The rematch Rahm wanted against Johnson, who held him off in Mexico City three weeks ago, ended the same way.

His big rally was a little short.

Playing the 356-yard 18th hole for the first time in competition all week, and needing a birdie to send this heavyweight bout to overtime, Rahm smashed driver over the back of the green. But his chip down the slope checked up and stayed short of the ridge, and he had to settle for par.

Johnson came up just short of the green, chipped to 30 inches and rolled in it to complete another big week.

Please see **MATCH**/4C

Mississippi State women earn 1st Final Four berth

By Cliff Brunt
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Morgan William gave her late stepfather the ultimate tribute.

The 5-foot-5 point guard scored a career-high 41 points and second-seeded Mississippi State upset top-seeded Baylor 94-85 in overtime Sunday night to reach the Final Four for the first time.

The win came three years and a day after William's stepfather, Donnie Rory, passed away. After she was named Most Outstanding Player of the regional, she dedicated the victory and the performance to him.

"He's the reason I am where I am today with basketball," she said. "He just did so much for me, working out when I was younger. He had no doubt because of my height. We put in so much work in the gym. For me to just come out here and do this, it's amazing. I just wish he was here to see it."

William scored 10 points in the fourth quarter and 12 points in overtime to set school and Southeastern Conference records for most points in an NCAA Tournament game. She made 13 of 22 shots, including 6 of 8 3-pointers. She also had seven assists and no turnovers.

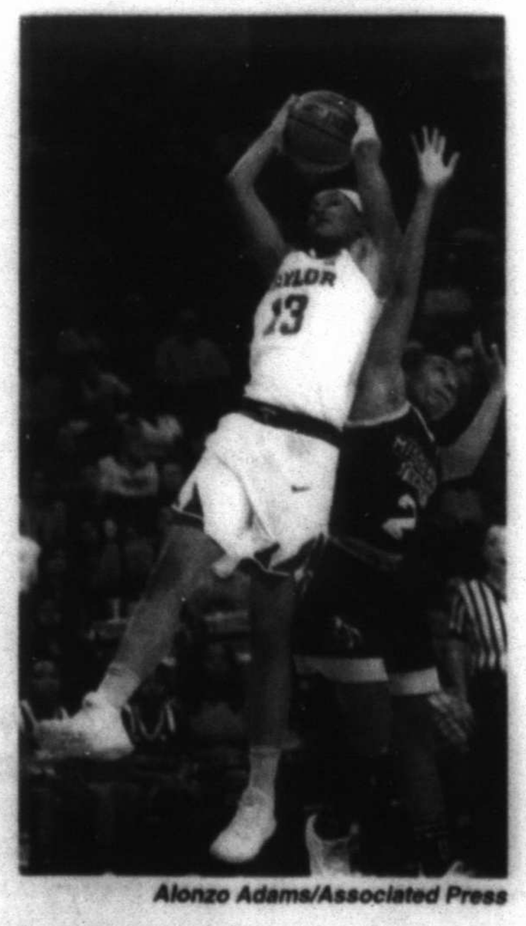
Victoria Vivians scored 24 points and Teaira McCowan added 10 for Mississippi State (33-4) in a game that featured 24 lead changes.

Kalani Brown scored 27 points and Nina Davis had 18 for Baylor (33-4), which lost in the Elite Eight for the fourth consecutive year.

"At Baylor, we have expectations that are higher than an Elite Eight," Baylor coach Kim Mulkey said. "Whether that's egotistical, fair, whatever, it is what it is. We have to keep feeding that monster that we started 17 years ago."

Davis, one of the most decorated players in school history, played in all four of those Elite Eight losses. She thought this one would turn out differently.

Please see **MISSISSIPPI**/3C



Alonzo Adams/Associated Press

Baylor's Nina Davis (13) grabs a rebound against Mississippi State's Morgan William (2) during the first half of a regional final of the NCAA women's basketball tournament Sunday in Oklahoma City.

Second to none: Kyle Larson hangs on, wins at Fontana

By Greg Beacham
Associated Press

FONTANA, Calif. — Kyle Larson was second to nobody in his home state.

Larson persevered through four late restarts to win at Fontana on Sunday, adding his second career victory to his overall Monster Energy NASCAR Cup series points lead.

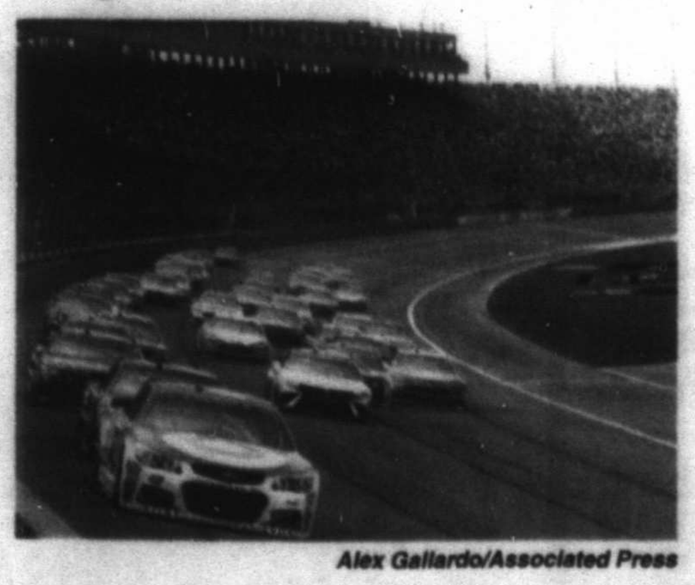
Larson finished second in each of the last three races, but the Sacramento-area native's Chip Ganassi Racing Chevrolet was the class of the field at Auto Club Speedway for the second straight day. He also won the Xfinity Series race on Saturday, completing a clean sweep of the weekend.

"This is just amazing," Larson said. "We have been so good all year long, three seconds in a row. I've been watching all the TV, like, 'He doesn't know how to win.' But we knew how to win today, so that was good."

Faced with the late drama and jockeying typical to the five-wide asphalt on Fontana's bumpy 2-mile track, Larson was persistent and tenacious. After surging up from fourth to first with four new tires before the final caution, he made one last outstanding restart and cruised through two overtime laps to win.

Brad Keselowski was second, and Clint Bowyer came in third for his best finish since June

Please see **FONTANA**/5C



Alex Gallardo/Associated Press

Kyle Larson (42) leads Martin Truex Jr., in second car, and the rest of the pack early in the NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Auto Club Speedway on Sunday in Fontana, Calif.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

College Softball
Auburn at Florida, 6 p.m., SEC

Hockey
KHL Western Final, Gm 3: SKA at Lokomotiv, 10 a.m., ELVN

Major League Baseball
Spring Training: Boston vs. Baltimore, Noon, ESPN
Spring Training: Seattle vs. San Diego, 3 p.m., MLB
Spring Training: St. Louis vs. Houston, 5 p.m., ROOT
Spring Training: Chicago Cubs vs. Cleveland, 8 p.m., MLB

Men's College Basketball
CBI Championship, Game 1: Wyoming at Coastal Carolina, 6:30 p.m., ESPNU

National Basketball Association
Cleveland at San Antonio, 7 p.m., TNT
Oklahoma City at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., FSSW
New Orleans at Utah, 9:30 p.m., TNT

National Hockey League
Chicago at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m., NBCSN

Tennis
ATP/WTA: Miami Open, 10 a.m., TENNIS

Women's College Basketball
Elite 8: Oregon vs. Connecticut, 6 p.m., ESPN
Elite 8: Florida State vs. South Carolina, 8 p.m., ESPN

RADIO

National Basketball Association
Cleveland at San Antonio, 7 p.m., KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring)
Oklahoma City at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., KBST 1490 AM (Big Spring)

WHAT'S ON DECK

High School

Baseball
MCA at Midland Christian JV, 7 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Optioned LHP Chris Lee to Norfolk (IL).
BOSTON RED SOX — Optioned RHP Noe Ramirez to Pawtucket (IL). Reassigned INF Matt Dominguez, C Jake DePew, RHP Hector Velazquez and OFs Brian Bogusevic, Rusney Castillo and Allen Craig to minor league camp.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Optioned RHPs Mike Clevinger and Joe Colon to Columbus (IL). Reassigned C Adam Moore, INF Richie Shaffer and OF Bradley Zimmer to minor league camp.
DETROIT TIGERS — Optioned C John Hicks to Toledo (IL). Reassigned INF Dominic Ficociello, OFs Anthony Gose and Juan Perez and RHPs Ruben Alaniz, Joe Jimenez, Logan Kensing, Arcenio Leon and Edward Mujica to minor league camps. Released RHP Mark Lowe unconditionally.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Optioned RHP Alex Meyer, SS Nolan Fontana and OF Ryan LaMarre to Salt Lake (PCL).
MINNESOTA TWINS — Released OF Drew Stubbs unconditionally. Reassigned RHP Drew Rucinski to minor league camp.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Optioned RHP Jesse Hahn to Nashville (PCL). Announced LHP Ross Detwiler opted out of minor league contract and is a free agent.
NEW YORK YANKEES — Released LHP Jon Niese.
SEATTLE MARINERS — Optioned RHP Chris Heston to Tacoma (PCL). Reassigned LHP Nick Hagadone and RHPs Cody Martin and Jean Machi to minor league camp.
National League
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Optioned RHP Zack Godley to Reno (PCL).
COLORADO ROCKIES — Placed RHP Chad Bettis on the 60-day DL. Selected the contract of INF Mark Reynolds from Albuquerque (PCL).
MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Optioned LHP Brent Suter to minor league camp.
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Released RHP David Hernandez.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Optioned RHP Rafael Martin, OF Brian Goodwin and C Pedro Severino to Syracuse (IL). Reassigned INF/OF Brandon Snyder to minor league camp.
American Association
FARGO-MOORHEAD REDHAWKS — Signed LHP Tyler Watson.
LAREDO LEMURS — Traded LHP Zach Dodson to Southern Maryland for a player to be named.
TEXAS AIRHOGS — Signed RHP Toby Eigner.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Recalled G Wade Baldwin IV and C Deyonta Davis from Iowa (NBADL).

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
ARIZONA COYOTES — Signed F Clayton Keller to an entry-level contract.
BOSTON BRUINS — Recalled F Justin Hickman from Atlanta (ECHL) to Providence (AHL).
COLORADO AVALANCHE — Recalled F Julien Nantel from Reading (ECHL) to San Antonio (AHL).
American Hockey League
ECHL
ELMIRA JACKALS — Added G Eddie Palmieri as emergency backup. Signed F Anthony Stefano to an amateur tryout agreement.
READING ROYALS — Released D Sean Flanagan and Rob Mann.
UTAH GRIZZLIES — Released G Tate Maris as emergency backup.

SOCCER
Major League Soccer
SEATTLE SOUNDERS — Signed G Bryan Meredith and F Seyi Adekoya.

HS GIRLS SOCCER

MHS TO PLAY KELLER IN ABILENE

The Midland High girls soccer team will play Keller at noon Friday at Abilene's Shotwell Stadium in Class 6A area round playoff match, according to Midland ISD. MHS will be the home team.

Midland High (16-3) advanced after a 1-0 win over El Paso El Dorado on Friday. Keller (18-2-2) moved on after a 3-1 win over Arlington Lamar in the bi-district.round.

MLS GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Columbus	2	1	1	7	7	6
New York	2	1	1	7	4	4
Atlanta United FC	2	1	0	6	11	3
Orlando City	2	0	0	6	3	0
Toronto FC	1	0	2	5	4	2
New York City FC	1	1	1	4	5	2
Chicago	1	1	1	4	3	3
New England	1	2	0	3	6	5
Montreal	0	1	2	2	3	4
Philadelphia	0	1	2	2	3	4
D.C. United	0	2	1	1	0	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Portland	3	1	0	9	12	6
FC Dallas	2	0	1	7	4	2
Houston	2	1	0	6	7	6
San Jose	2	1	0	6	5	4
Sporting Kansas City	1	0	2	5	2	1
Seattle	1	1	1	4	6	5
Colorado	1	1	1	4	3	3
Los Angeles	1	2	0	3	3	4
Real Salt Lake	0	2	2	2	1	4
Vancouver	0	2	1	1	2	5
Minnesota United	0	3	1	1	6	18

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

Saturday's Games
New England 5, Minnesota United 2
Real Salt Lake 0, New York 0, tie
Columbus 3, Portland 2
Sunday's Games
No games scheduled
Today's Games
No games scheduled

NHL GLANCE

NHL GLANCE
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	75	42	24	9	93	204	187
Ottawa	74	41	25	8	90	194	181
Toronto	74	35	24	15	85	227	219
Boston	75	39	30	6	84	214	202
Tampa Bay	74	36	29	9	81	205	206
Florida	74	33	30	11	77	193	209
Buffalo	75	31	32	12	74	188	216
Detroit	74	30	32	12	72	184	217

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Washington	74	49	17	8	106	238	163
x-Columbus	74	48	19	7	103	232	171
x-Pittsburgh	75	46	18	11	103	258	211
N.Y. Rangers	75	46	25	4	96	238	195
N.Y. Islanders	74	35	27	12	82	218	225
Carolina	73	33	27	13	79	193	208
Philadelphia	75	35	32	8	78	197	220
New Jersey	75	27	35	13	67	171	220

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Chicago	75	48	21	6	102	225	192
x-Minnesota	75	44	24	7	95	240	190
Nashville	74	38	25	11	87	222	205
St. Louis	74	40	28	6	86	207	199
Winnipeg	75	33	35	7	73	223	240
Dallas	75	31	33	11	73	206	238
Colorado	74	20	51	3	43	145	249

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	74	40	23	11	91	193	182
San Jose	75	42	28	7	91	201	182
Edmonton	75	41	25	9	91	223	195
Calgary	75	42	29	4	88	207	202
Los Angeles	74	35	32	7	77	180	186
Vancouver	74	30	35	9	69	171	217
Arizona	75	27	39	9	63	180	240

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

Sunday's Scores
Detroit 3, Minnesota 2, OT
Dallas 2, New Jersey 1, OT
Philadelphia 6, Pittsburgh 2
Vancouver at Winnipeg, late
N.Y. Rangers at Anaheim, late
Today's Games
Florida at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
Nashville at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m.
Detroit at Carolina, 6 p.m.
Chicago at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.
Arizona at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Calgary, 8 p.m.

MLB SPRING TRAINING GLANCE

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
New York	22	7	0.759
Seattle	19	12	0.613
Baltimore	15	11	0.577
Oakland	16	12	0.571
Los Angeles	16	13	0.552
Minnesota	14	12	0.538
Kansas City	15	13	0.536
Boston	15	13	0.536
Chicago	15	14	0.517
Cleveland	14	14	0.500
Houston	13	13	0.500
Texas	13	16	0.448
Tampa Bay	11	15	0.423
Detroit	12	17	0.414
Toronto	10	16	0.385

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
St. Louis	18	8	0.692
Pittsburgh	18	9	0.667
Colorado	15	13	0.536
Los Angeles	16	14	0.533
Arizona	13	13	0.500
Milwaukee	14	15	0.483
Cincinnati	15	17	0.469
New York	14	16	0.467
San Francisco	14	16	0.467
Washington	12	14	0.462
Chicago	11	15	0.423
Philadelphia	11	15	0.423
Miami	10	15	0.400
San Diego	10	19	0.345
Atlanta	7	21	0.250

Saturday's Scores
Boston 7, Minnesota 2
Houston 5, Washington 1
St. Louis 3, Miami 0
Philadelphia 6, Pittsburgh 3
N.Y. Yankees 7, Tampa Bay 4
Toronto (ss) 4, Detroit 3
Baltimore 2, Toronto (ss) 1
N.Y. Mets 8, Atlanta 2
Chicago Cubs 22, Cincinnati (ss) 4
Texas 3, L.A. Dodgers 2
Oakland 11, Milwaukee 1
San Diego (ss) 9, Chicago Cubs 4
Chicago White Sox 4, San Francisco 3
Seattle 7, Cincinnati (ss) 6
Cleveland 6, Arizona 5
Colorado 4, San Diego (ss) 1
Kansas City 8, L.A. Angels 7
Today's Games
Boston vs. Baltimore at Sarasota, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (ss) vs. Miami at Jupiter, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Washington vs. N.Y. Mets (ss) at Port St. Lucie, Fla., 12:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox vs. L.A. Dodgers at Glendale, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
Cincinnati vs. San Francisco at Scottsdale, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
Colorado vs. Texas at Surprise, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
Kansas City vs. Oakland at Mesa, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels vs. Arizona at Scottsdale, Ariz., 3:10 p.m.
Seattle vs. San Diego at Peoria, Ariz., 3:10 p.m.
Detroit vs. Atlanta at Kissimmee, Fla., 5:05 p.m.
Minnesota vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla., 5:05 p.m.
St. Louis vs. Houston at West Palm Beach, Fla., 5:05 p.m.
Philadelphia vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla., 5:07 p.m.
Chicago Cubs vs. Cleveland at Goodyear, Ariz., 8:10 p.m.

Late rallies helps No. 7 Lady Chaps sweep Clarendon

From staff reports

CLARENDON — The No. 7-ranked Midland College softball team used a couple of late-game rallies to sweep Clarendon College in a Western Junior College Athletic Conference doubleheader on Sunday.

The Lady Chaparrals scored four runs in in the seventh inning in the first game to secure a 6-1 win, then had another four-run seventh to come from behind in the second game for an 11-10 victory.

MC starter Crystine Kistner held Clarendon to one run on just two hits with one walk and 11 strikeouts in the first game.

Hannah Howard had a three-run double in the four-run frame, Kassie Maddox went 2-for-3 with a double, two RBI and two runs scored, and Kiana Broderson-Jones was 3-for-4 with a double and a run scored for MC.

Broderson-Jones

MC was in a slugfest with Clarendon (19-18, 0-8) in the second game and the Lady Bulldogs had 10-5 run after five innings, thanks in part to a grand slam by Jenna Perez in the fifth.

But in the seventh, the Lady Chaps got RBI singles by Broderson-Jones and Shaye Simms and a two-run double by Melina Martinez.

MC had 12 hits in the game led by Maddox and Bianca Cerda, who each had three hits and a home run. Simms had two hits, a double, two RBI and two runs scored.

Haleigh Leusch got the win in relief for the Lady Chaps, who next host El Paso Community College in a four-game series beginning with a doubleheader at 1 p.m. Friday.

First Game
NO. 7 MIDLAND COLLEGE 6, CLARENDON COLLEGE 1

Midland	001	001	4	–6	7 0
Clarendon	000	100	0	–1	2 3

Crystine Kistner and Kayla Shaw. Heather Villarreal and Loren Hoffman. W - Kistner. L - Villarreal. 2B - MC: Hannah Howard, Kassie Maddox, Kiana Broderson-Jones. HR - CC: Danae Villarreal.

Second Game
NO. 7 MIDLAND COLLEGE 11, CLARENDON COLLEGE 10

Midland	201	400	4	–11	12 4
Clarendon	400	150	0	–10	12 2

Esmeralda Holguin, Allene Allen (5), H. Villarreal (7) and Kasmir Perez and Hoffman (5). Julia Clark, Kistner (2), Haleigh Leusch (5) and Shaw. W - Leusch. L - Holguin. 2B - MC: Melina Martinez, Bianca Cerda, Shaye Simms. HR - MC: Maddox, Cerda; CC: Jenna Perez.

Records: Midland College 23-6, 8-0 in WJCAC; Clarendon College 19-18, 0-8

Next: El Paso CC at Midland College DH, 1 p.m. Friday

Devil keeps Stars alive in playoff chase

By Tom Canavan
Associated Press

Bill Kostroun/Associated Press

Dallas Stars left wing Jamie Benn (14) falls over New Jersey Devils goalie Keith Kinkaid (1) during the second period of an NHL game Sunday in Newark, N.J.

NEWARK, N.J. — The Dallas Stars know they are going to be eliminated from playoff contention in the next couple of days, so being on the ice now is about playing for each other.

Tyler Seguin scored on a power play 20 seconds into overtime, and the Stars staved off elimination by rallying to beat the New Jersey Devils 2-1 on Sunday.

"Every day, we're going to come in, work hard, and play with pride and play for each other," Seguin said. "We had a time period there we just weren't being professionals. We didn't have enough effort out there and didn't play for each other. But we want to play with pride and want to finish off the rest of the year work hard and try to win every night."

A loss to the Devils would have ended the Stars' playoff chances. But they found a way to win.

Ales Hemsky also scored a power-play goal with 6:36 left in regulation to tie the game and Kari Lehtonen made 20 saves for Dallas, including a stop on a short-handed breakaway attempt by Blake Pietila about a minute before Hemsky tied the game.

"We have to give Kari a lot of credit for covering that one up because if Kari doesn't make that save, probably the game is over," Stars coach Lindy Ruff said. "That was big at a big time in the game."

Seguin got his 25th goal after Devils defenseman Steven Santini was called for cross-checking with 54 seconds left in regulation. New Jersey killed off the 5-on-4 power play, but the Stars scored in OT on Seguin's shot from between the circles that beat Keith Kinkaid, who made 30 saves in an outstanding effort.

Jamie Benn and defenseman John Klingberg worked the puck along the boards in front of the Dallas bench before Klingberg made a no-look pass to Seguin cutting down the middle for the game winner.

"They were really pressuring Jamie and Klinger and I just tried to find a soft spot skating in," Seguin said.

The loss was the second in as many nights for the Devils and their 13th in 17 games (2-13-2). It also came just one night after New Jersey's playoff hopes were extinguished for the fifth straight year in a loss to Carolina.

"We took two penalties there and they capitalized on both of them," Devils captain Andy Greene said. "We have to do a better job in the offensive zone, create more and get that second goal and work harder. We just can't hope we get that second one. We have to make sure we will it into the net."

Blake Coleman , who was born in Plano, Texas, scored his first NHL goal for New Jersey, beating Lehtonen at 11:02 of the first period after blocking a pass by Klingberg.

"I am pretty familiar with a lot of guys in that locker room," Coleman said. "So guys like Jamie Benn coming up and saying: 'Congrats' is pretty special and I will be able to remember that and share with friends and family back home."

Hemsky tied the game after Devils defenseman Ben Lovejoy couldn't get the puck out of the zone. Dallas defenseman Stephen Johns found Hemsky in the right circle. His initial shot was blocked by Greene, but the puck came right back to him and he beat Kinkaid between the pads for his fourth of the season.

"I don't know if they were contained for 55 minutes, they had their fair share of opportunities," Kinkaid said. "I felt good and we have to be able to get that dagger goal and finish our opportunities."

Notes: Greene played in his 700th game, all with the Devils. ... Dallas F Curtis McKenzie and Devils D Damon Severson had a short fight late in the second period. ... The Devils beat the Stars in overtime earlier this season.

Up next

Stars: At Montreal on Tuesday night for the second-game of five-game road trip, their final games away from home.

CHAPS

From 1C

Alex Salcido was 3-for-5 with a triple and two runs scored. Ethan Barker was 2-for-3 with two walks and two RBI and Blake Perdue added a two-run home run.

Hayward led the offense in the second game with two homers — a solo shot to right in the second inning, and then a two-run shot to dead-center field in the third.

"That was a first for me, I haven't done that before," said Hayward, a sophomore third baseman about hitting two homers in a game. "I just put a good swing on the ball and hoped the wind wouldn't catch it."

Hayward finished the game going 2-for-3 with three RBI and two runs scored. Braden Scrivner was 3-for-3 with two runs scored, while Chad Curtis was 2-for-3 with a double and run scored for the Chaps.

MC looks to have some good momentum right now and the Chaps said they need to be with some tough WJCAC series coming up, including one against New Mexico Junior College next weekend.

"This weekend is going to be a test for us, New Mexico is always good," Hayward said. "We have to spend this week getting prepared, play Odessa on Wednesday, we just have a tough week ahead of us."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

First Game
MIDLAND COLLEGE 13, LUNA CC 5

Luna	000	230	0	–510	0
Midland	108	331	x	–1314	0

Norman Cornejo, Carl Lucero, Brandon Douglas (4), Fabian Reyes (5) and Garret Garcia. Jonathan Nicholson, Jose Castro (7) and Alex Salcido. W - Nicholson. L - Douglas. 2B - LCC: Gregory Ozuna. 3B - MC: Alex Salcido. HR - MC: Eric Senior, Blake Perdue.

Second Game
MIDLAND COLLEGE 13, LUNA CC 3, 5 INNINGS

Luna	100	02	–3	6	1
Midland	032	36	–13	11	0

Phillip Archuleta, Abel Rosario-Jimenez (3), Kevin Diaz-Fernandez (5), Juan Vidal-Perez (5) and Ricardo Rodriguez. Logan McCrummen and Salcido. W - McCrummen. L - Archuleta. 2B - LCC: Rafael Marquez. MC: Chad Curtis. 3B - LCC: Ozuna, Othon De La Cruz. HR - MC: Braden Hayward 2, Senior.

Records: Midland College 20-8, 11-1 in WJCAC; Luna CC 7-25, 4-8

Next: Odessa College at Midland College, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
UPCOMING EVENTS

4/6 6:30-8:30 Microchipping at Beer Garden's Yappy Hour
4/10 6:00-8:00 Volunteer Orientation at MHC's Adoption Center
6/24 3rd Annual Hot Dog Run 5K and 1K

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

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Midland, TX 79710
midlandhumane.org

Schnitzel is an 8 mo old wire-haired dachshund mix. She's a bit timid in new situations, but responds well to encouraging words & gentle pets. She is very playful & will do best in a home with calm kids.

Maye hits late jumper to lift North Carolina to Final Four

By Teresa M. Walker
Associated Press

Brandon Dill/Associated Press

North Carolina forward Theo Pinson (1) shoots against Kentucky in the first half of the South Regional final game in the NCAA basketball tournament Sunday in Memphis, Tenn.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The North Carolina Tar Heels now are a win away from getting back to a national championship game they narrowly lost a year ago.

And this time, they made the last shot.

Luke Maye hit a jumper with 0.3 seconds left and top-seeded North Carolina held off Kentucky 75-73 to earn the Tar Heels' second straight trip to the Final Four and 20th all-time in Sunday's showdown of college basketball's elite in the South Regional.

The Tar Heels (31-7) will play Midwest champ Oregon on Saturday in Glendale, Arizona, in the national semifinal.

"We get to keep playing," North Carolina coach Roy Williams said.

North Carolina took control with 12 straight points over the final 5 minutes, a run similar to what it used a week ago to beat Arkansas. The Tar Heels finished this game with a 16-9 run. Kentucky's freshmen De'Aaron Fox and Malik Monk hit three quick 3s, the last two by Monk. Monk's second shot with 7.2 seconds left and defenders in his face tied it up at 73.

Theo Pinson brought the ball down and passed back to Maye. The sophomore from Huntersville, North Carolina, knocked it down for the win with his feet on the 3-point line.

"I'm the guy that wanted him to come as a walk-on, so how dumb am I?" Williams said. "He (made) some big-time plays today, big-time plays two days ago."

Maye finished with 17 points off the bench for North Carolina. Justin Jackson scored 19 points, and Joel Berry II added 11.

The Wildcats had one last chance, but Derek Willis' inbounds pass went out of bounds on the far end.

Kentucky (32-6) will miss out on the Final Four for the second straight year. Willis and sophomore Isaac Humphries left the court with towels over their heads, and Fox was the last to leave.

The Wildcats had hoped their talented freshmen would carry them. Bam Adebayo and Fox each had 13 points, and Monk, the Southeastern Conference player of the year, finished with 12.

Never before had the NCAA Tournament pitted powerhouse programs that have so dominated March. This South final featured Kentucky with the most tournament wins all-time with 124 and North Carolina just behind with 120.

But this was just the fourth time these blue bloods have met in a regional final. The result was much the same as the others with North Carolina now 3-1 against Kentucky as the Tar Heels avenged a 103-100 loss on Dec. 17 in Las Vegas.

Kentucky led for only 3:57 in a game North Carolina had a big edge on the boards (44-34) and inside where the Tar Heels outscored the Wildcats 34-26.

Officials didn't help the flow of this game calling fouls left and right, though Kentucky took the brunt with its star trio of freshmen all picking up two fouls each in the half.

South Carolina headed to Final Four, beats Florida 77-70

By Jim O'connell
Associated Press

Julio Cortez/Associated Press

South Carolina players react after beating Florida 77-70 to win the East Regional championship game of the NCAA men's basketball tournament Sunday in New York.

NEW YORK — South Carolina added a missing piece to its rich basketball history.

The school of Frank McGuire, Kevin Joyce, Brian Winters, Mike Dunleavy and Alex English is going to the Final Four for the first time.

Add the names Sindarius Thornwell and Frank Martin to the top of the list.

Thornwell's 26 points and the Gamecocks' swarming zone defense meant a 77-70 victory over Florida on Sunday and a berth in the Final Four.

Martin, he of the booming voice and terrifying faces, led the seventh-seeded Gamecocks to the biggest victory in school history and now they will face Gonzaga, the No. 1 seed from the West Regional, in the Final Four on Saturday at Glendale, Arizona.

"Anyone that's in sports dreams of moments like this," said Martin, who was doused with water and dancing as soon as he entered the locker room. "It's not something that you start dreaming it the year you win 25 games. You dream it every single day."

The game was as close as expected until the final minute. There were 14 lead changes and 10 ties. The last lead change came on two free throws by Thornwell with 2:24 left that made it 65-63. Fourth-seeded Florida managed just three field goals over the final 3:55.

Thornwell, the regional MVP, followed the deciding free throws with a nice assist to Maik Kotsar for a 4-point lead. It seemed Thornwell, who scored eight straight points for the Gamecocks, was always where he needed to be including making a steal with 40 seconds left that turned into a 73-68 lead.

"Plays needed to be made down the stretch and I stepped up and made plays," Thornwell said.

Teammate Duane Notice knew Thornwell would come through.

"He's capable of doing anything on both sides of the basketball. So it doesn't surprise me," he said. "His senior leadership just kicked in. He don't want us to lose. He don't want our season to end."

"Thornwell was just being Thornwell," Florida coach Mike White said of the SEC player of the year. "He's one of the best players in the country."

PJ Dozier added 17 points for the Gamecocks. Chris Silva had 13 and Kotsar 12.

Justin Leon had 18 points for the Gators who managed a 40-33 halftime lead on 7-for-12 shooting from 3-point range. But that was it. Florida was 0 for 14 from beyond the arc in the second half, a lot like the 0-for-17 effort the Gators had in their first meeting with South Carolina this season.

"We still got our open looks, but they just, I guess they just went farther than what they were in the first half," Leon said.

South Carolina, which forced Florida into 16 turnovers, finished 23 for 31 from the free throw line, including a 9-for-10 effort from Thornwell.

It was the third straight game the Gamecocks were trailing at the half and went on to win.

"We felt like we was doing the right things. We felt like everything was going good for us, it was just the ball wasn't falling in, and we just needed a couple more stops," Thornwell said. "So going into halftime we always just buckled in and locked in on what we needed to do to win and took it one possession at a time."

BIG PICTURE

South Carolina: This had been South Carolina's deepest run in the NCAA Tournament. ... The Gamecocks beat No. 2 seed Duke and No. 3 Baylor on the way to the Elite Eight. ... Until this tournament the Gamecocks hadn't won an NCAA Tournament game since 1973.

Florida: This was Florida's first NCAA Tournament game against a Southeastern Conference opponent. ... The Gators entered the game with an all-time 44-24 record against the Gamecocks, including 1-2 under White. ... The Gators were trying for their sixth Final Four appearance and that includes the titles in 2006 and 2007.

Stanford rallies, reaches Final Four

By Gary B. Graves
Associated Press

Timothy D. Easley/Associated Press

Stanford's Karlie Samuelson (44) falls to the court as she attempts a pass during the second half of a regional final of the NCAA women's college basketball tournament game against Notre Dame on Sunday in Lexington, Ky.

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Even after Alanna Smith and Stanford pulled off a huge rally to put Stanford in position to reach the Final Four, there still was work to do.

That's when Erica McCall stepped up and blocked Notre Dame's path.

Smith's layup with 23 seconds left capped Stanford's comeback from a 16-point deficit in the second half, McCall swatted a last-second shot and the Cardinal edged top-seeded Notre Dame 76-75 Sunday for its first Final Four trip since 2014.

The Irish had the ball under their own basket with 2.2 seconds left and there was a series of timeouts before play resumed. Akire Ogunbowale caught the inbounds pass and drove to the basket, and McCall blocked the shot from behind.

"She took a dribble, and I'm like, I'm going for it whether I get the foul or not," McCall said. "I got a nice clean block off of it. We get the win. Whew, so I'm excited."

Brittany McPhee scored 27 as the second-seeded Cardinal (32-5) won its eighth in a row overall. This was the third straight year Stanford and Notre Dame have met in the NCAA Tournament, with the Cardinal winning the past two in the Lexington Regional.

Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer referencing the Bluegrass State's horse racing history in describing the win at Rupp Arena.

"It took us a while to get going," she said, "but then when we got going, we were charging down that stretch and came across that finish line."

Down 47-31 in the third quarter, Stanford surged to end Notre Dame's 17-game winning streak.

Ogunbowale finished with a team-high 25 points, and the Irish (33-4) put the ball in her hands at the end.

"It was a screen for Arike," Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said of the final shot. "She was wide open and she probably could have shot it. That's hindsight."

The Cardinal is going to the Final Four for the 13th time, and will aim for its third national championship under VanDerveer. The Cardinal also dropped Notre Dame to 7-1 in the Elite Eight.

Among those in the crowd at Rupp Arena was Jon Samuelson, whose daughter, Karlie, scored 15 for Stanford. A day earlier, he was at the Bridgeport Regional to see another daughter, UConn star Katie Lou Samuelson, help the Huskies win their 110th straight game.

Smith finished with 15 points. After driving for a basket with 51 seconds left, she added her biggest shot for the go-ahead score.

MISSISSIPPI

From 1C

"Every time we would get the lead, they would come down and shoot a 3, we would foul, and could never get that one stop that we needed," she said.

William's layup with 22 seconds left in regulation forced overtime. Mississippi State outscored Baylor 19-10 in the extra period.

"It took a gut-check, gut-wrenching performance by our kids today and we delivered," Mississippi State coach Vic Schaefer said. "I thought our kids were unflappable. I thought they were resilient. They showed tremendous toughness, a lot of character in their heart."

Big picture

Mississippi State: The Bulldogs ended last season with a 60-point loss to Connecticut in the Sweet 16. This season, the Bulldogs took it a step further by reaching the Elite Eight for the first time, then beat Baylor, a women's basketball power. The Bulldogs have talked about not getting respect along the way. This victory should boost the program's image.

Baylor: It was more disappointment for the Lady Bears at this stage as a top seed. They were a No. 1 seed in 2011 and lost in the Elite Eight and a top seed last year when they lost to Oregon State in the regional final.

Stat lines

Mississippi State overcame Baylor's 53 percent shooting, in part by committing just four turnovers. On the other end, the Bulldogs scored 20 points off Baylor's 17 turnovers.

"Seventeen turnovers to four, you shouldn't even be in the ballgame, not at the Elite Eight level," Mulkey said. "But we hung around and hung in there."

Dominance

Brown did all she could for Baylor. The 6-foot-7 sophomore center made 11 of 13 shots and had nine rebounds and five blocks.

"They were denying me the ball," she said. "That was pretty much it. They made it hard for me to get open. They made it hard for me to get post touches."

Oklahoma city curse?

Baylor's season has ended with NCAA Tournament losses in Oklahoma City in 2013, 2015 and 2017. The Lady Bears also lost the Big 12 championship game in Oklahoma City this season.

Quotable

Mulkey, on Mississippi State's good fortune: "I knew we were in trouble when they were hitting bank-shot 3s to start the game when the shot clock was winding down. What do you do?"

MEN'S & WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL GLANCE

Men

NCAA Tournament

EAST REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 18
At KeyBank Center
Buffalo, N.Y.
Wisconsin 65, Villanova 62
At Amway Center
Orlando, Fla.
Florida 65, Virginia 39
Sunday, March 19
At Bon Secours Wellness Arena
Greenville, S.C.
South Carolina 88, Duke 81
At BOK Center
Tulsa, Okla.
Baylor 82, Southern Cal 78
At Madison Square Garden
New York
Regional Semifinals
Friday, March 24
South Carolina 70, Baylor 50
Florida 84, Wisconsin 83, OT
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 26
South Carolina 77, Florida 70
SOUTH REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 18
At BMO Harris Bradley Center
Milwaukee
Butler 74, Middle Tennessee 65
Sunday, March 19
At Bon Secours Wellness Arena
Greenville, S.C.
North Carolina 72, Arkansas 65
At Bankers Life Fieldhouse
Indianapolis
Kentucky 65, Wichita State 62
At Golden 1 Center
Sacramento, Calif.
UCLA 79, Cincinnati 67
At FedEx Forum
Memphis, Tenn.
Regional Semifinals
Friday, March 24
North Carolina 92, Butler 80
Kentucky 86, UCLA 75
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 26
North Carolina 75, Kentucky 73

MIDWEST REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 18
At BMO Harris Bradley Center
Milwaukee
Purdue 80, Iowa State 76
Sunday, March 19
At Bankers Life Fieldhouse
Indianapolis
Michigan 73, Louisville 69
At BOK Center
Tulsa, Okla.
Kansas 90, Michigan State 70
At Golden 1 Center
Sacramento, Calif.
Oregon 75, Rhode Island 72
At The Sprint Center
Kansas City, Mo.
Regional Semifinals
Thursday, March 23
Oregon 69, Michigan 68
Kansas 98, Purdue 66
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 25
Oregon 74, Kansas 60
WEST REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 18
At KeyBank Center
Buffalo, N.Y.
West Virginia 83, Notre Dame 71
At Amway Center
Orlando, Fla.
Xavier 91, Florida State 66
At Vivint Smart Home Arena
Salt Lake City
Gonzaga 79, Northwestern 73
Arizona 69, Saint Mary's 60
At SAP Center
San Jose, Calif.
Regional Semifinals
Thursday, March 23
Gonzaga 61, West Virginia 58
Xavier 73, Arizona 71
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 25
Gonzaga 83, Xavier 59
FINAL FOUR
At University of Phoenix Stadium
Glendale, Ariz.
National Semifinals
Saturday, April 1
South Carolina (26-10) vs. Gonzaga (36-1), 5:09 p.m.
North Carolina (31-7) vs. Oregon (33-5), 40 minutes after the conclusion of the first game
National Championship
Monday, April 3
Semifinal winners

CBI Glance

First Round
Wednesday, March 15
Utah Valley 74, Georgia Southern 49
Loyola (Md.) 73, George Mason 58
Coastal Carolina 83, Hampton 67
George Washington 73, Toledo 69
Rice 85, San Francisco 76
UMKC 92, Green Bay 82
Wyoming 91, Eastern Washington 81
Thursday, March 16
UIC 71, Stony Brook 69
Quarterfinals
Monday, March 20
Coastal Carolina 72, Loyola (Md.) 63
UIC 80, George Washington 71
Utah Valley 85, Rice 79
Wyoming 72, UMKC 61
Semifinals
Wednesday, March 22
Coastal Carolina 69, UIC 78
Wyoming 74, Utah Valley 69
Championship Series
(Best-of-3)
(x-if necessary)
Monday, March 27
Wyoming (21-14) at Coastal Carolina (19-17), 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 29
Coastal Carolina at Wyoming, 8 p.m.
Friday, March 31
x-Coastal Carolina at Wyoming, 6 p.m.

Women

NCAA Women's Tournament Glance

BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL
Second Round
Sunday, March 19
At College Park, Md.
Maryland 83, West Virginia 56
Monday, March 20
At Storrs, Conn.
UConn 94, Syracuse 64
At Durham, N.C.
Oregon 74, Duke 65
At Los Angeles
UCLA 75, Texas A&M 43
Regional Semifinals
Saturday, March 25
At Bridgeport, Conn.
Oregon 77, Maryland 63
UConn 88, UCLA 71
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
Oregon (23-13) vs. UConn (39-0), 6 p.m.
OKLAHOMA CITY REGIONAL
Second Round
Sunday, March 19
At Starkville, Miss.
Mississippi State 92, DePaul 71
Monday, March 20
At Louisville, Ky.
Louisville 75, Tennessee 64
At Seattle
Washington 105, Oklahoma 82
At Waco, Texas
Baylor 86, California 46
Regional Semifinals
Friday, March 24
At Oklahoma City
Mississippi State 75, Washington 64
Baylor 97, Louisville 83
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 26
Mississippi State 94, Baylor 85, OT
LEXINGTON REGIONAL
Second Round
Sunday, March 19
At Lexington, Ky.
Ohio State 82, Kentucky 68
At Austin, Texas
Texas 64, N.C. State 60
At South Bend, Ind.
Notre Dame 88, Purdue 62, OT
Monday, March 20
At Manhattan, Kan.
Stanford 69, Kansas State 48
Regional Semifinals
Friday, March 24
At Lexington, Ky.
Notre Dame 98, Ohio State 76
Stanford 77, Texas 66
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 26
Stanford 76, Notre Dame 75
STOCKTON REGIONAL
Second Round
Sunday, March 19
At Columbia, S.C.
South Carolina 71, Arizona State 68
At Tallahassee, Fla.
Florida State 77, Missouri 55
At Corvallis, Ore.
Oregon State 64, Creighton 52
Monday, March 20
At Coral Gables, Fla.
Quinnipiac 85, Miami 78
Regional Semifinals
Saturday, March 25
At Stockton, Calif.
South Carolina 100, Quinnipiac 58
Florida State 66, Oregon State 53
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
South Carolina (30-4) vs. Florida State (28-6), 8 p.m.
FINAL FOUR
At Dallas
National Semifinals
Friday, March 31
Bridgeport winner vs. Mississippi State (33-4)
Stanford (32-6) vs. Stockton winner
National Championship
Sunday, April 2
Semifinal winners

WNIT Glance

First Round
Wednesday, March 15
Little Rock 72, Southern Miss 62
Thursday, March 16
Georgia Tech 71, Jacksonville 55
UCF 73, Stetson 53
Michigan 67, Kent State 60
Wright State 66, Central Michigan 64
Wake Forest 71, Bethune-Cookman 42
Indiana 71, Ball State 58
Grambling State 78, Mississippi 75
Iowa 95, Missouri State 74
South Dakota 78, North Dakota 55
Abilene Christian 66, Oklahoma State 56
Saint Louis 62, IUPUI 57
Tulane 62, UT Arlington 53
Alabama 81, Mercer 57
South Dakota State 94, Northern Illinois 44
Wyoming 68, Seattle 52
Colorado 98, UNLV 52
Washington State 72, BYU 64
Colorado State 80, Saint Mary's 68, OT
Middle Tennessee 67, Morehead State 58
Friday, March 17
Villanova 69, Princeton 53
St. John's 72, Sacred Heart 41
Penn State 74, Ohio 65
Fordham 62, Georgetown 49
Navy 61, George Washington 51, OT
Virginia Tech 78, Rider 62
Drexel 70, Duquesne 47
James Madison 80, Radford 59
Virginia 62, Saint Joseph's 56
Harvard 69, New Hampshire 56
SMU 75, Louisiana Tech 70, OT
UC Davis 72, Utah 62
Second Round
Saturday, March 18
Michigan 71, Wright State 66
Iowa 78, South Dakota 73
Washington State 68, Wyoming 67, OT
Sunday, March 19
Indiana 71, Saint Louis 53
St. John's 80, Harvard 55
Villanova 56, Drexel 51
James Madison 61, Virginia 55
Virginia Tech 73, Navy 62
Penn State 70, Fordham 51
Colorado 81, South Dakota State 75, OT
Alabama 55, Little Rock 53
Middle Tennessee 73, Wake Forest 66
UC Davis 58, Colorado State 57
Georgia Tech 63, UCF 51
Tulane 66, Grambling State 49
Monday, March 20
SMU 59, Abilene Christian 52
Third Round
Thursday March 23
Michigan 60, St. John's 40
Georgia Tech 70, Middle Tennessee 57
Virginia Tech 64, Penn State 55
Villanova 64, James Madison 47, OT
Indiana 64, SMU 44
Iowa 80, Colorado 62
Alabama 72, Tulane 64
Washington State 71, UC Davis 62
Quarterfinals
Saturday, March 25
Michigan 80, Virginia Tech 62
Sunday, March 26
Villanova 69, Indiana 57
Georgia Tech 76, Alabama 66
Washington State 74, Iowa 66
Semifinals
Wednesday, March 29
Washington State at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m.
Villanova at Michigan, 6 p.m.
Championship
Saturday, April 1
TBD, 2 p.m.

Lee wins Kia by tying tournament record at 20-under par

By Bernie Wilson
Associated Press

CARLSBAD, Calif. — Mirim Lee took the lead into the final round of the Kia Classic two years ago and was overhauled by Cristie Kerr, who won with a tournament record of 20-under.

Lee had the 54-hole lead again this year, and she wasn't about to let anyone catch her.

Lee, of South Korea, shot a 7-under 65 to win by six strokes Sunday and tie Kerr's tournament record.

It was her third LPGA Tour victory and first since winning two titles in 2014, her rookie year.

She played a bogey-free round at Aviara, with birdies on each of the odd-numbered holes on the front nine to reach 18-under.

Lee twice just missed putts that would have put her at 21-under. She left an eagle putt short on 16 and then rolled a 40-foot birdie putt even with the hole on 18.

She was so far ahead, she wasn't tempted to think about the lead she lost in 2015.

"I just thought I didn't play very well at that time. Today, I tried not to think about it," she said.

Lee was doused with water by fellow South Koreans Mi Jung Hur and In Gee Chun.

"Only the winner can enjoy the moment so it was very special," said Lee, who came into the final hole with a one-shot lead over Hur.

If Lee wins the season's first major next weekend, the ANA Inspiration at Mission Hills in Rancho Mirage, she can get another wet celebration — by jumping into Poppie's Pond.

Ryu (66) and Austin Ernst (67) of Greenville, South Carolina, tied for second at 14-under.

Kerr (70) was in a group of five at 12-under.

Lee "was at 20-under. I knew at that point you're basically playing for second place unless she does something coming down the stretch," Ernst said. "I think Mirim had a good lead all day. She played really good golf. Your entire game needs to be solid here."

Said Ryu: "It's really great to see Korean players keep playing well. Also, I always feel very proud to see many Korean companies sponsoring the LPGA tournament. We just have a kind of like responsibility to play well on the LPGA. Hopefully a lot of fans are having a lot fun to watch her play. Yeah, if another Korean girl is going to win the tournament, hopefully next one is going to be me."

LPGA
Sunday
At Aviara Golf Course
Carlsbad, Calif.
Purse: $1.8 million
Yardage: 6,609; Par: 72
Final

Mirim Lee, $270,000	68-68-67-65—268
So Yeon Ryu, $144,126	73-70-65-66—274
Austin Ernst, $144,126	70-68-69-67—274
Gerina Piller, $65,580	69-72-67-68—276
Sung Hyun Park, $65,580	70-69-69-68—276
Karrine Icher, $65,580	68-70-69-69—276
Cristie Kerr, $65,580	66-69-71-70—276
Mi Jung Hur, $65,580	71-67-66-72—276
Shanshan Feng, $40,702	70-72-70-65—277
In Gee Chun, $37,043	66-73-67-72—278
Lizette Salas, $28,550	70-73-71-65—279
Caroline Hedwall, $28,550	71-70-70-68—279
Peiyun Chien, $28,550	73-66-72-68—279
Lexi Thompson, $28,550	70-69-72-68—279
Moriya Jutanugarn, $28,550	68-71-70-70—279
Mo Martin, $28,550	66-70-72-71—279
Brittany Lincicome, $28,550	69-71-67-72—279
Angela Stanford, $21,830	71-71-69-69—280
Caroline Masson, $21,830	69-71-70-70—280
Jackie Stoelting, $21,830	69-69-70-72—280
Pornanong Phatlum, $17,214	70-73-71-65—281
Beatriz Recari, $17,214	73-70-71-67—281
Sarah Jane Smith, $17,214	71-69-73-68—281
Jodi Ewart Shadoff, $17,214	72-67-74-68—281
Carlota Ciganda, $17,214	71-73-66-71—281
Inbee Park, $17,214	70-74-66-71—281
Sei Young Kim, $17,214	71-70-69-71—281
Anna Nordqvist, $17,214	69-72-69-71—281
Michelle Wie, $17,214	72-70-67-72—281
Ariya Jutanugarn, $17,214	74-67-68-72—281
Shi Hyun Ahn, $12,988	70-75-74-63—282
Jeong Eun Lee, $12,988	71-72-68-71—282
Ryann O'Toole, $12,988	71-72-68-71—282
Hyo Joo Kim, $12,988	68-75-68-71—282
Suzann Pettersen, $10,176	70-73-73-68—283
Haru Nomura, $10,176	72-69-73-69—283
Mika Miyazato, $10,176	73-71-69-70—283
Jing Yan, $10,176	70-74-69-70—283
Azahara Munoz, $10,176	69-75-69-70—283
Kim Kaufman, $10,176	74-68-71-70—283
So Oh, $10,176	72-71-69-71—283
Catriona Matthew, $10,176	70-72-70-71—283
Alison Lee, $8,232	68-73-70-73—284
Madelene Sagstrom, $8,232	72-70-68-74—284
Jacqui Concolino, $7,363	72-73-71-69—285
Sun Young Yoo, $7,363	74-71-70-70—285
Stacy Lewis, $7,363	73-70-71-71—285
Jaye Marie Green, $7,363	70-74-69-72—285
Jennifer Ha, $5,956	74-67-75-69—286
Nelly Korda, $5,956	73-71-72-70—286
Beth Allen, $5,956	70-71-75-70—286
Ilhee Lee, $5,956	74-70-71-71—286
Katie Burnett, $5,956	69-75-71-71—286
Marissa L. Steen, $5,956	68-74-73-71—286
Kelly W Shon, $5,956	70-74-69-73—286
Jenny Shin, $5,956	72-69-72-73—286
Vicky Hurst, $5,031	71-73-70-73—287
Dani Holmqvist, $5,031	70-74-69-74—287
Candie Kung, $4,604	70-75-73-70—288
Brittany Lang, $4,604	72-70-74-72—288
Nasa Hataoka, $4,604	70-72-69-78—289
Pernilla Lindberg, $4,344	71-73-72-73—289
Chella Choi, $4,344	71-69-76-73—289
Paula Creamer, $4,070	71-74-73-72—290
Ha Na Jang, $4,070	72-74-72-72—290
Ai Miyazato, $4,070	72-69-76-73—290
Min Seo Kwak, $4,070	74-70-72-74—290
Juli Inkster, $3,750	70-72-79-70—291
Kris Tamulis, $3,750	74-70-74-73—291
Thidapa Suwannapura, $3,750	70-74-73-74—291
Maria Parra, $3,614	71-72-77-76—296

MATCH

From 1C

"That was a tough day, a long day," Johnson said. "I'm proud of the way I played, the way I hung in there."

None of his first five matches went longer than 16 holes until Sunday, when Johnson faced the first threat of the week. Hideto Tanihara caught him with two birdies on the back nine, and Johnson needed a pitching wedge to 6 feet on the short but troublesome par-3 17th to take the lead again. Then, he had to make an 8-foot par putt to beat Tanihara and avoid extra holes.

Rahm, who dispatched of Bill Haas in the semifinals, 3 and 2, wanted to face the hottest player in golf in the championship. And for the longest time, it looked as though the 22-year-old Spaniard regretted it.

Rahm gave away three straight holes by missing par putts from 6 feet and 8 feet, and missing a birdie putt from 4 feet. Johnson stretched his lead to 5 up with yet another bogey by Rahm, and it looked as though this match might be over early.

Not so fast.

Rahm, who already is No. 14 in the world in just his 15th tournament as a pro, began chipping away. Johnson three-putted the 10th hole for the third straight match, regained momentum with a two-putt birdie on the 12th hole — Rahm hit his tee shot downhill and downwind at 438 yards, Johnson at 424 yards — and then the Spaniard began his remarkable rally that came up short.

The result was another victory for Johnson, the 15th of his career, and makes him the clear-cut favorite at the Masters in two weeks. The next stop is the Houston Open, where another victory would make him the first player since Tiger Woods in 2008 to win four straight tournaments.

Johnson became just the second player in the 19-year history of this event to never trail the entire week. Luke Donald did it in 2001, but that was before round-robin play and so Donald played only six 18-hole matches that week.

Not only did Johnson never trail, he led in 94 percent of the holes he played. Donald was ahead in 91 percent of his matches.

Johnson previously won the Mexico Championship earlier this month (and Cadillac Championship at Doral in 2015), the HSBC Champions in Shanghai in 2013 and the Bridgestone Invitational last summer at Firestone.

That gives him five World Golf Championships, well short of the 18 that Woods won. Woods only played the HSBC Champions twice after it became a WGC event in 2009.

Match Play
Sunday
At Austin Country Club
Austin, Texas
Yardage: 7,108; Par: 71
Semifinals
(Seedings in parentheses)

Jon Rahm (21), Spain, def. Bill Haas (42), United States, 3 and 2.
Dustin Johnson (1), United States, def. Hideto Tanihara (54), Japan, 1 up.

Championship

Dustin Johnson (1), United States, def. Jon Rahm (21), Spain, 1 up.

Consolation

Bill Haas (42), United States, def. Hideto Tanihara (54), Japan, 2 and 1.

NBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
x-Boston	48	26	.649	—
x-Toronto	44	29	.603	3½
Philadelphia	27	46	.370	20½
New York	27	46	.370	20½
Brooklyn	18	57	.219	31½
Southeast Division				
x-Washington	45	28	.616	—
Atlanta	37	36	.507	8
Miami	35	38	.479	10
Charlotte	33	40	.452	12
Orlando	27	46	.370	18
Central Division				
z-Cleveland	47	25	.653	—
Milwaukee	37	36	.507	10½
Indiana	37	36	.507	10½
Chicago	35	39	.473	13
Detroit	34	39	.466	13½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
x-San Antonio	56	16	.778	—
x-Houston	51	22	.699	5½
Memphis	40	32	.556	16
Dallas	31	41	.431	25
New Orleans	31	42	.425	25½
Northwest Division				
Utah	44	29	.603	—
Oklahoma City	41	31	.569	2½
Denver	35	38	.479	9
Portland	34	38	.472	9½
Minnesota	28	44	.389	15½
Pacific Division				
z-Golden State	59	14	.808	—
x-L.A. Clippers	44	31	.587	16
Sacramento	28	45	.384	31
Phoenix	22	51	.297	37½
L.A. Lakers	21	51	.292	37½

x-clinched playoff spot
z-clinched division

Sunday's Games

Brooklyn 107, Atlanta 92
Charlotte 120, Phoenix 106
Chicago 109, Milwaukee 94
Houston 137, Oklahoma City 125
Sacramento 98, L.A. Clippers 97
Boston 112, Miami 108
Indiana 107, Philadelphia 94
Golden State 108, Memphis 94
New Orleans 115, Denver 90
Portland at L.A. Lakers, late

Monday's Games

Detroit at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Orlando at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
Cleveland at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Memphis at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Utah, 9:30 p.m.

NBA ROUNDUP

ROCKETS 137, THUNDER 125

HOUSTON — Lou Williams scored 31 points, James Harden finished with 22 points and 12 assists, and the Houston Rockets cruised to a 137-125 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Sunday.

Oklahoma City star Russell Westbrook had 39 points, 11 rebounds and 13 assists for his second straight triple-double and his 36th this season, but Harden led the Rockets to a 25-point lead through three quarters in the matchup between top MVP candidates.

Trevor Ariza and Eric Gordon added 24 points apiece for the Rockets, whose lead was trimmed to eight on a 3-pointer by Westbrook with about 90 seconds left. The Rockets then scored four quick points to secure the victory.

CELTICS 112, HEAT 108

BOSTON — Isaiah Thomas scored 30 points, including 20 in the second half, and Boston beat Miami for its fourth straight victory.

The win moved Boston (48-26) within percentage points of Cleveland (47-25) for the top spot in the Eastern Conference. The Celtics also equaled their win total from last season.

Jae Crowder added 25 points and six rebounds for the Celtics.

BULLS 109, BUCKS 94

MILWAUKEE — Nikola Mirotic tied a season high with 28 points, Jimmy Butler had 20 points and a career-high 14 assists, and the Bulls pulled away for the win.

Butler broke his previous career best for assists (12) by the end of a pivotal third quarter, when Chicago stretched a one-point lead at the half to 91-79 going into the fourth.

Butler punctuated the second-half runaway with a backcourt steal off a telegraphed pass by Greg Monroe before strolling the other way for an easy dunk and 17-point lead with 8:55 left.

KINGS 98, CLIPPERS 97

LOS ANGELES — Willie Cauley-Stein made a follow shot with two seconds left, lifting Sacramento to the road win.

Down 85-67 early in the fourth, the Kings rallied while Blake Griffin, Chris Paul and DeAndre Jordan were resting. Buddy Hield hit three 3-pointers in the final minutes, pulling the Kings to 96-93 with 2:10 to play.

Griffin made one of two free throws with 1:57 left before the Kings cut it to 97-96 on Langston Galloway's 3-pointer with 1:23 to play.

After Jamal Crawford missed a 3-pointer, Cauley-Stein finished off a fast break with the deciding basket.

Darren Collison led the Kings with 19 points. Hield added 15 as the Kings snapped a four-game losing streak and won for only the third time in 15 games.

HORNETS 120, SUNS 106

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Kemba Walker had 31 points and nine assists, and Charlotte handed Phoenix its eighth straight loss.

Marvin Williams added 21 points and Nic Batum had 18 points and 10 assists for the Hornets, who have won four of their last five games as they try to make a late playoff push.

Suns guard Devin Booker, who became the sixth player in NBA history to score 70 points in a loss Saturday night to the Boston Celtics, got off to a slow start but finished with 23 points on 7-of-17 shooting. TJ Warren had 21 points and 10 rebounds.

NETS 107, HAWKS 91

ATLANTA — Brook Lopez scored 23 points and Brooklyn handed Atlanta its seventh straight loss.

Jeremy Lin had 19 points for the Nets (16-57), who have won three of four and are 7-8 in March.

The Hawks are tied with Milwaukee for fifth in the Eastern Conference.

Atlanta (37-36) continued to struggle without All-Star Paul Millsap, who missed his fifth straight game with left knee tightness. The Hawks also were without Kent Bazemore, who missed his fourth straight game with a right knee bone bruise, and Thabo Sefolosha (right groin strain).

PACERS 107, 76ERS 94

INDIANAPOLIS — Myles Turner had 17 points and 16 rebounds, Paul George scored 21 and Indiana topped Philadelphia.

Jeff Teague added 16 points for the Pacers, who used a 30-point third quarter to turn a six-point halftime lead into a 12-point advantage as they snapped a two-game skid.

Indiana (37-36) moved into a tie for fifth place in the Eastern Conference with Atlanta and Milwaukee. The Pacers will play both the Bucks and Hawks during their final nine games of the season.

WARRIORS 106, GRIZZLIES 94

OAKLAND, Calif. — Klay Thompson scored 21 of his 31 points in the second half and the Golden State Warriors pulled away in the fourth quarter to beat the Memphis Grizzlies 106-94 on Sunday for their seventh straight win.

Stephen Curry added 21 points and 11 assists, Andre Iguodala scored 20 and Draymond Green had nine points and seven rebounds as the Warriors (59-14) extended their lead to 2 ½ games over the San Antonio Spurs in the race for the top spot in the West.

The win did more than keep Golden State in front of San Antonio. It also kicked off a stretch of five games in eight days when the Warriors will face playoff contenders Houston (twice), San Antonio and Washington.

WEST TEXAS SPORTS

To submit an item for West Texas Sports, please either fax, bring in, mail or email your information in hard-copy form to the Reporter-Telegram sports department.

Please make your submission as detailed as possible, including dates of events, deadlines, fees, age groups, etc.

To bring your item to the MRT, come to 201 E. Illinois Ave. in Midland. To mail your information, send it to Reporter-Telegram, c/o Sports Department, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

You can email it to sports@mrt.com.

Baseball

GCM Baseball Academy
What: Professional private baseball lessons & clinics covering pitching, fielding, catching and hitting provided by three former professional players
For: Ages 5 & up
Cost: Individual lessons $65 an hour or $40 for 30 minutes. Bulk purchases & group lesson rates available at discount
For more info: Call (432) 425-6108

Private batting and pitching instruction
For more info: Call Danny Jordan at 230-0096 for instruction on mechanics and pitch selection in a one-on-one setting

Private hitting and catching instruction
For more info: Call Scott Chapman at 967-2364 for instruction in a one-on-one environment

Pitching, hitting and fielding lessons
For more info: Call Midland High baseball coach Barry Russell at 296-2438

Private Baseball/Softball lessons
For more info: Contact Extra Innings Midland/Odessa at (432) 617-4487 or visit www.extrainnings-midlandodessa.com

Midland Little League Umpires Needed
For more info: Contact 889-6060

WTX Baseball
What: Instruction for players 5 and up
For more info: wtxbaseball.com; facebook.com/wtxbaseballmidland; 413-0329

Basketball

Permian Basketball Association needs officials
For more info: Jim Cox, 685-4143 or 553-3714

YMCA needs basketball referees
For more info: 682-2551

Midland Hoops 32 Basketball Skills Training
Cost: $25 per session, one to two people; $15 for groups of three or more
For more info: Contact Eddie Venzant at 254-6894 or go to midlandhoops32.com; venzantedie@yahoo.com

Bowling

Tuesday Night Petroleum Men's League
When: Meets at 6:45 p.m.
For more info: Melton Post 684-5176 or Cactus Lanes 694-0177

Edith McElmore

Three-Person League
When: 10 a.m. Wednesdays
Where: AMF Lanes
For more info: Call AMF Lanes at 689-9725

Reed's Super Bowl
What: Fall/winter leagues registration is currently ongoing
For more info: Call 432-704-5385

Rock n' Bowl
When: 8 p.m. - 1 a.m. Saturdays
Where: Reed's Super Bowl, 3920 W. Wall St.
Cost: $10-25
For more info: Call Zoe Reed at 575-399-5241 or Kevin Reed at 575-441-6646

Color Pin Bowling
When: 7:30 p.m. Fridays
Where: Reed's Super Bowl
Cost: $18 for three games. Cash prizes awarded.
For more info: Call Zoe Reed at 575-399-5241 or Kevin Reed at 575-441-6646

Camps/Clinics

Ten Star All Star Camp
For whom: Boys and girls ages 10-19
For more info: Call (704) 373-0873 for a brochure

COM Aquatic Camps
What: Swimming, diving, snorkeling
Ages: Preschool and grade school
For more info: Call 684-7755

Tennis clinics and lessons
Contact Coach Jon Lanier for clinics and lessons at jlanier@midlandchristianschool.org

Elite Training Soccer Camp
When/where: June 12-16, Hobbs, N.M.
Fee: $150 before April 1, $200 after
For more info: eliteprotrainingcoach@yahoo.com

Cycling

Permian Basin Bicycle Association Meetings
When: 7 p.m., third Monday of every month
Where: MCH Mission Fitness, corner of Highway 191 and Faudree Road, Odessa
Dues: $25/$30 for a family
For more info: Peyton's Bikes 699-1718 or go to www.pbbatv.com

Dodgeball

Sticks and Kicks Leagues
Who: Kids, adults, co-ed players
Cost: $35 per player (8 game season)
Where: Register at Sticks and Kicks, 3918 W. Wall
For more info: Call 520-6633

Flag Football

YMCA Officials Needed
What: The YMCA needs officials for Youth Flag Football games Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
For more info: Call 682-2551

Football

Permian Basin Officials Chapter seeks officials
Note: Education and training will be provided
For more info: Call Terrell Pierce at 559-5004 or Jesse Mendoza at 432-254-8014

Golf

2017 Jackalopes Golf Tournament
When/where: Tuesday, March 28, Andrews County Golf Course, 1 p.m. shotgun start
Cost: $500 for 3-man team o $175 for an individual. Sponsorships also available
For more info: Call the Odessa Jackalopes at 432-552-7825 or stop by the Jacks office at 4201 Andrews Highway in Odessa.

Lacrosse

West Texas Lacrosse Spring 2017 Learn 2 Play Clinics & Games
What: Learn the lacrosse basics, rules and play scrimmage games
For: Boys 3rd through 8th grades
When: 2:30-3:30 p.m. Sundays, March 19-April 23 (except April 16)
Where: Scharbauer Sports Complex-Auxiliary Turf Fields
For more info: Go to www.westtexaslacrosse.org

Martial Arts

Aikido
When: Monday-Friday, 7 to 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 12:30 p.m.
Note: Specializing in traditional Hombu style Aikido
For more info: Call John Riggs, 684-7008 or 770-3155

Private Martial Art/Self-Defense Lessons
For: Men-Women-Children
What: Learn Basic Skills to Advanced Techniques
Note: Private, Semi-Private and Group Lessons are available
For more info: Call Master Oscar Jimenez, 432-559-5009, ojimenez3@att.net

Matthews Martial Arts
When: Monday through Thursday, 5-8 p.m.
What: Karate-Judo-Jujitsu-Kempo-KungFu
For: Ages 3 and up
Where: 3205 Cuthbert
For more info: Contact Jason Matthews at 488-7467 or 689-8444

Miscellaneous

Student-Athlete Sports Consultant
For: Assisting high school student athletes with academic-athletic scholarships
For more info: Call Jacob Santillano at (915) 240-1030

Poker

Lone Star Poker League
What: Free to play Texas Hold 'em Poker tournaments.
For: Beginners to experienced players. Ages 21 and up.
When/where: 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Wednesday and Friday at Woolers & Tweeters; 6:30 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday at Rednecks Drafthouse. Players must be signed in by 6:15 p.m. each night.
For more info: Go to www.lonestarpokertour.net

Professional Wrestling

Old School Wrestling School
What: Professional wrestling school for all ages.
Where: 404 E. 61st St., Odessa
When: 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; 2-6 p.m. Sundays
Cost: $50 down, $35 a month.
For more info: Call Fred, 770-7001, or Sam, 349-3055

Rugby

Mad Dog Rugby Football Club
Practices: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. at Reyes-Mastburn Park (north field)
For more info call: 432-697-6418

Running

Permian Basin Running Club
Cost: $20 per year for individual membership; $30 for per year for family membership
For more info: Go to www.pbrunningclub.com or email Shawn Hailey, president at haileyshawn@pbrunningclub.com

Gazelles Training Group
When: 6 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
For more info: Call Popcorn Leonard at 512-762-1020 or 682-0988

Shooting

Comanche Trail Shootists
What: Single Action Shooting Society affiliated club in Midland
When: Monthly shoots first Saturday and third Sunday of each month; first Saturday beginning at 10 a.m.; Third Sunday from 1 p.m. (Mandatory safety meeting at 12:30 p.m.) Also shoot on fifth Sunday on months that have them (begin at 1 p.m. and are no cost to the shooter); Mandatory safety meeting at 9:30 a.m.
Where: Timberline Ranch adjacent to Jake's Claye
For more info: Go to comanchetrailshootists.org or call Hoodoo Brown 682-1422

Midland Shooters Association
What: All types of shooting practice and competition, featuring archery, benchrest rifle, bulls-eye rifle, high power rifle, pistol silhouette, rimfire silhouette, 3 gun, practical pistol, skeet, trap 5 state and sporting clays.
When: Members can access rifle and pistol ranges from sunrise to sunset seven days a week. Shotgun ranges open 11 a.m. until dusk Wednesday to Sunday
For more info: Go to www.midlandshooters.com

Soccer

Permian Basin Soccer Association
What: Registration for women's spring/summer season
Where: Dunagan Park, located at corner of Giel and Terrell
When: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 7-8:30 p.m.
For more info: Contact Jesus Chavez at 557-7032 anytime or Josh Chavez at 238-6947 after 6:30 p.m.

Midland Soccer Association
For: Youth Recreational League Ages 4-18
When: Spring/Fall Games
Note: Also information on becoming a certified referee
For more info: Register online at www.midlandsoccer.com and go to 432-684-5425

Softball

Midland Softball Association Tournament Schedule
Now available at www.midlandsoftball.com.
For more info: call Tommy Hawkins at 520-9100

Midland Men's Woodbat Fastpitch Association
For more info: Call 634-6474 or visit www.facebook.com/pages/Midland-Texas-Mens-Fastpitch or wydsfastpitch@gmail.com

Swimming

COM Pre-competitive swimming
Where: Mabee Aquatic Center
Cost: $49 per month
Prerequisite: Must be able to swim 25 yards of freestyle or backstroke
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Water Aerobics Classes
When: All times, Monday through Saturday
Who: All skill levels
For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755

COM Learn to Swim
Ages: All ages
Note: Private, semi-private and group lessons are available
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Masters Swimming
What: Competitive or non-competitive program for adults of all skill levels
When: 5-6 a.m., 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Cost: $40 per month (includes cardio training)
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Diving Instruction
Who: All ages and levels invited
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Learn to Dive
What: Learn basic skills for beginners then advance to pre-competitive and competitive diving that emphasize skilled diving techniques and participation in diving meets
Ages: 4 and up
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Competitive Dive Team
Who: Try out for Bronze, Silver, Gold Prep or Gold levels of COM Dive Team.
What: Emphasizes is on diving techniques and participation in local and out of town competitive meets
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Elite Dive Team
What: Highest level of COM diving. Concentrates on perfecting Olympic level skills, national and international travel
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Competitive Swim Team
Who: Try out for COM Swim Team, tryouts available by appointment
What: Emphasizes stroke correction and participation in local and out of town competitive meets
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Adult Conditioning
What: Allows adult participation use of top quality lap pools and fitness room during specified hours
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Water Walking Class
What: Unstructured, self-paced class
For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755

COM Senior Fitness Class
Who: Senior citizens that need help with physical conditions resulting from injury, disease, chronic conditions, advanced age, etc.
For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755

Central YMCA Water Aerobics Classes
When: Early morning, morning and evening
For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Central YMCA Swimming Lessons
Who: All ages and ability
For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Central YMCA Arthritis Water Exercise Classes
When: Monday, Wednesday, Friday
For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Central YMCA Synchronized Swimming
For: Ages 6 and up
For more information: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Tennis

West Texas Tennis Association
What: West Texas Tennis Association, a non-profit community tennis association, promotes and oversees USTA leagues, programs and events in the area.
For more info: Call 432-210-0611 or www.westtexastennis.com for more information.

Bush Tennis Center Clinics
What: Balloon Tennis 34 (ages 3-4); Redball 58 (ages 5-8); Orange and Green Ball 910 (ages 9-10); Junior Development (8th-9th grade; freshman-JV); Junior Select (varsity); RSR Adults (adult beginners); Intermediate Adults; 4.0-5.0 Adults (advanced adults); Also Junior Team Tennis registration now open
Where: Bush Tennis Center
For more info: Visit www.bushtenniscenter.com or call, 620-8180.

USTA Team Tennis Adult Leagues
When: Leagues run May through November
Where: Midland College Tennis Center
For more info: Sherry 620-8610 or Email www.midlandtennis@aol.com

Midland College Tennis
What: Clinics, lessons, leagues, tournaments
Where: Midland College Tennis Center
For more info: Call 687-4046

Midland College Tennis Club
When: A community tennis club
Where: Midland College Tennis Center
Annual Dues: Adults $65, youths $30, families $140
For more info: Call 563-1333 or email midlandtennisclub@aol.com

Midland Women's Tennis Association
Social women's doubles tennis, all levels
When: 9 a.m. Tuesdays
Where: Midland College
For more info: Call 954-707-0622 or email jmalcolmtexas@gmail.com. Or go to the Midland Women's Tennis Association Facebook page

UTSA Mixed 40 and Over Mixed Doubles League Weekend
When/where: April 7-9, Bush Tennis Center
What: All players age 40 and over by the date Dec. 31, 2017 are welcomed to play. Four different competitions include levels: 6.0, 7.0, 8.0 and 9.0. The winning team advances to sectionals June 2-4 in San Antonio.
For more info: Visit westtexastennis.com or e-mail westtexastennis@gmail.com

Ultimate Frisbee

Midland Drought Ultimate Frisbee Club
What: The Club plays weekly casual pick-up games on Monday (from 7 p.m. to dark) and Saturday mornings (from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) and offer occasional opportunities for tourney travel
For ages: Males and females from the high school level to adult
For more info: Go to www.midlandultimatefrisbee.weebly.com or call Matt at 432-288-3139

Walking

Midland Walkabout AVA Club
For: All Ages
Annual dues: $15 per family
Walks: One Saturday morning per month
When: First Monday of the month at Murray's Deli on Wadley at 6 p.m.
Who: All ages
For more info: Call 432-697-4310, email gary.petersen@mygrande.net or visit midlandwalkabout.wordpress.com

Vettel breaks Ferrari's F1 drought with victory at Aussie GP

By John Pye
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Sebastian Vettel jumped onto the podium at the Australian Grand Prix and held up his right index finger, celebrating the end of Ferrari's Formula One drought and a break in the Mercedes dominance.

It was back to No. 1 for Ferrari, at least after one race to open the season.

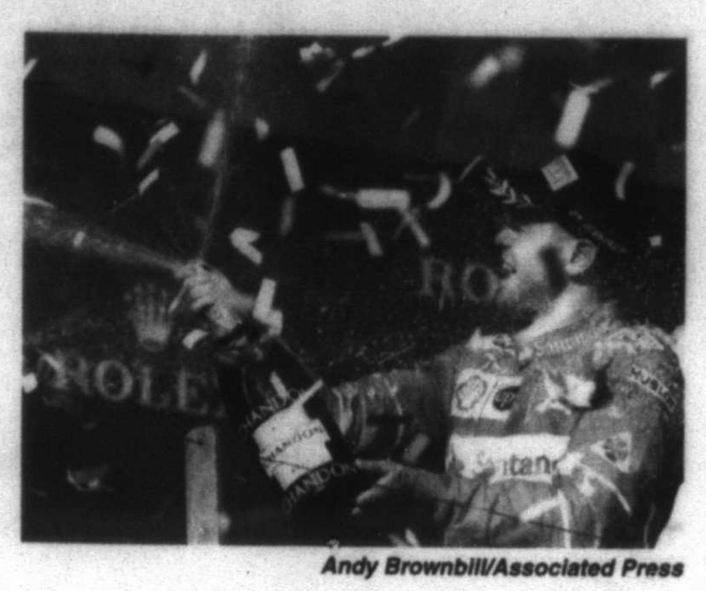
Ferrari hadn't won an F1 GP since Vettel's victory in Singapore in September 2015, and so his unrestrained joy on Sunday signaled renewed confidence from him.

"For now, we're just over the moon," four-time world champion Vettel said after holding off Mercedes teammates Lewis Hamilton and Valtteri Bottas. "It's been a great day for us. The team has been working so hard at the track as much as back at the factory. It's a great feeling."

"Grazie mille," he added, a nod to the Italian manufacturer, "you can't say much more."

With regulations designed to make the 2017 F1 cars faster — wider tires, greater aerodynamics, bigger fuel loads and increased downforce — Vettel proved Ferrari's extra pace in pre-season testing was genuine.

"It's good to know we have a great car but it's just the beginning ... with new regulations, a new generation of cars," Vettel said. "Mercedes have a great engine and a great car the last couple of years — we're the ones who've had to catch up. Whatever happens this year, the race today doesn't hurt."



Andy Brownbill/Associated Press

Ferrari driver Sebastian Vettel, of Germany, sprays champagne as confetti falls around him after winning the Australian Formula One Grand Prix on Sunday in Melbourne, Australia.

Vettel finished in 1 hour, 24 minutes and 11.672 seconds, almost 10 seconds clear of Hamilton, to give Ferrari its first win in Australia since Kimi Raikkonen took the title in 2007. Raikkonen, in the second Ferrari, finished fourth this year.

For the second year running, Hamilton started on pole position at the Albert Park circuit and placed second. Last year, he lost to then Mercedes teammate Nico Rosberg, who went on to edge him for the world championship before retiring. This time, Vettel took the lead when Hamilton pitted for new tires on lap 18 and then got stuck in traffic behind Red Bull driver Max Verstappen.

Vettel was able to pit much later and gradually build up his lead as Hamilton drove conservatively on older tires to ensure he finished the race.

"That's motor racing," Hamilton said of the hold-up, adding it was his decision to pit and change tires. "A big congratulations to Sebastian and Ferrari.

"This shows we've got a real race on our hands this season and it's a challenge we will relish. It's going to be great for the fans."

Mercedes won 19 of the 21 GPs last season, and Red Bull won the other two. But Red Bull was well off the pace in Melbourne, with Verstappen placing fifth — almost 29 seconds behind Vettel — and local hope Daniel Ricciardo failing to finish.

In fact, the Australian driver almost didn't start. Ricciardo's day started badly and kept getting worse as he got a grid penalty, missed the start after a mechanical failure in the warmup, and then retired after 28 laps.

He was among seven drivers who retired during the race. Former champion Fernando Alonso continued to struggle in his McLaren, retiring on the 50th of 57 laps, while 18-year-old Canadian rookie Lance Stroll was handed a grid penalty after needing an unscheduled gearbox change after a crash in practice and was wayward in his 40 laps on debut for Williams.

Felipe Massa earned points for Williams with a sixth-place finish, while Force India teammates Sergio Perez and Esteban Ocon were 7th and 10th in their pink cars and finished either side of Toro Rosso drivers Carlos Sainz and Daniil Kvyat.

F1-Australian Grand Prix
Sunday
At Melbourne Grand Prix circuit
Melbourne, Australia
Lap length: 3.29 miles

1. Sebastian Vettel, Ferrari, 57 laps, 1:24:11.672, 25 points.
2. Lewis Hamilton, Mercedes, 57, +9.975 seconds, 18.
3. Valtteri Bottas, Mercedes, 57, +11.250, 15.
4. Kimi Räikkönen, Ferrari, 57, +22.393, 12.
5. Max Verstappen, Red Bull Racing Tag Heuer, 57, +28.827, 10.
6. Felipe Massa, Williams Mercedes, 57, +83.386, 8.
7. Sergio Perez, Force India Mercedes, 56, +1 lap, Lap, 6.
8. Carlos Sainz, Toro Rosso, 56, +1 lap, 4.
9. Daniil Kvyat, Toro Rosso, 56, +1 lap, 2.
10. Esteban Ocon, Force India Mercedes, 56, +1 lap, 1.
11. Nico Hulkenberg, Renault, 56, +1 lap.
12. Antonio Giovinazzi, Sauber Ferrari, 55, +2 laps.
13. Stoffel Vandoorne, McLaren Honda, 55, +2 laps.

Not Classified

Fernando Alonso, McLaren Honda, 50, did not finish.
Kevin Magnussen, Haas Ferrari, 46, did not finish.
Lance Stroll, Williams Mercedes, 40, did not finish.
Daniel Ricciardo, Red Bull Racing Tag Heuer, 25, did not finish.
Marcus Ericsson, Sauber Ferrari, 21, did not finish.
Jolyon Palmer, Renault, 15, did not finish.
Romain Grosjean, Haas Ferrari, 13, did not finish.

Constructor Standings

1. Ferrari, 37
2. Mercedes, 33
3. Red Bull Racing Tag Heuer, 10
4. Williams Mercedes, 8
5. Force India Mercedes, 7
6. Toro Rosso, 6

Sprint car driver Steele killed in Florida speedway crash

Associated Press

BRADENTON, Fla. — Sprint car veteran David Steele has died during a race in Florida.

Desoto Speedway officials said in a Facebook post on Saturday night that track owners and staff were saddened by the crash. The statement says Steele was trying to win his 100th race in Florida.

A Manatee County Sheriff's Office report says Steele was driving a sprint car when his vehicle's left front wheel struck the right rear wheel of another car, causing Steele's vehicle to go up in the air, spin 180 degrees and hit the retaining wall.

Medics attempted to treat him but he was pronounced dead. He was 42.

NASCAR driver Kasey Kahne tweeted that Steele was "one of the best and such a good guy to hang out and have a beer with."

FONTANA

From 1C

2015 and his first top-five finish in 52 races. Martin Truex Jr. was fourth after challenging Larson aggressively, and Joey Logano roared up to fifth.

Larson is only the second driver in Fontana history to win from the pole, joining six-time race champion Jimmie Johnson, who did it in 2008. Johnson finished 21st after starting near the back in his backup car.

Larson also became just the fourth driver to sweep a weekend at Fontana. The 24-year-old prodigy added a win at Fontana to his other career victory on NASCAR's other 2-mile oval at Michigan.

After an early NASCAR season full of dominant cars getting stung at the finish, Larson wasted none of his advantage.

"He's on a really nice roll, and it takes everything," said Keselowski, who surged into second after two outstanding late restarts. "This is a sport of speed, execution and luck, and when you're on a roll like that, you've got all three on your side."

Johnson, Keselowski and Phoenix winner Ryan Newman all sustained minor damage early on, but Larson was fast from the start.

Larson won the first stage of 60 laps, earning his first stage victory of the season, but lost his lead after getting too close to the wall on pit road. Truex won the second stage, but Larson slipped past him to reclaim the lead on the first lap of the final stage.

The leaders pitted under caution with 20 laps to go, but Truex had his first slow stop all day and slipped five spots down the field to seventh. Larson won the race off pit road and had a fine restart, but Matt Kenseth slid hard into the wall moments later after minor contact with Truex.

Kenseth failed to finish for the third time in five races this season.

After the restart with 12 laps to go, Larson flew past Kyle Busch and built a decent cushion — only to slow again when Cory LaJoie spun out. Larson pitted for tires along with most of the field, while only Hamlin, Truex and McMurray stayed out.

Larson barely got back into the lead before Ricky Stenhouse Jr. spun on contact from Roush Fenway Racing teammate Trevor Bayne to force the fourth caution, necessitating overtime. Larson had no problem hanging on.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. finished 16th in his landmark 600th NASCAR start, becoming just the 25th driver to hit the mark. He had to start from the back due to a tire change.

The Fontana race compelled its usual eclectic collection of Hollywood celebrities to make the one-hour drive east. The group included actors Scott Eastwood, Kaitlin Olson, Terry Crews and Eric Stonestreet along with Los Angeles Kings forward Tyler Toffoli and Los Angeles Chargers tight end Antonio Gates.

NASCAR-Monster Energy Cup
Sunday
At Auto Club Speedway
Fontana, Calif.
Lap length: 2.00 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

(1) 1: Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 202 laps, 0 rating, 59 points.
(3) 2: Brad Keselowski, Ford, 202, 0, 36.
(17) 3: Clint Bowyer, Ford, 202, 0, 46.
(4) 4: Martin Truex Jr, Toyota, 202, 0, 52.
(5) 5: Joey Logano, Ford, 202, 0, 34.
(8) 6: Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 202, 0, 34.
(10) 7: Daniel Suarez, Toyota, 202, 0, 30.
(9) 8: Kyle Busch, Toyota, 202, 0, 39.
(19) 9: Ryan Blaney, Ford, 202, 0, 30.
(13) 10: Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 202, 0, 43.
(11) 11: Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 202, 0, 26.
(14) 12: Erik Jones, Toyota, 202, 0, 34.
(7) 13: Kevin Harvick, Ford, 202, 0, 24.
(2) 14: Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 202, 0, 26.
(5) 15: Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 202, 0, 22.
(18) 16: Dale Earnhardt Jr, Chevrolet, 202, 0, 21.
(24) 17: AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 202, 0, 20.
(21) 18: Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 202, 0, 19.
(31) 19: Aric Almirola, Ford, 202, 0, 18.
(12) 20: Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 202, 0, 17.
(37) 21: Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 202, 0, 16.
(16) 22: Ricky Stenhouse Jr, Ford, 202, 0, 15.
(36) 23: Trevor Bayne, Ford, 202, 0, 14.
(15) 24: Kurt Busch, Ford, 201, 0, 13.
(20) 25: Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 201, 0, 12.
(22) 26: Danica Patrick, Ford, 200, 0, 11.
(26) 27: Landon Cassill, Ford, 200, 0, 10.
(33) 28: Paul Menard, Chevrolet, 200, 0, 9.
(38) 29: Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, 200, 0, 8.
(30) 30: Corey LaJoie, Toyota, 200, 0, 7.
(27) 31: David Ragan, Ford, 199, 0, 6.
(28) 32: Cole Whitt, Ford, 199, 0, 5.
(25) 33: Michael McDowell, Chevrolet, 198, 0, 4.
(29) 34: Reed Sorenson, Chevrolet, 197, 0, 3.
(34) 35: Timmy Hill, Chevrolet, 193, 0, 2.
(6) 36: Matt Kenseth, Toyota, accident, 84, 0, 1.
(39) 37: Gray Gaulding, Toyota, accident, 75, 0, 0.
(32) 38: Derrike Cope, Chevrolet, 117, 0, 0.
(23) 39: Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, engine, 99, 0, 0.

Race Statistics
Average Speed of Race Winner: 136.370 mph.
Time of Race: 2 hours, 57 minutes, 46 seconds.
Margin of Victory: 0.779 seconds.
Caution Flags: 7 for 29 laps.
Lead Changes: 17 among 8 drivers.
Lap Leaders: K.Larson 1-5, P.Menard 6-7, K.Larson 8-32, C.Elliott 33-34, J.Logano 35, M.Truex 36-47, K.Larson 48-63, M.Truex 64-90, C.Elliott 91-92, M.Truex 93-122, K.Larson 123, M.Truex 124-127, K.Larson 128-147, K.Busch 156-162, T.Dillon 163, K.Larson 164-192, D.Hamlin 193-196, K.Larson 197-202.
Leaders Summary (Driver: Times Led, Laps Led): K.Larson: 7 times for 103 laps; M.Truex: 4 times for 69 laps; Ky.Busch: 1 time for 6 laps; D.Hamlin: 1 time for 3 laps; C.Elliott: 2 times for 3 laps; P.Menard: 1 time for 1 lap; T.Dillon: 1 time for 0 laps; J.Logano: 1 time for 0 laps.
Wins: Ky.Busch: 1; B.Keselowski: 1; K.Larson: 1; R.Newman: 1; M.Truex.
Top 16 in Points: 1. K.Larson, 243; 2. C.Elliott, 214; 3. M.Truex, 205; 4. B.Keselowski, 179; 5. J.Logano, 174; 6. J.McMurray, 162; 7. R.Blaney, 157; 8. C.Bowyer, 143; 9. K.Harvick, 137; 10. Ky.Busch, 136; 11. D.Hamlin, 123; 12. R.Newman, 123; 13. K.Kahne, 122; 14. Ku.Busch, 118; 15. E.Jones, 118; 16. T.Bayne, 114.

Back from irregular heartbeat, Dempsey hopes for 4th Cup

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

PANAMA CITY — Clint Dempsey's big, owlish eyes brightened and he smiled widely. Seven months after he was sidelined by an irregular heartbeat, he not only returned to the U.S. national team at age 34 but helped the Americans to a critical victory in World Cup qualifying with just the second hat trick of his international career.

"There's moments where you're sitting at home and you're praying and hoping things will work out," he said brightly in his Texan twang. "So I'm just blessed that I can keep going. It's what I love to do, and hopefully there's some more time left."

His career came to a sudden stop last Aug. 26 when Major League Soccer's Seattle Sounders announced their star forward was being evaluated for an irregular heartbeat. After two unspecified procedures, Dempsey returned for Seattle's opener on March 4, keyed Friday night's 6-0 rout of Honduras and hopes to play a big role in Tuesday night's qualifier against Panama.

"On big days, he's a guy that you want next to you," U.S captain Michael Bradley said Sunday. "He's a guy who's going to always continue to give everything he has until somebody says he can't anymore."

Wearing a bright red jersey, shorts and socks, a predominantly orange boot on his right foot and a lime one on his left, the bearded Dempsey scored Friday when he held off a defender and with astonishing precision controlled a chip from 18-year-old Christian Pulisic. Dempsey got his second goal when he rounded the goalkeeper following Pulisic's pass, then converted a free kick for his 55th international goal, two shy of Landon Donovan's American record.

"You know me, I'm a fighter, so I looked for the opportunity to try to get out there and show that I should be around still," Dempsey said.

He has a chance to join Pele, Uwe Seeler and Miroslav Klose as the only players to score in four World Cups.

"You've got to stay relevant," Dempsey explained. "And you can't just say it, and that's going to happen. I have to be on the field and do it."

Dempsey scored against Ghana at the 2006 and 2014 World Cups — the latter just 30 seconds into the match — and versus England at the 2010 tournament. Also a big-game player at the club level, his chip from the edge of the penalty area lifted Fulham over Juventus and into the 2010 Europa League quarterfinals.

A wide midfielder with pace during the first half of his career, he's played as a central striker in recent years or sometimes as a withdrawn forward on the national team behind Jozy Altidore. Twenty-four of Dempsey's international goals have been scored since he turned 30 — just six of those in friendlies.

"He's a beast," American midfielder Alejandro Bedoya said.

Dempsey's fire has gotten him into trouble. He was dropped by U.S. coach Bruce Arena from the roster for a March 2006 exhibition at Germany following a fight during club training with New England Revolution captain Joe Franchino. Appointed American captain by coach Jurgen Klinsmann in 2013, Dempsey was stripped of the armband two years later after ripping up a referee's notebook during a U.S. Open Cup match.

Bradley puts Dempsey among the guys "who are willing to spill everything they have into something, come in every day ready to push and do everything they can to make the group better, guys who when the lights come on, aren't afraid, who compete, who go for it."

There remains some mystery about Dempsey's illness. He has not spoken in detail, but Seattle general manager Garth Lagerwey said in mid-September that Dempsey had undergone a procedure and was cleared to resume training. About a month later, Lagerwey announced Dempsey was out for the rest of the season, and Ryan Dempsey tweeted his brother was undergoing a second procedure — and asked for prayers.

After resuming training with the Sounders, Dempsey said last month his symptoms first became apparent in February 2016 and worsened after the Copa America in June. He said he is not experiencing those issues any longer.

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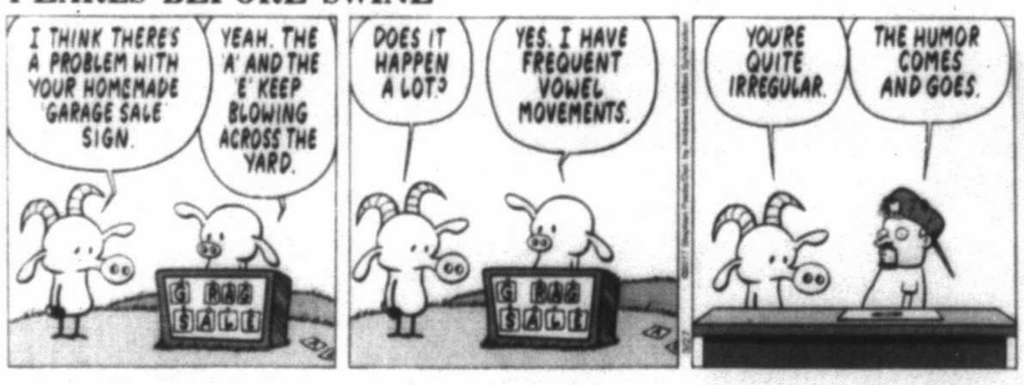
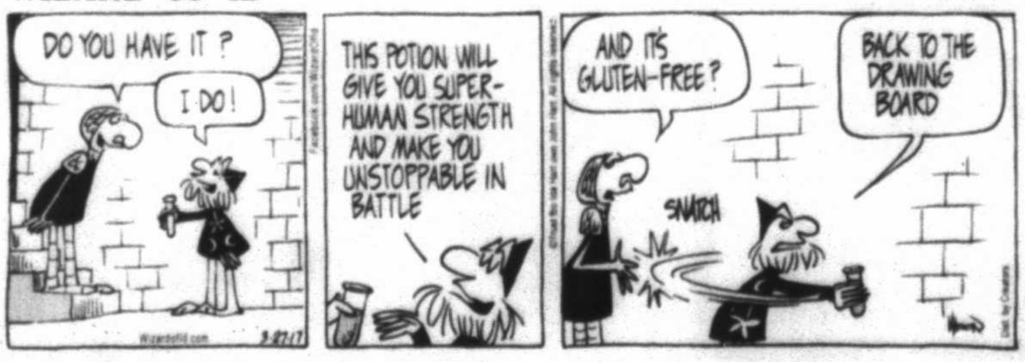
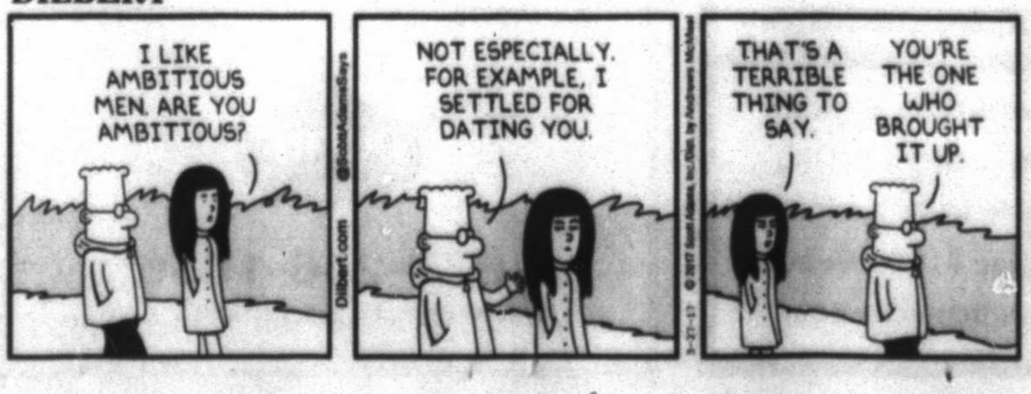


WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT

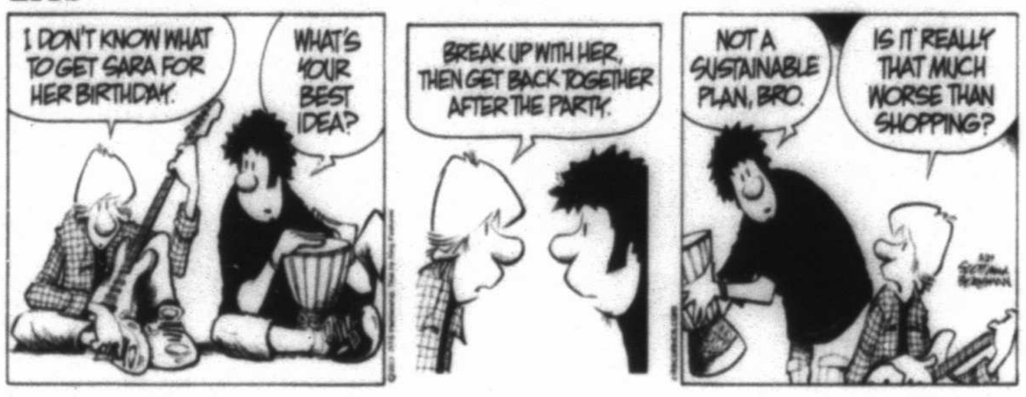


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

MARY WORTH

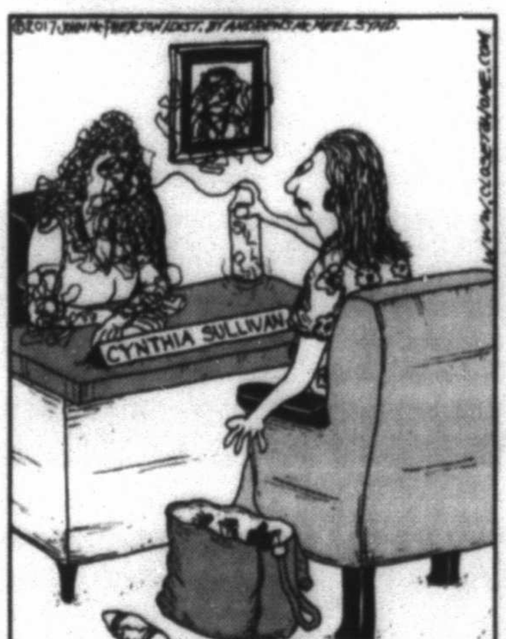
ZITS



BABY BLUES

MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME

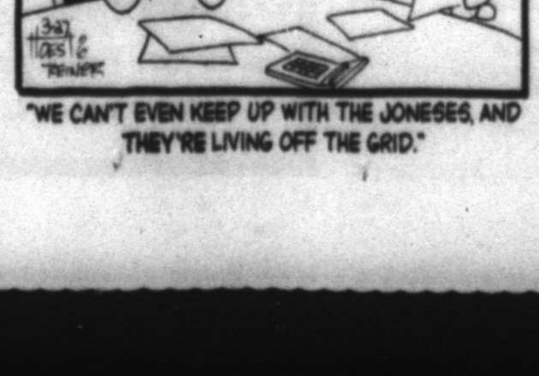


Suspecting that her performance review might not go well, Hannah made sure to bring three cans of Silly String.

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I LOVE CRUNCHY PEANUT BUTTER... YOU CAN HEAR HOW GOOD IT TASTES!"

LOCKHORNS



"WE CAN'T EVEN KEEP UP WITH THE JONESES, AND THEY'RE LIVING OFF THE GRID."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"Mommy, are these LONG short pants or SHORT long pants?"

TODAY: Sunny High: 83 Low: 57

TUESDAY: Showers High: 84 Low: 48

WEDNESDAY: Mostly sunny High: 74 Low: 48

THURSDAY: Sunny High: 76 Low: 52

FRIDAY: Sunny High: 83 Low: 54

SATURDAY: Mostly sunny High: 74 Low: 50

Local forecast

A chance of showers returns to the forecast on Tuesday, according to the National Weather Service. There is a 30 percent chance during the day and 50 percent chance at night. A chance of showers also is expected Saturday, according to the NWS.

The record high for March 26 is 90, set in 1956. The record low is 20, set in 1965.

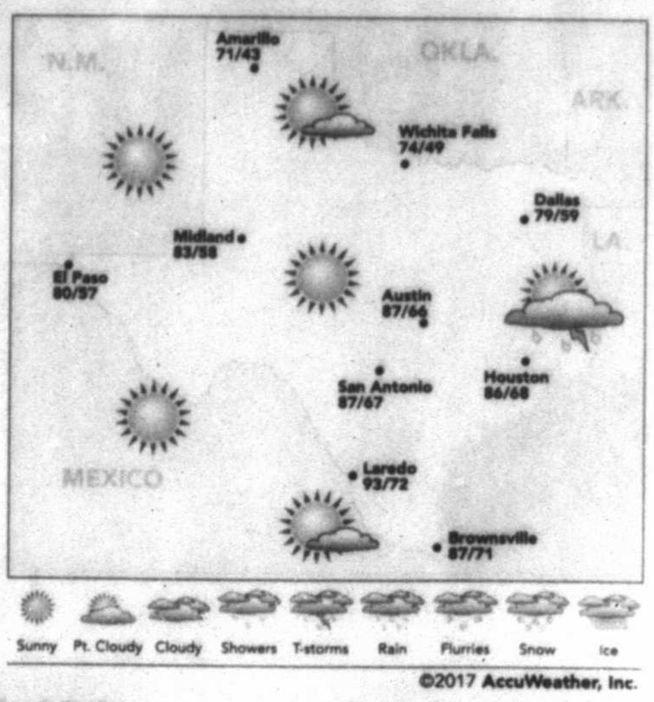
Weather brief

Severe storms possible Sunday throughout Plains states

NORMAN, Okla. — Forecasters are warning millions of people living in three Plains states of a powerful storm system capable of producing heavy rainfall, large hail and tornadoes by the end of the weekend.

The Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Oklahoma, says residents in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas could see the round of severe weather Sunday.

The worst of it is possible throughout a wide swath of central Oklahoma and the northern tip of Texas, with less of a severe risk in northeastern Oklahoma and western Arkansas.



Precipitation

Saturday	0.00 in.
Sunday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.13 in.
Year total	1.97 in.
Normal total (year to date)	1.77 in.

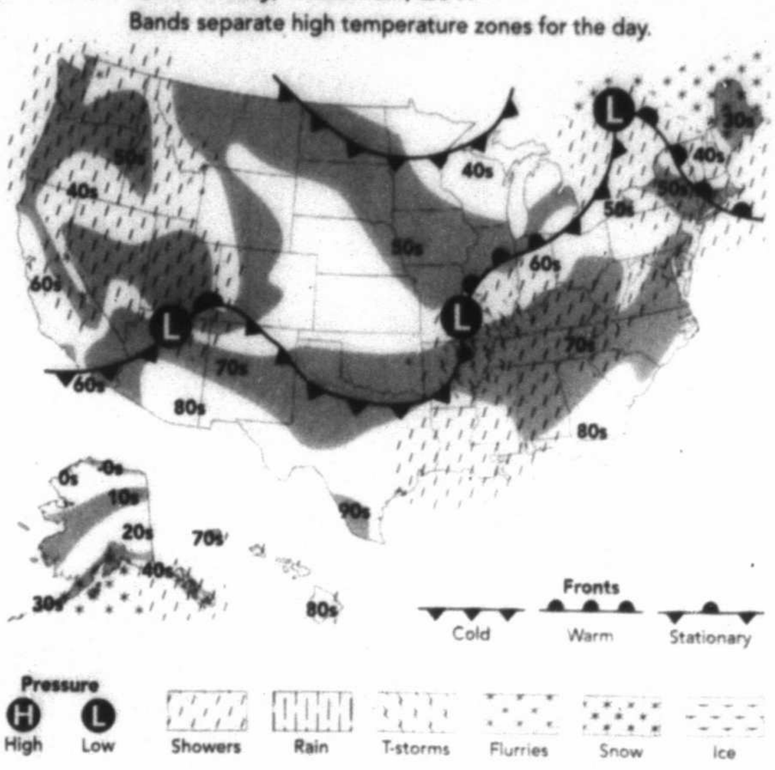
Sunday's temperatures

High	83
Low	56
Normal high	73
Normal low	43
Sunrise	7:43 a.m.
Sunset	8:05 p.m.

National weather AccuWeather.com

Forecast for Monday, March 27, 2017

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



Woman's free baby-sitting is her choice, not fiance's

DEAR ABBY

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

DEAR ABBY: I am a stay-at-home mom with three children. Recently, another mom asked me to care for her 3-year-old daughter while she went to work. She offered to pay me, but I declined, given her circumstances, because I consider her a friend, even though I have known her for only a short time.

My fiance is now mad at me for not charging her. How can I make him see that it is not a problem for me because I am stuck at home anyway? It's not like I am losing money by doing her a favor. — STUCK AT HOME IN COLORADO

DEAR STUCK: That it's not a problem for you isn't the point. It's a problem for your fiance. He may not want the family's hard-earned money going toward feeding someone else's child. But ultimately, the decision about whether to do this favor for your friend should be yours, and not his.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I recently moved, taking jobs that are closer to our son and daughter-in-law. They have no children but want to start a family, and we are praying for our first grandchild.

When they take business trips (which is often), I take care of their cats and dogs. A few days ago, while I was in their bedroom (where the cats are kept), I saw an anatomically correct sex toy that had been left on the bed stand. I'm no prude, but should I say something to my son? We have an excellent relationship. I'm concerned that he may need some fatherly advice if they are having conception problems. What do you think? — CONCERNED IN WASHINGTON

DEAR CONCERNED: In the interest of family harmony, keep your advice to yourself unless you are asked. If they are having "conception problems," rest assured they will find their way to a fertility expert without your assistance.

DEAR ABBY: My 24-year-old son got married in August 2016. His wife is very nice, and we get along fine. He's my youngest child, and we are very close.

My issue is, she refuses to put their wedding picture in the newspaper. She said it's not necessary, and the people most important know they are already married. I want to keep it as a remembrance just like my daughter had hers in years ago. My son is agreeing with her. Please help. — NEWSPAPER WEDDING PHOTO

DEAR NEWSPAPER: It's seven months too late for your son and daughter-in-law's wedding picture to appear in the paper. At this point it's "old news." It would be better to reconcile your disappointment at not having the memento, because he and his wife are unified on this and the battle is already lost.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, March 27, 2017:

This year a new beginning becomes a possibility in an important area of your life. Don't make excuses to not jump on this opportunity; you might regret it later. Focus on your goals, and consider expanding your circle of friends. If you are single, you could meet someone at any time. This person also might already be a friend. If you are attached, make plans to do something you both have wanted to do. For instance, it could be a visit to a long-desired location. A fellow ARIES understands you well!

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Your energy soars as the day goes on. Be willing to express a natural reticence to follow through on a dream. Others will weigh in with their opinions. By proceeding in such a cautious manner, you are enlisting the attention and support of others. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Mars in your sign gives you unusual drive and direction. You also could become less patient than you have been in the recent past. A friend seems ungrounded, yet you'll still support this person in creating his or her vision. Your caring will make a difference. Tonight: Get some zzz's.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ Make an important call as early as possible. Free yourself up for a day of effectiveness. Many of you might decide to take a long lunch break, while others will push to complete their work ASAP. Do what feels right for you. Tonight: The more people around you, the better.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You might have had a very active night in which your dreams played a large role. When you wake up, you are likely to have a lot on your plate. Can you handle it? By noon, you probably will be going full speed ahead. Take advantage of the moment. Tonight: Out late.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance. After a discussion, you will recognize that a risk is a good idea. Don't take this person's opinion as a given. Do more research. You will recognize the power of taking an educated risk. Tonight: Tap into your imagination to fill in some gaps.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Deal directly with a loved one who shares some important information. You'll seek out new ways of interpreting information. A softer, more caring attitude goes a long way in creating a stronger connection between you and a close friend. Tonight: Try walking another path.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Dealing with others requires a diplomatic skill. You usually aren't willing to upset the apple cart, which is a problem when it comes to stating boundaries and/or making a request. Know that clarity works best in situations like these. Tonight: Time for a new beginning.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ You might anticipate having an easier day than what you actually experience. If you remain efficient and stay open to others' feelings, you are more likely to get the results you desire; otherwise, redundancy and drawn-out talks are possible. Tonight: Get some exercise.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Allow yourself to be more open with a new friend. You will feel much better being yourself. Your energy is high, so zero in on your priorities. Just imagine how much you will be able to accomplish. You finally feel more in sync with others. Tonight: Go for what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Domestic matters take a higher priority than usual. You like to go to work and not worry about personal issues, but right now there's no such luck. However, you will be able to address these concerns by the end of the day. Tonight: Feel free to do exactly what you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ Speak your mind, but do so with a softer approach rather than just plain bluntness. Others will be highly responsive to this approach, and they'll be relieved to find you a little more easygoing than usual. Tonight: A new beginning is possible in a key area of your life.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ Use the early morning for a heartfelt matter. Later in the day, your finances somehow tie in to your plans and projects. Be aware of what you have to offer. You often settle, but understand that you don't need to. Express an innate gentleness. Tonight: Do some shopping.

BORN TODAY

Singer/songwriter Mariah Carey (1970), singer/songwriter Fergie (1975), poet Julia Alvarez (1950)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Bidding Quiz

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

♠ J 5 ♡ Q 5 ◇ A J 9 5 ♣ A 9 6 4 2

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

A — A two-club overcall would not be the worst bid ever made, but it would still be a bad bid. A two-level overcall in a minor should show a six-card suit or a good hand with a decent five-card suit. This hand doesn't measure up. Pass.

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

♠ A J 8 6 5 ♡ Void ◇ K Q 7 4 2 ♣ Q J 4

Partner opens one spade and right-hand opponent jumps to three hearts. What call would you make?

A — Bid four hearts, showing a hand too good to bid four spades. The bid does not show a void. Should partner venture a five-level cue bid, you can show your heart control by bidding five hearts.

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

♠ A 10 ♡ K 9 ◇ 7 2 ♣ A K Q J 10 5 3

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

A — The hand is too good for a two-club overcall. You can't be faulted if you double and then bid clubs, but we suspect that the winning bid is three no-trump.

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

♠ A K Q J 9 ♡ K 7 3 ◇ A 7 3 ♣ A 10

As dealer, what call would you make?

A — Should your range for a two no-trump opening be 20-21, as is common today, this hand is too good for that bid. This hand is easily worth 22 points. Open two clubs and rebid two no-trump.

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Ponzi scheme, e.g.
5 Impersonated
9 Your __ Highness
14 Drilled bowling ball feature
15 Artist Magritte
16 Shah of Iran, in 1979-'80
17 Bahrain big shot
18 Writer's chief work (Latin)
20 Sphere of influence
22 Drinking glass edges
23 Ambulance initials
24 Done deal (French)
28 Farm country skyline highlights
29 Nissan model
33 "Take me for a walk!"
36 Expel from office
38 Amazon's business
39 With 42-Across, cars like BMWs and Audis ... or 18-, 24-, 53- and 63-Across
42 See 39-Across
44 Rhett's last words
45 Siamese, now
47 __ dye: food-coloring compound
48 Live (in)
50 Lover of Euridice, in a Gluck opera
53 English, in many non-English speaking countries (Italian)
58 Word with health or day
61 Oboist's need
62 Lagoon-enclosing isle
63 Young sensation (German)
67 Sinister
68 Cortés subject
69 Wrinkle, as a brow
70 San __, Italy
71 Suppose for argument's sake
72 Many van Goghs
73 Killed, as a dragon

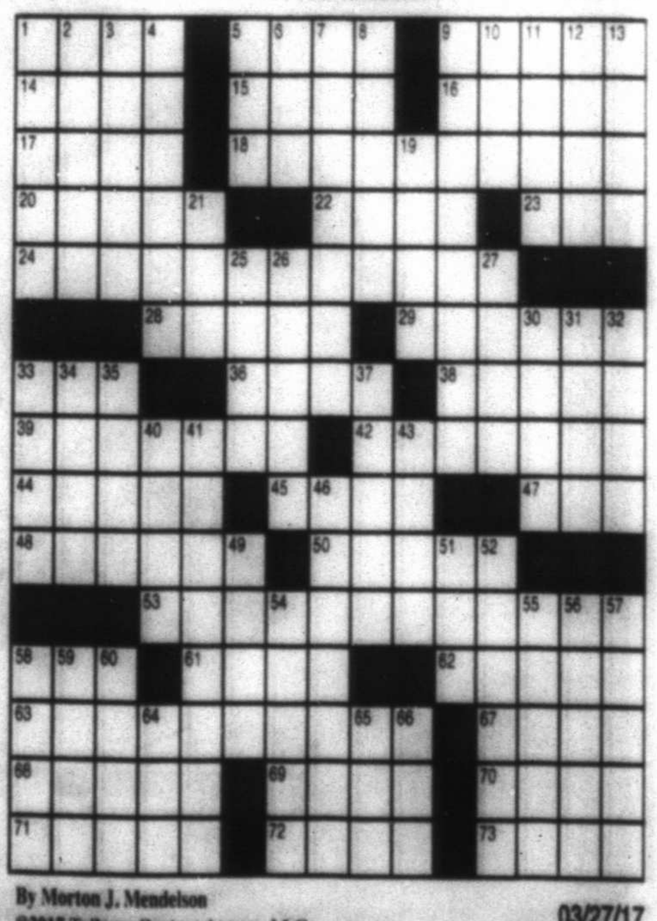
DOWN

1 Harvest bundle
2 Grammar class subject
3 Legal defense mechanism?
4 Advantages
5 Shortstop's asset
6 Green soup veggie
7 Thoroughly absorb
8 Jeans fabric
9 Dreaming phase
10 Kitchenware brand
11 Frightened exclamation
12 University fund-raising target
13 A smaller amount of
19 Quartet assigned to bases
21 Mai __
25 Plumber's challenge
26 Dracula's title
27 Avid about
30 Skater Lipinski
31 Nabisco cracker
32 "Wait, there's more ..."
33 Miles away
34 Traveled by bike
35 Abbey titles
37 Princess' headpiece
40 Oscar winner Jannings
41 Roundabout, as a route
43 Offend slightly
46 Entertainer who often got tied up in his work?
49 Part of DOE: Abbr.
51 Historic period
52 Many top-rated TV shows of the late '50s/early '60s
54 Gordon __, "Wall Street" antagonist
55 James Joyce work
56 Weather, in poems
57 Permit
58 Tit for tat, e.g.
59 "The Godfather" novelist Mario
60 Teeny colonizers
64 Agnus __
65 Zip, in soccer
66 Who's woe

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

M	E	D	I	A	B	I	A	S			S	L	A	W
A	Y	E	R	S	R	O	C	K			T	I	D	E
T	E	L	E	P	A	T	H	I	C		E	V	E	N
C	S	A		I	N	A			A	T	R	E	S	T
H	O	W	A	R	D		F	A	L	S	E	T	T	O
E	R	A	S	E		P	I	Z	Z	A	O	V	E	N
D	E	R	N		C	O	N	T	O	R	T			
	S	E	E		O	L	D	E	N		Y	E	A	
			C	H	A	L	I	C	E		P	A	I	D
T	H	R	E	A	T	E	N	S		L	I	T	R	E
R	I	E	S	L	I	N	G		B	E	C	A	M	E
A	D	D	S	O	N			W	I	G		L	I	P
M	E	S	A		G	E	T	I	N	A	H	O	L	E
P	I	E	R			N	O	S	E	C	O	N	E	S
S	T	A	Y			E	M	P	T	Y	N	E	S	T

xwordeditor@aol.com 03/27/17



By Morton J. Mendelson
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03/27/17

Hunting for the Easter Bunny?

You'll Find Him at the Dillard's Courtyard

Every Child receives a FREE pair of bunny ears

MUSIC CITY MALL

Music City Mall • 42nd & JBS Parkway • Odessa, TX

Grande HOTEL FUNDome

WE CATER TO YOU!
432-362-2311

Grande HOTEL FUNDome

HALF PRICE MONDAY

FRESH INGREDIENTS

ELEVEN PLATTERS UNDER $6

LUNCH & DINNER | MONDAYS ONLY | Regular $11.95

AUTÉNTICA
HOMEMADE MEXICAN FOOD!
MAMA'S IN THE KITCHEN

Taste of Mexico

Try the Buffet On Wednesday

EVERY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
11am 8:30pm
Authentic Homemade Enchiladas, Chile Relleno, Asado, Tortillas, Refried Beans, Fresh made Guacamole, Salsa, Sopapillas, and more

ONLY $10.99

Grande HOTEL FUNDome

6201 E. Bus. 20 • Odessa, Texas • www.mcmgrande.com

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

ACCOUNTING-FINANCE

Receptionist/ Administrative Assistant

Production Lift Cos. is looking for a receptionist with professional phone skills to answer phone and greet visitors. Additional duties will be daily filing and administrative support. Hours are Mon-Fri, 8-5. Compensation is hourly with a company benefits program. Respond to: mswihart@productionlift.com.

CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

Sales Assistant

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for a dynamic self-starter with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task ina deadline oriented environment with minimal supervision. Duties include supporting the advertising sales staff in day-to-day operations and helping the sales team consistently reach its revenue targets. Conducting sales and marketing research, creating sales presentations, event coordination and preparing reports are a few of the duties required. Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package. $1,000 sign-on bonus available after 90 days.

Please send resume to: acramirez@hearstnp.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Adrianne Hrebicek Director of Advertising. No phone calls please.

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

True-Chem

Creating True Value

TRUE CHEMICAL SOLUTION is a service oriented specialty chemical company that is now hiring for all positions.

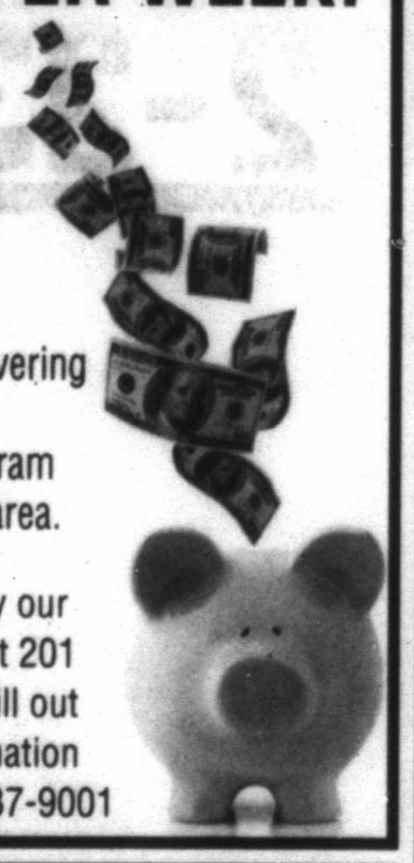
- Sales
- Service Tech
- CDL with Hazmat

Please call Kelly Gabriel 432-664-7363 for more information.

HEALTHCARE

OTHER JOBS

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!



Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone?? Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram in the Odessa area.

Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Oscar 687-9001

Sales

FLOWERLAND FT

Sales associate needed, must have good customer relations and phone etiquette. Computer experience preferred. Saturdays & Holidays required. Fax resume to 432.682.8949, apply in person, or email resume to chriscollum@flowerlandmidland.com, no phone calls please.

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES

Buffalo Wild Wings Now Hiring All Positions

Management Fax Resumes to 806-783-8991.
All other positions apply in person at Buffalo Wild Wings locations
5107 W Wadley in Midland, 4241 Grandview in Odessa

RETAIL JOBS

SALES ASSOCIATE

Wood's Boots is currently hiring part time sales associates. No phone calls! If you are interested in wearing boots and jeans to work, and working with great customers, come see us at 4803 Andrews Highway.

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

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

SKILLED LABOR

Seeking Valve Technicians

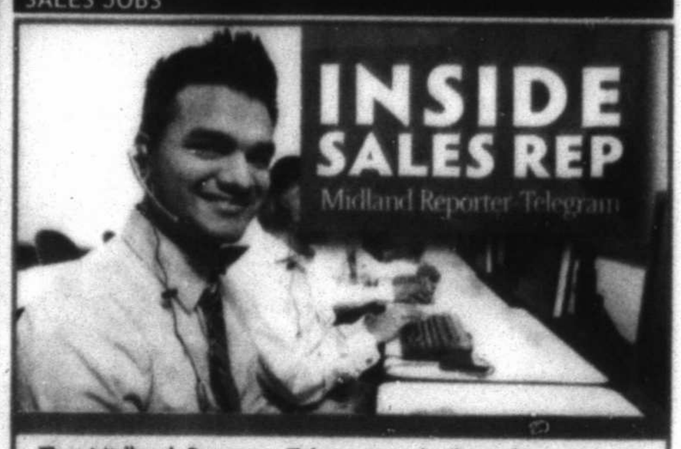
Seeking a service technician and shop technician for valves. Experience preferred. Hourly pay with benefits of group health and dental. Life insurance and 401K participation after one year of employment.
Email resume to jobs@jwwellheads.com

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

CDL Drivers & Owner Operators

Local trucking company Now hiring Class A CDL Drivers & Owner Operators, clean driving record is required. Must pass a criminal background check and DOT drug test. Apply in person at 3913 FM 715, Midland, Texas 79706

SALES JOBS



The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Classified Advertising customers. Responsibilities include answering incoming Classified calls, assisting walk-ins, making outbound sales calls for recruitment and special projects, tracking sales activity, meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals, and develop multi-media advertising campaigns.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/ punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to:
Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager
201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701
or cranderson@mrt.com.
No phone calls please.

HEARST *media services*

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/ punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to:
Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager
201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701
or cranderson@mrt.com.
No phone calls please.

HEARST *media services*

CDL Truck Driver

LPZ Enterprises is hiring responsible drivers for belly dump trailers. Two years experience is required. Your pay depends on your experience. Only serious drivers need to apply. For more information we are located at 4500 W. Illinois, Suite 305, Midland, TX 79703.

DRIVERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY

Regional Ice Manufacturer Seeking FULL-TIME Route delivery Drivers for the Midland, TX. Area. Home Every Night. Class A or B CDL Required. Pre-Employment Drug Screen and Clean Driving Record a Must. Able to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. Pays hourly wage plus commission. Full Benefits Package Available. Apply online at arcticglacier.com

Helpers Needed Immediately

Regional Ice Manufacturer Seeking Helpers for Route Delivery for the Midland, TX Area. Able to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. Hourly wage $11.00 an hour. APPLY AT www.arcticglacier.com

These Midlanders each play a different role in making the Tall City a better place to live.

THEY ARE FACES OF COMMUNITY

To read about Midland's unsung heroes and volunteers or nominate someone for the honor, visit mrt.com/52Faces.

Human Energy
Fuels Our Community

Chevron supports Midland.

Chevron
Human Energy™

mrt classifieds

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Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE OF PROPOSED BRANCH PURCHASE AND ASSUMPTION TRANSACTION

Notice is hereby given that application has been made to the Comptroller of the Currency, Southern District Office, 500 North Akard Street, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75201, for consent for Sage Capital Bank, N.A., 1606 North Sarah DeWitt Drive, Gonzales, Texas 78629, to purchase certain assets and to assume certain liabilities, including deposit liabilities, of Security Bank, 600 N. Marienfeld Street, Suite 100, Midland, Texas 79701, associated with the branch office of Security Bank located at 18966 Forty Six Park Way, Spring Branch, Texas 78070. The acquired branch office will continue operations as a branch of Sage Capital Bank, N.A.

This notice is published pursuant to 12 USC 1828(c) and 12 CFR 5. Any person desiring to comment on this application may do so by submitting written comments no later than April 1, 2017 to the Director for District Licensing, Comptroller of the Currency, Southern District Office, at 500 North Akard Street, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75201 or so.licensing@occ.treas.gov. The public file is available for inspection at that office during regular business hours. Written requests for a copy of the public file on the application should be sent to the Director for District Licensing.

Legal and Public Notices

Midland Independent School District

Midland, Texas

Notice to Vendors

Tennis Court Resurfacing at San Jacinto Jr. High School

The Midland Independent School District invites qualified vendors to submit a sealed proposal(s) for **RFP #17-012 Tennis Court Resurfacing at San Jacinto Jr. High School** through the MISD electronic bid system. Proposals will be publicly opened and read in accordance with the proposal documents at 801 S. Moran, Bldg. #1, Midland, Texas at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 6, 2017. Request for Proposal documents may be obtained by registering as a supplier at www.midlandisd.com/domain/44. For any questions, contact MISD Procurement Services department at (432) 240-1965.

Legal and Public Notices

Midland Independent School District

Midland, Texas

Notice to Vendors

Bid #17-013 Fertilizer

The Midland Independent School District invites qualified vendors to submit a sealed bid(s) for **Bid #17-013 Fertilizer** through the MISD electronic bid system. Proposals will be publicly opened and read in accordance with the proposal documents at 801 S. Moran, Bldg. #1, Midland, Texas at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 20, 2017. Bid documents may be obtained by registering as a supplier at www.midlandisd.com/domain/44. For any questions, contact MISD Procurement Services department at (432) 240-1965.

Legal and Public Notices

Midland Independent School District

Midland, Texas

Notice to Vendors

Sand and Refinish Gym Floor at Lee Freshman High School

The Midland Independent School District invites qualified vendors to submit a sealed proposal(s) for **RFP #17-011 Sand and Refinish Gym Floor at Lee Freshman High School** through the MISD electronic bid system. Proposals will be publicly opened and read in accordance with the proposal documents at 801 S. Moran, Bldg. #1, Midland, Texas at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 13, 2017.. Request for Proposal documents may be obtained by registering as a supplier at www.midlandisd.com/domain/44. For any questions, contact MISD Procurement Services department at (432) 240-1965.

Lost and Found

FOUND 3/15/2017 @ Whataburger on Big Spring. Sweet, good natured dog - no collar or chip. Call 432-664-0688 to identify and claim.

General Announcement

Mark Berryhill.com
Ministering for Christ
Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Lost and Found

FOUND: MALE pomeranian. Found downtown near Wellefargo. Call Linda 432-556-9721.

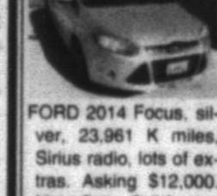
Autos For Sale-Lease

Passenger Cars

1968 CHEVELLE Sport coupe body. Motor, transmission and other parts. $5,000 for all. 432-238-6423.

CADILLAC 2012 SRX Premium Edition, Cadillac red, 61K miles, all service records, brand new tires. Asking $20,000. For more information Tony 432-238-4134

FORD 2004 Thunder Bird, silver with black interior, very nice. 45k miles. $16,500. Call Jerry 432-557-7674



FORD 2014 Focus, silver, 23,961 K miles, Sirius radio, lots of extras. Asking $12,000. Must Sell - Call for appointment: 432-230-2795 after 3pm

Passenger Cars

MAZDA 2, 2013. Excellent condition. 15,500 miles!! Call after 11:00 AM 432-296-9142 Pearl White Beautiful, fun to drive AM/FM, CD, IPod MP4,MP3 adaptable. 4 door. Automatic. $6,700.

NISSAN 2014 Altima 2.5 SV, gray extended warranty 50 k miles, 5 years, $11,000. 432-687-2113

VOLVO 2011 XC 70, navy exterior, light gray leather interior, 29,700 miles. $22,000. Call 432-218-8484

Pickup Trucks

DODGE 2005 Ram 1500, 103 K miles, single cab, white, new tires & more. Good condition 1 owner. $6,000. 432-269-8680

TOYOTA 2012 Tundra Crew Max, 4x4 pickup, silver, w/toolbox one owner, excellent condition. 147K barely broke in for Toyota. $21,000. Call 432-889-6073.

4WD and SUV

2014 F-350 King Ranch Dually, excellent condition, white, navigation, sunroof, loaded, factory 5th wheel, 24,000 miles. $53,000 OBO 432-889-7889

CHEVY 2011 Tahoe LTZ, fully loaded, diamond ext. tan int, 107K miles, very good condition, $20,000. Call Jesse 432-853-2355. Also have '98 JEEP Wrangler for sale.

RV Vehicles

2001 Polaris Ranger Clean, Excellent condition, low hours. $4,800. Call 432-889-6073

RV SPACES for rent- Utilities and cable furnished. Call 432-894-8234.

Recreation Vehicles

2003 POLARIS Magnum (4 wheeler) 3.30 4x4 w/front & rear racks. Runs great. $2,800. Call 432-889-6073

2007 V-STAR Yamaha 1100. Only 420 miles. $4,000. One owner. 432-238-6423.

☆ 2014 ROYAL Traveler 5th wheel, 42', 3 slide outs, 2 AC's, tri axle, rollout awning, 2 bedrooms, sleeps 6, washer & dryer. Loaded. No pets, non smoking, located in Odessa. Must sell $32,500 OBO. 303-944-4160

Recreation Vehicles

2015 36' trailer, 2 slides, fairly new, washer & dryer, 2 A/C's, Never had pets, children or smoking. $23,000. 817-846-7675

2015 WINNEBAGO Micro Mini, model 1760FD, never been used. $15,000. Contact Bob @ 432-559-4405.

FIBERGLASS 2016 5th wheel 45ft. self contained, 2 BD, 5 slide outs, washer dryer, dishwasher, large refrigerator & freezer. 2 hide a bed couches, 1 in the living room, the other in the 2nd bed room. Table & chairs garden tub w/optional shower, 2 a/c. Winterized. Lots of living/storage space has a large living room. Very comfortable, like new. Asking $42,777 (obo) will deliver. 505-307-1954

HARLEY 2011 Ultra Classic, two tone metallic root beer. Looks new, too many extras to mention. 26K miles, all services up to date and verifiable. Lots of spare parts & accessories. Must see, firm at $13,500. 230-4122 for Mike

HARLEY DAVIDSON 2013, Road King Classic. Two-tone red/ merlot. 380 miles. Garage kept. Mint condition. Asking $15,750. 432-254-0025.

KAWASAKI 2015 Mule, Pro FXT-LE, 4x4, windshield, hardtop, comes w/ 2011 Century UT, $15,000. Call Stacey Haines 940-765-5828

MY PARENTS ARE GROUNDED! For sale 1999 Monaco Dynasty Motor home, 38 Foot diesel. Washer & dryer. Large refrigerator. 2 TV's. 65,000 Miles. 1 Slide. Lots of wood! $60,000. Great shape. Please call Terry at 432-230-7213.

REDUCED
HARLEY DAVIDSON 2005 Road King, 13K miles. $6,500 OBO. MUST SEE! 432-697-9787 leave message

STARCRAFT 1995 FIBERGLASS BOAT, 17'2" long, open gasoline inboard/ outboard drive, 135 HP engine. White/ Red Good condition. Trailer included. $4,700.00. Call 432-413-9190.

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

N SCALE model RR. 200 locos. 200 frt/pax cars, power pks, scenery 7 bldgs., many extras. Selling due to health. $1000 for all. Will not subdivide. 432-853-1378.

Single Family Homes

4125 Springfield Pool/hottub!! 4/3.5/2 $475,000 w/$10,000 allowance. Up Group 432-230-3420

5009 HEATHER Saddle Club South Fabulous redo!! 4/4.5/3/2 $399,500 **UP Group 889-2934**

Lake LBJ waterfront in Highland Haven. near Marble Falls, Texas. 3/2/2. Priced reduced, $459,000 fireplace oversized 2 car garage, boat & boat house included. automatic sprinkler system. Approximately 2,156 sq. ft. All offers will be considered. 830-220-8981.

Lots and Land

Hunting Leases

DEER LEASE available in San Angelo, Texas 2,500 Acres. Year round lease & long term lease. Randy 830-570-7323.

DEER LEASE White Tail Mule deer at Best, Texas. Need 7 hunters. Contact 940-284-1518 or 940-665-3212

Ranches

RANCH FOR SALE 4.212 Acres near Snyder, Tx. Water, 3 houses, great hunting. Owner Financing $795/ Acre (432) 664-7764

Commercial

4,500 sq. ft. Dock High Warehouse. Midland Industrial Warehouse. $1,125/mo. 830-388-0216.

COMMERCIAL YARD/ BUILD TO SUIT FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED
$2350/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
432-664-7764

NOW LEASING
• Office/Warehouses •
• Small Office Suites •
• Fenced Yards
Various locations.
Call 432-661-4057

MOBILE HOME Park or Man Camp FOR SALE. Gardendale, TX. 4.2 acres $750,000. 7 mobile homes (late model/like new). Private yards w/ fences. 4 RV sites. 2 water wells, county water. For more details, 432-889-6556.

Residential Rentals

House Rent Unfurn

5108 B RAINBOW, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 garage, 1 carport. New granite, carpet, tile & paint. No smoking. No pets. $1,850 monthly. 432-620-9222 or 432-425-2739.

HOUSE FOR RENT 300 W. Hamby Avenue, Midland. 2 bedroom/2 bathrooms. Perfect fro roommates! New carpet, paint, bathrooms. Utility room. $800/month, $800 deposit. Call Patience 432-349-5242.

Residential Sales

Single Family Homes

3201 ECR 139 4/2.5 house & 3 acres & old 3/2 BR mobile $115,500. Up Group. 432-296-1470

Condo Thome Rent Unfurn

4413 CROCKETT, 2 bedroom 1.5 bath. No pets. for lease. 2 Story, backyard, aprox. 1,200 sq.ft. $1,000. Call 602-432-0888.

Vacation Resort

LAKE HOUSE IN DEEP WATER Estates on Lake Brownwood with excellent boat dock. Call 325-636-3612 or email huntland@web-access.net.

Residential Rentals

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT. 3BD/2BA. $1000/mo plus $500 deposit. 2BD/1BA $800/mo plus $500 deposit. Call 432-210-4955, 432-634-4762 until 5pm. after 5pm text only for more info.

LOWEST RENT!
Spacious 1- 2 - 3 Bedroom Apartments.
432-687-4514.

SPECIAL - Midland
★ Come to quiet, owner in residence. Whispering Oaks. We have very nice 2 bedroom apartments available for good quality tenants at exceptionally special low rates. Some have garages, all have covered parking, paid water and basic cable. Please call 432-694-4001 ★

Condo Thome Rent Unfurn

1 BD w/ office, recently remodeled, great location. $775/mo. + dep. Background check. Call 432-697-3739 leave message.

House Rent Unfurn

3409 CUNNINGHAM 4 bedroom, 2 living, 1 1/2 baths, garage. $1,250 month $1,250 deposit. 432-697-2137 or 432-230-8741

3 BEDROOM, 1.75 bath, garage, backyard. $1,300/mo. $650 Deposit. 432-222-5896.

CondoThomeRentUnfurn

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL real estate advertising herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations of discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

To file a complaint, contact www.hud.gov or 1-800-669-9777

Acreage

HUNTING, RETIREMENT, INVESTMENT PROPERTY. 20 - 60 ACRES IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES: EDWARDS, KINNEY, CONCHO, COKE AND MENARD. SCENIC VIEWS. NATIVE GAME WITH FREE RANGING EXOTICS IN SOME COUNTIES. STARING AT $2,916 DOWN, $485/MO
CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterpriseltd.com

Lots and Land

WEST TEXAS TRANS PECOS AREA, NEAR LAKE AMISTAD. 40 - 65 ACRES. MESQUITE, CEDAR, BRUSH COVER. WHITETAIL, JAVELINA, BLUE QUAIL, TURKEY, DOVE. STARING AT $2,084 DOWN, $339/MO.
CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterpriseltd.com

Commercial

NEW CONSTRUCTION FOR LEASE! FOR LEASE!

5 acre tract With 7650 sq. ft. shop & office.

1200 sq. ft. shop/office on Hwy 80 East at Loop 250

Call Tim Riggan @ 664-2718

FOR LEASE!!! FOR LEASE!!!

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Commercial

READY-RANCH
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

• **Kent County**
*11,155 ac. ft. of Snyder, 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 800 ft. mtn., creek, lakes, Whitetail deer, mule deer and quail $795/ac
*4,212 ac. Maverick Creek, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail $625/ac
*1,771 ac. windm ... ek, blinds and feeders, great whitetail and mule deer, tu ... key, hogs, quail $650
• **Nolan County**
*646 ac. over 1 mile SOLD creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oak $3,550/ac
*585 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $4,425/ac
• **Howard County**
*842 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some offfield traffic $750/ac
*150 ac. big canyon, SOLD sinks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, jav $895/ac
• **Martin County**
*135 ac. Sulphur Springs SOLD deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal stor $1,150/ac

(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777
No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that Know the Country!!!
Owner Financing Available

Classified Ads - For Sale
Auction #2017-002

Midland College is seeking bids for the sale of an Avaya phone system. The phone system will be sold "as is" and the buyer will be responsible for uninstalling and moving it. The system is located on the main campus, 3600 North Garfield, PAD Phone Room, Midland, Texas. Bids will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 28, 2017.
For additional information, contact Barbara Fennell, Director of Purchasing, (432 686-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all auction bids.

FREON 12 WANTED
Certified buyer will pick up and pay CASH for cylinders & cases of R12 cans.
(312)291-9189, sell@refrigerantfinders.com

Mobile-Modular Homes

Mobile Homes Rent

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH double wide mobile home for rent. $1,000 security deposit. $1,450 a month. Please call or text 432-889-3907 for more information. Available immediately.

Mobile Homes Sale

3/2 DOUBLE wide in park on large lot. Handicap ramp on front porch. Fenced yard. $25,000. Cash only. No owner finance. Call 432-813-7096

Pets-Animals

Other Pets

WANTED: WHITE, female, miniature poodle puppy. Joyce E. from Greenwood area. If you are still raising poodles, please call Jerry Brown at 806-777-1073.

Antique and Vintage

1949 PACKARD SEDAN restored, flathead 8 cylinder $6,000. Call 432-210-8517 for an appointment.

Garage-Estate-Yard Sale

Estate Sales

Estate Fine jewelry, including 10k, 14k, 18k, Sterling Silver & costume, at great prices. Come see us at the Wall Street Antiques Treasure Hunter's Expo at the Midland County Horseshoe Pavilion. Admission is free. Sat. 9am-5pm & Sun.10am-4pm

Sporting Goods

*****GUN SHOW*****
Midland Horshoe
Apr. 1st & 2nd
806-253-1322
midlandgunshow.com

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

55 GALLON plastic barrels $15. 30 gallon plastic barrels $5. office chairs: 3 positions adjustments, arm rest, high back, very good condition. $15. 432-352-8419

Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

IT'S SALE

Classified CAN 682-6222

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

2		5	1			7		
		7		3		4	5	
			7					
6		3				2		9
			6		2			
9						8		7
					9			
	4	6		8				
		2			7	5		4

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit ***www.sudoku.org.uk***

SOLUTION TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE

7	9	3	6	4	2	1	8	5
4	5	8	3	7	1	2	6	9
6	2	1	9	5	8	3	7	4
1	8	9	4	6	3	5	2	7
3	6	2	7	8	5	4	9	1
5	4	7	2	1	9	8	3	6
8	7	6	5	3	4	9	1	2
9	1	5	8	2	6	7	4	3
2	3	4	1	9	7	6	5	8

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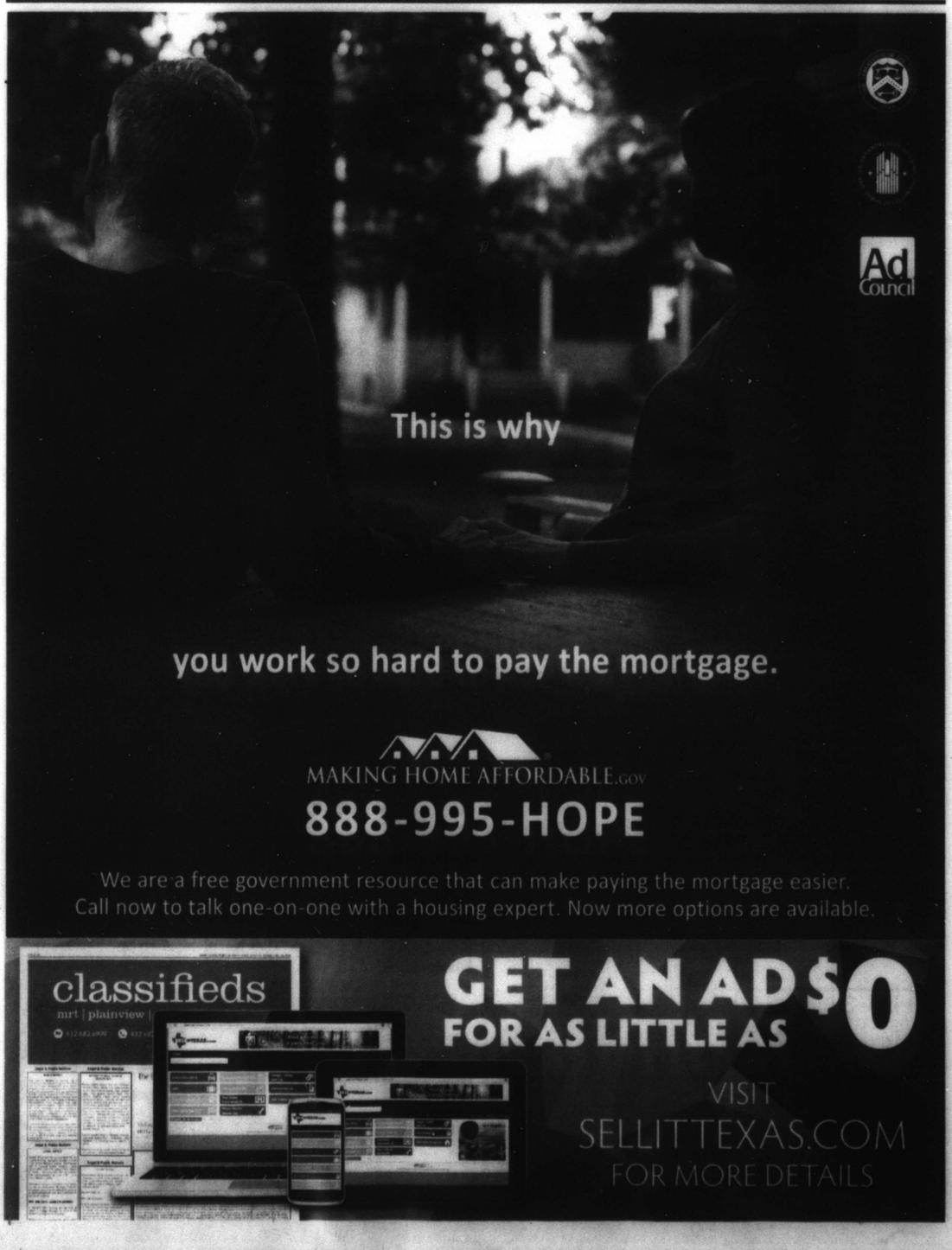
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