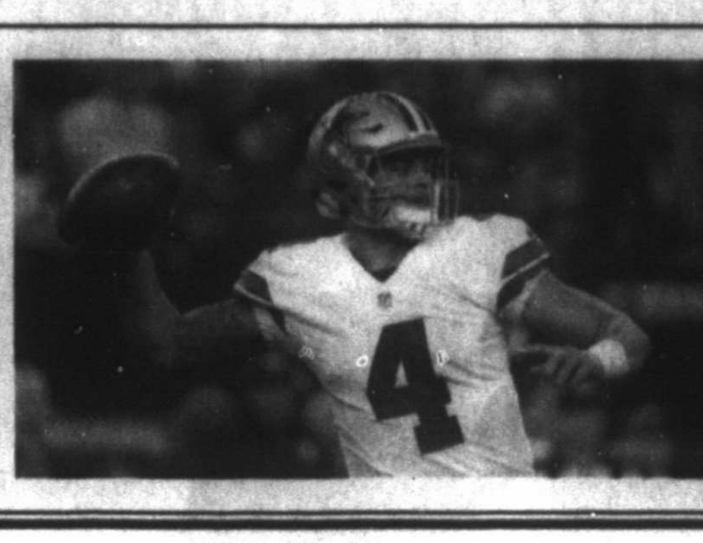
MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

RIVALS RAGE

Defense was key in Lee's win over rival MHS. This and more in Sports.

Page 1C



PRESCOTT TO VISIT

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott is expected to be at the Great Futures Benefit, benefiting the local Boys & Girls Clubs of the Permian Basin, on April 6 at the Midland Country Club.

Page 2C

ExxonMobil bulks up with $6.6B Delaware deal

Company has more than doubled Permian Basin resources to 6 billion barrels

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Exxon Mobil Corp.'s Permian Basin roots stretch back to the earliest days through Humble Oil and Refining.

Like a number of companies, its presence has risen and fallen with the economics of the area's oil and gas industry. Today, with the global spotlight shining on the Permian and the potential of its oil and gas resources, ExxonMobil is again bulking up its presence, snapping up another historic company in a $6 billion deal.

ExxonMobil announced Tuesday it is acquiring the companies owned by the Bass family of Fort Worth, whose history includes pioneer oilman Sid Richardson. The deal includes the operating company BOPCO, which has offices at Fasken Oil & Ranch's Vineyard Business Park. ExxonMobil is paying $5.6 billion up front in corporate stock and is making additional contingent cash payments, totaling up to $1 billion, to be paid beginning in 2020 and ending in 2032, bringing the total acquisition cost to $6.6 billion.

"This is the seventh transaction Exxon has done in the Permian Basin in the last three years," ExxonMobil Spokesperson Suann Guthrie told the Reporter-Telegram by phone.

The bulk of the acquisition — 250,000 acres — is in the New Mexico portion of the Delaware subbasin with an additional 25,000 acres located outside the Permian, Guthrie said.

Bass employees will be offered employment opportunities with XTO Energy, ExxonMobil's subsidiary that manages its unconventional liquids portfolio. Guthrie had no information on the impact of the deal on BOPCO's office in northwest Midland.

Please see **DEAL**/4A

CONAWAY'S COMMITMENT



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway places his hand on his Bible, held by his mother, Jean, as Judge Robert Junell conducts the oath of office Tuesday for Conaway's 6th term as U.S. Representative.

Oil companies donate $100,000 for tax ratification election

■ Large employers combine for $110,000 in donations

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

Large employers across Midland contributed $110,000 for the tax ratification election that failed in October.

According to campaign reports turned in Friday by the group Better Begins Now Midland First, Concho Resources, Pioneer Natural Resources, Apache Corp., Cimarex Energy Co. and Occidental Petroleum Co. (Oxy) each donated $20,000. Warren Administration Co. added a $10,000 contribution.

The campaign finance report also reported $110,000 in total political expenses, including contribution reimbursements to the six companies.

Better Begins Now Midland First spent a total of $55,000 across three separate contributions in advertising with the Reporter-Telegram. Mode Communications received a total of $39,214 across two contributions for advertising purposes. Mode Communications, according to an item on the Midland Chamber of Commerce website, "specializes in creating unique marketing and branding strategies to connect businesses with consumers." Its director is listed as John James.

A $2,000 contribution went to Better Begins Now Midland First for consulting.

The report also shows reimbursement payments of $2,501.27 to Pioneer, Concho, Apache, Cimarex and Oxy and a reimbursement payment of $1,250.65 to Warren.

The Oct. 8 election, which would have increased Midland ISD's maintenance and operations tax rate by 5 cents, failed. Of the 6,648 people who participated in the election, 63.31 percent (4,209 people) voted in opposition while 36.69 percent (2,439) voted in support of the item.

By the numbers

Information from the campaign finance report from the Tax Ratification Election, which took place in October. The final report was turned in Jan. 13, and the filing deadline was Tuesday.

- Total political contributions: $110,000
- Total political expenditures: $110,000

Contributions

- $20,000: Apache Corp., Concho Oil and Gas, Pioneer Natural Resources, Occidental Petroleum Corp. Cimarex Engery Co.
- $10,000: Warren Administration Co.

Expenditures

- $29,000: Midland Reporter-Telegram
- $27,150: Mode Communications
- $16,000: Midland Reporter-Telegram
- $12,064: Mode Communications
- $10,000: Midland Reporter-Telegram
- $2,501.27 (contribution reimbursements): Pioneer, Apache, Cimarex, Occidental, Concho
- $2,000: Better Begins Now Midland First
- $1,250.27: Warren

Mac's BBQ gets alcohol permit upgrade

■ Tequila's gets alcohol OK; Wal-Mart granted covered parking request

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

Mac's Bar-B-Q & Catering, 2400 W. Indiana Ave., got the OK Tuesday from the Planning & Zoning Commission to serve alcohol to more patrons.

Commissioners approved letting Mac's serve alcohol to 300 people, up from a previously approved 160. City staff said seating will include 60 in the main building, 99 in the "Mac Shack" and 141 in an outside seating.

The restaurant can serve alcohol from 10 a.m. to midnight Monday through Saturday. Mac's will have operating hours from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on those days and will be closed Sunday.

The request was approved 6-1.

The forthcoming Tequila's Restaurant at 200 E. Florida Ave. was also granted a specific-use permit to sell alcohol. Tequila's can serve alcohol 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Saturday. The property was previously approved for alcohol service 11 a.m. to midnight Monday through Saturday and noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Please see **P&Z**/4A

Weather
Mostly cloudy
57/40
Get your complete forecast on 5B

Energy prices

WTI Futures	$53.48	▲ $0.11
WTI Posted	$49.80	▲ $0.75
WTS Posted	$45.05	▲ $0.75
Natural Gas	$3.412	▼ $0.007
Gasoline	$2.141	▼ $0.028

The big number
According to a new poll,
40 percent of young adults
think they personally will be worse off four years from now. More on Page 8A.

Word of the Day: uranium
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 2A.

Brought to you daily by Jumburrito

Vol. 88, No. 313
Daily $2, Sunday $3

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WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JimBurrito
uranium
[yoo-rey-nee-*uh* m]
noun
1. a white, lustrous, radioactive, metallic element, occurring in pitchblende, and having compounds that are used in photography and in coloring glass.

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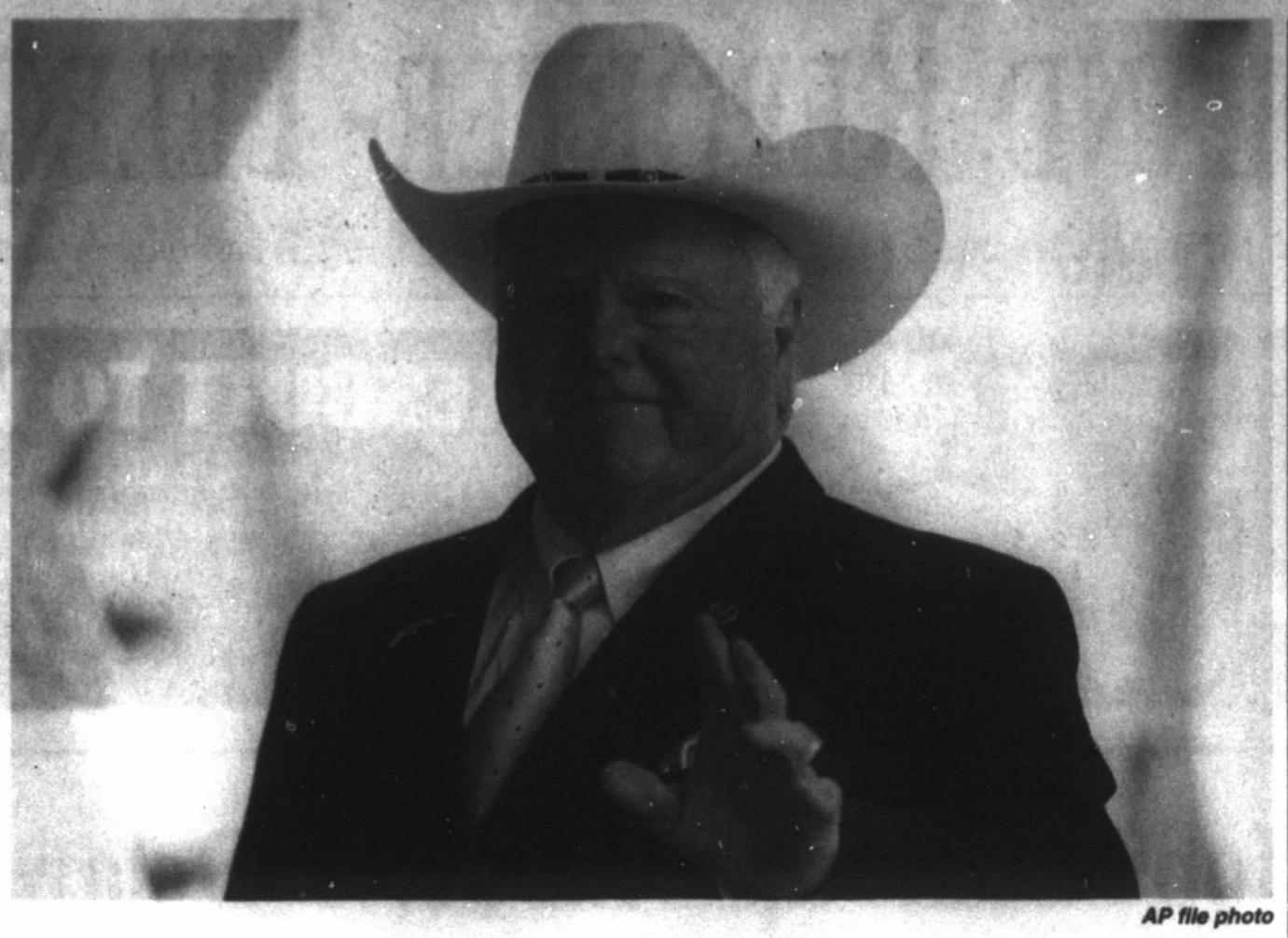
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AP file photo

In this Dec. 30, 2016, file photo, Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller waves as he arrives at Mar-a-Lago to meet with President-elect Donald Trump's transition team in Palm Beach, Fla. A claim by Miller that "illegal aliens" attacked a hunting party in remote West Texas was criticized Monday by the local sheriff who says the hunters fired on one another.

Sheriff criticizes Texas Ag Commissioner's account of 'attack'

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A claim by Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller that "illegal aliens" attacked a hunting party in remote West Texas is being discounted by the local sheriff who says the hunters fired on one another.

Miller said in a recent Facebook post that the attack is another reason why a wall must be built to secure the Texas border.

"Anyone who says that the people illegally crossing into our country are just those seeking a better future for their families simply do not understand what is happening on our borders," the Republican said in his post. "There are violent criminals and members of drug cartels coming in."

He said the gunmen ambushed the party and shot a guide as he tried to protect the hunters.

But Presidio County Sheriff Danny Dominguez on Monday criticized Miller's account.

"The agriculture commissioner needs to do his job and stick to that, and I'll do my job. You tell him I said that," Dominguez told the San Antonio Express-News.

A request to Dominguez for further comment Tuesday was not returned.

Sheriff's investigators said in a statement last week that the Jan. 6 incident in which the guide and a second man were shot was the result of "friendly fire among the hunting party with several contributing factors."

Authorities say about 30 law enforcement officers searched the perimeter of the ranch where the hunters were staying and didn't find signs of people approaching the camp that night. And investigators found no evidence of "cross-border violence," according to the statement.

An online blog cited an anonymous family member in posting an account of the shooting, which was then publicized by media outlets. The blog had asserted multiple gunmen attacked the group in an apparent effort to rob and kidnap the hunters.

Because Miller's post was to his personal Facebook page, his office Tuesday referred questions to his campaign spokesman, Todd Smith, whose phone was not accepting incoming messages. But Smith told the Express-News that what surprised him is that "people think we're a news organization. It's a personal Facebook page."

He said the shooting is "old news" and added if the sheriff has concerns about the commissioner's post then, "I'm sure he'll contact us."

Miller has received criticism in the past for other posts, including one shared in 2015 that appears to suggest using an atomic bomb on the Muslim population.

He apologized in November after his official Twitter account briefly posted — then deleted — a tweet that used an obscenity to refer to Hillary Clinton.

STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

AUSTIN

Texas leases more land but gets lower prices amid oil slump

The demand to lease Texas' publicly held land for energy exploration has increased since last summer, despite low oil prices — but it generated lower average prices.

Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced Tuesday that his office had auctioned leases for about 14,000 acres.

That yielded about $84 million, or an average of less than $5,900 per acre, for the Permanent School Fund, which helps cover some public education costs.

During the last offering in July, Bush's office auctioned leases for 13,000-plus acres but generated $98 million, a per-acre average of nearly $7,400.

In 2015, Bush began letting private oil companies submit online their bids to explore for oil and gas on Texas state land.

In a statement Tuesday, Bush said: "We've taken an antiquated paper-based auction and transformed it."

AUSTIN

2 Texas Democratic congressmen boycotting Trump inauguration

Democratic U.S. Reps. Al Green and Joaquin Castro of Texas say they will boycott President-elect Donald Trump's inauguration in Washington on Friday.

Green, who represents much of southwestern Houston, and Castro, of San Antonio, both hail from safely Democratic districts.

They are joining about 50 House Democrats nationwide in skipping Trump's swearing-in. More Texas congressional Democrats might yet follow suit.

In a statement, Castro said Trump "has shown an utter lack of respect for so many Americans."

Castro cited Trump's "attack on civil rights hero John Lewis," a Democratic congressman from Georgia who Trump attacked over the weekend after Lewis questioned Trump's legitimacy as president.

Green also cited Trump's reaction to Lewis in saying he too was planning to skip the inauguration.

AMARILLO

Funeral on Saturday for 4 Texas siblings in gas poisoning

Four children who died Jan. 2 following an apparent accidental gas poisoning at their Texas mobile home will be mourned in Amarillo.

An official with Memorial Park Funeral Home & Cemetery says the funeral for the Balderas siblings is at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral. Burial will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Amarillo police Officer Jeb Hilton said Tuesday the investigation continues into the deaths of 7-year-old Felipe, 9-year-old Johnny, 11-year-old Josue and 17-year-old Yasmeen Balderas.

REGIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW MEXICO

Weekend storm brought rainfall, snow to New Mexico

ALBUQUERQUE — The weekend storm delivered healthy rainfall totals across much of New Mexico and dumped snow on high-altitude areas.

The Albuquerque Journal reported that Albuquerque International Sunport received 0.66 inch of rain Sunday, while Roswell recorded 0.33 inch of rain.

The heaviest snowfall was recorded at the 10,000-foot Magdalena Ridge Observatory west of Socorro, which racked up at least 18 inches.

Several ski areas picked up a foot or more of snow.

At lower altitudes, snow isn't likely to stick very long with warmer, drier weather expected to push into the state this week.

Highs in the upper 40s and low 50s are expected in Albuquerque by today and Thursday, before another storm system Thursday night brings a chance for more rain and snow later in the week.

LAS VEGAS

Gun industry, suicide prevention forge unlikely alliance

It's a difficult topic to discuss, fraught with politics and social stigma, and an even tougher one to fix: people who kill themselves with a gun. But now two unlikely allies — the gun industry and a leading suicide prevention group — are coming together to tackle it.

It's a partnership that's been elusive, with the gun industry wary of encouraging a gun-control agenda and suicide prevention advocates uncertain about diving into such a prickly political topic.

But after nearly a year of phone conversations and meetings, the National Sports Shooting Foundation and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention discovered they had a goal in common: preventing suicides.

"As with most relationships, we had to get to know one another a bit. We had to see that they were serious, and I'm sure that they had to see that we were not going to be gun control activists," said Robert Gebbia, CEO of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. "We're interested in not taking guns away, but in limiting access by those who have serious mental health problems and are at risk."

It's all about practicing safe storage, he said.

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, with more than 44,000 Americans dying each year — half of them using a firearm. For those who use a gun, it is fatal 90 percent of the time. The goal of the partnership is to reduce the number of suicides by 10,000 in the next decade.

"You think about 10,000 people who might not take their lives because they didn't have access to the means to do it ... that would be success," Gebbia said in an interview.

The idea is to spread the word to gun owners and buyers through dealers, gun ranges and retailers on ways first to recognize warning signs and then to prevent the person from accessing a firearm until they are able to recover from their illness. The initiative last summer launched pilot programs in Alabama, Kentucky, Missouri and New Mexico and now is going national.

Brochures pointing out factors that put some people at greater risk for suicide, warning signs to watch for and tips on reaching out to someone showing signs of depression are going to retailers and others in the industry. There's also information on ways to safely lock and store a firearm.

Steve Sanetti, president and CEO of the foundation, said that although the industry has taken on other projects designed to ensure the safe handling and storage of firearms, including providing child-safe locks, "suicide has been one area we have not touched on as much in the past. ... This is something we thought as an industry deserved some attention."

At a news conference Tuesday at the industry's annual trade show in Las Vegas, Sanetti acknowledged the prevailing opinion among doctors and other experts is that the best way to keep people safe is to keep guns out of the home. About two-thirds of all gun deaths each year involve suicide.

NEW MEXICO

Navajo leaders meet with feds over oil, gas lease sale

SANTA FE — The leaders of several Navajo communities are asking federal officials to cancel an upcoming oil and natural gas lease sale over concerns about the protection of cultural resources in northwestern New Mexico.

Nine Navajo chapter presidents met with the Bureau of Land Management in Santa Fe on Tuesday as dozens of supporters turned in petitions and letters in opposition to the Jan. 25 lease sale.

The four parcels up for bid include more than 842 acres that opponents say are part of the "greater Chaco area" that surrounds Chaco Culture National Historical Park.

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FBI faces backlash for child porn investigation

Associated Press

DALLAS — A case involving the FBI taking over a child porn website as part of a sting operation has sparked an ethics debate among legal scholars and defense attorneys, including lawyers for a Texas man caught in the sting.

Federal prosecutors are defending the agency's decision to secretly seize, control and monitor a child pornography website for two weeks to catch child predators in 2015, The Dallas Morning News reports. During that time, tens of thousands of child porn images were uploaded to the site.

The government usually takes down such sites immediately. But the FBI obtained a search warrant from a federal judge in Virginia that allowed the agency to run the website on a government-controlled server and hack into the computers of people who accessed the site's content. Agents weren't authorized to look through a computer's files or search other content.

Many defense attorneys have filed motions to suppress the evidence from the sting, though legal experts say most attempts at getting charges dismissed have failed. Some judges have ruled the government acted inappropriately.

Andrew Crocker, an attorney with the nonprofit Electronic Frontier Foundation, which deals with civil liberties in the digital world, said the government abused its power in these cases.

"They got a single warrant to hack into the computers of anyone visiting this website without any limitation," he told the newspaper.

The U.S. attorney's office in Dallas says the agency acted within the law. The FBI has declined to comment on the operation.

Judge extends oversight of Houston suburb's election system

Associated Press

PASADENA — A judge says the election system for a Houston suburb that implemented a voting plan meant to dilute Latino power at the polls will be under federal oversight for the next six years.

U.S. District Judge Lee Rosenthal issued an order Monday saying that Pasadena must receive approval from the U.S. attorney general or the court before altering its election system until June 30, 2023, to ensure "the city cannot immediately return to a map and plan that thwarts Latinos on the cusp of an electoral majority," the Houston Chronicle reported.

Rosenthal's ruling follows her decision earlier this month that the city intentionally violated the voting rights of its burgeoning Hispanic and Latino population in a redistricting scheme pushed through three years ago by longtime Mayor Johnny Isbell.

The redistricting came after a far-reaching U.S. Supreme Court decision in 2013 removed federal oversight over local changes to election procedures in Texas and other states with a history of discriminatory practices.

A spokeswoman for Pasadena didn't immediately return a call or email seeking comment Tuesday.

The Latino population in Pasadena has grown rapidly in recent decades — almost two-thirds of residents, up from less than one-third in 1990.

Rosenthal's order came two days before registration begins for candidates in Pasadena's May city elections.

Judge: Planned Parenthood videos 'baloney' in Medicaid fight

By Paul J. Weber
Associated Press

"They know us. They trust us. My fear is they won't know where to turn."

Ken Lambrecht, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas president

AUSTIN — A federal judge deciding whether Texas can block Planned Parenthood from receiving Medicaid dollars scolded attorneys Tuesday for rehashing the debate over secretly recorded videos that Republicans across the U.S. — Texas included — have used to try defunding the nation's largest abortion provider.

"You can give me all this baloney you want," said U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks, who became visibly frustrated after a Planned Parenthood employee testified for an hour about discussing fetal tissue research on the videos, which were filmed and heavily edited by anti-abortion activists posing as founders of a fake biomedical startup.

Come Saturday, Planned Parenthood will stop receiving Medicaid money in Texas unless Sparks blocks the ouster. His decision is expected later this week.

Federal judges across the U.S. have so far stopped other Republican-controlled states from similarly cutting off Medicaid dollars to Planned Parenthood. That list includes Arkansas, Alabama, Mississippi and Kansas.

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas argued that non-abortion care to nearly 11,000 low-income women is at stake.

"They know us. They trust us," president Ken Lambrecht said. "My fear is they won't know where to turn."

Sparks told attorneys he wanted to know about the type of Medicaid services Planned Parenthood provides and how many clinics are impacted. He suggested that any arguments or testimony outside of that information won't have bearing on his decision.

In the states that have tried to cut off Medicare funding, Republican officials have justified the attempted actions by citing the videos filmed by the anti-abortion group Center for Medical Progress. Some feature Melissa Farrell, a researcher at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Houston, who testified Tuesday that her conversations were spliced and wrongly portrayed.

The footage from Houston showed people pretending to be from a company called BioMax that procures fetal tissue for research touring the facility. The makers of the videos, two anti-abortion activists from California, were indicted on charges of using fake IDs but those charges were later dismissed.

Investigations by 13 states into those videos have concluded without criminal charges, and Planned Parenthood officials have denied any wrongdoing.

Sparks is the same judge who put on hold new Texas rules requiring the burial or cremation of fetal remains.

Originally scheduled to take effect in December, the rules were challenged by abortion-rights groups, who say such regulations don't provide any public health benefits and instead seek to shame women and make it tougher for doctors to perform abortions.

Airport shooting suspect blamed 'mind control,' IS ties

By Curt Anderson
Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — The man suspected of fatally shooting five people and wounding six others at a Florida airport told investigators initially he was under government mind control and then claimed to be inspired by Islamic State websites and chatrooms, authorities said at a hearing Tuesday.

FBI agent Michael Ferlazzo also confirmed that the 9mm Walther handgun used in the Jan. 6 shooting rampage at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport is the same weapon Anchorage, Alaska, police seized and later returned to 26-year-old Esteban Santiago last year.

Ferlazzo testified at a bond hearing that Santiago mentioned after the shooting that his mind was under some kind of government control. Later in the interview he claimed to have been inspired by Islamic State-related chatrooms and websites, although it is not clear if the FBI has been able to corroborate any terror-related claims.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Lurana Snow set a Jan. 30 arraignment hearing for Santiago to enter a formal plea. Snow ordered Santiago kept in custody as a risk of flight and a danger to the community, which Assistant U.S. Attorney Rick Del Toro said was clear from his actions at the airport.

"He has admitted to all of the facts with respect to the terrible and tragic events of Jan. 6," Del Toro said. "These were vulnerable victims who he shot down methodically."

Santiago could get the death penalty if convicted of federal airport violence and firearms charges that resulted in death. His public defender, Robert Berube, said Santiago would not contest the pretrial detention order.

"Mr. Santiago is prepared to remain in custody," Berube said.

Investigators say Santiago legally brought a gun box containing his weapon and ammunition as checked luggage for his flight, then retrieved it at the Florida airport and went into a bathroom. After loading the gun, authorities say he came out firing randomly and then laid down on the floor after using all 15 bullets in two clips.

Much of the hearing focused on Ferlazzo's testimony about what Santiago said after the shooting and what records from Alaska reveal about him.

Ferlazzo said Santiago, an Iraq war veteran who was a member of the Puerto Rico and Alaska National Guard, visited a gun range late last year before booking the one-way ticket from Alaska to Fort Lauderdale. It was previously reported that Santiago visited the FBI office in Anchorage last year complaining about hearing voices and supposed CIA mind control, which led to Anchorage police temporarily seizing his gun and Santiago's brief stay in a mental hospital.

At the Alaska Psychiatric Institute, Ferlazzo said, records show Santiago was given anti-anxiety medications but no prescriptions for drugs that would treat serious mental conditions such as schizophrenia. He was released after a five-day stay with no restrictions that might prevent him from possessing a gun, and his weapon was returned by police.

"He was deemed to be stable," the agent testified.

In the post-shooting interviews, Santiago at first repeated claims that he did it because of government mind control but later told investigators he had been visiting chatrooms and internet sites frequented by the Islamic State terror group or those inspired by it.

"It was a group of like-minded individuals who were all planning attacks," Ferlazzo said.

The FBI is examining Santiago's computers and other devices as well as those of family members, but so far agents have not confirmed any terrorism ties.

Other evidence collected so far includes video from 20 different airport camera angles that show the entire shooting episode, Ferlazzo testified. In addition, the roughly six-hour interview in which Santiago supposedly confessed was audio and video recorded.

MIDLAND COMMUNITY **THEATRE**

NOTICE OF

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OF MEMBERS

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For information call (432) 682-2544

Midland Community Theatre invites all members, volunteers, and interested parties to the 71st annual meeting. Meeting business includes the election of board members, a status review for 2016 and a preview of activities for 2017.

www.mctmidland.org

Budget cut talks underway as Texas confronts cash crunch

By Paul J. Weber
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Short on cash following a prolonged oil slump, Texas lawmakers on Tuesday began proposing border security cuts and a freeze on classroom funding, which would put no new money into a school finance system that a court has ruled only barely constitutional.

The separate spending plans released by the House and Senate — both overwhelmingly controlled by Republicans, but with two distinctly different agendas — are mere starting points to budget talks that will drag through May. But the first drafts are drawing early battle lines over education and costly trooper patrols along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Still unknown are the spending priorities of Republican Gov. Greg Abbott, who is expected to lay out his legislative agenda at the end of the month.

A budget squeeze is only going to make negotiations tougher. Texas is shy about $6 billion of the money needed just to keep the status quo, according to budget experts and lawmakers, making cuts this spring a near certainty with GOP leaders unwilling to raise taxes or tap billions of dollars socked away in a reserve fund.

The Senate, led by Republican Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, is putting no new money on the table for public schools. But House Speaker Joe Straus, starting a record-tying fifth term in his powerful post, is calling for an additional $1.5 billion for classrooms that is contingent on tweaks to the school finance system.

The Texas Supreme Court spared the Legislature from a costly school finance overhaul when it ruled last year that the system was flawed — but not in violation of the law. That ruling came after more than half of Texas school districts sued the state in the wake of $5.4 billion slashed from classrooms in 2011, which came during a far more pronounced budget shortfall.

Justices on the entirely Republican court, however, still urged lawmakers to make improvements.

"We keep overall spending low while making investments in children and our future," Straus said in a statement.

In all, the Senate plan is about $5 billion lighter than the budget proposed by the House.

One area where the House and Senate are finding early agreement is more money for Texas' embattled child welfare system. Both plans would commit and additional $260 million to help stabilize the workforce at the state's Child Protective Services agency, which has been beset by turnover and growing case backlogs.

Additional pressure is also coming from a federal judge ruling in 2014 that the state's foster care system is unconstitutionally broken. State officials are appealing that ruling and want the chance to install its own reforms with judicial oversight.

Texas, 12 other states sue to block Obama coal mining rule

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Texas and 12 other states have asked a federal court to block final rules from President Barack Obama's administration designed to reduce coal mining's impact on streams.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton petitioned a Washington-based appeals court for an injunction Tuesday.

Paxton said in a statement that the "Stream Protection Rule" imposes "mandatory, one-size-fits-all" regulations that violate states' rights.

Joining Texas are Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Ohio, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming.

The U.S. Interior Department argues that the rule will protect 6,000 miles of streams by preventing coal mining debris from being dumped into nearby waters.

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RUSTY SPUR GUN SHOPPE
RETIREMENT LIQUIDATION AUCTION

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SATURDAY JANUARY 21ST 10AM
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PREVIEW THURSDAY 4PM-7PM
AND FRIDAY 10 AM

The Rusty Spur Gun Shoppe was one of Odessa's Finest Firearms stores, merchandise is all top of the line. The items are new, most have original boxes, nothing has been picked over. The inventory is so large it will take us three sales to complete.

This sale will feature:
Over 200 New Firearms including: Browning, Henry, Glock, Colt, Savage, Marlin, Remington, Mossberg, Ruger, Winchester, CZ, SigSauer, Thompson, Magnum Research, Taurus, Weatherby, FN Herstal, Steyr, Century Arms, Para Ordinance, Glock, H&K, Springfield, Kel-tec, Rossi, and Kahr, Franchi, Chiappa, S&W, Ugaetechea, Tikka, Beretta, Kahr, Glock, Magnum Research, Armalite, Armscor, Bersa, Walther, Daniel Defence, DPMS, FMK, Kimber, Sako, STI, Uberti, Windham, Bushmaster, and others.

Thousands of rounds of Ammo including Popular brands such as: CCI, Federal, Hornady, Remington, PMC, American Eagle, Sellier & Bellot, and Winchester. Reloading Supplies, Magazines, Clips, of every kind.

Optics including Scopes and Binoculars, Knives including Arno Bernard, Case Knives, Silver Stag, large selection of accessories

We have two items that were not part of the Rusty Spur: 1951 John Deere Tractor, rebuilt motor, running and 12 ft Tandum axle enclosed trailer

Note: Internet Bidding will be available via Auctionzip and Invaluable (15% Buyers Premium online) and our own app that can be downloaded from the app store or from our website www.auctionsandservices.com
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Mark your Calendars for February 18th and March 18th for More Rusty Spur

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

■ Storytime at the Library, 10:30 a.m. (birth-2 years), 11:30 a.m. (2-6 years),Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. Tickets required for later sessions due to limited space. co.midland.tx.us/lib.

■ TCM Big Screen Classics: "Singin' in the Rain" 2 and 7 p.m., Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $14.66. fathomevents.com.

■ Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $6. permianbridgeclub.com.

■ Trivia Game Night, 7 p.m., True Texas BBQ, 5407 Andrews Highway. Free.

■ Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 8 p.m., Torino's. challengeentertainment.com.

Documentary films at UTPB

Filmmaker Charlie Minn will show "Es el Chapo?" at 5 p.m. and "77 Minutes" at 7 p.m. Friday at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin library.

"Es el Chapo?" examines the 2014 arrest of druglord "El Chapo" Guzman, and "77 Minutes" examines the 1984 mass shooting inside a San Diego McDonald's restaurant.

The websites are www.eselchapo.com and www.77minutesfilm.com.

Stay connected

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■ Twitter: @mwtnews
■ Facebook: facebook.com/TheReporterTelegram

Wettest Januarys

The following are the five wettest months of January in Midland, according to the National Weather Service.

1. 1939 ..... 4.99 inches
2. 1949 ..... 3.66 inches
3. 1946 ..... 3.18 inches
4. 2015 ..... 2.43 inches
5. 1958 ..... 1.97 inches

Source: National Weather Service

Watering schedule

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

Even numbered addresses may water outdoors on Saturdays and Wednesdays.

Odd numbered addresses may water outdoors on Fridays and Tuesdays.

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

Sales Tax figures

■ January 2017 collection: $2,8383,602
■ January 2016 collection: $2,856,519
■ Percent increase: 0.64
Note: The city's string of consecutive monthly decreases (compared to the same month in the previous year) ended at 22.
■ Fiscal year-to-date total: $11,236,452
■ Percent Increase from last year: 11.47
■ Amount dedicated in January to pay off sports complex and fund the Midland Development Corp.: $709,650
■ Amount dedicated this fiscal year to pay off sports complex and fund the Midland Development Corp.: $2,809,113

This fiscal year

■ October: 15.2 percent decrease
■ November: 16.74 percent decrease
■ December: 0.53 percent decrease
■ January: 0.64 percent increase
Note: Sales tax collection is generated by sales tax income from two months before.

Source: City of Midland reports

MISD parent meetings

MISD junior high campuses will host eighth-grade parent meetings that concern ninth-grade registration for 2017-18 school year. They will take place at:

■ Alamo Junior High: 6:30 p.m. Jan. 26
■ Abell Junior High: 6:30 p.m. Feb. 13
■ San Jacinto Junior High: 6:30 p.m., Feb. 16
■ Goodard Junior High: 6:30 p.m., Feb. 21

All eighth-grade parents are invited to attend.

Source: Midland ISD

'Tall Cop' to address youth drug use

The Midland ISD Education Foundation is organizing an important community event about drug and alcohol trends among the youth in the Midland area.

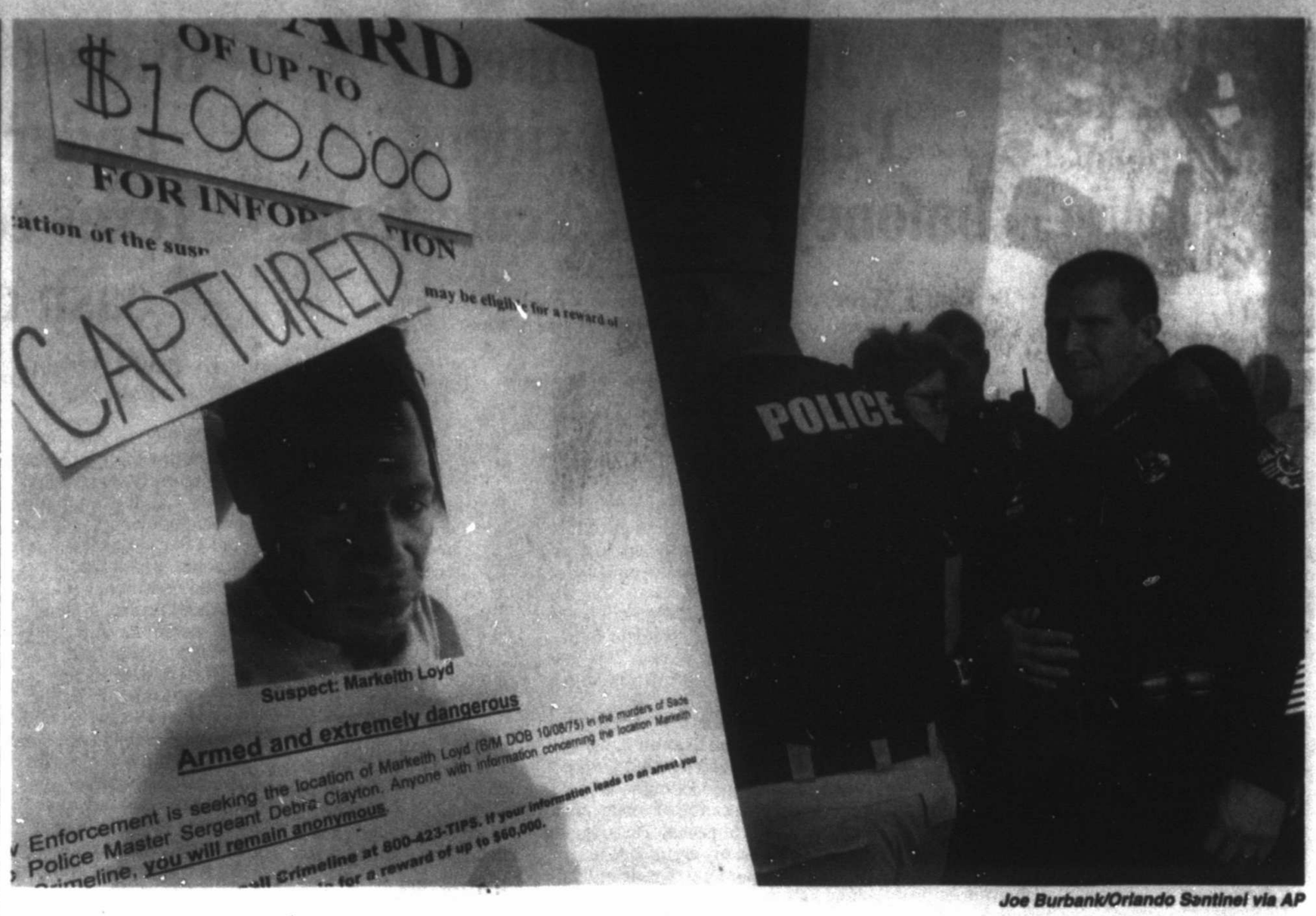
The free event is called "Tall Cop in the Tall City" and will take place on from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Feb. 6 at Stonegate Fellowship.

Jermaine Galloway, known as the "Tall Cop," is an expert on the American drug and alcohol culture and travels the country conducting educational events.

Source: Midland ISD

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 2-2-8
Pick 3 day: 5-7-7
Pick 3 evening: 9-4-0
Pick 3 night: 1-3-4
Daily 4 morning: 0-8-8-2
Daily 4 day: 7-2-8-5
Daily 4 evening: 8-7-9-2
Daily 4 night: 9-2-8-2
Cash Five: 2-4-5-11-19
Texas Triple Chance: 1-4-5-6-16-24-27-29-33-42
Mega Millions: 20-31-54-56-59 MB: 3 Megaplier: 5
All or Nothing morning: 1-5-7-8-12-13-15-17-20-21-23-24
All or Nothing day: 2-3-6-8-9-11-14-15-16-18-22-23
All or Nothing evening: 2-3-7-9-11-12-14-15-17-19-21-22
All or Nothing night: 4-7-10-11-12-13-14-16-18-19-22-23



Joe Burbank/Orlando Sentinel via AP

Orlando police Chief John Mina walks past the updated wanted poster of Markeith Loyd during a news conference at Orlando Police Department to announce the capture of Loyd on Tuesday in Orlando, Fla. The suspect in the fatal shooting of an Orlando police officer was captured Tuesday night after eluding a massive manhunt for more than a week, authorities said. **BELOW:** Loyd is escorted out of the Orlando Police headquarters.

Police: Fugitive wanted in officer's fatal shooting captured

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The suspect in the fatal shooting of an Orlando police officer was captured Tuesday night after eluding a massive manhunt for more than a week, authorities said.

Orlando police Chief John Mina said Markeith Loyd, 41, was flushed out of an abandoned house and taken into custody, ending a manhunt that began with the Jan. 9 killing of Lt. Debra Clayton outside a Wal-Mart store.

Local television stations showed Loyd with a bloodied face as a half-dozen officers and deputies took him into police headquarters.

Mina tweeted, "Captured and wearing Lt. Debra Clayton's handcuffs."

Loyd was wearing body armor and carrying two handguns — one equipped with a 100-round magazine — when he surrendered after a SWAT team surrounded the house in western Orlando, Mina said at a news conference. He said Loyd resisted arrest and had some facial injuries that were being treated.



Mina denied rumors that the arrest was the result of an anonymous tip, saying that Loyd was captured by the tireless efforts of law enforcement.

"They've basically been living in their vehicles, using the bathroom in their vehicles, to try and do everything they could to bring justice for the Dixon family and for the Clayton family," Mina said.

Before the officer's shooting, authorities had been looking for Loyd for questioning in the death of his pregnant ex-girlfriend, Sade Dixon. Clayton had been tipped off that he was in the area while she was at the store and was shot when she approached Loyd, who then fled.

Orange County Sheriff Jerry Demings said at the news conference that the arrest is bittersweet, noting that in addition to Clayton, a deputy in his agency, Norman Lewis, died in a traffic crash during the manhunt for Loyd.

"I believe that our entire community is going to breathe a sigh of relief at this point," Demings said. "They will sleep better knowing tonight that ... this maniac is off the streets."

Demings said Loyd would be charged with two counts of first-degree murder in Dixon's death last month. Loyd will also face one count of attempted first-degree murder and two counts of aggravated assault with a firearm related to the shooting of Dixon's brother and threats against other relatives.

Police arrested a former supervisor at the fried chicken restaurant where Loyd worked, an ex-girlfriend and a niece last Tuesday and Wednesday on charges of helping him in the weeks after Loyd's ex-girlfriend was fatally shot.

Mina said he expects more arrests in the case for anyone who helped him evade police. He said authorities didn't know how long Loyd been in the house, which was abandoned but does have ties to associates of his.

"Anyone who harbored, aided or abetted him in any way is going to be arrested, and we know from our investigation that people did assist him," Mina said.

Hundreds of officers and deputies had been searching for Loyd, and a $100,000 reward was being offered for information that leads to his arrest.

Prosecutor: Orlando gunman's widow knew about the attack

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — The widow of the Orlando nightclub gunman knew about the attack ahead of time and then hindered the criminal investigation when she lied to FBI agents after the shooting, prosecutors said Tuesday during a brief court appearance a day after her arrest in California.

Visibly nervous and bewildered, Noor Salman quietly acknowledged she understood the two felony charges alleging she assisted her husband and obstructed justice. She could face life in prison if convicted of both counts.

She didn't enter a plea and was ordered back to court today for the formal appointment of a lawyer and discussions on how to transfer her and the case to federal court in Orlando, where a grand jury indicted her.

She was arrested Monday at her mother's home in Rodeo, a middle-class suburb about 25 miles northeast of San Francisco.

Salman, 30, was raised in the San Francisco Bay Area and lived in Fort Pierce, Florida, with her husband Omar Mateen when he attacked the Pulse nightclub on June 12.

"She knew he was going to conduct the attack," federal prosecutor Roger Handberg told the judge Tuesday. Handberg did not disclose any more details and would not comment after the 15-minute hearing held in a courtroom packed with security officers.

Outside court, Salman's uncle Al Salman said his niece was innocent and did nothing to help Mateen plan the attack on the gay nightclub.

"She's a very soft and sweet girl," Salman said. "She would not hurt a fly."

The indictment charges her with aiding and abetting Mateen in providing material support and resources to the Islamic State group between April and June of last year. She was also charged with obstruction, accused of misleading and lying to police and the FBI during their investigation.

The indictment gave no additional details on Salman's actions.

During the standoff, Mateen pledged allegiance to the Islamic State in a 911 call. He was killed in a shootout with SWAT officers. In addition to the 49 victims killed, 53 people were injured.

In California, next-door neighbor Glauber Franchi said he was unaware that Noor Salman was living with her mother until she was arrested Monday.

"It's a very private family, very quiet family," Franchi said. "You don't see them. You barely see them on the street. They're good people from my knowledge. Never had a problem."

MPD: Woman assaults child with hammer

From staff reports

A Midland woman was arrested Sunday after she allegedly assaulted a child with a hammer, according to court documents.

Ashley Schree Mitchell, 33, was being held Tuesday on a $25,000 bond for a first-degree felony charge of aggravated assault of a date/family/house member with a weapon and a $500 bond for a Class A misdemeanor charge of resisting transportation.

Midland police were dispatched to a residence at about 10:45 p.m. Sunday in reference to a disturbance.

Mitchell struck a child with a hammer, according to her arrest affidavit. The child had bruising and swelling on his neck as a result of the assault, according to the affidavit.

Mitchell was allegedly uncooperative when an officer transported her to the booking area at the Central Detention Center.

If convicted of the first-degree felony charge, Mitchell could face up to 99 years imprisonment.

DEAL

From 1A

"As we've grown in the Permian Basin, people have moved out there," Guthrie noted.

With the 3.4 billion barrels of oil equivalent the acquisition will bring, ExxonMobil has more than doubled its Permian Basin resources to 6 billion barrels. Guthrie said estimates are that the acreage being acquired also holds more than 60 billion barrels of oil equivalent. She said the majority can be drilled with attractive returns at $40 per barrel oil prices.

The New Mexico acreage "is highly contiguous and in three large units that will allow us to drill longer laterals," she said. "Over 85 percent of those wells can have laterals of 2 miles or longer and aren't constrained by traditional lease issues."

Darren W. Woods, ExxonMobil's chairman and chief executive officer, said in the news release announcing the deal that technological developments such as longer laterals will help the company develop that 3.4 billion barrels of resource, 75 percent of which is liquids, by reducing development costs and increasing production volumes.

Currently, ExxonMobil is operating 10 rigs in the Permian, and Guthrie said 15 or more rigs can be added to the new acreage, bringing Exxon's total drilling program to 25 rigs or more.

ExxonMobil is producing about 140,000 net oil-equivalent barrels per day across its Permian Basin leasehold.

ExxonMobil acquired XTO in 2010 in a $41 billion deal. In 2014, XTO added to its Permian Basin holdings with acquisitions from Linn Energy and Endeavor Energy Resources.

P&Z

From 1A

Tequila's is near Martinez Bakery, which last year was granted a permit to sell beer and wine.

Commissioners approved the request 7-0.

Mac's and Tequila's alcohol permit requests head next to City Council for approval.

In other business

■ Ease of pickup: Commissioners approved 7-0 a request by BRR Architecture for a zone change for Wal-Mart, 4517 N. Midland Drive, from planned district for a shopping center to amended planned district.

City staff said Wal-Mart wants to construct a canopied parking area for customers picking up online orders. The area will be 1,440 square feet.

■ Alcohol on their minds: City Council began discussion last meeting for uniform alcohol service hours across the city. P&Z commissioners inquired about what the councilmembers were considering for a Sunday alcohol service start time, which was 10 a.m.

Nothing is official yet, but District 3 Councilwoman Sharla Hotchkiss told the Reporter-Telegram after Tuesday's P&Z meeting that standardized service hours would make easier the process of approving and amending alcohol permits and that she supports pursuit of such action.

City Development Services Director Chuck Harrington agreed and said that while council hasn't given him any formal plans yet, the city is researching what's best and that he looks forward to working on the project.

Like Trevor on Facebook and follow him on Twitter at @HowdyTrevor.



AP file photo

Anti-abortion rights activists are connected with a red piece of cloth as they stage a "die-in" in front of the White House in Washington in 2015. Even as the 2016 election outcome intensifies America's abortion debate, a comprehensive new survey released Tuesday by the Guttmacher Institute finds the annual number of abortions in the U.S has dropped to well under 1 million, the lowest level since 1974.

Abortions in US drop to lowest level since 1974

By David Crary
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Even as the election outcome intensifies America's abortion debate, a comprehensive new survey finds the annual number of abortions in the U.S has dropped to well under 1 million, the lowest level since 1974.

The report, which counted 926,200 abortions in 2014, was released Tuesday by the Guttmacher Institute, a research group that supports abortion rights. It is the only entity that strives to count all abortions in the U.S.; the latest federal survey by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lacks data from California, Maryland and New Hampshire.

The total from 2014 represented a drop of 12.5 percent from Guttmacher's previous survey, which tallied 1.06 million abortions in 2011. The decrease was spread nationwide; in only six states did abortions increase over the three-year span.

According to the report, the abortion rate was 14.6 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44, the lowest rate since abortion was legalized nationally in 1973 by the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision.

Following that ruling, the number of abortions in the U.S. rose steadily — reaching a peak of 1.6 million in 1990 — before starting a decline.

The authors of the new report, Guttmacher researchers Rachel Jones and Jenna Jerman, said the latest phase of the decline was likely the result of two main factors: the increased availability of affordable, long-lasting contraceptives that have reduced unintended pregnancies, and the surge of abortion restrictions in many states that have forced some clinics to close and hindered many women's access to the procedure.

Guttmacher's state-by-state breakdown showed big declines in abortions in some liberal states, such as California, that protect abortion rights, and also in some conservative states, such as Texas, that have passed laws to restrict abortions.

Jones noted that the majority of women who get abortions have low incomes, and nearly two-thirds are already parents.

"It can be very difficult for them to arrange for time off from work, transportation and child care," Jones said. "Some of the abortion rate decline is likely attributable to women who were prevented from accessing needed services."

The highest abortion rates were in the District of Columbia, New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Florida. The lowest rates were in Wyoming, Mississippi and South Dakota, states that had only one abortion clinic operating in 2014.

According to the report, the number of abortion clinics nationwide declined by 6 percent — from 839 in 2011 to 788 in 2014.

The report's release comes 10 days before the anti-abortion movement's annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., and at a time when the movement is emboldened by the outcome of the recent presidential, congressional and state elections.

In Congress, majority Republicans in both chambers are seeking to halt federal funding for Planned Parenthood, which provided more than one-third of the nation's abortions in 2014, and also to ban most abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy. President-elect Donald Trump has promised to sign both measures if they reach his desk, and also says he wants to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court with a "pro-life" justice.

Obama shortens Manning's term, grants clemency to hundreds

By Josh Lederman and Eric Tucker
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama commuted the prison sentence of Chelsea Manning on Tuesday, allowing the Army intelligence officer who leaked scores of classified documents to go free nearly three decades early.

Manning, who will leave prison in May, was one of 209 inmates whose sentences Obama was shortening, a list that includes Puerto Rican nationalist Oscar Lopez-Rivera. Obama also pardoned 64 people, including retired Gen. James Cartwright, who was charged with making false statements during a probe into disclosure of classified information.



Manning

"These 273 individuals learned that our nation is a forgiving nation," said White House counsel Neil Eggleston, "where hard work and a commitment to rehabilitation can lead to a second chance, and where wrongs from the past will not deprive an individual of the opportunity to move forward."

The actions are permanent, and can't be undone by President-elect Donald Trump. White House officials said Obama would grant clemency to more individuals on Thursday — his final day in office — but that batch was not expected to include prominent individuals like Manning.

A former Army intelligence analyst, Manning has been serving a 35-year sentence for leaking more than 700,000 classified government and military documents to WikiLeaks, along with some battlefield video. She was convicted in military court in 2013 of six violations of the Espionage Act and 14 other offenses and has spent more than six years behind bars. She asked Obama last November to commute her sentence to time served.

Known as Bradley Manning at the time of her 2010 arrest, Manning came out as transgender after being sentenced, and LGBT rights groups took up her cause and lobbied the president to grant her clemency. She was held at a men's prison in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and filed a transgender prisoner rights lawsuit, although the military did approve gender-reassignment hormone therapy.

She attempted suicide twice last year, according to her lawyers, citing her treatment in prison. Manning has acknowledged leaking the documents, but has she did it to raise public awareness about the effects of war on civilians.

White House officials said the president was inclined to grant clemency to Manning because she had expressed remorse for her crimes and had served several years of her sentence. The officials briefed reporters on a conference call on condition of anonymity.

"We are all better off knowing that Chelsea Manning will walk out of prison a free woman, dedicated to making the world a better place and fighting for justice for so many," said Chase Strangio, an American Civil Liberties Union attorney representing Manning, adding that Obama's action could "quite literally save Chelsea's life."

But Obama's move was panned by Manning's critics, including several prominent Republicans. House Speaker Paul Ryan called the move "just outrageous."

"Chelsea Manning's treachery put American lives at risk and exposed some of our nation's most sensitive secrets," said Ryan, R-Wis. "President Obama now leaves in place a dangerous precedent that those who compromise our national security won't be held accountable for their crimes."

Manning's commutation came as Obama, days before leaving office, wielded his clemency powers with newfound vigor. Though most of the beneficiaries were low-level drug offenders or little-known financial criminals, a few prominent names made the list, too.

Cartwright, the former vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff who received a pardon, had pleaded guilty in October to making false statements during an investigation into a leak of classified information about a covert cyberattack on Iran's nuclear facilities. Prosecutors said Cartwright falsely told investigators that he did not provide information contained in a news article and in a book by New York Times journalist David Sanger, and said he also misled prosecutors about classified information shared with another journalist, Daniel Klaidman.

The Justice Department sought a sentence of two years, saying employees of the U.S. government are entrusted each day with sensitive classified information.

Puerto Ricans had long demanded the release of Lopez, who was sentenced to 55 years in prison for his role in a violent struggle for independence for the U.S. island territory. Lopez had belonged to the ultranationalist Armed Forces of National Liberation, which has claimed responsibility for more than 100 bombings at public and commercial buildings in U.S. cities during the 1970s and 1980s.

Lopez's term will now expire in May.

Commutations reduce sentences being served but don't erase convictions. Pardons generally restore civil rights, such as voting, often after a sentence has been served.

NATIONBRIEF

FROM WIRE REPORTS

OHIO

60-year-old gorilla, 1st to be born in a zoo, dies

COLUMBUS — The world's first gorilla born in a zoo, a female named Colo who became the oldest known living gorilla in the U.S., has died at age 60, the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium said Tuesday.

Colo died in her sleep overnight, less than a month after her birthday, the zoo announced. She surpassed the usual life expectancy of captive gorillas by two decades.

"Colo touched the hearts of generations of people who came to see her and those that cared for her over her long lifetime," zoo president Tom Stalf said in a statement. "She was an ambassador for gorillas and inspired people to learn more about the critically endangered species and motivated them to protect gorillas in their native habitat."

Colo had been on exhibit in view of visitors on Monday, when the zoo offered free admission for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Fond of baseball caps, the gorilla was seen in her enclosure toting around a yellow cap with a gorilla on it, given to her by the zoo team caring for her.

The zoo said the gorilla's body will be cremated and the ashes will be buried at an undisclosed location.

Colo was born at the zoo on Dec. 22, 1956. She eventually became a mother of three, grandmother of 16, great-grandmother of 12 and great-great-grandmother of three.

Hundreds of people had gathered at the zoo last month to see Colo for her birthday, when the zoo decorated her enclosure with multicolored construction paper chains and cakes of squash and beet and cornbread with mashed potato parsley frosting.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED
The Midland County Sheriff's Office
CRISIS INTERVENTION UNIT
400 S. Main, Midland, Texas 79701

C.I.U. Training for new volunteers begins Tuesday, January 31, 2017

This is not your average volunteer work. This is the only civilian unit called to the scene of a crime to support and help a victim. People of all ages, races, and walks of life are welcomed to apply. All we require of you is a clear criminal history and a caring heart for your Midland neighbors.*

C.I.U. will provide the new volunteers with the required 40 hours of training needed to make a difference in people's lives. Classes are on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

Call (432) 688-4635 for information and application or sockr102@co.midland.tx.us
(applications must be turned in no later than noon on Friday, January 20, 2017)
*Candidates must be able to lift and/or move objects weighing up to 40 lbs. and withstand extreme weather out on call.

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Steve Young | Senior Vice President
Business Development - Energy

West Texas National Bank hires new SVP of Business Development

Steve Young brings over 30 years of banking and oil and gas industry experience to WTNB. After serving in a variety of executive and board level management roles in Houston and London, Steve and his family moved to Midland several years ago.

Steve earned his BBA and MBA from the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University, and holds a CPA license from the State of Texas.

Steve has extensive experience in the areas of project finance, risk management, corporate strategy and development, and has played key roles in the closing of numerous energy industry transactions.

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Boycotting the inaugural sends wrong message

■ Rick Perry was wrong to ignore the first Barack Obama inaugural, and so are Democrats boycotting Trump

MICHAEL A. LINDENBERGER

The Dallas Morning News

Liberal lawmakers and others who find the prospect of a Donald Trump presidency untenable are busy making plans to be anywhere but Washington come Friday, when Chief Justice John Roberts asks one of the biggest purveyors of falsehoods in modern memory to swear on a Bible to uphold the Constitution. At last count, there were some 38 lawmakers, including one in Texas, who had pledged to boycott the new president's swearing in.

I share their dismay, but I won't be joining them.

Trump is going to be our president, everyone's president, including Rep. John Lewis and everyone on Twitter who keeps using the hashtag #notmypresident. Sure, he might eventually be impeached; he might resign — or he might win a second term and be our president until early 2025.

No matter what happens, the worst thing his opponents can do is pretend his presidency is unreal.

For Democrats and the fast-dwindling number of Never-Trump Republicans and others, the best way to stand against the Trump Administration is to fight against it. That means hanging tough as a principled minority in the Congress, and trying to block, delay or improve the worst of the bills set to come rushing out of the GOP-dominated chambers. For some, it might also mean protesting in the streets — that's part of our system, too.

But failing to acknowledge the Trump Presidency's legitimacy right from the start is a faulty first step.

I come to this view honestly, and for that I can thank Rick Perry.

In 2009, after many months of negotiating, his staff agreed to permit an hour-long sit-down with the then-governor. I was the transportation writer for The News, and Perry had been the chief architect of a consequential policy to build billions of dollars of infrastructure without raising anyone's taxes. It had remade the state's infrastructure landscape and was chiefly responsible for some billions of dollars in new roads in North Texas.

It also, of course, had imposed hefty tolls on commuters, some of whom were soon paying hundreds of dollars a month, and added enormous debt to public toll agencies like the North Texas Tollway Authority. It was a conversation worth having.

But when the final OK for the interview came, Perry's people scheduled it for 11 a.m., Jan. 20, 2009. That was noon, of course, on the East Coast, and coincided precisely with the swearing-in of Barack Obama as the 44th President.

It seemed no coincidence that the governor would agree to what was the only policy-oriented, sit-down interview he granted that year at a time when the rest of the country was watching the Inauguration.

I was eager for the interview, but was frankly appalled at the timing. I remember walking into the governor's suite of offices in the Capitol feeling like I might be in the office of the only elected official in the country who had turned his back on the ceremonies in Washington. It felt deeply unpatriotic. America had finally elected its first black president, a moment it felt important for all of us to acknowledge — a feeling made more pronounced as I walked past the imposing monument to the Confederate dead on the Capitol grounds.

Sure, Obama was a Democrat. But for that matter Perry had been one, too, years ago. I was especially surprised that Perry would avoid the Inauguration, because he was a former Air Force officer, not to mention governor of the one of America's most important states.

For me, the effort to undermine the legitimacy of Obama as president didn't begin with Rep. Joe Wilson's outrageous and shameful shout from the House floor. Nor with Donald Trump's pathetic embrace of the birther nonsense.

It began, for me, in Austin in the Texas governor's anteroom.

So when I see the names of Democratic congressmen who won't attend the Trump inaugural, I grimace. Fit or not, he will be president beginning Friday and will be until he resigns or Congress decides to remove him — still, a highly unlikely event. That's our law.

Democrats can shout about that all day long, and there is plenty of room in our system and in our laws alike for vigorous protest on Friday or any other day.

But they shouldn't do what Rick Perry did, and pretend it's not happening. To turn their back on the transfer of power from one political team to another. Whether one respects Trump or not, it's time to acknowledge that his ascension to the highest office in the land is a reality.

Wishful thinking won't undo that fact. Besides, it was tacky in 2009 and it's tacky in 2017.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

GUEST VIEW

Trump should ramp up Islamic State fight wisely

Orange County (California) Register

The Defense Department is preparing plans that would enable President-elect Donald Trump to ramp up the conflict with the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria as soon as he assumes office.

On the stump, Trump notoriously lambasted the way the war has been conducted — blaming not only President Obama but the Pentagon itself.

If Trump wishes to deliver quickly on a signature campaign issue, he will take a good look at the toolbox presented to him, which includes potentially path-breaking options in cyberwar and space weaponry. It is a risk to go down this road. Ultimately, however, it is wise.

There is an obvious imperative and value in destroying the self-proclaimed caliphate, which has mastered online techniques that enable its highest-ranking tacticians to organize and manage terror operations with new effectiveness from afar.

There are other important factors, however, in their way. Sequencing America's military priorities will be one of the toughest and most urgent challenges facing the whole defense and security apparatus, which includes the White House, the Pentagon and the intelligence community. Right now, the incoming Trump team disagrees, perhaps strongly, with assessments elsewhere in government that military preparedness against Russian threats should be given top priority. Time spent sorting out America's posture toward Moscow in the new administration should be used simultaneously to achieve decisive results on other important issues — like defeating the Islamic State.

Indeed, recalibrating U.S.-Russian relations will be easier to do, not harder, once the Islamic State is dispatched. Not only will victory clear the thicket of cross-cutting alliances clouding relations in the Mideast that President Obama left behind, it will leave the United States in a stronger regional and global position, fresh from flexing new and nontraditional military muscles.

Already, the Pentagon has ratcheted up a cyberwarfare campaign against the Islamic State; as Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein recently remarked, the next step is to determine how best to devolve authority on cyber and space to commanders in the field — a task that must be completed in order to make operations against the Islamic State as agile as they need to be to break the current logjam.

A related, but useful, conversation worth having is the possibility of Congress finally providing formal authority for our campaign against the Islamic State.

Two years into an ongoing campaign featuring tens of thousands of airstrikes, and the deployment of thousands of American personnel on the ground, Congress has abdicated its responsibility to adequately oversee the conflict.

Attempts by President Obama to obtain such authorization have, to date, been rebuffed. On the campaign trail, Trump claimed he would seek a declaration of war from Congress. "We probably should have done that in the first place," he told Bill O'Reilly in May.

Though it is certainly in the best interest of the United States, as well as the people of Syria and Iraq, for the Islamic State to be swiftly dispatched, this must be done responsibly, so as to avoid a state of perpetual war without a clear endgame.

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Trump, BuzzFeed in a lovers' quarrel

RUBEN NAVARRETTE

Washington Post Writers Group



Donald Trump and BuzzFeed are bickering. Consider it a lovers' quarrel. These two were made for each other.

The president-elect recently used his first news conference since the election to label the 10-year-old website — which has reporters around the globe and has been valued at more than $800 million — "a failing pile of garbage." Sean Spicer, the incoming White House press secretary and communications director, set the stage for the assault by calling BuzzFeed "a left-wing blog that was openly hostile to the president-elect's campaign."

BuzzFeed ran afoul of Trump World by publishing a juicy dossier compiled by an ex-British spy. The file alleges that the Russians have enough incriminating material — including the unverified claim that Trump spent time with prostitutes in Moscow — to blackmail him.

Let's pause there. Trump can't be blackmailed. That's because, in order to be vulnerable to extortion, one has to have some shame and self-respect.

And it's obvious from what we know about Trump's boorish treatment of women — and how he reacted to various cringe-worthy accusations during the campaign — that he doesn't have an ounce of shame in him. You can't blackmail someone who isn't at all bothered that much of the country, and the world, thinks that he's a louse, a liar and a lowlife.

But BuzzFeed didn't just publish the story. It went so far as to post the complete dossier, even while acknowledging that its contents were unverified and contained factual errors.

This sort of thing is virtually unheard of in our line of work. It's Journalism 101: You don't publish information that you know to be suspect. That smells a lot like libel. Why, if an institution did such a thing, people might conclude that the people running it were out to get someone at all costs.

But don't let their differences blind you to the similarities. What Trump is to politics, BuzzFeed is to the media: Half-innovator, half-provocateur. Both of these swashbuckling, shoot-from-the-hip trailblazers thirst for attention, love to shake things up, and couldn't care less about the way things have been done. They are also both skilled at making enemies of the establishment in their respective professions. But they're also pretty good at developing legions of followers.

Trump defeated a Democratic opponent who was heavily funded and overwhelmingly favored, and even had much of the media in her corner. He pulled off this magic trick by winning over voters who had previously supported Barack Obama and raiding what were thought to be Democratic strongholds in the Rust Belt such as Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania.

BuzzFeed — which has been described by its founder and chief executive, Jonah Peretti, as "a media company for the social world" — is a darling of Wall Street investors who are betting that traditional newspapers are running out of ink and a favorite among college-aged readers who don't mind funny cat videos mixed in with stories about international affairs.

Both Trump and BuzzFeed seek immediate feedback in response to their antics: The politician is obsessed with tweets; the website craves clicks.

In addition, each knows what it's like to see competitors read from your script, and then hypocritically try to distance themselves.

Trump watched his Republican primary opponents piggyback on his discussion of the immigration issue to impress the GOP base, and then try to sprint back to the center and convince Latinos that the party wasn't vilifying them — when, of course, it was.

Meanwhile, BuzzFeed Editor Ben Smith was recently scolded by Brian Stelter, the host of CNN's "Reliable Sources," for running an unverified story even while Stelter tried to downplay the fact that CNN actually reported the story before BuzzFeed did, albeit without attaching the dossier.

Spicer and Trump caught that, which is why they attacked BuzzFeed in the same breath.

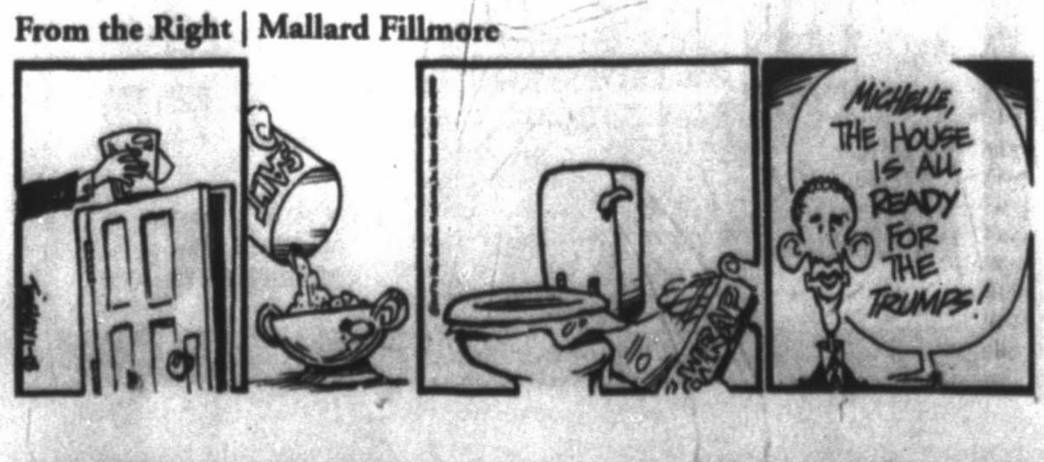
Most news outlets — including The Washington Post, NBC News and others — showed due diligence by refraining from running the original story without verifying it, and that was the right thing to do. But CNN, where I was once a contributor, wants to have it both ways — rushing to be first and going after clicks, and then sanctimoniously taking cover when things get hot.

Which brings us to the last thing that Trump and BuzzFeed have in common: They both bring out the worst in others.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Trump takes on House GOP tax, health care plans

By Erica Werner
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It came as news to most congressional Republicans, but turns out President-elect Donald Trump isn't keen on their tax plan and has a dramatically different goal for health coverage than they do.

On health care, he declared that his approach after repealing the Affordable Care Act is "insurance for everybody," a tricky pledge that Republicans in Congress pointedly avoid. And, a key plank of the House Republican plan on overhauling the tax code is "too complicated," according to Trump, who added: "I don't love it."

The president-elect's assertions came in holiday weekend interviews published in The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal.

The comments went to the heart of the year's top two legislative goals for congressional Republicans, both of which were shaping up as exceedingly heavy lifts even before the GOP businessman weighed in to throw doubt on key aspects of them.

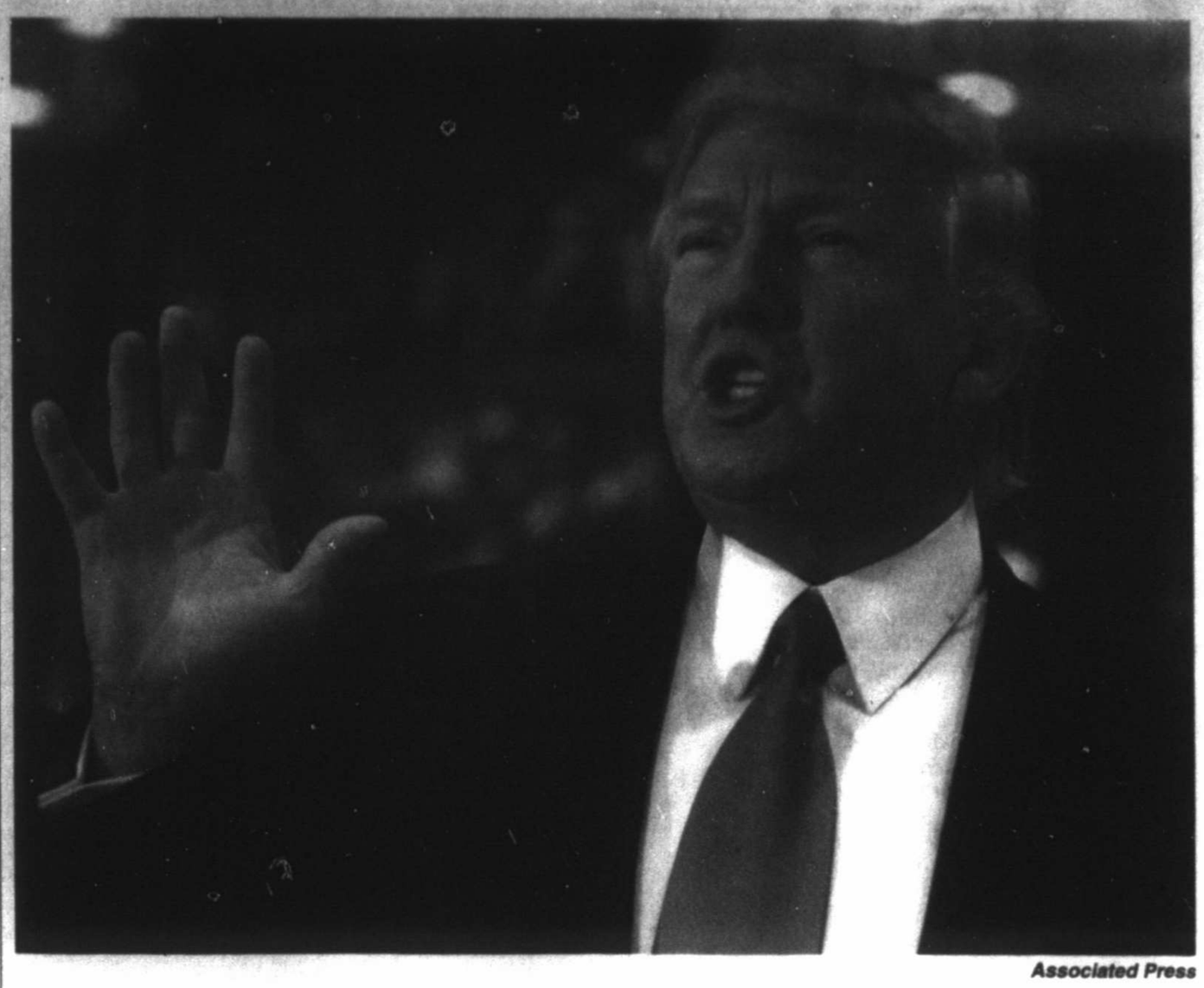
Yet, even though Trump has already shown he can force congressional Republicans to shift course with a tweet, his admonitions on taxes and health care seemed to stir only modest concern on Capitol Hill. Republicans appear to be growing accustomed to Trump's unpredictable declarations, even when they directly counter the accepted GOP stance, while the lawmakers who deal with him the most insist that he's more amenable in private than in public to the congressional agenda.

As a result, even while a growing number of House Democrats announce plans to sit out the inauguration in opposition to Trump, Republicans appear to be embracing the reality that they'll have a fickle ally in the White House come Friday, one whom they hope will be generally supportive of their goals, if erratic along the way.

"I think the country is at a place where disruptive synergy is not a bad thing. And I'm not concerned on those occasions where the president-elect appears to be thinking out loud," GOP Sen. Roy Blunt of Missouri said Tuesday. "I think he brings a synergy to this process that no one else running on either side would have done in the same way, and I'm pretty optimistic about what can happen."

On health care, Republicans have already begun the process of repealing President Barack Obama's health care law, still without agreeing on a replacement. The political risks are huge, underscored Tuesday by a report from the Congressional Budget Office confirming that premiums would skyrocket and 18 million people would join the ranks of the uninsured if Republicans repeal Obamacare without a replacement.

Congressional Republicans are aware that it will be virtually impossible to cover as many people as Obamacare does while reducing the overall cost, and instead they've been using the term "universal access" to describe their goal. So Trump's declaration that everyone would have insurance under his own plan, which he claimed was near completion, set a goal that will almost certainly prove unattainable.



Associated Press

President-elect Donald Trump speaks with reporters in the lobby of Trump Tower in New York on Jan. 13.

18 million more uninsured if Obamacare killed, not replaced

By Alan Fram
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Insurance premiums would soar for millions of Americans and 18 million more would be uninsured in just one year if Republicans scuttle much of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul without a replacement, Congress' budget analysts said Tuesday.

Spotlighting potential perils for Republicans, the report immediately became a flashing hazard light for this year's effort by Donald Trump and GOP lawmakers to annul Obama's law and — in a more complicated challenge — institute their own alternative.

It also swiftly became political fodder in what is expected to be one of this year's biggest battles in Congress.

Republicans have produced several outlines for how they'd redraft Obama's 2010 statute, but they've failed to unite behind one plan. President-elect Trump and GOP congressional leaders have at times offered clashing descriptions of their shared top goal, so eventual success is hardly guaranteed.

Tuesday's evaluation came from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, joined by Congress' Joint Committee on Taxation.

Together, they analyzed a Republican-written bill, vetoed by Obama last January, that would have erased major portions of his overhaul. Those included tax penalties for people who fail to buy insurance and for larger companies that don't cover workers, federal subsidies to help consumers buy policies on the law's online marketplaces and an expansion of Medicaid coverage for low-income people.

The new report said under such a measure premiums for individual policies — excluding the coverage many workers get from employers — would swell by up to 25 percent the first year after enactment and double by 2026. The number of uninsured would reach 32 million over the decade, the analysts said.

However, Republicans say there's a big difference between that 2016 bill and this year's plan: Last year's version would not have replaced Obama's statute with a GOP alternative, while Republicans insist replacement will be an integral part of their new health care drive.

Citing that difference, Donald Stewart, spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said the report "assumes a situation that simply doesn't exist and that no one in Congress advocates." AshLee Strong, spokeswoman for House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., called the estimates "meaningless" because they ignore plans for legislation and regulatory actions by the incoming Trump administration for revamping how people could obtain coverage.

"Nonpartisan statistics don't lie," countered Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., who said the report showed Republican plans to void Obama's overhaul "will increase health care costs for millions of Americans and kick millions more off of their health insurance." House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said it illustrated that the GOP effort "will be nothing less than a nightmare for the American people."

Trump seemed to complicate the GOP drive last weekend when he told The Washington Post that a forthcoming Republican plan would provide "insurance for everybody." In contrast, some congressional Republicans have described their goals more modestly, saying they will offer "universal access."

The CBO analysis has particular weight because Republicans have cited last year's bill as a starting point for their 2017 drive to erase Obama's law.

For Senate procedural reasons, that 2016 GOP bill also had to leave intact some mandates that Obama's law has imposed on insurers. Those include requiring coverage of certain services and barring insurers from denying policies to sick people or charging them higher rates.

Those same Senate procedures could make it hard for Republicans to erase the mandates this year, too. That would make things tough for the GOP because those insurance requirements tend to drive insurers' costs higher, and leaving them in force while other parts of Obama's statute are erased could wreak havoc on markets.

CBO said that under the 2016 Republican bill, the number of insured people would fall mostly from annulling the tax penalties Obama's law imposes on people who don't buy policies: Some people would simply drop out if not forced to buy insurance. In addition, some insurers would leave individual insurance markets as consumers stopped buying coverage.

Some 59 million people under age 65 — about 1 in 5 — would be uninsured by 2026, the report said, compared to 28 million under Obama's law.

Premiums would rise because without a tax penalty to fear, many people would stop buying insurance. Since disproportionate numbers of sicker people would be likely to retain coverage, insurers' costs would rise and higher premiums would follow.

The report estimated that half of Americans live where no insurers would sell individual policies in the first year after marketplace subsidies were eliminated. That would grow to 3 in 4 people by 2026.

At her last official session with reporters, Obama's outgoing health secretary, Sylvia Burwell, said a GOP repeal without a replacement would push the market into a "negative spiral."

In early signs of grassroots rumbling, KHQ-TV news reported that Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Wash., was interrupted by chants and booing at a Monday event in Spokane, Washington. Denver TV's 9News reported that Rep. Mike Coffman, R-Colo., stealthily left a Saturday community event early with more than 100 people waiting to talk to him. Both back repeal of Obama's overhaul.

Coffman spokesman Daniel Bucheli said the meeting room was reserved for only 90 minutes. McMorris Rodgers spokeswoman Molly Drenkard said the lawmaker said she wants to keep communications open between foes and supporters of Obama's law.

Legacy in question

Obamacare. While it is undeniably a landmark, how will history view the controversial law? Read more in today's Health + Wellness section.

Page 2B

DeVos defends school choice when public schools are failing

By Maria Danilova
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Education secretary pick Betsy DeVos said Tuesday that American parents must be able to send their children to high-quality schools, including charter, magnet and religious schools, if public schools are failing.

Responding to fierce criticism from teachers unions that the Republican donor and school choice activist is working against public education, DeVos told the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee that she will be "a strong advocate for great public schools."

"But," she added, "if a school is troubled, or unsafe, or not a good fit for a child — perhaps they have a special need that is going unmet — we should support a parent's right to enroll their child in a high-quality alternative."

Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., a former education secretary, expressed confidence that DeVos is an "excellent" choice for the job. "She is on the side of our children," he said.

But Sen. Patty Murray of Washington state, the top Democrat on the committee, said she was "extremely disappointed" that DeVos has not yet finalized her financial and ethics disclosures ahead of the hearing.

DeVos, 59, also said she will seek to address rising higher education costs and massive student debt but also advance trade and vocational schools, as well as community colleges because "craftsmanship is not a fallback — but a noble pursuit."

Another priority for DeVos will be weakening "burdensome" federal regulations and giving local communities greater control over education policies.

DeVos, the wife of Dick DeVos, the heir to the Amway marketing fortune, has spent more than two decades advocating for charter schools in her home state of Michigan, as well as promoting conservative religious values.

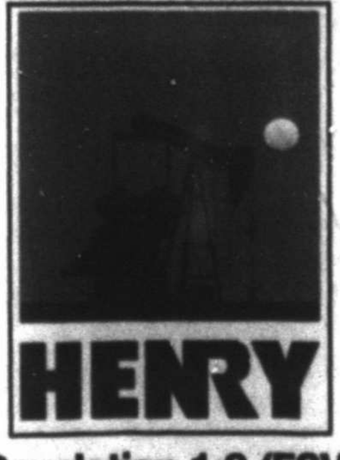
Labor unions, Democrats and civil rights groups have opposed her appointment. She and her family have donated millions of dollars to Republican politicians and groups over the years, including campaign contributions to several committee members.

Murray, in a statement, said she wants DeVos to answer questions about her "extensive financial entanglements and potential conflicts of interest" and also to provide additional information about her finances, calling her disclosures incomplete. The senator lamented that DeVos has spent her career and wealth "fighting to privatize public education and gut investments in public schools."

In a letter addressed to the committee, 38 prominent education groups and teachers' organizations expressed concern that DeVos' track record bodes ill for public education.

"Over the course of her career as a major campaign contributor, soft-money donor and lobbyist, DeVos has used her considerable wealth to influence legislation and the outcomes of elections to advance policies that have undermined public education and proved harmful to many of our most vulnerable students," the letter said.

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Revelation 1:8 (ESV)

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AP file photo

A woman weeps as election results are reported during Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton's election night rally in the Jacob Javits Center glass enclosed lobby in New York on Nov. 8, 2016.

Poll: Young Americans fear they will be worse off post-Trump

By Jonathan Lemire and Emily Swanson
Associated Press

NEW YORK — As Donald Trump approaches his inauguration, young Americans have a deeply pessimistic view about his incoming administration, with young Blacks, Latinos and Asian Americans particularly concerned about what's to come in the next four years.

That's according to a new GenForward poll of Americans aged 18 to 30, which found that the country's young adults are more likely to expect they'll be worse off at the end of Trump's first term than better off. Such young Americans are also far more likely to think Trump will divide the country than unite it, by a 60 percent to 19 percent margin.

Fifty-two percent of young whites, 72 percent of Latinos, 66 percent of Asian-Americans and 70 percent of blacks think Trump's presidency will lead to a more divided nation.

"Minority people are very afraid of all the rhetoric that he ran upon (in) his campaign," said Jada Selma, a 28-year-old African-American graduate school student living in Atlanta. "Anytime he mentioned Black people, he would talk about poor people or inner city. He would think that all of us live in the inner city and that we're all poor."

"If you're not a straight white male, then I don't think he's looking out for you as an American," she said.

GenForward is a survey of adults age 18 to 30 by the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago with the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. The first-of-its-kind poll pays special attention to the voices of young adults of color, highlighting how race and ethnicity shape the opinions of a new generation.

The poll found that 54 percent of young people overall say life for people of color will be worse with Trump as president. About two-thirds of young Blacks, Asian-Americans and Latinos think things will get worse for people of color, and whites are also more likely to expect things to get worse than better for minorities, 46 percent to 21 percent.

Overall, 40 percent of young adults think they personally will be worse off four years from now, while just 23 percent expect to be better off. Young people of color are significantly more likely to think they will be worse off than better off, while young whites are more split in their personal expectations.

Kuinta Hayle, a 21-year-old African-American from Charlotte, said she is worried that Trump's selection for attorney general, Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions, could roll back civil rights. She said Trump's foray into "birtherism," during which he propagated the lie that President Barack Obama was not born in the United States, still bothered her.

"That was very meaningful. It still hurts," Hayle said. "He doesn't know anything about my life or the lives of people who aren't like him. I feel Donald Trump is only for rich people. Obama was for people who didn't have much."

Although he had a decisive win in the Electoral College, Trump lost the overall popular vote to opponent Hillary Clinton and has done little to reach out to those who didn't support him in November's election. He focused his post-election "Thank You" tour on states he won, settling scores on stage as he boasted about his surprising electoral victory.

Over the weekend, Trump tore into Georgia Rep. John Lewis, among the most revered leaders of the civil rights movement, for questioning the legitimacy of his victory and saying he would not attend Friday's inauguration.

As for Obama's presidency, young Americans are split on whether he has done more to unite or divide Americans, 38 percent to 35 percent, with 26 percent saying it did neither.

Young Blacks (57 percent to 16 percent), Latinos (57 percent to 19 percent) and Asian Americans (46 percent to 27 percent) are far more likely to say Obama united than divided Americans. But young whites are more likely to say, by a 46 percent to 26 percent margin, that Obama's presidency was a dividing force.

Indeed, not all young Americans are pessimistic about the incoming president.

"He'll be good for the economy. He's a businessman, and he'll bring more jobs back," said Francisco Barrera, 26, of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, who voted for Trump. "I think he's going to do good, and he's going to end this political correctness. You can't even say 'God' in the schools no more. Trump will put him back."

A majority of young adults think Trump will go down in history as not a very good president or a poor one. Young people of color are particularly likely to think Trump's presidency will be not good or poor, but even young whites are more likely to expect that than to think it will be good or great, 48 percent to 27 percent.

Young Americans are divided as to whether Trump will accomplish his campaign promises. While most think he'll probably cut taxes for the rich and more than half of young people (59 percent) think Trump will deport millions of immigrants living in the country illegally, just 39 percent expect that he will be successful in building a wall along the Mexican border.

However, about half of young Hispanics think that Trump is likely to build a border wall. And more than 7 in 10 young people believe he will definitely or probably succeed at repealing the Affordable Care Act.

"He's not even been inaugurated yet, and he's already alienating people," said Greg Davis, a white 28-year-old graduate student living in Columbus, Ohio. "He's still parroting the alt-right's messages. His policy ideas I think would be awful. His nominees for Cabinet positions are disastrous. He's nominating people who have the exactly the wrong ideas."

"I think it's going to be a disaster," Davis said.

The poll of 1,823 adults age 18-30 was conducted Dec. 9-12, 2016 using a sample drawn from the probability-based GenForward panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. young adult population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The survey was paid for by the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago, using grants from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Ford Foundation.

Respondents were first selected randomly using address-based sampling methods, and later interviewed online or by phone.

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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt★com | Wednesday, January 18, 2017 | Section B

Mid-Winter AA Conference set for this weekend

47th annual event combating alcoholism to take place at Grand Texan Hotel

By Ed Todd
MRT Correspondent

In its mission toward rescuing suffering alcoholics from the bondage of their scourge, the 12-step program of Alcoholics Anonymous declares that its AA members are "not a glum lot" and insist on serving others while enjoying life.

Alcoholism's curses, like flotsam from a ship wrecked at sea, are abated by a spiritual way of living and freedom from the entrapments of selfishness.

AA's spiritual way of living is to be retold this Friday and Saturday in Midland's 47th annual Mid-Winter Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) at the Grand Texan Hotel at 4300 W. Wall St.

"If newcomers could see no joy or fun in our existence, they wouldn't want it," says the "big book" of Alcoholics Anonymous first published in 1939. "We absolutely insist on enjoying life. We try not to indulge in cynicism over the state of the nations, nor do we carry the world's troubles on our shoulders."

However, "When we see a man sinking into the mire that is alcoholism, we give him first aid and place what we have at his disposal. For his sake, we do recount and almost relive the horrors of our past. But those of us who have tried to shoulder the entire burden and trouble of others find we are soon overcome by them."

AA loyalists are "recovering alcoholics" who proclaim that "cheerfulness and laughter make for usefulness."

AA's 12-step spiritual "program of attraction" affords an adventure into recovery from alcoholism and, like its companion Al-Anon program for family and friends of alcoholics, offers a "good

Please see CONFERENCE/3B

THE FUTURE EMBODIED



Steve Fisch via AP

Michael Snyder, professor and chair of genetics at the Stanford University School of Medicine sports, demonstrates multiple wearable gadgets. Wearable gadgets gave a Snyder an early warning that he was getting sick before he ever felt any symptoms of Lyme disease.

Wearable sensors could act as 'check engine' light for tracking health

By Lauran Neegaard
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Wearable gadgets gave a Stanford University professor an early warning that he was getting sick before he ever felt any symptoms of Lyme disease.

Geneticist Michael Snyder never had Lyme's characteristic bulls-eye rash. But a smart watch and other sensors charted changes in Snyder's heart rate and oxygen levels during a family vacation. Eventually a fever struck that led to his diagnosis.

Say "wearables," and step-counting fitness trackers spring to mind. It's not clear if they really make a difference in users' health. Now Snyder's team at Stanford is starting to find out, tracking the everyday lives of several dozen volunteers wearing devices that monitor more than mere activity.

He envisions one day having wearables that act as a sort of "check engine" light indicating it's time to see the doctor.

"One way to look at this is, these are the equivalent of oral thermometers but you're measuring yourself all the time," said Snyder, senior author of a report released Thursday on the project.

Among the earliest hints: Changes in people's day-to-day physiology may flag when certain ailments are brewing, from colds to Lyme to Type 2 diabetes, researchers reported in the journal PLOS Biology.

Interest in wearable sensors is growing along with efforts to personalize medicine, as scientists learn how to tailor treatments and preventive care to people's genes, environment and lifestyle. The sensors are expected to be a part of the National Institutes of Health's huge "precision medicine" study, planned to begin later this year.

But a first step is learning what's normal for different people under different conditions.

Please see TRACKING/3B

White-knuckled fear of sugar isn't the sweetest solution to overconsumption



ESTHER J. CEPEDA
Washington Post Writers Group

The buzz about activist journalist Gary Taubes' new book "The Case Against Sugar" is that it's both a muckraking expose detailing how the processed food industry has hushed research about sugar's threat to our health and a call to arms against the nutrient that Taube considers a "toxic substance."

This is accurate. But if, as Taubes puts it, "this were a criminal case, 'The Case Against Sugar' would be the argument for the prosecution," then this juror would have a difficult time agreeing to a guilty verdict on his premise that sugar is "the principal cause of the chronic diseases that are most likely to kill us, or at least accelerate our demise, in the 21st century."

In stark contrast to Nina Teicholz's "The Big Fat Surprise: Why Butter, Meat and Cheese Belong in a Healthy Diet," another recent book that sought

Please see CEPEDA/3B



RACHELLE CAMPOS
Midland Memorial Hospital

Same-day return after hip, knee replacements is a possibility

Dr. David Ferguson and the Total Joint Center at Midland Memorial Hospital use the latest advances and best practices to discharge patients who have undergone total hip replacements or total knee replacements on the day same as their surgery.

In the past, joint replacements required a two-night stay in the hospital but not anymore. Utilizing a program developed by Dr. David Ferguson of West Texas Orthopedics, a less invasive surgical approach is combined with multimodal pain management and a rapid recovery protocol to coordinate care from pre-surgery all the way through complete recovery. Same day total hip and knee replacement surgery is now possible for selected patients.

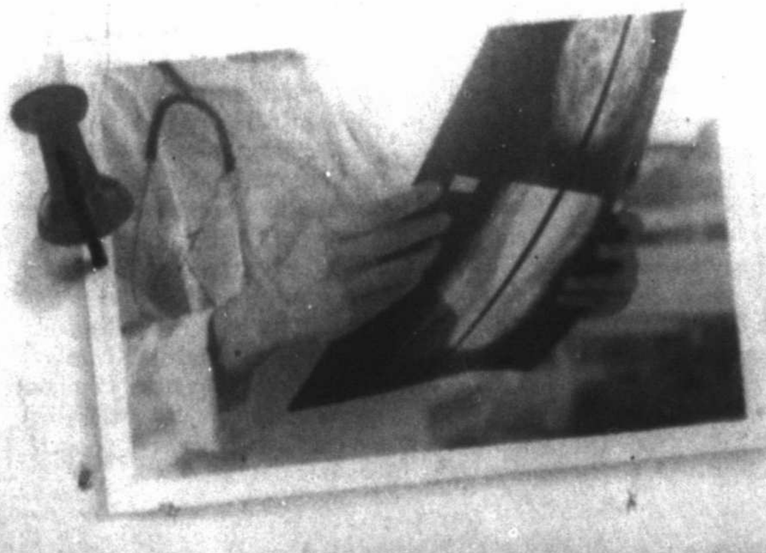
Once it is decided the patient is a candidate for surgery, they are scheduled for a preoperative class with the Total Joint Center and complete any necessary testing. Patients arrive the morning of surgery to the Total Joint Center, and all necessary tasks are completed prior to surgery. Patients receive new and improved nerve blocks to control pain during and immediately after surgery. These approaches to pain control allow the patient to walk with minimal pain within 2-3 hours after surgery.

Once surgery is completed, patients are cared for by highly trained orthopedic nursing staff members. Physical therapists teach patients exercises and how to safely perform activities of daily living after surgery. Patients are discharged home with all of the necessary equipment needed, such as a walker along with a follow-up appointment at Dr. Ferguson's office. Following discharge, patients typically begin outpatient therapy immediately at West Texas Therapy. All care is coordinated to allow a streamlined process for the patient and their family.

MORE ABOUT DR. DAVID FERGUSON

Dr. Ferguson is a fellowship trained orthopedic surgeon specializing in minimally invasive hip and knee replacements, complex revision hip and knee replacements and arthroscopic knee surgery. Dr. Ferguson graduated from Baylor University and then earned his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical School in San Antonio. He completed his orthopedic surgery internship and residency at Scott and White Hospital in Temple, Texas. This was followed by an adult reconstruction fellowship at the prestigious Cleveland Clinic specializing in hip and knee replacement surgery.

If you are having hip or knee pain, contact Rachelle Campos at the Total Joint Center at Midland Memorial Hospital. Please call 432-221-2407 or email rachelle.campos@midland-memorial.com.



THE BREAST CENTER IS MOVING TO LEGENDS PARK!

Our new location will be at the Legends Park Medical Office Building at **5615 Deauville Boulevard, Ste 100**, in Midland, Texas. Move day is Friday, January 13th at noon, and we will be open for business, **Wednesday, January 18th.**

We can't wait to see you there!

the breast center
MIDLAND HEALTH

Rural hospitals brace for damage from ACA repeal

By Shefali Luthra
Kaiser Health News

CONNELLSVILLE, Pa. — Judy Keller has always relied on Highlands Hospital for medical care, just as her parents did before her. When she walks through the halls, she recognizes faces from the community and even from her days as a schoolteacher. The 64-bed hospital, she said, is a mainstay of this rural Southwest Pennsylvania town.

"This hospital all my life has been here," said Keller, who is retired. "(It) helps a lot of people who don't have adequate health care coverage — and I don't know what they would do without it." Aside from providing health care to a largely poor population, it provides hundreds of jobs in a town that locals say never recovered after industries such as coal mining and glass manufacturing disappeared.

But after the presidential election, Highlands — like many other rural hospitals — is likely to face new financial challenges that will intensify long-standing struggles, experts say. The Affordable Care Act, which President-elect Donald Trump wants repealed, threw a number of lifesavers to these vital but financially troubled hospitals. The health care law's full repeal, without a comparable and viable replacement, could signal their death.

Highlands provides one window into how some of these shifts could reverberate in small towns across the country. (Sixty-four percent of the voters in Fayette County — one of the state's poorest — supported Trump. Pennsylvania, which has the third largest rural population in the nation, played a pivotal role in his upset victory.)

The health care law expanded Medicaid to tens of thousands of previously uninsured patients, providing new revenue streams for rural hospitals, which often serve a poorer, sicker patient population. The law also created a program that allowed some of these facilities to buy prescription drugs at a discount, though Highlands qualified for that program independently of Obamacare.

"All these rural hospitals are operating on thin margins. The removal of any income source or coverage, or expansion of bad debt, is going to create significant financial hardship," said Alan Morgan, CEO of the National Rural Health Association.

Rural hospitals have long operated on the edge. In the past six years, more than 70 such hospitals have closed, citing financial duress. Almost 700 more have been deemed at risk of following the same path. Meanwhile, the need for reliable health care remains pressing. Conditions such as heart and lung disease are widespread in rural areas. Addiction to the prescription painkillers is acute. Nationally, the Medicaid expansion offered a bit of stability for some rural hospitals at risk of closing. Researchers say it disproportionately benefited such hospitals — particularly here and other states with large rural populations.

In Pennsylvania, 625,000 people enrolled in the expanded Medicaid program. Close to 300,000 came from rural areas, said Andy Carter, president of the Hospital and Health System Association of Pennsylvania. As of October, about 42,700 of Fayette's residents had Medicaid, according to state data, an increase of about 8 percent from June 2015. (Pennsylvania's Medicaid expansion took effect in January of that year.) That's close to one-third of the county's population.

Despite that, John S. Andursky, Highlands Hospital's chief financial officer, said he barely noticed the increase — the threat of closing is a "daily concern," he said. "It seems like you're taking two steps forward, three steps back," Andursky said. "It's not like I can look to five years out — because I have to worry about tomorrow. I can't worry about next year."

Obituaries



Alicia Salinas Ruiz

Loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother, Alicia S. Ruiz from Snyder, Texas passed peacefully on January 16, 2017 surrounded by her loved ones in Midland, Texas.

She was born on August 1, 1923 in San Diego, Texas to the late Gayetano Salinas and Adela Lopez. She was married in 1958 to Ricardo Ruiz. She was well-known for her social life and enjoyed dancing. She loved to take walks and care for her cats. She was a devoted Catholic and a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe. She was diligent in her prayer life and attended Mass every week. We will truly miss her and her favorite phrase when she told everyone "Chulo Precioso y Dios Los Bendiga."

Survivors include her husband, Ricardo Ruiz; her children, Maria (David) Valverde, Georgia (Pete+) Treviño, Guadalupe (Mary) Salinas, Louis (Anita) Salinas, Salvador(Irene) Salinas, Martin (Bore) Ruiz, all of Midland, Jesse (Gloria) Salinas of Snyder, Johnny (Mercedes) Salinas of Levelland, Billy (Roselva) of Odessa, Paula Osorio of Haines City, Florida, Josie (Jose) Hernandez of San Antonio, Ruben(Delia) Ruiz of Snyder, Richard, Jr. (Mary) Ruiz of Houston, and Esperanza (Arturo) Marquez and Jesse Ruiz of Fort Worth; numerous grandkids, great-grandkids, and great-great-grandkids; and two sisters, Irene (Jesse) Talamantes and Simona Mireles of San Antonio, Texas.

Viewing will be on January 18, 2017 from 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Rosary will be Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. at Miller Family Funeral Home in Snyder, Texas.

Mass of Resurrection will be Friday, January 20, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at our Lady of Guadalupe in Snyder. Burial will immediately follow mass at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Abilene, Texas.



Connie Mack Adams

Connie Mack Adams, 86, from San Angelo, passed away in Odessa on January 15, 2017.

Connie Mack was born in Burnett, Texas on June 7, 1930 to William Harvey Adams and Glen Dale Wolf Adams.

He was married to Edith Olvena Helms on June 5, 1950. He worked for Coca Cola 18 years and Tom Green County for 10 years. He retired in 1994. He loved to lead float trips down the Rio Grande, fish, and four wheeling. He was jack of all trades. There was nothing the man could not do.

Connie Mack is preceded in death by his father, William Harvey Adams, in July of 1977 at the age of 83; his mother, Glen Dale Adams, in 2003 at the age of 99; and his wife, Edith Olvena Adams, on January 17, 1975.

He is survived by his son, Doyle Wayne Adams; two daughters, Connie Nanette Robinson and Loretta Ann Seghers; six grandsons, Shane Robinson, Justin Kennedy, Brandon Adams, Garret Seghers, Scott Swope, and Randy Swope; three granddaughters, Deeann Adams Lewis, Kristin Muehlbrad, and Madison Seghers; and by 17 great-grandchildren.

He is also survived by one brother, Waite Hoyt Adams; one sister, Glenda Adams Henderson; as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends.

There will be a visitation at Ellis Funeral Home on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 from 10:00 a.m.to 11:00 a.m. followed by a funeral service at 11:00 a.m. in the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel. On Saturday, January 21, 2017, services will be held in Lampasas, Texas; he will then be laid to rest at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Lake Victor, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be given to the Pleasant Hill Cemetery c/o Jan Whisenant, PO box 662, Burnett Texas, 78611.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-3555



Katherine Carter Pittman

Katherine Carter Pittman died in Austin, Texas on December 19, 2016, after a brief illness. She was born in 1935 to Bonnie Allie Bryan Carter and Jared Lloyd Carter in Midland, where she resided during her youth. She graduated from Midland High School in 1953, attended Texas Western University, and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Houston in 1957. She returned to Midland for a time, then moved to San Angelo in 1975, and became well known as an artist and calligrapher. This June, she moved to Austin to be closer to her daughter.

Katherine was passionate about art, and that passion rubbed off on those she taught. Over the years she has addressed thousands of wedding invitations in her beautiful calligraphy. A painter in several media including watercolor, oil and acrylic, Katherine's realistic depictions of many different subjects won awards locally and nationally. One of her biggest inspirations was the International Waterlily Collection displayed in San Angelo's Civic League Park.

Those who knew Katherine will surely miss her talent, wit, independent spirit and sunny disposition.

She is survived by her brother, Lloyd Jerry Carter, and two children; daughter, Karen Elizabeth Pittman and son Wesley Edwin Pittman Jr.

The family asks that you remember Katherine with donations in her name to the San Angelo Art Club.

There will be a gathering of friends and family to celebrate Katherine's life and work at the Kendall Art Gallery, 119 W 1st Street in San Angelo, on Saturday January 21, 2017, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



Nicolas Flores

1932 - 2017

Funeral mass for Nicolas Flores of Stanton, Texas has been set for 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church with Father Timothy Schwertner officiating. Interment will follow at the St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery.

A Rosary Vigil will be held Wednesday January 18, 2017 at Stanton Memorial Funeral Home at 7:00 p.m.

Nicolas was born October 20, 1932 in San Carlos, Mexico. Nicolas passed away January 16, 2017 in Stanton. He was a farmer for many years.

Nicolas is survived by his daughters, Guadalupe Flores and Rosie Hamilton of Stanton; sons, Jose Flores of Midland, Texas, Freddy Flores of Stanton, and Nicholas (Nick) Flores of Midland; sisters, Romana Morales of Santa Maria, Texas and Catalina Mora of Reynosa, Mexico; brother, Gregorio Flores of Beaumont, Texas and Cleofas Flores of Guadalupe, Mexico; brother-in-law, Feliciano Camacho of Midland; and 13 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Nicolas was preceded in death by his wife, Jacinta Camacho Flores, and son, Javier Flores.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Stanton Memorial Funeral Home & Chapel, 408 N. St. Peter, Stanton, Texas, 79782. (432)756-3708.



Raul Chavez "Rudy" Gutierrez

Raul Chavez "Rudy" Gutierrez, 70, passed away January 9, 2017 at his residence in Parker, Texas.

Rudy was born July 8, 1946, in Midland, Texas, to Sacarias Roman, Sr. and Josephine (Chavez) Gutierrez. He married Margarita Marquez, "Margie," on August 23, 1969 in Midland, Texas. Rudy was a Texas Tech University Alum.

Rudy proudly served in the United States Air Force. After his discharge, Rudy was a Tennis Pro for the Arlington Racquet Club in Arlington, Texas. Rudy was employed with 3M Automotive Aftermarket Division for 35 years. He achieved his status of Account Executive early in his career with 3M and was highly respected by his peers. He was a member of St. Jude Catholic Church in Allen, Texas.

He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He enjoyed the outdoors. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. His dedication to his family and friends was unwavering. Rudy will forever be in our hearts.

Rudy was preceded in death by his parents, Sacarias and Josephine Gutierrez; and by his sister, Betty Deande.

Rudy is survived by his wife, Margie Gutierrez of Parker, Texas; sons, Timothy Gutierrez of Dallas and Christopher Gutierrez of Parker; grandsons, Tavyn Gutierrez and Christopher Gutierrez, Jr.; and sisters, Sonia Quiroz and Rosemma Gutierrez, both of Midland, Texas.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, January 20, 2017 at St. Jude Catholic Church in Allen, Texas. Rosary will be held prior to the memorial service at 1:30 p.m. in the Chapel

To convey condolences or to sign an online registry, please visit *TJMfuneral.com*.



Rito Montanez Estrada

Rito Montanez Estrada was taken from us on December 04, 2016, in Ventura California. He is resting in peace in God's hands. May his family be filled with God's love and peace.

He is survived by His sons; Micheal Anthony Estrada and Erik Allen Estrada of Midland, TX. and daughter Melisa Marie Estrada of Denton, TX. along with three granddaughters Tais Arriola, Ava Karissa Estrada, and Hayley Jade Smith, and one grandson Brendon Noah Estrada. His Father Francisco Estrada Sr. of Midland, TX. Brothers, Francisco M. Estrada Jr, Domingo M. Estrada, Roman M. Estrada of Midland TX, and Martin M. Estrada of Colorado. His Sisters ,Anastacia E. Losoya of Midland TX, Irene Estrada-Rukaj of New York and Sulema Estrada Hancock of Montreal Canada, Carmen E. Bustamante of Midland and Caroline E. Walker of Ft. Worth, TX. Many niece's and nephews that loved him and will miss him.

A printer by Trade. He enjoyed playing golf, outdoor sports, and loved to Barbecue.

He is preceded in death by his Mother Gloria Montanez and his Sister Josie Estrada Frey, Paternal Grandparents Roman B. Estrada and Anastacia M. Estrada, Maternal Grandparents Rito Montanez and Felipa Montanez.

The Family will be receiving Relatives and Friends, Thursday, January 19, from 5-9pm at Lewellen Garcia Pipkin Chapel 2508 N. Big Spring St., with a Rosary starting at 7pm.

Memorial Mass will be, Friday January 20, at St. Stephens Catholic Church 4601 Neely Ave. at 1 pm officiated by Father Bala Anthony. Reception will follow in the Family Room.



Robert Harold Anthony

Robert Harold Anthony, 75, of Midland, died Sunday, January 15, 2017 in Midland, Texas.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at the Paint Creek Cemetery in Edith, Texas.

He was born October 13, 1941 in Miles, Texas.

Robert is survived by his wife of 26 years, Frances Nixon Anthony; one son, William Robert Fillip; and a sister, Dorothy Weddle, all of Midland. He leaves other family and friends, including Treva and Wilbur White and family, Halston Hunt, Deb Bradberry and family, Tom Roach and family, Catlin and Sonny Michel and family, Reba and Johnny Henry, Shirley Jones, Barbara Gallard, Donna Neves and family, Bonnie and Ed Mays, Brandon Hervol and family, Aaron Hervol and family, Angie, Leigh Odom and Victor Devine, and the many friends that he made over the years that worked with him trucking and shared his life with him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, W. R. Anthony and Josie Gallard; two brothers, Henry Robertson and Elton Robertson; and two sisters, Josephine Palmer and Lucy Clinton.

Pallbearers will be Bob Fillip, George Bodine, Wilbur White, Halston Hunt, Tom Roach, and Sonny Michel.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Johnny Henry, Tyler Neves, Elaton Neves, and Aaron Hervol.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences may be made at *www.mpwelch.com*.

Gilbreath Funeral Home
200 N. St. Peter Street • P.O. Box 830
Stanton, Texas 79782 • (432) 756-3351

Death Notices

Cindy Renea Chilcoat

Cindy Renea Chilcoat, 44, of Midland, passed away on Monday, January 16, 2017.

Visitation will be from Wednesday, January 18, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Ellis Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel.

James Richard Currie

James Richard Currie, 88, of Garden City, Texas, passed away on Monday, January 16, 2017.

Memorial services will be held on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Midland.

He is survived by his wife, Jimmie Currie, and two daughters, Cynthia Howard and Darla Taylor.

Marjory McNeal

Marjory McNeal, 86, passed away Sunday, January 15, 2017.

Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland.

Obama's landmark health care law has now become an open question mark

By Sarah Varney
Kaiser Health News

MANSFIELD, Ohio — When President Barack Obama signed the Affordable Care Act in 2010, he achieved what presidents and members of Congress had long tried and failed to do: to provide near-universal health insurance to Americans.

Democrats were jubilant. Those in Obama's inner circle, like Bob Kocher, an adviser to the president on health care policy and one of the law's architects, celebrated the victory at the White House.

"It was a moment of total joy," Kocher said. "We felt like we'd accomplished something hard and amazing and important that would go down in history as being an important step forward in American health care."

Since Harry Truman, every Democratic president — and Republican Richard Nixon — wanted universal coverage. The health insurance industry, hospitals, physicians and other interest groups fought previous attempts to enact it. But by 2009, with more than 55 million Americans uninsured and Democrats in control of the government, those groups reconsidered their position.

Despite widespread support from industry, the bill became a flashpoint for bigger ideological battles.

"In key respects, it was a policy success, but it was also always a political failure," said Jonathan Oberlander, a health care historian at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "And that political failure reflects that partisan polarization, which Democrats and the Obama administration never figured out a way to overcome."

Despite months of bipartisan negotiations in the Senate Finance Committee, the bill eventually passed Congress without a single Republican vote. It faced unflagging opposition, explosive town hall meetings, angry tea party protests and a Supreme Court decision in 2012 that, despite upholding most of the law, weakened one of its central provisions by making the Medicaid expansion optional for states.

The Obama administration believed the law would eventually become popular as more Americans benefitted from it. But that strategy was hampered by the fact that the law's big coverage expansions didn't begin until 2014. Public opinion on the law remained divided. Republicans voted to repeal or delay part or all of it more than 60 times, always facing the prospect of a certain veto by Obama.

Now President-elect Donald Trump wants to kill the law for good, a promise that appealed to many voters around the country.

In Mansfield, once a booming manufacturing town, the Affordable Care Act brought insurance coverage, new health care jobs and an influx of federal money. Nearly 1 million Ohioans are covered under the law. But economic worries in Rust Belt states like Ohio handed the presidency to Donald Trump, giving him the opportunity to thwart Obama's signature domestic policy.

What happens next is an open question.

Successful co-parenting will help children adjust to divorce

LINDA K. BOYD
Centers for Children and Families

In today's society, more than 50 percent of first marriages and 67 percent of second marriages eventually end in divorce, according to an article at psychologytoday.com.

More than 1 million children are involved in new divorces every year. Children also experience the grief associated with a major loss — the loss of the existing family unit. This is why the concept of co-parenting was created. It enables children to continue to have a family even if the structure has changed. If allowed to express and work through this grief, children can effectively deal with divorce.

Although divorce is the end of a marriage, it doesn't have to be the end of the family. Parenting is a lifelong responsibility, and there will be many events and activities in children's lives when they want and need both parents to be involved. Some of these occasions may include school and sports events, graduations, weddings and the birth of their own children.

Children need as much stability in their lives as possible. When parents divorce, the entire family structure changes. Parents who develop good co-parenting skills can provide more stability and help children adjust to the changing family structure.

Co-parenting involves parents making decisions that are in the best interests of their children. It also means shared responsibility and ongoing communication. It is about coming to terms with sharing time with your children. Co-parenting is not about parents getting their own needs or rehashing relationship issues and problems with the other parent. It is not about getting back together or going back to husband and wife roles. Remember, a good co-parenting relationship was created to allow children to have a family despite the marriage ending.

Developing a good co-parenting relationship involves clearly defining boundaries for your communication with each other. For example, talk about the children, not about each other's lives. Decide how and when communication will occur. Can you talk on the telephone and be civil, or should you communicate by email?

Determine the best way to make joint decisions and try to keep emotions out of conversations. Try to avoid issues that you know will trigger negative responses, and don't bring family opinions into the conversation.

If you have an uncooperative co-parent, here are some strategies that may be helpful:

- Stay focused on your relationship with your children.
- Continue to use appropriate co-parenting skills.
- Develop healthy communication with your children.
- Don't make excuses for the other parent, and don't disrespect your co-parent in front of your children.

Developing good co-parenting skills can be difficult and takes time and practice. It requires focus and some degree of emotional detachment from your co-parent. It also demands that parents put children's needs above their own.

How well parents function together as co-parents is the main factor that will determine whether children successfully adjust to the divorce. They can work through their grief when they have parents who have a successful co-parenting relationship. But, they can also be damaged by ongoing conflict between their parents.

Pre-marital counseling can teach conflict-resolution skills

ALYSSA THOMPSON
Samaritan Counseling Center



Many of you may be in a serious dating relationship, getting engaged or may be engaged and are preparing for a wedding. A couple most likely will focus on the wedding day or their honeymoon and may ignore any frustrations they have with each other.

Some couples have known each other for only a few months by the time of their wedding, while others have been together for several years. Either way, most couples enter into marriage blissfully unaware of the work they will have to put into their marriage to make it last.

To have a successful marriage, each partner must learn how the other operates and how to communicate and resolve conflict in a healthy manner. Pre-marital counseling can be a valuable resource to help couples learn more about each other and begin working on building a healthy marriage foundation.

When newlyweds have their first serious disagreement, they may find themselves thinking, "This isn't what I expected it to be like," "I thought these issues would go away after we were married" or "He/she must not care about me like I thought." If this conflict goes unresolved, it may build into resentment.

Pre-marital counseling not only helps you learn conflict-resolution skills, but it can help you understand your partner's values, as well. Important topics that can be discussed in pre-marital counseling include how you will manage finances, how many children you want to have, parenting practices, how involved you want to be with in-laws and how you want to incorporate your faith or important beliefs into your relationship.

Pre-marital counseling can provide you a safe environment where you can discuss these important issues and grow your relationship at the same time. At the Samaritan Counseling Center, we use the Prepare/Enrich program to help you and your partner look at these various aspects of your relationship and grow a healthy foundation for your marriage.

CEPEDA

From 1B

to tell the unknown history of how an individual dietary nutrient became demonized by a potent combination of pop science and media frenzy, Taubes' crusade falls short of convincing via fact, relying instead on persuading through passion.

"The Case Against Sugar" is full of compelling citations of sugar in literature, reams of scientific facts, fascinating history and behind-the-scenes narratives of the politics of food.

What Taubes cannot offer, however, is certainty.

The theme of his book seems to be impossibility. Taubes is upfront about it being impossible to know just how much sugar we really consume annually; impossible to know what actual percentage of this consumption directly contributes to rising obesity rates and metabolism-related illnesses; impossible to know how much slimmer or healthier we would be if there were no added sweeteners in our food.

And, he concludes, if we wished to eliminate sugar from our diets, except that which is naturally found in fruits and vegetables, it would be nearly impossible, since sugar is so ubiquitous at a grocery store. It would also be troublesome to determine which part of increased well-being was linked to lower sugar consumption and which was attributable to taking in less processed food — and, therefore, fewer calories — overall.

This is in combination with a flawed and, ultimately, off-putting insistence on comparing sugar to nicotine, heroin, cocaine and alcohol. Taubes seems skeptical even of breast milk, which, he notes, all babies know is sweeter than water or cow's milk. He pathologizes sugar, inadvertently comparing parents to drug peddlers because, "Sweets have become the currency of childhood and of parenting."

Obviously, overconsumption of sugar is bad for us. Does anyone out there really still think otherwise?

It's true that I don't need to be terrorized into watching my sugar intake because the cruel hand of Type 2 diabetes has already touched my family. I firmly believe we need to teach people, especially children, how to get consistent exercise and eat balanced meals that include all the essential nutrients in moderation, so maybe I'm not the prime target for this book.

However, if we've learned nothing else from the past hundred or so years of health research, isn't it that we'd be wise to never pinpoint foods as either saintly silver bullets for optimal health or demons that must be banished lest we die from their mere presence in our supermarkets?

At least Taubes includes a definitive debunking of the pervasive myth that artificial sweeteners are carcinogenic — though he remains skeptical that they aren't potentially harmful since they still taste sweet.

Taubes writes that since sugar consumption is "relatively benign compared with those of nicotine, caffeine and alcohol — at least in the short term and in small doses — (sugar has) remained, as Sidney Mintz says, nearly invulnerable to moral, ethical or religious attacks." It appears Taubes wants to lead that charge, though this argument seems like the least effective way to combat an obesity epidemic.

Without a doubt, we all need less sugar in our diet. But, as even Taubes admits, "overconsumption" varies based on age, gender, weight, race/ethnicity, environmental issues like air and water pollution, daily levels of physical exertion and a host of other factors.

Considering its many charms, white-knuckled fear of sugar isn't likely the best preventive. We need public health policy that helps individuals determine how much is too much sugar and helps promote moderation in addition to affordable access to whole grains, fresh foods and walkable communities with clean water and air.

CONFERENCE

From 1B

design for living," reflected the late AA Midland stalwart Davis P.

The AA program helps spiritually bankrupt alcoholics find a vital and hearty way of living that demands "ethical responsibility" and "rigorous honesty," attested Davis P.

"Alcoholism is an allergy of the body and an obsession of the mind coupled with a spiritual vacuum," according to Davis P., who found happiness in his spiritual renewal in dealing with life's trials. "Slowly but surely, we get to fill that spiritual vacuum and start to recover" from the scourge of alcoholism.

"Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism," according to AA's preamble. "Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety."

The 12-step spiritual program, which was founded in 1935 by Dr. Bob, an Akron, Ohio, physician, and by Bill W., a New York stockbroker, is open to anyone who has a desire to stop drinking alcohol and to lead a sober and conscientious life.

Prior to AA's founding, Dr. Bob and Bill W., who had been deemed "hopeless alcoholics," had been associated with the Oxford Group, a Christian fellowship that emphasized universal spiritual values in daily living.

The Midland AA conference, projected to attract about 500 registrants from West Texas and the Southwest, affords a series of speaker meetings that are open to AA and Al-Anon members and others who suspect that they or their loved ones, family members or friends, may have a drinking problem.

The conference's registration fee of $35 includes access to the Hospitality Room for fellowship, refreshments and a well-stocked smorgasbord.

The conference kick-off meeting is set for 8 p.m. Thursday at AA's Serenity Group at 3100 North "A" Street in Midland. Thereafter, on Friday and Saturday, the conference will be held at the Grand Texan Hotel.

Voice of the conference is Brooks S.

The AA two-day agenda includes the Wise Owl meeting at 6 p.m. Friday and chaired by Pew B. and featuring AA and Al-Anon old-timers. The 8 p.m. Friday AA speaker is Amanda B. of Montgomery, Alabama. Chair is Jennifer C.

Saturday's agenda takes in AA speaker Kent L. of Wetumpka, Alabama, at 9:30 a.m. Chair is Keenan S. Al-Anon speaker at 11 a.m. is Corrie L. of Wetumpka, Alabama. Chair is Sarah S.

Saturday's 8 p.m. AA speaker is Rich B. of Ocean City, Maryland. Chair is Ryan S.

Alcoholics Anonymous is "the most successful program at restoring lives in the history of mankind," reckoned Latimer "Tim" B., a recovering alcoholic graced with sobriety. And what helps re-enforce sobriety is "the association with others who are moving forward with the same passion for a changed life."

"Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism," according to the preamble in AA's big book, first published in 1939. "Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety."

AA asserts that "God wants us to be happy, joyous and free" and does "not subscribe to the belief that this life is a vale of tears," although "it is clear that we made our own misery."

AA proclaims that its members "absolutely insist on enjoying life."

In maintaining their sobriety and "working the program," AA members are exhorted to review daily their AA program: "Were we resentful, selfish, dishonest or afraid? Do we owe an apology? ... Were we kind and loving toward all? ... What could we have done better?

After making our review, we ask God's forgiveness and inquire what corrective measures should be taken."

Ed Todd is a writer for The Midland Reporter-Telegram.

ClayDesta Center Presents
Midland/Odessa Symphony
SACK LUNCH CONCERT
Thursday, January 19, 2017
Featuring
West Texas Winds
ClayDesta Atrium 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
For more information call 688-3000
Everyone Welcome

TRACKING

From 1B

The Stanford team is collecting reams of data — as many as 250,000 daily measurements — from volunteers who wear up to eight activity monitors or other sensors of varying sizes that measure heart rate, blood oxygen, skin temperature, sleep, calories expended, exercise and even exposure to radiation. That's paired with occasional laboratory tests to measure blood chemistry and some genetic information.

An initial finding: Blood oxygen levels decrease with rising altitudes during plane flights, in turn triggering fatigue. But toward the end of long flights, oxygen begins rising again, possibly as bodies adapt, the researchers reported.

It was that phenomenon that alerted Snyder, the longest-tested participant, "that something wasn't quite right" on one of his frequent long flights.

Landing in Norway for a family vacation, Snyder noticed his oxygen levels didn't return to normal like they always had before. Plus, his heart rate was much higher than normal, which sometimes signals infection.

Sure enough, soon a low-grade fever left him dragging. He feared Lyme because two weeks before going abroad, Snyder had helped his brother build a fence in a tick-infested rural area in Massachusetts. He persuaded a Norwegian doctor to prescribe the appropriate antibiotic, and post-vacation testing back home confirmed the diagnosis.

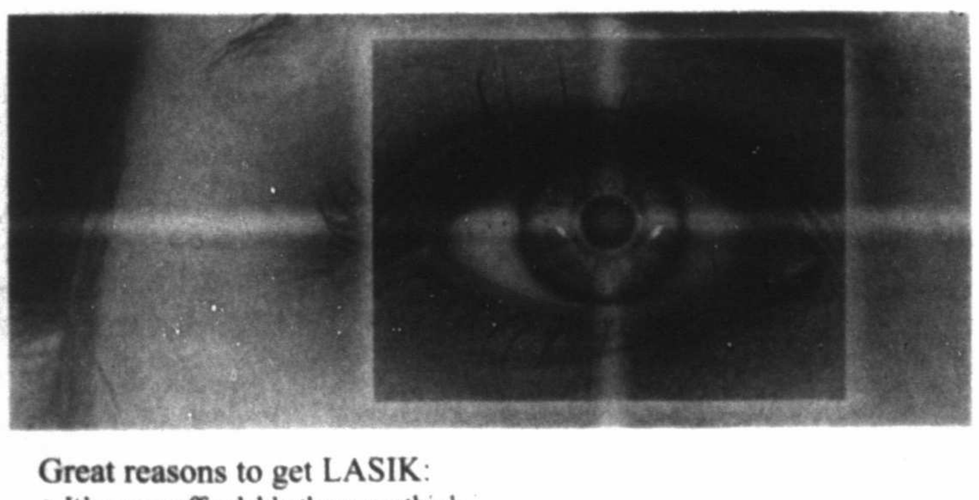
Also during the study's first two years, Snyder and several other volunteers had minor cold-like illnesses that began with higher-than-normal readings for heart rate and skin temperature — and correlated with blood tests showing inflammation was on the rise before any sniffling.

In addition, the Stanford team detected variations in heart rate patterns that could tell the difference between study participants with what's called insulin resistance — a risk factor for Type 2 diabetes — and healthy people.

No, don't try to self-diagnose with your fitness tracker any time soon. The findings in Thursday's report are intriguing but the study is highly experimental, cautioned medical technology specialist Dr. Atul Butte of the University of California, San Francisco, who wasn't involved with the research.

"This kind of approach is going to help science more than the general public" until there's better data about what's normal or not, Butte said. "Remember, the baseline is always in motion. We're always getting older. We're always exposed to things. Just because there's a deviation doesn't mean it's abnormal."

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Employers aren't eager to pick narrow health plan networks



MITCHELL SCHNURMAN
The Dallas Morning News

"If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor."

That famous line from President Barack Obama came to symbolize the failings of the Affordable Care Act. It also showed that no one, not even the president, could guarantee that your doctor would remain in your health plan.

That's the reality of health care in America, and it's most evident on HealthCare.gov, the federal website that sells millions of individual plans — at least until Republicans repeal the health law. About half the exchange offers have narrow networks of doctors and hospitals, depending on the state, and consumers have readily traded less choice in providers for lower monthly premiums.

Many expected the trend to take hold in employer health plans, which provide coverage for about half of Americans. Two years ago, 62 percent of large local employers said narrow networks would be the next big thing in health benefits, according to a survey.

That hasn't happened yet. Just 6 percent of big employers (over 200 workers) offer narrow networks, according to a national poll. Compared with standard networks, they usually have at least one-third fewer doctors and hospitals.

While they can lower the price of care, employers believe there are more effective ways to manage health insurance costs. They cited wellness programs, disease management and adopting high-deductible insurance plans.

"Narrow networks sound like a takeaway, and employers are afraid they'll be too hard and too disruptive for their employees," said Marianne Fazen, executive director of the Dallas-Fort Worth Business Group on Health.

The group has 165 members with over 238,000 workers. American Airlines, Texas Instruments, J.C. Penney and the group's other employers spend over $2.2 billion a year on health care.

While they're always concerned with costs, many fear the savings from switching to a narrow network would be a one-time gain only. Some would rather invest their effort into adding an on-site clinic or making high-deductible plans the only insurance option, Fazen said.

What's really gaining traction is the push toward centers of excellence and high-performance networks. In fact, these are narrow networks, except that the emphasis is on improving care and outcomes. There's an assumption that costs would fall, too, but unlike a switch to a narrow network, price is not the primary motivator.

Fazen cited a pilot project to find the best option for lower-back treatment in the Dallas area. Five providers, including a hospital system, are participating with the DFW business group. The goal is to create a smaller network of specialists that companies can steer their employees toward.

"A narrow network will never be adopted by our employers if it doesn't improve the quality of care," Fazen said.

Centers of excellence are most common for clinical specialties such as transplants, bariatric surgery, knee replacements, and heart and cancer treatment. Their use has grown dramatically, according to consulting firm Willis Towers Watson.

Last year, it said, 31 percent of employers were using the centers in their health plans. By 2018, that number could grow to 73 percent.

"Narrow networks sound like a takeaway, and employers are afraid they'll be too hard and too disruptive for their employees. ... A narrow network will never be adopted by our employers if it doesn't improve the quality of care."

Marianne Fazen, executive director of the Dallas-Fort Worth Business Group on Health

They offer one way to move in the direction of narrow networks, at least incrementally, said a report released last month by the Employee Benefit Research Institute in Washington. Some plans require workers to use the specialty facilities, but more often, there's a financial incentive for employees to do so, EBRI said.

While the study found that just a small share of employer plans had adopted narrow networks, that may change soon. Among companies with at least 5,000 employees, over one-third have alternative or high-performance networks as an option. They often include networks built around a particular provider, and they drive volume with little evidence of discounting, the report said.

Unless the savings are significant, most employers will pass on narrow networks.

"They don't want to be the first," said Paul Fronstin, director of EBRI's health, education and research program. "They want evidence before they jump into something."

Taking away some choices in doctors or hospitals can upset employees. Raising the deductible or co-pay is a less controversial way to offset higher costs. And tiered networks, which offer discounts for the most preferred providers, can soften the blow when companies want to narrow the options, he said.

There's a lot of overlap in this area. Centers of excellence, accountable care organizations and patient-centered medical homes all offer the potential of better outcomes at a lower cost. They also narrow the traditional network of providers, either through incentives or company mandate.

Many employers aren't convinced that savings from narrow networks are sustainable. About 20 percent of workers account for 80 percent of spending, Fronstin said, and it's not clear that reducing the number of providers for those patients would reduce costs.

Programs for wellness and disease management are a more targeted response, and they've grown much faster. If narrow networks could reduce costs by 25 percent, there would be widespread adoption, the EBRI report said.

In Massachusetts, a high-price state for health care, such savings have been reported. But a study of the Affordable Care Act exchanges in 2014 reported a discount of only 13 percent for much smaller networks.

So it's not clear that a big move would be worthwhile. While customers on the exchange put price first, those with employer coverage are more likely to rate choice higher. Perhaps that's natural, given that companies pay about two-thirds of the health premiums for their workers.

At some point, preferences may change. And that's regardless of what happens to the health law under a new president.

"Employers haven't stopped moving forward and experimenting, and they won't stop," Fronstin said.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

HEALTHBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Midlander named to medical board

Gov. Greg Abbott has appointed Midander Lu-Ann Morgan to the Texas Medical Board for a term set to expire in April 2021.

Morgan is sales director for Cavallo Energy. Before joining Cavallo, she was district manager for TXU Electric and Gas. She served three terms on the Midland City Council and is a past gubernatorial appointee of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. She has served as president and campaign chair of United Way of Midland and is a member of the Midland Chamber of Commerce Board. She is a Leadership Texas graduate and co-founding member of two nonprofits: Midland Humane Coalition and Communities in Schools of the Permian Basin.

Also named to the board are Dr. Jayaram Naidu of Odessa, assistant clinical professor at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center; Dr. Sherif Zaafran of Houston, an anesthesiologist and president of U.S. Anesthesia Partners Southwest Division; Michael Cokinos of Houston, founder and president of Cokinos Energy Corp.; Kandace Farmer of Highland Village, a doctor of osteopathy and a radiologist and breast imaging specialist in diagnostic radiology; and Dr. Jeffrey Luna of Livingston, who is in private practice.

New Texas Tech facility opens

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held last week for Texas Tech Physicians of the Permian Basin's Endocrinology and Diabetes Center. The new facility is at 8050 Highway 191, Suite 213, in Odessa.

For more information, visit texastechphysicians.com

Midland Health events

■ Birthplace Tour 5-6 p.m. Thursday, Midland Memorial Hospital, Amber Cunningham, 221-3283, childbirtheducation@midland-memorial.com; to register, go to midland-health.org and click on Classes & Events.

■ Nutrition Support Group, 6 p.m. Thursday, Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus cafeteria, Megan Casselman, 221-3045, megan.casselman@midland-memorial.com

For more information and to view other events, visit midlandhealth.org.

Weekly support groups & hotlines

(subject to change)

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

■ Overeaters Anonymous; 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays and 3-4 p.m. Sundays; B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 553-1031.

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

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

PDAP meetings

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

■ 11:30-1:30 p.m. Wednesdays: older group, 1208 W. Wall St., includes lunch

■ Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.

■ Serenity Group, 8 p.m. daily, 3101 N. "A" St., Building C; 685-3100.

■ 710 Group, 7 a.m., noon and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 710 Ohio Ave.; 682-8162.

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

■ 12-Step Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 30 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays; 206 N. Midkiff Road; 697-0272.

■ Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2926.

■ Laundry Group, 8 p.m. daily and noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 104 N. Marshall St.

■ Xodus Group, 5:30 p.m. Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 7 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 8:30 p.m. Saturdays, 206 N. Midkiff Road.

■ CODA Group, 12-step program for relationships, 7 p.m. Thursdays, 206 N. Midkiff Road; 697-0272.

■ La Hacienda Alumni, support group for former patients, 7 p.m. Thursdays, 206 N. Midkiff Road; 697-0272.

MMH payment options

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

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

Source: Midland Memorial Hospital

How sick are you?

Midland Memorial Hospital has partnered with Medical Center Hospital in Odessa for the telephone nurse triage program "68-NURSE" to bring the service to the entire Permian Basin.

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 at home.

Help line for long-term or disabled care

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

For more information, call 855-937-2372.

Contact your Hospital District representative

Midland Memorial Hospital

■ 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland, Texas, 79701

■ Phone: 221-1111

■ Website: www.midland-memorial.com

■ Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidlandMemorialHospital

■ Twitter: twitter.com/MidlandMemorial

■ President Russell Meyers 221-1584

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

NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE REQUEST

On December 30, 2016, as required by order of the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("PUCT" or "Commission") in Docket No. 45414, Sharyland Utilities, L.P. ("Sharyland") and Sharyland Distribution & Transmission Services, L.L.C. ("SDTS") (collectively "Applicants"), regulated electric utility companies, filed an application with the PUCT titled Amended Application of Sharyland Utilities, L.P. and Sharyland Distribution & Transmission Services, L.L.C., Statement of Intent to Change Rates, and Request for Grant of a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity and Transfer of Certificate Rights ("Amended Application"). The Amended Application requests: (1) the setting of new wholesale and retail rates that Sharyland will charge its customers; (2) the establishment of rates that SDTS will charge its only customer, Sharyland; and (3) the grant of a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN") and transfer of CCN rights to SDTS. This proceeding is the first in which Sharyland's rates will be set on a system-wide basis.

The Amended Application is based on a twelve-month test year ending December 31, 2015. The Amended Application supports an increase in Sharyland's adjusted test-year retail base rate revenues of approximately $1.4 million or 1.4 percent, exclusive of riders. Sharyland's system-wide cost-based retail base rate revenue requirement is $101.2 million, plus an additional $2.23 million that Sharyland is seeking to recover on an annual basis through certain riders. This includes a proposal to recover $30 million for deferred costs associated with construction of the electric system in the McAllen division during its initial years of operation. As proposed, monthly delivery rates for an average residential customer consuming 1,333 kWh in the Stanton, Brady, and Celeste divisions will decrease by approximately $3.14 per month, exclusive of riders, but in McAllen and Mission they will increase by approximately $35.69 per month, exclusive of riders. The Amended Application also supports a total wholesale transmission cost of service of $147.6 million, plus an additional $3.7 million that Sharyland is seeking to recover on an annual basis through certain riders.

The Amended Application also supports a total revenue requirement for SDTS of approximately $170 million. SDTS' proposed rates are lease payments that SDTS will charge only to Sharyland for leasing its transmission and distribution assets. In a new tariff for SDTS, separate rates will be provided for the leasing of transmission assets and for the leasing of distribution assets.

The Amended Application also requests that the PUCT grant a CCN to SDTS and transfer rights under Sharyland's CCNs to SDTS authorizing SDTS to own transmission and distribution assets and lease those assets to Sharyland for the provision of electric service, along with any other rights as necessary. No new facilities are being sought in the Amended Application.

The Amended Application potentially affects all customers and classes of customers in Sharyland's Stanton, Brady, Celeste, and McAllen divisions. The Amended Application also affects all customers taking service under Sharyland's Tariff for Wholesale Transmission Service. In addition, the result could be a change in Sharyland's transmission cost of service rates, which would impact all load serving entities in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas. The Applicants have proposed that the requested rates be made effective February 3, 2017.

A complete copy of the Amended Application is available for inspection at the following locations:

- Sharyland
  1031 Andrews Highway, Suite 400
  Midland, Texas 79701
  -or-
  1807 Ross Avenue, Suite 460
  Dallas, Texas 75201
- Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP
  600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2000
  Austin, Texas 78701

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326. Further information may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the commission through Relay Texas by dialing 7-1-1. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is February 13, 2017.

TODAY: Mostly cloudy High: 57 Low: 40

THURSDAY: Sunny High: 67 Low: 43

FRIDAY: Mostly sunny High: 63 Low: 42

SATURDAY: Mostly sunny High: 60 Low: 40

SUNDAY: Sunny High: 57 Low: 35

MONDAY: Sunny High: 64 Low: 42

Local forecast

The chance of rain is basically out of the forecast for the next seven days, except for a slight chance on Saturday, according to the National Weather Service. The winds will kick up, though, gusting as high as 40 mph Thursday.

The record high for Jan. 17 is 84 set in 1974. The record low is 13, set in 1987. On Jan. 17 of last year, the high was 66 and the low was 32.

Weather brief

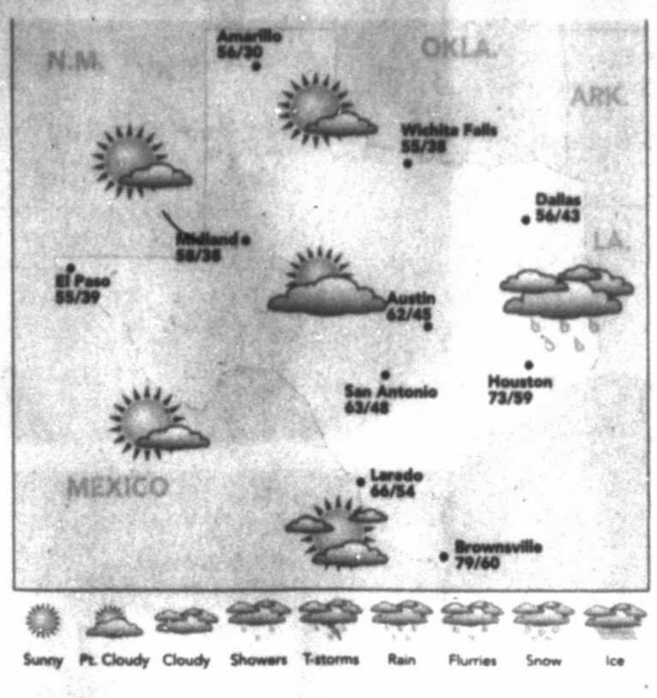
WASHINGTON

Obama gives $500 million to climate fund over GOP objections

With just three days left in office, the Obama administration has doubled an initial $500 million commitment to a fund that helps developing nations fight climate change and adapt to its consequences.

The incoming Trump administration and some Republicans oppose the program.

The State Department's announcement Tuesday brings U.S. contributions to the Green Climate Fund to $1 billion since 2016. The fund helps poor countries reduce carbon emissions by promoting clean energy and spurring private investment in the field.



Precipitation

Monday	0.00 in.
Tuesday	0.03 in.
Month total	0.99 in.
Year total	0.99 in.
Normal total (year to date)	0.26 in.

Tuesday's temperatures

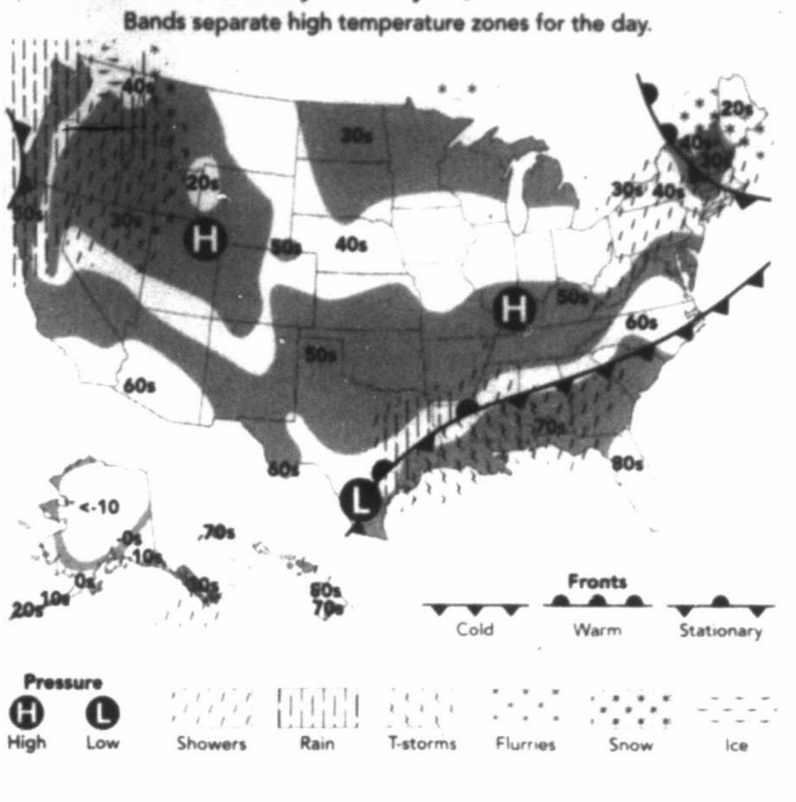
High	46
Low	35
Normal high	57
Normal low	30
Sunrise	7:49 a.m.
Sunset	6:10 p.m.

National weather

AccuWeather.com

Forecast for Wednesday, January 18, 2017

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



Learn to manage anger before exploding at kids

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 23-year-old woman, and I know I should have a lot more patience than I do right now. I'm happily married with two beautiful children. After work when I return home, I'm fine for the first hour or so. But if my children start to get loud or keep asking me to do something, I get extremely aggravated.

My children are young and I love them, but I should be in more control of my temper toward them. I feel so bad when I lose it and shout at them. What can I do to improve this? — SHORT FUSE IN GEORGIA

DEAR SHORT FUSE: I'm glad you asked, because it is important that you learn to relieve your frustration without taking it out on your children. There are healthy ways of managing frustration without exploding.

The first is to recognize that you are becoming upset. Leave the room and, if your husband is home, go for a walk or a short run to help you to regain your perspective. Another technique is to "stall" before reacting. Pause for a moment and say a prayer, "Please Lord, don't let me lose my temper!" before opening your mouth. My booklet, "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With it," contains a number of healthy ways of dealing with frustration and other negative emotions. It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus a check or money order for $7 in U.S. funds, to Dear Abby — Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. I hope it will be helpful to you. It's important that you get a handle on your temper so your children won't grow up thinking that verbal abuse is a normal way to handle their own emotions.

DEAR ABBY: My 25-year-old daughter suffers from Peter Pan Syndrome. Three years out of college, she wants to live an "extended dorm" lifestyle with other young men/women (and their girlfriends/boyfriends), instead of settling down and moving out with her boyfriend of two years.

She says she has "a high need for affiliation" (she needs a lot of people around 24/7). But she also has a high need for change/variety and rotates roommates every two to three years. Looking for a "mini commune" in a crowded city like San Francisco is very difficult. What makes matters worse is that she also has hobbies like sewing that require a lot of space.

Is there something wrong with this lifestyle preference? And if so, how do I help her break out of it? — WORRIED DAD IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR DAD: At 25, your daughter is an adult. Many people her age live communally because it's less costly than living independently, and San Francisco has become so expensive that it's often their only option.

If she's already living in an "extended dorm" situation, it's her life to live and she'll learn lessons. If you feel compelled to offer her advice, suggest they relocate to a less expensive and crowded area, which may entail a longer commute, but with fewer roommates she will have more room for her hobbies.

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 Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2017:

This year you can expect to be on a memorable roller-coaster ride. The unexpected continues to occur, which keeps your life exciting. Some of you will purchase a home or choose to remodel. Go with the flow, but be sure to maintain the constants you need in your life. If you are single, your preference for who you'd like to date could change. You might not be able to tolerate your previous choices. If you are attached, you will see life in a different light from your sweetie. Give him or her time to adjust to your new ideas and energy. You often feel tense around LIBRA.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★ Events could challenge your leadership style. You will see where a change is needed and consider adjusting accordingly. You still might opt to handle yourself in a most unpredictable way, sending jolts to those around you. Tonight: Deal with someone else's strong reaction.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★ You understand the need for holding out until you get more facts. Your lack of comfort when dealing with someone unpredictable emerges. As much as you like and appreciate stability, unpredictable people are a source of intrigue to you. Tonight: Try a new restaurant or haunt.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ A loved one seems to be transforming in front of your eyes. You might be concerned that some of your agreements will dissipate; do not project this thought into the universe. Remain as positive as you can. Tonight: Expect adventure if you choose to meet up with a certain friend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ A domestic matter could occupy your thoughts, no matter what is going on around you. Several people might try to break through your mental preoccupation. Be careful. Meet your obligations, and be responsive to a higher-up's inquiries. Tonight: Burn the midnight oil.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Open up talks, but recognize that you have no control over what someone says. You might want to update your communication style. What is your objective? Can it happen? News heads your way that could cause you to stop and think. Tonight: Release tension as you relax to music.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ You have the ability to expand your finances. If you are careful, you could reach a welcome financial pinnacle. Don't be tempted by any wild risks, as the end of the tale might not be as beneficial as you would like to believe. Tonight: Work with excitement and the unusual.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ A difficult situation encourages you to become more creative. You will see various answers emerge. You might need to take a walk to go through your thoughts. A loved one witnesses your efforts and becomes easier to work with as a result. Tonight: In the limelight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ You might want to change direction. Hold off for now, as something will happen to open up the matter, or your perspective could radically change. Know what is right for you. Do not question your preferences. Tonight: Get some exercise. Walk the dog, if need be.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You can turn a problem into a positive experience. In a brainstorming session with others, a closeness among you becomes evident. You might be stressed out by a business or financial matter. Do what is necessary in order to relax. Prioritize. Tonight: Where your friends are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ You will be a lot more content if you can manage to get past an ongoing inner conflict. A discussion with someone you respect could lead to an alternative that seems to work. Focus on taking the lead, no matter what the issues are. Tonight: Count on being up till the wee hours.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ More and more, you are learning to detach. More choices become available as a result, and the outcomes are not as volatile as they previously were. Understand that a loved one has not yet learned the art of detachment. Tonight: You might need to have a discussion again.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ Don't allow a friend or a business associate to push you into an idea or scheme that you do not feel comfortable with. You do not need to follow this person's suggestion. Unexpected financial developments could color your thinking. Tonight: Listen to a loved one's opinion.

BORN TODAY

Actor Kevin Costner (1955), singer Jason Gray (1972), actor Jason Segel (1980)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Magic trick

East-West vulnerable. East deals

NORTH
♠ J 5 3
♥ A J 8 7
♦ 10 9 7
♣ Q 7 5

WEST
♠ Void
♥ K 9 3 2
♦ K Q J 6 4 3 2
♣ K 9

EAST
♠ Q 10 9 8 7 6 2
♥ 5 4
♦ 8
♣ J 10 6

SOUTH
♠ A K 4
♥ Q 10 6
♦ A 5
♣ A 8 4 3 2

The bidding:

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
2♠	2NT	Pass	3NT
All pass			

Opening lead: King of ♠

Three no-trump is a very normal contract on the North-South cards, but it doesn't look possible to get to nine tricks. South African expert Craig Gower showed us how to do it.

Gower ducked the opening diamond lead, but won the diamond continuation perforce, noting that East discarded a spade on this trick. The queen of hearts was covered by the king and dummy's ace, and Gower cashed the ace and king of spades to put some pressure on West. West discarded two low diamonds, very telling about his hand, and Gower worked out why he hadn't discarded a heart or a club.

Gower cashed his 10 of hearts, and unerringly led a heart to dummy's eight! Gower cashed the last heart and threw West in with a diamond. West could cash three diamond tricks, but he had to lead away from his king of clubs in the two-card ending. Gower's fine play should have earned a nice gain for his team, but he didn't get one. At the other table, ACBL Hall of Fame member David Berkowitz found the same road to nine tricks, and he was doubled!

As a defensive point, it's worth noting that West would probably have defeated the contract had he discarded his low club and one diamond, rather than two diamonds. Declarer would need a crystal ball to not play for hearts to split 3-3. Oh well, we'll never know.

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Early sitcom co-star Arnaz
5 It's over a foot
9 Zagreb native
14 Wolfs down
15 Madre's boy
16 Toy in many "Peanuts" panels
17 Not a fearful place for acrophobia sufferers
20 Casino lineup
21 Starting on
22 Palette choices
23 Morose
25 Droop in the garden
27 Tight hold
29 401(k) alternative, briefly
32 Went ballistic
36 Not a fearful fund for agoraphobia sufferers
39 Folk rocker DiFranco
40 Belittle
41 Showy Japanese school
42 To a degree, informally
44 Haul to the garage
45 Not a fearful Camus work for xenophobia sufferers
48 Name on the 1967 album "I Was Made to Love Her"
50 Pilot's stat
51 Ward of "Sisters"
52 City with ferry service to Copenhagen
54 Damon of "Interstellar"
56 Fix, as a pet
59 Deft tennis shots
62 Ragu rival
65 Not a fearful roadster for arachnophobia sufferers
68 Prolonged assault
69 Way through the trees
70 Curly cabbage
71 Wielded an ax
72 "Button it!"
73 Actor Byrnes and announcer Hall
33 Online pop-up tailored to individual tastes
34 Recon goal
35 Pageant headpiece
37 Elusive Himalayans
38 "Batman" actress Eartha
43 Picket line placard
46 Word of greeting
47 Aries symbol
49 Journey
53 Zing
55 Droid download
56 Pageant band
57 Ballet class bend
58 Small number
60 Main squeeze
61 Pub crawlers
63 Fix, as a horse
64 Tram loads
66 Chinese lantern color
67 "Button it!"

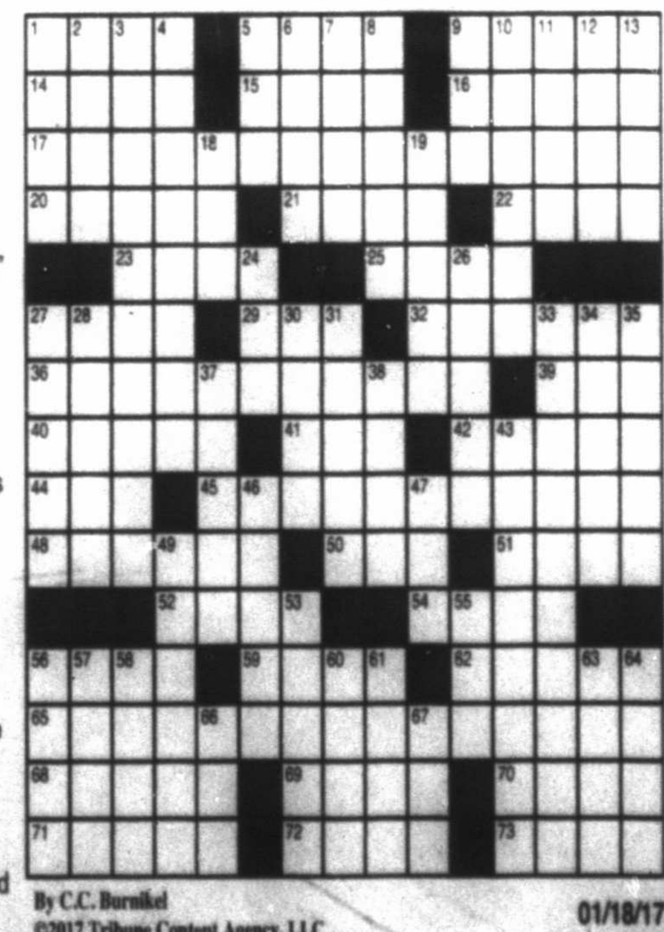
DOWN

1 Cotillion attendees
2 Banjoist Scruggs
3 Admired reverentially, with "of"
4 Elemental forms used in carbon dating
5 NBC weekend skit show
6 "Sup"
7 Travel section listing
8 "Not happenin'"
9 Key econ indicator
10 Subjects of the first 10 Amendments
11 Iolani Palace island
12 Kitty starter
13 Throw
18 Sch. near Topeka
19 TurboTax option
24 Outer edge
26 Mucho
27 Future MBAs' exams
28 High-tech worker
30 Golf bunker tool
31 Got up

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

C	A	B	O		S	A	P		H	I	C	K	E	Y
A	T	R	A		O	L	A		I	N	L	I	E	U
G	O	O	F	B	A	L	L		G	D	A	N	S	K
E	N	O		E	P	E	E		H	E	R			
D	I	C	T	A		G	O	O	S	E	E	G	G	S
		C	H	A	R	G	E		R	I	D		O	U	T
			D	U	O		V	E	E		S	W	A	Y
G	A	L	A	P	E	R	F	O	R	M	A	N	C	E
O	P	U	S		S	O	W		R	I	T			
N	I	T		A	S	A		S	A	L	I	V	A	
G	A	Z	A	S	T	R	I	P		A	N	I	T	A
			S	H	E		M	E	A	D		S	T	S
S	E	N	T	R	A		B	A	B	Y	T	A	L	K
T	H	R	E	A	D		U	K	E		O	G	E	E
U	S	A	R	M	Y		E	S	T		W	E	E	D

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/18/17



By C.C. Burnikel
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New prescription: Doctor offices that look like Apple stores

By Michael Liedtke
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — After a relative suffered a heart attack a few years ago, Silicon Valley entrepreneur Adrian Aoun got an unsettling look at a health-care system that he diagnosed as an inefficient and outdated mess.

Now he believes he has a remedy. It's called Forward, a health-management service that charges a $149 per month — roughly $1,800 a year — to tend to all of its patients' primary-care needs. And not just with attentive doctoring, either; Forward plans to deploy body scanners, sensors, giant touch-screen monitors, infrared devices and other high-tech gizmos that could make a doctor's appointment feel more like a trip to an Apple store.

"Doctors are super smart, but they are set up for failure in so many ways," Aoun says. "We haven't built the tools that they need to operate in modern life. No one wants to go to the doctor's office today. We want to change that."

Not quite all-you-can-eat

Forward will still refer patients to outside specialists when its primary-care doctors can't deal with certain health problems; same goes for hospital admissions. And there are bound to be health insurance headaches that Forward isn't attempting to address.

That means Forward is unlikely to become a cure-all, especially because its membership fee isn't cheap, said Paul Ginsburg, a health-policy expert at the University of Southern California.

"Primary care is a very small part of the cost for what health insurance covers," Ginsburg said. "So, even after paying nearly $2,000 a year, you are still going to have to buy health insurance to cover everything else."

But Aoun is convinced his high-tech approach can start to make things better.

High tech primary medicine

Forward's patients can view all their medical information on a mobile app they can use to message a "care team" available around the clock. All blood and DNA tests are done at Forward's offices instead of being farmed out; the company says patients will be able to review the results in a matter of minutes instead of days later.

People with longer term issues such as obesity, high blood pressure or skin problems will go home with sensors that can transmit data back to Forward. Its computers will then alert doctors if any troubling trends surface, allowing them to be addressed before they become more serious.

Forward's attempt at a medical makeover began with the opening of its first office in San Francisco. The converted clothing store spans 3,500 square feet, enough to accommodate six exam rooms and a team of doctors. The office accommodates 12,000 patients in total before people are turned away.

More Forward offices are planned in other major U.S. cities, although Aoun won't say where they will be located or when they'll open.

Testing concerns

While Forward's concept of technology-driven preventative care may make sense, experts like Ginsburg worry that its emphasis on health-monitoring sensors could prompt doctors to run unnecessary tests that do little to improve patient health.

"The notion of scanning people who don't have a problem has been very solidly dismissed by the medical profession for a while," Ginsburg said.

Studies have shown that the best way to remain healthy is to eat right, exercise and get plenty of sleep, added R. Adams Dudley, director of the Center for Healthcare Value at the University of California, San Francisco. "Sensoring people all up isn't going to change any of that," Dudley said.

But Dudley believes Forward has the potential to be very profitable if its focus on technology appeals primarily to younger people who typically have few health issues.

Justin Shaffer, 34, fits that demographic. He thinks Forward has been worth its monthly fee since he joined the service last year during its testing phase.

"I wouldn't necessarily say it feels like a tech-heavy experience. I would say it just feels like a better experience," Shaffer said after picking up a scale at Forward's office to help monitor his weight.

The AI will see you now

Forward hopes to provide more hands-on attention from primary-care doctors freed from paperwork and other bureaucratic frustrations, while backing them up with sophisticated algorithms that analyze the digital data stockpiled about its patients.

It's an example of artificial intelligence, the ability of computers to learn from the data that they collect. Artificial intelligence, or AI, is an Aoun specialty. He sold an AI startup called Wavvi to Google for about $30 million in 2013 and then stayed on for a couple years to help work on some of the technology that now powers Google's voice-controlled assistant.

But Dudley doubts Forward's AI will be very effective unless it's able to build a large network of offices that attracts millions of patients.

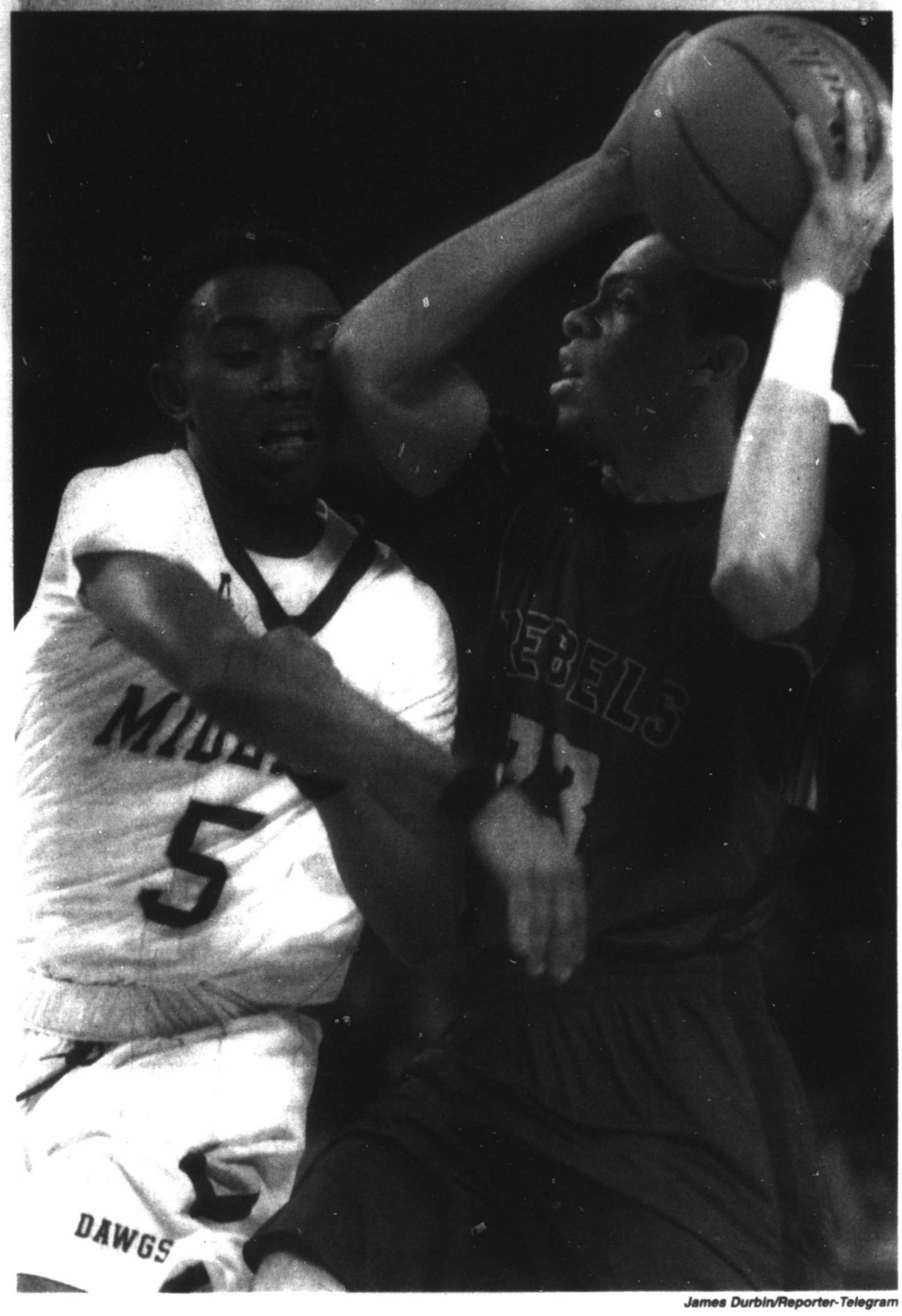
"A human brain can learn faster than a machine unless the machine has a massive database to analyze," Dudley said.



PHOTOS, CLOCKWISE: Dr. Aaliya Yaqub points to a large monitor while giving a demonstration of a medical checkup Jan. 10 at a Forward medical office in San Francisco. After a relative suffered a heart attack a few years ago, Silicon Valley entrepreneur Adrian Aoun got an up-close look at a health care system that he diagnosed as an inefficient and outdated mess. Now, Aoun is ready to prescribe his remedy. It's called Forward, a health-management service that charges a $149 per month, roughly $1,800 a year, to tend to all of its patients' primary-care needs. Aoun gives a demonstration of the check-in process at a medical office. Aoun shows a retail sensor section of various wearables and phone attachments. Aoun shows the company's app page. *Jeff Chiu/Associated Press*



REBS SWEEP DAWGS



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Ty Kendrick (5) guards Lee's Juwon Packer (23) on Tuesday at Chaparral Center.

Lee ends district drought, defeats MHS

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

The Lee boys basketball team wanted to move on from a tough district opening home loss against Odessa High last Friday.

As it turned out, getting a crack at crosstown rival Midland High did the trick.

Playing with a gritty, physical edge, the Rebels brought an extra dose of intensity to the court and ran away with an uplifting 71-52 victory over MHS on Tuesday at Chaparral Center.

It was Lee's first district win since Feb. 13, 2015, a 55-43 road win at Odessa High.

Senior guard Sema'J Davis scored a game-high 20 points for Lee (8-15, 1-1 in District 2-6A) and filled the stat sheet with eight rebounds. Forward James Lydia added 16 points and nine boards in the win.

Courtney McMaryion paced a 3-point happy Bulldogs team with 15 points, while Camran Rock supplied 13. MHS (9-13, 0-2 in District 2-6A), which settled for perimeter offense most of the evening, hoisted 28 treys and made only six.

The win was also the first in the rivalry for Lee head coach Justin Boswell. He had to pause for a moment to search for words after the victory.

"I'm really at a loss for words, which is rare for me," Boswell said. "Man, I'm just so proud of these young men. It's not easy from where we've come from. Because Midland High is well coached, they're athletic, they've got shooters, they've got pride in the rivalry game. We didn't let down.

"I'm just so proud. Everybody contributed, whether it was rebounding, blocked shots, layups, free throws, defensive effort, diving on the floor, I think the light bulb has kind of clicked on a little bit."

Please see **LEE**/3C

Defense key in Lee's win over rival MHS



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Zion Niblett (30) guards Midland High's Sadie Govan (15) on Tuesday at Chaparral Center.

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

Lee head coach Alfred Acosta says his team hangs its hat on the defensive side of the ball.

The Lady Rebels had another signature defensive performance Tuesday night against crosstown rival Midland High.

Lee held the Lady Bulldogs to only four field goals made in the second half and prevailed 42-36 in District 2-6A action at Chaparral Center.

It was a total team performance as the Lady Rebels (14-6, 2-2) had no players score in double figures.

"That's just the definition of team," said Zion Niblett, who led Lee with nine points. "We all just want to get the best look (on offense) and we all just want to win. That's just the main goal."

Braydyn Hill added eight points, Karysa Edwards contributed seven, Paige Low had six and Madison Leavitt chipped in with five points for the Lady Rebels' starting lineup that spread the scoring around.

"That's why I enjoy these girls because none of them care about all the accolades," Acosta said. "They just want to play and they just want to win. They don't care how it gets done. They just want to win and they're going to compete."

Leading 29-26 heading into the fourth quarter, the Lady Rebels closed out the game on defense behind their full-court press defense.

On the offensive end, Lee converted three second-chance opportunities, as Low scored on a pair of putbacks, and Quinci Strambler added another crushing putback that extended her team's lead to 39-31 with 2:50 to play.

"I tell them all the time, 'There's not any team in the country that shoots 100 percent,'" Acosta said of the second-chance points. "'You've got to go get a rebound and put those in. Get the easy ones, as many as get can.' Those kids battled."

Midland High (9-15, 0-4) squandered a fine individual performance by freshman point guard Taysha

Please see **LADY REBS**/3C

Cowboys delay talk of Romo's future, likely know answer

By Schulyer Dixon
Associated Press

FRISCO — Those closest to Tony Romo on the Cowboys aren't ready to discuss the future of the Dallas quarterback, probably because they know the likely final answer.

After 156 games and franchise bests of 34,183 yards passing and 248 touchdowns, Romo's career in Dallas appears to be over after he lost the job he held for 10 years to rookie sensation Dak Prescott following a preseason back injury.



Romo

The question is, what's next?

"There's several cards to be played," owner and general manager Jerry Jones said on his radio show Tuesday. "Don't think for one minute if you see something written or something said about what and where Romo is going to be relative to our team that there's any credibility to it.

"There's only one that can make that decision, and there's been no decision made."

Whether it's a trade or release, Romo figures to have at least some say in where he goes because of his strong relationship with the Jones family and coach Jason

Please see **ROMO**/4C

Guess who's coming to town?

It's Dak Prescott. The Dallas Cowboys quarterback is coming to Midland for a function in April.

Page 2C

Cloud of steroids hovers above Hall of Fame voting

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The cloud of steroids hovers above Hall of Fame voting, much like it shrouded baseball in the 1990s and early 2000s.

Tim Raines, in his 10th and final year of eligibility, appears likely to gain election along with Jeff Bagwell when the Baseball Writers' Association of America voting is announced Wednesday night. Ivan Rodriguez, eligible for the first time, and Trevor Hoffman also could make it.

But along with focusing on the electees, many will study the vote totals of tainted stars Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens.

Bonds, a seven-time MVP who holds the season and career home run records, received 36.2 percent in his initial appearance, in 2013, and 44.3 percent last year. Clemens, a seven-time Cy Young Award winner, has risen from 37.6 percent in 2013 to 45.2 percent last year.

This year, Bonds is on 62.8 percent of the 219 ballots obtained by Ryan Thibodaux and posted on his Hall of Fame vote-tracker and Clemens on 61.9 percent. That is about half the total, so both project likely to fall short of the 75 percent needed.

Please see **HALL**/5C



AP file photo

Houston Astros' Jeff Bagwell warms up before facing Washington Nationals in the first inning of spring training baseball in Kissimmee, Fla., in 2008.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV

ECHL HOCKEY

ECHL All-Stars vs. Adirondack Thunder, 7 p.m., NHL

GOLF

Asian Tour: SMBC Singapore Open, 1st Round, 7 p.m., GOLF

EPGA: Abu Dhabi HSBC Golf Championship, 1st Round, 9:30 p.m., GOLF

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Florida at South Carolina, 5:30 p.m., SEC

Oklahoma at West Virginia, 6 p.m., ESPN2

Missouri at Alabama, 6 p.m., ESPNU

Indiana at Penn State, 6 p.m., BTN

Temple at Cincinnati, 6 p.m., CBSSN

Tulane at Tulsa, 6:30 p.m., ESPNews

TCU at Texas Tech, 6:30 p.m., FSSW

LSU at Auburn, 7:30 p.m., SEC

Kansas State at Oklahoma State, 8 p.m., ESPNU

Ohio State at Nebraska, 8 p.m., BTN

Illinois State at Bradley, 8 p.m., CBSSN

Georgia Tech at Virginia Tech, 8:30 p.m., FSSW

Air Force at Nevada, 9 p.m., ROOT+

Colorado at Washington, 10 p.m., ESPNU

Colorado State at Fresno State, 10 p.m., CBSSN

Men's Soccer

Africa Cup of Nations: Gabon vs. Burkina Faso, 9:55 a.m., beIN

Copa Italia, Rd of 16: Lazio vs. Genoa CFC, 10:30 a.m., GolfTV

Copa del Rey, Quarterfinal: AD Alcorcon vs. Alaves, 12:10 p.m., beIN, beIN2

FA Cup: Plymouth Argyle FC vs. Liverpool, 1:30 p.m., FS1, FXDEP

Copa del Rey, Quarterfinal: Real Madrid vs. Celta Vigo, 2:10 p.m., beIN, beIN2

Copa MX: Atlante vs. Venados FC, 6:50 p.m., ESPNDEP

Copa MX: America vs. Santos Laguna, 6:50 p.m., UDN

Copa MX: Queretaro Fc vs. Cruz Azul FC, 8:30 p.m., GALA

Copa MX: Leon vs. Morelia, 8:50 p.m., UDN

NBA

Milwaukee at Houston, 7 p.m., ESPN

Oklahoma City at Golden State, 9:30 p.m., ESPN

NBA D-LEAGUE

Grand Rapids vs. Raptors 905, 11:30 a.m., NBAtv

Greensboro vs. Erie, 2 p.m., NBAtv

NHL

Boston at Detroit, 7 p.m., NBCSN

San Jose at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m., NBCSN

TENNIS

Australian Open, 6 p.m., TENNIS

Australian Open, 8 p.m., ESPN2

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Iowa State at Baylor, 7 p.m., FSSW+, FCSC

TCU at Kansas State, 7 p.m., FCSP

ON RADIO

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

TCU at Texas Tech, 6:30 p.m., KPET 105.1 FM/690 AM (Lamesa)

COWBOY COMING TO TOWN

PRESCOTT COMING TO MIDLAND FOR GALA

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott is expected to be at the Great Futures Benefit, benefiting the local Boys & Girls Clubs of the Permian Basin, on April 6 at the Midland Country Club.

The black-tie event will be from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and sponsorship tables are available. More information can be found on basinkids.org or call Chris Stonedale at 432-889-9472.

Prescott led Cowboys to a 13-3 regular season record and an NFC East championship during his rookie season in Dallas.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with OF Josh Hamilton and RHP Dillon Gee on minor league contracts.

National League

CHICAGO CUBS — Claimed RHP Dylan Floro off waivers from Tampa Bay.

COLORADO ROCKIES — Agreed to terms with INF OF Alexi Amarista on a one-year contract.

SAN DIEGO PADRES — Agreed to terms with INF Wil Myers on a six-year contract.

American Association

KANSAS CITY T-BONES — Signed INF Eddie Newton.

LAREDO LEMURS — Signed INF Brian Burgamy.

WINNIPEG GOLDEYES — Signed OF Josh Romanski.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

MIAMI HEAT — Signed F Okaro White to a two-way contract.

NBA Development League

DELAWARE 87ERS — Traded F Brannen Greene to Salt Lake City for the returning player rights to G Corey Hawkins.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

BUFFALO BILLS — Named Rob Boras tight ends coach.

CAROLINA PANTHERS — Announced the resignation of wide receivers coach Ricky Proehl.

DALLAS COWBOYS — Signed TE Rico Gathers and WR Andy Jones to reserve/future contracts.

DENVER BRONCOS — Promoted defensive backs coach Joe Woods to defensive coordinator. Agreed to terms with defensive backs coach Marcus Robertson.

GREEN BAY PACKERS — Released CB Keith Baxter from the practice squad. Signed CB Bene Benwikere to the practice squad.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Signed DB Donte Deayon, OL Jon Halapio, RB JaJuan Hueisman, DB Michael Hunter, DE Stanley Mgbonga, DB Ryan Murphy, WR Kaven Norwood, WR Darius Powe, LB Keith Wenning, DE Jordan Willias, OL Michael Wilson and OL Adam Gettis to reserve/future contracts. Signed LB Curtis Grant, S Rahim Moore, TE Daryl Virgues and G Martin Wallace.

Canadian Football League

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Signed WR Kenny Stafford to a two-year contract.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

MINNESOTA WILD — Recalled G Adam Via from Quad City (ECHL); to Iowa (AHL).

NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Assigned F Kevin Fiala to Milwaukee (AHL). Placed D Peter Ahlenberg on injured reserve. Claimed D Brad Hunt off waivers from St. Louis.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Fired coach Jack Capuano. Named assistant general manager Doug Weight interim coach.

NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled G Mackenzie Skapski from Greenville (ECHL) to Hartford (AHL).

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Recalled D Jake Dotchin from Syracuse (AHL).

WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Reassigned F Chandler Stephenson to Hershey (AHL).

American Hockey League

ALBANY DEVILS — Returned F Brian Ward to Adirondack (ECHL).

HARTFORD WOLF PACK — Announced G Mackenzie Skapski was reassigned to the team from Greenville (ECHL).

SYRACUSE CRUNCH — Assigned G Nick Roper to Kalamazoo (ECHL).

ECHL

ALASKA ACES — Released F Vladimir Nikiforov.

ATLANTA GLADIATORS — Released F Mike Moran and D Ryan Michel.

FLORIDA EVERBLADES — Traded D Rory Rawlyk to Atlanta for cash.

IDAHO STEELHEADS — Released G Doug Melvin as emergency backup.

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

SEATTLE SOUNDERS — F Herculez Gomez announced his retirement.

North American Soccer League

JACKSONVILLE ARMADA — Signed D Bryan Burke, Ms Kristi George, coach Nicolas Maripuu and Fs Danny Barrow, Derek Gebhard, Charles Eloundou and Jemal Johnson.

COLLEGE

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF — Named former Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer, Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith and Robert Morris president Chris Howard to the selection committee replacing Wisconsin athletic director Barry Alvarez, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and former Michigan coach Lloyd Carr, whose terms expired. Extended the term for former Vanderbilt coach Bobby Johnson through February 2019.

IONA — Promoted director of athletics Rick Cole Jr. to vice president of athletics administration.

LIMESTONE — Promoted women's assistant soccer coach Sam Holmes to head coach.

MICHIGAN STATE — Announced women's basketball coach Suzy Merchant is taking an indefinite medical leave of absence. Promoted associate head coach Amaka Agugua to interim head coach.

PQIC (CONN.) — Announced its men's hockey team will join the Northeast-10 Conference as a scheduling partner beginning with the 2017-18 season.

UTAH — Named Kiel McDonald running backs coach.

NFL PLAYOFF GLANCE

Wild-card Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 7

Houston 27, Oakland 14

Seattle 26, Detroit 6

Sunday, Jan. 8

Pittsburgh 30, Miami 12

Green Bay 38, N.Y. Giants 13

Divisional Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 14

Atlanta 36, Seattle 20

New England 34, Houston 16

Sunday, Jan. 15

Green Bay 34, Dallas 31

Pittsburgh 18, Kansas City 16

Conference Championships

Sunday, Jan. 22

NFC

Green Bay at Atlanta, 2:05 p.m.

AFC

Pittsburgh at New England, 5:40 p.m.

Pro Bowl

Sunday, Jan. 29

At Orlando, Fla.

AFC vs. NFC, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Super Bowl

Sunday, Feb. 5

At Houston

TBD, 5:30 p.m. (FOX)

SKI REPORT

New Mexico

Angel Fire — Tue 5:40 am 4 new packed powder machine groomed 22-30 base 64 of 78 trails 82% open. 6 of 7 lifts. Mon-Thu 9a-4p Fri 9a-8p Sat 9a-8p Sun 9a-4p

Enchanted Forest XC — Mon 5:47 am packed powder machine groomed 30-40 base 22 miles Mon-Fri 9a-4:30p Sat/Sun 9a-4:30p

Pajarito — Reopen 1/18 30-48 base 32 of 44 trails 73% open, 3 of 7 lifts. Wed-Fri 9a-4p Sat Sun 9a-4p Open Wed-Sun

Red River — Mon 7:23 am powder machine groomed 42-42 base 58 of 58 trails 100% open, 7 of 7 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 9a-4p

Sandia Peak — Reopen 1/20 21-21 base 39 of 39 trails 100% open, 4 of 5 lifts. Fri 9a-4p Sat Sun 9a-4p Mon Fri-Sun

Sipapu — Tue 5:32 am powder machine groomed 26-33 base 41 of 42 trails, 98% open 6 of 6 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 9a-4p

Ski Apache — Tue 5:57 am machine groomed 44-56 base 40 of 55 trails 73% open, 7 of 10 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 9a-4p

Ski Santa Fe — Tue 7:19 am 1 new packed powder 49-60 base 81 of 83 trails 98% open, 7 of 7 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 9a-4p

Taos — Tue 5:44 am 4 new powder machine groomed 75-75 base 106 of 110 trails 96% open, 225 acres, 14 of 15 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat Sun 9a-4p

Colorado

Arapahoe Basin — Tue 5:26 am 2 new powder machine groomed 70-70 base 97 of 109 trails, 89% open, 655 acres, 7 of 8 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 8:30a-4p

Aspen Highlands — Tue 5:28 am 3 new packed powder 56-76 base 122 of 152 trails, 100% open, 1050 acres, 5 of 5 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-3:30p Sat/Sun 9a-3:30p

Aspen Mountain — Tue 5:27 am packed powder 47-47 base 75 of 76 trails, 99% open, 675 acres, 6 of 8 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-3:30p Sat Sun 9a-3:30p

Beaver Creek — Tue 5:34 am packed powder machine groomed 46-46 base 146 of 150 trails 97% open, 1832 acres, 24 of 25 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 9a-4p

Breckenridge — Tue 5:39 am packed powder machine groomed 59-59 base 186 of 187 trails 99% open, 2961 acres, 34 of 35 lifts. Mon-Fri 8:30a-4p Sat/Sun 8:30a-4p

Buttermilk — Tue 3:36 am 1 new packed powder 32-35 base 36 of 44 trails 82% open, 415 acres, 5 of 8 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-3:30p Sat Sun 9a-3:30p

Copper — Tue 1:34 am packed powder machine groomed 40-46 base 36 of 39 trails, 97% open 26 miles, 400 acres, 3 of 4 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 9a-4p

Copper Mountain — Tue 5:36 am packed powder machine groomed 51-71 base 141 of 143 trails 100% open, 2217 acres, 29 of 29 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 8:30a-4p

Crested Butte — Tue 5:06 am powder machine groomed 81-81 base 100 of 121 trails 87% open, 1005 acres, 15 of 15 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 9a-4p

Echo Mountain — Operating, no details

Eldora — Tue 5:30 am packed powder machine groomed 40-42 base 57 of 57 trails, 100% open 680 acres, 11 of 11 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat Sun 9a-4p

Keystone — Tue 5:37 am 1 new packed powder machine groomed 54-54 base 124 of 127 trails 98% open, 3055 acres, 19 of 20 lifts. Mon-Fri 8:30a-4p Sat/Sun 8:30a-4p

Loveland — Tue 4:54 am 1 new packed powder 63-63 base 75 of 94 trails 80% open, 1305 acres, 9 of 10 lifts. Mon-Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun 8:30a-4p

Stars hold on for 7-6 win over Rangers

By Vin A. Cherwoo
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Patrick Sharp scored twice, Jamie Benn and Patrick Eaves had a goal and two assists each and the Dallas Stars held on for a wild 7-6 victory over the New York Rangers on Tuesday night.

Cody Eakin had a goal and an assist, Antoine Roussel and Adam Cracknell also scored and the Stars won for the third time in nine games (3-5-1). Radek Faksa and Lauri Korpikoski each had two assists.

Derek Stepan had two goals and an assist, Mika Zibanejad also scored twice and Pavel Buchnevich had a goal and two assists for the Rangers. Chris Kreider had a goal and an assist, Mats Zuccarello had three assists and Rick Nash had two helpers.

Antti Niemi made 22 saves on 28 shots for Dallas before being replaced in the third period by Kari Lehtonen, who finished with 12 saves.

The Rangers trailed 7-3 after two periods and were booed leaving the ice for the intermission. New York then scored three times in a 4:15 span early in the third to pull within one.

Kreider scored on a power play, tipping in a pass by Stepan, for his 16th at 3:11. Stepan then knocked in a rebound at 5:31 for his second of the game and 12th of the season. Zibanejad tipped a pass by Nash to pull the Rangers within one at 7:26 and chase Niemi.

However, they couldn't get anything past Lehtonen.

New York's Henrik Lundqvist gave up seven goals at Madison Square Garden for the first time in his career. He stopped 20 shots before being replaced to start the third by Magnus Hellberg, who was called up from Hartford of the AHL with Antti Raanta injured. Hellberg stopped four shots.

After falling behind 4-1 early in the second period, the Rangers scored twice in a 2:10 span to pull within one.

Zibanejad, back after missing 25 games with a broken fibula, tipped a shot to pull the Rangers within 4-2 at 9:56 of the second. Buchnevich then put a wrist shot past Niemi.

However, the Stars pulled away again, with Sharp getting his second of the game and fourth of the season on a wraparound 48 seconds later. Cracknell made it 6-3 with 4:07 left in the second, and Eakin knocked in a rebound for his first of the season less than two minutes later.

New York's Nick Holden had a score waved off for goalie interference with 7:44 left in the opening period after Kreider skated into Niemi.

The Stars tied it just 18 seconds later as Tyler Seguin's shot from the left side hit Benn in front and fell on the ice on the right side before Eaves knocked it for his 16th.

Dallas made it 2-1 only 12 seconds later, capitalizing on a turnover by Holden in the defensive zone. Sharp got a pass from Faksa and knocked it past Lundqvist from the right side. Benn beat Lundqvist with 2:06 left in the first to make it a two-goal lead.

Roussel then made it 4-1 at 4:32 of the second after a turnover by the Rangers' Brady Skjei behind the net.

Stepan got the Rangers on the scoreboard just 27 seconds into the game, chasing down a dump-in by Zuccarello behind the net and putting in a wraparound from the left side.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Atlantic Division							
Montreal	45	27	12	6	60	138	113
Boston	47	23	19	5	51	117	117
Ottawa	42	23	15	4	50	111	111
Toronto	42	21	13	8	50	132	123
Florida	45	20	17	8	48	108	122
Tampa Bay	45	21	20	4	46	125	133
Detroit	44	19	19	6	44	112	127
Buffalo	44	17	18	9	43	104	124
Metropolitan Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Columbus	43	30	9	4	64	145	96
Washington	44	29	9	6	64	138	94
Pittsburgh	43	27	11	5	59	153	131
N.Y. Rangers	45	28	16	1	57	158	123
Philadelphia	46	22	18	6	50	132	148
Carolina	44	21	16	7	49	122	121
New Jersey	46	19	18	9	47	105	132
N.Y. Islanders	42	17	17	8	42	120	128
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	43	28	10	5	61	141	96
Chicago	46	27	14	5	59	126	116
St. Louis	45	23	17	5	51	126	135
Nashville	43	20	16	7	47	119	114
Dallas	46	19	19	8	46	126	144
Winnipeg	47	20	23	4	44	129	145
Colorado	41	13	27	1	27	92	137
Pacific Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	46	24	13	9	57	123	116
Edmonton	46	24	15	7	55	131	122
San Jose	44	26	16	2	54	117	102
Calgary	45	23	20	3	49	119	125
Los Angeles	44	22	19	4	48	111	112
Vancouver	45	20	19	6	46	111	130
Arizona	43	13	24	6	32	91	137

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Scores and schedules

Tuesday's Scores

Columbus 4, Carolina 1
Dallas 7, N.Y. Rangers 6
Toronto 4, Buffalo 3
Ottawa 6, St. Louis 4
New Jersey 4, Minnesota 3
Florida at Calgary, late
Chicago at Colorado, late
Nashville at Vancouver, late
Tampa Bay at Anaheim, late

Today's Games

Pittsburgh at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.
Arizona at Winnipeg, 6:30 p.m.
Boston at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Florida at Edmonton, 8:30 p.m.
San Jose at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Ottawa at Columbus, 6 p.m.
Dallas at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
Washington at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Arizona at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Calgary, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Anaheim, 9 p.m.
Tampa Bay at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

TEXASNBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

MAVERICKS 99 BULLS 98

CHICAGO — Wesley Matthews made a go-ahead 3-pointer from the wing with 12 seconds left, and the Dallas Mavericks beat the Chicago Bulls 99-98 on Tuesday night for their first three-game winning streak of the season.

Six players scored in double figures for the Mavericks, including all five starters. Harrison Barnes had 20 points, Seth Curry added 18 and Dirk Nowitzki finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Dallas trailed 98-96 after Jimmy Butler made a long jumper over Matthews with 23 seconds left, but Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle decided against a timeout and Deron Williams drove into the lane before kicking out to Matthews for the 3.

Chicago had one last chance, but Dwyane Wade missed a potential game-winning jumper from the corner on his 35th birthday as time expired.

Butler finished with 24 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds for the Bulls, who had won two in a row. Robin Lopez scored 21, and Wade had 17 on 8-for-21 shooting.

Wade's fadeaway jumper gave the Bulls a 94-90 lead with about 3 1/2 minutes left, but they were unable to close out Dallas. Chicago has dropped four in a row against the Mavericks, including a 107-82 loss in their first meeting of the season.

SPURS 122 TIMBERWOLVES 114

SAN ANTONIO — Kawhi Leonard had 34 points and the San Antonio Spurs overcame a strong start by the Minnesota Timberwolves for a 122-114 victory Tuesday night.

Leonard's fourth straight 30-point game helped him become the first San Antonio player to score 950 points in the first half of a season since Tim Duncan in 2003.

Coming off a career-high 38 on Saturday against Phoenix in Mexico City, Leonard was 12 for 17 from the field.

LaMarcus Aldridge added 29 points on 12-for-20 shooting, spoiling Minnesota coach Tom Thibodeau's 59th birthday.

San Antonio had difficulty with Minnesota's explosive starting lineup. Karl-Anthony Towns had 27 points and 16 rebounds, and Ricky Rubio added 21 points and 14 assists. Zach LaVine scored 18, Gorgui Dieng had 17 and Andrew Wiggins 10.

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Toronto	28	13	.683	—
Boston	26	15	.634	2
New York	18	24	.429	10½
Philadelphia	13	26	.333	14
Brooklyn	8	33	.195	20
Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	24	17	.585	—
Washington	21	19	.525	2½
Charlotte	20	21	.488	4
Orlando	17	26	.395	8
Miami	12	30	.286	12½
Central Division				
Cleveland	29	11	.725	—
Indiana	21	19	.525	8
Milwaukee	20	20	.500	9
Chicago	21	22	.488	9½
Detroit	19	24	.442	11½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	32	9	.780	—
Houston	32	12	.727	1½
Memphis	25	18	.581	8
New Orleans	16	26	.381	16½
Dallas	14	27	.341	18
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	27	16	.628	—
Oklahoma City	25	18	.581	2
Portland	16	25	.419	9
Denver	16	23	.410	9
Minnesota	14	28	.333	12½
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	35	6	.854	—
L.A. Clippers	29	14	.674	7
Sacramento	16	24	.400	18½
L.A. Lakers	15	30	.333	22
Phoenix	13	28	.317	22

Scores and schedules

Tuesday's Scores

Miami 109, Houston 103
Toronto 119, Brooklyn 109
Dallas 99, Chicago 98
San Antonio 122, Minnesota 114
Denver at L.A. Lakers, late

Today's Games

Memphis at Washington, 6 p.m.
Portland at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
New York at Boston, 6:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Houston, 7 p.m.
Orlando at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Phoenix at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
Dallas at Miami, 6:30 p.m.
Washington at New York, 7 p.m.
Denver at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

Lady Bulldogs soccer team improves to 6-0

From staff reports

LUBBOCK — The Midland High girls soccer team stayed undefeated on the season with a 2-1 win over Lubbock High on Tuesday.

The Lady Bulldogs (6-0) got goals from Claudia Fricker and Lexi Tindle.

No other information was available at press time.

MHS will play its first home match of the season when it hosts El Paso Del Valle at 4 p.m. Friday at Grande Communications Stadium.

COM SWIM MEET RESULTS

Syntal Capital Partners Invitational
At COM Aquatics
Friday-Sunday
COM winners only listed

Girls

Age 10 and under

50 freestyle — 1. Lucie Heimmermann 38.96; 50 backstroke — 1. Charlotte Erickson 54.78; 100 freestyle — 1. Emily Aragon 1:11.41; 100 butterfly — 1. Claire Xu 2:23.34; 100 IM — 1. Emilia Davenport 1:49.66; 200 freestyle — 1. Davenport 3:31.14; 200 IM — 1. Xu 4:07.71; 200 freestyle relay — 1. COM (Ryann Walton, Lillian Rowell, Julianna Solelo, Gracie Anne Miller) 2:21.82; 200 IM — 1. Miller 3:01.90.

Age 11-12

100 freestyle — 1. Mesu Holmes 58.90; 100 backstroke — 1. Holmes 1:06.75; 100 breaststroke — 1. Kamryn Keller 35.79; 100 butterfly — 1. Kiki Sandberg 2:35.96; 100 IM — 1. Holmes 1:06.25; 200 backstroke — 1. Isabel Nichols 1:49.41; 200 freestyle relay — 1. COM (Ashlee Moore, Keller, Jocelyn Reynolds, Holmes) 1:55.36; 200 IM — 1. Holmes 2:23.24.

Ages 13 and over

50 backstroke — 1. Alyssa Campbell 44.89

Ages 13-14

50 freestyle — 1. Wilana Gamero 34.54; 200 breaststroke — 1. PJ Day 2:31.56; 200 IM — 1. Day 2:19.67; 200 IM — 1. Aly Diaz 3:15.96; 200 butterfly — 1. Day 2:30.01; 400 medley relay — 1. COM (Addy Foreman, Day, Elizabeth Parker, Sara Garcia) 4:30.50; 400 IM — 1. Day 5:05.97; 1,650-yard freestyle — 1. Aries Salazar 21:06.77.

Age 15 and over

50 freestyle — 1. Elizabeth Elkins 30.12; 50 shootout — 1. Kile Carriger 24.38; 100 freestyle — 1. Maya Anderson 56.57; 100 backstroke — 1. Dailey Parker 1:03.15; 100 breaststroke — 1. Carriger 1:08.86; 100 butterfly — 1. Carriger 59.67; 200 freestyle — 1. Carriger 1:58.32; 200 backstroke — 1. Carriger 2:09.15; 200 breaststroke — 1. Carriger 2:25.48; 200 IM — 1. Mollie Wright 2:17.69; 200 butterfly — 1. Wright 2:09.57; 400 freestyle relay — 1. COM (Wright, Dailey Parker, Anderson, Carriger) 3:56.43; 400 IM — 1. Carriger 4:32.73; 400 medley relay — 1. COM (Parker, Carriger, Wright, Anderson) 4:24.53; 1,650-yard freestyle — 1. Anderson 18:52.93.

Boys

Ages 6 and under

25 backstroke — 1. Sebastian Arnold 26.35

Ages 8 and under

25 butterfly — Braden Hampton 37.97

Ages 10 and under

100 IM — 1. Topher Sandberg 1:58.10; 100 breaststroke — 1. Sandberg 2:14.74; 100 butterfly — 1. Tommy Sites 2:50.85; 200 freestyle — 1. Aaron Stubbs 4:18.36.

Ages 11-12

50 freestyle — 1. Lexx Ramos 36.90

Age 13-14

50 freestyle — 1. Brady Cawthon 33.06; 100 backstroke — 1. Cawthon 57.54; 100 breaststroke — 1. Cawthon 1:05.45; 100 butterfly — 1. Michael Mangan 58.89; 200 backstroke — 1. Cawthon 2:04.08; 200 breaststroke — 1. Cawthon 2:23.70; 400 freestyle relay — 1. COM (Mangan, Connor Carriger, Ali Hassin, Cawthon) 3:41.06; 400 IM — 1. Cawthon 4:25.46; 500 freestyle — 1. Cawthon 5:03.36; 1,650 freestyle — 1. Carriger 19:58.89.

Age 13 and over

50 breaststroke — 1. Steven Cooley 53.78; 50 butterfly — 1. Brent Martin 33.55.

Ages 15 and over

50 freestyle — 1. Brent Martin 28.46; 50 shootout — 1. Braden Vines 21.59; 100 backstroke — 1. Vines 54.37; 100 breaststroke — 1. Vines 59.45; 200 freestyle — 1. Brent Martin 2:08.81; 200 backstroke — 1. Vines 1:58.68; 200 breaststroke — 1. Vines 2:18.32; 200 IM — 1. Vines 1:56.64; 400 medley relay — 1. COM (Vines, Marcos Dominguez, Nathan Keller, Dwight Hinton) 3:49.62; 200 butterfly — 1. Keller 2:10.22; 400 freestyle relay — 1. COM (Keller, Hinton, Dominguez, Vines) 3:25.49; 400 IM — 1. Keller 4:29.70; 1,650-yard freestyle — 1. Vines 16:27.82; 500 freestyle — 1. Collin Ruff 5:11.49.

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HIGHSCHOOLBASKETBALLROUNDUP

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Girls

NO. 2 MCA 52
NO. 4 MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 33

Lela Beattie scored a game-high 30 points to lead No. 2 Midland Classical Academy to a non-district win over No. 4 Midland Christian at the MCA gym on Tuesday.

MCA (18-6) had a 24-12 halftime lead before MCS (22-4) cut it to 31-25 after three quarters. However, the Lady Knight put the game away with a 21-8 run in the fourth quarter.

Delanie Griffin added 12 points for MCA.

Blaire Neatherlin had 19 to lead the Lady Mustangs.

NO. 2 MCA 52, NO. 4 MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 33

Midland Christian (22-4) — Shea Fender 3, MacKenzie Mondragon 2, Kayla Ackerman 6, Daniella Anastasio 3, Blaire Neatherlin 19.

MCA (18-6) — Lela Beattie 30, Delanie Griffin 12, Ellen Hasel 5, Jenny Coco 1, Andie Sheppard 2, Makenna Beattie 2.

MCS	7	8	13	8—33
MCA	10	14	7	21—52

Free throws — MCS 9-14, MCA 11-18, 3-point goals — MCS 2 (Fender, Anastasio), MCA 5 (L. Beattie 4, Griffin). Total fouls — MCS 18, MCA 11. Fouled out — Galindo.

Next game: Midland Christian at Fort Worth Southwest, 6 p.m.; MCA at Abilene Christian, 6 p.m., Jan. 24

NO. 3 LUBBOCK TRINITY 75
TRINITY 31

LUBBOCK — No. 3-ranked Lubbock Trinity had little trouble in its TAPPS 1-4A opener over Trinity on Tuesday.

Ashton Duncan, daughter of former Midland College player Todd Duncan, had 22 points, as did Cara Cowan for Lubbock Trinity (15-1, 1-0).

Trinity (7-12, 0-1) was led by Reagan Long with 19 and Rebecca Young with 10.

NO. 3 LUBBOCK TRINITY 75, TRINITY 31

Trinity (7-12, 0-1) — Julia Sharum 2, Reagan Long 19, Rebecca Young 10.

Lubbock Trinity (15-17, 1-0) — Ashton Duncan 22, Ashlyn Caddel 7, Claire Beck 3, Cara Cowan 22, Abigail Boening 6, Lauren Catherman 13, Brooke Reinhart 2.

Trinity	5	8	16	2—31
Lubbock	23	21	14	17—75

Free throws — Trinity 2-4, LT 3-7. 3-point goals — Trinity 5 (Long 4, Young), LT 10 (Duncan 2, Caddel, Cowan 6, Catherman). Total fouls — Trinity 7, LT 10. Fouled out — None.

Next: Amarillo San Jacinto at Trinity, 6 p.m. Friday

GREENWOOD 59
LUBBOCK TITANS 56, OT

LUBBOCK — Caity Payne and Natalee Karcher each contributed four points in overtime to lead Greenwood past Lubbock Titans in non-district action.

Payne led the Rangerettes (17-12) with 19 points, followed by 11 points from Cylie Mebane. Lubbock Titans' Desiree Caldwell led all scorers with 25 points.

GREENWOOD 59, LUBBOCK TITANS 56, OT

Greenwood (17-12) — Caity Payne 19, Natalee Karcher 9, Kaitlan Keel 2, Sydnee Jordan 8, Cassi Mebane 8, Cylie Mebane 11, Bradi Good 2.

Lubbock Titans — Desiree Caldwell 25, Perri Mora 14, Emma Middleton 12, Toran Boyles 5.

Greenwood	14	8	13	15	5—59
Lubbock Titans	12	19	9	10	6—56

Free throws — Greenwood 11-15, Lubbock Titans 10-14. 3-point goals — Greenwood 2 (Payne 2), Lubbock Titans 8 (Caldwell 5, Mora 3). Total fouls — Greenwood 16, Lubbock Titans 14. Fouled out — Cassi Mebane, Middleton

Next: Andrews at Greenwood, 6:30 p.m. Friday

PERMIAN 32
ODESSA HIGH 31

ODESSA — Trailing 24-19 through three quarters, Odessa Permian rallied to defeat rival Odessa High to improve to 3-1 in District 2-6A.

Jessica Nguyen led the Lady Panthers (12-10, 3-1) with 16 points and teammate Ta'Quasha Lynch contributed with 11.

Skylar Herrera scored a team-high 13 points for the Lady Bronchos (17-8, 0-4).

ODESSA PERMIAN 32, ODESSA HIGH 31

Odessa Permian (12-10, 3-1) — Ke'Breana Bledsoe 3, Ta'Quasha Lynch 11, Klarissa Cruz 2, Jessica Nguyen 16.

Odessa High (17-8, 0-4) — Ruthie Fox 6, Skyler Herrera 13, Kai'Naja Walton 6, Alexis Luna 4, Abigail Rodriguez 2.

Permian	3	13	3	13—32
Odessa	7	9	8	7—31

Free throws — Permian 9-19, Odessa High 6-8. 3-Point goals — Permian 6 (Nguyen 4, Lynch 2), Odessa High 1 (Fox). Total fouls — Permian 10, Odessa High 21. Fouled out —Herrera.

Next: Midland High at Odessa High, 6 p.m. Friday; Odessa Permian at Amarillo Tascosa, 6 p.m. Friday

KERMIT 52
CRANE 28

CRANE — Despite a game-high 13 points from Chaley Moreno, Crane stayed winless in District 3-3A as it fell behind 32-10 at halftime to visiting Kermit.

KERMIT 52, CRANE 28

Kermit (9-13, 1-2) — Davila 7, Montoya 5, Polanco 4, Briones 4, Figueroa 11, Escobar 11, Wilson 3, Sparks 8.

Crane (2-19, 0-3) — Chaley Moreno 13, Geneva DeLeon 2, Velarie Velasco 4, Anais Ornelas 2, Andreya Rogers 7.

Kermit	17	15	7	13—52
Crane	4	6	8	10—28

Free throws — Kermit 14-25, Crane 3-8. 3-point goals — Kermit 1 (Wilson), Crane 1 (Moreno). Total fouls — Kermit 14, Crane 20. Fouled out — None

Boys

NO. 6 MCS 65
MCA 39

Leading 34-20 at halftime, No. 6 ranked Midland Christian went on an 18-5 run in the third quarter to cruise to a rout over crosstown rival Midland Classical in non-district play at the MCA gymnasium.

The Mustangs (23-6) had four players score in double figures led by 18 from Peyton Powell, 14 from Bryce Waters, 12 from Jordan Riley and 11 by Colton Snively.

Cole Miller scored a team-high 16 points for the Knights.

MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 65, MIDLAND CLASSICAL 39

Midland Christian (23-6) — Coy Stewart 2, Bryce Waters 14, Peyton Powell 18, Jordan Riley 12, Colton Snively 11, Gunnar Griffin 4, Tommy Beebe 4.

Midland Classical — Joseh McDougal 3, Jared Adkins 10, Cole Miller 16, Sam Reddell 3, Jaxon Bayley 2, Cade Miller 3, Kevin Giffin 2.

MCS	16	18	18	13—65
MCA	11	9	5	14—39

Free throws — Midland Christian 6-10, Midland Classical 4-7. 3-point goals — MCS 3 (Waters 2, Riley), MCA 5 (Adkins 2, McDougal, Cole Miller, Reddell). Total fouls — MCS 11, MCA 13. Fouled out — MCA: Conrey Echols.

Next: Midland Christian at Fort Worth Southwest Christian, 7:30 p.m. Friday; Amarillo Ascension at MCA, 6:30 p.m. Jan. 27

ANDREWS 63
FORT STOCKTON 57

ANDREWS — Brett Leach scored 15 points to lead Andrews to its first District 4-4A win over Fort Stockton Tuesday.

After holding the Panthers to six points in the third quarter, the Mustangs held on to win by six despite allowing Fort Stockton to erupt for 29 fourth-quarter points.

ANDREWS 63, FORT STOCKTON 57

Fort Stockton (1-1 in District 4-4A) — Nick Johnson 14, Joseph Diaz 1, Luis Guerra 2, Jovan Wisler 3, Andric Herrera 14, AJ Franco 7, JT Marcom 4, Casey Nolen 12.

Andrews (12-14, 1-1) — Brett Leach 15, Payton Lopez 7, Johnnie Phillips 3, Aaron Doyle 6, Matthew O'Connor 6, Jace Keesee 4, Noah Lujan 6, Robbie Velasquez 7, Jonothan Bailey 9.

Fort Stockton	10	12	6	29—57
Andrews	13	14	16	20—63

Free throws — Fort Stockton 14-20, Andrews 21-28. 3-point goals — Fort Stockton 1 (Johnson) Andrews 2 (Leach, Lopez). Total fouls — Fort Stockton 25, Andrews 20. Fouled out — Guerra.

Next: Andrews at Greenwood, 7:30 p.m. Friday

JIM NED 59
STANTON 56

STANTON — For the second game in a row, Stanton lost a game on a long-distance 3-point shot as the Buffaloes fell to Jim Ned on Tuesday in District 5-3A action.

Jim Ned (15-9, 2-0) took a 37-27 lead at the half before Stanton (13-8, 0-2) battled back to tie it at 56 late in the game.

Tristan Graves had 17 points to lead Stanton, Blake Snellgrove had 12 and Colby Gordon added 11.

JIM NED 59, STANTON 56

Jim Ned (15-9, 2-0) — Atkins 10, A. Harrell 3, Renner 12, Hanna 10, Rives 5, Bryant 10, Berk 4

Stanton (13-8, 0-2) — Tristan Graves 17, Reed Thomas 2, Austin Luna 2, Colby Gordon 11, Blake Snellgrove 12, Austin Fryar 5, Sebastian Escamilla 7

Jim Ned	21	16	9	13—59
Stanton	14	13	10	19—56

Free throws — Jim Ned 7-11, Stanton 5-9. 3-point goals — Jim Ned 6 (A. Harrell, B. Hamel, Renner, Hanna 2, Bryant), Stanton 9 (Graves 3, Gordon 3, Snellgrove 2, Fryar) Total fouls —Jim Ned 14, Stanton 13. Fouled out — None.

Next: Stanton at Coahoma, 8 p.m. Friday

LAMESA 65
SEMINOLE 60

SEMINOLE — Tyquail Maxwell scored a game-high 21 points to lead Lamesa to a District 2-4A win over Seminole.

Jaileel Edwards added 19 and Dre Smiley had 12 for Lamesa (20-3, 1-1).

Cade Barnard had 16, Reese Moore added 15 and Carter Laramore chipped in with 12 for Seminole (13-10, 1-1)

LAMESA 65, SEMINOLE 60

Lamesa (20-3, 1-1) — Dre Smiley 12, Buddy Williams 3, Jaileel Edwards 19, Tyquail Maxwell 21, KeiShawn Hunter 5, Josh Enriquez 2, Nathan Cunningham 2.

Seminole (13-10, 1-1) — Cade Barnard 16, Caleb Decker 5, Carter Laramore 12, Carter Johnson 8, Clayton Medlin 4, Reese Moore 15.

Lamesa	9	17	16	23—65
Seminole	19	9	17	15—60

Free throws — Lamesa 15-29, Seminole 16-28. 3-point goals — Lamesa 2 (Smiley, Edwards), Seminole 2 (Decker, Johnson) Total fouls — Lamesa 24, Seminole 19. Fouled out — Jaramore, Moore

Next: Lubbock Estacado at Lamesa, 8 p.m. Friday

CRANE 75
KERMIT 59

CRANE — Anthony Marinelarena had a game-high 26 points to help Crane stay unbeaten with a District 3-3A win over Kermit.

CRANE 75, KERMIT 59

Kermit (0-2 in District 3-3A) — Johnson 6, Jaquez 8, Miranda 5, Hernandez 9, Munoz 5, Gonzalez 2, Aubrey 11, Garcia 3, Dingle 10.

Crane (17-0, 2-0) Chris Robertson 1, Brandon Cerna 6, Tye Heard 2, Jonathan Velasco 13, Ivan Esparza 8, Carlos Carrasco 3, Anthony Marinelarena 26, Carlos Montes 16.

Kermit	12	16	10	21—59
Crane	22	22	19	12—75

Free throws — Kermit 11-22, Crane 15-26. 3-point goals — Kermit 2 (Garcia, Jaquez), Crane 6 (Cerna 2, Velasco 2, Carrasco, Montes) Total fouls — Kermit 22, Crane 18. Fouled out — None

Tech legend Swoopes named finalist for 2017 Women's HOF

From staff reports

Texas Tech women's basketball legend Sheryl Swoopes has been named a finalist for induction into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame for the Class of 2017, the hall announced Monday afternoon.

Swoopes joins a group of 12 finalists for the Class of 2017 including, Yelena Baranova, Rose Marie Battaglia, Sally Bell (official), Evelyn Blalock, Joan Bonvicini, Nora Lynn Finch, Christine Grant, Rick Insell, Louise O'Neal, Crystal Robinson, and Kara Wolters.

The six-member Class of 2017 will be selected from the 12 finalists and announced on ESPN on Feb. 12. Following the announcement in February, the class will be inducted on June 10.

Swoopes was a two-year letterwinner for the Lady Raiders and led the program to its first NCAA Championship in 1993. She was named the WBCA Wade Trophy winner and the Naismith Player of the Year in 1993.

Following her career at Tech, Swoopes won three Olympic gold medals and led the Houston Comets to four WNBA Championships.

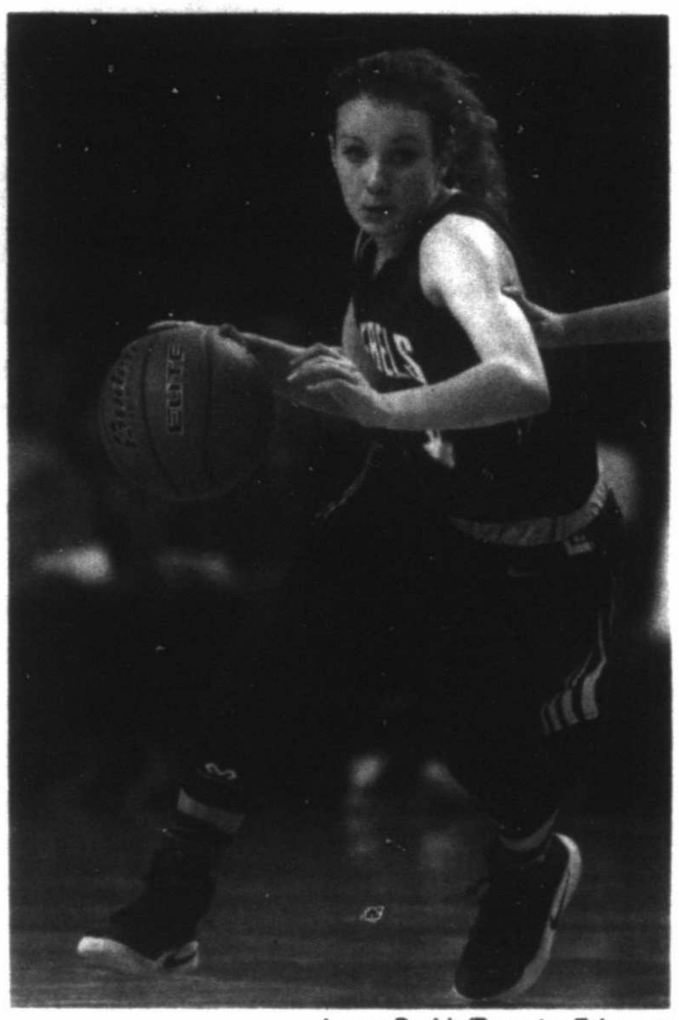
Swoopes was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame as a member of the Class of 2016.

Her son, Jordan Jackson, is a sophomore guard on the Midland College men's basketball team.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Joseph Barron (34) shakes hands with Lee's Isaiah Nunez (33) after the game Tuesday at Chaparral Center.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Karysa Edwards (4) moves the ball against Midland High on Tuesday at Chaparral Center

LEE

From 1C

MHS head coach Shan Hooker said the Rebels were the more engaged bunch, as their hustle created basket after basket. Lee was rewarded with 32 free throw attempts in the game and converted 24 of them, compared to MHS' 6-for-13 clip.

"That's it exactly," Hooker said. "They brought the fight to us and we didn't match their intensity. All the 50-50 balls went to Lee and when you don't defend, you turn the ball over, you miss layups and miss free throws, that's not the formula for success."

A choppy, turnover-laden first half resulted in a 28-22 Rebel lead at the break. But it was the first five minutes of the third quarter that decided the game.

Bursting with fresh energy, Lee raced to a 38-22 lead on a quick 10-0 run and then later extended its lead to 22 points with under two minutes to play.

District 2-6A boys basketball standings

Team	District W	District L	Overall W	Overall L
Odessa Permian	2	0	15	9
Amarillo Tascosa	1	1	13	5
Wolfforth Frenship	1	1	14	8
Odessa High	1	1	10	14
Lee	1	1	9	15
Midland High	0	2	9	13

Tuesday's Scores

Lee 71, Midland High 52; Odessa Permian 57, Odessa High 39; Wolfforth Frenship 66, Amarillo Tascosa 60, OT.

Friday's games

Midland High at Odessa High; Wolfforth Frenship at Lee; Odessa Permian at Amarillo Tascosa. All games at 7:30 p.m.

The Bulldogs couldn't buy a basket and the Rebels continued to finish courtesy of a transition bucked, a second chance opportunity or a pair of free throws.

Davis, who also recorded a handful of steals in the first half, said his team was locked in and hungry for the win, especially in the third quarter.

"You could see in the second half (especially) that all the guys started buying in," Davis said. "We just played out in that second half. It feels good to finally get over that hill. Those are some good athletes, some good guys and they're always good. But it feels good to finally beat them."

For the Bulldogs, who next travel to OHS at 7:30 p.m. Friday, the only way to go is forward.

"We just have to regroup quickly," Hooker said. "(Being) 0-2 in district, we still have eight more ball games to go. So I just told them in the locker room to be ready to go back to work, go back to the drawing board and come back."

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

LEE 71, MIDLAND HIGH 52

Lee (8-15, 1-1 in District 2-6A) — Taye Britt 13, Semaj Davis 20, Cevonte Eaden 9, Patrick Okorn 4, James Lydia 16, Juwon Packer 2, Mykal Pernille 2, Isaiah Nunez 5.

MHS (9-13, 0-2 in District 2-6A) — Geo Mitchell 2, Courtney McMeryon 15, Darius Patterson 6, Ricky Hubert 2, Ty Kendrick 4, Carmar Rock 13, Rudy Garcia 4, Nic Terrazas 5, Dillon Springer 1.

Lee	13	15	18	25—71
MHS	9	13	7	23—52

Free throws — Lee 24-32, MHS 6-13. 3-point goals — Lee 3 (Davis 2, Britt), MHS 6 (McMeryon 3, Rock 3). Total fouls — Lee 17, MHS 24. Fouled out — Kendrick, Sapien.

Next: Wolfforth Frenship at Lee, 7:30 p.m. Friday; MHS at Odessa High, 7:30 p.m.

LADY REBS

From 1C

Rushton, who scored a game-high 18 points and accounted for all four of her team's second-half field goals.

Rushton dazzled with her ability to drive to the basket and create open shots in the perimeter off her splendid dribbling.

Rushton also knocked down a pair of 3s in the fourth quarter to keep the Lady Bulldogs within striking distance in the fourth.

But overall, MHS didn't do enough after intermission, when it trailed Lee, 21-20. Midland High head coach Wes Torres believed his team was impatient on offense and wasn't as effective on offensive rebounding following halftime.

"We're just going to keep working and we have to learn how to put together four quarters and have players step up when we need them to step up," Torres said. "That's something we don't have right now."

Edwards spearheaded Lee's defense by recording a game-high three steals.

With the Lady Rebels leading 39-34, Niblett had a critical steal that essentially sealed the outcome with 1:10 remaining.

"They play as a unit," Torres said of Lee's defense. "They play together. Once you take a shot, they work hard to not let you have a rebound and limit you to one possession."

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

District 2-6A girls basketball standings

Team	District W	District L	Overall W	Overall L
Wolfforth Frenship	4	0	20	7
Amarillo Tascosa	3	1	14	9
Odessa Permian	3	1	12	10
Lee	2	2	14	6
Odessa High	0	4	17	8
Midland High	0	4	9	15

All games tip-off at 6 p.m. unless noted

Tuesday's Scores

Lee 42, Midland High 36; Odessa Permian 32, Odessa High 31; Wolfforth Frenship 54, Amarillo Tascosa 43

Friday's games

Wolfforth Frenship vs. Lee at Chaparral Center; Midland High at Odessa High; Odessa Permian at Amarillo Tascosa

LEE 42, MIDLAND HIGH 36

Lee (4-8, 2-1) — Deserai Stanford 2, Karsyn Edwards 8, Brachel Hill 8, Madison Jewell 3, Quinci Stammer 2, Mackenzie Ross 3, Zoe Niblett 9, Paige Lowe 9.

Midland High (9-11, 1-2) — Jaci Shepard, Maya Duarte 2, Taysha Rushton 18, Sadie Sloan 1, Kaylyn Evans 9.

Lee	9	12	8	13—42
MHS	11	5	6	10—36

Free throws — Lee 7-13, MHS 10-15. 3-point goals — Lee 3 (Jewell, Ross, Niblett), MHS 2 (Rushton 2). Total fouls — Lee 15, MHS 15. Fouled out — None

Next: Wolfforth Frenship vs. Lee, 6 p.m. Friday at Chaparral Center; Midland High at Odessa High, 6 p.m. Friday

TEXASCOLLEGEROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Men

NO. 6 BAYLOR 74
TEXAS 64

WACO — Johnathan Motley really couldn't explain that feeling he had when he kept scoring points and grabbing rebounds. Baylor's big forward just knew he wanted to play better than his last couple of games.

"You don't really remember what you do, you're just kind of out there going through it," Motley said after career highs of 32 points and 20 rebounds in No. 6 Baylor's 74-64 victory over Texas on Tuesday night. "I can't really tell you the moves I made. I just forgot. It just goes away."

Coach Scott Drew then smiled and said he liked that attitude of focusing on the next play.

"It's just a crazy rhythm you get as a basketball player," Motley added. "You can't really explain it."

Nuni Omot, the junior college transfer playing in only his eighth game for Baylor (17-1, 5-1 Big 12), had a season-high 14 points. He scored seven in the half-ending 16-4 run that put the Bears ahead to stay.

Texas (7-11, 1-5) led by as many as eight points early, and was still up by five before Omot's dunk with just over 5 minutes left in the first half. Al Freeman , who finished with 10 points, and Jake Lindsey followed with consecutive 3-pointers to put Baylor ahead for the first time.

ARKANSAS 62
TEXAS A&M 60

COLLEGE STATION — Daryl Macon scored 16 points and Moses Kingsley followed with 12 as Arkansas overcame a 12-point deficit in the second half to defeat Texas A&M 62-60 on Tuesday night.

Arkansas (14-4, 3-3 Southeastern) led 61-60 with 26 seconds remaining when the Razorbacks' Jaylen Barford missed two free throws. On the second, A&M's D.J. Hogg and Robert Williams became entangled in fighting for the rebound under the basket, and the ball rolled out of bounds on the Aggies.

Following the inbound pass Macon dribbled the ball out of bounds in trying to escape a trap, and the Aggies (9-8, 1-5) had another chance. But Hogg's long-range, off-balanced offering missed its mark by a long shot with seven seconds left, and Macon was fouled on the other end of the floor by Tyler Davis.

Women

NO. 12 TEXAS 86
NO. 20 OKLAHOMA 68

AUSTIN — Joyner Holmes scored 20 points with 10 rebounds, and Ariel Atkins poured in 19 points before fouling out and twelfth-ranked Texas defeated No. 20 Oklahoma 86-68 in a Big 12 Conference showdown Tuesday night.

A Lashann Higgs layup sparked a 10-2 run as the Longhorns (13-4, 7-0) broke open the game in the final 4:36. Holmes scored eight points in the final quarter, and Atkins six including driving for a layup after she stole the ball.

Oklahoma, which trailed 40-29 at halftime, cut the gap with a 22-point third quarter and was just two points from Texas midway through the fourth.

Vionise Pierre-Louis scored 16 to lead the Sooners (14-5, 5-2), grabbed seven rebounds and blocked four shots. Chelsea Dungee scored 15 points and Peyton Little 14.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES

Men

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas 62, Texas A&M 60
Baylor 74, Texas 64

SOUTH

Alice Lloyd 77, Rio Grande 76
Asbury 90, WVU Tech 81
Berea 94, Kentucky Christian 85
Kentucky 88, Mississippi St. 81
Limestone 75, Lees-McRae 73
NC State 79, Pittsburgh 74
UCF 86, South Florida 64

MIDWEST

Akron 83, Ohio 68
Ball St. 98, Cent. Michigan 83
Buffalo 82, Kent St. 69
Concordia (Wis.) 83, Milwaukee Engineering 74
Crown (Minn.) at Manhattha Baptist, ppd.
Edgewood 72, Wis. Lutheran 69
Indiana-East 79, Indiana-Kokomo 66
Martin Luther 73, Viterbo 53
N. Illinois 82, Miami (Ohio) 58
Park 74, Hannibal-LaGrange 66
Purdue 91, Illinois 68
Spring Arbor 84, St. Francis (Ind.) 79
Toledo 85, Bowling Green 73
UIC 71, Milwaukee 57

EAST

Holy Family 81, Chestnut Hill 67
Iona 82, Manhattan 67
Old Westbury 76, Sarah Lawrence 62
Siena 78, Rider 68
St. John Fisher 72, Utica 68
St. Peter's 69, Fairfield 55

Women

SOUTHWEST

Texas 86, Oklahoma 68
UConn 98, Tulsa 58

SOUTH

Campbell 61, Winthrop 30
Davis & Elkins 104, Bluefield St. 64
Gardner-Webb 55, UNC Asheville 52
Liberty 82, Longwood 47
Limestone 75, Lees-McRae 42
Presbyterian 50, Charleston Southern 48
Radford 82, High Point 58
Randolph-Macon 75, Shenandoah 56
South Florida 79, Memphis 49

MIDWEST

Cincinnati 87, SMU 65
Green Bay 56, Valparaiso 35
Milwaukee 85, UIC 55
Northwestern (Minn.) 67, Trinity Bible 37

EAST

Chestnut Hill 85, Holy Family 78
Iowa 71, Rutgers 59
Mount St. Vincent 83, Farmingdale 82
Old Westbury 73, Medgar Evers 39

Hocutt returning as playoff committee chairman

Associated Press

IRVING — Former Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer, Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith and Robert Morris University President Chris Howard have been added to the College Football Playoff selection committee.

The three new members will begin three-year terms next season. College Football Playoff Executive Director Bill Hancock also announced in a statement Tuesday that Texas Tech AD Kirby Hocutt will return next season as the committee chairman and his term will run through February 2018.

Beamer, Smith and Howard replace Wisconsin AD Barry Alvarez, former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and former Michigan coach Lloyd Carr. Alvarez and Rice completed three-year terms this past season. Carr resigned from the committee during last season, his first on the panel, because of health issues.

Hancock also announced that the term for former Vanderbilt coach Bobby Johnson will extend through February 2019.

Beamer retired after the 2015 season, his 29th as Virginia Tech's head coach. He went 238-121-2 with the Hokies and led them to 23 consecutive bowl appearances.

Smith is in his 12th year as athletic director at Ohio State after serving as AD at Arizona State, Eastern Michigan and Iowa State. He also played and coached football for Notre Dame in the 1970s and early 1980s.

The 46-year-old Howard is one of the youngest university presidents in the country. He is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy and former starting running back for the Falcons football team. Howard was a Rhodes scholar, attending Oxford University from 1991-94.

Anthony Lynn expects Chargers to win now

By Greg Beacham
Associated Press

CARSON, Calif. — Anthony Lynn stepped to the podium under a brilliant sun Tuesday and immediately made the same verbal slip that everybody in Southern California will be making for at least a little while.

"I am so proud to be the head coach of the San Dieg- uh, LA Chargers," Lynn said. "Oops."

In truth, Lynn's mailing address might be the least important detail of his new job. The fiery coach says he is all about winning, and he saw a golden opportunity to do it immediately with the Chargers.

"We don't care where we play," Lynn said. "We'll play out here on the asphalt. We don't care. We just want to play football, and that's what we do."

Lynn's introduction doubled as the Los Angeles Chargers' first public event in their new city, and he immediately stoked expectations for a contending team this fall at StubHub Center, the 30,000-seat soccer stadium in the south LA suburbs. The Chargers must build a new fan base after their two-hour move north, and Lynn believes he knows how to do it.

"We're going to win. That's how you sell," Lynn said. "I feel very confident in the staff that we're putting together and in our leadership, and in the players that we have. There's no reason why we shouldn't win right now. We have the right pieces to get that done. When you win, and the style of ball that you play, they will come. My biggest concern when I got (to StubHub Center) was, how are we going to get more seats in here?"

Lynn replaced Mike McCoy last Friday, a day after the Chargers announced their relocation to Los Angeles after 56 seasons in San Diego. He realized the challenges of taking over a 5-11 team during a move, but wasn't daunted by the extra obstacles in his path.



Associated Press

Los Angeles Chargers new head coach Anthony Lynn speaks to the media after being introduced at an NFL news conference in Carson, Calif., on Tuesday.

"This is not a rebuilding project," Lynn said. "This is not a two-year transition. This is long-term, baby. We have a very talented roster. I like the corner pieces that we have and we can build a championship program around."

Lynn felt the Chargers' vacancy was "the best job out there," and quarterback Philip Rivers was one major reason. While rumors swirled around the NFL in recent days about Rivers' feelings on the relocation, Lynn and general manager Tom Telesco both said Rivers is completely on board.

Rivers will attend a kickoff ceremony for the Chargers on Wednesday in Inglewood, where they will share a $2.6 billion stadium with the Los Angeles Rams starting in 2019.

Rivers is the centerpiece of an undeniably talented roster that has won just nine games in the last two years. The Chargers were beset by injuries last season, but Lynn is confident he has a contender if they stay healthy.

Lynn's coaching staff already is taking shape: He confirmed that Ken Whisenhunt will stay on as the offensive coordinator after the Chargers finished ninth in the NFL with 25.6 points per game last season. Lynn also is pursuing former Jacksonville coach Gus Bradley as his defensive coordinator.

Lynn finally reached every NFL assistant's ultimate goal through determination, smarts and the help of a few mentors.

He carved out a seven-year NFL playing career after going undrafted as a running back from Texas Tech, and he won two Super Bowls with the Denver Broncos. But his life changed in 1996 when former 49ers coach Bill Walsh took him to lunch while Lynn was playing for San Francisco.

"He said, 'I've identified you as a coach in the National Football League, and I want to talk to you about my program for minority coaches,'" Lynn recalled. "I had never thought about coaching before. But that's where the seed was planted, from Coach Walsh. At the time, being a young man, I didn't know if I should take that as an insult, because I thought I was in the prime of my career, and this man is already talking to me about coaching. But now I take it as a compliment."

Lynn's coaching star rocketed upward in the past year.

He began last season as the Buffalo Bills' running backs coach, but was promoted to offensive coordinator by Rex Ryan. He took over as Buffalo's interim head coach for the season finale after Ryan's firing, and the Chargers beat out other suitors for his services.

"As far as handling transition, if you can handle going from a running backs coach to a coordinator to a head coach in one year, you can handle a lot of things," Telesco said.

Tomlin: Brown 'foolish' to livestream postgame locker room

By Will Graves
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — The father in Mike Tomlin regrets the language he used to describe the New England Patriots during the postgame speech Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown opted to livestream on social media after a taut playoff victory over Kansas City.

The coach in Tomlin has just as big an issue with one of his team's biggest stars forcing the Steelers to talk about something other than trying to find a way to finally beat Tom Brady when it counts.

A characteristically blunt Tomlin called Brown's decision to broadcast to the world more than 17 minutes of Pittsburgh's giddy locker room celebration — a move that caught Tomlin using a handful of profanities — "foolish," "selfish" and "inconsiderate."

"Not only is it a violation of our policy, it's a violation of league policy, both of which he knows," Tomlin said Tuesday.

"So there are consequences to be dealt with from his perspective. We will punish him. We won't punish us."

Tomlin took responsibility for his choice of words, though he was unaware of being filmed as he spoke.

During Tomlin's postgame remarks, he attached an expletive to the Patriots, who earned a full day's head start on preparing for the Steelers by virtue of beating Houston on Saturday night, 24 hours before Pittsburgh outlasted Kansas City 18-16.

So, too, is the action of the talented if sporadically diva-like Brown. The former sixth-round pick has evolved from a raw project into one of the NFL's best wide receivers.

His work ethic is universally lauded even as his Q-rating has skyrocketed. Brown can be found on TV pitching everything from soda to credit cards to video games.

The player who — for reasons he hasn't yet disclosed — occasionally refers to himself as "Ronald " also has a devoted social media presence, with more than 1.5 million following on Instagram and an additional 650,000 on Facebook, many of whom got an eyeful and an earful as the Steelers celebrated their first trip to the AFC title game in six years.

While Tomlin has "very little concern" about the content of the video, he has plenty of concern over Brown's lack of judgment.

"You wear on your teammates when they routinely have to answer questions about things that aren't preparation or football-related," Tomlin said.

"It's our desire for him and for everyone to be great teammates, as well as great players. He is a great player. He is a hardworking player. He is respected, largely, in the locker room for those things. But incidences such as this don't help him in that regard."

Romo

From 1C

Garrett. And logic says it will be a playoff contender needing a quarterback.

Meantime, it's hard to think about a Romo-less Dallas roster for Garrett, seen frequently at sporting events with Romo during the offseason in recent years. He didn't want to discuss the specifics of the 36-year-old's future.

Tight end Jason Witten came into the NFL with Romo in 2003 and is his best friend on the team. Romo and Witten didn't appear in the locker room a day after a 34-31 playoff loss to Green Bay. But immediately after the Packers won, Witten was asked whether his friend had played his final game for the Cowboys and he recalled the only time Romo spoke publicly all season, when he read a five-minute statement that conceded the job to Prescott and didn't take questions.

"I'm sure in the next few weeks we'll have a time to talk," Witten said. "But I'm proud of him and how he handled that. Going back to when he had his press conference and the way he was able to kind of take the lead and eliminate the distraction for our football team. That wasn't easy to do. I think we're all better because of that."

After declining to discuss the Prescott-Romo decision in detail all season, Garrett finally opened up when the season was over.

Garrett, who was Romo's offensive coordinator for 3 1/2 seasons before taking over as head coach, said the difficulty was realizing how successful Romo was in the previous two seasons when he wasn't out with a twice-broken collarbone in 2015.

Romo was 16-6 in his final 22 starts, including two playoff games in 2014. But the Cowboys were in the middle of a team-record 11-game winning streak with Prescott when Romo was ready to return after breaking a bone in his back in the third preseason game.

"So when he had his opportunities based on the merits, there's a compelling argument to be made that that guy should be your quarterback," Garrett said. "What happened when Tony got hurt, Dak stepped in and this team got going. It went on a run, and what we needed to do was somehow, someway stay on that run."

Prescott likely eliminated any lingering doubt by leading the Cowboys back from 18- and 15-point deficits, the latter in the fourth quarter, against the Packers. Dallas tied the score twice in the final 4:08.

Romo made his only appearance in the regular-season finale at Philadelphia when the Cowboys already had home-field advantage locked up in the NFC playoffs. The four-time Pro Bowler led a touchdown drive in his only series.

"I really believe that Tony Romo will play in a Super Bowl," Jones said. "Now try that one on. I know that if he's healthy enough, he'll be in a Super Bowl. I strongly believe that."

Jones just didn't say with which team.

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52 FACES OF COMMUNITY

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PRESENTED BY CHEVRON ATCO
THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY PRIME TIME — JANUARY 18, 2017

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Fresh Off Boat (N)	Speechless (N)	Modern Family	Black-ish (N)	Match Game (N)		Local 2 News/ 10	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	Boss "The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf" (SF) (N)		People's Choice Awards 2017 Fans choose the nominees and winners of these awards. (L)				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		Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Perry Mason		Twilight Zone
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	9	9	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Lethal Weapon "Brotherly Love" (N)		Star "Code of Silence" (N)		Fox 24 News	TMZ	Modern Family	Two and a Half	Hot In Cleveland	Met Your Mother
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Shepherd's Heart		Update News	Aleph Course	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Update News	60 Touch With Dr. Charles Stanley		Walking
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	NewsWest 9 Now	Blindspot "Devil Never Even Lived" (N)		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Decline and Fall" (N)		Chicago P.D. "Sanctuary" (N)		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13			13	8	PBS NewsHour		Nature "Moose: Life of a Twig Eater"		Frontline "Divided States of America" 2/2 from Jan 17 (N)			Charlie Rose (N)		Newsline	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4			4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		Despertar contigo		Vino el amor		El color de la pasion		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto	Deportivo
KOSA MNT	16	16			16		Last Man	Last Man	Agents of SHIELD (N)		Agents of SHIELD		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0	Access H.
FLIX	240	575			165		(6:45) What Wo...		★★★ The Crying Game Stephen Rea.				★★ Blue Velvet Kyle MacLachlan.			(:05)	Dead Man	
HBO	200	590	14	14			Movie	Vice News	★★ Cold Mountain ('03, Rom) Nicole Kidman.					(:35) The Young Pope		(:35) The Young Pope	Movie	
HBO2	302	591	15	101	23		(6:30) Spider-Man		The Young Pope				★★★ The Aviator ('04, Bio) Cate Blanchett, Leonardo DiCaprio.			(:55)	Batman Ret...	
HBO3	304	592	16	102			(:10) ★★ A Perfect Murder						Midnight Special Michael Shannon.				Sisters ('15, Com) Amy Poehler, Tina Fey.	
MAX	380	557	17	120	24		(5:20) The X-Files:...		(:20) ★★★ Trois ('62, SC-F) Jeff Bridges.						★★ Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen		Movie	
MAX2	382	598	18	122			(:20) ★★★ American Pie Chris Klein.						★★★ Magic Mike XXL Channing Tatum.		★★★ The Fantastic Four		Movie	
PLEX			96				(5:15) ★★ Bruce Lee, ...		★★ Blue Chips ('94, Spt) Nolte.			(:55)	★★ Bobby Jones: Stroke of Genius			Searching	Sugar	
SHOW	320	585	19	140	25		(5:45) ★★★ The Hurt Locker				Homeland				Bridge of Spies ('15, Thril) Mark Rylance, Tom Hanks.		Movie	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26		(5:15) Pound of F...		★★★ Saw Leigh Whannel.			(:45)	★★ Saw II Donnie Wahlberg.		★★★ Cape Fear			
AAE	27	58	28	35	47		Duck Dynasty	Duck Dyn. "Pie Hard"	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dyn. (N)	Going Si-ral (N)	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	(:05) Duck Dynasty	(:35) Duck Dynasty	(:05) Duck Dynasty	(:35) Duck Dynasty
AMC	40	74	23	42	51		(5:30) ★ Armageddon		★★★ The Italian Job ('03, Act) Mark Wahlberg.						★★★ Man on Fire ('04, Act) Denzel Washington.			
BET	58	-			40		Being 'Getting Nekkid'		Being Mary Jane		Browns	Browns	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Fresh P.	Fresh P.
BRAVO	65	76			41		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills		Girlfriends' Guide (N)		Watch (N)	Beverly Hills		Guide
CNBC	46	52			39	72	Billion Dollar Buyer		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Blue (N)	Blue	Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	43	50	51	30	56		OutFront		A. Cooper 360		Obama White House (N)				CNN Tonight		Obama White House	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42		Alaskan Bush People		Alaskan Bush (N)		Bush People (N)		Bush "Safe Haven"		Alaskan Bush People		Wheel "Abandoned"	
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	30		NBA Countdown (L)		NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Detroit Pistons (L)						NBA Basketball Oklahoma vs Golden State (L)			
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31		NCAA Basketball Okl./W.Va. (L)				ITF Tennis Australian Open Men's and Women's Second Round Site: Melbourne Park (L)							
FNC	45	48	53	23	55		On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54		WorstCooks		Cooks vs. Cons		Cooks vs. Cons (N)		Cooks vs. Cons		WorstCooks		Cooks vs. Cons	
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33		★★★ Bruce Almighty Jim Carrey.				★★★ Tooth Fairy				The 700 Club		Gilmore Girls	
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29		Rangers Insider	NCAA Basketball United Supermarkets Arena -- Lubbock, Texas (L)	TCU at Texas Tech Site:		NCAA Basketball Virginia Tech at		Georgia Tech at		Champio. "Football: 1A, 2A and 3A"		WPT Poker Los Angeles Classic	
FX	31	56	59	64	69		(4:00) ★ Gone Girl		★★★ Fast and Furious 6 ('13, Act) Paul Walker, Vin Diesel.						★★★ Fast and Furious 6 Vin Diesel.			
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34		Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44		Buying and Selling		Property Brothers		Property Brothers (N)		H.Hunt	House	Buying and Selling		Property Brothers	
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43		A. Pickers "Catch-32"		Vikings		Vikings (N)		Six "Pilot" (N)		Six "Pilot"		Vikings	
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48		Black Magic "Locals vs. Out of Towners"		Little Women ATL "The Truth Hurts" (N)		Little Women: Atlanta (N)		Magic "Fifty Shades of Chocolate" (N)		Black Magic "Fifty Shades of Chocolate"		Little Women ATL "The Truth Hurts"	
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! (L)		NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at Detroit Red Wings (L)						NHL Hockey San Jose Sharks at Los Angeles Kings (L)			
NICK	55	-	39	34	37		Paradise	Thunder	Thunder	GShakers	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58		Movie	★★ xXx (2002, Action) Samuel L. Jackson, Marton Csokas, Vin Diesel.							★★★ Fast Five ('11, Act) Paul Walker, Vin Diesel.			
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67		★★★ Skyfall ('12, Act) Helen McCrory, Daniel Craig.							Incorporated (N)	★★ Resident Evil: Extinction			
TBS	25	33	44	66	41		Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Frontal (N)	Conan Ted Danson, Gad Elmaleh		2 Broke Girls	Conan
TCM	41	75	24	63	66		(5:15) ★ Room for O...		★★★★ It's Always Fair Weather						★★★★ The Umbrellas of Cherbourg		Meet Me in St...	
TELE	20	-	10	20			Caso cerrado		La fan		La Doña		El Chema		Al rojo	(:35) Titular.	La Doña	
TLC	51	61	32	38	52		(5:00) 600-lb Life "Ashley R.'s Story" (N)		My 600-lb Life "Cynthia's Story" Cynthia is a 610-lb single mother raising five kids. (N)				Too Close to Home "Blocked In" (N)		My 600-lb Life "Cynthia's Story" Cynthia is a 610-lb single mother raising five kids.			
TNT	24	34	40	26	50		Bones "The Recluse in the Recliner"		★ Madea's Big Happy Family ('11, Drama) Row Wow, Tyler Perry.				★ Madea Goes to Jail ('09, Comedy) Derek Luke, Keshia Knight Pulliam, Tyler Perry.			Hawaii Five-0 "Oia'i'o"		
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35		Griffith	(:35) Griffith	(:10) Griffith	(:50) Ray	(:25) Loves Ray		Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49		NCIS "Better Angels"		NCIS "Alibi"		NCIS "Gut Check"		NCIS "Devil's Triad"		Modern "Arrested"	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family
WGN	19	85					Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Salem "Saturday Mourning"		Salem "Saturday Mourning"		Cops	Cops	Salem "Saturday Mourning"	

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TEXAS RANGERS BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ARLINGTON

Rangers sign slugger Josh Hamilton to minor league contract

Slugger Josh Hamilton is getting another shot with the Texas Rangers.

The Rangers said Tuesday they have agreed to a minor league contract with an invitation to spring training for the oft-injured 2010 AL MVP.

The 35-year-old Hamilton had his best years in Texas as a five-time All-Star, including trips to the World Series in 2010-11.

Hamilton was released in August, closing the books on a $125 million, five-year deal signed with the Los Angeles Angels in free agency after the 2012 season.

The Angels traded Hamilton back to Texas after two injury-plagued years. The outfielder played just 50 games in two more seasons with the Rangers, missing all of last year with a left knee injury that required surgery.

The Rangers also signed right-hander Dillon Gee to a minor league deal. He pitched for Kansas City last season and had thoracic outlet surgery in October.

ARLINGTON

Longtime baseball executive Dan O'Brien Sr. dies at 87

Longtime major league executive Dan O'Brien Sr. has died at 87.

The Texas Rangers said he died Monday in Dallas. The Rangers were one of four major league teams with whom O'Brien held front-office jobs over 45 years in professional baseball. O'Brien was the Rangers' second general manager, from 1973 to 1978.

He began his baseball career in 1955 as a minor league general manager and spent 10 years in the minors before joining the Rangers. He left Texas to become president and later general manager of the Seattle Mariners. He also worked in the front office with the Cleveland Indians, California Angels, Arizona Fall League and USA Baseball before his retirement in 2000.

His son, Dan O'Brien Jr., was general manager of the Cincinnati Reds during the 2004-05 seasons after working an assistant GM in Texas from 1996 to 2003.

HALL

From 1C

But they are gaining momentum.

Peter Gammons of the MLB Network who joined the BBWAA in 1972, voted for Bonds and Clemens for the first time. He differentiates between players suspected of steroids use before the start of testing with penalties in 2004 and those suspended for drug violations.

"I judge players by their eras and who they played against," he said Wednesday. "Clemens and Bonds, they were the best pitcher, player of their eras. And while I wrestled with it, I just decided that how do I know who did and who didn't? ... I finally just decided, you know what, they're so great that they should be in the Hall of Fame because it's a museum of baseball history."

The election of former Commissioner Bud Selig by a veterans committee in November impacted the decisions of some because he presided over the era. Bruce Miles of the Daily Herald in suburban Chicago also voted for the pair for the first time.

"I was hoping that Bonds and Clemens maybe would speak up a little more, talk about what they had done, why they had done it, their feelings on the integrity of the game, their feelings on the Hall of Fame," Miles said Tuesday. "With the veterans committee electing Bud Selig to the Hall of Fame, I thought it was high time that the standouts from the so-called Steroid Era should join him up on the stage this July."

Bonds was indicted on charges he lied to a grand jury in 2003 when he denied using PEDs but a jury failed to reach a verdict on three counts he made false statements and convicted him on one obstruction of justice count, finding he gave an evasive answer. The conviction was overturned appeal in 2015.

Clemens was acquitted last year on one count of obstruction of Congress, three counts of making false statements to Congress and two counts of perjury, all stemming from his denials of drug use.

Hall of Fame pitcher John Smoltz thinks just the passage of time and change in voting pool leads to a difference perspective.

"Writers come and go. New writers are given the opportunity to vote that may not have covered an era 20 years ago," he said. "When it is strictly circumstance and evidence that you do not know or don't have firsthand and you're just following the rumor-ville, then that's a difficult proposition to put in a writer, to be judge and jury."

Manny Ramirez, however, appears to be viewed differently. Suspended twice for drug violations after testing with penalties began in 2004, he is tracking at 23.5 percent in his first ballot appearance. Sammy Sosa, also alleged by some to have used steroids, is tracking at 9.3 percent.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN RESULTS

Tuesday
At Melbourne Park
Melbourne, Australia
Purse: $37.4 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles
Men
First Round

Gilles Simon (25), France, def. Michael Mmoh, United States, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3.
Donald Young, United States, def. Thomas Fabbiano, Italy, 6-4, 7-6 (1), 6-4.
Philipp Kohlschreiber (32), Germany, def. Nikoloz Basilashvili, Georgia, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (2), 6-4.
Alexander Zverev (24), Germany, def. Robin Haase, Netherlands, 6-2, 3-6, 5-7, 6-3, 6-2.
Rogerio Dutra Silva, Brazil, def. Jarad Donaldson, United States, 3-6, 7-6, 6-1, 6-4.
Milos Raonic (3), Canada, def. Dustin Brown, Germany, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.
Yoshihito Nishioka, Japan, def. Alex Bolt, Australia, 6-4, 1-6, 6-2, 6-4.
Frances Tiafoe, United States, def. Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, 6-1, 6-7 (3), 6-3, 6-2.
David Goffin (11), Belgium, def. Reilly Opelka, United States, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.
Kyle Edmund, Britain, def. Santiago Giraldo, Colombia, 6-2, 7-5, 6-3.
Pablo Carreno Busta (30), Spain, def. Peter Polansky, Canada, 3-6, 3-6, 6-3, 3-0 retired.
Carlos Berlocq, Argentina, def. Radu Albot, Moldova, 6-4, 7-6 (4), 5-7, 7-6 (8).
Rafael Nadal (9), Spain, def. Florian Mayer, Germany, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.
Marcos Baghdatis, Cyprus, def. Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, 6-3, 3-0 retired.
Roberto Bautista Agut (13), Spain, def. Guido Pella, Argentina, 6-3, 6-1, 6-1.
Gilles Muller, Luxembourg, def. Taylor Fritz, United States, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (5), 6-3.
Andrew Whittington, Australia, def. Adam Pavlasek, Czech Republic, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.
Richard Gasquet (18), France, vs. Blake Mott, Australia, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2.
Dominic Thiem (8), Austria, def. Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.
Jordan Thompson, Australia, def. Joao Sousa, Portugal, 6-7 (2), 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.
Alexandr Dolgopolov, Ukraine, def. Borna Coric, Croatia, 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (7).
Ivo Karlovic (20), Croatia, def. Horacio Zeballos, Argentina, 6-7 (6), 3-6, 7-5, 6-2, 22-20.
Radek Stepanek, Czech Republic, def. Dmitry Tursunov, Russia, 6-2, 7-6 (1), 6-3.
Ernesto Escobedo, United States, def. Daniil Medvedev, Russia, 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-1.
David Ferrer (21), Spain, def. Omar Jasika, Australia, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2.
Gael Monfils (6), France, def. Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2.
Benoit Paire, France, def. Tommy Haas, Germany, 7-6 (2), 6-4, retired.
Chung Hyeon, South Korea, def. Renzo Olivo, Argentina, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2.
Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, def. Ivan Dodig, Croatia, 6-1, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5.
Fabio Fognini, Italy, def. Feliciano Lopez (26), Spain, 7-5, 6-3, 7-5.
Novak Djokovic (2), Serbia, def. Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 6-1, 7-6 (4), 6-2.
Grigor Dimitrov (15), Bulgaria, def. Christopher O'Connell, Australia, 7-6 (2), 6-3, 6-3.

Women
First Round

Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, def. Karin Knapp, Italy, 6-3, 2-0 (40-0), retired.
Karolina Pliskova (3), Czech Republic, def. Sara Sorribes Tormo, Spain, 6-2, 6-0.
Ekaterina Makarova (30), Russia, def. Ekaterina Alexandrova, Russia, 6-2, 4-6, 6-1.
Johanna Konta (9), Britain, def. Kirsten Flipkens, Belgium, 7-5, 6-2.
Caroline Garcia (21), France, def. Kateryna Bondarenko, Ukraine, 7-6 (4), 6-4.
Irina Falconi, United States, def. Han Xinyun, China, 6-1, 7-5.
Nicole Gibbs, United States, def. Timea Babos (25), Hungary, 7-6 (3), 6-4.
Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, def. Yanina Wickmayer, Belgium, 3-6, 7-6 (7), 6-1.
Anna Blinkova, Russia, def. Monica Niculescu, Romania, 6-2, 7-6.
Oceane Dodin, France, def. Cagla Buyukakcay, Turkey, 7-5, 6-7 (1), 6-2.
Naomi Osaka, Japan, def. Lukska Kumkhum, Thailand, 6-7 (2), 6-4, 7-5.
Serena Williams (2), United States, def. Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, 6-4, 6-3.
Donna Vekic, Croatia, def. Lizette Cabrera, Australia, 7-5, 6-2.
Elena Vesnina (14), Russia, def. Ana Bogdan, Romania, 7-5, 6-2.
Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, def. Zhu Lin, China, 6-4, 6-0.
Maria Sakkari, Greece, def. Anett Kontaveit, Estonia, 6-0, 6-4.
Sara Errani, Italy, def. Risa Ozaki, Japan, 7-5, 6-1.
Alize Cornet (28), France, def. Myrtille Georges, France, 6-3, 6-4.
Dominika Cibulkova (8), Slovakia, def. Denisa Allertova, Czech Republic, 7-5, 6-2.
Yulia Putintseva (31), Kazakhstan, def. Lara Arruabarrena, Spain, 7-6 (7), 7-6 (10).
Heather Watson, Britain, def. Sam Stosur (18), Australia, 6-3, 3-6, 6-0.
Mandy Minella, Luxembourg, def. Magda Linette, Poland, 7-5, 6-4.
Caroline Wozniacki (17), Denmark, def. Arina Rodionova, Australia, 6-1, 6-2.
Jennifer Brady, United States, def. Johanna Larsson, Sweden, 6-3, 6-2.
Barbora Strycova (16), Czech Republic, def. Elizaveta Kulichkova, Russia, 6-3, 6-2.
Andrea Petkovic, Germany, def. Kayla Day, United States, 6-3, 6-2.
Danka Kovinic, Montenegro, def. Zheng Saisai, China, 6-0, 6-4.
Timea Bacsinszky (12), Switzerland, def. Camila Giorgi, Italy, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5.
Mirjana Lucic-Baroni, Croatia, def. Wang Qiang, China, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Ana Konjuh, Croatia, def. Kristina Mladenovic, France, 6-4, 6-2.
Daria Gavrilova (29), Australia, def. Naomi Broady, Britain, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5.
Agnieszka Radwanska (3), Poland, def. Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, 6-1, 4-6, 6-1.

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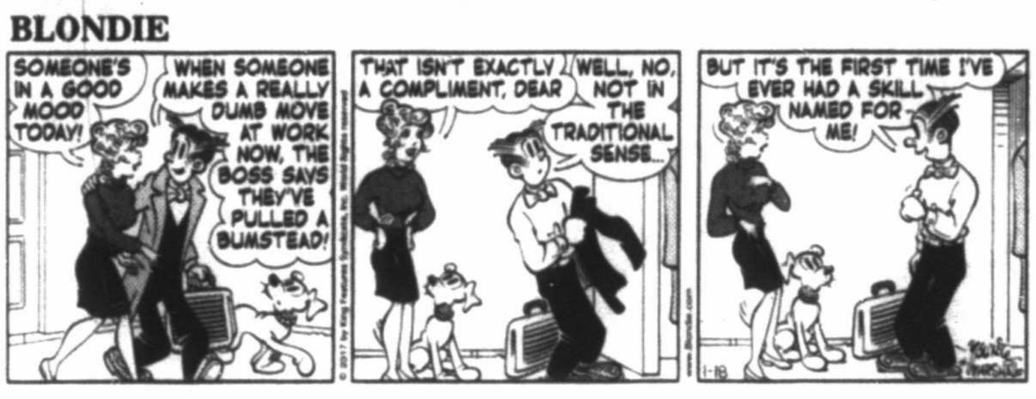
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



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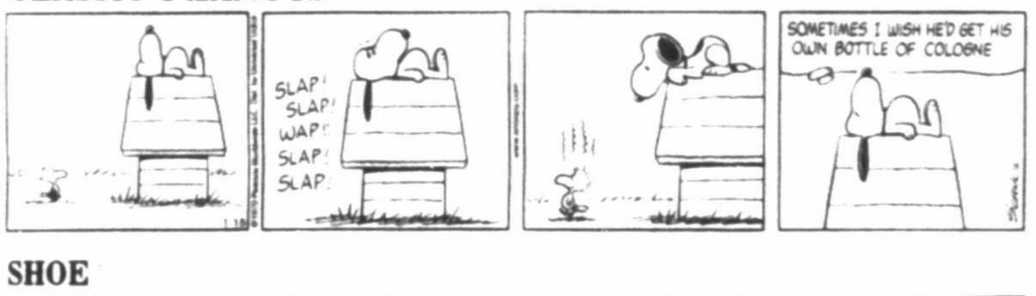
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CLASSIC PEANUTS



SHOE



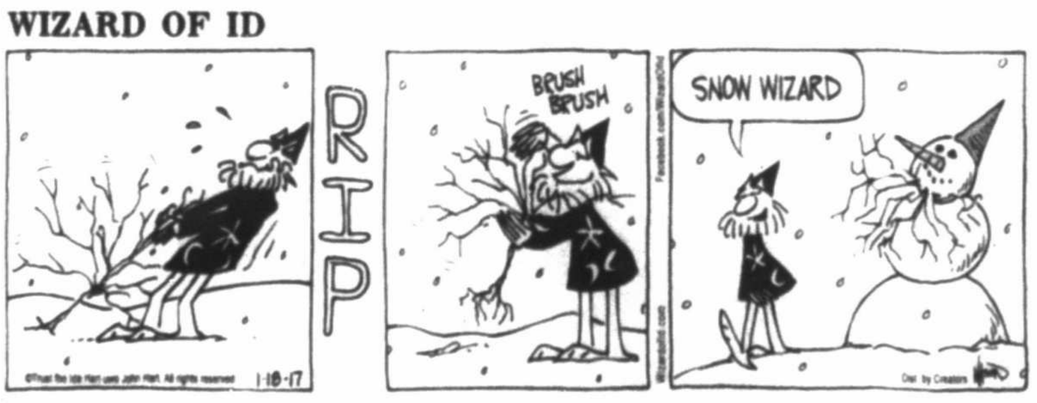
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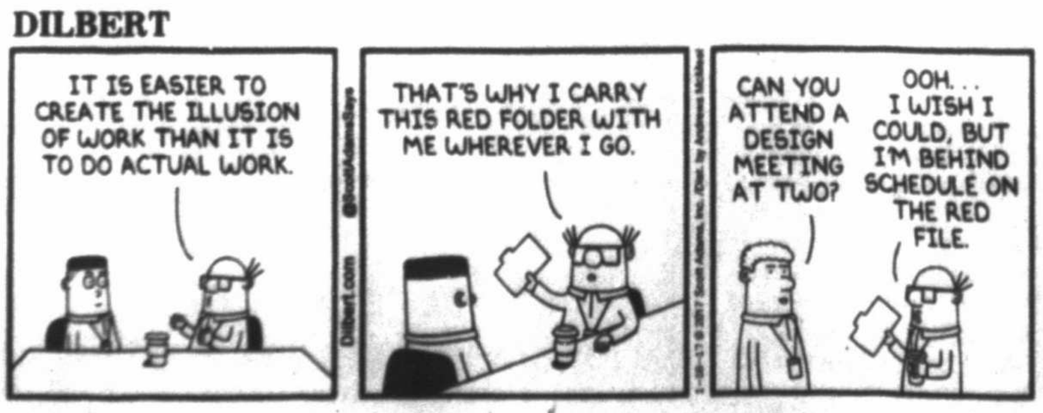
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



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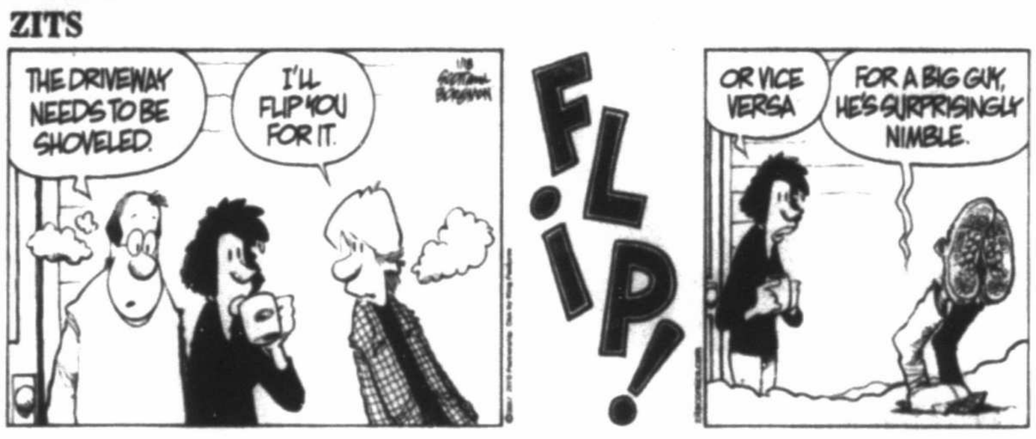
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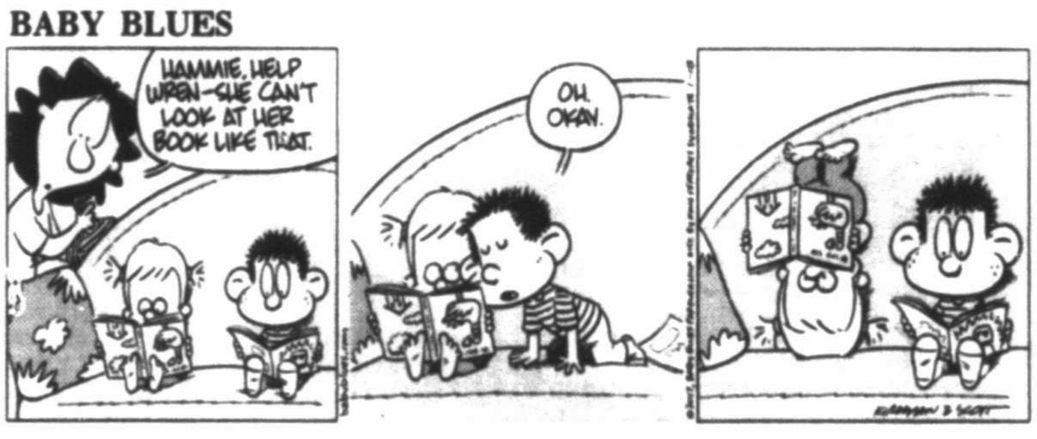
MARY WORTH



ZITS



BABY BLUES



MUTTS

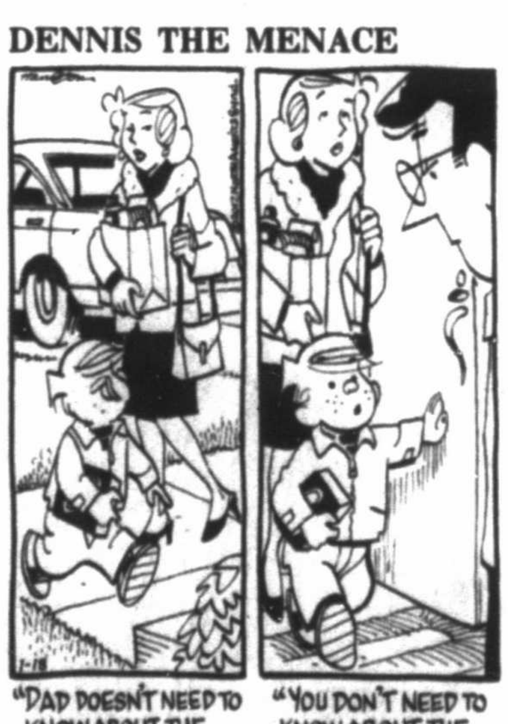


CLOSE TO HOME

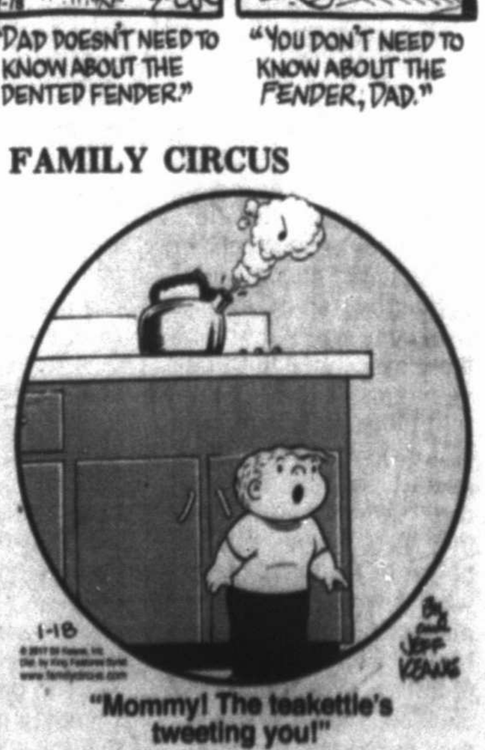


To their horror, Mark and Debbie discovered that their parents had become hooked on Playstation's new "Polka Hero."

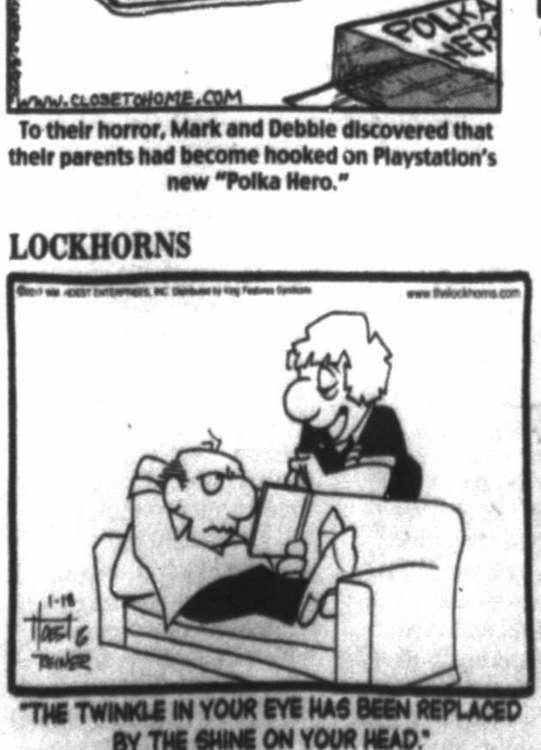
DENNIS THE MENACE



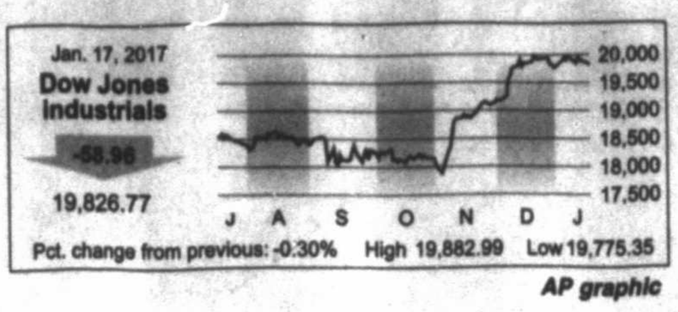
FAMILY CIRCUS



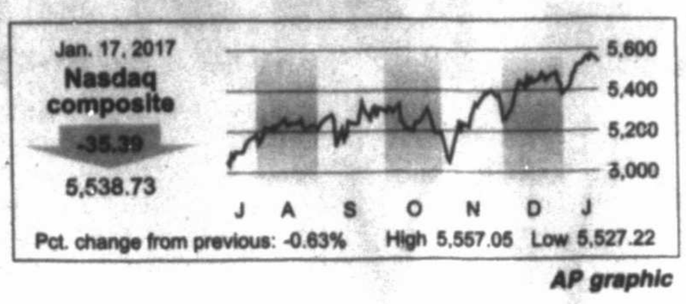
LOCKHORNS



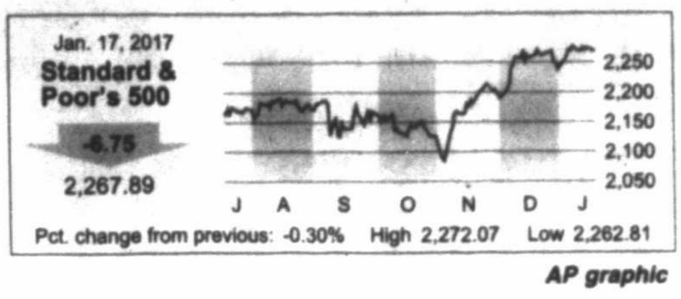
A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



AP graphic



AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Tuesday: $52.48
Previous: $52.37

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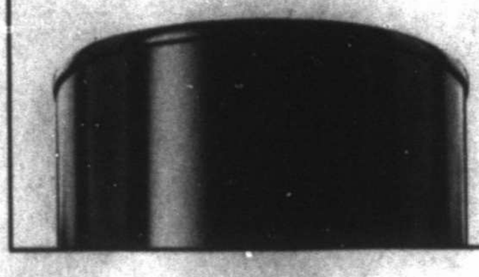
Tuesday: $49.50
Previous: $48.75

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Tuesday: $45.05
Previous: $44.30

NATURAL GAS

Tuesday: $3.412
Previous: $3.419



NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BiotAm	1464305	22.05	-.96
SPDR Fncl	949757	22.95	-.56
VanEGold	835863	23.36	+.62
DrDBull s	616537	10.47	+.77
S&P500ETF	522748	226.25	-.80

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
BonanzaCE	3.00	+1.01	+50.8
ClayFing	145.25	+41.27	+39.7
SanchezEn	13.20	+1.96	+17.4
Navios pfG	11.70	+1.83	+18.2
NobleMid n	42.35	+4.28	+11.2

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Entravsn	5.60	-.85	-13.2
EKodak wt	3.17	-.45	-12.3
SunTr wtB	12.15	-1.65	-12.0
AristaNetw	88.23	-12.04	-12.0
Comeric wt	36.03	-4.57	-11.3

DIARY

Advanced	1,338
Declined	1,643
Unchanged	111
Total Issues	3,092
New Highs	100
New Lows	14
Volume	3,457,334,810

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
NDynMn g	104632	2.50	+.22
Globalstar	91118	1.45	-.07
BritAStb	79464	113.10	-2.11
UraniumEn	73649	1.57	-.11
NwGold g	46327	4.16	+.09

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NDynMn g	2.50	+.22	+9.6
Silco	7.75	+.58	+8.1
NthnO&G	3.50	+.25	+7.7
AcmeU	26.15	+1.56	+6.3
Richmnt g	8.00	+.45	+6.0

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Plenex	7.62	-1.40	-15.5
iPathLong	205.82	-25.19	-10.9
Skyline	11.99	-1.19	-9.0
NobleH n	2.20	-.20	-8.3
TrinityPlce	8.06	-.66	-7.6

DIARY

Advanced	165
Declined	183
Unchanged	23
Total Issues	371
New Highs	13
New Lows	2
Volume	146,172,670

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Apple Inc	318864	120.00	+.96
Qualcom	217949	64.19	-2.69
Cisco	204385	29.99	-.08
MicronT	194215	21.74	-.44
Intel	187473	36.80	+.01

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
BeniteoB n	3.00	+1.15	+62.2
ForwdPh	27.20	+8.85	+48.2
BlondVax n	5.23	+1.52	+41.0
OasmiaPh n	3.70	+.81	+28.2
Gravity rs	13.59	+2.23	+19.6

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
EnteroM rs	8.90	-4.80	-35.0
Pavmed wt	3.20	-1.64	-33.8
GlobusM rs	4.85	-2.39	-33.0
CellectBio n	3.61	-.74	-17.0
ArtsWay	3.15	-.52	-14.3

DIARY

Advanced	832
Declined	2,019
Unchanged	197
Total Issues	3,048
New Highs	83
New Lows	24
Volume	1,671,252,823

As pot prices plunge, growers scramble to cut production costs

Bloomberg

The increasing supply of legal marijuana is turning into a major buzz kill for growers as prices plunge — and an opportunity for companies that can help cut production costs.

Prices are tumbling as formerly illicit cultivators emerge from the shadows to invest millions of dollars in massive pot factories. In Colorado, the average price sought by wholesalers has fallen 48 percent to about $1,300 a pound since legal sales to all adults started in January 2014, according to Cannabase, operator of the state's largest market. Supply is surging as growers expand and install the latest agricultural technology.

"Anybody that is investing in this sector or starting a business in this sector needs to be doing so with the understanding that the price of cannabis is going to drop precipitously," said Troy Dayton, chief executive officer of Oakland, California-based Arcview Group, a marijuana investor consortium. "The agricultural technology space is already booming, and now they get to lay their hands on the cannabis industry."

The focus on efficiency can cut production costs for some indoor growers to less than $300 a pound from more than $1,000, said J. Chandler, vice president at Cultivation Technologies in Boulder, Colorado. His company sells machinery originally developed for tomato greenhouses, such as automated feeding and watering systems from Israel's Netafim Ltd. and France's Dosatron International.

"If you want to compete on a price game, you have to use versions of our technology to do it," Chandler said. "Everybody is putting in irrigation systems, so that's good for us."

Cultivation Technologies also sells high-efficiency lights from Canada's PL Light Systems, which compete with Gavita, a Dutch company purchased this year by Scotts Miracle-Gro Co. Scotts has been on a buying frenzy over the past two years, gobbling up leading companies that provide specialty fertilizers, lighting and other supplies for hydroponics, the indoor method of growing crops favored by U.S. cannabis cultivators.

Retail prices also are dropping, though not as fast as in the wholesale market. Marijuana shops in Colorado collected an average $6.61 per gram in November, down 25 percent from the first quarter of 2014, according to BDS Analytics, a research firm.

The regulated market in North America could triple to more than $20 billion in five years, from $6.7 billion last year, after California, Maine, Massachusetts and Nevada legalized adult recreational pot use in November, according to Arcview.

One caveat surrounding the booming cannabis industry is President-elect Donald Trump's choice for attorney general, Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama, an ardent marijuana foe. But it remains to be seen if Trump or the Republican-controlled Congress will attempt to challenge the states that have legalized the drug.

While more than half of U.S. states permit medical use, transporting cannabis across state lines remains a federal crime, making each state a market unto itself. That means growers in cloudy coastal Oregon or frigid Maine must use technology to create the warm, sunny conditions favored by pot plants, and they need to do it as efficiently as possible.

Decades of prohibition necessitated growing marijuana in clandestine basements, warehouses and garages, making growers comfortable with indoor production, said Leif Olsen, managing partner at Denver-based Good to Great Consulting. But with legalization comes an increasing need to compete on cost, and that will eventually shift the industry to efficient greenhouse production, he said.

"Growing inside is definitely an antiquated concept," Olsen said. "It's coming out of hiding."

A hybrid greenhouse featuring insulated walls and a glass ceiling may consume less than half the energy of a warehouse, said Brandy Keen, vice president at Boulder-based Surna Inc. And a well designed climate-control system can cut energy needs while also providing pure water for plants with reclaimed condensate, she said.

The drive toward efficiency isn't cheap. Brian Lade, owner of Smokey Point Productions in Arlington, Washington, started growing marijuana in a garage at age 17. He endured police raids and a few days in jail before the laws changed. Now he's raised $25 million to expand his 15,000-square-foot warehouse operation to 135,000 square feet.

That's enough space to pump out 1,700 pounds of buds monthly from dozens of custom-bred strains such as Dirty Girl and Cinderella's Dream, up from 100 pounds. He also can process 2,200 pounds of purchased marijuana into cannabis oil and other concentrates for vaping.

While Lade increased production by 16 times, his employee count is up only fourfold, to 100, thanks to economies of scale and automation, he said. A machine mixes soil ingredients, pours the dirt into containers and then digs holes for young plants. A conveyor belt carries the container to an employee who does the delicate job of planting. Rather than relying on people to trim away leaves and stems from harvested pot, he's trying out machines that automate the job.

"If you want to provide cannabis to your people, you've got to adapt or die," said Lade, 40.

Energy-efficient Gavita lighting is installed in his old and new facilities. Computerized plumbing delivers custom-mixed nutrients to the plants. A climate-control system supplied by Surna not only maintains ideal pot-growing temperatures and humidity levels, but also helps eliminate mold problems, Lade said.

Bank stocks pull indexes lower, dollar drops

A bad day for bank stocks pulled the Dow Jones industrial average to its third straight loss Tuesday as many of the patterns that have propelled markets since Election Day last year snapped into reverse.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 58.96 points, or 0.3 percent, to 19,826.77, cutting into the gain it had made since Donald Trump's surprise victory in November. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 6.75, or 0.3 percent, to 2,267.89. The Nasdaq composite fell 35.39, or 0.6 percent, to 5,538.73.

Part of the reason for the losses was likely Tuesday's drop in bond yields.

Another reason may lie in how well bank stocks had been performing in the months earlier: Financial stocks in the S&P 500 jumped 17 percent in the two months following the election.

"You're seeing a day where stocks that have been strong are pulling back a little bit, and investors are putting money into some of the laggards," said Mike Barclay, senior portfolio manager for Columbia Threadneedle Investments.

Metal prices end mixed

Gold rose $16.70 to $1,212.90 per ounce, up 1.4 percent. Silver rose 38 cents to $17.15 per ounce, and copper fell 1 cent to $2.63 per pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $145.25 Up 41.27

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $135.42 Up 0.66

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $7.92 Down 0.02

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $100.44 Down 0.92

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $2.49 Unchanged

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $4.67 Up 0.05

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $30.30 Down 0.80

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $42.86 Up 0.45

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $13.38 Up 0.10

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $16.78 Up 0.01

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel	...	28	9.45	-.26	-7.4
AT&T Inc	1.96	16	41.11	+.15	-3.3
Abraxas	...	...	2.75	-.04	+7.0
AdaDvsEq	.92e	...	12.94	-.06	+1.8
AMD	...	...	9.32	-.76	-13.4
AlonUSA	.60	...	11.81	+.03	+3.6
Ambev	.06e	...	5.34	+.03	+8.8
Amgen	4.60f	14	154.80	-1.32	+6.9
Anadarko	.20	...	70.72	-.52	+1.4
Apache	1.00	...	63.10	+.32	-.6
Apple Inc	2.28	15	120.00	+.96	+3.6
ApldMatl	.40	20	33.30	+.69	+3.2
ArcelorMit	...	29	8.13	+.09	+11.4
Archrock	.68f	...	15.15	-.20	+14.8
ArlndP	...	...	23.64	-.05	+80.0
ATMOS	1.68	22	74.74	-.12	+.8
AutoData	2.28f	29	103.07	-.70	+.3
BP PLC	2.40e	...	37.44	-.22	+.2
BakrHu	.68	...	61.90	+.58	-4.7
BiotAm	.30f	18	22.05	-.96	-2
B iPVxST rs	...	...	21.39	-.06	-18.2
BaringsEp s	1.20	...	15.49	-.16	+.1
BarrickG	.08	39	17.24	+.37	+7.9
BasicEnS	...	...	45	...	...
BerkHa A	...	...	192391	06.00	-3334.05	-2.0
BkMellEqC p	1.68	22	61.73	+.80	+.8
BonanzaCE	...	...	3.00	+1.01	+194.1
BrMyBq	1.56f	39	68.28	+.06	-3.7
BrownFA s	...	28	45.94	+.30	-.7
BrownFB s	...	...	44.46	+.50	-1.0
CSX	.72	21	38.09	-.71	+6.0
CVS Health	1.70f	15	83.92	+1.94	+6.3
Caterpillar	3.08	25	93.57	-.91	+.9
Celestic g	...	10	12.17	-.21	+2.7
Cemex	.20f	...	8.29	+.32	+3.2
CntryLink	2.16	10	25.47	+.21	+7.1
ChesEng	...	...	7.01	+.09	-.1
Chevron	4.28	...	116.28	-.10	-1.2
Chicos	.32	29	13.50	-.07	-6.2
Cimarex	.32	...	138.94	-.71	+2.2
Cisco	1.04	14	29.99	-.08	-.8
Citigroup	.64	16	58.38	-1.25	-1.8
ClayEng	...	...	145.25	+41.27	+21.8
CocaCola	1.40	25	41.22	+.34	-.8
ColgPalm	1.56	24	67.10	+1.22	+2.5
ConAgra	.80	20	38.61	+.10	-2.4
ConchoRes	...	...	135.42	+.66	+2.1
ConocoPhil	1.00	...	50.15	-.44	...
CrackerB	4.60	21	158.41	-1.39	-6.3
CSVInvNG	...	...	3.64	+.03	+20.1
CSVelVST	...	...	55.41	+.13	+18.5
CSVtxSh rs	...	...	6.04	-.03	-30.3
CrosTim	1.06e	14	18.74	+.19	+4.3
DCP Mid	3.12	18	38.43	+.40	+.1
DTE	2.92	22	99.20	+.90	+.7
Dataram rs	...	...	1.45	+.03	-34.1
DevonE	.24	...	46.48	+.07	+1.8
DrGMBll s	...	...	9.20	+.83	+84.9
DrGfBull s	...	...	10.47	+.77	+37.0
Disney	1.56f	19	107.97	-.09	+3.6
DowChm	1.84	19	57.33	-.47	+.2
DryShp rs	...	1	1.62	-.25	-56.1
EOG Resrc	.67	...	105.48	+.06	+4.3
EmpDist	1.04	23	34.09	...	...
Energen	.08	...	56.06	+1.94	-2.8
EngyTsfr	4.22	...	36.65	+.53	+2.3
EnPro	.84	50	66.59	-1.09	-1.1
EntProdPt	1.84	21	27.69	+.31	+2.4
Ericsson	.46e	...	6.01	+.09	+3.1
ExxonMbl	3.00	35	87.36	+1.01	-3.2
FMC Tech	...	28	35.35	-.50	-.5
Facebook	...	35	127.87	-.47	+11.1
FifthThird	.56f	14	26.03	-1.26	-3.5
FordM	.60a	6	12.61	-.02	+4.0
FrptMcM	...	...	15.06	-.13	+14.2
GATX	1.60	8	59.87	-1.05	-8.0
GabWdAT	.84e	...	7.53	+.01	+4.0
GAInv	1.15e	...	31.99	+.30	+2.3
GenElec	.96f	28	31.27	-.09	-1.0
Goldcrp g	.24	...	15.15	+.55	+11.4
GtPlainEn	1.10f	18	27.49	+.14	+.5
HP Inc	.50	9	14.58	-.19	-1.8
HalPrtn	.72	...	55.01	+.47	+1.7
HuntBncsh	.32f	18	12.95	-.52	-2.0
iShBrazil	1.03e	...	36.19	+.25	+8.5
iShEMkts	.84e	...	36.66	-.02	+4.7
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	59.37	-.22	+2.8
iShR2K	1.77e	...	134.41	-1.85	-.3
Intel	1.04	17	36.80	+.01	+1.5
InterDig	1.20	15	88.20	-1.95	-3.4
JPMorgCh	1.92	14	83.55	-3.15	-3.2
JohnJn	3.20	18	114.87	+.27	-.3
Keycorp	.34	16	17.71	-.87	-3.1
KimbrCls	3.68	19	118.03	+1.44	+1.7
KindMorg	.50	51	22.55	+.13	+8.9
KinrossG	...	...	3.63	+.27	+16.7
LegacyRes	.60m	...	2.49	...	+17.5
LloydBkg	.47a	...	3.31	+.05	+6.8
Lubrys	...	...	3.96	-.10	-7.5
McDnlds	3.76f	23	122.75	+1.25	+.8
MemorialP	.12	...	.26	+.03	+104.6
Merck	1.88f	16	61.48	-.86	+4.4
MerltMed	...	36	26.40	-.30	-.4
MexcoEn	...	...	4.67	+.05	-6.5
MicronT	...	...	21.74	-.44	-.8
Microsoft	1.56f	26	62.53	-.17	+.6
MorgStan	.80	17	42.15	-1.66	-.2
Nabors	.24	...	17.44	+.15	+6.3
NatGrid	3.35e	...	59.39	+.80	+1.8
NOilVarco	.20	20	37.87	+.27	+.6
NobleEngy	.40	...	40.05	+2.66	+5.2
NSTFI3	.55e	...	14.39	+.01	+1.8
NTXQI	.55	...	13.96	+.02	+1.7
Nvidia	.56f	61	101.11	-2.32	-5.3
OcciPet	3.04f	...	69.73	+.85	-2.1
PerTech	...	18	6.05	+.19	+8.4
PerkDrl	...	...	2.70	+.10	+3.8
PetMDI	.08	8	27.82	+.39	+3.7
Penney	...	...	6.94	+.18	-16.5
PennaRE	.84	77	18.36	-.08	-3.1
Prmian	.41e	23	8.21	+.06	+6.5
Petrobras	...	...	11.27	-.05	+11.5
Pfizer	1.28f	13	32.06	-.46	-1.3
PioNtrl	.08	...	181.02	-.95	+.5
PlainsAAP	2.20	28	31.32	-.19	-3.0
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	122.79	-.37	+3.6
Praxair	3.00	22	116.92	-.16	-.2
PrmEgy	...	...	59.00	+5.00	+9.3
PUVInST rs	...	...	30.40	-.23	...
PrcstGen	2.68	23	85.21	+1.20	+1.3
Pulmatrix	...	...	1.55	+.87	+162.7
Qualcom	2.12	16	64.19	-2.69	-1.5
RangeRs	.08	...	33.76	+.12	-1.7
RegionsFn	.26f	18	13.78	-.90	-4.0
RennovaH	...	...	10	+.00	+16.9
RexEngy	...	...	75	+.23	+58.2
ReynAm s	1.84f	27	57.68	+1.71	+2.9
RiteAid	...	79	8.67	+.01	+5.2
Rowan	.40	6	19.37	-.14	+2.5
RoyDShllA	3.76	84	55.54	+.06	+2.1
SpdrDJIA	3.98e	...	198.09	-.61	+.3
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	226.25	-.80	+1.2
SpdrRetl s	.49e	...	44.36	+.35	+.7
SpdrOGEx	.73e	...	41.11	+.64	-.7
SabnR	1.86e	17	36.45	-.50	+3.7
SanchezEn	...	...	13.20	+1.96	+46.2
SanderFin	.96f	11	93.40	-1.08	-.9
Schlmbrg	2.00	56	86.43	+1.61	+3.0
SiriusXM	.01p	38	4.57	-.04	+2.7
Smucker	3.00f	17	132.26	+1.26	-3.3
SwstnEngy	...	...	9.68	-.36	-10.5
Sprint	...	...	8.65	+.04	+2.7
SP CnSt	1.28e	...	52.25	+.73	+1.0
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	22.95	-.56	-1.3
SP Util	1.55e	...	49.04	+.53	+1.0
SunocoLog	2.04f	52	24.64	+.39	+2.6
TelefEsp	1.03e	...	9.72	-.02	+8.7
Tesoro	2.20	10	80.83	+1.22	-7.6
3M Co	4.44	22	177.26	-.13	-.7
Torchmark	.56	17	73.00	-.88	-1.0
TriContl	.82e	...	22.37	-.12	+1.5
Twitter	...	...	16.96	-.29	+4.0
TylerTech	...	54	151.21	-.14	+5.9
UBSI	1.32	22	43.85	-1.45	-5.6
US OilFd	...	...	11.43	+.02	-2.5
USSteel	.20	...	32.24	-.46	-2.3
Vale SA	.29e	...	9.51	-.07	+24.8
ValeroE	2.40	14	66.19	-.20	-3.1
VanEGold	.12e	...	23.36	+.62	+11.7
VanE JrGld	...	...	37.91	+1.25	+20.2
VangFTSE	1.10e	...	37.68	-.10	+3.1
VulcanM	.80	42	123.66	-.74	-1.2
WEC Engy	2.08f	20	59.35	+.61	+1.2
WPX Engy	...	...	14.11	+.39	-3.2
WalMart	2.00f	15	68.42	+1.29	-1.0
WalgBoots	1.50	18	84.22	+.40	+1.8
Wealthfrnt	...	...	5.42	+.16	+8.6
WellsFargo	1.52	13	53.78	-1.53	-2.4
WstnRefin	1.52	24	34.89	+.54	-7.8
WhitingPet	...	...	12.17	-.07	+1.2
WmaCos	.80	66	28.44	-.12	-8.7
XcelEngy	1.36	20	41.20	+.55	+1.2
Xerox	.31	9	6.93	-.12	+20.5
Yamana g	.02m	...	3.26	+.09	+16.0

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
19,999.63	15,450.56	Dow Jones Industrials	19,826.77	-58.96	-.30	+.32	+23.79
9,490.29	6,403.31	Dow Jones Transportation	9,099.58	-102.76	-1.12	+.62	+36.69
723.83	570.73	Dow Jones Utilities	664.49	+7.71	+1.17	+.74	+12.27
11,698.45	8,937.99	NYSE Composite	11,196.30	-30.87	-.27	+1.26	+20.37
5,584.26	4,209.76	Nasdaq Composite	5,538.73	-35.39	-.63	+2.89	+23.72
2,282.10	1,810.10	S&P 500	2,267.89	-6.75	-.30	+1.30	+20.55
1,698.70	1,215.14	S&P Midcap	1,672.73	-14.67	-.87	+.73	+32.43
23,875.45	18,462.43	Wilshire 5000	23,711.34	-86.84	-.41	+1.22	+22.94
1,392.71	943.09	Russell 2000	1,352.32	-19.73	-1.44	-.35	+35.93

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3952 E. 42nd St.
Odessa, TX
432.550.7101

REAL ESTATE

The Real Estate Company
432-618-0286

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

mrt★com/jobs



Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Special Needs Teacher

Large Church seeking staff to teach one to two times a month in Sunday morning special needs program. Hours are 9 a.m. -12 p.m. with opportunity for additional hours through the week in other children's programs. Please contact Donna Fields at donnafields@firstmethodistmidland.com for more information or to apply.

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

All Field Positions

Rush Wellsite Services, LLC is now hiring for all field positions. Wireline Operators, Engineers, Crane Operators, CDL Drivers, all with experience. Please submit your resume to jobs@rushwellsite.com or complete an application at our office, 3009 N County Rd 1106, Midland, TX 79706 P: 432-458-3528

Automation Technician

Tanklogix is hiring for the position of Senior Level Automation Technician. We are seeking qualified, committed professionals to join our team in the fast-growing automation industry. This position requires a minimum of 3 years oilfield experience and 2 years electrical experience. Journeyman electricians preferred. Competitive pay based upon qualifications. Great benefits and working environment. Applicants must pass a background check, drug screen, and electrical aptitude test. Applications must be picked up at 12200 W. Hwy 80 E., Odessa, TX. Applicants must provide a resume in person. Applications must be received by January 23rd, 2017 at 4:00 P.M.

General Labor, Pit Lining, Foreman

Bugle Energy Services, LLC is hiring for general labor, pit lining and a foreman with minimum of 2 years experience , spray crew with experience in spraying polyurea, (experience in bed lining spraying or auto painting acceptable) Apply in person at 5205 FM 715. Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 7 am - 5 pm or call to set up appointment at (432) 218-7839. Must be able to pass a drug test.

Warehouse Person

Natural Gas Services Group is seeking a Warehouse person. Must have experience with inventory, cycle counts, shipping and receiving. Must be able to lift 60 pounds, pass physical, drug and background check. NSGSI offers a competitive salary and benefits Send your resume to employment@ngsgi.com or call 432-262-2700.

West Texas Mud Loggers Needed

Co. in business since 1953. Good benefits. Exp. Req. Send resume w/contact info. & exp. to: OFFICE@PWL-INC.COM

HEALTHCARE

Big Spring State Hospital

Registered Nurses, Job Posting # 298933 & 303578
Earn up to $5312.11 per month (DOE)
Licensed Vocational Nurses, Job Posting # 298944
Earn up to $3678.00 per month (DOE)
Psychiatric Nursing Assistants, Job Posting # 295342
Varied Shifts, Starting salary $1962.85 per month

Contact our Job Center for Job Descriptions or to Arrange a Campus Tour 432-268-7941 or 432-268-7298 or Complete an application online at: https://jobshrportal.hhsc.state.tx.us/ENG/default.cfm

Big Spring State Hospital 1901 North Highway 87 Big Spring, TX 79720

LVN

LVN -Full Time needed for Addiction medical clinic. Early morning hours Medication Management, TB tests, blood draws, medical orders. Paid vacations, holidays, personal days. Routine travel between Midland and Odessa. Periodic travel to Abilene/San Angelo area required. No health insurance available. Please fax resume to 800-671-8364.

Registered Nurse

Immediate opening for **RN**, experience preferred. FT. Excellent benefit package. Send resume with references to: **jodyclinic@gmail.com or Midland Women's Clinic, Attn: Jody Bulls, 2500 W. Illinois Ave Suite 100, Midland, TX 79701.**

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Manager

Local manufacturing company seeking professional Human Resource Manager experienced in all areas of HR management & administration including hiring, terminations, benefits, workers compensation, & related functions. Other experience including HS&E, payroll, and bilingual are a plus. Contact Palmer of Texas at 432-523-5904 P.O. Box 1069 Andrews, TX. 79714

MANAGEMENT-EXECUTIVE

Assistant Managers

Panera Bread is coming to Midland, Texas and we have immediate positions open for Assistant Managers. If you have restaurant management experience, excellent communication skills and experience managing and motivating a team, Panera Bread wants to talk to you! As an employee of Panera Bread, you'll receive competitive pay, bonus program, meal discount, medical, dental and vision benefits, paid vacation, and an opportunity for growth. Send resumes to Careers@tcgbc.com. The Cain Holding Group, LLC, a Franchisee of Panera Bread is an equal opportunity employer.

OTHER JOBS

Gate Attendants needed

Gate Guard Services is looking for Gate Attendants in West Texas area, must have RV or Traveling trailer and must pass background. Requirements needed: Non-Commissioned license. Please call Patty for more information @ 361-649-6992.

GATE GUARD SERVICES, L.P.

Multiple Positions Available

Midland County has the following positions available:
* Technical Clerk-Elections * Maintenance Helper in Jail
* Jailer * Senior Foreman- Road & Bridge
* 142nd District Court Bailiff * Employee Relations Coordinator
Please see our website:
www.co.midland.tx.us/departments/hr/pages/employment.aspx for more details, pay and applications. To be considered you must send a completed application with job reference numbers to the address indicated on the application.

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call

432-682-6222

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

HOOVER CONTAINER SOLUTIONS

Hoover Transportation is Hiring Experienced Owner Operators



As a service-based turnkey logistics provider Hoover Transportation Services (HTS) aligns with customer needs to provide an efficient and much improved transportation and logistics alternative.

QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED:
- Required Tanker, Haz-Mat endorsements. TWIC Card is a plus
- Prefer tractor 7 years old or less, weighing 18,500 pounds or less
- Clean driving record no accidents or moving violations within the past 2 years
- Must have truck driving experience for at least the past 24 months driving tractor trailer / ISO tanks.
- Truck must have a Chemical Pump & Air Compressor.

BENEFITS:
- No startup costs • Fleet One Fuel Card available (deducted at cost)
- Spouse Rider program • Company paid License Plate and Insurance
- Flexible Time off

COMPENSATION PROGRAM
- Loads Pay 70 percent of line haul revenue to the truck • Hourly Detention pay after customer agreed free time

Hoover Transportation is Hiring Experienced Drivers

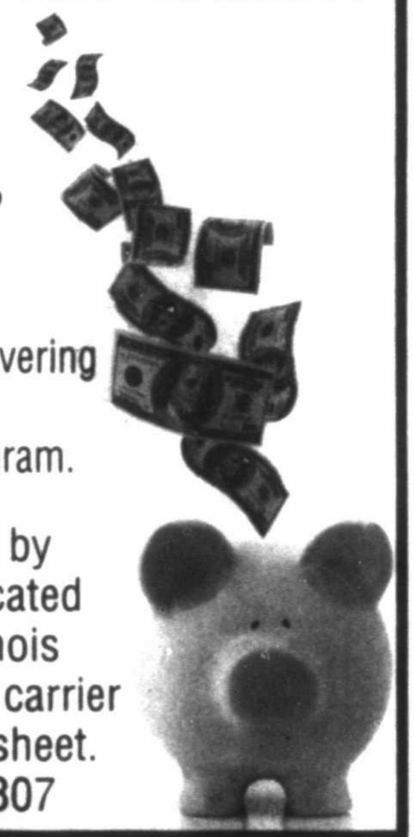
QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED:
- Required Tanker, Haz-Mat endorsements. TWIC Card is a plus
- $500.00 Sign-On Bonus (90 days) Call for details
- Clean driving record no accidents or moving violations within the past 2 years
- Must have truck driving experience for at least the past 24 months driving tractor trailer / ISO tanks.

COMPENSATION PROGRAM
- Loads Pay 30% percent of line haul revenue to the truck
- Hourly Detention pay after customer agreed free time

TALK TO A HOOVER TRANSPORTATION RECRUITER NOW! 832-295-6266

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.

Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Linda 687-8807

NOW HIRING EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

Entry Level & Experienced Equipment Operators. Must have a Class A CDL License. Apply at TITAN PETROSERVICES 6100 E I-20, MIDLAND TX or submit resume online at www.titanpetroservices.com

Veterinary Technician & a Kennel Technician

Full time Veterinary Technician & a Kennel Technician. Call 432-687-4118 for for more information and an interview.

WANTED LOCKSMITH

Starting at $12 an hour. Looking for someone who wants to make a career by becoming a locksmith. Pay will increase as you show potential. Looking for Shop and Van hands. Need a clean driving record and able to pass a drug screen. No Felonies, or class A or B misdemeanors.
APPLY IN PERSON @ 2507 W. Illinois.

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 & 812 West I-20.

SALES JOBS

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram
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, a cell phone allowance 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.

Salesperson

Experienced pump salesperson needed. Excellent compensation and benefit plans provided. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email to bobby@basinengine.com. Applications can be filled out at 1914 S. County Rd. 1083, Midland, TX 79706

Sales Person

Sales Person Wanted. Experienced in RV Industry. Texas RV Superstore formally Ken's RV. Call for more info. 432-697-6447

SKILLED LABOR

Field Mechanics

Basin Engine & Pump
Mechanics needed for Industrial Oilfield Shop. Must be experienced working on centrifugal & positive displacement pumps. Furnish your own tools. Uniforms provided. Benefits package includes vacation, health insurance and retirement match savings. Salary depends on experience. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email to bobby@basinengine.com. Applications can be filled out at 1914 S. County Rd. 1083, Midland, TX 79706

Vaquero Midstream is now hiring for an I&E Technician

Interested candidates should submit their resume to: demi.carrasco@vaqueromidstream.com. Basic Required Qualifications: Hold a minimum total of three years' experience as a Plant Mechanic. Obtain a minimum of five years' experience in the natural gas industry or related field. Possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Demonstrate the ability to work under limited supervision. Have basic knowledge of Plant operations and Cryo Plant Mechanics. Have a valid State Operators Driving License and excellent driving record, be willing to work after hours and on-call rotations. Possess adequate communication skills. Ability to carry and lift items that can weigh 50lbs or more. Team orientated and the ability to work well with others. Excellent organizational, interpersonal, and initiative skills.

Survey Field Hand

Survey Field Hand Needed. 432-934-5502

Vaquero Midstream is now hiring for a Mechanic

Interested candidates should submit their resume to: demi.carrasco@vaqueromidstream.com. Basic Required Qualifications: Hold a minimum total of two years' experience as an Instrumentation & Electrical Operations Technician. Obtain a minimum of two years' experience in the natural gas industry or related field. Possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Demonstrate the ability to work under limited supervision. Have basic knowledge of Microsoft Office Application and PC skills. Have a valid State Operators Driving License and excellent driving record, be willing to work after hours and on-call rotations. Possess adequate communication skills. Ability to carry and lift items that can weigh 50lbs or more. Team Orientated and the ability to work well with others. Excellent organizational, interpersonal, and initiative skills.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

AVERITT

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL CDL-A DRIVERS

$1,500 SIGN-ON BONUS UNTIL JAN. 31!
Odessa, TX - GET HOME DAILY!
Great pay & CIGNA benefits - 401(k)/Profit sharing Paid holidays & vacation Referral rewards program - Career advancement opportunities
Apply today! 888-805-5240
www.AverittCareers.com
Equal Opportunity Employer - Females, minorities, protected veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Class A CDL Drivers

Purity Oilfield Services, LLC. (EOE) is now hiring Class A CDL drivers with winch and/or vac truck experience. Competitive pay and excellent benefits. Please contact 432-699-8600 for more information, submit a resume at mkiker@purityoilfieldservices.com, or stop by in person to apply at 11109 West CR 46, Midland, TX 79707

Class A CDL Driver with Hazmat & Tanker endorsement

Service Seal LLC has an immediate opening for a Class A CDL Driver with Hazmat & Tanker endorsement. We are a stable company that offers a **sign-on bonus**, competitive hourly pay and excellent benefits. More information regarding our benefits will be given during the interview process. This position requires at least 3 years of verifiable professional driving experience, strong computer skills, along with passing the pre-employment background screening. Our Drivers have most weekends off and will not have many overnight deliveries. Please submit your resume to tammy@oilcenter.com for review and consideration or contact Rodolfo Sanchez at 432-880-6985 to complete an application in person.

Truck Pusher/Salesman

Truck Pusher/Salesman for a local trucking company. Must have experience, good references and ability to follow D.O.T. regulations. Please send resume' to P. O. Box 53, Midland, Texas. 79702.

Vacuum Truck Driver

Vacuum Truck Drivers needed. Midkiff Transports, Class A CDL required. Apply at 6801 FM 715, Midland, Texas.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999


"I want to be a bench. Recycle me."
Ad Council
KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL
IWantToBeRecycled.org

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR EXCEPTION TO SWR 26/27 SURFACE COMMINGLING PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that CrownQuest Operating, LLC (RRC P-5 # 191554) has filed with the Texas Railroad Commission P-17 Application for an exception to SWR 26 and/or 27 to commingle production from the following oil and gas leases: Super Southwest Unit 5 #1, (RRC Permit Lease No. 812214), and SSW Unit 5 #2, (RRC Permit Lease No. 814069), all in the Spraberry (Trend Area) in Midland County, Texas. The wells and leases are located in Section 5, Block 37 T3S, T&P RR CO Survey, Midland County, Texas. This application is for common storage and casinghead gas metering by allocation by well test. Production will be allocated by W-10 Tests. Any royalty interest owners who have not received written notification, please consider this your Notice of Application. If you have objections to the issuance of this permit, you may submit a letter to P-17 Department, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711. Unless the Railroad Commission receives a protest to this application, the Commission may issue a permit within 21 days following the date of last publication.

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR OIL & GAS WASTE DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT

Environmental Disposal Systems, 110 N. Marienfeld, Ste. 200 Midland, Texas 79701is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation which is not productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the San Andres formation, Windowpane SWD Well Number 1D.

The proposed disposal well is located 2.5 miles in a South direction from Midland, Texas, in the Spraberry (Trend Area) field, in Section 4, Block 39, T-2-S, T & P RR Co. Survey, Midland County, Texas.

The waste water will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 4390' to 5600 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512- 463- 6792).

Legal and Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Region 18 Education Service Center

Announces

Board Election

Places 1, 4 and 6 on the Board of Directors of Region 18 Education Service Center are to be filled during the March election. Any citizen of the United States who is at least 18 years of age, and who is not engaged professionally in education or a member of s board of any educational agency or institution is eligible to file. Directors of Region 18 Education Service Center are elected by members of the boards of trustees of all the school districts served by Region 18 ESC, regardless of place.

The term of office is three years. Persons desiring to fill the vacancies on the Board must file for a place on the ballot between February 1 and February 20, 2017. A candidate must be a resident of the area to be served:

Place 1 - must live within the confines of Midland ISD.
Place 4 - must live within the confines of Coahoma ISD, Crane ISD, Forsan ISD, Glasscock County ISD, Grady ISD, Grandfalls-Royalty ISD, Greenwood ISD, Kermit ISD, McCamey ISD, Rankin ISD, Reagan County ISD, Stanton ISD or Wink-Loving ISD.
Place 6 - must live within the confines of Pecos-Barstow-Toyah ISD or Fort Stockton ISD.

Candidates must submit the filing form to the Executive Director's office in person or by certified mail by 5:00 p.m. February 20, 2017. There is no fee for filing. Applications are available from local school superintendents or from Region 18 Education Service Center, located at Midland International Airport, 2811 LaForce Blvd., P.O. Box 60580, Midland, Texas 79711-0580.

Members of the Board of Directors of Region 18 Education Service Center serve without compensation. Persons interested in filing for a position on the Board of Directors should contact their local school superintendent or call John Thomas, Executive Director, (432) 567-3210.

General Announcement

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Lost and Found

FOUND: LAB mix dog around Andrews Hwy. in Midland. Call to identify 432-413-5222.

Autos For Sale-Lease

Passenger Cars

2003 PORSCHE 911. CONVERTIBLE Hard-top / Soft top. Lifetime garage. 6,800 miles. $35.000. Saddle Club. Charlie 432-570-1822.

2008 BMW 750I Series. Perfect condition. Beautiful black color. Asking $13,500 432-770-7982

NEW 2016 Red Mercedes-Benz SLK 350 convertible. 950 mi. Paid $71,500 ask. $59,000. 325-473-2609, San Angelo, TX.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Pickup Trucks

FOR SALE CHEVROLET 2004 1/2 ton pickup. $5,950. See at 1501 W. Illinois. Call 432-557-3366. Bill Jackson.

Vans and Mini Vans

2013 Town & Country minivan, 72k miles, leather seats, free lifetime oil change, all upgrades, text 432-528-0395. se habla espanol.

4WD and SUV

2008 CHEVY Tahoe 5.3L V-8, 79,000 miles, 4x4, 3rd row, factory tow package, new Michelin tires, new factory radio/cd, "Blue Granite" with gray cloth interior. 1 owner well maintained. Very clean. $13,500. 432-312-7099

Recreation Vehicles

2016 PREMIER Travel Trailer. 42 foot, 2 bedroom, 3 slides, fiberglass, front kitchen, 3 A/C's, washer/dryer, electnc awning, all options. No smokers. No pets. In Odessa. $30,000. Must sell! 432-438-8172.

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL OIL AND GAS WASTE DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT

Wasser Operating, LLC, c/o Box 953, Midland, TX 79702 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced formation water/fluid into a formation that is not productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to dispose of fluids into the Ellenburger formations, HMW (lease), Well Number: 2.

The proposed disposal well is located 4.9 miles in a SW direction from Midland, in the Spraberry (Trend Area) field, in Midland County, TX.

Fluid will be disposed into strata in the subsurface depth interval from/within 13400 to 15000 feet.

Legal Authority: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil & Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, TX 78711-2967 (Telephone # (512-463-6792).

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

9			4	8				5
		5			3	7	4	
		1				3		
		9	2	1	7	5		
		7				6		
	1	3	7			9	5	
2				9	4			3

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

4	7	9	8	5	2	1	6	3
5	3	1	7	4	6	2	9	8
8	2	6	1	9	3	4	5	7
9	5	4	3	6	1	7	8	2
2	1	8	4	7	9	6	3	5
7	6	3	2	8	5	9	1	4
3	4	2	6	1	8	5	7	9
1	8	5	9	2	7	3	4	6
6	9	7	5	3	4	8	2	1

1/18/17

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To advertise in Classified

Contact our Classified Department at 432-682-6222

email mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

fax 432-682-3793

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

REDUCED
HARLEY DAVIDSON 2005 Road King. 13K miles. $7,500 OBO. MUST SEE! 432-697-9787 leave message!

Merchandise

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

Brand New Startrac stationary excercise bicycle. All the bells and whistles. Asking $1000 or best offer. Please call Kelly 432-556-1045.

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

LANDSCAPING BRICKS - 8" Windsor Stone (red). 310 bricks never been used. On pallet (extra pallet - loading). $1.30 / brick (min 50). $350 for pallet. Call (432) 352-6832.

Musical Instruments

OLD PLAYER Piano with a LARGE number of rolls, can also be played as a regular piano. 432-682-9146, 432-212-2590.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Sporting Goods

Permian Basin Gun Show - Ector County Coliseum, Odessa TX, Building G. Saturday & Sunday, Jan. 21st, 9am-5pm Jan. 22nd, 9am-5pm Bought, Sold or Traded Sponsored by: John and Shirley Pokorny

Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE
BY JOSEPH & TEAM
#42 Preston Oaks (Odessa)
Wednesday - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Thursday - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

For pictures go to...

http://www.estate-sales.net/TX/Odessa/79761/1400791

Lots and Land

47.75 AC. W. TX. HUNTING, N OF COMSTOCK. DEER, JAVELINA, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. $2,375 DN-$394/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Lots and Land

Acreage

21.23 AC. N. OF SAN ANGELO. LEVEL WITH NICE MESQUITE TREE COVER. DEER, HOGS, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. NEAR LAKE E. V. SPENCE. $2,926 DN-$485/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Commercial

READY-RANCH RR
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

- **Kent County**
  - 11,155 ac. n. of Snyder. 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 800 ft. mtn., creek, lakes. Whitetail deer, mule deer and quail $795/ac
  - 4,212 ac. Maveric Creek, canyons. whitetail and mule deer and quail $825/ac
  - 1,771 ac. windmill, creek, blinds and feeders. great w-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $850
- **Nolan County**
  - 646 ac. over 1 mile elevation change, oak, **SOLD** creek, blinds, feeders, ... $3,550/ac
  - 565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop. 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders. windmill $4,425/ac
- **Howard County**
  - 842 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some oilfield traffic $750/ac
  - 150 ac. big canyon, great deer, turkey, jav **SOLD** anks, cedar/mesquites, ... $895/ac
- **Martin County**
  - 135 ac. Sulphur Springs hogs, varmints, metal stor... **SOLD** deer and whitetail, ... $1,150/ac

(432) 694-7784 or (432) 934-7777
No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that Know the Country!!!
Owner Financing Available

Residential Rentals

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT. 3BD/2BA. $1000/mo plus $1000 deposit. 2BD/1BA $800/mo plus $800 deposit. Call 432-210-4955, 432-634-4762 until 5pm. after 5pm text only for more info.

Residential Rentals



LOCATION LOCATION
For lease 5 bedroom, 3 living, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage. $2,100 month
$2,100 deposit, 432-697-5920.

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 1800-669-9777

Business Opportunity

MERGER OPPORTUNITY

A fully reporting public Company is seeking a fast growing, profitable company in the oil & gas industry that is planning to "Go Public". The company must have a profitable operating history or strong future potential. This opportunity gives the Company wanting to "Go Public" a quick and relatively inexpensive method of listing their shares of stock. If interested and you qualify as an accredited investor, please contact:

Mr. Charles Barkley, Attorney-at-Law
(704) 543-4110
or
cwbarkley@gmail.com

Real Estate Rental-Sale

Residential Rentals

Apartment Rent Unfurn

4407 CROCKETT Apt A, 2bed/1bath. $825 mo, $825 dep. 432-978-2074.

4407 CROCKETT Apt D, 2bed/1bath. $825 mo, $825 dep. 432-978-2074.

EFFICENDY APARTMENT call Candy 432-222-0454. 907 W. Dakota in rear. $600 monthly utilities paid appliances furnished. $200 deposit.

LOWEST RENT! Spacious 1 - 2 Bedroom Apartments. 432-687-4514.

ONE BEDROOM, electric, water, cable paid. Monthly $800 or weekly. American Realty. 432-520-7577

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 ★

House Rent Furnished

FULLY FURNISHED room for rent $300 deposit, $575 month. all bills paid, pool included. Great location. 432-528-0395

House Rent Unfurn

1-BR, -1 BATH, YARD, WASHER & DRYER. ALL BILLS PAID. $800.00 PER MO. 432-634-6445.

3 Bed, 2 Bath,
2 car garage, built in 2001. $900 month, rent to own. 575-937-9377

4512 PARKDALE 3 bedroom 2 bath, single carport, recently remodeled. Non smoker. 600 credit score required. $25 application on anyone over 18. $1,450 month. $1,450 deposit. 1 year lease. 432-940-0920.

Residential Sales

Single Family Homes

HOUSE FOR sale in Forsan, TX. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1,500 sq. ft. $15K cash. 489-544-9503

OWNER WILL finance 811 N. Ft. Worth, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, central heat & air. Low monthly payments. $99,900 with $8,000 down. Call Annalea at 432-260-6009

Lots and Land

Acreage

GREAT INVESTMENT! Mitchell county 160 acres irrigated farm. Valley Center Pivot with 600 gallon per minute water well. Included in current USGS wolf camp study, released Nov. 15, 2016. 325-242-0771.

Commercial

5 ACRE fenced caliche yard, available for sub lease. $1,200 month. 432-631-6079

COMMERCIAL YARD/ BUILD TO SUIT FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED
ELECTRIC GATE
$2200/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
432-664-7764

EAST HWY 80
SHOP, 2400 sq. ft with office.
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Commercial

NEW CONSTRUCTION
60' x 100' Shop
1500 sq. ft. office
5 acre yard
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• Office/Warehouses •
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Various locations.
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OFFICE / RETAIL space for lease.
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Mobile-Modular Homes

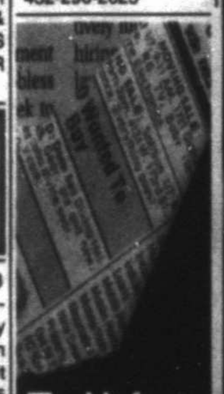
Mobile Homes Rent

1407 WCR 135, 3 bedroom 2 bath, doublewide mobile home, 1/2 acre, $800 month, deposit. No pets. American Realty. 432-520-7577

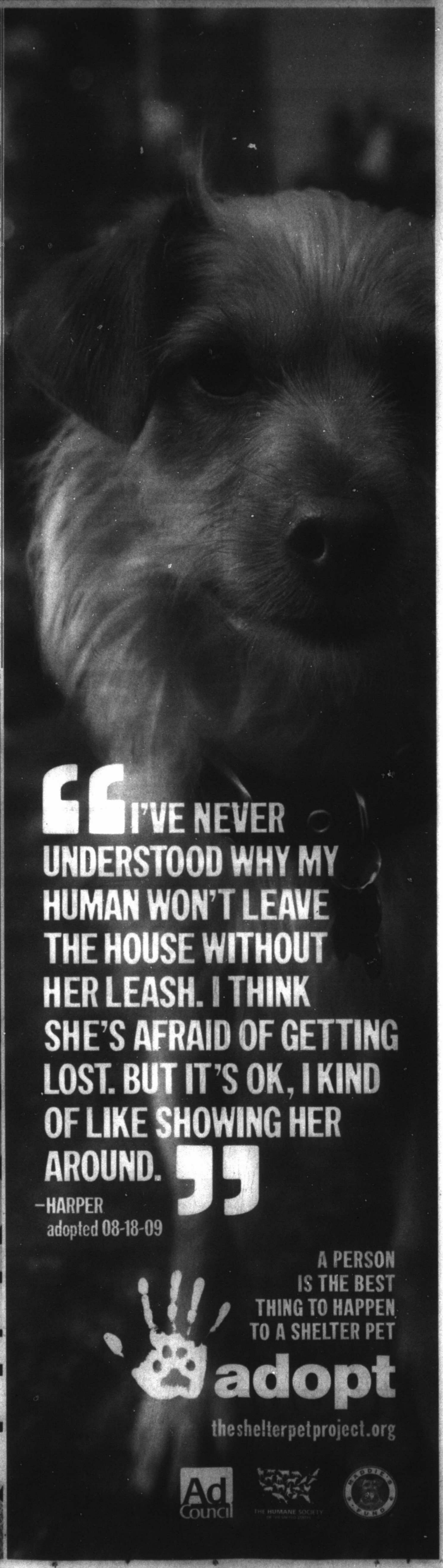
Mobile Homes for rent ranging between $650 - $800. Deposit $500. Fenced in yard. Paved roads. Ready to move in to. 432-687-6324.

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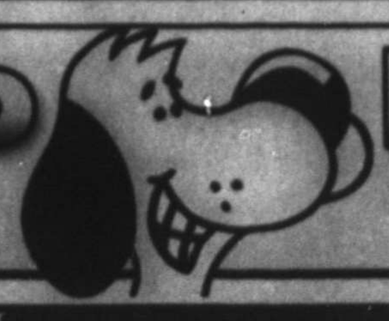
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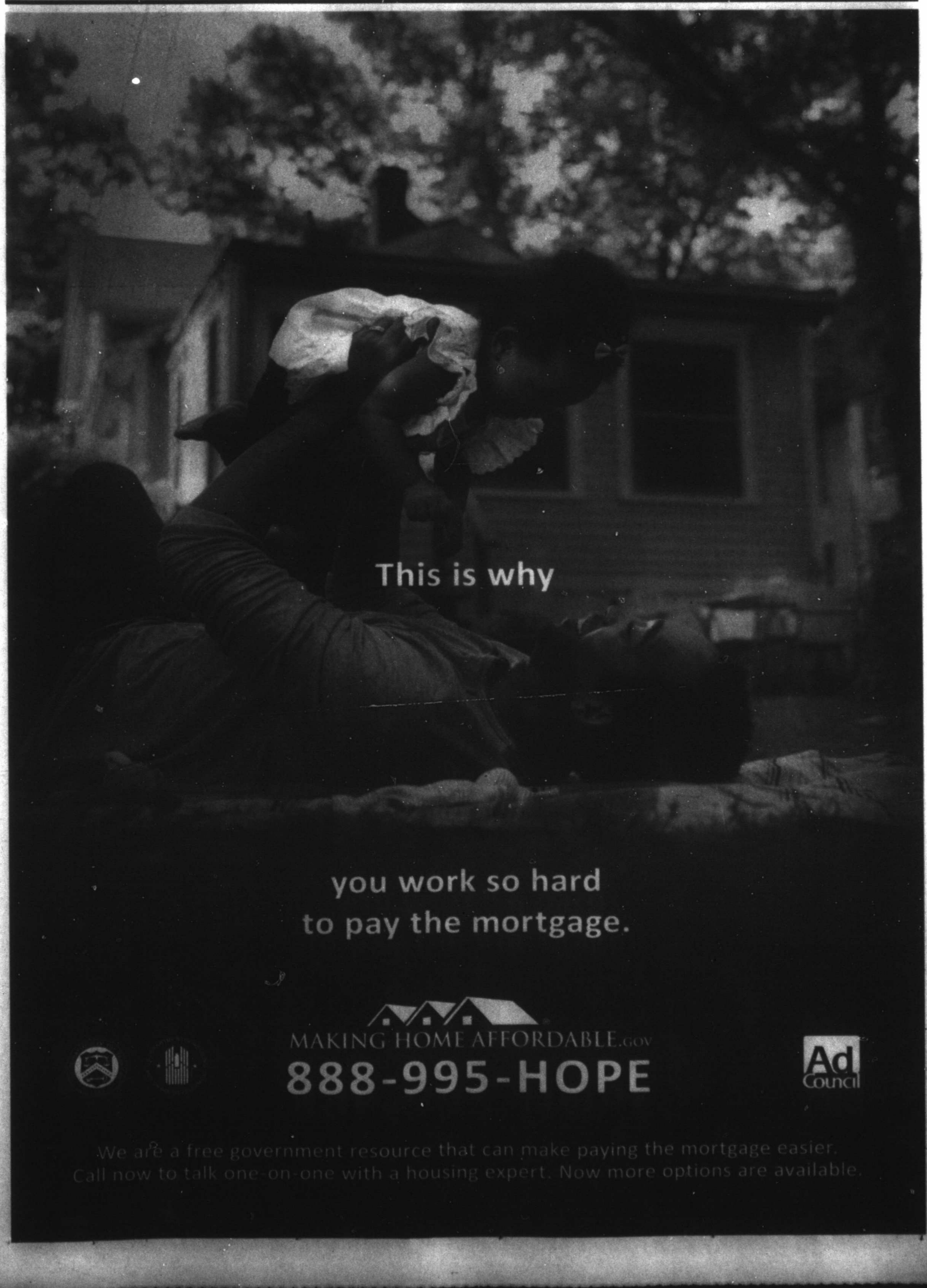
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