MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018 mrt★com *320,000 readers in print and online*

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Midland men and women face Odessa today.

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EVENING OF LIES

Read our interview with comedian Rob Schneider before he performs Friday at Wagner Noel.

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Goldman: OPEC will try to 'talk down' prices

By Grant Smith and Francine Lacqua
Bloomberg

More inside

API: Energy infrastructure should be part of infrastructure discussion

Page 5A

OPEC would try to talk down an oil rally above $70 a barrel to cushion the impact on the global economy and rival supplies, according to Goldman Sachs Group Inc.

Oil has climbed to a three-year high above $69 in London amid OPEC production cuts, growing demand and political risks to supply. If prices keep rising, OPEC could see some unwelcome developments, such as greater investment by competitors including U.S. shale drillers, or central bank interventions to temper inflation, Goldman said.

"OPEC members do not want to see that," Jeff Currie, the bank's head of commodities research, said in a Bloomberg television interview from Frankfurt. "We'll see more noise and rhetoric if prices trade above $70 a barrel in coming days to push this market back down."

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries formed an alliance with Russia in late 2016, cutting their output to end a glut that has weighed on prices and battered their economies. The coalition has agreed to press on with the curbs until the end of the year to eliminate the remains of the oil surplus.

Yet there are signs the cartel is growing

Please see **OPEC**/5A

STATE SENATE FORUM

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Texas District 31 Senate candidates Mike Canon, from left, Victor Leal and Kel Seliger speak Wednesday at the Midland County Republican Women's luncheon.

Canon challenges Seliger in speech at MCRW

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

More coverage

Leal shares message of smaller government, local control

Page 5A

With all the cordiality that would be expected at a Midland County Republican Women's luncheon, the proverbial white glove was thrown down as state Senate hopeful Mike Canon challenged the incumbent Sen. Kel Seliger in his speech to the organization's members.

Canon is a former Midland mayor and is making his second run against Seliger, who for 14 years has held the post as District 31 senator. In 2014, Canon lost the primary by 5 percentage points. Now in a three-person Republican primary field, which includes former Muleshoe mayor and restaurateur Victor Leal, Canon professed what makes him different than his currently seated competition.

In addressing a packed ballroom at Midland Country Club, he beckoned the audience to "move into the imaginary world with me for a minute."

"Imagine that, like our senator, you have collected over that period of time almost $6 million in campaign contributions," Canon said. "Imagine that from 2006 to 2016, less than 30 percent of those contributions came from Midland, Amarillo and Odessa. Imagine that during that same period of time, almost 10 percent of those contributions came from outside Texas from places like Los Angeles; Chicago; Washington, D.C.; Omaha; Indianapolis; and other places, from groups such as the University of Houston PAC, which gave almost $50,000, or Friends of Time Warner Inc., which gave $30,000 over that time period, and numerous other special interest groups from within or without the state of Texas.

"You might be asking yourself why would I, a Texas senator, be taking money from groups and places like that, from so many special interest groups?"

Seliger parried when it was his turn to speak.

"Time Warner has a Texas affiliate. Their PAC is I don't know where. They support me because I'm the pro-business candidate," the lawmaker said. "The University of Houston PAC? Absolutely. I'm so proud of that support because it's one of the growing successful universities anywhere in the country, and we ought to be particularly proud because one of the people who has made one of the biggest contributions to that is Spencer Armour from Midland, who is on the board of regents and has been a great regent."

Seliger then struck back.

"I think what Mr. Canon is telling you is, if elected, he will not take a dollar that comes from outside Midland County or the district and will not take a dollar that comes from Austin or PACs or things like that," he said. "I believe that not to be true."

In speaking with the media after the event, Canon said he has never received any money from special interest groups. "Down the road, I may have people offer contributions, and I'll have to make a decision at that point. But I don't plan on taking money from special interest groups."

Exchanges between the candidates in their 10-minute speeches show that the primary candidates indeed aren't the same, Canon said. "We're all running for the same office, so it will get a little bit contentious. In regard to the senator, there are certain things I would have done differently. In general, I have a different vision for what government ought to be. I think (Seliger) sees government being more controlled in the central level, more big government."

Canon advocates for less statewide bureaucracy and more local control over issues such as education. The former Midland mayor prefers to see standardized testing limited to the SAT for those who want to go to college; otherwise, yearly tests as a metric for accountability are unnecessary both as an evaluation of a student's aptitude and as a financial burden. The financial savings could be put to better use, such as raising teachers' wages.

Seliger said standardized tests must evolve.

Please see **CHALLENGE**/5A

NWS records 68 mph wind gusts

■ Two wind records set; NWS also reports new high temperature mark

From staff reports

Inside

View a photo from today's wind storm.

Page 4A

Three weather records were set Wednesday at Midland International Air and Space Port, including a pair of wind-related records for the month of January.

The National Weather Service reported maximum sustained winds reached 52 mph at the airport, which was a new record for the month of January (breaking the previous record of 46 mph on Jan. 12, 2005). The NWS also reported maximum gusts at 68 mph, which broke the record of 59 mph, set on Jan. 17, 1996.

The windy weather darkened the sky and made driving treacherous for some because of the lack of visibility.

As of 6 p.m., Oncor showed nine power outages in Midland, impacting 113 customers. In Odessa, there were 55 outages reported, impacting hundreds of customers across the city.

The day also will go down in the record books because a new record high was set — 78 degrees, breaking the old record for Jan. 10 (76 set in 1935).

Nodolf: District clerk investigation involves records tampering

From staff reports

An investigation into tampering with government records was conducted in relation to former District Clerk Ross Bush, according to Midland County District Attorney Laura A. Nodolf. She told the Reporter-Telegram on Monday her office's investigation has concluded, and a plea deal has been worked out.

Bush was serving his second term as Midland County district clerk when he submitted his resignation Friday.

Nodolf said she could not provide additional details about the investigation because not all paperwork had been finalized.

"I can say that the investigation that was completed I believe was done

Please see **CLERK**/4A

Visit us on social media

Price of oil
$63.57 ▲ $0.61
January 2018

Did you know? MLK events
are expected to promote conversation between seniors and youth. Page 4A

Word of the Day: cornucopia
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 4A.

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Vol. 69, No. 306
Daily $2, Sunday $3

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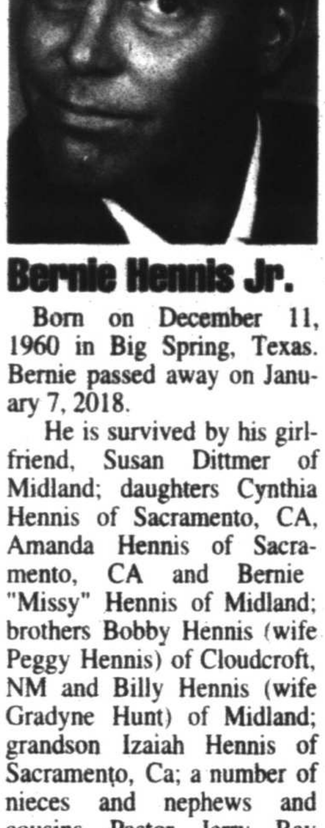
Obituaries



Bernie Hennis Jr.

Born on December 11, 1960 in Big Spring, Texas. Bernie passed away on January 7, 2018.

He is survived by his girlfriend, Susan Dittmer of Midland; daughters Cynthia Hennis of Sacramento, CA, Amanda Hennis of Sacramento, CA and Bernie "Missy" Hennis of Midland; brothers Bobby Hennis (wife Peggy Hennis) of Cloudcroft, NM and Billy Hennis (wife Gradyne Hunt) of Midland; grandson Izaiah Hennis of Sacramento, Ca; a number of nieces and nephews and cousins Pastor Jerry Ray Murphy and Brother Ronnie Cale Murphy.

Bernie loved watching the Dallas Cowboys, riding his Harley, working and enjoying life. He will be deeply missed.

A viewing will be held on Friday, January 12, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a family and friends gathering from 6:00 p.m. to 8 :00 p.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin funeral home located at 2508 N. Big Spring St., Midland, TX 79705 (next to La Bodega restaurant).

Funeral service is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to: pipkin@nts-online.net or you can visit our website at *www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com.*

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin Funeral Home
2508 N. Big Spring - Midland, TX - (432) 682-3700

Bobby Gene Marsh

Bobby Gene Marsh was born on October 5, 1929 in Stamford Texas to Charlie Marsh and Molly Belle Marsh. Bobby moved on to his eternal home on January 6, 2018 in Midland Texas.

Bobby served his country as an Army Veteran fighting in the Korean War and was very eager to do so.

Bobby was well educated . He attended the University of Texas of The Permian Basin in Odessa where he resided. He majored in Criminal Law.

Bobby was employed with Exxon-Mobil for many years before retiring, living his life doing the thing he enjoyed the most which was traveling up and down the interstate until his sudden illness took that away from him, and even then he wasn't ready to hang up his keys.

Bobby met no strangers he was a people person, if you were someone that he considered a close friend his famous greeting to you would be "Hey Hey What You Got On Your Mind" then he would follow that up with the cutest little grin on his face.

Bobby is survived by his children, Robert Gene Marsh of Houston TX, Bobby Gene Marsh of Midland Tx, Adjuella Roshonne Hynden and husband Douglas A. Hynden of Midland TX, Bennie Charles Marsh of Midland TX; 24 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; his sister Tommie Elizabeth Daniels; his beloved friend and mother of his children Betty Jean Marsh Beaver of Abilene TX; several nieces, nephews, cousins; and a host of friends.

Bobby was proceeded in death by his wife Billie Ruth Marsh, his father Charlie Marsh, his mother Mollie Belle Marsh, daughter Linda Alexis Marsh, son Marcus Dwayne Marsh and granddaughter Katiya Adrianna Marsh.

The family will receive guests from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday, January 12, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, January 13, 2018 at Goodwill Missionary Baptist Church in Midland. Interment will follow at Resthaven North Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Devin Saddler, Alexander Marsh, Javarian Marsh, Cedric Hall, Xavier Daniels and Josh Weldon.

The family of Bobby Marsh would like to thank everyone for your kindness and generosity throughout our time of bereavement. Special Thanks to Rev. Kenneth Johnson and Goodwill Missionary Baptist Church.

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

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

Gary Lee Naylor

Gary Lee Naylor, 56, of San Angelo, Texas, went to be with the Lord on Sunday, January 7, 2018 in San Angelo.

Gary was born February 2, 1961 in Amarillo, Texas to James W. and Kathryn Eckman Naylor. He grew up in the Texas panhandle and graduated from High School in Dimmitt, Texas. Gary then attended West Texas State University where he played football. He worked various jobs and moved to Midland where he worked for United Parcel Service (UPS) for 31 years until his passing. He loved working for UPS with his UPS family.

Gary married the love of his life, Vikki Murphy, on June 16, 1990 and they shared 27 wonderful years together.

He was a loving and devoted son, husband, brother, father, uncle, cousin, and PaPa. When he wasn't working, he enjoyed hanging out and relaxing with family and friends. Gary's other passion was going out on the lake in his boat. He loved boating and enjoyed teaching people to ski and tube. Gary and Vikki also own and operate Preston's Play Yard on College Hills Blvd.

When Gary wasn't working or out on the boat, he was awarded the title of "Mr. Fixit" by his family and friends. Gary could fix just about anything and would tinker around with anything that needed fixing.

His absolute favorite pastime was telling stories with his family and friends. Gary was always the life of the party and he delivered the most beautiful speeches. He had numerous affiliations but most notably, was his involvement with United Way.

Gary's humor and love and devotion to his family will remain in our hearts forever! We will dearly miss him.

Gary was preceded in death by his grandparents, Don and Clara Eckman and J.L. and Elma Naylor; and by his mother and father-in-law, Jerry Murphy and Jacquelyn Bickham Hawley.

He is survived by his wife, Vikki Naylor of San Angelo; his daughter, Kanji Naylor Adams and her husband Danny of Midland, Texas; his parents, James W. and Kathryn Naylor of Waco, Texas; his grandchildren, Preston and Reese Adams of Midland; his brother, Donnie Naylor and his wife Melissa of Waco; his sisters-in-laws, DeeDee Neal and her husband Alan of Pottsboro, Texas, Kandi Bagwell and her husband Don of Midland, and Angie Fields of Midland; and by numerous nieces, nephews, and other family members and many close friends.

There will be a visitation at Ellis Funeral Home in Midland, Texas on Thursday, January 11, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

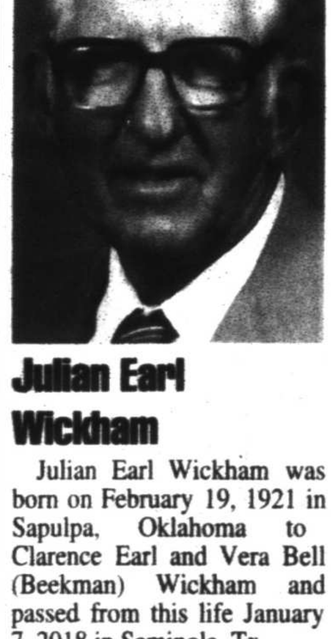
A funeral service will be held at First Baptist Church at 2104 W. Louisiana, Midland, Texas on Friday, January 12, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Pallbearers for the service will be Donnie Naylor, Cameron Naylor, Danny Adams, Alan Neal, Jeffrey Votaw, Adam Votaw, Jeremy Sessions, Josh Fields, Jaxon Fields, Don Bagwell, David Dakil, Dylan Dakil, Troy Henry, Josh Haro, Dale Cleveland, Justin Ezell, Wesley Huddleston, and J.R. Ezell.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hartley Strong at *www.youcaring.com* or the Dear John Michael Foundation at P.O. Box 81062, Midland, TX 79708.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-3535



Julian Earl Wickham

Julian Earl Wickham was born on February 19, 1921 in Sapulpa, Oklahoma to Clarence Earl and Vera Bell (Beekman) Wickham and passed from this life January 7, 2018 in Seminole, Tx.

He married Zetta June Myers on December 13, 1946 in Wichita Falls, TX. He was a faithful member of the Church of Christ where he served as an elder and teacher for a number of years. He graduated from high school in Graham, TX. and worked in the oilfields of Texas and New Mexico for most of his life; retiring from the Parker & Parsley Petroleum Co. as a production supervisor. He loved to hunt, fish, and search for arrowheads whenever he could. He was a member of the National Rifle Association.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, oldest daughter, four brothers, and one sister.

Survivors include 2 sons, Jeff and David, one daughter, Julie, and numerous other family members including his grandkids.

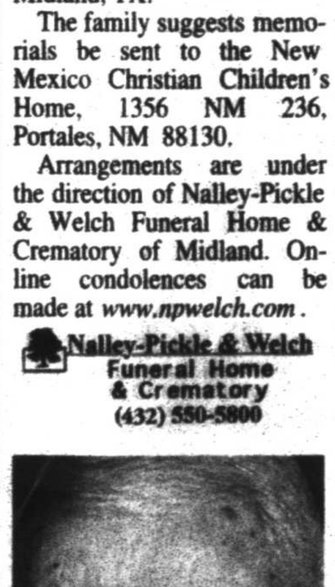
For the last several years of his life, Julian lived at the Memorial Healthcare Center in Seminole, TX, where he received excellent care, made new friends, and played dominos.

A memorial service will be held Saturday January 13, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. at the Westside Church of Christ in Midland, TX.

The family suggests memorials be sent to the New Mexico Christian Children's Home, 1356 NM 236, Portales, NM 88130.

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

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



Norval Glenn Brown

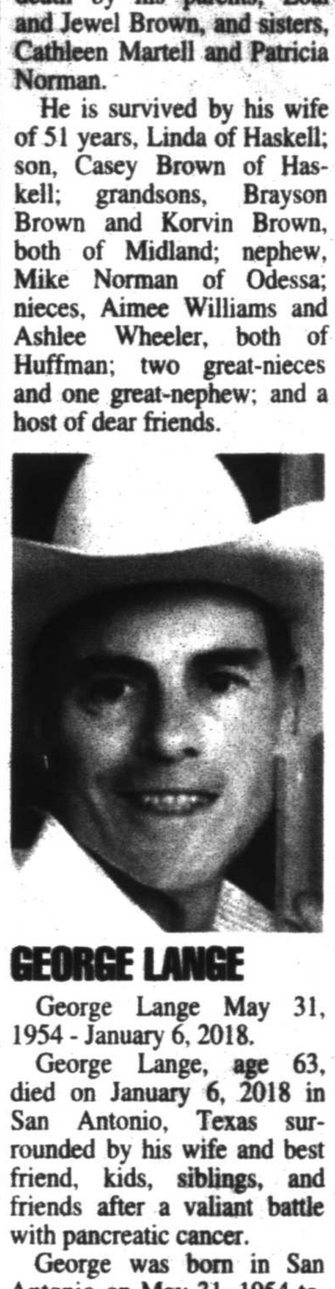
Norval Glenn Brown, 70, of Haskell, Texas, passed away on January 8, 2018 at Hendrick Hospice in Abilene.

A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Haskell Church of Christ with Philip Sims officiating. Condolences may be made at *www.haskellfuneralhometx.com.*

Glenn was born August 22, 1947 in Odessa, Texas to the late Loal and Jewel Smith Brown. On July 1, 1966, he married the love of his life, Linda Williams, in Odessa, Texas. Glenn was a Retired Army Reserves Officer and a Pilot in Vietnam. He was a member of the NRA, the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association and was inducted into the American Airman Combat Hall of Fame. After his service, he worked in the oilfield in sales. Glenn was a member of the Church of Christ in Haskell.

Glenn was preceded in death by his parents, Loal and Jewel Brown, and sisters, Cathleen Martell and Patricia Norman.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Linda of Haskell; son, Casey Brown of Haskell; grandsons, Brayson Brown and Korvin Brown, both of Midland; nephew, Mike Norman of Odessa; nieces, Aimee Williams and Ashlee Wheeler, both of Huffman; two great-nieces and one great-nephew; and a host of dear friends.



GEORGE LANGE

George Lange May 31, 1954 - January 6, 2018.

George Lange, age 63, died on January 6, 2018 in San Antonio, Texas surrounded by his wife and best friend, kids, siblings, and friends after a valiant battle with pancreatic cancer.

George was born in San Antonio on May 31, 1954 to ever-faithful and devout parents Bernard Lange of Harper, TX and Eunice (Mann) Lange of Devine, TX. He started his Catholic school education at St. Martin Hall Elementary School, where he enjoyed the company (and correction!) of the Sisters of Divine Providence. He graduated high school at St. Anthony Catholic Seminary in 1972 under the loving care of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He proudly received his B.A. of Economics from St. Mary's University in 1976.

He married the love of his life, and the only person that could beat him in sports, Margaret Mary Dracoulis of Laredo, TX, in 1974, where they had their two children, Matthew Lange (married to Lisette Deffenbaugh) and Becca Siebenaler (married to Shane Siebenaler).

George worked for Schlumberger (formerly Dowell) for 38 years in Jourdanton, TX, Laredo, TX, Artesia, NM, Midland, TX, then finally San Antonio when he retired as a Sales Engineer in 2015. He enjoyed the friendships of many colleagues and customers who became his best friends, and fishing, hunting, softball, baseball, tennis, and basketball buddies. After retirement, he spent his best days planting trees, nurturing God's creation and enjoying the fresh air on the family ranch in Harper, TX.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his nephew, Joshua Pawelak, and is survived by his wife Margaret; his children, Matthew and Becca, and their spouses, of San Antonio; his grandchildren: Maximillian, Juliette, Alexis, Lilliana, Nicodemus, Seraphina, and Malachi Lange, Ryan, Emily, Ashley, and Brooklyn Siebenaler, (who all affectionately refer to him as "Grandfather, Sir") and his siblings, Bernadette Lange, MD (married to David Rieger) of Little Rock, AR, Maurice Lange (married to Regina Westfall) of Sarita, TX, Karen Brickey of Boerne, and Christopher Lange (married to Lorinda Lipinski) of Moore, TX.

The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday, January 13, 2018, at the Immaculate Conception Memorial Chapel at Oblate School of Theology.

ROSARY SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018 6:00 P.M. IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MEMORIAL CHAPEL OBLATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY 285 OBLATE DRIVE. MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2018, 10:00 A.M. HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH 20523 HUEBNER ROAD.

Interment will follow in Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, by way of Oblate Missions c/o Fr. Bill Morell, 323 Oblate Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216 or *www.oblatemissions.org*.

The Oblates taught him to serve others, which he did throughout his life with his involvement in many organizations including the Knights of Columbus in Midland and San Antonio.

His advice to all is to work hard, do good, take care of your family, and lead them to holiness. He would tirelessly remind us of the Five Habits of Safe Driving: Aim high in steering, Get the big picture, Keep your eyes moving, Leave yourself an out, and Make them see you. (There will be a test!)

You are invited to sign the Guestbook at *www.porterloring.com* .

Arrangements with PORTER LORING MORTUARY NORTH 2102 NORTH LOOP 1604 EAST SAN ANTONIO, TX 78232 - (210) 495-8221.

Richard Lynn Walthall

Richard Lynn Walthall was born on November 2, 1949 in Waldo, Arkansas, to J.M. Walthall and Selma Mae Reeves Walthall. He went home to be with his Lord on January 6, 2018.

Lynn is survived by his wife of 41 years, Ellen "Summer" Walthall; three daughters, Morgan Sanders (Kyle Sanders) of Round Rock, Texas, Casie Britt (Levi Britt) of Abilene, Texas, and Jessie Walthall of Austin, Texas; two granddaughters, Ainsley and Merritt Sanders; and by his sister, Shirley Johnson (Keith Johnson).

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Melba Powell; and brother, Benjamin Walthall.

Petty Officer Walthall faithfully and honorably served his country in the United States Navy for over 28 years. He was stationed in DeNang, Vietnam from May 1969 to March 1970 as a Dec Seaman aboard the LCU 1628. PN1 Walthall excelled in filling one of the most necessary and arduous billets within the department. His craft was tasked with carrying vitally needed cargo throughout Vietnam's coastal and river transits and were often made under the most adverse conditions due to inclement weather and because of the actions of an aggressive enemy.

After serving two tours in Vietnam, he returned home to Midland, Texas where he completed his education at University of Texas Permian Basin and Texas Tech University, as well as serving in the United States Navy Reserves. Upon completion of his college education, he returned to the Navy as an Officer Recruiter for the duration of his career. During his outstanding career, he received 55 gold wreath rewards for distinguished recruiting. PN1 Walthall was also recognized as the Recruiter of the Year multiple times throughout his career.

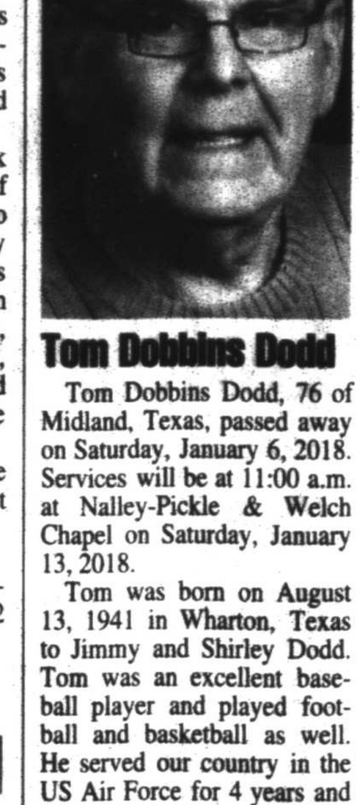
Lynn will be best remembered to his friends and family as someone who enjoyed telling jokes (and pulling practical jokes), was a die-hard Dallas Cowboys fan, and a lover of sweets! He loved spending time with his family and his dogs. He also enjoyed going to the movies and attending auctions.

Visitation will be held on Friday, January 12, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Matt Taylor, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Lebanon, Missouri, will officiate the funeral service on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Services will be held at Cook Walden Funeral Home, 6100 N Lamar, Austin, TX 78752.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like donations to be made to the Alzheimer's Research Foundation.

To share condolences with the family, please visit *www.cookwaldenfuneralhome.com.*



Tom Dobbins Dodd

Tom Dobbins Dodd, 76 of Midland, Texas, passed away on Saturday, January 6, 2018. Services will be at 11:00 a.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel on Saturday, January 13, 2018.

Tom was born on August 13, 1941 in Wharton, Texas to Jimmy and Shirley Dodd. Tom was an excellent baseball player and played football and basketball as well. He served our country in the US Air Force for 4 years and worked with radar systems. After his military service he worked as a manager for a movie theater near Houston, Texas. In December of 1966, he married Juanita Dodd of Wenatchee, Washington and they lived in Houston, Texas, where Tom did some work for NASA and started a career with Storage Technology Corporation. He worked as an electronics service engineer. In February of 1974 his first and only child, Stephen Paul was born. In 1982 the family moved to Beaverton, Oregon. Tom was an active member of the Church of Christ, where ever he lived. He left Oregon and moved to Lubbock, Texas in 2000 and later met and married Jeanie Hamilton of Ft. Gibson, Oklahoma and moved to Oklahoma in 2003. He returned to Texas in 2015 to be near his son, here in Midland. Tom is survived by his son, Stephen Dodd and granddaughters, Olivia and Natalie Dodd of Midland, Texas and his brother Charles Dodd of Hempstead, Texas.

Tom is preceded in death by his mother Shirley Gray Dodd and father Jimmy C. Dodd.

The family would like to express their gratitude towards the Midland Memorial physicians, nurses and support staff, Hospice of Midland and the staff of Polo Park Estates and all the family and friends who have sent condolences and flowers and donations in his name.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Abilene Christian University general scholarship fund.

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

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

Zora B. Parker

Zora B. Parker, 80 of Midland was born February 11, 1937 to Mary Lee and Percy Smith, Sr. in Mooringsport, Louisiana. She died, Monday, January 8, 2018 in Midland.

Zora leaves to cherish her memories, one brother, Percy Smith, Jr., one son Curtis Andrew Cyphers; five daughters; Mary Ann Bates, Sandra Cyphers, Robin Trabena Landers, LaWanda Spates, Deirdre Kezia Parker, 20 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Funeral service will be Friday, January 12, 2018 at 11:00 am at Macedonia Baptist Church, 201 S. Carver. Rev. Woodrow Bailey, Pastor. Under the

direction of Jackie Warren Funeral Home, 702 S. Terrell, Midland, TX. 432-683-8229.

Death Notices

Billye Maxine Hyatt

Billye Maxine Hyatt, 69, of Midland, passed away on December 13, 2017.

She is survived by her children, James and Jo Hanks; and by one sister.

Carolyn Taylor Winkler

Carolyn Taylor Winkler, 88, of Midland, passed away Monday, January 8, 2018.

Memorial services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, January 13, 2018 at First Presbyterian Church in Midland.

Survivors include children, Robert Winkler and Diane Campbell.

All floral offerings may be taken to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Leland "Rusty" Simms Edwards, Jr.

Leland "Rusty" Simms Edwards, Jr., 58, of Little River passed away on Saturday, January 6, 2018 at a local hospital.

A memorial service will be held by his family following church services at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at Soldiers of The Cross in Killeen.

Arrangements are entrusted to Crotty Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Belton.

Rudolph Harold "Rudy" Norwood Jr.

Rudolph Harold "Rudy" Norwood, Jr. 62, of Odessa, passed away January 9, 2018.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, January 13, 2018 at Acres West Funeral Chapel in Odessa at 3:00 pm. Rudy is survived by two brothers and two sisters.

The family visitation is 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

AT YOUR SERVICE

ISSN 0890-5932

A Hearst Newspaper

Published each morning by the Hearst, Midland Reporter-Telegram Division, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701. Periodicals postage paid at Midland, TX 79711. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

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TODAYINMIDLAND

This date in Midland

On Jan. 11, 2003, after serving 34 years in the House, state Rep. Tom Craddick became the first Republican Speaker in more than 130 years.

Things to do

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

■ Storytime at the Library, 10:30 a.m. (birth-2 years), 11:30 a.m. (2-6 years), Midland County Public Library downtown branch, 301 W. Missouri Ave, co.midland.tx.us/lib.

■ Bingo Nights. The American Legion Auxiliary hosts weekly play throughout the week. 7 p.m. 501 Veterans Airpark Lane. 682-5511.

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

■ January Grocery Store Tour by Healthy City, 7:30 p.m., H-E-B, 5407 Andrews Highway. Healthy City will lead guests throughout H-E-B to learn about whole foods, plant-based groceries and reading labels. Only 10 spots available and registration is required. $5. ourhealthycity.com.

Most viewed at mrt.com

(last week's most viewed local stories)

1. Crude Fest arrest statistics drop compared to last year 35,830
2. Mugshots: December's Top Crime 13,890
3. Officials: SUV lands on shed 5,612
4. Sears to close at Midland Park Mall 5,380
5. James Durbin: MRT's Best Photos of 2017 4,935
6. Oil companies that call Midland home 4,733
7. MCSO reports 15 DWI arrests during new year's holiday 4,601
8. Closing in on $44 million 3,837
9. Small Bites: Bean and Grape announce opening, Dickey's adds to menu 3,435
10. Tall City Ultimate New Year's Eve Jr. Calf Roping & Ultimate Calf Roping Competition 3,332
11. MPD: SUV, shed wreck attributed to medical reasons 2,912
12. Investigation reveals constable 'intentionally' damaged vehicle 2,775
13. OUT & ABOUT: Miss America speaks at MCC, Gardeners graduate, MAA member's work on display 2,703
14. Teen charged with aggravated assault 2,559
15. DA confirms criminal investigation into fatal wreck involving police officer 2,495
16. Hotel Settles is a place to make memories 2,447
17. HS BOYS BASKETBALL: Spring Woods wins thriller over Central for title 2,249
18. Midlander recounts standing in Las Vegas 'kill zone' 2,209
19. District Clerk Bush resigns 2,085

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Jan. 11, the 11th day of 2018. There are 354 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Jan. 11, 1964, U.S. Surgeon General Luther Terry issued "Smoking and Health," a report that concluded "cigarette smoking contributes substantially to mortality from certain specific diseases and to the overall death rate."

On this date:

In 1913, the first enclosed sedan-type automobile, a Hudson, went on display at the 13th National Automobile Show in New York.

Source: The Associated Press

Sam Houston Elementary meeting

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

MISD Superintendent Orlando Riddick speaks Nov. 29, 2017, at the Gifted and Talented parents meeting at the downtown Library.

Midland ISD is hosting a parent and community meeting regarding Sam Houston Elementary's "Turnaround Plan" at 6 p.m. today at the elementary school located at 2000 W. Louisiana Ave. During the meeting, MISD officials will provide an overview of efforts to use Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) programming as the district turns the campus into a collegiate preparatory elementary.

District officials also will receive input from parents and members of the community.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 8-8-0
Pick 3 day: 1-8-0
Pick 3 evening: 2-4-1
Pick 3 night: 4-4-1
Daily 4 morning: 9-4-9-5
Daily 4 day: 2-6-4-5
Daily 4 evening: 4-1-8-7
Daily 4 night: 8-1-2-1
Cash Five: 1-6-9-27-34
Triple Chance: 5-12-14-24-26-30-34-35-46-55

Lotto Texas: 4-5-15-17-28-54
Powerball: 7-24-33-49-50 BB: 4 Power Play: 5
All or Nothing morning: 1-2-4-7-8-13-14-16-17-18-22-23
All or Nothing day: 2-4-5-9-11-12-13-16-17-18-21-23
All or Nothing evening: 1-2-4-5-8-10-11-15-17-21-22-24
All or Nothing night: 2-4-6-7-11-12-15-16-17-19-21-23

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Weather

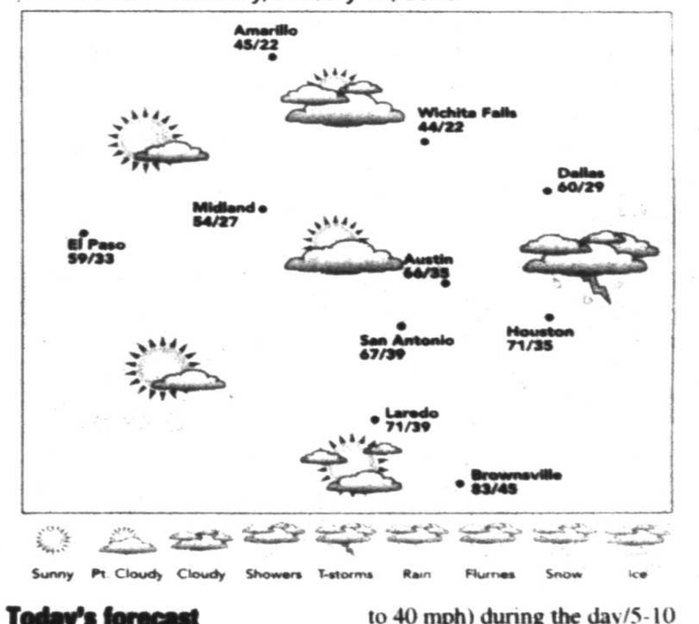
Wednesday's temperatures
High ..... 78 (record)
Low 43
Normal high 57
Normal low 30

Jan. 10's records
Previous record high: 76, set in 1935
Record low: 5, set in 1962

Precipitation
Tuesday ..... 0.00 in.
Wednesday ..... 0.00 in.
Month total ..... trace
Year total ..... trace
Normal total (year to date) ..... 0.14 in.

Winds
Average wind speed: 13.2 mph
Highest sustained wind speed: 52 mph (record for January)
Highest gust speed: 68 mph (record for January)

Forecast for Thursday, January 11, 2018



Today's forecast
High: 53
Low: 26
Conditions: Mostly sunny during the day/clear at night
Winds: 20-25 mph (gusts up to 40 mph) during the day/5-10 mph at night
Chance of rain: None
Sunrise ..... 7:50 a.m.
Sunset ..... 6:04 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

Note: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Capricorn and a Moon in Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for **Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018:**

This year you naturally gravitate toward winning solutions. A friend or several friends might push you in one direction, but you might feel that the other path is better. Do not hesitate to follow your intuition. If you are single, you could meet The One through a friend or an associate. Take your time before making a commitment. If you are attached, the two of you find that you spend a lot of time together with your friends. Be sure to make more one-on-one time for you and your sweetie. SCORPIO is unusually responsive to you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Your vision of what is possible stems from your high energy. You might decide to launch an entrepreneurial idea or push a project in a new direction. Others could be skeptical of your vision, but you have the follow-through that is needed. **Tonight:** Indulge a favorite person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ You don't need to do anything but be present in the moment. Others seek you out. No matter what is presented to you, you are likely to have many new ideas or slants on ideas that you have not yet thought of. **Tonight:** Say "yes" to an invitation from a favorite person.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You could be sorry that you started a conversation about a personal issue. Sometimes, you don't want to hear opinions from those who are clearly not informed. Avoid someone else's lecturing style if you can. **Tonight:** Off to the gym to strengthen your body, mind and spirit.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ A loved one seems to motivate you to get going. Whether a mood is dragging you down or an interaction with a friend is uncomfortable, know that things still can turn in your favor. It will be key to leave an opening for that transformation. **Tonight:** Start the weekend early, if you can.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Investigate what is happening on the homefront. You could be overwhelmed with what someone else is asking of you. Be as direct as possible when responding. Make it OK to say "no" once in a while. You can't always come up with the right answer. **Tonight:** Think "weekend."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ You have been known to become fussy and critical. Try to avoid that pitfall as you expand your horizons and meet new people who are different from your norm. Be open to other lifestyles and different modes of thinking. You have what it takes. **Tonight:** Survey the scene.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Be more aware of your financial situation, but do not allow the matter to prevent you from loving and living life to the fullest. You could see a change as mandatory, which might put the kibosh on your fun. Stay lighthearted and easy-going. **Tonight:** Make sure you are not alone.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ With the Moon in your sign, you might be hard to contain. You don't always make the best decisions or always head in the right direction, but right now you know exactly which way to go and when. Be more forthright in how you deal with others. **Tonight:** You call the shots.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ You sense that more is going on behind the scenes than you are aware. Stop and consider what is holding you back from finding out more information. Observe more, and see what comes up. Your sixth sense is likely to emerge. **Tonight:** Listen to rumors, but do not take them as facts.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You have very little to lose if you focus on your priorities. You have many ideas that drive you in a certain direction. You feel fortunate that so much activity is whirling around you. A friend could be instrumental in making an important decision. **Tonight:** Where your friends are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might notice that many of your associates are dealing with tempests in their teacups. As a result, they could have difficulty relating to anything but what is happening around them. You might need to cover some projects for others. **Tonight:** A must appearance pays off.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

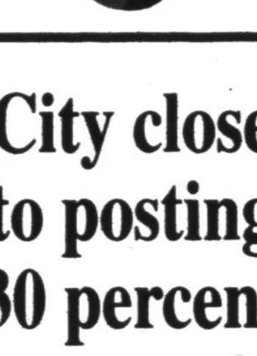
★★★★ Read between the lines with a loved one at a distance or with someone who tends to be quite withdrawn. You might not be right in your assumption, so ask questions if need be. Just be aware of the vibes coming off others. Be open to hearing the real story. **Tonight:** See a movie.

BORN TODAY

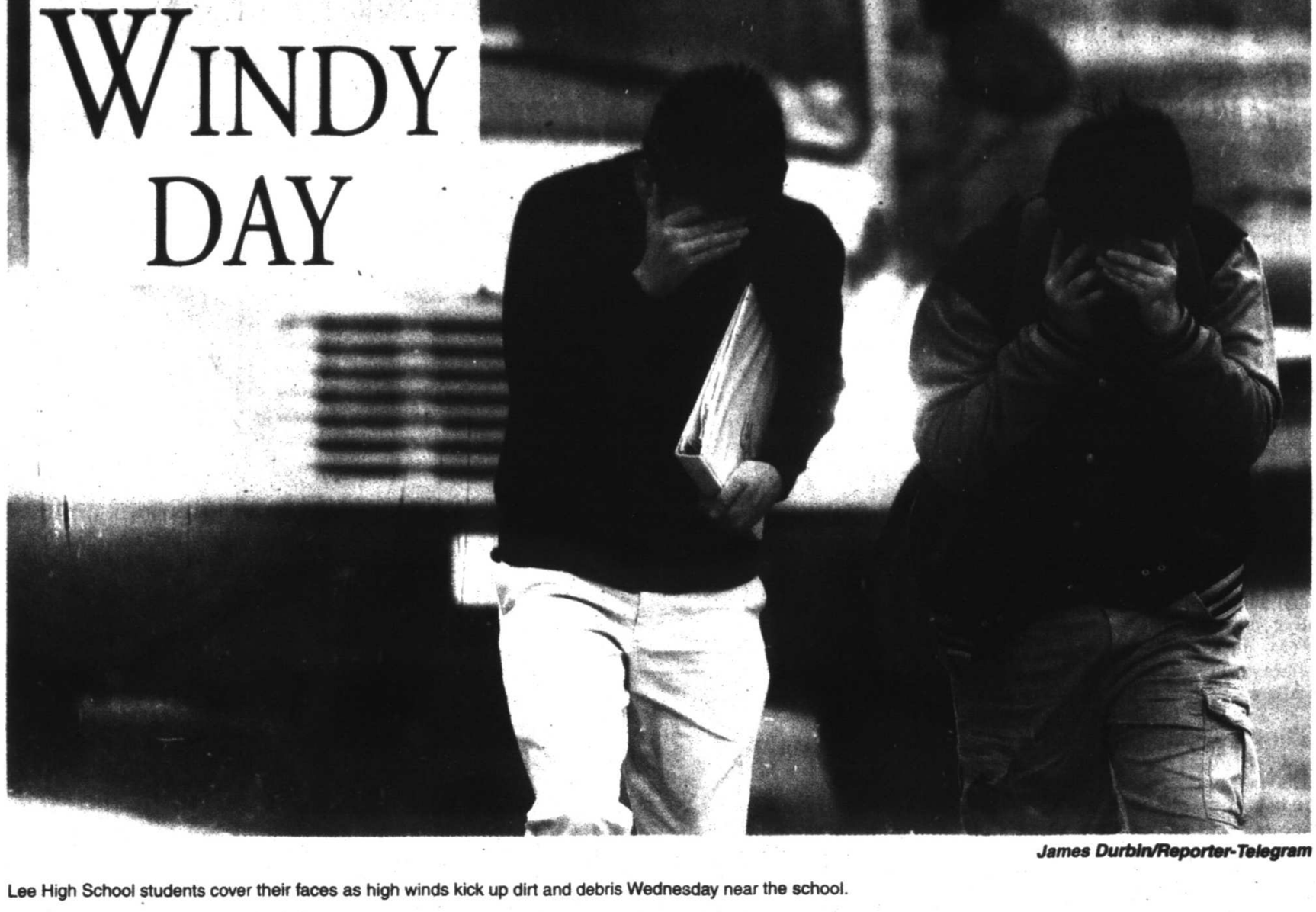
Singer/songwriter Naomi Judd (1946), singer/songwriter Mary J. Blige (1971), soccer player Emile Heskey (1978)

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JimBurrito

Cornucopia
[kawr-nuh-koh-pee-uh, -nyuh-]
noun
1. a representation of this horn, used as a symbol of abundance.



WINDY DAY



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee High School students cover their faces as high winds kick up dirt and debris Wednesday near the school.

City close to posting 30 percent increase in sales tax collection

From staff reports

The city of Midland is reporting a sixth-straight sales tax collection increase of 20 percent or more.

The rise of sales tax revenue (compared to the same month during the previous year) went into 2018 with the city receiving $3,684,473 from the Texas Comptroller's Office.

That is a 29.8 percent (or $845,871) increase compared to January 2017. It also represents the seventh straight month of positive collections.

The city also reports that year-to-date total sales tax revenue for fiscal year 2017-2018 is up 33.62 percent (or $3,778,213) from last year's totals at this time.

Fiscal year-to-date actual sales tax revenue is $15,014,665. The only year the city collected more money through the first four months was fiscal year 2015 ($15,794,410).

The January collection also includes $921,118 for the Midland Development Corp. This fiscal year, the MDC has received $3.753 million.

Sales tax revenue is generated by sales tax income from two months before collection; January collection is based on November sales.

Sales tax 101

January 2018	$3,684,473
January 2017	$2,838,602
January 2016	$2,820,685
January 2015	$3,703,779
January 2014	$3,196,213

Recent increases

January	29.80 percent
December	32.56 percent
November	41.71 percent
September	40.91 percent
August	27.82 percent
July	27.51 percent
June	16.55 percent

CLERK

From 1A

thoroughly," Nodolf said. "It's in the best interest of the citizens of this community. When we can release the information, we will."

Nodolf said Bush's decision to resign was his own and was not part of a plea deal.

Midland County Judge Mike Bradford on Monday said district judges had met and accepted Bush's resignation. The Commissioners' Court voted to acknowledge that acceptance for public records purposes.

The district judges are also tasked with appointing someone to continue Bush's term, and Bradford said they will make that appointment known to the Commissioners' Court for acknowledgement.

Bush had filed to run for re-election this year. Midland County Republican Party Chair Sherri Merket said that he can't be removed from the primary ballot because the deadline to do so has passed, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article.

MLK events to promote conversation between seniors, youth

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

Community programs this month encourage Midlanders of all ages to honor the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. Event organizers hope people across generations will take away the leader's lessons about unity.

"We just want to get the message out that Martin Luther King was embracing of everyone," said Kathleen Kirwan-Haynie, executive director of Senior Link Midland. "That's why we want to reach all kids of all backgrounds."

Senior Link Midland on Saturday is partnering with local organizations to host a community event celebrating King's vision. Programming at the Southeast Senior Center will include fellowship and an announcement of youth art and essay contest winners.

Tracy Renton, development director at the nonprofit, said facilitating interactions between children and seniors has significance.

"We really feel like our seniors in the community have great ideas and great philosophies, and there's something to learn from the greatest generation," she said.

Themes for both the youth contest and a speaker panel relate to one of King's speeches, "I've Been to the Mountaintop."

Panelists are local teenagers and community leaders, including: Billy G. Johnson, justice of the peace for Precinct 3; Mike Mills, program director for Educate Midland; Mayor Jerry Morales; Laura A. Nodolf, Midland County district attorney; and Rachel L. Stone, president and CEO of the Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

"The diversity aspect is very important," Kirwan-Haynie said. "We wanted to get various backgrounds, young to old."

Through its offerings, Senior Link Midland aims to improve the lives of local seniors. For more than 15 years, the organization's Foster Grandparents program has allowed them to partner with at-risk elementary students.

Long-time participant Ethel Mapp is leading a student program related to King's "I Have a Dream" speech. When she reads to a Henderson Elementary first-grade class this afternoon, she hopes to inspire children to think about their own goals.

Mapp said the Foster Grandparents program not only helps students but also gives her a reason to stay active. She values the opportunity to make a difference for future generations.

"When they come to first grade, some of them have problems and need the extra help," she said. "You give that extra help to them, and you start to see them getting better grades."

Mapp plans to attend Saturday's event, where she hopes local children will gain knowledge about King and his impact on U.S. history.

The Negro Business and Professional Women's Club of Midland Inc. is one of the organizations collaborating with Senior Link Midland to host the event. President Shirley Howard sees value in educating younger people about King.

"That's very important because that's the past, and we're trying to reach the future as well," she said.

The club is also hosting its annual event Monday to remember King. Activities include a community march as well as brunch and evening programs with the theme Looking Back Moving Forward.

Also, this year's schedule includes afternoon activities for young people, such as workshops for dance and the martial art taekwondo.

"The workshops are something new because we wanted more involvement with youth, and we will have a youth choir that will be singing," Howard said. "We gathered them from different churches."

Upcoming community events

Senior Link Midland program

Time: Noon
Date: Saturday
Place: Southeast Senior Center

The event is set to include fellowship, a speaker panel and youth art and essay contest results. For more information, call 689-6893.

Annual MLK march and programming

Time: All day
Date: Monday
Location: MLK Community Center

The event kicks off with a ticketed brunch, which will feature guest speakers Angie Aron of Midland ISD and Gail Nelson, an evangelist. The day includes vendors, workshops, performances and a judged dessert contest.

Also, the MLK march is scheduled for 5 – 6 p.m. The evening program is set to begin at 7 p.m., and it will include remarks from the Rev. Billy Ashley of Bethel Missionary Baptist Church of Midland. For brunch ticket information, call 556-5453.

LOCALBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Silver alert issued for 70-year-old Midland woman

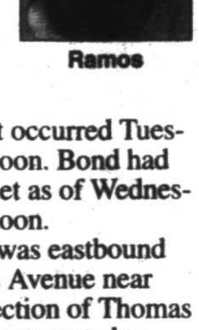
Midland police have issued a silver alert for Billie Jane Noble.

Noble, 70, is an African-American female with brown eyes and gray hair.

Noble was last seen at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday in the 400 block of South Jackson Street. She was last seen wearing Cheetah-print pants and a yellow short-sleeve shirt.

If you have any information about Noble, please call 685-7110.

Driver remains jailed on DWI charge



Ramos

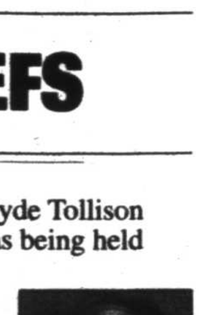
Eusebio R. Ramos Jr., 29 was being held Wednesday on a charge of driving while intoxicated with a child passenger under 15 after a wreck that occurred Tuesday afternoon. Bond had not been set as of Wednesday afternoon.

Ramos was eastbound on Illinois Avenue near the intersection of Thomas Drive and attempted to move from the outside lane to the inside lane at a high rate of speed, causing his BMW 323 to spin across the westbound travel lanes and hit a residence on the north side of Illinois, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article.

Neither the driver nor passenger were injured.

Man arrested on burglary, assault charges

A Midland man was arrested Tuesday after allegedly entering a residence without the consent of the owner and assaulting two people, according to court documents.



Tollison

Jesse Clyde Tollison Sr., 68, was being held Wednesday on a $75,000 bond for a first-degree felony charge of burglary of a habitation with the intent to commit another felony, a $20,000 bond for a third-degree felony charge of assault of a family/house member with previous convictions, a $50,000 bond for a second-degree felony charge of assault against a peace officer and a $500 bond for a Class A misdemeanor charge of resisting arrest.

A Midland police officer was dispatched at about 10:10 p.m. Tuesday in reference to a disturbance.

Tollison knocked on the door of a residence before an occupant told him to leave, according to his arrest affidavit.

Tollison then pulled on a locked screen door forcefully, causing it to open, according to the affidavit.

Tollison allegedly walked into the residence and later pushed a woman against a TV stand, causing her pain.

He was convicted in 2008 of family violence — assault causes bodily injury, according to the affidavit.

Tollison later allegedly didn't cooperate with a police officer's verbal and physical commands. He also repeatedly struck the officer across the face, causing him to develop a laceration, according to the affidavit.

If convicted of the first-degree felony charge, Tollison could face up to life imprisonment. He could also face up to 20 years imprisonment for the second-degree felony charge and up to 10 years imprisonment for the third-degree felony charge.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

SAN ANGELO

Gubernatorial hopeful ineligible in filing fee dispute

A woman seeking the 2018 Democratic nomination for governor has failed weeks before the primary election because her $3,750 filing fee check bounced.

The San Angelo Standard-Times reports election officials say Demetria Smith's name won't be on the March 6 ballot.

Smith, who on Monday night participated in a San Angelo forum for Democratic candidates, is listed as ineligible on the Texas Secretary of State's website.

Glen Maxey with Texas Democratic Party said Tuesday that Smith's personal check was filed on the Dec. 11 deadline and deposited the next day. The Texas Democratic Party was notified of the insufficient funds Monday.

Smith says she wasn't informed until Tuesday, she'll challenge her ineligibility and continues her quest to unseat GOP Gov. Greg Abbott.

Her campaign website was still active Wednesday.

AUSTIN

Arthur Miller archive going to University of Texas library

The archives of Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Arthur Miller, which shed light on seven decades of his works, will be going on display at the University of Texas.

A university spokesman said Wednesday that the Harry Ransom Center humanities library paid $2.7 million for records beginning with 1936's "No Villain," which Miller wrote while at the University of Michigan, to "Finishing the Picture," produced months before his 2005 death.

Miller donated early play manuscripts and working notebooks to the center in the 1960s. The new archive contains multiple versions of his scripts and set designs, marketing materials, reviews and awards for productions of Miller's plays.

There are also drafts of Miller's speeches and essays.

HOUSTON

Dental chain settles false claims allegations

A chain of dental clinics has agreed to pay about $24 million in civil penalties to settle allegations that it submitted Medicaid claims for unnecessary dental procedures on children.

A Justice Department statement Wednesday said the federal government would receive more than $14 million of the settlement reached by Marietta, Georgia-based Benevix LLC and its Kool Smiles clinics. Texas and 16 other states will share almost $10 million, and three whistleblowers will share more than $2.4 million.

API: Energy should be part of infrastructure discussion

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

As President Trump and Congress prepare to address the nation's infrastructure, the U.S. oil and gas industry wants a seat at that table.

"In terms of infrastructure, the debate has typically focused on traditional infrastructure: Bridges, highways and roads," said Jack Gerard, president and chief executive officer of the American Petroleum Institute.

But energy infrastructure holds tremendous promise, he said Tuesday during his annual State of American Energy address, which was broadcast live on the internet.

"According to a recent study, private investment in U.S. energy infrastructure is a more than $1 trillion proposition and could support more than 1 million jobs per year through 2035. By expanding our focus beyond traditional infrastructure and considering the great opportunity of energy infrastructure investments, we could potentially double the economic benefits of infrastructure in this country," he said.

Asked about the impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement on the energy industry, Gerard said the trade pact between the United States, Mexico and Canada has provided significant benefits for the energy industry in all three nations.

"NAFTA is an important conversation," he said. "Some areas need modernization and to be updated. But we hope the negotiations focus on the energy benefits."

Mexican oil is brought to U.S. refineries, processed and returned,'and Canadian oil sands production is also brought to U.S. refineries, he said.

"Another piece is energy reliance and geopolitical relationships," Gerard said.

When Mexico opened its industry to international investment, five leases offshore Mexico were secured by U.S. companies, said Gerard, who expects those leases to be developed.

"It's better that the U.S. strengthen its relationships with Mexico and Canada" than to make changes and introduce uncertainty, he said.

If that may be the case, he said it would be better to leave the agreement unchanged.

"NAFTA has worked well and will continue to work well," he said.

The future of the industry's workforce was the topic of another question for Gerard, who touted the fact that average pay in the industry is nearly $50,000 higher than the U.S. average salary.

Asked about diversity in the industry's workforce, he said about 1.9 million new job opportunities are expected to be created in the industry by 2035, and women and minorities will fill about 40 percent of those jobs. In addition, millennials, who already comprise a third of the workforce, will be nearly 41 percent of the workforce by 2025, a 20 percent increase.

The theme of Gerard's presentation was "Powering the Impossible," and he said the industry was making possible what was deemed impossible just a short time ago.

"Consider what was previously thought impossible. We've taken the nation from energy scarcity to energy abundance. From making products abroad to a rebirth of U.S. manufacturing. From energy as a major pocketbook issue to lower gasoline, diesel, electricity and home heating costs. And today we are increasing energy development as we're contributing to lower greenhouse gas emissions — a reality many believed was implausible, if not impossible.," he said.

OPEC

From 1A

uncomfortable with the consequences of higher prices. Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh said Tuesday that OPEC didn't want oil above $60 because it might provoke too much U.S. shale growth. Fellow members such as Iraq and Nigeria have made similar warnings.

America may challenge both Saudi Arabia and Russia as the world's top crude producer, with its output headed for 11 million barrels a day in late 2019, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said Tuesday.

Further price gains would bring more money to the sector, closing the "window of opportunity" that OPEC has enjoyed while U.S. explorers have had limited access to new capital following disappointing results, Currie said.

Goldman sees opportunities for investors from the misalignment between short- and long-term prices.

Spot prices are being supported by the strongest global economic conditions since the start of the commodities boom in 2004, while later-dated prices are being damped by the prospect of increasing U.S. crude production, Currie said.

Investors can gain by buying and holding earlier-dated contracts, profiting as they "roll" the position from one month to the next, Currie said.

New Mexico regulators to rehear contentious rate case

Associated Press

SANTA FE, N.M. — New Mexico regulators are scheduled to hear arguments in a contentious case regarding a rate increase for customers of the state's largest electric utility.

The Public Regulation Commission is rehearing the case Wednesday after Public Service Co. of New Mexico challenged an earlier decision that allowed for a rate hike but limited the utility's ability to recover investments made in two coal-fired power plants.

The utility was seeking to recoup about $150 million for improvements made to the Four Corners Power Plant and about $37 million in upgrades at the San Juan Generating Station, which could close as early as 2022.

New Energy Economy, an environmental group that has been critical of the utility, argues that customers shouldn't be saddled with the costs of what it considers imprudent investments.

Leal shares message of smaller government, local control

■ State Senate candidate: Restaurant experience 'prepares us in a way to serve'

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

A slice of Midland got the chance to meet Victor Leal, Republican state Senate candidate for District 31, on Wednesday as he took part in a luncheon forum hosted by the Midland County Republican Women at Midland Country Club.

The two-term Muleshoe mayor and restaurateur shared his message of smaller government, local control and property rights. To him, running for statewide office is much bigger than political platforms. Leal is primed to serve.

"I believe the service industry — in particular, the restaurant business — prepares us in a way to serve better than any other segment," he told the Reporter-Telegram. "For us, day in and day out, we have a diverse set of associates working with it. … I understand their issues. The diverse people we serve: the guy at the radiator shop with his name patch on his chest, the president of the bank, teachers — this diverse group comes in, and I listen to their concerns."

It's his professional experience in service that makes him more grounded, he said, particularly in terms of access.

"(State Sen. Kel Seliger's) office is at the top of Amarillo National Bank. A working class person that works at the radiator shop or is a single mom has to hop in an elevator and go up 15 floors to an opulent office for a state senator," he said. "To me that's an egregious offense when serving working class folks. If I win, I want a modest office with a refrigerator full of Shiner bock, queso from Leal's and couches where you can come in and feel like 'I can talk to this guy.'"

Leal calls himself a populist and says he wants to represent everybody, "but working class folks will always have a special place in my heart."

The candidate is a former director of Austin-based conservative think tank Texas Public Policy Foundation, which he said demonstrates that he truly wants to limit the scope of government.

"What are the core functions of government: roads, police and fire protection at the local level, great schools," he said. "But we have to be very careful when we step on the toes of the free market and pick winners and losers."

He said communities grow at the local level, not the state, and that he's not necessarily keen on economic incentives. "I'm a little wary when you do too much economic incentive because it creates fluctuations in the marketplace. The government should not be in the business of picking winners and losers."

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Texas District 31 Senate candidates, Mike Canon, left, and Victor Leal talk Wednesday before speaking at the Midland County Republican Women's luncheon.

Leal said West Texans don't get enough respect in Austin. "I think I'm going to be the guy who fights hard for West Texas. Most of the folks live east of Interstate 35, and they don't understand how we live and operate here."

"In the past, we assumed every child would graduate and go on to college. I think that's not good policy. We need plumbers, welders and electricians that are well-trained and can serve this area. We still need folks who can work with their hands, and we need to teach them at the local level in public schools."

Leal said that a win for him would be historic because he would be the first Hispanic Republican state senator in Texas history. However, he runs on his merits as a candidate, not his race or culture.

"My dad would break every tooth in my mouth if I came home from school and said I didn't make the football team because I'm Mexican and the coach is prejudiced. We didn't play that game; we didn't play victim," he said. "I'm the best-qualified candidate, hands down. However, I happen to be Hispanic. That's groundbreaking. The Republican Party needs a shot in the arm and a good messenger."

CHALLENGE

From 1A

"The SAT is a test for college preparation. It does not apply to all students, so it is a measure of nothing," he said. "I supported not doing tests for those who performed well because we know how they're going to do the next test. But when you have 1,041 school districts and people have cheated — El Paso Independent School District is an example — we need some standardized measure to make sure everyone is meeting those standards. It's easy to hold your school board's feet to the fire, but what about those other 1,040 districts?"

He added that the STAAR test "has its place."

"We shouldn't over-emphasize it; it's not perfect, but it plays its role," he said.

As for school finance, the so-called "Robin Hood" plan, which moves money from property-rich school districts such as Midland ISD to poorer districts around the state, all three candidates said it has to go.

"I talk with very few folks who are enamored with Robin Hood," Leal told media before the luncheon. "When you take money from the richer school districts and give them to the poor, it's not a good deal for either side."

Seliger said the Legislature didn't make enough progress on education finance this session.

It's the sense of lack of progress that has Canon running for a second time. "My plan is, to some extent, shake things up a little bit (if elected)." He wants to achieve that by changing how government is run.

"We're trying to spread the message to treat government like a business and try to bring as much control as we reasonably can to the local level, and in doing so, you're going to reduce regulations, reduce requirements and reduce the cost of government and deliver a more effective product," Canon said.

Tax overhaul to make 2018 painful for colleges

■ Tax Policy Center estimates that the overhaul bill will reduce the overall $300 billion of charitable giving by as much as 5 percent

ALBERT HUNT
Bloomberg

As the ink dries on the $1.5 trillion tax overhaul passed last month, one consequence is becoming clear: Higher education will take a big hit.

As college financial officials analyzed the final product, they expect the result to be diminished contributions, because the doubling of the standard deduction will make fewer taxpayers eligible to make tax-deductible donations. Some wealthy alumni will be discouraged from donating parts of their estate, since fewer people will need estate-tax relief after the tax bill doubles the exemption from taxes on estates. A new tax on the investment income of a few dozen top universities will leave them with less money to aid students from middle- and lower-middle-income families.

These provisions gave Republicans a way to raise a little of the money that will be lost to tax cuts for corporations and the affluent, including President Donald Trump. And they punish left-leaning institutions derided as "elite" by populist conservatives.

To be sure, there are eminently defensible provisions affecting universities. These include a tax on the five highest-paid employees making more than $1 million, and an end to a taxpayer-financed rip-off available to wealthy supporters of college athletic programs. Tax writers dropped some punitive measures that were in early versions of the bill, restoring tax deductions for interest on student loans and the tax waiver on graduate school tuition.

The post-bill analysis has been sobering for college officials. Overall, the Tax Policy Center estimates that the act will reduce the overall $300 billion of charitable giving by as much as 5 percent.

The legislation doesn't change the deductibility of charitable contributions. But doubling the standard deduction — a good move in terms of simplifying the code — will convert 30 million or more current itemizers to the standard deduction. That takes away tax incentives for charitable contributions. James Hermes, vice president of an association of community colleges, expects "a decrease in the number and amount of contributions to community colleges."

The big concern for major schools may be doubling the exemption from estate taxes to $22 million for a couple. This tax is paid only by a small percentage of the wealthiest estates, but experts think the change will direct significant money from charitable bequests to offspring or other persons.

Officials at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire predict that the bill will reduce gifts from some of their wealthier alumni. Dartmouth also is one of the institutions that would be assessed a 1.4 percent tax on endowment income, which these schools say would take money directly from scholarship assistance for students from less affluent families. This tax affects most Ivy League schools; other private research universities like Stanford, Notre Dame and the Massachusetts and California institutes of technology; several medical schools; and leading liberal arts colleges such as Pomona, Amherst, Swarthmore and Washington & Lee.

A number of big universities also could be affected by a measure that slaps an excise tax on the five highest-paid employees of nonprofit organizations that make over $1 million a year; the amount over that threshold would face a 21 percent tax. For universities, this would disproportionately affect highly paid football and basketball coaches, who often make three or four times as much as the university president and 30 or 40 times more than the chair of the English or chemistry departments.

Also the tax bill disallows a tax scam that benefited big-time athletic programs. These require season ticket-holders to add a booster-club contribution to the price of their seats, sometimes of $10,000 or more. Starting in 2018, these payments no longer will be tax-deductible.

The hastily drafted tax bill is undoubtedly riddled with errors and oversights that university tax lawyers will be able to use to escape or minimize some of the new levies. But the impact will be significant nonetheless.

An estimated $40 billion of charitable giving goes to universities and colleges, money that is central to their functioning. The loss of any of that money will hit especially hard as many states cut government funding of public higher-educational institutions.

OUR VIEW

Midland ISD makes its case on districts of innovation

There was a lot to take in as Midland ISD officials went over their District of Innovation plan Tuesday night.

Seven exemptions were discussed. It was easy to know that "flexibility," "opportunity" and "innovative" were identified early in the process as being buzz words for the campaign to convince the public about the initiative.

We think that becoming a District of Innovation and asking for exemptions falls under "what do we have to lose?" Because as a district on the rebound, the only thing that we can say for sure is that anything is better than what the district served up for nearly a decade.

Sitting in the auditorium at San Jacinto High School, we also know this conversation wouldn't have been possible if not for the decision by the Midland ISD board to hire Rod Schroder as interim superintendent. He righted the ship to the point where the next superintendent could come in and not have to worry so much about the fundamentals. Orlando Riddick, as advertised, isn't following anyone else's playbook, but we will get to that at another time.

The District of Innovation exemptions include "no-brainers" such as moving the start of school back in August, allowing the hiring of teachers who aren't certified, to "no telling." We say "no telling" because whether you are talking about exemptions to requirements regarding class size, minutes of instruction or the 90 percent attendance rule, we don't know how it is going to go. In some cases, there aren't any plans drawn up. As district officials said Tuesday, they want the exemption first.

What they said was the district will strive for exemptions that could help Midland ISD be a better district. What's not to like about that?

What officials said was the district needs more local control. Who's against local control?

They said more than 600 districts around the state have District of Innovation status. That is true of Ector County ISD, so Midland ISD isn't blazing new paths here, and there is no guarantee of success. But we also know that when we are home to a district with nowhere to go but up, we should look at the opportunities that are out there, we should have flexibility to do things that make sense for Midland students, and we should strive for innovation. There are those buzz words again.

Midland ISD has provided the community with more information on the District of Innovation, and to this point, there hasn't been anyone who has provided an argument against it. We will not, either — if only because what do we really have to lose?

Exemptions talked about Tuesday night

- class size,
- minutes of instruction,
- early release/length of school day,
- uniform start date,
- teacher certification,
- 90 percent attendance rule and
- campus behavior coordinator.

Web

MISD: https://sites.google.com/midlandisd.net/midlandonthemove/district-of-innovation

Previous coverage at mrt.com: www.mrt.com/news/education/article/District-of-Innovation-process-continues-with-12479323.php

Timeline

Feb. 12: Board meeting – Board to approve District of Innovation plan

Feb. 13: Send District of Innovation plan to education commissioner.

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The 'stable genius' isn't the dumbest

■ The president is a pig — in the best sense of the word

DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

Richard Nixon will forever be remembered for his November 1973 protest: "I am not a crook."

Donald Trump, likewise, may be recorded in history for the assertion he made over the weekend to a skeptical nation: I am not an idiot.

The commander in chief volunteered an unexpected defense of his intellect and sanity in response to a book in which many of his aides are portrayed as believing the boss to be, in the medical parlance, a few fries short of a Happy Meal.

"My two greatest assets have been my mental stability and being, like, really smart," Trump tweeted — because, like, nothing says "intelligence" like using the word "like" like that. Trump went on to tweet that his achievements qualify him as "genius. ... and a very stable genius at that!"

At a mini news conference that same day, Trump explained why he felt compelled to defend his mental health and acuity: "I went to the best colleges or college. I went to a — I had a situation where I was a very excellent student."

This was, like, almost as ill-advised as what Sen. William Scott, R-Va., did in 1974 upon being named the dumbest member of Congress by an obscure publication. He held a news conference to deny that he was dumbest — thereby proving the charge.

But maybe this is, like, a misunderstanding. Maybe Trump didn't mean to type that he is a "stable genius" but a "stable genus" — that is, of a genus and species typically found in a stable. In this case, an argument can be made that Trump is indeed a stable genus — specifically a descendant of *Sus scrofa* known as *Sus domesticus*. The common pig.

Before you accuse me of being rude (which would compel me to host a news conference to deny it), I am not suggesting that the president is a pig in the pejorative sense Trump meant when calling Rosie O'Donnell a pig. (Although, if the hoof fits ...) I mean pig in the best sense — that of the most intelligent animals on the farm, and the ones George Orwell selected to lead all other animals in "Animal Farm."

It has been many years since I read the 1945 classic, but I have perused the CliffsNotes, and my horse sense tells me there are some echoes in current affairs.

There is Snowball, a pig who is the ideological leader of the animal movement. But the leader forces him into exile and thereafter blames him for all hardship. Snowball was originally seen as a Trotsky figure, but after the past week, it is pretty clear that Snowball's demise foreshadowed Steve Bannon.

There is also the sycophantic Squealer, top pig propagandist, glorifying his boss and vilifying Snowball with misdirection so effective he "could turn black into white." After watching CNN's "State of the Union" on Sunday, it is clear that Squealer is reincarnated as Stephen Miller — the White House official who defended Trump's "stable genius" claim by mounting an unrelated and extended attack on CNN and anchor Jake Tapper, who accurately called Miller a "factotum."

The horses in the story are loyal but naive. One mighty horse, Boxer, believes the leader "is always right." When Boxer collapses in service to the cause, the pigs promise to send him to a veterinarian but instead sell him to make glue. In modern times, Paul Ryan, Jeff Sessions, Rex Tillerson and Gary Cohn all play the role of loyal steed destined for the knacker.

The sheep, who chant the pig-devised slogan "Four legs good, two legs bad," immediately revise their tune when the pigs start walking on two legs: "Four legs good, two legs better." Clearly, the sheep are the Fox News of the story.

Then there is Orwell's lead pig, Napoleon, a power-hungry swine who rose with a populist promise of wealth to all animals. But then he took milk and apples from cows to feed fellow pigs. He broke his promises, and, when things went wrong, he made scapegoats of animals who did not praise him.

From "Animal Farm": "It had become usual to give Napoleon the credit for every successful achievement and every stroke of good fortune. You would often hear one hen remark to another, 'Under the guidance of our leader, Comrade Napoleon, I have laid five eggs in six days'; or two cows, enjoying a drink at the pool, would exclaim, 'Thanks to the leadership of Comrade Napoleon, how excellent this water tastes!'"

I cannot think of any current figure who resembles the pig Napoleon. Maybe I could if I were, like, really smart.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Jae C. Hong/Associated Press

Cal Rozov demonstrates on the FoldiMate, a laundry folding machine, during CES Unveiled at CES International on Sunday in Las Vegas.

Tech gathering showcases gadgets we don't need — until we do

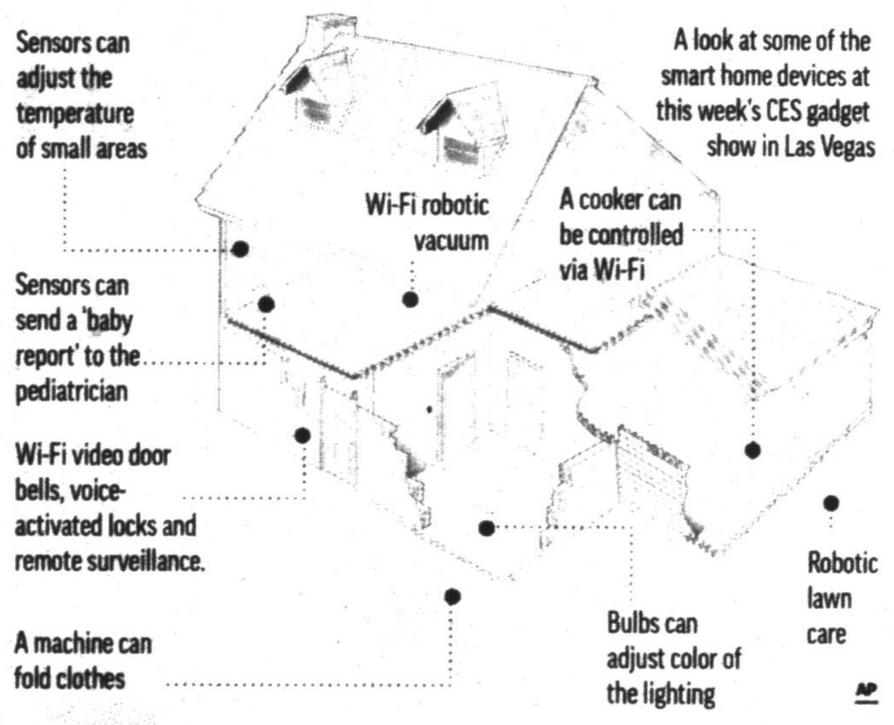
By Matt O'brien and Ryan Nakashima
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Today's vision of a smart home has more to do with what's technologically possible than what people really need.

Thus the endless parade of internet-connected wine openers, water bottles, meat thermometers and refrigerators, and a dearth of automation that would clean and fold our laundry, pick up things around the house or assist aging people as their physical strength wanes.

Not that some tinkerers aren't trying to come up with life-changing tools, often while trying to persuade consumers to share their routines and shopping habits to make all this work — and potentially opening the doors to hacking or surveillance in their homes.

The annual CES gadget show, which opened in Las Vegas on Tuesday, is a showcase of the latest innovations from big corporations and tiny startups. Some of these inventions could soon be useful to consumers. Others look outlandishly impractical — or maybe it's too soon to tell.



Associated Press

A cottage industry is striving to imbue every last household appliance or wearable item with connectivity.

The Internet of what?

Want to book an Uber ride from your fridge? Samsung has you covered with one of its latest refrigerator models unveiled in Vegas. Of if you're looking for a water bottle that "helps celebrate when you've met your hydration goals," the internet-connected Hidrate Spark 2.0 has arrived.

You can command a Whirlpool microwave to switch settings with your voice, but per regulations, you still have to walk over to push the button to start it (and of course put food in and out). A meat thermometer made by Apption Labs will send a notification to your phone app when your steak is fully barbecued.

It's unlikely that anyone but the most extreme wine connoisseur will need to track wine-preserving argon gas levels in a half-finished bottle of pinot noir. But a maker of bottle-opening gadgetry, Coravin, lets you do just that. The device needles wine out of a bottle without pulling the cork. What's new is connectivity and an app, so you're alerted when the gadget needs cleaning or a new battery.

All this reflects a cottage industry striving to imbue every last household appliance or wearable item with connectivity. But do we really need it?

Never mind the naysayers

What one person considers a silly idea is another person's breakthrough, and many innovations displayed at CES could find long-term commercial success among niche audiences even if they aren't widely adopted, said technology analyst Tom Coughlin, president of Coughlin Associates.

"Some stuff is before it's time. Some stuff is partially thought through," Coughlin said. But you never know, he said, because "sometimes people don't know what they need until they see it."

At CES, Coughlin said, "you see the hopes and dreams, the fantasies, both mad and sublime and clever things that people can think of doing."

The Dutch lesson

In the Netherlands, startup entrepreneurs often look mockingly back to a late-1990s video that asked random people in Amsterdam if they ever wanted a mobile phone, said Stefan Witkamp, co-founder of smart home startup Athom B.V.

"Now it's unthinkable not to have your smartphone," said Witkamp, whose company's Homey product links various connected devices to a single system. Similar skepticism now affects smart devices, he said.

"People think, why do I need to control my music through my smartphone? Why do I need to manage and monitor my home remotely or automatically? But it could very well be that in five years, we'll be thinking: 'Why would we ever not want to?'"

But where's my robot?

The reality is that it's a lot easier to connect an appliance to the internet than it is to build "Rosie," the robotic maid that TV cartoon show "The Jetsons" launched into the world's imagination a half-century ago.

Sure, robotic vacuums are already cleaning carpets and kitchen floors around the world, but the level of artificial intelligence and physical precision it takes to do housework like a human is still a far-off dream for robot-makers. Instead, many of the robots coming on the consumer market are either toys or designed to be a more personality-driven version of a talking speaker.

But it's not for lack of trying.

Dueling laundry-folders

"It took us 13 years to reach this point," said Shin Sakane, founder and CEO of Tokyo-based Seven Dreamers Laboratories.

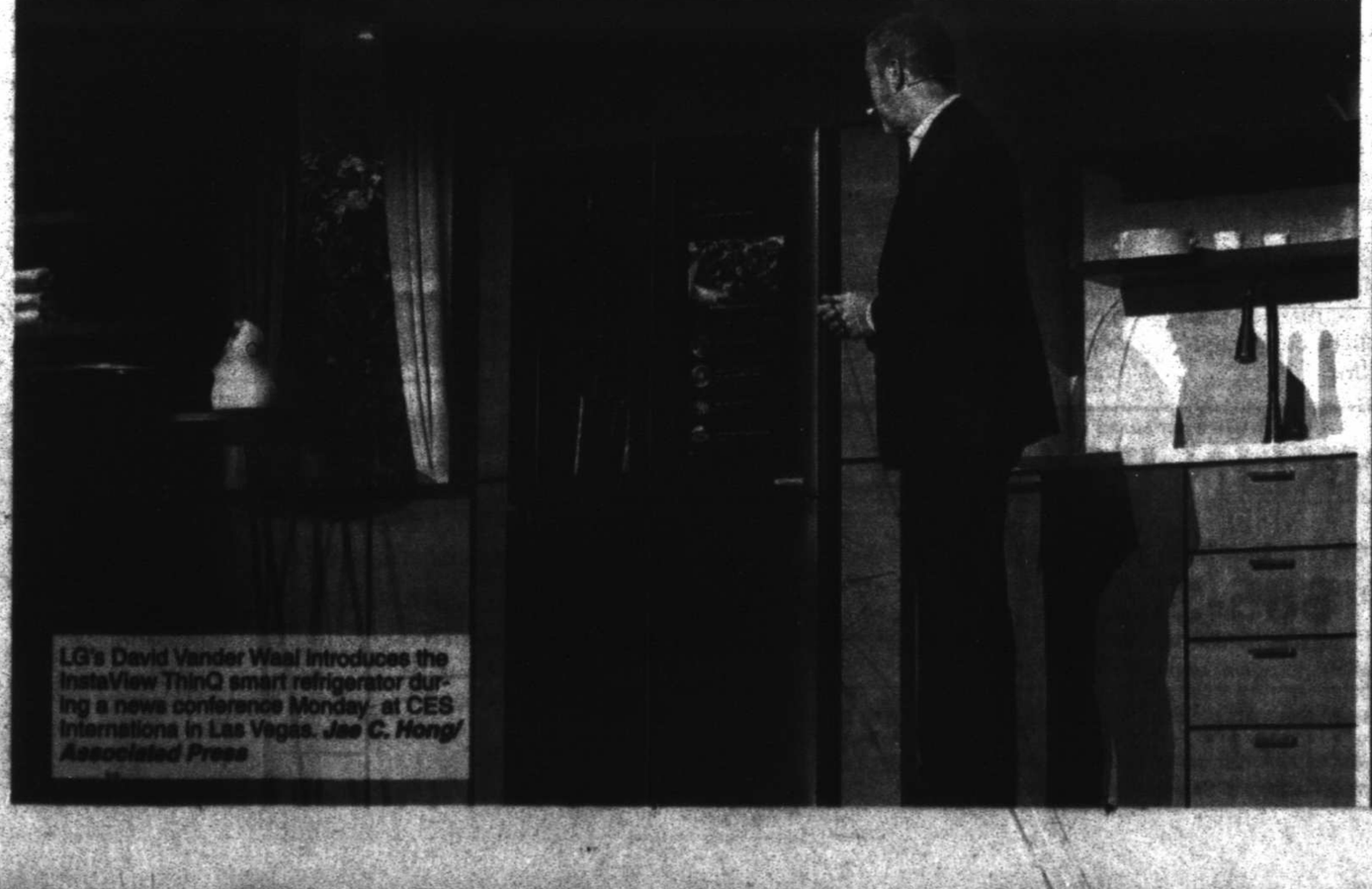
His "Laundroid" clothes-folder — and the rival FoldiMate also on display at CES — are feats of engineering that also underscore the limits of current technology. Sakane's bureau-sized machine is powered by hidden robotic arms and computer vision that can distinguish between different types of clothing.

"It's a soft material," Sakane said, clutching a white towel. "It could be a T-shirt. It's hard to distinguish."

Priced at $16,000, the machine can take 30 items per cycle, though it's still not terribly efficient. It takes 10 or more minutes to fold a shirt — making each cycle a 6-hour project.

Rival FoldiMate claims to be faster, but the company came to the show for the second-year running without a functioning prototype. As founder and CEO Gal Rosov demonstrated putting shirts and towels into a top rack where they were sucked into the machine, a bottom drawer opened with pre-folded items inside. To repeat the display, he opened a middle panel where crumpled items hadn't been folded at all.

Rosov said the machine on display was just a concept model and the company hopes to start "early shipping" at the end of 2019.



LG's David Vander Waal introduces the InstaView ThinQ smart refrigerator during a news conference Monday at CES International in Las Vegas. Jae C. Hong/Associated Press

Behind the smart gadgets, Amazon and Google are waging war

By Ryan Nakashima and Matt O'brien
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — The flash of the CES technology show in Las Vegas is all about robots, drones and smart gadgets. But its subtext is all about Google versus Amazon.

Both companies usually shun conventions like CES, preferring to debut gadgets at their own press events. But these tech giants have built an imposing presence here this year as they work to weave their voice-operated digital assistants more deeply into our personal lives.

Google has plastered digital billboards and the Las Vegas Monorail with the "Hey Google" wake-up command. It's announced a range of new gadgets featuring its assistant on everything from smart displays to pressure cookers. And it's sent out the clowns — a jumpsuit-wearing army of advertising associates wearing brightly-colored Converse sneakers and hovering around partner firms' booths to explain how Google's technology works.

Amazon, which grabbed an early lead in this market, opted for a more subtle approach. Instead of an advertising blitz, its Alexa digital assistant has merely been popping up regularly in "smart" products across the convention — everything from mirrors and toilets to headphones and car dashboards.

Executives from both companies have also been turning up at press conferences held by other companies such as Panasonic, LG and Toyota. "What we're seeing is heavy competition between all the personal assistants," says Gartner analyst Brian Blau.

The stakes

The two companies — and to a lesser extent, Apple, with Siri, and Microsoft, with Cortana — are waging a fierce struggle to establish their assistants as de facto standards for a new generation of voice-controlled devices. It's similar in some respects to the decade-old battle between the iPhone and Google's Android system in smartphones, or to the much older fight between Apple's Mac computers and Microsoft's Windows PCs.

Both companies see the competition in existential terms. Getting shut out of voice devices could imperil Google's lucrative digital-advertising business, the source of its financial strength. Amazon, meanwhile, wants to ensure that its customers can directly access its "everything store" in contrast to now, when they mostly shop via devices and software systems controlled by Amazon's rivals.

For consumers, meanwhile, the spread of these assistants offers new convenience in the form of an ever-present digital concierge. But there could also be some uneasiness about revealing even more about their habits, preferences and routines to distant computers that are always listening for their commands.

The overpresent computer

In a video presentation by LG, one consumer cooks while reading a recipe from the smart screen of the company's voice-activated robot CLOi. Another prepares to embark on a vacation and shuts off her lights by saying, "Hey, Google, I'm leaving."

Google said this week it's integrating its voice assistant to allow remote control of some settings in Kia and Fiat Chrysler vehicles, while Toyota announced a similar arrangement with Amazon that enables drivers to ask Alexa turn the heat up at home before they arrive.

But these smart products can — and sometimes do — support multiple assistants. Toyota Connected CEO Zack Hicks told reporters that "we're not exclusive" with Amazon, and that nothing prevents Toyota from partnering with others.

General Electric is showing off a suite of smart kitchen gizmos that connect its "Geneva" voice assistant to those of Amazon and Google. For example, you can preheat your oven by saying, "Alexa, tell Geneva to preheat the upper oven to 350." China's Baidu on Monday announced it was integrating its voice assistant into a lamp speaker and dome ceiling lights.

Whether people will truly pay more for the ability not to walk over and flip a switch themselves is unclear. But manufacturers aren't taking the chance that they'll be left behind if one or the other assistant becomes dominant.

"Five years ago, no one could predict what was going to happen with the smart home," says LG Electronics USA marketing vice president David VanderWaal. "Five years from now, we're not quite sure either. So this open partner, open platform system, is definitely the way to go."

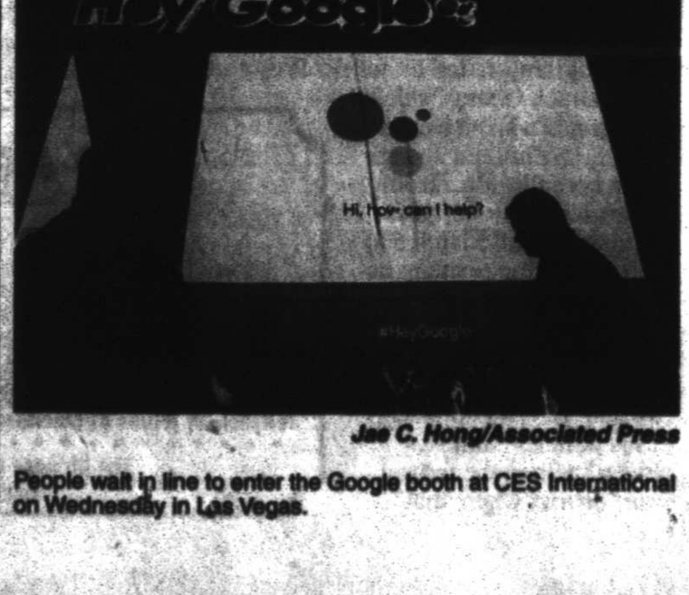
The runners up

For the moment, voice competitors to Amazon and Google remain largely in the wings.

Microsoft's Cortana assistant, which is available on PCs running Windows 10, allows hundreds of millions of users to search the web using Bing. But it hasn't been a huge factor in gadget announcements leading up to CES. In fact, Alexa is even starting to encroach on Cortana's turf by making its way onto some PCs.

Apple hasn't been prominent this year, either. But many manufacturers have adopted its HomeKit software in order to ensure they'll work easily with iPhones and Siri. Apple, however, had to push back release of the HomePod, its almost-$350 smart speaker, until "early" this year; it was originally scheduled for December 2017.

Some analysts also say it's too soon to rule out Bixby, Samsung's AI assistant, which the company vowed to make a more central part of all its connected devices by 2020.



Jae C. Hong/Associated Press

People wait in line to enter the Google booth at CES International on Wednesday in Las Vegas.

Chris Carlson/Associated Press

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents serve an employment audit notice at a 7-Eleven convenience store Wednesday in Los Angeles. Agents said they targeted about 100 7-Eleven stores nationwide Wednesday to open employment audits and interview workers.

Immigration agents descend on 7-Eleven stores

By Elliot Spagat and Nomaan Merchant
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Seven immigration agents filed into a 7-Eleven store before dawn Wednesday, waited for people to go through the checkout line and told arriving customers and a driver delivering beer to wait outside. A federal inspection was underway, they said.

Within 20 minutes, they verified that the cashier had a valid green card and served notice on the owner to produce hiring records in three days.

The well-rehearsed scene, executed with quiet efficiency in Los Angeles' Koreatown, played out at about 100 7-Eleven stores in 17 states and the District of Columbia, a rolling operation that officials called the largest immigration action against an employer under Donald Trump's presidency.

The so-called employment audits and interviews with store workers could lead to criminal charges or fines. And they appeared to open a new front in Trump's expansion of immigration enforcement, which has already brought a 40 percent increase in deportation arrests and pledges to spend billions of dollars on a border wall with Mexico.

A top official at U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said Wednesday's operation was "the first of many" and "a harbinger of what's to come" for employers.

"This is what we're gearing up for this year and what you're going to see more and more of is these large-scale compliance inspections, just for starters," said Derek Benner, acting head of ICE's Homeland Security Investigations, which oversees cases against employers.

After inspections, officials plan to look at whether the cases warrant administrative action or criminal investigations, Benner said.

"It's not going to be limited to large companies or any particular industry, big, medium and small," Benner said.

7-Eleven Stores Inc., based in Irving, said in a statement that the owners of its franchises are responsible for hiring and verifying work eligibility. The chain with more than 8,600 convenience stores in the U.S. said it has previously ended franchise agreements for owners convicted of breaking employment laws.

Unlike other enforcement efforts that have marked Trump's first year in office, Wednesday's actions were aimed squarely at store owners and managers, though 21 workers across the country were arrested on suspicion of being in the country illegally.

Illegal hiring is rarely prosecuted, partly because investigations are time-consuming and convictions are difficult to achieve because employers can claim they were duped by fraudulent documents or intermediaries. Administrative fines are discounted by some as a business cost.

George W. Bush's administration aggressively pursued criminal investigations against employers in its final years with dramatic pre-dawn shows of force and large numbers of worker arrests. In 2008, agents arrived by helicopter at the Agriprocessors meatpacking plant in Postville, Iowa, and detained nearly 400 workers. Last month, Trump commuted the 27-year prison sentence of Sholom Rubashkin, former chief executive of what was the nation's largest kosher meatpacking operation.

Barack Obama's administration more than doubled employer audits to more than 3,100 a year in 2013, shunning Bush's flashier approach. John Sandweg, an acting ICE director under Obama, said significant fines instilled fear in employers and draining resources from other enforcement priorities.

Wednesday's operation arose from a 2013 investigation that resulted in charges against nine 7-Eleven franchisees and managers in New York and Virginia. Eight have pleaded guilty and were ordered to pay more than $2.6 million in back wages, and the ninth was arrested in November.

In the 2013 investigations, managers used more than 25 stolen identities to employ at least 115 people in the country illegally, knowing they could pay below minimum wage, according to court documents.

Neither 7-Eleven nor was its parent company, Seven & I Holding Co. based in Tokyo, was charged in that case.

Julie Myers Wood, former head of ICE during the Bush administration, said Wednesday's action showed that immigration officials were focusing their enforcement efforts on a repeat violator. Part of the problem, Wood said, is the lack of "a consistent signal" between administrations that the U.S. government will prosecute employers who hire immigrants without legal status.

Some immigration hardliners have been pressing Trump to move against employers. Mark Krikorian, director of the Center for Immigration Studies, said Wednesday events offered "a good sign" that the administration was serious about going after employers. But, he said, the administration would need to go beyond audits.

"It's important for Trump to show that they're not just arresting the hapless schmo from Honduras but also but also the politically powerful American employer," he said.

Wednesday's operations were low-key compared to the Bush administration's stings. In Koreatown, agents gathered in a grocery store parking lot and drove through side streets in unmarked cars to their target location.

The manager was in Bangladesh and the owner, reached by phone, told the clerk to accept whatever documents were served. The clerk told agents he had no knowledge of documents required to prove eligibility to work and was asked to pass along brochures for voluntary programs aimed at better compliance with immigration laws.

Trump criticizes federal judge blocking him on immigration

By Alan Fram and Ken Thomas
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump lashed out Wednesday at a federal judge who's temporarily blocked him from ending protections for nearly 800,000 young immigrants. The Senate's top Democrat said that despite the ruling, lawmakers and the White House must drive toward a bipartisan deal that would permanently shield them from deportation.

The remarks by Trump and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., came a day after the president and top lawmakers used a White House meeting to agree to pursue a pact that would protect those immigrants and bolster border security.

Talks seemed likely to continue Wednesday, and Trump's comments seemed more a reaction against judicial limitations on his powers than a desire to permanently end the immigrants' protections.

Trump lobbed his salvo after U.S. District Judge William Alsup late Tuesday granted a request by California and other plaintiffs to prevent Trump from ending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program while their lawsuits play out in court. That program, started by former President Barack Obama, shields immigrants who arrived in the U.S. as children and are living here illegally. Trump has terminated it but given lawmakers until March 5 to craft legislation reviving its protections.

"It just shows everyone how broken and unfair" the court system is, Trump tweeted. He said opponents of his policies "almost always" win in the federal court district where that judge serves.

Schumer said the judge's ruling "is no guarantee of lasting security" because the judge could be overruled later by a higher court.

"The ruling last night in no way diminishes the urgency" for a bipartisan bill protecting the so-called Dreamers, he said. "The iron is hot. We should strike now" and reach a deal, he said.

To add pressure on Republicans, Schumer also said he wanted an immigration deal to be attached to must-pass budget legislation Congress will soon consider. Federal agencies will shut down unless lawmakers pass a bill financing them by Jan. 19, and legislators are also trying to reach agreement on a budget deal financing government for the rest of this year. An immigration package "must be part of a global deal on the budget," Schumer said.

Republicans controlling Congress have resisted combining immigration and the budget into one bill. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., told reporters Tuesday that immigration will be handled "separately from the spending negotiation" on "a bill the president is willing to sign."

No. 2 Senate GOP leader John Cornyn of Texas told reporters Wednesday he'd be "surprised" if an immigration deal can be completed by the Jan. 19 deadline.

On Tuesday, Trump said an immigration deal could be reached in two phases — first by addressing young immigrants and border security with what he called a "bill of love," then by making comprehensive changes that have long eluded Congress. That second bill would likely face long odds for passage, considering long-running disagreements over issues like how to handle all 11 million immigrants illegally in the U.S.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Wednesday that the immigration issue should "go through the normal legislative process" and pledged Trump "will work with members of both parties to reach a permanent solution."

After Trump and lawmakers spent time meeting privately, the White House and numerous lawmakers said there was agreement to limit the immediate bill to four areas. These were border security, family-based "chain migration," a visa lottery that draws people from diverse countries and how to revive the DACA program.

Trump even flashed some give on his cherished plan to build a wall along the border with Mexico, perhaps his highest profiled pledge from last year's presidential campaign. That proposal has been strongly opposed by Democrats and many Republicans as a futile waste of money.

NATIONBRIEF

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW YORK

Indictment returned in pipe bomb attack on NYC subway

A Bangladeshi immigrant has been indicted in the failed pipe bombing of the New York subway system.

Akayed Ullah was charged with providing material support to a terrorist organization and other counts in the Wednesday grand jury document.

Ullah was the only person seriously hurt in the Dec. 11 attack, and he was arrested soon after the pipe bomb failed to fully explode. He remains held without bail.

His lawyer did not immediately comment. Ullah was scheduled for arraignment today in Manhattan federal court.

Ullah could face life in prison if he is convicted of all charges in the attack, which occurred in a pathway linking the subway to the Port Authority bus terminal in Manhattan.

Authorities say Ullah taunted President Donald Trump on Facebook before the attack. The president later demanded tightened immigration rules.

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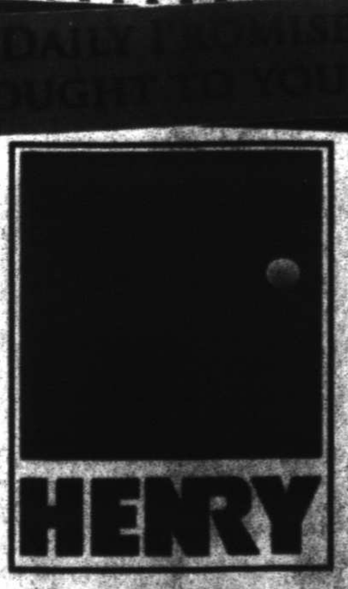
Jellyfish, or jellies as scientists call them, are not fish. They have no brain, no heart, and no bones.
The Chinese giant salamander can grow to be 6 feet (1.8 m) long, making it the largest salamander in the world.



Genesis 1:26-27

God spoke: "Let us make human being in our image, make them reflecting our nature so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in eh air, the cattle, and, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of the Earth."

WEEKENDER

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PERMIAN BASIN

BEST BETS

TODAY

CROWD CONTROL
Crowder's Texas Takeover Tour hits the Wagner Noel at 7 p.m.

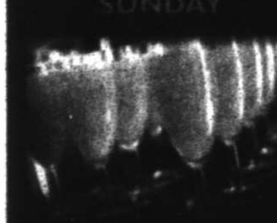
FRIDAY

LAUGH OUT LOUD
Improv at the Yucca returns for two nights with two casts at the Yucca Theatre 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

KING'S COURT
Tye Beem to the Mountaintop honors Martin Luther King Jr. with a speaker panel including Mayor Jerry Morales, Former Attorney Laura Nodolf and Mike Mills of Edgewood at the Southeast Senior Center

SUNDAY



DOWNTOWN BRUNCH
Market pop-up with food and handcrafted goods from 30 vendors at the Ellen Noel Art Museum of the Permian Basin, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

HOME MOVIE
Opening

TALL CITY 11
Opening

CINEMARK CINEMAS
Opening

CLOSING

STAYING IN

IF YOU GO
Rob Schneider: An Evening of Lies, 8 p.m. today at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788, $35-$60, wagnernoel.com

Lies and punchlines are front and center for comedian Rob Schneider

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

Rob Schneider is riding a bit of a wave these days. The "Saturday Night Live" alum saw the second season of his "Real Rob" Netflix show premiere in September. And now he's on the road returning to his stand-up roots.

He performs his "Evening of Lies" on Friday at the Wagner Noel, where he takes on politics, sexual harassment, political correctness and similar topical conversations in his show that's balanced by his signature irreverent comedy.

Before his performance, he spoke how one famous friend got him back on tour, working with his family and reminding that everyone is a liar.

MRT: Why did you feel compelled to get back on the road?

Schneider: Chris Rock, really. We talked about that, and you got to listen to the best. And it's been one of the most rewarding experiences.

MRT: Your show is on Netflix but it's also featured in a lot of comedian specials like Amy Schumer, Patton Oswalt and Dave Chappelle, to name a few. Has that changed the landscape at all compared to being on the road?

Schneider: Netflix has been great but I think that has slowed down a bit. It's like open mic night or "Evening at the Improv." We don't need to go to clubs anymore.

MRT: Would you do a special?

Schneider: I am cognizant there is too much now, so I'm in no rush. There's too many so I have to think "What would I want to do to separate myself." But at the same time, comedians, in a weird way, are taking a specific bent on the real world.

MRT: How do you mean?

Schneider: Comics get a kind of handle on some sort of absurdist perspective of the world — specifically our culture. When I saw Chappelle, I looked at the audience and they looked at him like some sort of soothsayer or leader. I don't want to say a spiritual leader but it's like they were looking to him to make sense of the world.

MRT: There seems to be more of a freedom for comics to say either what they want or what people wish they could say.

Schneider: People are open to comedic subversion. It gets through more than anything and might even adjust how one thinks. Then you add that shared feeling of seeing someone live and shifts things a bit.

MRT: Do comedians have that responsibility?

Schneider: The thing about it is, what we should do is challenge morality. Good comedians should. Louis C.K. at his best is a gift to the art, but he should also question his own morality.
(Editor's note: Louis C.K. was recently accused of sexual misconduct by several women.)

MRT: Speaking of, comedy is perhaps the one form of entertainment that immediately takes on such current events.

Schneider: Yeah. I open up my show to touch on what's happening. It is the only art form for that, and in some ways, that's a thrill. People know you just wrote this because it's so fresh.

MRT: What is "An Evening of Lies?"

Schneider: We all lie. It's kinder to lie than tell the truth. We've become oversensitized. We have to talk about that. The ones who are most oversensitive aren't particularly thoughtful — just reactive. No, we have to think about what is OK to laugh at.

MRT: You are a fierce defender of free speech — even hate speech. Is that a tough stance to take?

Schneider: I think the issue is not about silencing someone but dissuading them. There are these levels of intolerance disguised as freedom. At my core, we have to defend all speech. It may be ugly but it can only be all or none of it.

MRT: Shifting gears here … How do you describe your experience playing yourself on "Real Rob" alongside your actual family?

Schneider: It's is a real joy. It's like a reverse "I Love Lucy" and it's most liberating. Sure, it's extreme narcissism and selfish but I'm in this for laughs. No one looks at me for social commentary so we're just having fun at our own expense.

MRT: Even as such, is it also a satire on celebrity?

Schneider: It has to be. We like to skewer the idea of a celebrity and that idea of someone who has some superfluous importance.

MRT: Outside of maybe Ben Affleck and Matt Damon or Taylor Swift and her girl squad, you, Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, David Spade, Norm MacDonald have all really stuck close to each other. That's quite a fraternity over the years.

Schneider: We've all been through that same fire. We did years of stand-up, we were on "SNL" together. We were in our crazy, formative years together. We've had friends die so we all love each other. There's a comfort and support that we don't have to explain. We already know. They are family, brothers from other mothers.

Actor fulfills dream role in MRRRP's 'Little Shop of Horrors'

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

To say Danny Anderson is stressed right now would be an understatement. He's just helped open Ally Outdoors, where he is retail director. He has been rehearsing lines and songs. And he shaved his perpetual beard for his role as Seymour in MRRRPs production of "Little Shop of Horrors," which opens today at Cole Theatre.

But it's all been worth it.

"I've been wanting to play Seymour since seeing the movie with Rick Moranis," he said. "We always have an abbreviated rehearsal schedule, so it's extremely stressful but it's also going great."

He saw the movie as a child, but as he's worked on his own Seymour, he's had some conflicting discoveries along the way.

"The appeal was that I could identify with him as a nerdy kid," he said. "As an adult, I look at the role and I've learned that he's not really the hero I thought he was. You know that saying 'Never meet your heroes?' Yeah."

But Anderson still sees a silver lining in him. Despite his character's bad decision, he said Seymour is not a bad person. He's just like everyone else.

"Hey, he's a nice guy with horrible decisions. We've all been there," he said.

Far from any bad decision is MRRRP's tradition of creating shows that benefit a local nonprofit. All ticket sales for "Little Shop" will go toward the tiny house initiative The Field's Edge, which is working to help battle homelessness.

The nonprofit also has a personal tie to MRRRP.

"The founder, John-Mark Echols, went to high school with me and my sister, Abby. He told us how he sold all his possessions to help homeless," Anderson said. "We wanted to help him in any way we could."

This mark's MRRRP's first production since 2016's "Man of La Mancha." For the uninitiated, "mrrrp" is merely a family joke among the Andersons, who are behind the company. The family has created shows out of the sheer love of theater.

Courtesy photo

Danny Anderson, right, plays Seymour in the MRRRP production of "Little Shop of Horrors."

"We have a performing family, and so we can do shows that we've wanted to do, but MRRRP pays for everything out of pocket so that every cent coming in will go toward a selected beneficiary," Anderson explained. "If we're going to do them, might as well do it for a good reason."

His and his castmates' three weeks of rehearsal all come to a head tonight. He credits his fellow actors and crew with lifting him up.

"I'm never good at memorizing lines so they've been incredibly patient, especially Caitlin Miles," he said. Miles plays Audrey, Seymour's love interest.

But with some smooth dress rehearsals, he's ready for audiences to see his take on Seymour alongside a puppeted man-eating plant.

"Everyone has stepped up. It'll be a fantastic and miraculous show," he said.

IF YOU GO: "Little Shop of Horrors" by MRRRP Productions. Proceeds from the show benefit the nonprofit tiny house initiative The Field's Edge. 7:30 p.m. today through Jan. 20 at Cole Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. $20. MRRRP.org

Courtesy photo

Sleepspsent members are, from left, Cecilia Otero (bass/synth), Josh Mendoza (drums) and Austin North (guitar/vocals).

El Paso indie rockers' first tour heads to Midland

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

Sleepspent is in the throes of music these days. After their debut release "Marfa" last summer, the El Paso band has embarked on the road for the first time. And another EP album is expected this spring.

Sleepspent founder Austin North talked up the band's goings-on and moving forward into 2018. The trio, which includes Cecilia Otero on bass and keys and drummer Josh Mendoza, brings their sounds to headline Kamiposi today.

MRT: First, could you explain the name Sleepspent?

North: Well, initially we were called Marfa (hence the self-titled 'Marfa' EP), but we decided to change that soon after that release. The name Sleepspent was inspired by a song

Please see SLEEPSPENT/Page 2B

CALENDAR & MORE

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Editor's note: Listings have been edited to fit space.

CLASSES, LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

Nature Journaling Workshop with Michael W. Nickell. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. $30 members, $40 nonmembers. sibleynaturecenter.org.

Open Shop Nights hosted by the Midland Gem and Mineral Society and open to the public. Visitors can watch members cut rock and work on lapidary projects. 6:30-9 p.m. Mondays at 602 S. Main St. midlandgemandmineral.org.

Palette Club Painting, 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesdays at the Palette Club. 907 W. Wadley Ave. paletteclubmidland.com.

Watercolor art classes by Sara Drescher. The class is for all levels. 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. To register, email sara@artbysaradb.com.

Peer Support Group by Permian Basin LGBTQ (plus), 7 p.m. Tuesday at Sleep Inn and Suites of Midland, 5612 Deauville Road. pblgbtq.org.

EVENTS

Meet and Greet with Lone Star Sanctuary for Animals. Meet some of the animals currently at the sanctuary. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday at Dillard's in Midland Park Mall, 4511 N. Midkiff Road.

"I've Been to the Mountaintop" honors Martin Luther King Jr. with a youth art and essay contest, the speaker panel **"Where are you on the mountain?"** with Mayor Jerry Morales, District Attorney Laura Nodolf and Mike Mills of Educate Midland. Refreshments will be available. Noon Saturday at Southeast Senior Center, 1803 Indiana St. Free. seniorlinkmidland.org.

FOOD & DRINK

January Grocery Store Tour by Healthy City. Touring the new H-E-B, Healthy City will lead guests throughout the store to learn about whole foods, plant-based groceries and reading labels. Only 10 spots available and registration is required. 7:30 p.m. today at H-E-B, 5407 Andrews Hwy. $5. Ourhealthycity.com.

Winter Market by Midland Downtown Farmers Market. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave.

January Brunch Market with local vendors, brunch by Chef Steven, mimosas by the Garlic Press and music by DJ Cody. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday at So...Fly Boutique, 312 N. Colorado St. Facebook: @theurbanmarketmidland

MUSIC

CHRISTIAN/RELIGIOUS

Crowder, 7 p.m. today at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. wagnernoel.com.

COUNTRY

Jay Statham and the Tokie Show, 8 p.m. Friday at the Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St.

Sandhills Stock and Rodeo Show: Rodeo dance with performance by **Jake Hooker.** 8 p.m. Friday at Ector County Coliseum, 4201 Andrews Highway, Odessa. $16-$20. sandhillsstockshow.com.

Brian Milson, 10 p.m. Friday at Dos Amigos, 4700 Golder Ave. $10 advance, $15 door. Dosamigos.com.

Drew Fish Band, 9 p.m. Saturday at the Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St.

COVER/TRIBUTE

Runnin' Blind, 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Your Place, 3704 W. Wall St.

DJ/DANCE

#HangoverSundays, 7 p.m. Sunday at Atrium Lounge, 3904 W. Wall St.

DJ Wildman, 9 p.m. Friday and Sunday at the Lift on 7th, 1401 E. Seventh St. Odessa.

KARAOKE

Karaoke, 9 p.m. Sunday at The Detour Bar, 1708 Rankin Hwy. thedetourbar.com.

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

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

POP

Sleepspent, Fat Camp, Doomy Blues, 7 p.m. today at Kamiposi, 510 S. Big Spring St. $5.

ROCK

Laser Spectacular featuring the music of Pink Floyd, 8 p.m. Saturday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $32-$47. wagnernoel.com.

OUTDOORS, SPORTS & FITNESS

Sandhills Stock and Rodeo Show: Rodeo performance, 7:30 p.m. today-Saturday at Ector County Coliseum, 4201 Andrews Highway, Odessa. $16-$20. sandhillsstockshow.com.

STAGE, COMEDY & FILM

"Alien Intrusion: Unmasking a Deception," 7 p.m. today at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $15.13. fathomevents.com.

OPENING: "Little Shop of Horrors" by MRRRP Productions. Proceeds from the show benefit the nonprofit tiny house initiative The Field's Edge. 7:30 p.m. Opens today and runs through Jan. 20 at Cole Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. MRRRP.org.

Improv at the Yucca, 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Yucca Theatre, 208 N. Colorado St. $12-$15. mctmidland.org.

Rob Schneider: An Evening of Lies. 8 p.m. Friday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $35-$60. wagnernoel.com.

"The Opera House" looks at the history of the Metropolitan Opera. 12:55 p.m. Saturday at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $15.13. fathomevents.com.

"Secret of the Cardboard Rocket" dome show, 1 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays in January. Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

"The Opera House" looks at the history of the Metropolitan Opera. 12:55 and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $15.13. fathomevents.com.

Torino's Entertainment Group to open nightclub

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

Torino's Entertainment Group — which owns and operates Torino's PizzaBar, The Boardroom, Rockstar Karaoke and Redneck's Drafthouse and Billards — announced Tuesday that it plans to open Supernova, a 5,000-square-foot nightclub at 2215 N. Midland Drive at Neely Avenue (next to Sherwin Williams).

The club will feature a $50,000 light system with special effects, state-of-the-art sound system, four VIP areas, a video wall and "futuristic" dance floor, according to a press release.

Supernova will take over the former location of Redneck's, which has moved to the second floor of Rockstar Karaoke on Midkiff Road and Wadley Avenue.

This has been a goal for Torino's owner, Gene Roumell.

"This is the type of club I have been wanting to build for the last seven years, and soon it will be a reality for all of West Texas to enjoy," he said in the release.

While there are other dance clubs in the area, Supernova will be the only one that concentrates on pop and electronic dance music. Others such as The Reserve, The Atrium or Rockin' Rodeo primarily focus on Latin, hip-hop and country sounds.

"There is nothing like it in our area," Roumell said. "You would have to go to Lubbock or Austin to find anything even remotely similar. Supernova more closely resembles a Las Vegas club like TAO or One Oak than anything else."

Supernova will have live DJs 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. The opening date was not announced.

SLEEPSPENT

From Page 1B

that one of our members likes, and we felt it fit the aesthetic of our music.

MRT: When you dropped "Marfa" was it what you wanted it to be?

North: It was a really gratifying experience. Writing is such a satisfying and enjoyable creative experience even when it's exciting to release stuff to the public.

It definitely was what we wanted it to be. It was received well and got us the local attention we were looking for to take the next step forward. It attracted the attention of a well-respected producer in town and helped us get help with booking both locally and on the road.

MRT: El Paso is an interesting place now for creatives. How do you describe the scene, and do you feel you can thrive there?

North: El Paso has actually grown a lot recently in terms of art and music. There is a very supportive and diverse local scene with some genuinely great bands, and we feel that we have our own unique spot within that scene with our music. We think we're a good alternative with a more ambient but driving of sound. The city has shown us some good appreciation for it. I'd definitely say we could thrive here.

MRT: Amid all of today's genres, where does Sleepspent fit in?

North: If you asked us each you'd get different answers from each band member. We fit in multiple genres for sure, like indie, alternative, shoegaze, dream pop, etc. I think we like shoegaze the most, given its ambient and heavier aspects. We put a lot of focus on strong vocal performances and interesting textures and sounds without straying too far off of the 'indie' path. The songs are very intimate and personal to all of us, and the lyrics are the same in that regard.

MRT: What have you learned being on the road compared to performing in your hometown?

North: Learning how to pack all of our gear, including a full drum set, into my not-so-big car was fun. We quickly learned how all of us are used to living and sleeping, and similarly learned, or at least confirmed, that we all genuinely enjoy being around each other. Performing on the road is odd compared to playing in El Paso due to the lack of familiar faces, obviously, but also the lack of confidence that there will be a crowd in places we've never been before. It's weird, and it requires a lot of assertiveness when it comes to talking to others, and it requires a lot of confidence in our own music. It's a great experience.

MRT: Any particular goals for the 2018?

North: We've got a lot of plans for this year. We'll be releasing an EP in the spring that we're stoked for; it's the best-sounding thing we've done yet, for sure. Otherwise, we're going to be focusing on touring pretty much constantly once spring hits. There are longer tours in the works that should be an awesome experience; we're just going to try to get ourselves out there as much as possible.

IF YOU GO: Sleepspent, Fat Camp, Doomy Blues, 7 p.m. Jan 11 at Kamiposi, 510 S. Big Spring St. $5. sleepspent.com.

MIDLAND-ODESSA SYMPHONY & CHORALE
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Fanfare
Saturday, February 3, 2018
7:30PM | Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center
Featuring
Michael Tetreault, Timpani
TOWER – Sixth Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman
KRAFT – Timpani Concerto
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FREE - Laura Bush Literacy Program reading event, Thursday, Jan. 18th, from 4:30-5:30 PM in our Visitor Center, for kids of all ages. We will read several books including "Imogene's Last Stand". Each child will get a free copy of the feature book and refreshments will be provided.
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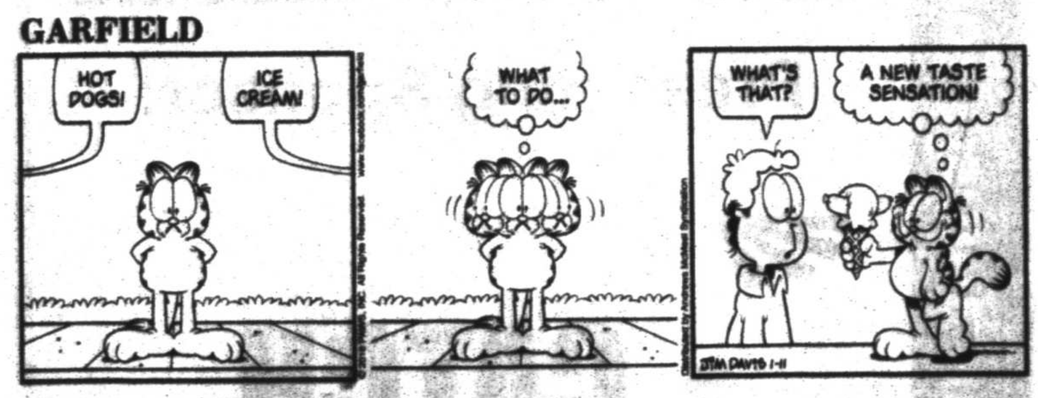
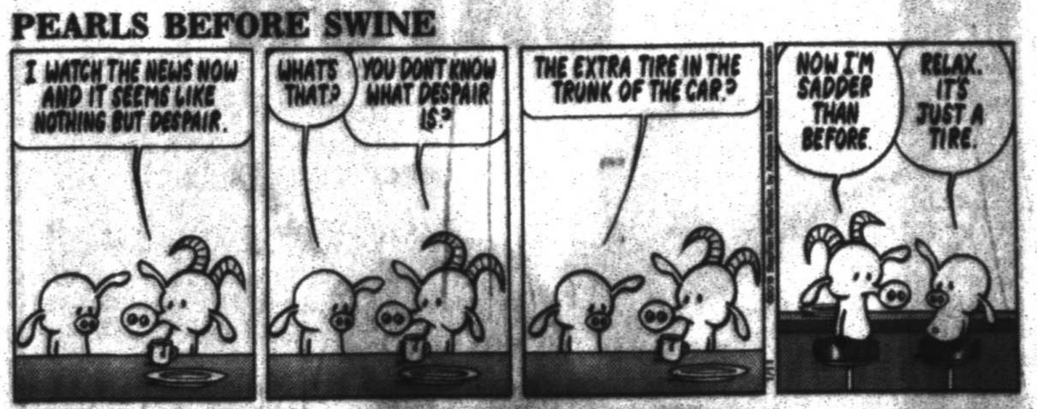


PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

BABY BLUES

MUTTS

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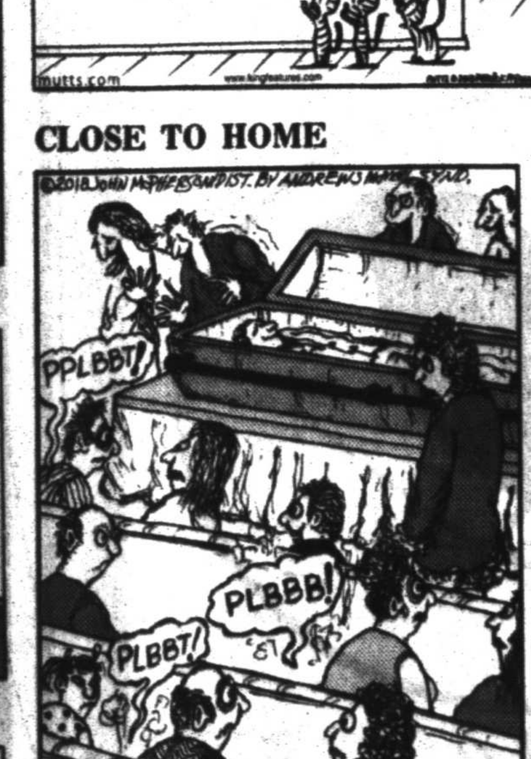


As the inventor of the Whoopie Cushion was laid to rest, his friends and family members carried out his last request.

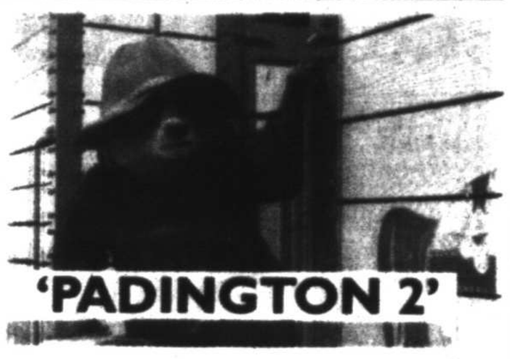
DENNIS THE MENACE

LOCKHORNS

FAMILY CIRCUS

ON SCREEN

FILM CAPS



"All the Money in the World" (R) The mother of kidnapped teenager John Paul Getty III races to persuade the boy's billionaire grandfather to pay the ransom. With Michelle Williams, Christopher Plummer, Mark Wahlberg. Written by David Scarpa; based on the book by John Pearson. Directed by Ridley Scott.

"Bright" (NR) In an alternative present where mythical creatures exist, a human cop partners with an orc to protect a powerful ancient relic. With Will Smith, Joel Edgerton, Noomi Rapace, Lucy Fry, Edgar Ramirez. Written by Max Landis. Directed by David Ayer. Streaming on Netflix.

"Coco" (PG) A young boy with musical aspirations visits the Land of the Dead. Voices of Gael Garcia Bernal, Anthony Gonzalez, Benjamin Bratt, Renee Victor. Directed by Lee Unkrich. Co-directed by Adrian Molina.

"The Commuter" (PG-13) An insurance salesman stumbles upon a deadly conspiracy during his evening train ride home. With Liam Neeson, Vera Farmiga, Patrick Wilson, Jonathan Banks, Elizabeth McGovern, Sam Neill. Written by Byron Willinger & Philip de Blasi and Ryan Engle. Directed by Jaume Collet-Serra.

"Darkest Hour" (PG-13) Gary Oldman has great fun as Winston Churchill in "Darkest Hour," and it's great fun to watch him play Britain's wartime prime minister, contending with political opposition while rallying his people and his king (Ben Mendelsohn) to the cause of opposing Germany, in the face of the dire events at Dunkirk. Joe Wright's showboating direction is a match for the heightened pitch of the performances, which include good work by Stephen Dillane, Kristen Scott Thomas and Lily James. 2 hrs. 5 PG-13 (language) — Gary Thompson

"The Disaster Artist" (R) James Franco's shrewd, affectionate and frequently hilarious comedy re-creates and deconstructs the making of Tommy Wiseau's cult landmark "The Room," with Franco giving a fully committed, even haunted performance as Wiseau.

"Ferdinand" (PG) Animated tale about a large, gentle bull determined to return to his family after being captured. Voices of John Cena, Kate McKinnon, Gina Rodriguez. Inspired by a book by Munro Leaf and Robert Lawson. Directed by Carlos Saldanha.

"The Greatest Showman" (PG) Hugh Jackman stars as P.T. Barnum, the 19th century empresario who created entertainment known around the world. With Michelle Williams, Zac Efron, Rebecca Ferguson, Zendaya. Songs by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul. Written by Jenny Bicks and Bill Condon; story by Bicks. Directed by Michael Gracey.

"Insidious: The Last Key" (R) A parapsychologist discovers a horrific threat inside her own home. With Lin Shaye, Angus Sampson, Leigh Whannell. Written by Whannell. Directed by Adam Robitel.

"Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" (PG-13) Four teenagers find themselves inside an old video game console featuring ferocious realism and danger. With Dwayne Johnson, Jack Black, Kevin Hart. Written by Chris McKenna & Erik Sommers and Jake Kasdan & Scott Rosenberg & Jeff Pinkner; story by McKenna, based on the book by Chris Van Allsburg. Directed by Jake Kasdan.

"Mudbound" (R) Two families — one black, one white — struggle to farm the Mississippi Delta under Jim Crow laws during World War II. With Carey Mulligan, Garrett Hedlund, Jason Mitchell, Mary J. Blige, Jonathan Banks, Jason Clarke, Rob Morgan. Written by Virgil Williams and Dee Rees, based on a novel by Hillary Jordan. Directed by Rees. Streaming on Netflix.

"Paddington 2" (PG) The popular bear and the Brown family search Windsor Gardens for a book thief. With Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins, Julie Walters, Jim Broadbent, Peter Capaldi, Hugh Grant, Brendan Gleeson and the voices of Ben Whishaw, Imelda Staunton. Written by Paul King, Simon Farnaby; based on the children's stories by Michael Bond. Directed by King.

"Pitch Perfect 3" (PG-13) Graduated from college and struggling to find jobs on their own, the Bellas reunite for a USO tour. With Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson, Hailee Steinfeld. Written by Kay Cannon and Mike White; story by Cannon, based on the book by Mickey Rapkin. Directed by Trish Sie.

"The Post" (PG-13) Director Steven Spielberg and stars Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks combine for a thriller cum civics lesson showing the value of newspapers hanging together and holding government accountable for deception.

"Proud Mary" (R) Taraji P. Henson stars as a Boston hit woman. Written by John Stuart Newman & Christian Swegal and Steven Antin. Directed by Babak Najafi.

"Star Wars: The Last Jedi" (PG-13) Rey continues her search for the truth behind the Force in Episode VIII. With Daisy Ridley, Adam Driver, John Boyega, Oscar Isaac, Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher. Written and directed by Rian Johnson; based on characters created by George Lucas.

"Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" (R) Uncommon writer-director Martin McDonagh and a splendid cast top-lined by Frances McDormand, Woody Harrelson and Sam Rockwell present a savage film, even a dangerous one, the blackest take-no-prisoners farce in quite some time.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Violent, true story of Arizona prison break is true to period

PICK O' THE WEEK

Reele & Stream

By Nancy Adamson | nadamson@mrt.com

"Last Rampage: The Escape of Gary Tison" (R) This is a fact-based story of the 1978 escape from an Arizona prison of two men whose break was aided by one of their sons. The story is gritty and heartbreaking, but the most amazing of all is the attention to period, which is so authentic, it looks like it was actually filmed in 1978. **A**

ICK! O' THE WEEK

"Last Days of Billy the Kid" (not rated) The reality of William Bonney's life and death is beside the point in this low-budget Western. In fact, the young gunslinger's final days are eclipsed altogether by the stories of others in New Mexico at the time whose lives were not nearly as fascinating. **D**

MORE REVIEWS

"American Made" (R) Biopic of man who smuggled cocaine into the U.S. is so unbelievable, it must be true. Barry Seal was a man of questionable, if not plain bad moral character, but this story of his exploits is a terrific ride. **A-**

"Anti Matter" (not rated) There are some interesting twists in this story of scientists who discover a way to transport objects. Unfortunately, there's just not enough to grab onto in the middle of the film to stay interested. **C**

"Battle of the Sexes" (PG-13) Emma Stone does a respectable job playing Billie Jean King in this story of the famous 1972 tennis match, but Steve Carrell is a jaw-dropping near-clone of Bobby Riggs. It's also remarkable to note that the strides King made all those years ago to bring equality to women's tennis still stand today. Mostly. The Grand Slams still follow the rules but the lesser tourneys pay the men more than the women (just like the rest of the world's working class). **B+**

"Brad's Status" (R) Critics gushed over this drama but I found the main character's constant whining a little too morose to enjoy, even after he finds that some of those he's envious of have foibles, too. **C+**

"The Houses October Built 2" (not rated) More of the same as the documentarians travel the country seeking out scary Halloween events, while throwing in a bit of fiction of their own when searching for those haunts that fall off the grid. Standout moment goes to an event in Milwaukee, where a brain taco event draws celebrity contestants Mini Kiss and professional eater Takeru Kobayashi. **B**

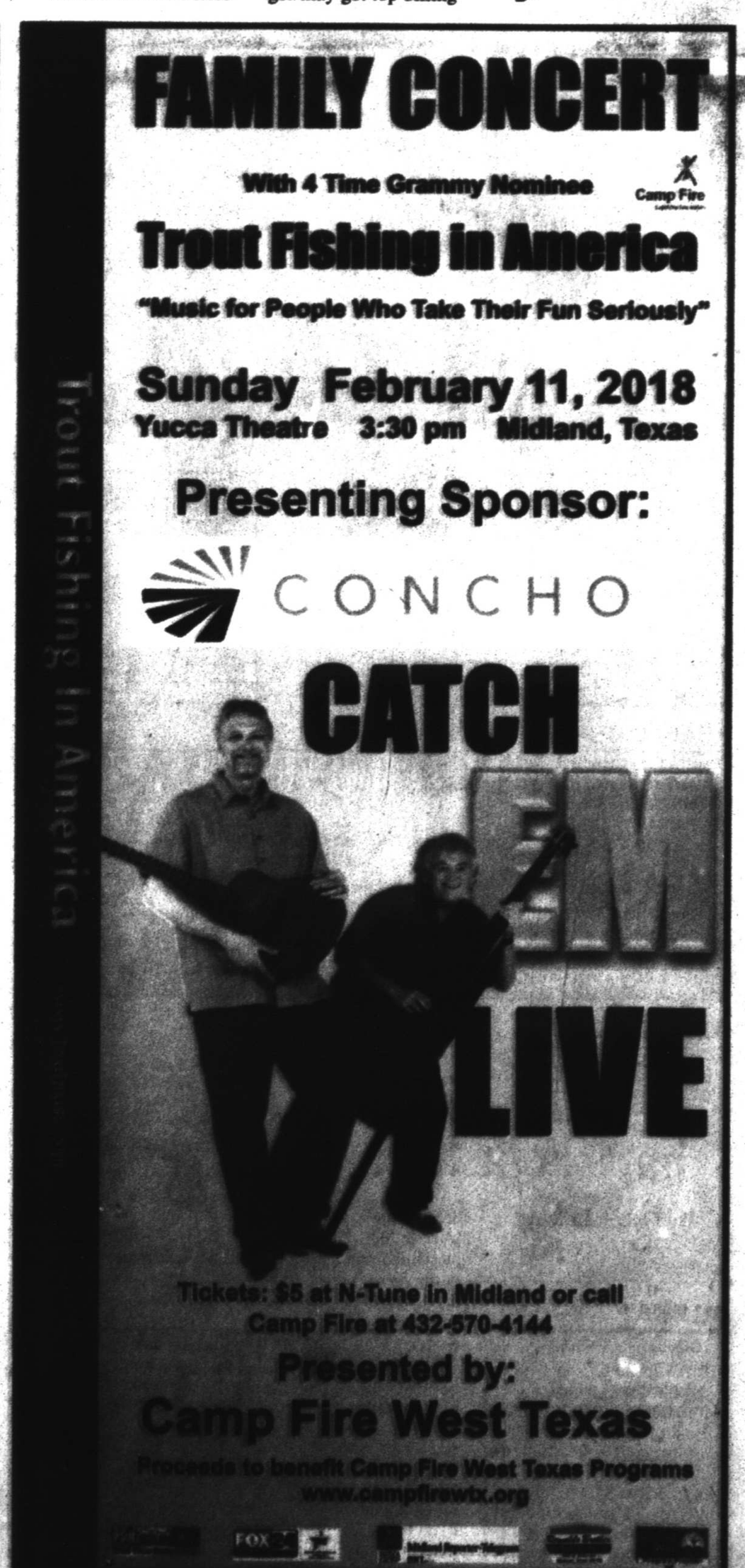
"Killing Gunther" (R) Arnold Schwarzenegger may get top billing in this cute mockumentary but don't expect to see him until the third act. Otherwise, the film has a few laughs but is not nearly as clever as it thinks it is. **C+**

"The Mountain Between Us" (PG-13) Idris Elba and Kate Winslet share an undeniable chemistry that enhances the rather predictable story. **B**

"A Question of Faith" (PG) A return to the screen of one former 1980s TV star (Kim Fields of "Facts of Life") and one actor from the same period who had a few big screen hits (C. Thomas Howell of "The Outsiders" and "E.T.) has a nostalgic quality but this faith-based film amounts to little more than a decent Lifetime movie. **B-**

"Rebound" (not rated) Writer-director Megan Freels Johnston's recent success with "The Ice Cream Truck" prompted a re-release of her first feature from 2014. There are a few taut moments in this thriller but it really amounts to little more than gratuitous torture porn. **C-**

"Victoria and Abdul" (PG-13) As marvelous as Judi Dench's Queen Victoria is, there just isn't enough for her to sink her teeth into with the story. **B-**



Stanton's Peterson resigns as head coach, AD

By Oscar LeRoy
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Saying it was time for a change, John Peterson confirmed on Wednesday that he has resigned as Stanton athletic director and head football coach.

"It was just time to move on and do something different," Peterson said. "We don't have a clue right now what we want to do as a family. This is my wife's hometown and this is a place I've called home. I have cousins here and I've been fortunate enough to coach several of my nieces and nephews. It has been great for us and Stanton has always been a great little town for me. But now it's time to go on with the next chapter in our lives."

Peterson and his wife Kristi have daughters Amanda and Alyssa at Angelo State University, while son Ryan is in the seventh grade. He said he and his family decided sometime after the season that this would be the best time to make a move.

Peterson spent nine years as head coach of the Buffaloes, guiding them to a 38-56 record and four playoff appearances.

This past season, the Buffaloes went 2-9 and lost to state powerhouse Canadian, 63-6, in the bi-district round of the Class 3A Division II playoffs.

The program has fallen on tough times in recent years, going winless in 2016 and winning just seven games over the last four years.

Peterson admitted that those struggles played at least a small part in his decision.

"It wears on you because as a competitor you want to win," he said. "I've talked to several other coaches and sometimes those things happen. If you stay in the business long enough, you will have some tough years. I wanted to win a lot more. It's tough. But now it's time for somebody to get in there and bring some fresh ideas and energy to the program."

Peterson said he will stay on as athletic director until the school district finds his replacement.

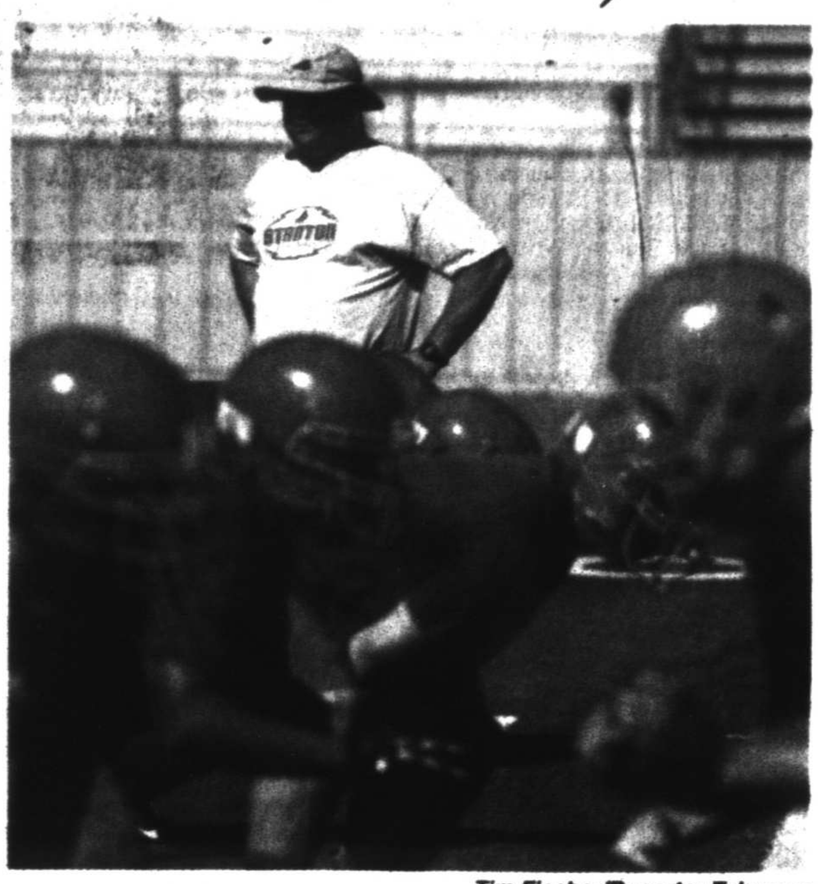
Stanton superintendent Merl Brandon said the position has been posted and the school district will be taking applications through Jan. 31. He added that they will begin interviewing candidates the second and third week of February and hopes to finalize a candidate and present him to the March 5 school board meeting for final approval. Brandon said they hope to have the new athletic director and head football coach begin on March 19.

"Coach Peterson has been here for several years and has done great things with the program," Brandon said. "The district wishes him the best of luck and we're hopeful he finds another great position to move on to and be successful."

Peterson said he'll miss the kids at Stanton.

"All the kids I was fortunate enough to coach, they were a joy in my life," Peterson said. "They made me proud every moment I was their coach through the wins and the losses. The kids in Stanton will fight and go through a brick wall for you and they were always supportive of me. I will always appreciate them for doing that."

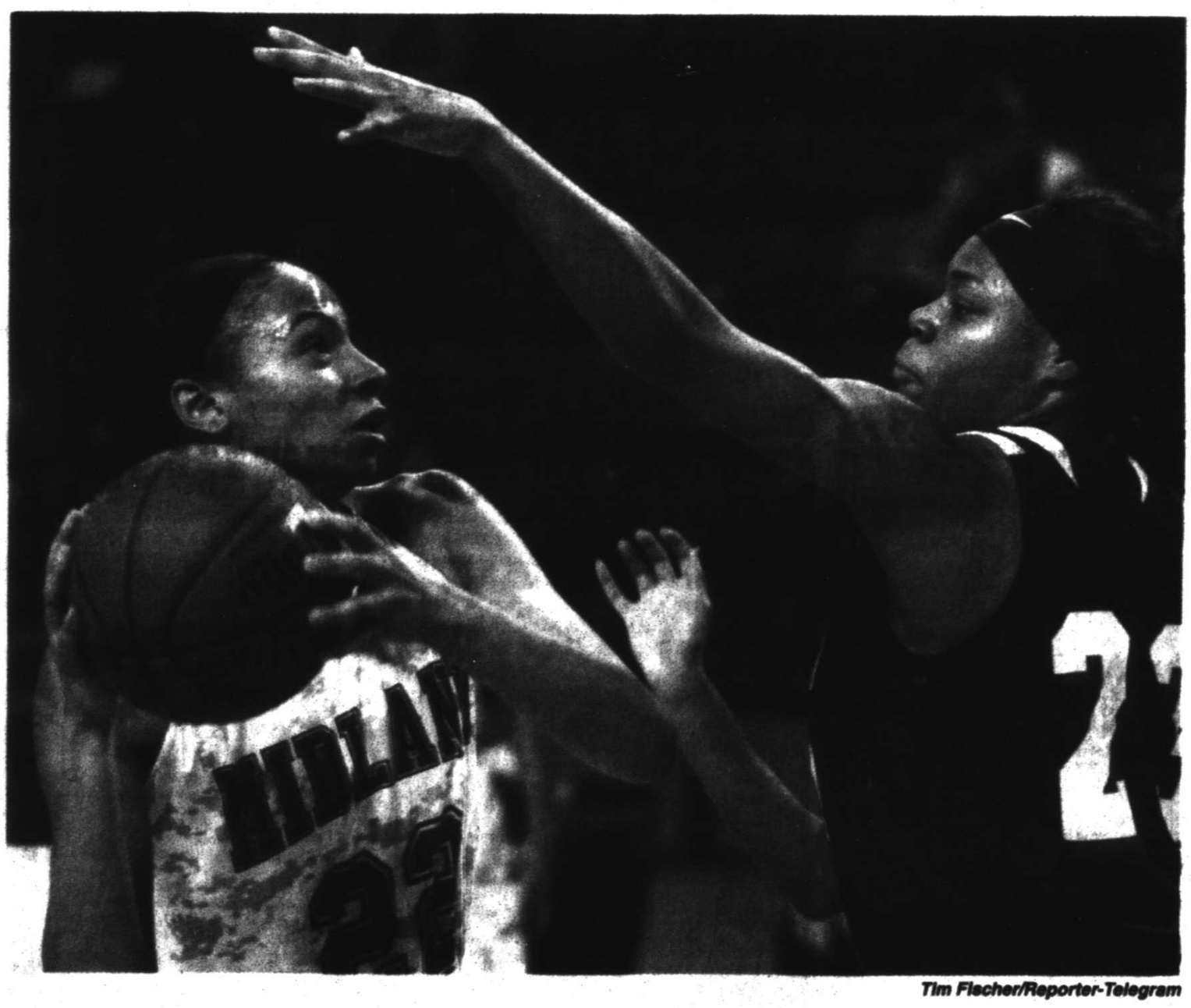
Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Stanton head coach John Peterson watches his team practice in 2016

Chaps vs Wranglers



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Paige Robinson looks to put up a shot as Frank Phillips' Kiara Shoals defends on Monday at the Chaparral Center.

MC focused for showdown with rival Odessa College

By Oscar LeRoy
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Being from London, England, Paige Robinson wasn't aware of the rivalry between Midland College and Odessa College when she first started playing for the Lady Chaparrals.

So when the 6-foot-4 post got a taste of it last year, it was then it hit her that this was no ordinary game.

"The first time we played them, oh my God, the atmosphere was wild and it was intense," Robinson said. "It's a big rival. It could go either way and it's about who wants it more."

The Lady Chaparrals (9-7, 2-1 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference) head to the OC Sports Center at 5:45 p.m. today to face the No. 17-ranked Lady Wranglers (12-4, 0-1) in what could be another intense, close game.

These teams have already met this year in a non-conference game as Odessa College had a fourth quarter surge to beat MC, 42-39, in Midland College's WNIT Classic on Nov. 17.

While that loss stung for MC, the Lady Chaps look to shake off Monday's 59-48 loss to No. 12 Frank Philips College in which they let a halftime lead slip away

Please see MC/3C

Chaps hope to carry spark into game against OC

By Oscar LeRoy
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Midland College men's basketball coach Pat Rafferty hopes Monday's big win for his team was a turning point.

In the 76-43 victory over Frank Phillips College, the Chaparrals not only shot the ball but played well on the defensive end. Most of all, the Chaps played as a team.

Only a few days before, Rafferty was wondering if all the above would be possible for his team as the Chaps had constant breakdowns on defense and were selfish on both ends of the court in a loss to Weatherford College.

Rafferty

But the light seemed to go on for the Chaps (5-12, 1-2 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference) the other night and that's a good thing considering they have to go to the OC Sports Center tonight to face No. 12 Odessa College (13-2, 2-0). Tip-off is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

"It was nice getting some momentum going into Thursday night's game against Odessa," said MC sophomore guard Marquell Fraser after Monday's win. "I'm excited, can't wait to play Odessa College. We're going to be prepared by going hard in practice. We'll be ready."

Rafferty hopes his team keeps the same intensity it had the other night.

"That's the constant element that has to be there," Rafferty said. "There's going to be a night where we don't shoot it as well and there's going to be a night when you don't have your 'A' game. As long as you have that effort and that will to compete, you give yourself a chance. We've got to defend and we've got to rebound, especially on the defensive end."

Odessa College will present many challenges for the Chaps on both ends of the floor. The biggest concern for Rafferty is the Wranglers' overall size.

"The starting five is 6-(foot)-7, they're mature and they're physical."

Please see CHAPS/3C

MHS, Lee hope to continue strong starts at President's Cup

By Will Korn
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With the new year now in full swing, both the Midland High and Lee boys soccer teams are anxious to continue strong starts to their respective 2018 campaigns.

They'll have a golden opportunity to make a statement on their home fields in Midland's staple tournament, the President's Cup. Matches begin at 2 p.m. today and run through Saturday and will be played at both Grande Communications Stadium and the Lee High School field.

Bales

This year's tournament field features nine teams, including five returning clubs – MHS, Lee, Odessa High, Amarillo High and El Paso Socorro — from last year's President's Cup. The four newcomers this year are El Paso Jefferson, El Paso Pebble Hills, El Paso Eastwood and Mansfield.

Hicks

Perhaps the most noteworthy absence is El Paso Montwood, which rolled to the 2017 President's Cup title with a 3-0 record and a 9-1 goal differential.

Still, MHS first-year head coach J.D. Bales expects a weekend of quality competition on the pitch, as five of the nine clubs made the playoffs last season in their respective classifications. He added that this tournament is always a special event for the advancement of the game in the Tall City and in the Permian Basin.

"It's huge to have a tourney in your own town," Bales said. "It gives a chance to have numbers in the stands. The quality of soccer coming in is great. (We have) nine really good teams coming in, so it's really good soccer. It's a mix of different styles of soccer that you get to see. It's great for our kids and it's great for our city."

Bales and the Bulldogs (2-1) will open their four-match tournament slate against El Paso Jefferson at 2 p.m. today at Grande Communications Stadium.

MHS is coming off a solid showing, particularly defensively, in last weekend's North Texas Elite Showcase in Flower Mound. In their three matches, the Bulldogs surrendered just two goals in regulation.

MHS toppled Lewisville – last year's Class 6A region semifinalist – 3-2 in penalty kicks Thursday before edging Irving Nimitz – a 6A regional quarterfinalist last year – 1-0 in regulation. The Bulldogs fell to Garland Naaman Forest, 2-0, to conclude the weekend, but Bales said he is seeing encouraging progress from his players.

"We saw improvement in every game and that's what you want in the preseason," Bales said. "We got better every game and we are slowly finding our identity."

Meanwhile in last weekend's Wolfforth Frenship Tournament, Lee powered its way to a 4-1 record on the

Please see PRESIDENTS/4C

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

Golf
PGA: Sony Open in Hawaii, 1st Round, 6 p.m., GOLF
EPGA: Eurasia Cup, 1st Round, 10 p.m., GOLF

Men's College Basketball
Maryland at Ohio State, 6 p.m., ESPN2
Tulsa at Houston, 6 p.m., ESPNU
Tennessee State at Eastern Illinois, 6 p.m., CBSSN
Iowa at Illinois, 7 p.m., FS1
Clemson at NC State, 8 p.m., ESPN
Wichita State at ECU, 8 p.m., ESPN2
Stanford at Washington State, 8 p.m., ESPNU
Louisiana Tech at Middle Tennessee, 8 p.m., CBSSN
Oregon at Arizona State, 9 p.m., FS1
Utah at UCLA, 10 p.m., ESPN2
St. Mary's at Santa Clara, 10 p.m., ESPNU

Men's Soccer
Copa del Rey: Sevilla vs. Cadiz, 12:25 p.m., beIN, beIN E
Copa del Rey: FC Barcelona vs. Celta, 2:25 p.m., beIN, beIN E

NBA
Boston vs. Philadelphia, 2 p.m., NBAtv
Cleveland at Toronto, 7 p.m., TNT
San Antonio at LA Lakers, 9:30 p.m., TNT

NHL
Carolina at Washington, 6 p.m., NHL

Tennis
WTA: Sydney Invitational, Semifinal 1, 9 p.m., beIN
ATP: Auckland, Semifinals, 10 p.m., TENNIS

Women's College Basketball
Marist at Quinnipiac, 9 a.m., ESPNU
Notre Dame at Louisville, 6 p.m., ESPN
Tennessee at Texas A&M, 6 p.m., SEC
Grand Canyon at New Mexico State, 7 p.m., FSSW, FCSP
Ole Miss at Mississippi State, 8 p.m., SEC

RADIO

Men's College Basketball
Howard at Clarendon, 7:30 p.m., KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM, KBST 1490 AM (Big Spring)

NBA
San Antonio at LA Lakers, 9:30 p.m., KXCS 105.5 FM (Big Spring)

NAHL Hockey
Odessa at Amarillo, 7 p.m., KFZX 102.1 FM
Howard at Clarendon, 5:45 p.m., KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM, KBST 1490 AM (Big Spring)

WHAT'S ON DECK

HS Boys Soccer
MHS, Lee at President's Cup

HS Girls Soccer
MHS at Lubbock Tournament
Lee at San Marcos Tournament

JC Women's Basketball
Midland College at Odessa College, 5:45 p.m.

JC Men's Basketball
Midland College at Odessa College, 7:45 p.m.

HS BASKETBALL

Tuesday's Late box
GREENWOOD 71, DENVER CITY 65

Denver City – Gutierrez 3, Boyd 5, Pacheco 3, DeLaRosa 20, Mendoza 25, Grue 2, Mills 5
Greenwood (14-11) – Brody Ray 12, Ryan Snodgrass 6, Omarion Jameson 10, Logan Jarvis 23, Bram Mathes 20

Denver City	14	16	18	17	–65
Greenwood	16	13	21	21	–71

Free throws – Denver City 9-11, Greenwood 19-30. 3-point goals – Denver City 8 (DeLaRosa 5, Gutierrez, Pacheco, Mendoza), Greenwood 2 (Ray 2). Total fouls – Denver City 24, Greenwood 13. Fouled out – None

Next: Fort Stockton at Greenwood, 8 p.m. Friday

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League

KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Named Brian Buchanan hitting coach of Omaha (PCL), Mike Rojas manager of Northwest Arkansas (TL), Omar Ramirez manager of Idaho Falls (Pioneer), Brooks Conrad manager and Nelson Liriano hitting coach of Burlington (Appalachian), Jason Simontacchi assistant minor league pitching coordinator and Tim Bavester assistant minor league video coordinator.

LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Designated LHP Nate Smith for assignment. Agreed to terms with C Rene Rivera on a one-year contract.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Agreed to terms with OF-DH Khris Davis on a one-year contract.

TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with C Mike Ohlman, INF Ryan Brett, RHP Brandon Cumpton and LHP Brandon Mann on minor league contracts.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Named Mike Mordecai quality control coach, Guillermo Martinez minor league hitting coordinator, Huner Mense hitting coach of New Hampshire (EL), Casey Candaele manager of Dunedin (FSL), Matt Young hitting coach of Lansing (MWL), Dallas McPherson manager of Vancouver (NWL), Mark Worrell assistant pitching coach and George Carroll coach of the GCL Blue Jays, Tim Raines special assistant, Chad Uihlein assistant strength and conditioning coordinator, Mauricio Elizondo assistant rehab coordinator, Lauren Poole dietitian, Allison Tropf affiliate dietitian and Casey Callison, Robert Murdock and Justin Batcher strength and conditioning coaches.

National League

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Agreed to terms with OFs Cesar Puello and Ramon Flores on minor league contracts.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Released RHP Taylor Jungmann. Agreed to terms with LHP Boone Logan on a one-year contract and RHP J.J. Hoover on a minor league contract.

SAN DIEGO PADRES — Traded INF Jose Rondon to the Chicago White Sox for cash.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

NBA — Fined Cleveland G Isaiah Thomas $20,000 for striking Minnesota F Andrew Wiggins above the shoulders. Suspended Miami F James Johnson and Toronto F Serge Ibaka one game for throwing punches at one another. Fined Toronto G DeMar DeRozar $25,000 and Miami G Goran Dragic $10,000 for an altercation.

NEW ORLEANS PELICANS — Signed G DeAndre Liggins to a 10-day contract.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

BUFFALO BILLS — Signed S L.J. McCray and LB Xavier Woodson-Luster to reserve/future contracts.

CHICAGO BEARS — Signed DB Jonathon Mincy to a reserve/future contract.

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Named Eliot Wolf assistant general manager and Alonzo Highsmith vice president of player personnel.

DENVER BRONCOS — Agreed to terms with special teams coordinator Tom McMahon. Promoted Chris Strausser to offensive tackles coach. Named Greg Williams defensive backs coach.

GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed RB Joel Bouagnon.

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS — Signed PK Roberto Aguayo to a reserve/future contract.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Placed G Andrus Peat and DT Tony McDaniel on injured reserve. Signed OT Bryce Harris and DT Woodrow Hamilton from the practice squad.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Fired offensive coordinator Darrell Bevell and offensive line coach Tom Cable.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Acquired F Anthony Duclair and D Adam Clendening from Arizona for Fs Richard Panik and Laurent Dauphin.

NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Reassigned G Juuse Saros to Milwaukee (AHL). Recalled G Anders Lindback from Milwaukee.

ST. LOUIS BLUES — Reassigned F Tage Thompson to San Antonio (AHL).

American Hockey League

LEHIGH VALLEY PHANTOMS — Assigned F Alex Krushelnyski to Reading (ECHL).

ECHL

CINCINNATI CYCLONES — Added G C.J. Groh as emergency backup.

FORT WAYNE KOMETS — Loaned D Dan Maggio to Tucson (AHL).

KALAMAZOO WINGS — Loaned D Garret Cockerill to Cleveland (AHL).

RAPID CITY RUSH — Signed F Tom Maxwell.

READING ROYALS — Loaned F Ryan Penny to Binghamton (AHL).

TULSA OILERS — Traded F Mark Bennett to Reading for future considerations.

RODEO

PROFESSIONAL RODEO COWBOYS ASSOCIATION — Named George Taylor CEO.

SOCCER
Major League Soccer

FC DALLAS — Signed D Kris Reaves.

LA GALAXY — Signed G David Bingham

MONTREAL IMPACT — Named Joel Bats, Maxence Flachez, Wilfried Nancy and Robert Duverne assistant coaches.

NEW YORK RED BULLS — Signed F Amando Moreno.

VANCOUVER WHITECAPS — Signed M Marco Bustos to an 18-month contract extension and loaned him to Club Atletico Zacatepec (Ascenso MX-Mexico).

United Soccer League

USL — Announced the addition of the Indy Eleven club for the 2018 season.

OTTAWA FURY — Signed M Maxim Tissot and D Nana Attakora.

COLLEGE

ALABAMA — WR Calvin Ridley will enter the NFL draft.

CHOWAN — Named Kylee Polsley assistant softball coach.

CLEMSON — Announced WR Deon Cain will enter the NFL draft.

NFL PLAYOFF GLANCE

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 6
Tennessee 22, Kansas City 21
Atlanta 26, Los Angeles Rams 13
Sunday, Jan. 7
Jacksonville 10, Buffalo 3
New Orleans 31, Carolina 26

Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 13
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 3:35 p.m. (NBC)
Tennessee at New England, 7:15 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 14
Jacksonville at Pittsburgh, 12:05 p.m. (CBS)
New Orleans at Minnesota, 3:40 p.m. (FOX)

Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 21
AFC
TBD, 2:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC
TBD, 5:40 p.m. (FOX)

Pro Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 28
At Orlando, Fla.
AFC vs. NFC, 2 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)

Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 4
At Minneapolis, Minn.
AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 5:30 p.m. (NBC)

NHL GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	43	31	9	3	65	160	107
Boston	40	23	10	7	53	131	102
Toronto	45	25	17	3	53	146	131
Florida	42	18	18	6	42	120	137
Detroit	41	17	17	7	41	112	127
Montreal	42	18	20	4	40	108	129
Ottawa	42	15	18	9	39	117	149
Buffalo	43	10	24	9	29	96	150

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	43	27	13	3	57	135	121
Columbus	44	25	16	3	53	121	121
New Jersey	41	22	11	8	52	130	125
N.Y. Rangers	42	22	15	5	49	128	117
Pittsburgh	44	22	19	3	47	126	138
Carolina	42	19	15	8	46	119	131
Philadelphia	42	19	15	8	46	123	122
N.Y. Islanders	43	21	18	4	46	146	156

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Winnipeg	44	26	11	7	59	151	121
Nashville	42	25	11	6	56	131	114
St. Louis	46	26	17	3	55	134	122
Dallas	43	24	16	3	51	132	118
Minnesota	44	23	17	4	50	127	127
Chicago	43	21	16	6	48	134	118
Colorado	41	22	16	3	47	135	124

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	41	29	10	2	60	143	113
Los Angeles	42	24	13	5	53	126	99
San Jose	40	21	13	6	48	110	106
Calgary	42	22	16	4	48	118	121
Anaheim	43	19	15	9	47	117	120
Edmonton	44	18	23	3	39	119	143
Vancouver	43	16	21	6	38	111	143
Arizona	43	10	27	6	26	98	150

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

Wednesday's Scores
Ottawa 4, Toronto 3
Minnesota 2, Chicago 1

Today's Games
Carolina at Washington, 6 p.m.
Columbus at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
Calgary at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.

NBA ROUNDUP

MAVERICKS 115
HORNETS 111

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Harrison Barnes had 25 points and 11 rebounds, Yogi Ferrell made seven 3-pointers and scored 22 points and the Dallas Mavericks fended off fatigue to beat a fresh Charlotte Hornets team.

Dirk Nowitzki added 19 points for the Mavericks, and Dennis Smith Jr. had 15.

The Mavericks were playing their third game in four days, while the Hornets were coming off a four-day layoff. But Dallas showed no signs of wearing down in the fourth quarter, repeatedly thwarting Charlotte's attempts to take the lead.

Kemba Walker had 41 points on 16-of-28 shooting for the Hornets. Dwight Howard had 15 points and 12 rebounds for Charlotte, but was an anemic 5 of 18 from the foul line — which proved costly in a close game.

ROCKETS 121
TRAIL BLAZERS 112

HOUSTON — Chris Paul scored a season-high 37 points, and Eric Gordon added 30 as the Houston Rockets withstood a late run to get a win over the Portland Trail Blazers.

The Blazers used a big run to cut a 14-point deficit to three with about three minutes left. Houston responded with a 6-2 run, capped by a 3-pointer from Paul, to make it 111-104 about a minute later. Damian Lillard made a layup on the other end, but Paul cut through three defenders to make an off-balance layup to push the lead to 113-106.

The Blazers couldn't get the ball in after a timeout, Houston got the ball back and Clint Capela added two free throws to secure the victory.

Lillard scored 29 in his return after missing the last two games with a strained right calf, and C.J. McCollum added 24 points as the Blazers saw a three-game winning streak snapped.

The Rockets won their second straight and improved to 3-2 in five games without James Harden, who is out for at least two weeks with a hamstring injury.

BULLS 122
KNICKS 119 2OT

NEW YORK — Rookie Lauri Markkanen scored a season-high 33 points, Kris Dunn shook off a nightmarish shooting night to make the tie-breaking basket in the second overtime, and the Chicago Bulls beat the New York Knicks 122-119 on Wednesday night.

Dunn had missed 14 of his first 17 shots before banking in a runner with just under a minute left in the second extra period, and Markkanen finished it off by making two free throws with 6.8 seconds remaining.

HEAT 114
PACERS 106

INDIANAPOLIS — Goran Dragic scored 20 points and Wayne Ellington made the decisive 3-pointer with 23.2 seconds left, helping Miami fend off Indiana's late push.

It's the sixth straight win for the Heat. Miami also ended a 10-game road losing streak against the Pacers.

Victor Oladipo scored 26 points and Lance Stephenson provided a late boost of energy that nearly allowed Indiana to erase a 10-point deficit in the final 9:57. Stephenson wound up with 15 points, eight rebounds and four assists.

But when Ellington's 3 bounced in rather than rolling off the rim as it appeared it would, Indiana's comeback hopes were over. Ellington was one of three Miami players with 15 points.

Hassan Whiteside had 16 points and 15 rebounds to help snap the Pacers' two-game winning streak.

GRIZZLIES 105
PELICANS 102

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Tyreke Evans scored 28 points, including a pair of free throws with 5.9 seconds left that helped the Memphis Grizzlies beat the New Orleans Pelicans.

Marc Gasol finished with 21 points and 10 rebounds for Memphis while JaMychal Green contributed 20 points and 14 rebounds.

After Evans' foul shots, the Pelicans had a chance for a tie, but E'Twaun Moore's 3-point attempt from the left wing bounced off the front of the rim.

DeMarcus Cousins had 29 points and eight rebounds. Moore had 16 points and Rajon Rondo had 14. Cousins was 2 of 10 from the field entering the fourth, but scored 14 points in the final quarter. He hit a trio of 3s as the Pelicans overcame an 11-point deficit.

Evans made four free throws in the final 61 seconds.

JAZZ 107
WIZARDS 104

WASHINGTON — Ricky Rubio scored 21 points, Donovan Mitchell had 16 and the short-handed Utah Jazz completed a season sweep over the Washington Wizards.

Ekpe Udoh scored 16 points and Joe Johnson had 16 off the bench for the Jazz, who had lost 13 of 16 in between meetings with Washington. The Wizards were embarrassed 116-69 in Utah on Dec. 4.

Utah played without two starters, and second-leading scorer Rodney Hood was ejected in the second half.

John Wall had 35 points and 11 assists for the Wizards, but committed eight of their 23 turnovers. Bradley Beal had 23 points, but missed six of seven shots in the fourth quarter and lost the ball with 2.9 seconds remaining while attempting a game-tying 3-pointer.

TIMBERWOLVES 104
THUNDER 88

MINNEAPOLIS — Jimmy Butler scored 26 points, grabbed seven rebounds and had eight assists for the Minnesota Timberwolves in a win against the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Andrew Wiggins added 19 points, and Karl-Anthony Towns had 18 points and 12 rebounds as Minnesota pulled away in the second half to win its third game in a row at home and 10th in its last 13 overall.

Russell Westbrook had 38 points and 10 rebounds, but Paul George, Carmelo Anthony and the rest of the Thunder had a tough time shooting. Westbrook was 15 of 23 from the field, while his teammates were 17 of 56 (30.3 percent). Anthony scored 15 points on 5-of-19 shooting, while George finished 5 of 14 for 13 points for Oklahoma City, which has lost five of seven.

NBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	33	10	.767	—
Toronto	28	11	.718	3
Philadelphia	19	19	.500	11½
New York	19	22	.463	13
Brooklyn	15	26	.366	17

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	24	17	.585	—
Washington	23	18	.561	1
Charlotte	15	24	.385	8
Orlando	12	30	.286	12½
Atlanta	11	30	.268	13

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	26	14	.650	—
Detroit	22	18	.550	4
Milwaukee	22	18	.550	4
Indiana	21	20	.512	5½
Chicago	15	27	.357	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	29	11	.725	—
San Antonio	28	14	.667	2
New Orleans	20	20	.500	9
Dallas	15	28	.349	15½
Memphis	13	27	.325	16

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	27	16	.628	—
Portland	22	19	.537	4
Oklahoma City	22	20	.524	4½
Denver	21	20	.512	5
Utah	17	24	.415	9

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	33	8	.805	—
L.A. Clippers	18	21	.462	14
Phoenix	16	26	.381	17½
Sacramento	13	27	.325	19½
L.A. Lakers	13	27	.325	19½

Wednesday's Scores
Dallas 115, Charlotte 111
Miami 114, Indiana 106
Utah 107, Washington 104
Chicago 122, New York 119, 2OT
Detroit 114, Brooklyn 80
Houston 121, Portland 112
Memphis 105, New Orleans 102
Milwaukee 110, Orlando 103
Minnesota 104, Oklahoma City 88
Atlanta 110, Denver 97
L.A. Clippers at Golden State, late

Today's Games
Boston vs. Philadelphia at London, 2 p.m.
Cleveland at Toronto, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

Scott Frost wins Paul 'Bear' Bryant Coach of Year Award

By Joshua Koch
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Scott Frost has one final award to share with the University of Central Florida.

The former UCF coach and new Nebraska boss received the Paul "Bear" Bryant Coach of the Year Award on Wednesday night.

"It's an honor. Oobviously, he's one of the greats," Frost said about Bryant. "This is a team award. I'm just happy to represent the players and coaches that had such a phenomenal year."

Frost is first since former Boise State coach Chris Petersen in 2009 with a non-Power 5 program.

This completes the awards season for Frost. In the past few weeks, Frost also claimed the Home Depot Coach of the Year, American Football Coaches Association Coach of the Year, AP Coach of the Year and Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year awards.

UCF rolled past Memphis 62-55 in the American Athletic Conference Championship game, and beat Auburn 34-27 in the Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl to finish 13-0. UCF finished ranked No. 6 in the final AP Poll of the season, receiving four first place votes.

"If this year taught me anything it's that with the current structure I don't think a Group of 5 team has a chance," Frost said. "(The CFB Playoff Committee) kept us at a comfortable distance from the Top 5 and Top 10 for a long time, even when we were undefeated. Continued move two and three loss teams ahead of us. It's obvious to me that they don't have that intention to have that debate. Hopefully that will change."

When asked about the current state of the College Football Playoff, Frost said he believes it should be expanded to eight teams. This would include the five conference champions and then three at-large bids.

Steve Spurrier was honored with the Bryant Lifetime Achievement Award.

"It's very nice," Spurrier said. "I was telling somebody I'm the only coach here that Bear Bryant recruited me out of high school. I visited Alabama way back in 1962. Alabama was playing Miami that day. ... It was only 3-3 at halftime and Alabama won 36-3. They clobbered them in the second half."

Spurrier finished his career as the winningest coach at Florida (122-27-1) and South Carolina (86-49).

"He was really good to all the coaches all over the country," Spurrier said about Bryant. "A really fun guy to be around."

TEXAS FISHING REPORT

CENTRAL

AUSTIN: Water stained; 44-56 degrees; 0.82 feet low. Black bass are slow jigs and Texas rigs. Sunfish are fair on cut nightcrawlers. Catfish are fair to good on live and cut bait.

BASTROP: Water stained; 60-64 degrees. Black bass are good on Rat-L-Traps and chartreuse jigs. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbait and liver. Yellow catfish are slow.

BELTON: Water stained; 61-65 degrees; 3.04 feet low. Black bass are slow. Hybrid striper are fair on live shad. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are fair on nightcrawlers, doughbait, and stinkbait. Yellow catfish are slow.

BROWNWOOD: Water stained; 59-63 degrees; 3.33 feet low. Black bass are good on chartreuse jigs, crankbaits, and watermelon red worms in 10-25 feet. Hybrid striper are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are good on Li'l Fishies and minnows over brush piles in 10-25 feet. Channel catfish are good on stinkbait, minnows and frozen shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

BUCHANAN: Water stained; 60-64 degrees; 4.54 feet low. Black bass are fair on pumpkin/chartreuse Curb's jigs, Texas rigged weightless watermelon/blue flake Whacky Sticks, and smoke/red flake grubs in 5-12 feet. Striped bass are fair jigging Pirk Minnows and drifting or free lining live bait. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on crappie jigs and live minnows over brush piles. Channel catfish are slow. Yellow and blue catfish are fair on trotlines baited with live goldfish.

CANYON LAKE: Water stained; 63-67 degrees; 3.54 feet low. Black bass are fair on green pumpkin Whacky Sticks on jigheads and Texas rigged blue flake Scoundrel worms. Striped bass are slow. White bass are fair on Li'l Fishies at night. Crappie are fair on minnows and white tube jigs. Channel catfish are slow. Yellow and blue catfish are fair on live bait.

COLEMAN: Water stained; 58-62 degrees; 2.45 feet low. Black bass are fair on watermelon and dark red soft plastics, Rat-L-Traps, and crankbaits. Hybrid striper are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows and white tube jigs. Channel catfish are fair on stinkbait and hot dogs. Yellow catfish are slow.

COLORADO RIVER: (At Colorado Bend State Park) No report available.

FAYETTE: Water murky. Black bass are fair on Carolina rigged soft plastics and Rat-L-Traps. Channel and blue catfish are slow.

GRANBURY: Water stained; 60-64 degrees; 0.30 feet low. Black bass are good on chartreuse soft plastics, spinnerbaits, crankbaits, and Rat-L-Traps. Striped bass are slow. White bass are fair on chrome spoons. Crappie are fair on minnows and blue tube jigs. Catfish are fair on stinkbait.

GRANGER: Water stained; 60-64 degrees; 0.11 feet high. Black bass are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Blue catfish are good on juglines baited with shad and cut bait in 3-20 feet. Yellow catfish are slow.

LBJ: Water stained; 59-63 degrees; 0.70 feet low. Black bass are good on Bleeding Shad Rat-L-Traps, watermelon crankbaits, and wacky rigged green pumpkin Whacky Sticks. Striped bass are slow. White bass are fair vertically jigging Pirk Minnows. Crappie are good on Curb's crappie jigs and live minnows over brush piles. Channel catfish are fair on minnows and shrimp. Yellow and blue catfish are slow.

NAVARRO MILLS: Water stained; 58-62 degrees; 1.96 feet low. Black bass are good on spinnerbaits and crankbaits near the dam. White bass are fair on Li'l Fishies. Crappie are good on minnows near the dam in brush piles. Channel and blue catfish are fair on shrimp and cheesebait near the dam. Yellow catfish are slow.

PROCTOR: Water murky; 60-64 degrees; 2.82 feet low. Black bass are fair on chartreuse spinnerbaits and soft plastics. Striped bass are slow. White bass are fair on Charlie slabs. Crappie are fair on minnows and chartreuse tube jigs. Channel and blue catfish are good on frozen shad and shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

SOMERVILLE: Water murky; 61-65 degrees; 0.12 feet high. Black bass are slow. Hybrid striper are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows and green/black tube jigs. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbait. Yellow catfish are slow.

STILLHOUSE HOLLOW: Water murky; 60-64 degrees; 3.63 feet low. Black bass are slow. White bass are good on pet spoons and smoke grubs. Crappie are fair on minnows and blue tube jigs. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.

TRAVIS: Water stained; 59-63 degrees; 11.62 feet low. Black bass are fair on crawfish crankbaits, watermelon worms, and jigs. Striped bass are slow. White bass are fair on white jigging spoons and minnows. Crappie are good on minnows and chartreuse tube jigs. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.

WALTER E. LONG: Water murky. Black bass are slow. Hybrid striper are good on white striper jigs in the cove and at the hot water outlet. White bass are good on minnows and silver spoons. Crappie are fair on red wigglers. Channel and blue catfish are good on shrimp and stinkbait. Yellow catfish are slow.

WHITNEY: Water stained; 60-64 degrees; 4.57 feet low. Black bass are good on watermelon soft plastics, spinnerbaits, and crankbaits. Striped bass are slow. White bass are fair on pet spoons and slabs. Crappie are good on minnows. Catfish are fair on frozen shrimp, liver, and stinkbait.

SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water murky; 62-66 degrees; 23.25 feet low. Black bass are good on silver slabs, crankbaits, and soft plastic worms. Striped bass are fair on slabs, crankbaits, and grubs. White bass are fair on slabs and crankbaits. Catfish are fair on shrimp, nightcrawlers, chicken livers, and cheesebait in 60-90 feet. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines and droplines baited with live perch. Everyone in a boat must have a Mexico fishing license (if fishing the Mexico side) whether fishing or not.

WEST

ALAN HENRY: Water clear main lake, stained to muddy upriver; 42-51 degrees; 5.39 feet low. No reports on black bass. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are fair drifting live bait.

ARROWHEAD: Water fairly clear; 41-49 degrees; 2.42 feet low. Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow to fair on live minnows. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers.

COLORADO CITY: 15.35 feet low. After a period of drought, this lake caught water and boating is now allowed. However, it is not currently recommended for fishing due to severe golden alga blooms.

FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water off color; 42-48 degrees; 1.87 feet low. Black bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Catfish are fair on live and cut bait.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water off color; 41-49 degrees; 3.12 feet low. Black bass are slow. No reports on crappie. Catfish are fair on live and cut bait.

NASWORTHY: 43-48 degrees; 1.37 feet low. No reports on black bass. No reports on crappie. Catfish are fair on live bait.

OAK CREEK: Water stained; 41-47 degrees; 10.73 feet low. Black bass slow on Texas rigs. Crappie are slow on live minnows. Catfish are fair on live and cut bait.

O.H. IVIE: Water stained; 41-52 degrees; 37.82 feet low. No reports on black bass. Crappie are slow on live minnows. Catfish are fair on live bait.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water off color; 39-46 degrees; 1.38 feet low. Black bass are slow on Texas rigs and jigs. Crappie are slow to fair on live minnow. White bass are fair on slabs. Striped bass are fair on live shad. Catfish are fair to good on live and cut bait.

SPENCE: 51.17 feet low. Catfish are fair on live bream, cut bait and nightcrawlers.

STAMFORD: Water stained; 38-49 degrees; 0.57 feet low. Black bass are slow on Texas rigs. Crappie are slow on live minnows. White bass are fair on live bait. Blue catfish are fair on cut and live bait.

SWEETWATER: Water off color; 39-45 degrees; 24.34 feet low. This lake is currently experiencing a fish kill due to golden alga. Biologists are monitoring the situation and will post updates as they become available.

WHITE RIVER: Water stained; 38-46 degrees; 21.56 feet low. Black bass are slow. No reports on crappie. Catfish are fair on cheese bait.

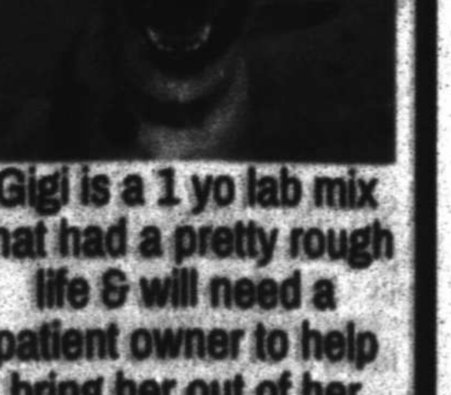
MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
UPCOMING EVENTS

1/20 1:00 pm No-Sew Adoption Blanket Demo, Brew St.
2/12 6:00 pm Adoption Center Volunteer Orientation
2/16-18 PetSmart Charities National Adoption Weekend

PLEASE HELP US CONTROL OVERPOPULATION & PROTECT YOUR PET FROM STRESS & ACCIDENTAL PREGNANCIES.
$70 SPAY/NEUTER VOUCHERS AVAILABLE TO MIDLAND CITY & COUNTY RESIDENTS.
MIDLANDHUMANE.ORG/SPAYNEUTER-VOUCHERS

ENHANCED ADOPTION CENTER
Open for adoptions Mon. - Sat. 12-7 & Sun. 12-6
Adoption Fees (fully vetted & chipped):
Cats $110, Dogs $150
432.520.3134 ext. 7
Located within Midland's PetSmart Store

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
P.O. Box 53213
Midland, TX 79710
midlandhumane.org



Gigi is a 1 yo lab mix that had a pretty rough life & will need a patient owner to help bring her out of her shell. She is potty trained & does well with other dogs. Gigi is in foster, so please call/text 432-558-8255 to set up a meeting.

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Eric Gay/Associated Press

Texas guard Matt Coleman (2) celebrates a score against TCU during the first half on Wednesday in Austin.

Sims' free throw lifts Texas over No. 16 TCU 99-98 in 2OT

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Jericho Sims made a free throw with 5 seconds left, then Texas watched as TCU's Jaylen Fisher missed a layup off the rim at the final buzzer to send the Longhorns to a 99-98 win over the 16th-ranked Horned Frogs in double overtime on Wednesday night.

Sims had missed his second free throw and the Horned Frogs got the play they wanted with Fisher driving the lane for a point-blank layup that somehow bounced out.

Texas got it biggest win of the season hours after the school announced that sophomore guard Andrew Jones has been diagnosed with leukemia and has started treatment. Further details on his diagnosis and condition have not been released.

TCU had rallied from 13 down in the second half and led 94-90 in the second overtime. The game was tied at 98 when Desmond Bane of TCU missed a shot and Kenrich Williams fouled Sims on the rebound.

Eric Davis scored 22 points to lead Texas (11-5, 2-2 Big 12). Williams scored 26 for TCU (13-3, 1-3), which made 15 3-pointers but none in the second overtime.

Big picture

TCU: The Horned Frogs have been in a dogfight in every Big 12 game and all three losses have been by four points or less. They will have to start winning these to get themselves out of the bottom of the Big 12 after such a strong start to the season.

Texas: The Longhorns got a big win but face a tough season without Jones. He was a leader and his presence will be missed on the court and in the locker room in a season that was supposed to be a big turnaround from a last-place finish in the Big 12. Coach Shaka Smart will be leaned on not just as a coach, but as a father figure to pull his team through the season.

Up next

TCU plays at No. 9 Oklahoma on Saturday.

Texas plays at Oklahoma State on Saturday.

TCU women upset No. 7 Texas 79-77

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

WACO — Kianna Ray made two free throws with 6 seconds left and TCU beat a Top 10 team for the first time in more than eight years, upsetting No. 7 Texas 79-77 on Wednesday night.

Ray was fouled by Ariel Atkins on a drive to the basket. That came after Atkins tied the game, and the second time in the final 38 seconds the two traded baskets. Atkins had made a short runner in the lane before Ray's open 3-pointer put Frogs up 77-75.

A final desperation 3 by Lashann Higgs was way off the mark as the game ended.

Jordan Moore led TCU (11-5, 2-3 Big 12) with 19 points, and Ray had 17. Toree Thompson had 13 points and Amy Okonkwo had 12.

Atkins had 25 points, and Higgs 18 for the Longhorns (13-2, 4-1). They had won six straight.

TCU had lost its last 13 games against ranked teams, and hadn't beaten a Top 10 team since a 56-54 home victory over No. 10 Texas A&M on Dec. 12, 2009.

Big picture

Texas: The Longhorns were streaky shooters, making eight in a row early and having those 11 misses in a row in the second quarter. Twice in the third quarter, they made four in a row.

TCU: The Frogs had been competitive in their Big 12 games. They led in the fourth quarter in two of their three losses, including against then-No. 9 West Virginia at home in their conference opener two weeks ago.

Up next

Texas is home Saturday on Kansas, two days before No. 1 UConn visits the Longhorns for a Big Monday matchup.

TCU goes to West Virginia to play the No. 15 Mountaineers for the second time in just over two weeks. West Virginia was ranked ninth when it won the Big 12 opener for both teams 87-82 in Fort Worth on Dec. 28.

Texas guard Andrew Jones diagnosed with leukemia

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Texas sophomore guard Andrew Jones has leukemia and started treatment, the school announced Wednesday.

Jones led the team in scoring with a 15-point average before breaking his wrist in December. He played sparingly in his return in late December after complaining of low energy and was sent for tests.

"Speaking for our entire team and staff, we love Andrew and will do everything we can to support his family and help him get back to health," Texas coach Shaka Smart said in the university statement.

No further details on the diagnosis or Jones' condition were immediately released.

"We hope everyone will keep him in your thoughts and prayers," the Jones family said in the statement. "This is obviously a difficult situation for our family, and we hope everyone will respect our privacy at this time."

Although Texas had said little about Jones' condition, it had become clear that he was facing a serious situation when team officials stopped providing updates out of respect for the family. He didn't travel for Saturday's loss at Baylor. Smart appeared shaken in brief remarks to the media on Tuesday and declined to answer when asked if Jones was hospitalized.

"We know Andrew's a fighter with a strong family and our thoughts, prayers and support are fully behind them. At the University of Texas, will do everything in our power to provide all of the resources we can to assist Andrew and his family," athletic director Chris Del Conte said.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men

SOUTHWEST
Abilene Christian 82, Houston Baptist 74
Cent. Arkansas 92, Incarnate Word 76
LSU 75, Arkansas 54
SE Louisiana 63, Lamar 58
Sam Houston St. 82, Texas A&M-CC 50
Stephen F. Austin 78, New Orleans 68
Temple 66, SMU 64
Texas 99, TCU 98, 2OT

SOUTH
Davidson 72, George Washington 45
Florida 71, Mississippi St. 64
Furman 73, Chattanooga 55
George Mason 81, Saint Joseph's 79
Georgia Tech 60, Notre Dame 53
Louisville 73, Florida St. 69
Nicholls 85, McNeese St. 80
Virginia Tech 83, Wake Forest 75
W. Carolina 58, Mercer 56
Wofford 83, Harvard 62

FAR WEST
Colorado St. 84, Utah St. 75
New Mexico 75, Wyoming 66

MIDWEST
Detroit 85, Cleveland St. 84
Evansville 64, Missouri St. 55
IUPUI 72, Milwaukee 71
Ill.-Chicago 84, Green Bay 73
Indiana St. 69, N. Iowa 67
Kansas St. 86, Oklahoma St. 82
Loyola of Chicago 68, Illinois St. 61
Michigan St. 76, Rutgers 72, OT
Missouri 68, Georgia 56
Northwestern 83, Minnesota 60
Oakland 95, Youngstown St. 82
Valparaiso 77, Drake 60

EAST
Albany (NY) 78, Stony Brook 65
Duke 87, Pittsburgh 52
Hartford 84, Mass.-Lowell 73
New Hampshire 71, Binghamton 67
Quinnipiac 80, Marist 79, OT
St. Bonaventure 77, Fordham 61
UConn 62, UCF 53
UMBC 72, Maine 67
UMass 86, La Salle 79, OT
Vermont 91, Dartmouth 78
Villanova 89, Xavier 65

Top 25 Fared

1. Villanova (15-1) beat No. 10 Xavier 89-65. Next: at St. John's, Saturday.
2. West Virginia (15-1) did not play. Next: at No. 8 Texas Tech, Saturday.
3. Virginia (15-1) did not play. Next: vs. N.C. State, Sunday.
4. Michigan State (16-2) beat Rutgers 76-72, OT. Next: vs. Michigan, Saturday.
5. Purdue (16-2) did not play. Next: at Minnesota, Saturday.
5. Wichita State (13-2) did not play. Next: at East Carolina, Thursday.
7. Duke (14-2) beat Pittsburgh 87-52. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Saturday.
8. Texas Tech (14-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 2 West Virginia, Saturday.
9. Oklahoma (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 TCU, Saturday.
10. Xavier (15-3) lost to No. 1 Villanova 89-65. Next: vs. No. 25 Creighton, Saturday.
11. Arizona State (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon, Thursday.
12. Kansas (13-3) did not play. Next: vs. Kansas State, Saturday.
13. Seton Hall (14-3) did not play. Next: vs. Georgetown, Saturday.
14. Cincinnati (14-2) did not play. Next: at South Florida, Saturday.
15. Gonzaga (14-3) did not play. Next: vs. Portland, Thursday.
16. TCU (13-3) lost to Texas 99-98, 2OT. Next: at No. 9 Oklahoma, Saturday.
17. Arizona (12-4) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon State, Thursday.
18. Miami 13-2) did not play. Next: at No. 19 Clemson, Saturday.
19. Clemson (14-1) did not play. Next: at N.C. State, Thursday.
20. North Carolina (13-4) did not play. Next: at Notre Dame, Saturday.
21. Kentucky (13-3) did not play. Next: at Vanderbilt, Saturday.
22. Auburn (15-1) did not play. Next: at Mississippi State, Saturday.
23. Florida State (12-4) lost to Louisville 73-69. Next: vs. Syracuse, Saturday.
24. Tennessee (11-4) did not play. Next: vs. Texas A&M, Saturday.
25. Creighton (14-3) did not play. Next: at No. 10 Xavier, Saturday.

Women

SOUTHWEST
Abilene Christian 80, Houston Baptist 68
Cent. Arkansas 57, Incarnate Word 35
Cincinnati 88, Houston 82
Oklahoma 73, Texas Tech 52
TCU 79, Texas 77
Texas A&M-CC 67, Sam Houston St. 57

SOUTH
East Carolina 73, Tulsa 67
Lamar 75, SE Louisiana 58
NC State 56, Georgia Tech 43
Nicholls 61, McNeese St. 54
Stephen F. Austin 74, New Orleans 67

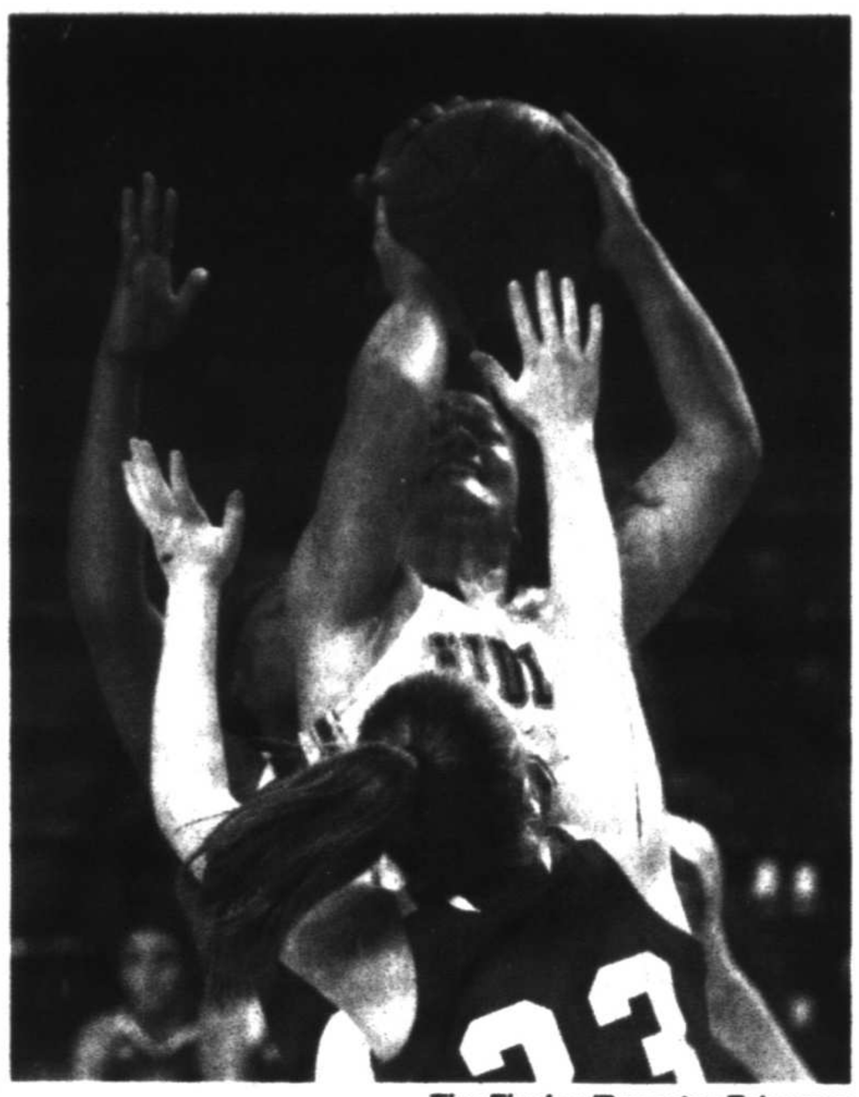
FAR WEST
Boise St. 75, Fresno St. 66
Colorado St. 56, Utah St. 45
UNLV 69, Air Force 57
Wyoming 66, New Mexico 55

MIDWEST
Ball St. 74, Akron 61
Belmont 72, SIU-Edwardsville 55
Cent. Michigan 90, Bowling Green 54
Dayton 80, St. Bonaventure 59
DePaul 82, Creighton 54
Kansas St. 67, Iowa St. 60
Kent St. 76, E. Michigan 69
Michigan 84, Indiana 79
Nebraska 80, Illinois 72
Purdue 47, Rutgers 33
Seton Hall 62, Xavier 51
South Dakota 87, Mount Marty 25
St. John's 73, Butler 55
Toledo 75, Ohio 57
W. Michigan 86, N. Illinois 83
West Virginia 74, Kansas 54
Wichita St. 69, Memphis 61

EAST
Albany (NY) 72, Stony Brook 66
Buffalo 72, Miami (Ohio) 67
Fordham 66, Davidson 58
Hartford 61, Mass.-Lowell 42
Harvard 70, La Salle 61
Maine 64, UMBC 50
Marquette 77, Providence 60
Minnesota 91, Penn St. 71
New Hampshire 63, Binghamton 61
Rider 61, Fairfield 45
Saint Joseph's 81, Richmond 72
South Florida 89, Temple 73
VCU 61, Rhode Island 49
Villanova 60, Georgetown 56

Top 25 Fared

1. UConn (14-0) did not play. Next: at Houston, Saturday.
2. Notre Dame (15-1) did not play. Next: at No. 3 Louisville, Thursday.
3. Louisville (18-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 2 Notre Dame, Thursday.
4. Mississippi State (17-0) did not play. Next: vs. Alabama, Sunday.
5. Baylor (14-1) did not play. Next: at Oklahoma, Sunday.
6. Tennessee (15-0) did not play. Next: at No. 17 Texas A&M, Thursday.
7. Texas (13-2) lost to TCU 79-77. Next: vs. Kansas, Saturday.
8. Oregon (15-2) did not play. Next: vs. Arizona, Friday.
9. South Carolina (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Auburn, Thursday.
10. Ohio State (15-2) did not play. Next: at Indiana, Saturday.
11. Maryland (15-2) did not play. Next: vs. Michigan State, Thursday.
12. Missouri (14-2) did not play. Next: at Vanderbilt, Thursday.
13. Florida State (14-2) did not play. Next: vs. Miami, Thursday.
14. UCLA (11-4) did not play. Next: at Utah, Friday.
15. West Virginia (15-2) beat Kansas 74-54. Next: vs. TCU, Saturday.
16. Duke (12-4) did not play. Next: at Wake Forest, Thursday.
17. Texas A&M (13-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 6 Tennessee, Thursday.
18. Arizona State (13-3) did not play. Next: at No. 22 Oregon State, Friday.
18. Iowa (15-2) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Saturday.
20. Oklahoma State (12-3) did not play. Next: at Kansas State, Saturday.
21. Rutgers (16-3) lost to Purdue 47-33. Next: vs. Minnesota, Saturday.
22. Oregon State (11-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 18 Arizona State, Friday.
23. Michigan (14-4) beat Indiana 84-79. Next: at Nebraska, Saturday.
24. California (11-4) did not play. Next: vs. Washington, Friday.
25. Green Bay (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. Youngstown State, Thursday.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Mantangiroa Flavell goes to the basket in traffic with Frank Phillips' Kiara Shoals and Perrine Manoury defending Monday at Chaparral Center.

MC

From 1C

thanks to MC's defensive breakdowns and the Lady Plainsmen hitting some shots.

For MC coach Ron Jones, he's ready to move on and hopes his players do as well from that discouraging loss.

"I always tell our players that one day is not related to the other," Jones said. "I was disappointed with our second half and we lost our concentration defensively. We didn't shoot the ball well but that won't have any carry-over. Today is a new day, tomorrow is a new day. I expect us to compete and give ourselves a chance to win (today). That's what we're focusing on."

Sophomore guard Matangiroa Flavell believes that the game served as a learning experience for her team.

"I think we got a little comfortable," Flavell said. "And now we know we can't get comfortable in this conference because there's always a game that's going to be a challenge. I think we will learn from the game against Frank Phillips because we don't want to be in that situation again. We're all looking forward to (today's game) and I know I'm looking forward to it. It's going to be a tough challenge but a good one."

Added Robinson: "What we learned from Monday's game that we have to play until the very end. We have to be a lot smarter with the way we play. It's all in our heads. We can beat them but everyone mentally has to be on the same page."

It probably helps the Lady Chaps' focus to play one of their biggest rivals right after Monday's loss.

"When we were scrimmaging the other day, you could tell that a lot of us were a lot more physical and thinking about the game while we were practicing because we all know it's going to be a tough opponent," Flavell said.

Jones said while this game is fun to compete and play in, he added that every conference game is important and that's the way his team should approach it.

"The Midland-Odessa rivalry for the last few years it seems like it has come down to the last few possessions," Jones said. "They're just tough games and conference is kind of that way."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

WOMEN
MIDLAND COLLEGE AT NO. 17 ODESSA COLLEGE

When/where: 5:45 p.m., OC Sports Center, Odessa

Records: Midland College 9-1, 2-1 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference. Odessa College 12-4, 0-1

Last WJCAC game: Frank Phillips 59, Midland College 48; Frank Phillips 75, Odessa College 65 (Nov. 29)

Notes: The Lady Chaparrals are coming off a loss in which Frank Phillips shot 50 percent in the second half after trailing 23-18 at the break. MC shot just 32 percent for the game and turned the ball over, including 2 of 18 (11.1 percent) from 3-point range. MC was led by Alexandrea Washington with 13 points and Lowendie Laporal with 10. ... MC coach Ron Jones said OC is a deep and talented team with several players who are capable of scoring. "I know they're athletic and just very typical of what they've been the last few years," Jones said. "We all know each other pretty well in the conference and we all pretty much do the same things every year. We always have a good idea of what each team does, except with different players. It's just about getting your players to understand what to do and defend as best as possible." ... OC is led by 6-foot-3 sophomore forward Tanaka Gapare with 12.8 ppg, while 5-10 sophomore guard Shannon Dozier adds 10.2 ppg

Next: Odessa College at Western Texas College, 5:45 p.m. Thursday; Midland College at Western Texas College, 5:45 p.m. Jan. 22

2017-18 WJCAC women's basketball standings

	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
Frank Phillips	3	0	13	1
Western Texas	2	0	10	5
Midland College	**2**	**1**	**9**	**7**
New Mexico JC	1	0	17	0
Odessa College	0	1	12	4
Howard College	1	2	11	8
Clarendon College	0	2	16	2
South Plains	0	3	13	6

Monday's Scores
Frank Phillips College 59, Midland College 48; Howard College 54, South Plains College 46; Western Texas College 95, Clarendon College 65; Odessa College and New Mexico JC were open

Today's Games
Midland College at Odessa College; Howard College at Clarendon College; New Mexico Military Institute at South Plains College; Western Texas College at New Mexico Junior College; Frank Phillips College is open

CHAPS

From 1C

Rafferty said. "They're good and they're appropriately ranked and considered a contender in our conference. Their guards are 6-7. I always felt that interior size is a little overrated, but when you have size on the perimeter as well as inside, that's a big deal."

He added that this game, maybe more than before, it's going to be important for his Chaps to play team basketball on the defensive end.

Monday was the perfect example of what can happen when the Chaps do just that and Rafferty believes there needs to be a carry-over from that performance.

"We had some games where we were good in stretches but that was the best we've been for an extended period of time," he said. "That's why (today) will be great opportunity. We have to be good or we'll get exposed. We're going to get exposed at times but how we respond to those situations will determine if we can overcome adversity. If we keep hanging in there and keep focusing on the process, we'll be all right.

"I'm anxious to see how we'll respond. Monday was a good reference point. We just need to continue doing that. We don't have to do anything extreme and nobody has to be Superman. We just have to do it better and for an extended period of time."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

MIDLAND COLLEGE AT NO. 12 ODESSA COLLEGE

When/where: 7:30 p.m., OC Sports Center, Odessa

Records: Midland College 5-12, 1-2 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference; Odessa College 13-2, 2-0

Last WJCAC game: Midland College 76, Frank Phillips College 43; Odessa College 94, New Mexico Military Institute 84

Notes: The Chaparrals snapped a three-game losing streak with their win over Frank Phillips on Monday. The Chaps shot 60 percent and held FPC to 21.3 percent shooting. Kayo Goncalves had a game-high 23 points, Marquell Fraser had 14 and Amari Hale and Erkam Kiris each added nine points. ... OC is averaging 99.5 points per game and as four players are averaging in double figures, led by 6-foot-5 freshman guard L.J. Figueroa at 20.9 ppg. 6-5 sophomore guard Keandre Cook is averaging 16.3 ppg, while 6-6 sophomore guard Kejuan Johnson is averaging 11.2 ppg, and 6-8 sophomore forward Jahnathan Maxwell is chipping in with 10 ppg. ... MC coach Pat Rafferty said 6-9 freshman forward Maes Veidt might be headed for a medical redshirt because of a lingering finger injury.

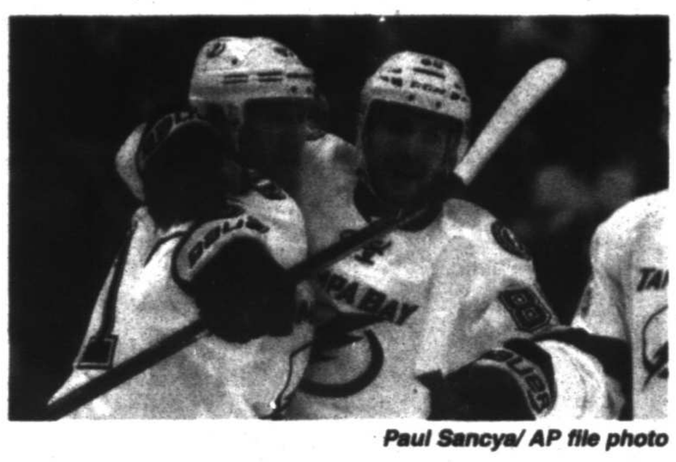
Next: Midland College at New Mexico Military Institute, 8 p.m. (CST), Monday; Odessa College at Western Texas College, 7:30 p.m. Monday

2017-18 WJCAC men's basketball standings

	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
South Plains	3	0	11	4
Odessa College	2	0	13	2
Western Texas	2	0	13	2
Clarendon College	2	1	12	5
New Mexico JC	1	1	12	4
Howard College	1	2	13	4
Midland College	**1**	**2**	**5**	**12**
New Mexico Military	0	3	9	7
Frank Phillips	0	3	8	9

Monday's Scores
Midland College 76, Frank Phillips College 43; South Plains College 80, Howard College 72; Odessa College 94, New Mexico Military Institute 84; Western Texas College 83, Clarendon College 76; New Mexico JC 91, Eastfield College 79 (non-conference)

Today's Games
Midland College at Odessa College; Howard College at Clarendon College; Western Texas College at New Mexico Junior College; South Plains College and Frank Phillips College are open



Paul Sancya/ AP file photo

Tampa Bay Lightning center Steven Stamkos, left, celebrates his goal against the Detroit Red Wings with Nikita Kucherov in the first period in 2016 in Detroit. Winger Nikita Kucherov, defenseman Victor Hedman and Andrei Vasilevskiy will join Lightning captain Steven Stamkos at NHL All-Star Weekend in Tampa, Florida. With four players on the Atlantic Division team, host and league-leading Tampa Bay has the most representatives for the skills competition and 3-on-3 tournament Jan. 27-28 at Amalie Arena.

League-leading Lightning get 4 All-Stars as they play host

By Stephen Whyno
Associated Press

The league-leading Tampa Bay Lightning's top performers will be on full display when the city hosts NHL All-Star Weekend later this month.

Top scorer Nikita Kucherov, goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy and defenseman Victor Hedman will join captain Steven Stamkos for the skills competition and 3-on-3 tournament Jan. 27 and 28 in Tampa, Florida. Kucherov has the most points in the league and Vasilevskiy the most victories in leading the Lightning to an NHL-best 65 points so far this season.

"It's going to be a great showcase of a hockey city," Stamkos said. "To be able to share that moment with them is going to be special, especially in front of our home fans who greatly deserve something like this and I'm sure we'll put on a great show."

With four players on the Atlantic Division team, Tampa Bay has the most representation for the showcase event. The Los Angeles Kings will send three players to Tampa: center Anze Kopitar, defenseman Drew Doughty and goalie Jonathan Quick. The league announced the full All-Star rosters on Wednesday as selected by the NHL's hockey operations department.

Sidney Crosby and Kris Letang of the defending Stanley Cup-champion Pittsburgh Penguins were added to the Metropolitan Division team that also includes Washington Capitals winger Alex Ovechkin and goalie Braden Holtby. New York Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist was selected to his fourth All-Star Weekend, and Florida Panthers center Aleksander Barkov will head to his first.

"Sasha has earned the right to be counted among the league's elite," Panthers general manager Dale Tallon said. "A cornerstone of our franchise, he is among the game's most exceptional two-way players and is incredibly deserving of this honor."

The surprise Vegas Golden Knights got two All-Stars: goalie Marc-Andre Fleury and winger James Neal. The expansion franchise is atop the Pacific Division with the most success so far of any NHL team in its inaugural season.

"There could have been a lot of guys from this team that got to go," Fleury said. "We've got so many guys stepping up throughout the season. (Jonathan Marchessault) has 40 points right now. That's awesome. William Karlsson has scored so many important goals for our team. (Backup goalie Malcolm) Subban has been playing great in net, too. I wish the other guys could do this, too, and be a part of it."

Reigning Hart Trophy winner Connor McDavid of the Edmonton Oilers is also on the Pacific Division roster along with Calgary Flames winger Johnny Gaudreau. Nashville Predators goalie Pekka Rinne earned his third All-Star spot, all since 2015, and joins teammate P.K. Subban on the Central Division team.

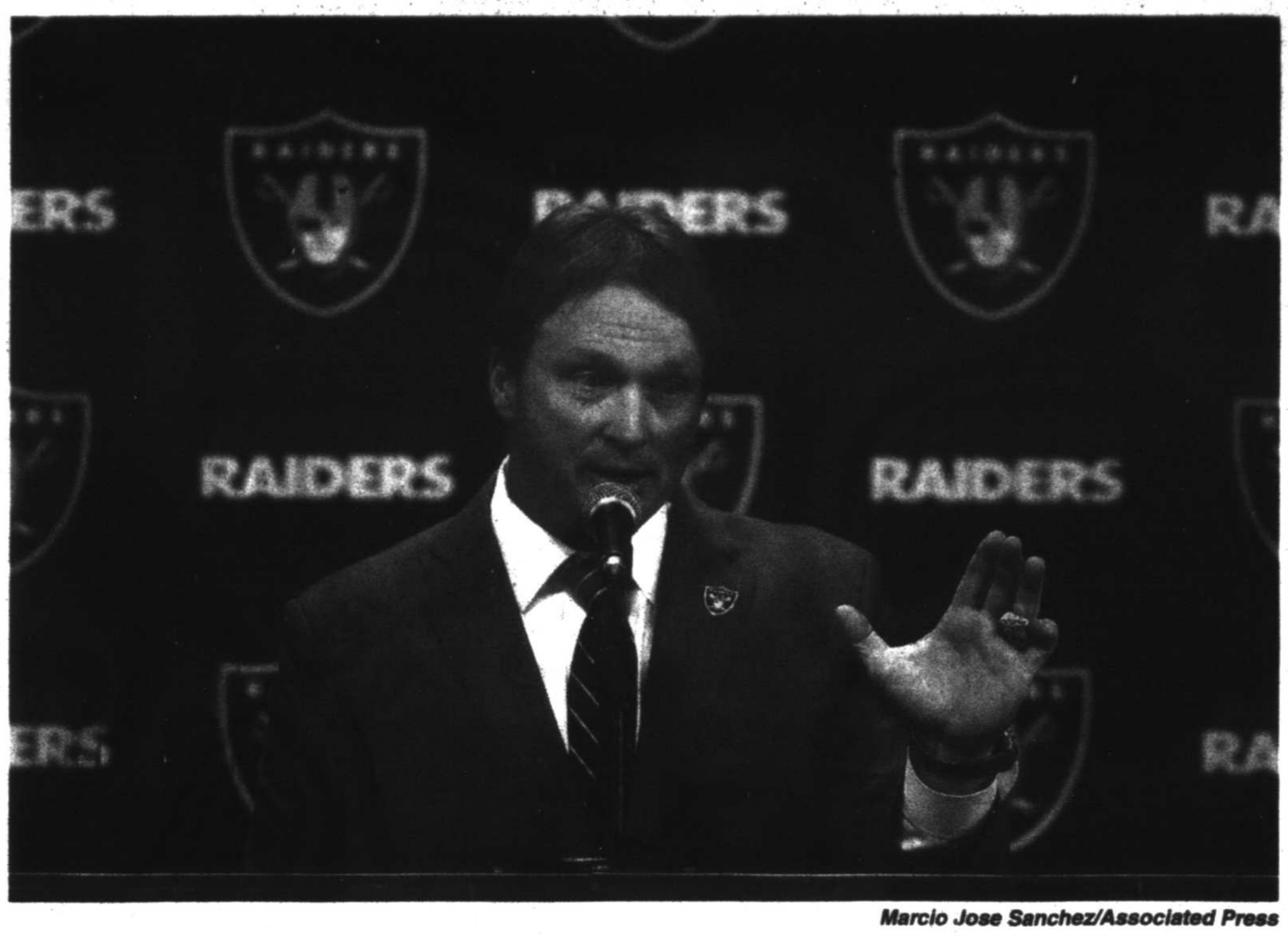
Vancouver Canucks winger Brock Boeser, who's tied for fifth in the NHL with 22 goals, is the only rookie and the youngest All-Star at age 20. Boeser said he'll "be pretty quiet around those types of guys" at All-Star Weekend.

"(It's) deserving," Canucks coach Travis Green said "He's had a lot of good things happen to him this year. He's a humble kid."

The two Eastern and Western Conference teams will play each other in the semifinals of the 3-on-3 tournament with the winners facing off for $1 million.

"I kind of felt like it was not super intense the last time when we were doing it," said Arizona Coyotes All-Star defenseman Oliver Ekman-Larsson, who will be making his second appearance but his first with the 3-on-3 format. "I watched this past year and it seemed like everybody was skating hard and was playing really hard. I'm super-excited. I kind of like playing 3-on-3 too, so I think it'll be a good time."

All 31 teams must have at least one representative with the divisional teams limited to six forwards, three defensemen and two goalies.



Marcio Jose Sanchez/Associated Press

Oakland Raiders head coach Jon Gruden answers questions during a press conference on Tuesday in Alameda, Calif.

Gruden tasked with getting best out of Carr for Raiders

By Josh Dubow
Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Jon Gruden has never had a promising, young quarterback like Derek Carr to develop in 11 seasons as an NFL head coach.

Carr hasn't had the opportunity to play for a coach like Gruden, an offensive mastermind known for his maniacal work ethic and attention to detail.

The way those two fare together will determine whether Gruden's return for a second stint as coach of the Oakland Raiders will end up as the resounding success owner Mark Davis hoped for while pining for a reunion the past six years.

"I had a chance to visit with Derek Carr this morning and I said, 'Derek, this is an unbelievable opportunity and if you'll just take advantage of the opportunity, there's so many great things in store for you, not only professionally but personally,'" said Rich Gannon, whose career took off after joining Gruden in Oakland in 1999.

"Jon's excited to work with Derek and Derek's already a good player but he's got a chance to be a Hall of Famer and win multiple Super Bowls if he'll just do the work."

Carr will be tested and challenged like he hasn't in his first four seasons. Gruden is famous for arriving at work each day at 3:17 a.m., putting in long hours each week.

He will also ride Carr hard if necessary in order to bring out the best in his game.

"I don't care how hard Derek worked before, he's going to have to change his work habits a little bit to fit in," Gannon said.

Gannon became a star when he joined up with Gruden after 12 seasons as a journeyman in Minnesota, Washington and Kansas City. He became a first-team All-Pro in his second season with Gruden and won the league MVP the year after Gruden was traded to Tampa Bay.

Carr showed he was capable of being a top quarterback when he garnered MVP support in a breakthrough 2016 season. But he took a major step back this past year after signing a $125 million, five-year extension.

He matched his career high with 13 interceptions and recorded his worst totals in yards, touchdown and passer rating since his rookie year in 2014.

"I think there is a huge ceiling in Derek Carr," Gruden said. "I think he has proven that. Up to us as a coaching staff to improve around him, get more consistent, and come up with an offense that really allows him to soar into another level."

Fixing Carr is just one of Gruden's tasks. Getting receiver Amari Cooper back on track is nearly as important. After beginning his career with back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons, Cooper took a major step back in 2017. He was plagued by the drops that hurt him as a rookie and only topped the 100-yard mark twice all season while finishing with career lows with 48 catches for 680 yards.

It was a puzzling drop-off for a receiver who entered the year considered one of the top in the game. Hall of Famer Tim Brown said he believes Cooper could be in for a 120-catch season if he listens to Gruden's advice.

"Even for a guy like me, who was having a pretty good career, he was able to take me to another level, showing me how much better I could be," Brown said. "I thought I was doing pretty good. Sometimes you just have to turn your brain off and buy in. If you can do that great things can happen."

Even some of the greatest players in the game's history credit Gruden for some of their success. Hall of Famer Jerry Rice arrived in Oakland in 2001 as the most accomplished receiver in NFL history but appeared to be on the decline after failing to reach 1,000 yards in each of his final two seasons in San Francisco.

But he had a rebirth in Oakland under Gruden, catching 83 passes for 1,139 yards at age 39. He followed that up with 92 catches for 1,211 yards the following season and compared Gruden to his former coach in San Francisco, Bill Walsh.

"Could be your best friend or your worst enemy, that's going to keep you on your toes," he said. "Maybe that was something that the players, they were lacking this year. Sometimes you fall into listening to the talk but you need a coach that's going to keep you focused. With Jon Gruden, he's that type of coach."

While Gruden's biggest impact is on offense, his leadership and intensity translate to the entire team. Hall of Famer Howie Long has seen just about everything. He played for 13 years, announced for more than two decades and has two sons in the NFL.

So Long knows what players want in a coach.

"They want to be great and they want to be led," he said. "They want to believe in the guy in front of the room. I call it the Saran Wrap factor. Players see right through that in the front of the room if you're not authentic, you're not genuine, you're not that way every day. ... Jon has that."

Dick LeBeau Bill Belichick meet in rare playoff battle

By Teresa M. Walker
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Dick LeBeau vs. Bill Belichick.

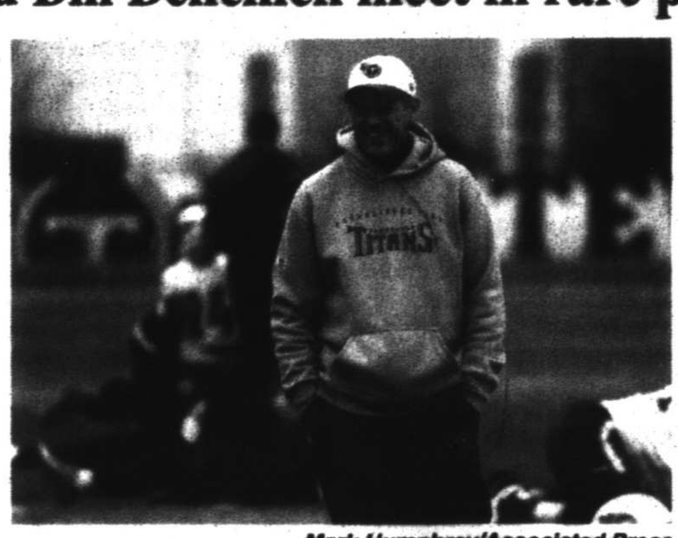
Doesn't get much better than that for NFL fans. Tennessee linebacker Wesley Woodyard believes the rare matchup is a showdown for the ages.

"Oh man, it's going to be a battle of the masterminds," Woodyard said when the Titans defensive coordinator tries to outwit Belichick and his New England Patriots.

"Two Hall of Fame coaches, I'm sure Belichick will be there hands down. Coach LeBeau's seen a lot, coached a lot of playoff games, so we're relying heavily on his experience and to go out there and play hard man. That's all we can do for our coach."

Well, LeBeau is only in the Pro Football Hall of Fame for his 14-season career as a cornerback, though he certainly qualifies for consideration for designing the zone blitz on defense. LeBeau also has an NFL-record 45 consecutive seasons as a coach, putting ahead of only one man — Belichick with 43 — in that category.

The two will be very instrumental in determining the outcome on Saturday night when the upstart Titans (10-7) visit Belichick and his defending Super Bowl champion Patriots (13-3) for a spot in the AFC championship game.



Mark Humphrey/Associated Press

Tennessee Titans defensive coordinator Dick LeBeau watches as players warm up during practice Wednesday, J in Nashville, Tenn. Titans linebacker Wesley Woodyard calls Tennessee's AFC divisional playoff game against Bill Belichick and the New England Patriots a "battle of the masterminds." The Titans' side of that chess match features LeBeau trying to slow down Tom Brady. The Titans are scheduled to play the New England Patriots in an AFC divisional round playoff game Saturday.

And Belichick made it very clear that coaching against LeBeau is not something he enjoys.

"I wouldn't use that word, no," Belichick said. "It's very challenging. Coach LeBeau is a great coach, he does a tremendous job, (he) has for his entire illustrious career as a player and as a coach. Really revolutionized the game, and his system has certainly withstood the test of time."

Belichick ticked off how LeBeau's Titans have led the NFL in rushing defense over the past two seasons and led the league this season for the fewest big plays allowed of 20 yards or longer. Belichick says the foundation of LeBeau's defense remains the same over the years, modified for the players he has and the teams he's facing.

The man with five Super Bowl titles as head coach in New England made clear he has great respect for LeBeau, whom he considers a good friend.

"He's such a great person, very humble guy that accomplished so much but he's very modest about it," Belichick said. "I learn an awful lot from watching him, watching his defenses and watching the way that he does things. Techniques and adjustments and schematics and so forth. He's one of the great coaches to ever walk the sidelines in this league."

Told that Belichick said he learned a lot from him, LeBeau said he was humbled.

"Not very many coaches have the record Coach Belichick's gotten, in fact he's probably closing in on the best ever," LeBeau said Wednesday. "That's quite a compliment."

The two haven't coached against each other in the playoffs but once before with Belichick overseeing the Patriots. LeBeau and the Pittsburgh Steelers won home-field advantage in 2004 by beating the Patriots 34-20 on Oct. 31, then Belichick and New England won the AFC conference championship Jan. 23, 2005, beating the Steelers 41-27.

"It'll be interesting to see how it comes out," LeBeau said.

LeBeau said preparing for a Belichick-coached team means understanding the players won't beat themselves. Add in Tom Brady, one of the best quarterbacks ever to play the game makes the Patriots always a formidable opponent, according to LeBeau.

The Titans trust that LeBeau, who turned 80 the day before this season opened in September, will put them where they need to be. Titans linebacker Derrick Morgan said that's what LeBeau did in the second half of the Titans' upset of Kansas City 22-21 in the wild-card game.

PRESIDENTS

From 1C

strength of 26 goals scored in those five matches. The Rebels' lone defeat was a 5-3 loss to Lubbock Monterey on Thursday.

The Rebels, who open President's Cup play against El Paso Eastwood at 6 p.m. today at Grande, expect to field one of the tournament's strongest midfields and attacks. Head coach Scott Hicks said he is looking forward to seeing his team in action against this weekend's competition.

"We just want to get a chance to see where we are, what are our strengths and weaknesses," Hicks said. "We scored a lot of goals at Frenship, but can we keep scoring and carry that over into our next three, six matches? Getting a chance to see where we're at against competition that I know is playoff-caliber, is exciting."

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

2018 President's Cup
Today-Saturday
Grande Communications Stadium and Lee High School Field
Today's matches
Grande Communications Stadium
2 p.m. – El Paso Jefferson vs. Midland High
4 p.m. – El Paso Pebble Hills vs. Amarillo High
6 p.m. – Lee vs. El Paso Eastwood
8 p.m. – Mansfield vs. Midland High
Lee High School Field
6 p.m. – Odessa High vs. El Paso Socorro
Friday's matches
Grande Communications Stadium
Noon – El Paso Socorro vs. Mansfield
2 p.m. – Amarillo High vs. El Paso Jefferson
5 p.m. – Lee vs. El Paso Pebble Hills
7 p.m. – El Paso Eastwood vs. Midland High
Lee High School Field
7 p.m. – Odessa High vs. Mansfield
Saturday's matches
Grande Communications Stadium
9 a.m. – El Paso Pebble Hills vs. Odessa High
11 a.m. – Midland High vs. El Paso Socorro
2 p.m. – El Paso Jefferson vs. Odessa High
Lee High School Field
9 a.m. – El Paso Eastwood vs. Mansfield
11 a.m. – Amarillo High vs. Lee

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THURSDAY PRIME TIME — JANUARY 11, 2018

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! (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Child Support "The Pig Whisperer"		Truth and Lies "The Tonya Harding Story" An interview with figure skater Tonya Harding. (N)				News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	The Big Bang (N)	Sheldon (N)	Mom (N)	Life in Pieces (N)	S.W.A.T. "Seizure" (N)		CBS 7 News (N)	(:35) The Late Show		(:35) J.Corden
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Mama's Family	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Misguided Missile"		Twilight Zone
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	The Four "Week Two" A new set of challengers face off against The Four. (N)				Fox 24 News (N)	TMZ	Mom	Modern Family	Modern Family	Met Your Mother
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	All About Us	Mission: M25	Update News	Wings of Truth	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Faith for Families	Our Messiah	Fruits of Zion	Biblical Israel
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsW-est 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 Now	Supers-tore	The Good Place (N)	Will & Grace (N)	Great News (N)	Chicago Fire (N)		NewsW-est 9 (N)	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour (N)		Wild West	Two for the Road	Daytri-pper	Places to Love	Antique "Harrisburg (Hour One)"		Aman-pour (N)	Beyond 100 Days	News (N)	TBA
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Enamorandome de Ramon		Rey David		Mi marido tiene familia		Caer en Tentacion		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	Law:Cl "Graansha"		Law:Cl "Zoonotic"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Game	Game
FLIX	340	575		165		(5:00) The Boond...		Punisher: War Zone		(:45) The Spirit ('08, Act) Jaime King.				Splash Tom Hanks.			
HBO	300	550	14	14		Movie	News (N)	Sex and the City Sarah Jessica Parker.						Get Out		(:15) Sideways	
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(5:00) Fifty Shade...		Deepwater Horizon		(:50) Jackass: The Movie				Constantine Keanu Reeves.			
HBO5	304	552	16	102		(5:50) Hidden Figures Taraji P. Henson.				Something's Gotta Give				(:15) Erin Brockovich Julia Roberts.			
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:20) Final Desti...		Wrong Turn		(:25) Wrong Turn 2: Dead End				(:05) Wrong Turn 4: Bloody ...		Movie	
MAX2	382	558	18	122		(:55) Shakespeare in Love				Get Smart Steve Carell.		(:50) Jersey Boys ('14, Bio) John Lloyd Young.					
PLEX			96			(5:15) The Grudge 2		The Messengers		(:35)		The Haunting Liam Neeson.		Fragile Calista Flockhart.			
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	XTC: This Is Pop (N)				Madea's Family Reunion Tyler Perry.		The Chi "Pilot"		SNCTM		The Chi "Pilot"	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(4:45) The Prestige		Max Steel Ben Winchell.				(:35) Outlander James Caviezel.		Hardcore Henry			
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	The First 48 "Murder on the Bluff"		The First 48: Killer Break "Night Out" (N)		First 48 "Rearview Killer/ Point Blank" (N)		60 Days In "Pissed Off" (N)		(:05) Underco "Would You Go Back?"		(:05) The First 48: Killer "Night Out"	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(5:00) The Prince...		Chitty Chitty Bang Bang ('68, Mus)				Sally Ann Howes, Dick Van Dyke.		Dirty Dancing			
BET	58	-		40		(:55) To Be Announced						Martin	Martin	Rundown	Get Down	Get Down	Rundown
BRAVO	65	76		41		Million Dollar List		To Be Announced		Million Listing (N)		Top Chef (N)		Watch (N)	Million Dollar List		Top Chef
CNBC	46	52		39	72	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Jay Leno Garage (N)		Jay Leno's Garage		Jay Leno's Garage	
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		Cuomo (L)		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Moonshiners		Murder Isle		Murder Isle (N)		Interrogation (N)		Murder Isle		Interrogation Room	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Bunk'd	Raven's.	Andi M.	StuckMid.	Bizaard.	Bizaard.	Bunk'd	Jessie	Andi M.	StuckMid.	Underc.	GoodLuck
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball Notre Dame at Louisville (L)				NCAA Basketball (L)				SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)	
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball Utah at UCLA (L)			
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	The Story		Tucker Carlson		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night		Tucker Carlson	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Chopped		Chopped		Chopped		BeatFlay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Chopped	
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(4:30) Maid in Manhattan		What to Expect When You're Expecting				Alone		The 700 Club		You Again	
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	UIL Champ. "Football: 4A, 5A and 6A" (N)		NCAA Basketball Grand Canyon University vs. New Mexico State Women's (L)				Best of Gaffle	Cowboys Insider	Power of Sports	Maveric-ks Insider	Champio. "Football: 1A, 2A and 3A"	
FX	31	56	59	64	69	(5:00) Pixels		Pitch Perfect 2 ('15, Com) Anna Kendrick.						Pitch Perfect 2 ('15, Com) Anna Kendrick.			
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	F.House	Full House	F.House	F.House	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	H.Hunt	House (N)	H.Hunt	House	Flip-Flop	FlipFlop
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Mountain Men		Mountain Men: Fully		Mountain Men		(:05) Alone		(:05) Mountain Men		(:05) Mountain Men	
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Grey's Anatomy: Every Moment Counts		ProjectR-unwa (N)	(:50) Rewind	Runway "Damsels in Distress" (N)		Model "Meet the Models and Moms" (N)		To Be Announced		Project Runway	(:50) Rewind
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball (N)		All in (N)		Rachel Maddow (N)		The Last Word (N)		The 11th Hour (N)		Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN	38	43				(11:00) Auto Auctions		USSA Ski & Snow		Biathlon				FIS Alpine Skiing		Rally (N)	Mecum10
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Paradise	Thunder	The LEGO Movie Chris Pratt.				Fresh P.	Fresh P.	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Clash of the Titans ('10, Act) Sam Worthington.				Hercules Dwayne Johnson.			
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:30) The Mechanic				The Last Witch Hunter ('15, Act) Vin Diesel.				(:55) Superstition (N)		Happy!	Movie
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn Nine-Nine	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn "The Bet"	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99	Conan Josh Hutcherson		Brooklyn 99	Conan
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:00) Bringing U...		Gaslight ('44, Thril) Ingrid Bergman.				(:15)		Hold Back the Down Charles Boyer.		Movie	
TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado (N)		Hasta Que Te Conoc		Sangre de mi Tie (N)		Señora acero (N)		Al rojo	Titulares	Sangre de mi Tierra	
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	My 600-lb Life "Laura's Story"		My 600-lb Life: Supersized "Rena & Lee's Story" (N)				By-Ton "The Family Journey Begins" (N)		My 600-lb Life "Rena & Lee's Story" Couple Rena and Lee are struggling to combat weight.			
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	NBA Tip-Off		NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at Toronto Raptors Site: Air Canada Centre -- Toronto, Ont. (L)						NBA Basketball San Antonio Spurs at Los Angeles Lakers Site: Staples Center -- Los Angeles, Calif. (L)			
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	MASH	M*A*S*H	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Nashville (N)		Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Thought Criminal"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Making a Rapist"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Imposter"		Damnation (N)		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Perverted Justice"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Gambler's Fallacy"	
WGN	19	85				Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops

Runaway granddaughter avoids grandma's attempts to connect

DEAR ABBY

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

DEAR ABBY: My 18-year-old granddaughter ran away twice last year. She's now living with her boyfriend and refuses to have any contact with her dad. I know my son is very strict, and I'm pretty sure she could just no longer live by his rules. Her mom passed away eight months ago, and my son is all she has besides her sister. She opened a Facebook page. I was able to write to her a couple of times and she responded. She isn't answering my messages now. I suspect her boyfriend is controlling and is preventing her from contacting her family. I'm also afraid she may be involved with drugs now. She and the boyfriend were recently arrested for shoplifting, and this just isn't typical of my granddaughter.

I have trouble sleeping at night worrying about her. I know she's an adult, but I don't want her to give up on her family who loves her. Do you have any suggestions? Should I go to the house and try and see her, or must we just sit back and wait for her to grow up? Any advice will be appreciated. — WORRIED NANA

DEAR WORRIED NANA: Do not just sit back. By all means, visit your granddaughter! She needs to know you love her and will be supportive if things don't work out with her boyfriend.

Because she's 18 and now considered an adult, you can't force her to reunite with her father, whose heavy-handed parenting may or may not be the reason she left home.

But you can, however, point out that if she needs something, there are better ways to go about acquiring it than shoplifting. You should also encourage her to find a job. If she does, it will increase her independence, not only from her father, but also her boyfriend, if it becomes necessary.

DEAR ABBY: I was recently diagnosed with a stage four cancer. My surgeon has offered me an opportunity to be part of a clinical trial, which my family is aware of. They do not, however, know the details of how far the cancer has spread.

The prognosis for patients in this trial is about two more years. My wife thinks I should share this information with my extended family and friends immediately (although there are few signs that I'm ill). I prefer to remain silent until the disease catches up with me and my time gets closer. Your advice or reader response would be greatly appreciated regarding this very emotional decision. — KEEPING IT TO MYSELF

DEAR KEEPING IT TO YOURSELF: I'm sorry about your diagnosis. I'm sure when your letter is published there will be a tsunami of reactions — both pro and con — from readers. Of course your wishes should be respected, but since you asked, I am inclined to agree with your wife. Your illness affects not only you but also the rest of your family and friends. If you reveal your prognosis now, it will give the people who love you an opportunity to step up to the plate and offer emotional support, not only to you, but also to her and your family.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

An extra chance

East-West vulnerable, South deals

NORTH
♠K542
♡A92
◇103
♣Q963

WEST
♠J10
♡KQ8
◇J95
♣J10754

EAST
♠Q986
♡5
◇Q8642
♣AK8

SOUTH
♠A73
♡J107643
◇AK7
♣2

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♡	Pass	2♡	Pass
4♡	All pass		

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

South's jump to game was aggressive, but passing would have been too timid and North would have accepted any invitation. They were always getting to four hearts.

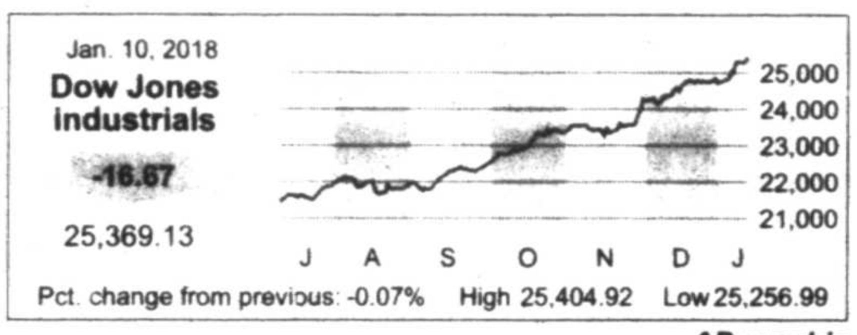
The contract seemed to depend on the trump suit. It is very close, with this trump combination, as to whether you should play the ace and another or double finesse. Ace first wins against a singleton honor in the East hand and all 2-2 splits. Double finessing wins against a small singleton in the East hand and loses to king-queen doubleton with East. The problem on this deal is that declarer has to ruff a diamond in dummy. This makes playing the ace of hearts first a much stronger line of play. That would seemingly lead to defeat on this deal, but declarer found a slim extra chance.

South won the opening spade lead in hand with the ace and led his low club at trick two, ducking in dummy when West played the 10. The spade continuation was won in dummy with the king and declarer ruffed a club, East playing the king. South led a trump to dummy's ace and ruffed another club. The fall of the ace made the trump position irrelevant. South cashed the ace and king of diamonds, ruffed a diamond in dummy, and discarded his remaining spade on the queen of clubs.

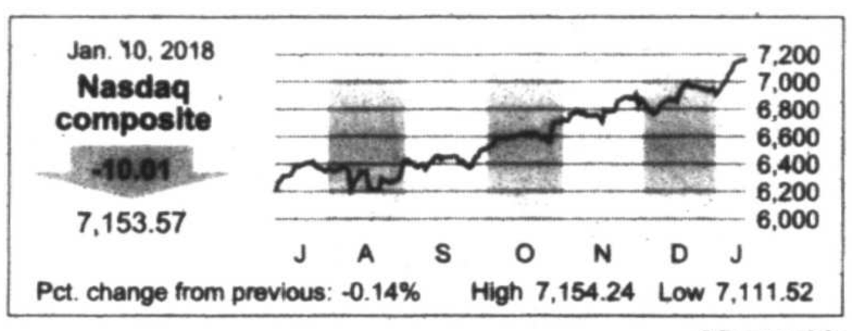
Declarer lost two hearts and a club, but never lost a spade trick. Well done!

BUSINESS & OIL

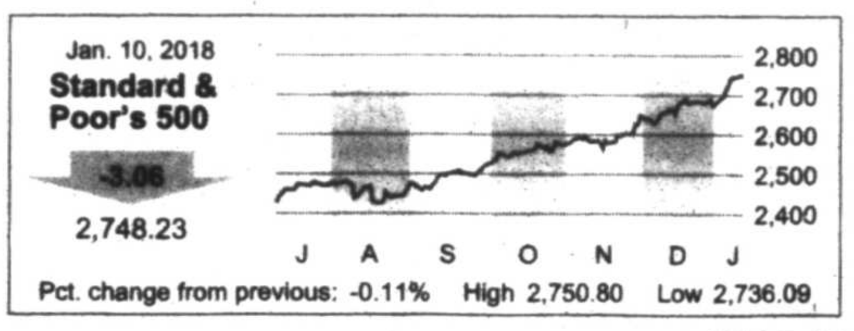
A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



AP graphic



AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Wednesday:	$63.57
Previous:	$62.96

POSTED

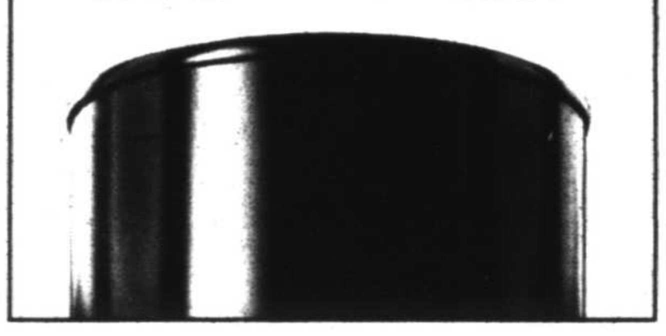
Wednesday:	$60.00
Previous:	$59.50

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Wednesday:	$57.65
Previous:	$57.15

NATURAL GAS

Wednesday:	$2.906
Previous:	$2.9235



NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
EKodak	955094	10.65	+3.85
GenElec	736327	18.93	+.37
iShEMkts	698033	48.74	-.31
SPDR Fncl	638284	28.83	+.24
BkofAm	599289	30.55	+.28

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
EKodak	10.65	+3.85	+56.6
DST Sys s	79.89	+14.74	+22.6
CNX Midst	19.60	+2.45	+14.3
Ameresco	8.65	+.80	+10.2
500.com	12.72	+1.12	+9.7

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Supvalu rs	16.94	-2.69	-13.7
BiohvnPh n	27.09	-2.98	-9.9
USCF ShOil	9.62	-1.00	-9.4
SignetJwlrs	52.69	-3.90	-6.9
CGG rs	5.92	-.43	-6.8

DIARY

Advanced	1,130
Declined	1,769
Unchanged	123
Total issues	3,022
New Highs	176
New Lows	63
Volume	3,385,434,044

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
DigitalPwr	197375	2.70	+.73
Paretem rs	73217	2.51	+.28
B2gold g	50785	2.98	+.12
NwGold g	43153	3.18	+.06
KlondexM g	39949	2.09	-.29

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
DigitalPwr	2.70	+.73	+37.1
Paretem rs	2.51	+.28	+12.6
DocuSec rs	2.27	+.20	+9.7
Plenex	3.37	+.20	+6.3
22ndCentry	3.31	+.17	+5.4

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
KlondexM g	2.09	-.29	-12.2
US Geoth rs	3.70	-.31	-7.7
Electrmed	5.89	-.48	-7.6
RegHlt pfA	6.59	-.51	-7.2
ErinEn rs	2.75	-.20	-6.8

DIARY

Advanced	145
Declined	195
Unchanged	25
Total issues	365
New Highs	11
New Lows	5
Volume	178,713,533

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Novavax	837341	2.12	+.79
SiriusXM	540348	5.56	+.25
MicronT	511061	43.31	+.34
Intel	428994	42.50	-1.12
PwShs QQQ	304532	162.18	-.38

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NatlHld wt	2.17	+1.22	+128.1
AmeriHld n	5.88	+2.46	+71.9
SmLEDS rs	6.55	+2.73	+71.5
NatlHld rs	5.30	+2.09	+65.1
Novavax	2.12	+.79	+59.4

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
ChinaNt rs	5.03	-.91	-15.3
NtScout	26.28	-4.13	-13.6
CescaTh rs	3.27	-.52	-13.6
Cerecor n	2.24	-.29	-11.5
WillVV pfA	4.50	-.55	-10.9

DIARY

Advanced	1,396
Declined	1,501
Unchanged	208
Total issues	3,105
New Highs	134
New Lows	42
Volume	1,992,636,332

Buffett adds his two potential successors to Berkshire board

By David Welch, Keith Naughton
Bloomberg

OMAHA, Neb. — Berkshire Hathaway is promoting the two top candidates to eventually replace CEO Warren Buffett to its board, but the 87-year-old investor says he isn't leaving.

Buffett and Berkshire's 94-year-old Vice Chairman Charlie Munger will retain their positions on the board, which is expanding to 14 members from 12. But Greg Abel and Ajit Jain will also become vice chairmen and take on more duties.

Buffett said on CNBC Wednesday the new board members are "part of a movement toward succession over time."

Buffett said the move isn't due to any looming concerns, saying he's in "remarkably good health." Yet Buffett says Abel and Jain are the right choices as potential successors.

"They've both got Berkshire in their blood," Buffett said.

For years, Buffett has said Berkshire had identified several internal CEO candidates who could replace him. Buffett had refused to name them, but investors who follow Berkshire had long included Jain and Abel on their short lists.

This move makes the succession plan clear for investors, said Andy Kilpatrick, who has followed Berkshire for years while writing and updating "Of Permanent Value: The Story of Warren Buffett."

"Now if something happens, they're right there," Kilpatrick said.

Abel, who leads Berkshire Hathaway's utility unit, will now oversee all of the conglomerate's non-insurance business operations. Jain will oversee all of Berkshire's insurance operations. He currently serves as executive vice president of National Indemnity Co.

Buffett shot down the idea that Abel and Jain would share the CEO post once he's no longer running the company, saying there would be one person in the position but not saying who it would potentially be.

Berkshire owns more than 90 different companies in a variety of industries, including electric utilities, retail jewelers, insurance and BNSF railroad. The conglomerate also holds major investments in companies such as Coca-Cola, Wells Fargo, American Express and Apple.

The company is extremely decentralized with the subsidiaries largely running themselves on a daily basis. Buffett's primary role as CEO is to decide where to invest Berkshire's cash — either in its own companies, acquisitions or outside investments — and manage the executives who lead the subsidiaries.

Berkshire has grown to employ roughly 370,000 people, but only 25 of those work at the conglomerate's headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska.

Sears raises $100M in new financing, eyes $200M in cost cuts

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Sears has secured more financing, and is eying more cost cutting, as the beleaguered retailer reported a big sales drop during the critical holiday season.

The company, which operates Sears and Kmart stores, said Wednesday that it secured $100 million in new financing, will seek twice that from other sources, and will attempt $200 million in additional cost cuts this year unrelated to store closings. It also warned that if the company's efforts to complete these transactions are not fully successful, then the board will consider all other options to maximize the value of its assets.

Sears Holdings Corp., which said last week it's closing more than 100 stores, said that during the November and December period, comparable-store sales tumbled by 16 percent to 17 percent. The metric — which measures sales in stores open at least a year — is a key indicator of retailer's health.

Sears' disastrous holiday sales mark a sharp contrast to the solid gains enjoyed by many of its department store peers such as Kohl's, J.C. Penney and Macy's.

Many retailers are enjoying the benefits of a stronger economy and lower unemployment. But they're also seeing their efforts to spruce up their stores while expanding online services helping to boost their business. In comparison, Sears hasn't kept up with the likes of Walmart, Best Buy and Home Depot in investing in its stores, with its shabby fleet its biggest albatross. Moreover, its peers like J.C. Penney are going after Sears' core appliance business. Sears has been trying to increase cash reserves while it cuts costs, moves that seem more urgent after it raised doubts in a regulatory filing last March that it may not continue as a going concern. However, it insisted at the time that its actions to turn around the business should help reduce that risk.

The inability to revive sales has created tension with vendors who have grown apprehensive about payment. Sears, based in Hoffman Estates, Illinois, just outside of Chicago, has not reported an annual profit since 2011, and sales have been in decline for a decade.

Perfect start for stocks in 2018 stalls after rates rise

NEW YORK — The stock market's fantastic start to 2018 stalled on Wednesday after real-estate companies and other dividend payers sank on concerns about rising interest rates.

The losses knocked indexes a bit off their record highs and provided the first minor hiccup for a market that had climbed six straight days to start the year. Stocks fell after the yield on the 10-year Treasury reached its highest level since March, but they ended up recovering most of their losses as the day progressed and rates pulled back.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 3.06 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,748.23 after being down as much as 0.6 percent in the morning. The loss snapped the index's longest winning streak to start a year since 2010.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 16.67, or 0.1 percent, to 25,369.13, the Nasdaq composite fell 10.01, or 0.1 percent, to 7,153.57 and the Russell 2000 index of small-cap stocks slipped 0.30 points, or less than 0.1 percent, to 1,559.80.

Metal prices rise

Gold rose $5.60 to settle at $1,319.30 per ounce, silver added 3 cents to $17.04 per ounce and copper gained 2 cents to $3.24 per pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $154.51Down 0.48

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $5.62 Down 0.38

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $127.29 Down 0.20

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $1.89 Up 0.20

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $4.30 Down 0.01

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $27.95 Unchanged

ProPetro Holdings (PUMP)
Closing Price $20.00 Up 0.32

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $40.74 Down 1.20

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $14.50 Up 0.20

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $23.27 Down 0.13

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel	...	18	6.44	+.35	+13.8
AT&T Inc	2.00f	14	36.61	-.88	-5.8
Abraxas	...	63	2.53	+.02	+2.8
AdaDvsEq	1.32e	...	15.47	...	+2.9
AMD	...	...	11.96	+.14	+16.3
AkersBios	...	...	.17	-.03	+23.1
Alibaba	...	54	189.79	-1.01	+10.1
AlpAlerMLP	1.35e	...	11.47	+.06	+6.3
AmeriHld n	...	...	5.88	+2.46	+89.7
AmIntlGrp	1.28	...	61.00	+.37	+2.4
Amgen	5.28e	17	182.86	-.52	+5.2
Anadarko	.20	...	55.41	-.11	+3.3
Annaly	1.20	10	11.37	-.14	-4.4
Apache	1.00	...	43.99	-.56	+4.2
Apple Inc	2.52	20	174.29	-.04	+3.0
ApldMatl	.40	17	53.30	-1.56	+4.3
Archrock	.48	...	10.00	+.10	-4.8
ATMOS	1.80	23	80.80	-1.79	-5.9
AutoData	2.52f	31	117.65	-1.11	+.4
BP PLC	2.38	31	42.90	+.03	+2.1
BkofAm	.48	17	30.55	+.28	+3.5
B iPVxST rs	...	...	25.99	-.29	-6.9
BaringsCp s	1.20	...	15.48	+.17	+1.4
BasicEnS	...	...	.45	...	...
BerkHa A	...		25308350.03+3850.02		+3.6
BlkHillsCp	1.78	16	55.12	+.34	-8.3
BlackBerry	...	16	13.67	-.73	+22.4
Blackstone	2.32	16	34.18	+.44	+6.7
BostonSci	...	19	27.52	-.44	+11.0
BrMySq	1.60f	22	62.01	+.16	+1.2
BrownFA s	.79	40	67.26	+.84	...
BrownFB s	.79	...	67.89	+.44	-1.1
CVS Health	2.00	14	77.44	-.25	+6.8
CaesarsEnt	...	...	13.00	+.25	+2.8
CallonPet	...	39	12.61	+.21	+3.8
Caterpillar	3.12	43	165.87	-.56	+5.3
Celestic g	...	8	10.98	-.03	+4.8
Cemex	.29t	...	7.75	+.03	+3.3
CntryLink	2.16	8	17.48	+.94	+4.8
ChesEng	...	7	4.00	-.05	+1.0
Chevron	4.32	85	128.66	+.82	+2.8
Chicos	.33	12	8.79	+.35	-.3
Cimarex	.32	33	125.55	-2.06	+2.9
Cisco	1.16	21	39.91	+.22	+4.2

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Citigroup	1.28	15	75.65	+.34	+1.7
CocaCola	1.48	28	46.07	-.16	+.4
ColgPalm	1.60	26	74.82	-.82	-.8
Comcast s	.63	20	41.09	+.48	+3.0
ConAgra	.85	20	36.83	-.56	-2.2
ConchoRes	...	...	154.51	-.48	+2.9
ConocoPhil	1.06	46	57.65	-.28	+5.0
CrackerB	4.80	30	174.04	-.31	+9.5
CSVixSh rs	...	...	4.79	-.11	-13.5
CrosTim	.93e	15	15.42	+.12	+5.0
DCP Mid	3.12	55	39.40	+.85	+8.5
DTE	3.30	20	104.64	-1.04	-4.4
DeltaAir	1.22	12	55.86	+1.69	-.3
DevonE	.24	60	42.18	-.36	+1.9
DigitalPwr	...	...	2.70	+.73	-15.9
Disney	1.68f	19	109.47	-.47	+1.8
eBay s	...	6	37.70	-1.83	-.1
EOG Rescs	.67	...	112.01	+.30	+3.8
EKodak	...	18	10.65	+3.85	+243.5
EnCana g	.06	25	13.80	+.16	+3.5
Energen	.08	...	57.28	-2.01	-.5
EnPro	.88	52	91.75	+.23	-1.9
ENSCO	.04	...	7.12	+.07	+20.5
EntProdPt	1.69f	22	28.35	+.32	+6.9
Ericsson	.11e	...	6.79	+.02	+1.6
ExxonMbl	3.08	33	86.08	-.69	+2.9
FiatChrys	...	...	21.85	-.12	+22.5
FordM	.60a	12	13.03	-.05	+4.3
FrptMcM	...	...	19.51	+.59	+2.9
GATX	1.68	13	63.06	-1.30	+1.4
GabMultT	.94e	...	9.31	-.05	+1.2
GAInv	1.15e	...	35.17	-.10	+2.2
GenElec	.48	16	18.93	+.37	+8.3
GenMotors	1.52	7	43.00	-1.05	+4.9
Gerdau	.02e	...	4.28	-.04	+15.1
GtPlainEn	1.10	18	30.69	-.76	-4.8
Hallibrtn	.72	...	52.47	+.36	+7.4
HeliMAn h	...	...	9.17	+2.01	+45.3
iShGold	...	...	12.66	+.03	+1.2
iShBrazil	.67e	...	42.31	-.03	+4.6
iShChinaLC	.87e	...	48.62	+.05	+5.3
iShEMkts	.59e	...	48.74	-.31	+3.4
iSh20 yrT	3.05	...	123.80	-.15	-2.4
iS Eafe	1.66e	...	72.27	-.14	+2.8

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
iShiBxHYB	5.09	...	87.44	-.19	+.2
iShR2K	1.77e	...	154.84	+.02	+1.6
ImmuneP rs	...	...	.66	+.08	+16.0
Inpixon rs	...	...	.29	...	+38.1
InspMD rs	...	...	.20	-.08	+56.3
Intel	1.09	18	42.50	-1.12	-7.9
InterDig	1.40	11	79.50	+.45	+4.4
JD.com	...	27	46.45	+.32	+12.1
JPMorgCh	2.24f	17	110.25	+1.20	+3.1
JohnJn	3.36	21	143.97	-.16	+3.0
KimbClk	3.88	19	114.96	-1.84	-4.7
KindMorg	.50	35	18.88	-.06	+4.5
LegacyRes	...	...	1.89	+.20	+17.4
LendingClb	...	...	4.18	+.19	+1.2
Lubys	...	...	2.76	-.01	+4.5
Macys	1.51	9	25.60	+.91	+1.6
McDnlds	4.04f	30	173.51	-.03	+.8
Merck	1.92f	15	57.30	+.50	+1.8
MeritMed	...	51	44.10	-.65	+2.1
MexcoEn	...	...	4.32	+.01	+10.0
MicronT	...	9	43.31	+.34	+5.3
Microsoft	1.68	31	87.82	-.40	+2.7
MorgStan	1.00	15	53.93	+.63	+2.8
Nabors	.24	...	7.58	+.18	+11.0
NOilVarco	.20	...	37.93	-.31	+5.3
NokiaCp	.17e	...	4.85	-.05	+4.1
Novavax	...	...	2.12	+.79	+71.0
NSTFIS	.55e	...	14.80	-.05	-2.8
NTXQI	.65	...	14.21	-.08	-.9
Nvidia	.60f	62	223.68	+1.74	+15.6
OcciPet	3.08	...	74.25	-.65	+.8
Oracle	.76	21	48.80	-.26	+3.2
PDC Engy	...	...	53.79	+.40	+4.4
ParTech	...	21	8.74	-.14	-8.5
ParkDrl	...	...	1.24	+.03	+24.0
PattUTI	.08	...	23.81	+.24	+3.5
Penney	...	20	3.97	+.23	+25.6
PennaRE	.84	13	11.69	+.19	-1.7
Prmian	.63e	25	8.90	-.02	+.3
Petrobras	...	...	11.05	-.09	+7.4
Pfizer	1.28	15	36.47	+.08	+.7
PioNtrl	.08	...	178.70	+.75	+3.4
PlainsAAP	2.20	27	22.96	+.35	+11.2
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	162.18	-.38	+4.1
Praxair	3.15	29	162.62	-.29	+5.1

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
PrmEgy	...	...	48.60	...	-5.8
PUVixST rs	...	...	8.78	-.18	-14.0
ProctGam	2.76	23	90.47	-.58	-1.5
RangeRs	.08	18	16.78	-.28	-1.6
RiteAid	...	...	2.14	+.09	+8.6
Rowan	.40	10	16.47	+.01	+5.2
RoyDShllA	3.76	...	69.04	+.27	+3.5
SpdrDJIA	3.98e	...	253.62	-.20	+2.5
SpdrGold	...	...	125.02	+.29	+1.1
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	274.09	-.45	+2.7
SpdrLehHY	2.30	...	36.83	-.07	+.3
SabnR	2.31e	22	47.75	+.55	+7.1
SanderFm	1.28f	10	131.82	-2.21	-5.2
Schlmbrg	2.00	59	75.60	+.70	+12.2
SiriusXM	.04f	31	5.56	+.25	+3.6
Smucker	3.12f	16	124.16	-2.63	-.1
SnapInc A n	...	...	14.65	+.55	+.3
SwstnEngy	...	39	5.41	-.30	-3.0
Sprint	...	...	5.62	-.07	-4.6
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	28.83	+.24	+3.3
SP Inds	1.12e	...	78.43	-.01	+3.6
SP Util	1.55e	...	50.74	-.56	-3.7
TelefEsp	1.20e	...	9.83	-.11	+1.5
TevaPhrm	.73e	7	20.04	+.67	+5.8
3M Co	4.70	28	241.14	-.14	+2.5
Torchmark	.60	20	92.76	+.69	+2.3

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Transocn	...	11	11.83	-.23	+10.8
TriContl	1.00e	...	27.33	-.03	+1.4
21stCFoxA	.36	22	35.60	-.94	+3.1
TylerTech	...	59	186.11	-.75	+5.1
UBSI	1.36f	19	35.80	+.75	+3.0
US OilFd	...	...	12.68	+.11	+5.6
USSteel	.20	...	39.20	+.79	+11.4
Vale SA	.29e	...	13.15	-.09	+7.5
ValeantPh	...	6	23.43	-.44	+12.8
ValeroE	2.80	25	94.15	+.05	+2.4
VanEGold	.06e	...	23.25	+.14	...
VanE JrGld	...	...	33.68	+.41	-1.3
VangEmg	1.10e	...	47.65	-.21	+3.8
VangFTSE	1.10e	...	46.06	-.12	+2.7
VerizonCm	2.36	11	51.69	+.08	-2.3
VulcanM	1.00	41	132.40	-1.74	+3.1
WEC Engy	2.21f	21	63.67	-1.24	-4.2
WalgBoots	1.60	15	74.08	+.66	+2.0
Weathfintl	...	...	4.09	+.10	-1.9
WellsFargo	1.56f	16	63.12	+.86	+4.0
WmsCos	1.20	56	32.75	+.02	+7.4
XcelEngy	1.44	20	46.13	-.46	-4.1
Xerox rs	1.00	11	30.35	+.16	+4.1
Xunlei Ltd	...	...	22.39	-1.13	+45.5
Yamana g	.02	...	3.18	+.05	+1.9

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We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
25,439.78	19,677.94	Dow Jones Industrials	25,369.13	-16.67	-.07	+2.63	+27.14
11,051.70	8,744.36	Dow Jones Transportation	11,030.10	+11.64	+.11	+3.94	+20.07
778.80	648.34	Dow Jones Utilities	693.14	-7.84	-1.12	-4.18	+5.49
13,156.88	11,118.47	NYSE Composite	13,106.80	-14.24	-.11	+2.32	+16.74
7,161.14	5,496.82	Nasdaq Composite	7,153.57	-10.01	-.14	+3.62	+28.58
2,759.14	2,254.25	S&P 500	2,748.23	-3.06	-.11	+2.79	+20.78
1,950.82	1,661.09	S&P Midcap	1,933.26	-9.24	-.48	+1.72	+14.60
28,622.03	23,564.41	Wilshire 5000	28,507.08	-36.87	-.13	+2.57	+19.74
1,565.56	1,335.03	Russell 2000	1,559.80	-.30	-.02	+1.58	+18.56

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

3				6	2			
	1	9		7		8		
		2					7	
		3		2	5		1	
					4			
	9		6	1		5		
	7					6		
						1	5	
			1	8				7

1/11/18

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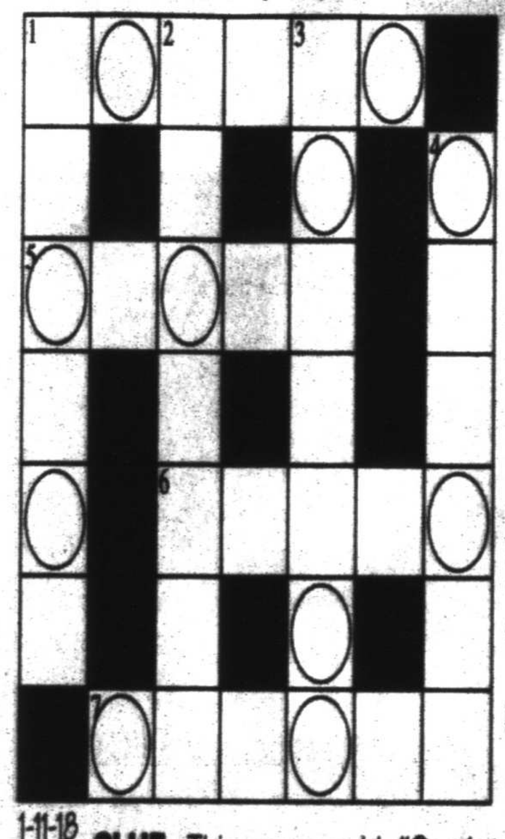
SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

8	7	4	2	5	1	9	6	3
5	9	6	8	3	4	1	7	2
1	2	3	9	7	6	4	8	5
7	1	2	3	4	9	6	5	8
3	4	9	5	6	8	2	1	7
6	8	5	1	2	7	3	9	4
9	5	7	4	1	2	8	3	6
2	6	8	7	9	3	5	4	1
4	3	1	6	8	5	7	2	9

JUMBLE® CROSSWORDS™

by David L. Hoyt



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Damp	RTYEAW
5. ___ line	NOCAG
6. ___ Rouge	OTNBA
7. Closer	ENERRA

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Sticky ___	CITKWE
2. Defensible	BNTEELA
3. Nuclear ___	CRTEARO
4. ___ or later	SNOERO

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

1-11-18

CLUE: This person said, "Scotland should be nothing less than equal with all the other nations of the world."

BONUS

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ANSWERS: 1A-Merry 5A-Conga 6A-Baton 7A-Nanny 1D-Mucus 2D-Tenable 3D-Tractor 4D-Sooner B-Beam Cheery

Send comments to TCA - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KEPYR

OTAIP

MIFYAL

UTPADE

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

WHEN THE GYMNASTICS TEAM WON THE COMPETITION, THEY —

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLOOR SCARF NOBODY GOSSIP
Answer: When asked how her long-distance relationship was going, she said — SO FAR, SO GOOD

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Splendor
5 Lara Croft targets
10 In that case
14 Jamba Juice® berry
15 "Tommy" is one
16 Chewy Hershey candy
17 Step on it
19 Activates, as a security system
20 Tossed course
21 Company that introduced Styrofoam
22 Spacek of "Bloodline"
23 Things to avoid
25 Foamy pick-me-up
27 Defeat decisively
30 Tied in the harbor
33 Flowing garment
36 __ Paulo, Brazil
37 Roman poet who coined "carpe diem"
38 Creator of Iceland's Imagine Peace Tower
39 Sleep on it
41 "SNL" writer/actor Michael
42 "Becket" star
44 Auction ending?
45 Inert gas
46 Not very often
47 Like some poll questions
49 Youngsters
51 Hamlet cousins
54 Put down
56 Crone
59 Knuckleheads
61 Wild bunches
62 Count on it
64 Lawn pest
65 "That's too bad"
66 It might be a whole lot
67 Follow instructions
68 Covert agent
69 Safari shelter

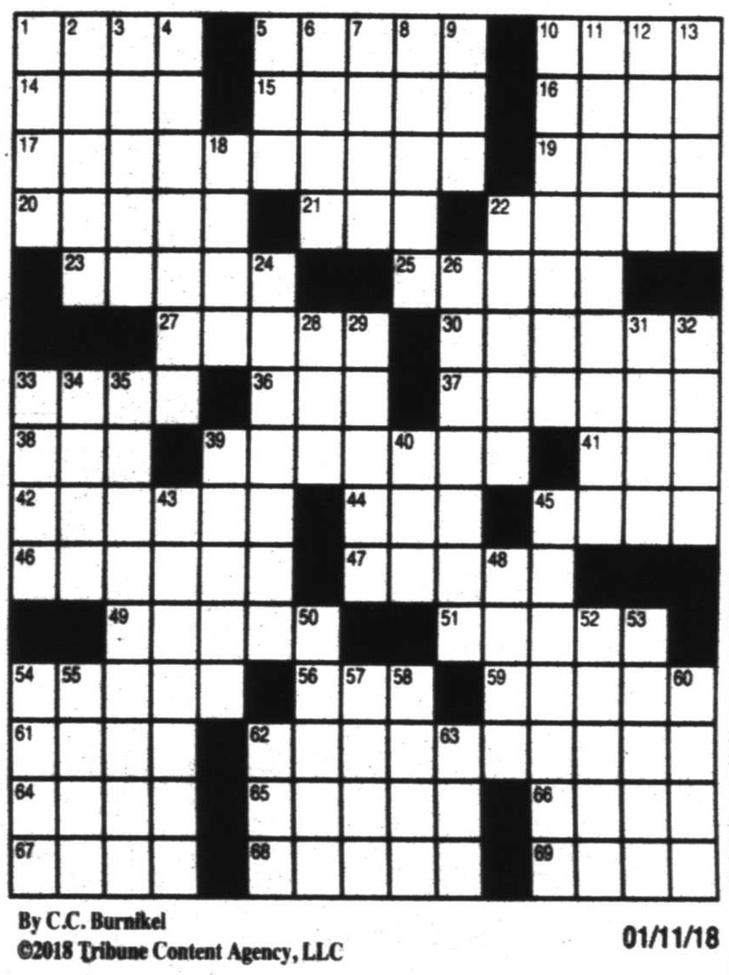
DOWN

1 Bear feet
2 Aquaman's realm
3 __ Cup: classic candy in a yellow wrapper
4 Hot and spicy
5 Young Spider-Man portrayer Holland
6 Pundit's piece
7 Short note
8 Wild fight
9 Suppressed, with "on"
10 False friend
11 Bet on it
12 Shade trees
13 Way too interested
18 Dumpster output
22 Put up with
24 "Well, sorrrr-ry!"
26 Massachusetts college or its town
28 "Holy smokes!"
29 Stir
31 Letter between Delta and Foxtrot
32 "It Ain't All About the Cookin'" memoirist Paula
33 Pigeon calls
34 Poker stake
35 Bank on it
39 Chap
40 Cause of a buzz
43 Adventurous trip
45 "Another problem?"
48 Forget-me-__: flowers
50 Shoulder warmer
52 Jenna, to Jeb
53 Unsmiling
54 Firing range supply
55 Doofus
57 Pond plant
58 Small valley
60 Editor's mark
62 You may feel one on your shoulder
63 Even so

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

E	T	A	S		T	O	P	E		T	A	T	A	R
P	A	U	L		A	P	E	D		A	D	O	R	E
O	T	T	O		R	I	N	D		N	O	R	M	A
C	A	U	G	H	T	U	N	A	W	A	R	E		
H	M	M		U	L	M			I	G	N	I	T	E
S	I	N	G	L	E		C	A	N	E		N	E	A
			N	U	T	M	E	G	G	R	A	T	E	R
U	S	D	A			I	R	A			J	O	S	S
N	O	R	T	H	A	M	E	R	I	C	A			
I	L	E		A	M	E	S		S	H	R	E	W	D
T	I	S	H	R	I			I	T	O		L	A	I
		S	A	N	D	W	I	C	H	W	R	A	P	S
S	L	A	V	E		O	D	O	M		E	P	I	C
H	U	G	O	S		M	E	N	U		A	S	T	O
E	X	E	C	S		B	A	S	S		L	E	I	S

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/11/18



By C.C. Burnikel
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01/11/18

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WORD PUZZLES BY WOOD TOM

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1. CMHAIDNEA

2. HEAD COLLISION

Print Your Answers Here:

1.

2.

Today's Answers:

1. Made in China
2. Head-on collision

1-11

Created by Tom Underwood

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WUZZLES® Answers

1. Made in China
2. Head-on collision

1-11

Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

at home
The Home Décor Superstore
Burlington
Dillard's
JCPenney

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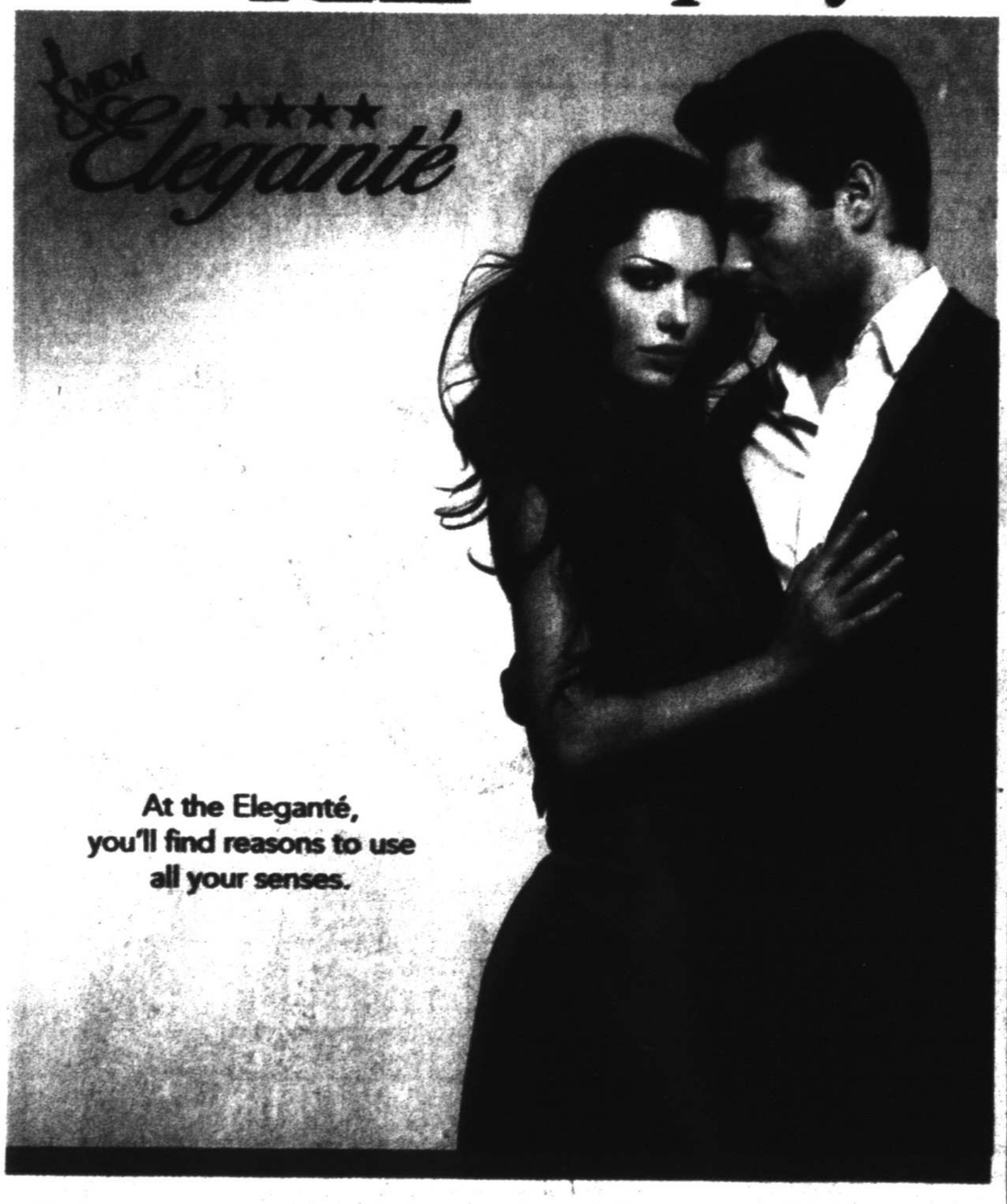

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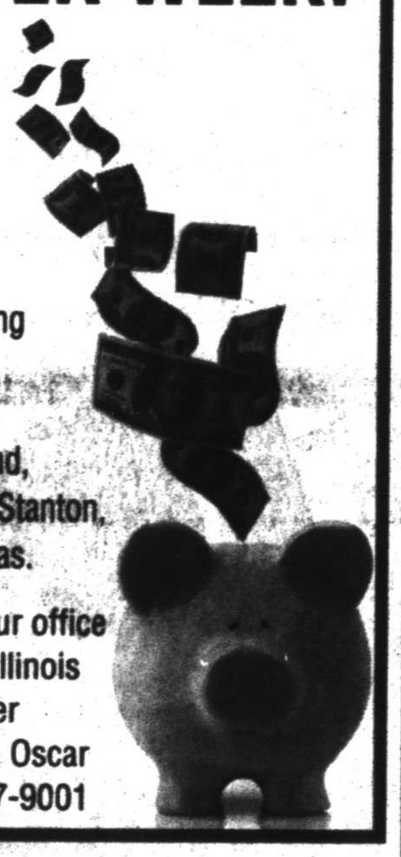

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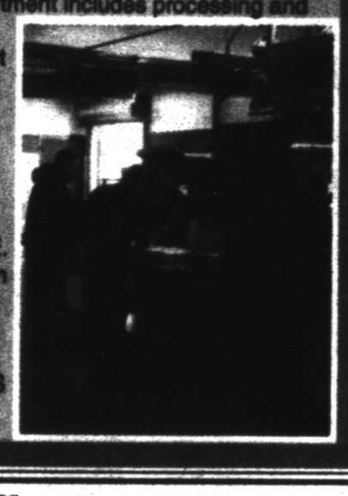
Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person. $11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.



Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com NOPHONECALLS PLEASE

Gymnastics Instructor

Coaches needed for class, team and cheerleading. Evening hours. Pay will depend on experience. Call 432-682-4113 for more information.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

District Clerk

Midland County is currently seeking a District Clerk. Requirements include being a Midland County and United States citizen, 18 years of age, no felony convictions, and a registered voter in Midland County. Benefits will begin after the 91st day of employment and include health and retirement. Please see our website: www.co.midland.tx.us/departments/hr/pages/employment.aspx for more details, pay, and an application. To be consider you must send a completed application with job reference numbers and your resume to the address indicated on the application.

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES

Restaurant Positions

Osaka Japanese Steakhouse FT

Would you like to make $15 to $20 an hour, depending on position? Now hiring Hibachi Chefs, Waitresses, Hostesses, Cashiers, Bartenders, Bus Help, Dishwashers & Kitchen Help. Come apply in person: 11am-2pm at 1297 Tradewinds Blvd. 79706 or online at: www.my-osaka.com

SALES JOBS

EMPLOYMENT SALES REPRESENTATIVE

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Employment customers.

Responsibilities include,prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop employment campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to: Cranderson@hearstnp.com

Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

OUTSIDE SALES REPRESENTATIVE

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers.

Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to: Cranderson@hearstnp.com

Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

SKILLED LABOR

Exp. Plumber & a Drain Cleaner

Rote Rooter is now hiring for an Experienced Plumber & a Drain Cleaner. Good driving record, benefits available. Apply in person at 1410 W. Carter between 8am-5pm Monday - Friday.

Heavy Equipment Mechanic

Need heavy equipment mechanic, part time. Please call 432-631-6079

Journeyman Electrician & Exp. Apprentices

Journeyman Electrician and experienced Apprentices. Commercial and [illegible] work. Long term, full time position. 432-362-6582

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CDL DRIVERS

As a rapidly growing concrete manufacturing company, Ingram Concrete is currently seeking CDL DRIVERS for our Midland facility. Excellent benefits with pay rates and compensation based on driving experience. Paid weekly and home daily/weekends. Guaranteed hours year round and bonus potential. Come be a part of our family style atmosphere.

Please apply at 2608 N. FM 1788 in Midland or call (432) 561-8922 for additional information.

INGRAM CONCRETE LLC

Ingram Concrete is an EOE. M/F/D/V

DRIVER NEEDED

Truck Treaters
Hazmat, Tankers & Class A CDL
Call Fernando Uribe 432-556-0966

18 Wheel Drivers, need CDL
Call Roman Hernandez 432-894-1416

Send Resume to: Lydia.Garcia@CatalystOilfield.com

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Legal and Public Notices

Notice to Physicians and Providers: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, a Division of Health Care Service Corporation (Blue Essentials℠ and Blue Advantage HMO℠) administers individual practice association health maintenance organizations that arrange for the provision of both basic and supplemental health services to their members. Any physician or provider can make application to participate in the Blue Essentials and/or Blue Advantage HMO networks, at BCBSTX, 3300 N. A Street, Bldg. 8, Ste. 120, Midland, TX. 79705 or Fax: 432-620-1428 from January 12, 2018, until January 31, 2018.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of George Boulter Resley, Deceased, were issued to Bonnie Jean Resley on December 12, 2017 in Cause No. P19226, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Bonnie Jean Resley
c/o Brandon W. Pinson
P. O. Box 8530
Midland, Texas 79708

DATED January 9, 2018.

PINSON LAW FIRM
By: Brandon W. Pinson

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Janice Smith Bullock, Deceased, were issued to Gary Wayne Bullock on December 12, 2017 in Cause No. P19275, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Gary Wayne Bullock
c/o Brandon W. Pinson
P. O. Box 8530
Midland, Texas 79708

DATED January 9, 2018.

PINSON LAW FIRM
By: Brandon W. Pinson

NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS AND PROVIDERS

Applications for participation in DentiCare, Inc.'s network of general and specialty dental commercial providers will be accepted March 1, 2018 through March 20, 2018. The networks included in the DentiCare, Inc. Health Maintenance Organization are: DentiCare Commercial HMO and Advantage Commercial HMO. All applications will be reviewed and responses will be made within 90 days of receipt. To request an application, or for further information please write: Humana, Attention: Specialty Networks-Dan, N19 W24133 Riverwood Drive, Suite 100, Waukesha, WI 53188, or email your request to dentalrecruitment@humana.com.

NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS AND PROVIDERS

Humana Behavioral Health, Inc., a Health Maintenance Organization, located at 802 N. Carancahua, Suite 300, Corpus Christi, TX, 78401, will accept applications for the period beginning March 1, 2018, and ending March 20, 2018, from physicians and other health care providers who wish to become participating physicians or providers in their commercial provider networks. The networks included in the Humana Behavioral Health, Inc. Health Maintenance Organization are: Austin HMOx, Corpus Christi HMOx, Houston HMOx, San Antonio HMOx, Waco HMOx, and Texas Premier HMO. Applicants should go to the following website: https://www.humanabehavioralhealth.com/providers/join-our-network/provider-interest-forms/ and complete the applicable interest form. Applicants must meet the credentialing criteria of Humana Behavioral Health, Inc. for acceptance into their respective networks. Applicants will be notified in writing of acceptance or non-acceptance within 90 days after Humana Behavioral Health, Inc. receives an application(s) for participation.

Notice to Physicians and Providers (per TAC § 11.1402)

SHA, L.L.C. dba **FirstCare**, 12940 N. Hwy 183, Austin, TX 78750, a basic health service, individual practice model health maintenance organization, will accept written applications during the period of February 1, 2018, through February 20, 2018, from physicians and providers who wish to participate in the FirstCare network. FirstCare offers services for the following products: STAR Medicaid and CHIP, Commercial and Federal Marketplace. Marketplace applicants must FirstCare's practice standards and qualifications for acceptance. Applicants will be notified in writing of acceptance or non-acceptance within 90 days after FirstCare receives an application for participation. Applications should be sent to the attention of the Provider Relations Department.

Permian Basin MPO Policy Board Meeting

Date: January 16, 2018 5:00 p.m.
Place: Permian Basin MPO
9601 Wright Dr., Suite 1
Midland, TX 79706

The Policy Board of the Permian Basin MPO will hold a regularly scheduled meeting to support TxDOT's safety measures, to discuss regional thoroughfare planning, to discuss potential use of MPO funds to address safety issues at E. Loop 338 at 20th/26th Streets, and to hear updates on transportation planning topics. The Board may conduct an Executive Session as permitted under Chapter 551 of the Texas Administrative Code.
Para asistencia en español por favor llame a 432-617-9129.

Lost and Found

FOUND 2 young dogs 1 being a pup. Boyd & Godfrey area contact 432-699-4032 978-0906 ask for Annette

WORK WANTED
20+ years bookkeeping experience. Proficient with Quickbooks. Email: pj.bookkeeping@yahoo.com. References available.

Autos For Sale-Lease

Passenger Cars

CADILLAC 2006 DTS. One owner, 60K actual miles. Garage kept. Have records of all service & oil changes. $9950. 432-212-1830

TOYOTA 2000 Avalon 172,350 K miles. $3,500. Good condition. 432-638-7378

Antique and Vintage

BUICK 1993 Riviera pearlescent diamond white, with red padded Landau top, SE prestige option package, 1 owner, 91,094 miles, garaged since new. $8,500 firm. 432-218-8869.

4WD and SUV

TOYOTA 2012 Sequoia SR5 2WD 57,496 miles. Black with sand leather interior. 2nd row bench 3rd row seat. Routinely serviced, new tires, one owner. Excellent condition. $25,000. 432-638-6360

RV Vehicles

RV trailer for rent, large space with fenced in gate. Green grass & trees. Very clean, come by and see. Ready by 1-1-18 Midland, 2505 WCR 140. 432-218-6960 or 432-212-2866.

WANT TO rent a 25' or less travel trailer for the week of Feb 21st through Feb. 25th. 432-664-4675

Pets-Animals

Cats

LOST: B & W Male Cat Has collar and tags if seen please call Ann @ 432-889-3515 last seen on Bedford &G St. Will offer small reward if found!!

Dogs

AKC STANDARD POODLE PUPPIES, TAILS SHOWCUT AND DEWCLAWS REMOVED, VET HEALTH CHECKED, PARENTS ON SITE 432-210-4008, 432-212-7362

Other Pets

FREE TO good home 5 year old solid gray male cat. House trained. 432-664-3840

Classified CAN 682-6222

Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE
1415 WEST PINE
Fri. 9-3, Sat. 9-1, Sun. 2-4
Great furniture and beautiful decorative items.
Please see at Estatesales.net
JUDY JACKSON'S ESTATE SALES

ESTATE SALE
BY JOSEPH AND TEAM
#2 Lazywood Lane - Midland
Thursday 9:00 AM -3:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 2 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
For pictures go to https://www.estatesales.net/TX/Midland/79705/1766340

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

FREON R12 WANTED
Certified buyer pays CASH for cylinders & cans.
(312) 291-9169, refrigerantfinders.com

Real Estate Rental-Sale

OAK, PECAN, Hickory, Mesquite, Pinon. 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262

Residential Sales

Single Family Homes

FOR SALE 17 acres in Nogal Canyon and a home with a spacious living area with a rock fireplace. Property also includes, a courtyard, guest house, barn, shop, two entrances, fully fenced property. Seller will include a 140 acre lot in Ancho with an acceptable offer for this Nogal, NM property. $299,000 Please check out the video: www.211nogalcanyon.com Offered by Darlan Ross Associate Broker Pinnacle Real Estate 931 Hwy 48 Alto, NM 88312 575-336-7711 Office 575-973-0117 cell.

Contract fell through! BEAUTIFULLY REMODELED 3 bedroom 2 baths, 2 car garage, large backyard. $169,000. Open house every Sunday 2-4 until sold. 5121 W. Illinois. 432-683-2243. No owner finance!

FSBO 4 bedroom, 2 full baths, 1 3/4 bath and 1/2 bath by heated pool and hot tub. 2507 Bellechasse Ct. Midland. See pictures at Zillow.com. Call 432-853-9080 for an appointment to see.

Classified CAN 682-6222

Lots and Land

Hunting Leases

ONE OF the most scenic, spectacular, premier, hunting ranches in West Texas located in the Eagle Mountains near Van Horn, TX. spanning over 10,000 acres with beautiful western style lodge approx. 3 hours from Midland is now for sale. For info contact owner at 830-238-3168

Oil and Gas Leases

100% OF **Minerals** for sale Border & Dawson County. 360 acres. Call 940-399-6119

Ranches

RANCH FOR SALE
4,212 Acres
near Snyder, Tx.
Water, 3 houses, great hunting.
Owner Financing
$795/ Acre
(432) 664-7764

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Commercial

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Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Commercial

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- **Kent County**
  - *111,155 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 whitetail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $850
- **Nolan County**
  - *646 ac. over 1 mile **SOLD** creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oaks $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 canyons, **SOLD** anks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, jav $895/ac
- **Martin County**
  - *135 ac. Sulphur Springs **SOLD** deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal stor $1,150/ac

(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777
No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that know the Country!!!
*** Owner Financing Available ***

Lots and Land

FEATURED RANCHES FOR SALE

36,460 deeded acres in Sandoval County, New Mexico – The terrain varies from high elevated ponderosa pine mesas to lower wide valley bottoms. This scenic ranch has the perfect "land of enchantment" charm. The property is well watered with extra nice improvements and the ranch receives over 100 elk permits. One-half minerals. $550 per acre.

10,666 acres located in Terrell County, Texas – This outstanding hunting ranch is located north of Sanderson. Big Canyon runs through the ranch creating a combination of limestone hills, ridges, valley bottoms and upland plateaus. The ranch features both mule deer and whitetail, and in recent years, elk have migrated to the property. Classified Minerals. $525 per acre.

25,785 acres located in Ector County, Texas – This ranch is located near Penwell in the heart of the Permian Basin. It has proven frac sand reserves on the east side of the Monahans Sandhills. The property has access off I-20 with extensive railroad frontage. There are three new Carrizo Aquifer water wells. Sand test results, survey and other pertinent information is available. Because of the proven frac sand availability, this ranch has great upside potential. $1,047 per acre.

14,393 acres located in Pecos and Brewster Counties – The terrain varies from wide, productive valley bottoms to rocky limestone hills and mountains. Extensive brush work has been done on portions of the ranch and approximately 4,000 acres are established to Klein grass pasture. Excellent hunting, including elk. Classified Minerals. $650 per acre.

7,705 acres located in Pecos County, Texas – The terrain is gently sloping on portions of the ranch, transitioning to rugged limestone hills, divides and deep canyons. The property is well known for producing large whitetail and mule deer, with elk now common. Classified Minerals. $550 per acre.

Brochures available on all ranches.

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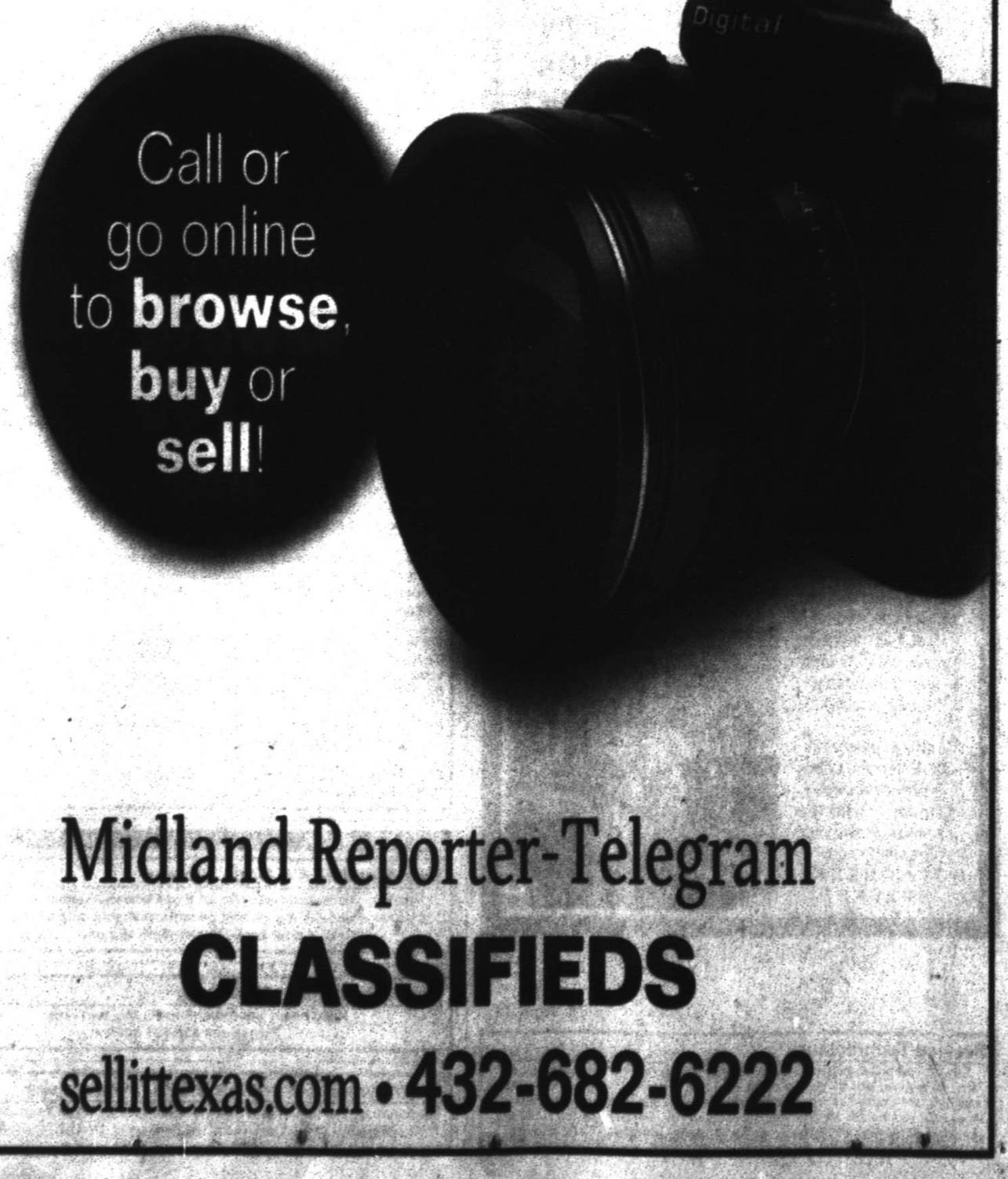

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Svcs-Professionals

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JS Concrete

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Fireplaces-Firewood

ERIC'S FIREWOOD, 1/4 cord $100, 1/2 cord $200, full cord $400, stacked & delivered. Thank you. 432-934-6198.

FIREWOOD BY Midland Fireman. Oak, Pinon, Mesquite firewood. Full, half and quarter cords. Free delivery. Also, Tree Trimming services and firewood racks for sale. Call 432-557-2897, 209-1131.

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Total Handyman Services A through Z and total remodel and room addition by native Midlander Manny Ribera (432) 967-3710 mRiberaConstruction.com

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Lawn and Garden

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Lawn and Garden

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Gutters - Downspouts

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Landscape and Tree Maintenance

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We buy homes in any area in any condition. Call the Scott Williams Team of Realtors 432-689-7770.

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Miscellaneous Services

Attention Truckers!! The Burrito Lady is open from 6am-1pm Mon-Sat Fresh Made to Order Call In's Welcome 325-456-0156 318 S Main St Eden,Tx

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

CLASSIFIEDS

The Midland Reporter-Telegram

Kid Scoop .com

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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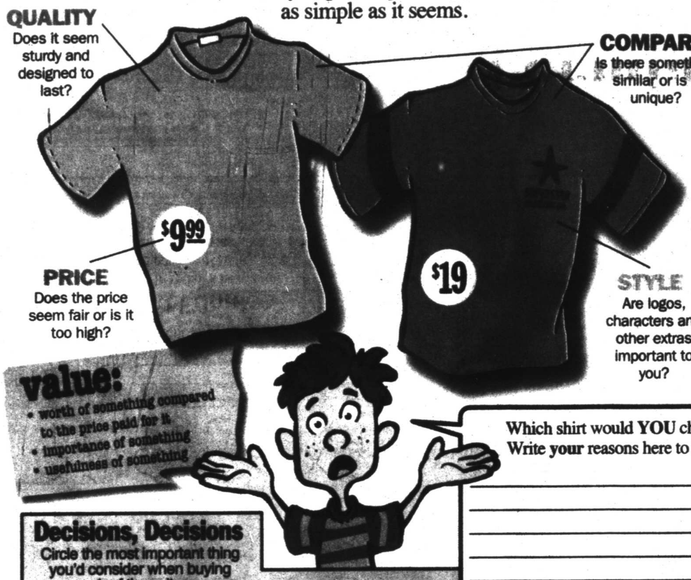
KID SCOOP MONEY MATTERS SERIES: VALUE

Is cheaper always better?

Ethan got a gift card for his birthday. Which of these T-shirts should he buy? Spending money isn't always as simple as it seems.



value:
- worth of something compared to the price paid for it.
- importance of something
- usefulness of something

Which shirt would YOU choose, and why? Write your reasons here to help me decide:

Let's Talk!

Ask a parent to tell you about the way they make decisions while shopping. On your next trip to the store, compare and discuss the value of several products.

Decisions, Decisions

Circle the most important thing you'd consider when buying each of these items.

BIKE	CLOTHES	FOOD	MUSIC	TOYS	MOVIES
COLOR	COLOR	NUTRITION	POPULARITY	POPULARITY	POPULARITY
PRICE	PRICE	PRICE	STYLE	PRICE	STORYLINE
QUALITY	QUALITY	FLAVOR	LYRICS	QUALITY	CAST
BRAND	BRAND	BRAND	VOCALS	BRAND	GOOD REVIEWS

CHEAPER
AFFORD
PURCHASE
SHOPPING
VALUE
OVERSPENDING
SPEND

Woodword™ Explains:

The Smart Way to Spend

Replace the missing words using Woodword's word list.

No one likes to _____ more money than is necessary. So, when you go _____, there are a lot of things to consider.

First, are you spending more than you can _____? Setting a budget **before** you get to the store – ***and sticking to it*** – can keep you from _____.

Next, look at the quality of the item you're buying. Is the more expensive item better made than a _____ version? If so, it might last longer and is a better _____. Or is the more expensive item pricier only because it is cool and trendy?

Thinking about what's most important to you is how you decide the best value when making a _____. It's the **smart way to spend!**

Extra! Extra! Ad Values

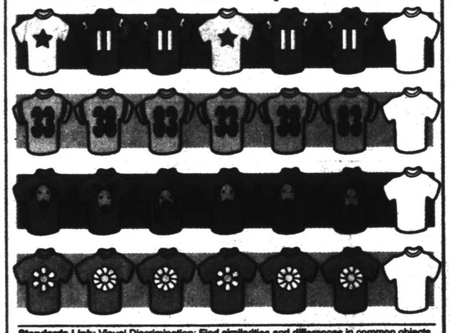
Find three advertisements in the newspaper. Read each one and decide what value they are selling. Are they selling something because it is the best price? Or, because it is cool? Or something else?

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use strategies of the reading process to follow written directions.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Draw the t-shirt that continues the pattern in each row.



Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Kid Scoop Word Search

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

EXPENSIVE
QUALITY
DECIDE
BUDGET
MONEY
PRICE
VALUE
COOL
PAID
ITEM
BRAND
GIFT
FAIR
SHOPPING
TOYS

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Advertisement Funnies

Select an advertisement in today's newspaper that has five or more adjectives. Replace each adjective with an adjective that means the opposite to create a very silly advertisement.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

What did the bird say when she found a sweater for just one dollar?

Weekly Writing Corner

A penny saved ...

Students finish this sentence.

A penny saved is a penny to give to people that need it. I will save every penny that I get. Then when I get so many pennies I will give to kids that need it so we can give them a better place.

Jhaiem, 3rd grade

A penny saved is a penny to go to New York so that I can see Broadway.

Natalie, 5th grade

A penny saved is a penny to help me get a little baby kitten. I want a kitten because I like cats and when I am feeling bad, it will comfort me.

Tori, 5th grade

A penny saved is another penny in my piggy bank. It's more money saved for college, or a toy I really want! All the pennies I collect go in my piggy bank so I will have money when I need money. Even though a penny isn't worth much, you'll notice that sometimes just one more penny can help you a lot. For example, when you have 99 cents, one more penny gives you a dollar and you can buy something from the dollar section. Keep saving pennies.

Anna, 4th grade

A penny saved is a penny more for me. When you receive a penny, you get more money. Cling, cling every time you get a penny, you are saving up. Each and every penny is like a building block. You keep building until your tower is complete. There are many different ways to put your money to use after you saved up. You could give it to your church or even donate it to a charity. You could buy something for yourself. When you get a penny, save it because a penny saved is a penny more.

Leah, 5th grade

A penny saved is a penny that I could use to get new football equipment, so that I don't get hurt at games or at practice.

Ronnie, 5th grade

A penny saved is a penny earned. That's an old saying... Now it's the 21st century so we need a new one. "A penny saved is a penny towards being a millionaire!" If you keep saving money and never make withdrawals, you can be a millionaire like Bill Gates. You can even be richer than him if you just keep saving. This saying would help save our economy and save our money.

Claire, 4th grade

Write On!

Sweet Talk

Have you ever sweet-talked someone into helping you with a chore or into simply doing it for you? How did you do it?

Deadline: February 4, 2018
Published: Week of Mar. 4
Send your story to:

Newspaper In Education
201 E. Illinois
Midland, TX 79701
ljdiaz@mrt.com

Please include your school and grade.

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Site Matters

The results are in. Consumers value and trust the premium-quality content found at newspaper Web sites as well as the advertising on those sites according to a just-released comScore survey.

Newspaper Web Sites continue to be the most used and valued sites for consumers seeking credible and trustworthy local content and advertising online.

Top Online Source 57percent of consumers identified local newspaper Web sites as the top online source for local information, ahead of the totals for all other media.

Source for Local Information Newspaper sites ranked first as a source for local information (29%), local sports (27%), local entertainment (26%) and local classifieds (39%), ahead of both local television Web sites and online portals. And, consumers value local content with 57% indicating that local information is very important.

Trustworthiness of Advertising Consumers agree that their opinion of online advertising is influenced by the type of Web site on which the ad appears. Local newspaper sites ranked first in trustworthiness of advertising.

Current, Credible and Relevant Consumers consider local newspaper Web sites to be the most trusted source of online advertising, with ads that are perceived to be more current, credible and relevant to them.

75 million unique visitors 37% of all active Internet users went to newspaper Web sites in January 2010, accessing more than 3.5 billion pages.

Local Matters, the Content Matters, the Site Matters.

Source: comScore 2010, Nielsen Online

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