MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2017 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

SEEING THINGS?

Michael Carbonaro to bring his magical effect to the Tall City.

Weekender

READY FOR THE FIELD

The Bulldogs and the Rebels are looking to make statements this season in the new District 2-6A, which saw the departure of postseason fixture San Angelo Central.

Page 1C

Holiday sales vary for locally owned businesses

Local business owners see fluctuating patronage with boom, downturn cycle

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

Owners of some Midland businesses saw a rise in holiday sales this season, saying social media and local ownership helped them attract customers. But other stores had decreased sales compared to previous years.

Like other business owners, Ashley Roland hoped to attract customers at the end of the year. Roland, owner of The Pink Pug on North Midland Drive, estimates her clothing boutique sold twice as much inventory during the holiday season than other times of the year.

"We about doubled every single day," Roland said. "Social media played a part in that. Things that were sitting for months were sold."

During the holiday season, Sarah Golden of Wild Designs Boutique on Dodson Street also posted items on social media to attract customers.

The store has been in business for seven years, and Golden estimates this season had higher sales than others. She said many Midlanders prefer to shop at locally owned stores over major retailers during the holiday season.

"I think people are doing it naturally," Golden said. "A small boutique is fun. It's more personal. We have the customer service you wouldn't get at the mall."

Though the boutiques saw increased sales at the end of the year, not all local businesses experienced the same trend.

Melissa Morehead, owner of Blackbird on West Wadley Avenue, said her furniture showroom and design center attracts customers throughout the year. She said some customers expressed interest in holiday decorating, so the business might expand seasonal offerings in the future.

"I'm happy with this holiday season," Morehead said. "Next year, I would like to have more Christmas items. We do have picture frames and candles, but I would like to make it more exiting for Christmas."

At other businesses, owners saw a lull in sales compared to other years.

Tina Elliott, owner of Luv Bugs Bow Wow Boutique on North Midkiff Road, estimates year-end sales in 2016 weren't as high as usual for her pet-related store. She thinks the economic and political climate could have played a role.

"Some people are still hesitant," Elliott said. "Oil started to pick up a little more. The elections are over. People are starting to feel more confident. I think in January, once the (inauguration) is compiete, everything will pick up."

Across town, sales at Susie's South Forty Confections dropped compared to years when the economy was stronger. Owner Susie Hitchcock-Hall said the business usually notices a spike in seasonal sales for toffee and other items.

"They're constantly the biggest sellers," Hitchcock-Hall said. "Everybody loves them. They're indicative of West Texas. Everybody wants to know what's out here because we don't have trees, and we don't have water."

The candy company has withstood the Midland economy for 25 years. But local trends are also on the minds of new business owners.

Please see **SALES**/4A

FURTHER FUNDING EFFORTS

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Newly developed sports fields on the southeast side of the Scharbauer Sports Complex are shown Wednesday.

Mayor to kick off campaign for 4B tax

From staff reports

Mayor Jerry Morales will announce today that a campaign to extend a sales tax in Midland is underway.

The mayor will announce the campaign after the ribbon cutting for the $4.5 million multi-purpose fields project at the Scharbauer Sports Complex, according to a press release from a group with the motto, "Imagine it, Live it, Pass it on. Vote yes 4B."

According to the city, the announcement is in line with what Morales will put before Midland City Council regarding a May date for an election to continue a quarter-cent sales tax. That vote could come as early as Tuesday's City Council meeting.

The tax currently funds construction of the dual-stadium facility and operations at the Scharbauer Sports Complex. Morales said in the past he wants to see an upgrade of the city's tournament fields, making Midland a regional hub for sports tournaments.

Such a plan is expected to be costly. Past council discussions indicated that the plan would require a 25-year bond to pay for the improvements and still allow the city to dedicate as much as $3 million a year to be used to pay for operations, maintenance and further additions at the Scharbauer Sports Complex.

A quarter-cent tax would raise between $8 million and $11 million a year based on previous years' collections.

Councilman Jeff Sparks has indicated in the past that he wants to see this tournament facility tax have a 10-year sunset. A sunset and pay-as-you-go system would prevent the ability to finance such a grand project, which could be used toward three or four parks across Midland.

City officials have indicated that there likely wouldn't be any money in this plan for new roads. They also have expressed support for the mayor's tournament field plan.

The city almost came forward with a tournament field plan in 2016, but officials struggled with ballot language that would have made a May election possible. The city didn't want to compete with a school election in the fall.

The sports complex's four new fields feature artificial turf and can be used for football, soccer and lacrosse games. A restroom and concessions building was also built to support tournaments.

Each field is outlined in a different, vibrant color, making it easy for players and attendees to find their field during a tournament.

The four auxiliary athletic fields are located on the east and south ends of the Scharbauer Sports Complex. The city used type-B sales tax money to fund the project.

Fields will be available for rental by contacting the Midland Parks and Recreation Division, according to the city.

SM Energy selling some of its Eagle Ford assets

■ Company plans to use money from sale to focus on its Permian acreage

By Jennifer Hiller
San Antonio Express-News

Denver-based SM Energy Co. is selling some of its Eagle Ford Shale assets in South Texas in a deal worth $800 million, the company announced Tuesday.

SM Energy said it will sell midstream assets and the Eagle Ford wells it has an interest in but doesn't operate to a subsidiary of the privately held Venado Oil and Gas of Austin, an affiliate of the private equity firm KKR.

SM's acreage is centered around Catarina in Dimmit County. It had been marketing some of its Eagle Ford assets and expected the sale to happen early this year.

SM Energy will use the money from the sale to focus on its acreage in the Permian Basin, where it holds 87,600 acres and is planning for "aggressive growth." In its most recent earnings call with analysts, SM executives said they planned to increase from four drilling rigs to six in the Permian's Midland Basin by the end of the first quarter.

It will dedicate one drilling rig to the Eagle Ford, where it still holds around 161,500 acres of operated natural gas and natural gas liquids wells, which were not part of this sale.

The assets in this deal include about 37,500 net acres in the Maverick Basin, the western edge of the Eagle Ford, and a 12.5 percent interest in the Springfield Gathering System.

Venado Oil and Gas and KKR in September announced a partnership to focus on assets in the Eagle Ford.

Some 2016 deals in the South Texas oil field included Sun-dance Energy Australia Limited, which has U.S. offices in Denver, announcing its purchase of 5,050 Eagle Ford Shale acres in McMullen County in July. Sun-dance has around 46,000 acres in the Eagle Ford, and in late December also announced it had purchased working interests in wells on 1,449 acres in McMullen County for $7.1 million.

The Japanese utility Tokyo Gas in June agreed to acquire a 25 percent stake in Eagle Ford Shale assets of the VirTex Operating Co. Inc., which has acreage in La Salle and Webb counties.

In May, Houston's EnerVest Ltd. announced its latest Eagle Ford Shale acquisitions — more than 7,000 acres in Karnes County from San Antonio's BlackBrush Oil and Gas.

Weather
Mostly sunny
50/18
Get your complete forecast on 7C

Energy prices

WTI Futures	$53.26 ▲	$0.93
WTI Posted	$49.75 ▲	$1.00
WTS Posted	$45.30 ▲	$2.10
Natural Gas	$3.207 ▼	$0.050
Gasoline	$2.190 ▲	$0.007

The big number
Federal officials confirmed that **14 Mexican wolves** died in 2016, further endangering the species. More on Page 3A.

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

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REGION BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW MEXICO

Storm with snow, strong winds to hit northern area

ALBUQUERQUE — Forecasters say a blustery winter storm will produce significant snowfall and strong winds across much of northern and eastern New Mexico this week.

The National Weather Service says deep cold and windy conditions will begin late Wednesday night and that the most moisture from the storm is expected Friday morning.

Forecasts call for 1 to 2 feet of snow in the northern mountains and over 6 inches of snow in valleys, highlands and northeastern plains.

Winds are expected to gust up to 55 mph in the Sangre de Christo Mountains and in the northeastern and east-central highlands.

The Interstate 25 corridor between Santa Fe and Las Vegas are among areas which forecasters say will experience the most major impacts from the storm.

NEW MEXICO

County takes another step toward spaceport road

LAS CRUCES — Officials say construction of a southern road to Spaceport America could begin in late spring or early summer.

The Las Cruces Sun-News reported that improving the southern route to the remote desert outpost would dramatically cut travel time from Las Cruces, the nearest large city.

The existing dirt route crosses a combination of state, federal and private land.

Dona Ana County commissioners recently approved an agreement with several government entities involved in the road project that spells out parameters and how historical and cultural sites will be protected during construction.

Officials say one more authorization is expected later this month that will clear the way for the county to issue a request for bids for the construction contract.

The county will be in charge of overseeing construction.

NEW MEXICO

Feds: 14 endangered Mexican wolves confirmed dead in 2016

ALBUQUERQUE — More than a dozen endangered Mexican gray wolves were killed in 2016, including two at the hands of wildlife officials who were capturing and collaring the animals as part of an annual survey of the struggling population.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service confirmed this week that 14 wolf deaths were documented last year, marking the most in any single year since the federal government began reintroducing the predators in New Mexico and Arizona in 1998.

Many of the cases remain under investigation. But federal officials have acknowledged that illegal killings have been a problem over the years and will likely continue as the wolf population grows and the animals disperse into other areas of the Southwest.

Part of the mission of the multiagency team that oversees recovery will be to keep track of the wolves this year and notify the public as they move into previously uninhabited areas, Fish and Wildlife Service spokesman John Bradley said.

The federal agency, which coordinates with other federal departments, state game officials in Arizona and the White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona, also says it's on track to release an updated recovery plan for the species later this year.

Accused in federal court of dragging its feet for decades, the Fish and Wildlife Service is now under a court order to get it done this year. But officials say they have made no decisions about whether the plan will involve wolf releases in neighboring Colorado or Utah.

Obituaries

Carol Ann Travis Crain

Carol Ann Travis Crain, 77, of Midland, Texas, passed away January 1, 2017.

Visitation will take place at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home on Thursday, January 5, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Memorial services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, January 6, 2017 at First Presbyterian Church.

Carol was born June 23, 1939 to Nell King Travis and Joe Johnson Travis. Carol moved to Midland in 1948 from Corpus Christi, Texas. She was a 1957 graduate of Midland High School and was a Fine Arts Major at the University of Arizona, where she was a member of Pi Beta Phi Sorority. She made her debut with The Minuet Club of Midland in 1958.

She married M.G. Pete Crain in 1961. She served on the Junior League and Midland-Odessa Symphony boards, and she was a past president of the Recording Library for the Blind. She served on the Board of Trustees for the Ginger Rogers Estate. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by her husband, Pete; her daughter, Mrs. Julie Crain Miller and husband, John Crow Miller, of Dallas; and her three grandchildren, Wilson, Kaki, and Mary Crow Miller.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children.

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

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

Cheri (Traylor) Rutherford Humphries

On January 2, 2017, the gates opened and our beloved Cheri (Traylor) Rutherford Humphries went to sing in Heaven's choir. Her beautiful voice and kindness, compassion, and love will be missed by all of us.

Cheri was born in Houston, Texas on October 23, 1944 to Alvin and Ilene Traylor. She attended church and LHS in Midland, Texas as a child.

Her parents, an infant brother, a sister, and a grandson preceded her in death.

Her sister, Vicki Miller (Kenny), daughter Cherry Mikeska (Mike), son Alan Rutherford (Lori), and great-granddaughter Shelby Hughes, as well as five grandchildren and 10 other great-grandchildren will carry on in her absence until we can be together again.

Visitation will be held at Wallace Thompson Funeral Home 221 W. 5th St. Rusk, TX on Thursday, January 5, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Memorial service will be at Wallace Thompson Funeral Home on Friday January 6, 2017at 1:00 p.m.

Graveside gathering will be held at McKnight Cemetery near Cushing.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to sponsor the Grace Bible Team Ministries Tailoring School in Uganda - checks may be made payable to Vicki Miller, 3704 Cedar Spring, Midland, TX 79703.

Patsy Louise Stewart Savage

Patsy Louise Stewart Savage, 65, of Brownwood, Texas, passed away January 1, 2017.

She was born in Great Bend, Kansas on January 5, 1951 to James and Norma Stewart. She graduated from Spearville High School in 1969. Patsy and her former husband Frank Savage had two sons, Brian Savage and Jeffrey Savage.

She worked at Rogers Ford in Midland for 35 years. Patsy started there as a receptionist and worked her way up the ladder as the office manager. She was quite the Mother Hen to all of the Ford family. The Ford family became her second family during her working years and had continued to be a part of her life.

Patsy retired in April 2013 from Rogers Ford. After the passing of her father, she and her mother moved to Lake Brownwood. She cared for her mother and was able to live near her sisters and enjoy their company. While living in Brownwood, she enjoyed tending to her flowers, mowing, cooking, and caring for her friend's children. She was at pleasure when her boys would visit - she took joy in preparing breakfast for their day of fishing. She very much enjoyed being at the lake.

Patsy deeply loved her friends and family. Her grandchildren were her heart. She was strong in her faith and enjoyed church and attending a church no matter where she was visiting. She loved the Lord and is surely loving the room He has prepared for her today.

Patsy is preceded in death by her father, James Oda Stewart; and by her grandparents, Mike and Juanita Smith, and William and Emily Stewart.

Patsy is survived by two sons, Brian Savage and Jeffrey Savage; granddaughters, Gabriella Savage, Emily Savage and Madison Savage; daughter-in-law, Kathy Savage; her mother, Norma Lea Stewart; her sisters, Vickie Waisner and Kim Stewart; her brother, Craig Stewart; sister-in-law, Nora Stewart; brothers-in-law, Ray Waisner and Edwin Stewart; and by many, many nieces and nephews, cousins, and family.

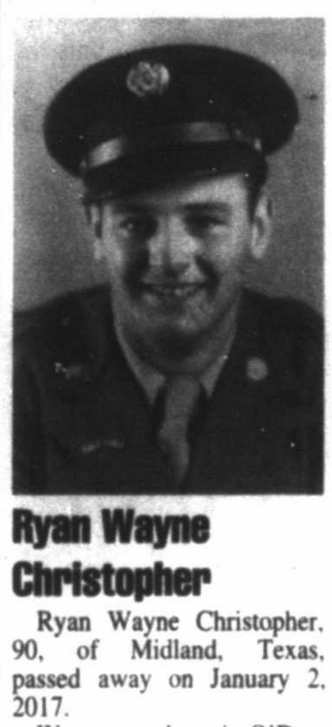
The family will greet visitors at Ellis Funeral Home on Thursday, January 5, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a rosary at 7:00 p.m.

Services will be held on Friday, January 6, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to St Ann's Church at 2000 W. Texas, Midland, Texas 79701 or to the SPCA-Lone Star Humane Society at 4200 N Fairgrounds Rd, Midland, Texas 79705.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-5535



Ryan Wayne Christopher

Ryan Wayne Christopher, 90, of Midland, Texas, passed away on January 2, 2017.

Wayne was born in O'Donnell, Texas on March 17, 1926. He graduated from O'Donnell High School in 1944 where he was immediately drafted into the service and fought in World War II. He was a sharp shooter and tank driver.

He went on to further his education at Abilene Christian University and Sul Ross. Wayne married Bobbye "Pope" Christopher in 1960. He worked for Amerada Hess, then Getty, and retired from Texaco. His passion was the love of Christ.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Bobbye Christopher; mother, Velma Franks; and father, Wade Christopher.

Wayne is survived by son, David Christopher; daughter and son-in-law, Jana and Brian Massingill; and three grandsons, Logan, Cody, and Keith Massingill.

There will be a visitation from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at Ellis Funeral Home.

A funeral service will be at Westside Church of Christ on Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-5535

Winona "Nona" Olive (Fritts) Armstrong

Winona "Nona" Olive (Fritts) Armstrong, 86, wife of the late Keith Armstrong of Odessa, Texas, passed away on Thursday, December 29, 2016 in Odessa.

Open visitation will be from 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Friday, January 6, 2017 at Sunset Memorial Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, January 7, 2017 at Sunset Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Shawn Miller officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens.

Winona was born August 29, 1930 to Paul and Dessie Fritts in Wichita, Kansas, but grew up in Topeka along with two brothers and three sisters. She attended high school in Amarillo, Texas, when her family moved there for Paul's work. After attending Harding Christian College, she returned to Kansas to work for the Kansas Highway Patrol.

Moving to Denver, Colorado to pursue a career with United Airlines, Nona met Keith Armstrong at a church service. Even while sitting behind her, he could tell how beautiful she was and "just had to meet her." After a brief courtship, they were married and their union lasted until his death 58 years later.

Keith's work took them to Southern California, where Nona worked for the engineering company, C.F. Braun. In the summer of 1962, Keith and Nona moved to Odessa, Texas to open Armstrong's A&W restaurant. They later owned a Baskin Robbins franchise and built Runway 7 Food Store and Mobile Home Park.

Together they raised four daughters, and Nona took care of their child, Rinda Lisa, who had special needs, until Rinda's death in 1996.

Keith and Nona were faithful members of 6th and Jackson Church of Christ. She was an inspiring Christian example as a wife, mother, sister and grandmother.

Nona is preceded in death by her husband, Keith Armstrong; daughter, Rinda Lisa; parents, Paul and Dessie Fritts; brothers, Gerald Fritts, Delbert Fritts, and Kenneth Fritts; and sister, Wauneta Swinney.

Nona is survived by her daughters, Laura and her husband Bill Elder of Odessa, Barbara and her husband Terry Boswell of Chipala, Mexico, and Tami and her husband Roger Bower of Midland, Texas; five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; and sisters, Adelia Fritts of Tulsa, Oklahoma and Thelda Watson of Yukon, Oklahoma.

The family of Nona Armstrong would like to thank Dr. Vogel of Midland, Cindy Roach and the rest of the staff at Hospice of Midland, and Home Nursing in Odessa.

Arrangements are entrusted to Sunset Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home. To send family condolences please sign the guestbook at *www.sunsetodessa.com*.

SUNSET MEMORIAL GARDENS & FUNERAL HOME

Death Notices

Melvin "Buddy" Evans

Melvin "Buddy" Evans, 88, of Midland, passed away December 21, 2016.

The family will receive guests from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday, January 6, 2017 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland.

Graveside services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, January 7, 2017 at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Memorial services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 7, 2017 at First Baptist Church Chapel.

He is survived by his grandson, Matthew Evans; and his brother, Rex Evans.

Quentina Brininstool

Quentina Brininstool, 81, of Midland, Texas, passed away on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

There will be a rosary at Ellis Funeral Home on Friday, January 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. and a visitation from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A funeral mass will be held at St. Ann's Catholic Church on Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

Rex Rowland

Rex Rowland, 91, of Midland, passed away on Wednesday, January 4, 2017.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church.

Flowers may be sent to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Ronald Carter Ray

Ronald Carter Ray of Midland, Texas, 78 passed away on January 3, 2017.

The memorial service will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, January 6, 2017 at Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff, Midland, Texas.

Survivors include wife, Dian; children, Tammy Ray, Rebecca Ray, Kelly Ray Hunker, and Adam Ray; and one sister and one brother.

Shirley Jean England

Shirley Jean England, 81, passed away Monday, January 2, 2017.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m., Monday, January 9, 2017, at First Baptist Church Chapel in Midland. Interment will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Odessa.

Shirley is survived by her children, Pam Turner, Brenda Kirk, David Michael England, and Terry England; and by one sister.

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

All Obituaries must be submitted by 3:30 P.M. prior to next publication day.

Search goes on for dozens of guns stolen in 2015

By Dane Schiller
Houston Chronicle

HOUSTON — The guns were still in boxes, stacked in locked truck trailers and ready for store shelves, when the team of thieves moved in during the night.

Their target: 72 new pistols, rifles and shotguns in an Academy Sports & Outdoors warehouse parking lot, ripe to be hauled away by criminals who appeared to have inside information.

The Houston Chronicle reported it was one of the largest firearm heists in years in Texas, which leads the nation in thefts from licensed gun dealers such as Academy, according to federal officials.

Today, however, nearly two years later, most of the weapons are still missing — likely pumped into the Houston region's thriving black market. Only seven of the stolen guns have been recovered, records show.

"That is a lot of handguns to be floating around," said Matt Abowd, a special agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in Houston. "We are trying to get these guns off the street."

Two men connected to the theft were convicted of aggravated assault and kidnapping of the security guard who watched over the Academy warehouse lot, and a third person pleaded guilty on a weapons charge. No one else has been publicly identified in connection with the case.

"There were others involved," Abowd said. "I spoke with many witnesses, suspects. They all have nice stories, but putting them at the scene is different."

Academy did not immediately respond to repeated requests for comment, and the criminal investigation is closed pending any new leads on other people involved.

But the search to recover the weapons is still underway, and authorities say new charges are likely as the guns show up, perhaps one by one.

The case illustrates how quickly stolen guns can change hands and how difficult it can be to recover weapons, even when arrests are made.

Dillon Richardson was accustomed to being asked for directions by drivers as he sat in the guard box at the Academy warehouse parking lot on Mason Road, so he wasn't surprised when a man approached him that day on March 26, 2015.

Instead of asking for help, however, the man pulled a gun, struck the security guard in the head and then stuffed him in the back seat of a car, where two other men were waiting. He could feel the steel of a gun on the back of his bleeding head.

The men took his keys, wallet and phone, along with his pants, shirt, shoes and socks.

None of the men wore masks, and he assumed they were going to kill him. The 22-year-old thought of his mother, his father, his sister and their last conversations; he thought of his body being found, and of his family getting the news that he'd been killed.

He invented a story, told the men he had a daughter who needed him and that he'd do whatever they asked.

The car slowed. He was told to keep his eyes closed, step out, and get face down on the ground.

Richardson clenched his eyes tightly as he waited for the end.

But instead of a gunshot, he heard silence. The car had pulled away without him even hearing it.

He opened his eyes to find himself along an access road near the Katy Freeway and the Grand Parkway.

Covered in blood, he ran barefoot along the roadway as he screamed and waved at passing motorists. Finally, realizing that no one would stop to pick him up, he dropped to his knees near a red light so a driver could see him from a distance.

Please see SEARCH/3A

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JumBurrito
constabulary
[kuh n-stab-yuh-ler-ee]
noun,
1. the body of constables of a district.
2. a body of officers of the peace organized on a military basis.

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MAIN SWITCHBOARD
432-682-5311

PUBLISHER
Jeffrey Shabram 687-8880
jshabram@mrt.com

NEWSROOM
■ EDITOR
Stewart Doreen 687-8856
sdoreen@mrt.com

■ MANAGING EDITOR
Mary Dearen 687-8852
mdearen@mrt.com

■ ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR — BUSINESS & OIL
Trevor Hawes 687-8854
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■ NEWS EDITOR
John Tee 687-8862
jtee@mrt.com

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Tim Fischer 687-8833
tfischer@mrt.com

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jrlopez@mrt.com

■ ONLINE EDITOR
Mercedes Cordero 687-8850
mcordero@mrt.com

CIRCULATION
■ CUSTOMER SERVICE
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Sharon Heckler 687-8829
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RETAIL ADS
682-5311, ext. 4

CLASSIFIED ADS
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PRODUCTION
■ DIRECTOR
John Maddox 687-8844
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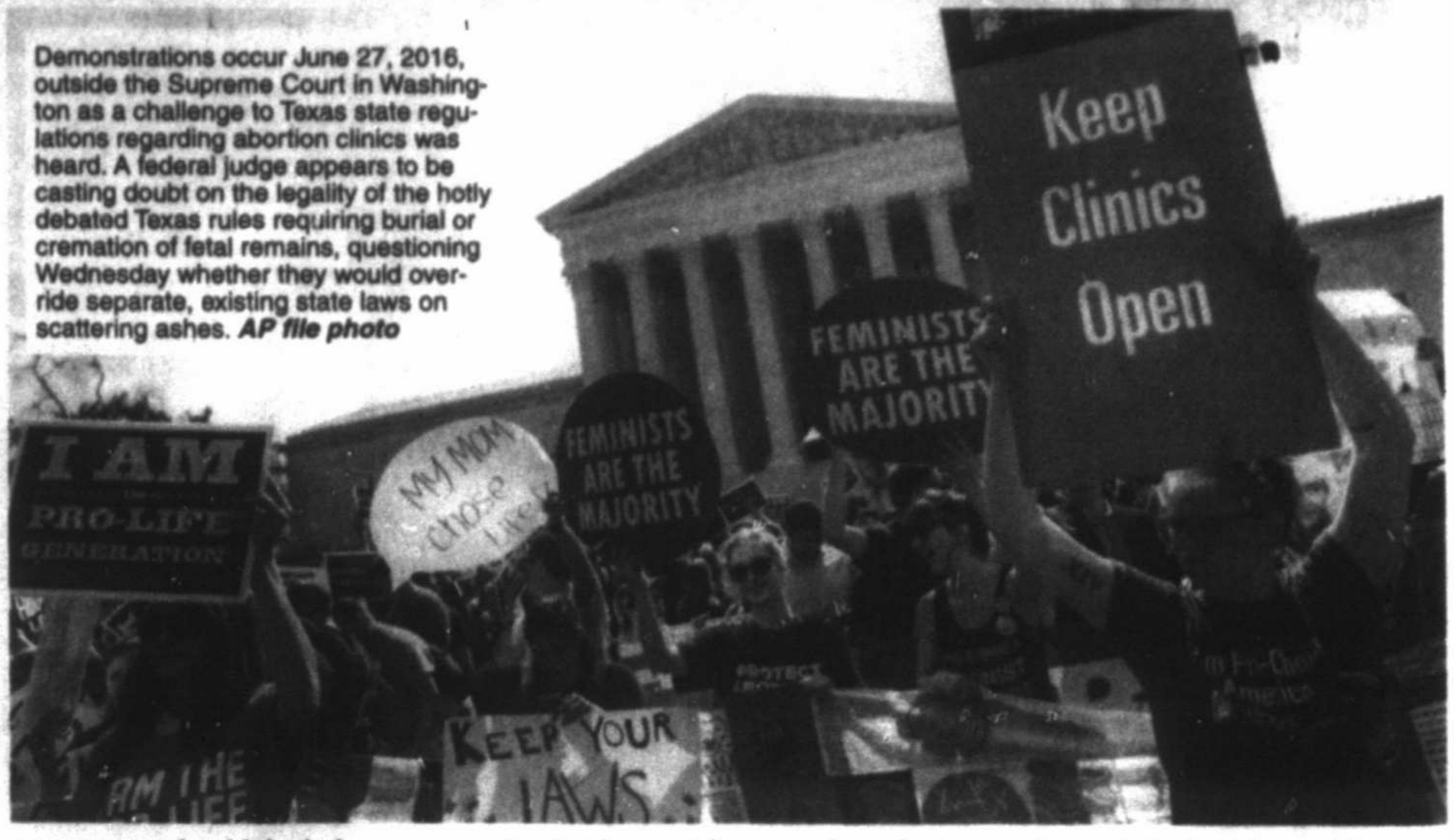
Judge asks if Texas fetal remains rules override current law

By Will Weissert
Associated Press



Demonstrations occur June 27, 2016, outside the Supreme Court in Washington as a challenge to Texas state regulations regarding abortion clinics was heard. A federal judge appears to be casting doubt on the legality of the hotly debated Texas rules requiring burial or cremation of fetal remains, questioning Wednesday whether they would override separate, existing state laws on scattering ashes. ***AP file photo***

AUSTIN — A federal judge appears to be casting doubt on the legality of hotly debated Texas rules requiring burial or cremation of fetal remains, questioning Wednesday whether they would override separate, existing state laws on scattering ashes.

Health department regulations in the country's second-largest state are seeking to protect "human dignity" by banning the disposal of remains from abortions and miscarriages as biological medical waste — usually meaning they are incinerated and deposed of in sanitary landfills. National advocacy groups who sued to stop the rules contend they don't provide any public health benefits and instead seek to shame women who undergo abortions and make it tougher for doctors to perform them.

The rules would have taken effect last month, but U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks put them on hold while he considers the lawsuit. Sparks is hearing evidence before making a more-binding decision. Federal courts already blocked similar measures in Louisiana and Indiana.

Sparks has suggested the rules could supersede established Texas law that allows scattering of ashes on any private property with owner's consent, which could include landfills. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's office says that law applies only to human remains and not specifically to fetal tissue — a distinction that Sparks pressed state lawyers Wednesday during a hearing in Austin.

"Fetal tissue is not human remains for the purposes of this statute," John Langley, an assistant Texas attorney general, told the judge.

"It's the official doctrine of the state that fetal tissue is not human remains," Sparks responded. "So you're bringing dignity to non-human remains?"

It's a potentially important point because the Texas health department says the rules are meant to "protect the public by preventing the spread of disease while also preserving the dignity of the unborn in a manner consistent with Texas laws." Texas has some of the nation's toughest anti-abortion measures, as evidenced by last summer's U.S. Supreme Court ruling striking down much of a 2013 law that would have left Texas with 10 abortion clinics, down from more than 40 in 2012.

As arguments concluded Wednesday, Sparks said he agreed that there were no medical reasons for the proposed rules change, saying it "does not have any benefit at all to health."

"This is purely 100 percent political. I've heard no evidence otherwise," the judge said. He later added: "I think all life needs dignity, but that's not the point."

In response, Langley said comparing past Texas law on scattering ashes to handling fetal remains was "apples and oranges. The older statutes deal with bodies that were born and lived and died."

"It's not an easy fix, and I acknowledge that," Langley said of the new rules, describing them as Texas' "attempt to make the best" out of a thorny policy situation.

Even as the legal fight over the rules rages, top Republican state lawmakers have pre-filed bills to codify them into formal Texas law after the Legislature reconvenes next week.

The groups suing say cremation, and especially burial, would cost more and force women to cover the additional expenses. Exactly how much more isn't clear, though some estimates have put the figure at an extra $400 per fetus — perhaps doubling the existing costs of abortion.

The state argues that those estimates assume individualized burial or cremation being required for each fetus when the rules would instead allow groups of remains to be collected for mass burial or cremation, thus lowering the cost considerably. Jay Carnes, who operates the state's largest-volume crematorium, testified that 25 sets of fetal remains could be transported and cremated together for around $350, or roughly $14 per case.

But Sparks was unmoved by either estimate saying: "We have absolutely no idea how it's going to affect the cost."

STATEBRIEFS
FROM WIRE REPORTS

SAN ANGELO

Woman, 67, rescued after wheelchair goes into Concho River

A West Texas woman has been rescued from the Concho River after her motorized wheelchair malfunctioned, went off a 6-foot bank and both fell into the water.

San Angelo police Officer Tracy Gonzalez said Wednesday that the 67-year-old woman, whose name wasn't released, was treated for injuries not believed to be life-threatening. Officials aren't sure what caused her wheelchair to veer off a path Tuesday afternoon near her home.

A man walking nearby saw the woman fall and called 911.

Assistant Fire Chief Todd Sanford says the woman barely had her head above the 3-foot-deep water. A police officer went into the river to stabilize her. Firefighters used a ladder and basket to haul her out on a mild day with temperatures in the 60s.

MCKINNEY

Girl pushed by officer at 2015 pool party sues for $5M

A bikini-clad black teenager who was shoved to the ground by a white Texas police officer seeks $5 million in a lawsuit alleging negligence, false arrest, assault and excessive force.

The lawsuit, filed Dec. 19, names the city of McKinney, its police department and now-former Cpl. Eric Casebolt.

A city statement Wednesday denied the allegations, which stem from a 2015 incident when police responded to reports of a disturbance at a pool party in the town 30 miles north of Dallas. It was captured on cellphone video.

The legal guardian for Dajerria Becton, who was 15 at the time of party, filed the lawsuit. The suit says the girl was invited to the party and not accused of breaking laws.

Casebolt resigned. A grand jury declined to charge him. An attorney for Casebolt didn't immediately return a message.

AMARILLO

Mom still critical after home poisoning, 5 improving

Officials say a Texas father and four of his children hospitalized since an apparent accidental poisoning killed four of their siblings have been upgraded to good condition.

A spokeswoman at BSA Health System in Amarillo says the five were listed in good and stable condition Wednesday.

An official with University Medical Center in Lubbock says the man's wife and the children's mother, Martha Balderas, remained in critical condition Wednesday.

Amarillo police are investigating Monday's fatal poisoning of four other children living in the mobile home — 7-year-old Felipe Balderas, 9-year-old Johnnie Balderas, 11-year-old Josue Balderas and 17-year-old Yasmeen Balderas. Autopsy results were pending Wednesday.

Officials say a professional-grade pesticide applied by the father, under the residence, combined with water to start a chemical reaction that released dangerous phosphine gas.

ALLEN

Police say Facebook postings feud led to gunfire, 4 wounded

Police say four people have been wounded during gunfire in a North Texas neighborhood blamed on a feud over some Facebook postings.

Allen police on Wednesday arrested one person and detained eight others for questioning following the overnight shootings. Sgt. Jon Felty said an internet disagreement going live on Facebook led to Tuesday night's altercation.

Felty had no immediate details on charges or whether other arrests were pending after police say nine people from Dallas drove about 25 miles north, to a house in Allen, to confront several individuals.

Felty said the fight seemed to stem from an incident a few days ago in Dallas. He had no immediate information on the original dispute.

There is a cost to making something oversees and bringing it back to US

By Chris Tomlinson
Houston Chronicle

■ COMMENTARY

For a glimpse into how a proposed U.S. tax overhaul could cost you money, don't miss my colleague James Osborne's article on the potentially higher cost of imported goods.

For the past 18 months, I've warned that any effort to discourage imports would require American consumers to pay more for foreign-made products, ranging from umbrellas to mobile phones. I was initially worried that President-elect Donald Trump would impose a 40 percent tariff on Chinese made goods, which would mean 40 percent higher prices.

Now, Osborne tells us the price hike could be tucked inside an overhaul of the tax code.

Houston's own U.S. Rep. Kevin Brady, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, is ready to end the taxation of profits that U.S. companies make overseas. Many corporations are leaving profits in overseas bank accounts because those countries don't tax them and the U.S. does.

Harmonizing how all developed nations tax multinational corporations should be a major goal for any administration. Brady is trying to get the U.S. in line with Europe, which is a good first step. That means U.S. companies pay won't pay taxes on things they make in America and then sell overseas.

That's good if you make oilfield equipment in North Houston and export it through the ship channel. There is a flip side, though.

Corporations that make goods in overseas factories, or import them from foreign companies, will no longer be allowed to deduct the cost of the imported goods from their profits. Losing that deduction will force importers like Phillips 66, Apple and Wal-Mart to charge much more for their products to maintain profit margins.

Those companies, of course, think this is a really bad idea. After all, higher prices don't sit well with consumers who make fewer purchases. Brady remains sanguine, even as powerful conservatives like the Koch Brothers gear up to fight him.

"I don't expect industry to change on a dime," Brady said. "These are big changes so I've invited business leaders to engage with me."

So how much more are you willing to pay for gasoline and just about anything made in China to boost the profits of American manufacturers, and hopefully create American jobs? Economists tell us people won't notice a 5 percent price hike, but when it goes over 10 percent, the average consumer feels the pain.

These are still early days, and it's impossible to calculate exactly how much an iPhone will cost if Apple loses the deduction on the cost of importing it from China. But I'm willing to bet a cup of coffee it will be more than 5 percent.

Nothing in this world is free, and someone has to pay the high cost of cutting corporate taxes and employing more Americans. And that someone is us.

Distributed By Tribune Content Agency

SEARCH

From 2A

"Call the police," he said.

While Richardson was being driven away from the warehouse parking lot, thieves moved in for the guns.

The guns were stolen from containers in three truck trailers that were among dozens of trailers laden with merchandise to be delivered to Academy stores.

Authorities say the crew apparently knew which trucks to hit, moving in through a hole cut in the yard's fence.

There was no surveillance video of them grabbing the weapons, but the two men convicted in the case were captured by video surveillance prior to the crime at a nearby convenience store.

William Eason, who authorities contend was the ringleader, was arrested four days after the heist and charged with aggravated robbery and kidnapping of Richardson. Curtis Duncan, who met Eason when they both were in the state's juvenile justice system, was arrested about a week later and also charged with aggravated robbery and kidnapping.

Distributed by Associated Press

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

December weather report

- Average high: 59.8 degrees
- Average low: 35.3 degrees
- Average temperature: 47.6 degrees
- Typical average for December: 44.5 degrees
- Precipitation: 0.41 of an inch
- Average precipitation for December: 0.6 of an inch

Source: National Weather Service

MISD public hearing

Midland ISD will conduct a public hearing Monday on the district's annual performance report for the 2015-2016 school year. The hearing will be part of the school board's regularly scheduled meeting, which will begin 5:30 p.m. at Bowie Fine Arts Academy, 805 Elk Ave.

The Texas Education Code requires that each district's board of trustees publish an annual report, which includes Texas Academic Performance Report, the district's accreditation status, campus performance objectives, information on violent or criminal incidents and information on the performance of the previous year's graduates in their first year of college (as reported by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board).

Following the public hearing, the report will be available at each campus, the district's central office, and on all campus and district web pages.

For more information, contact the Office of Accountability at 240-1250.

Source: MISD

Things to do

- Storytime at the Library.10:30 a.m. (birth-2 years), 11:30 a.m. (2-6 years), Midland County Public Library downtown branch, 301 W. Missouri Ave. co.midland.tx.us/lib.
- Bingo Nights, 7 p.m., The American Legion, 501 Veterans Airpark Lane. 432-682-5511.
- Hogg Maulies, 5 p.m, The Bar, 606 W. Missouri Ave.
- "Princess Mononoke: 20th Anniversary" 7 p.m., Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $14.88. fathomevents.com.
- #Hangovertodays, 7 p.m., Atrium Lounge, 3904 W. Wall St.
- Karaoke, 9 p.m., The Detour Bar, 1708 Rankin Highway. thedetourbar.com.

Note: For more information on the weekend entertainment scene, please check out the Weekender section in today's edition.

Happy birthday

Midlander Kathryn Renee Brown turns 12 today.

If you would like to submit a birthday or anniversary, please send the information to news@mrt.com.

Stay connected

- Web: mrt.com
- Twitter: @mwtnews
- Facebook: facebook.com/TheReporterTelegram

When it's open

Midland County Tax Assessor/Collector
- 2110 N. "A" St.
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Friday
- 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday
- 688-4810

Midland Central Appraisal District
- 4631 Andrews Highway
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Monday through Friday
- 699-4991

Department of Public Safety: Driver's License Office
- 2405 South Loop 250 West
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Wednesday through Friday
- 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays
- 498-2100

U.S. Postal Service
- Downtown, 100 E. Wall St. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday
- Village, 2315 W Louisiana Ave. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday
- Gra[illegible]s, 3304 W Wadley Ave. 9 a.m. to 5 [illegible] Monday through Friday; 10 a.m. to [illegible] p.m. on Saturday
- ClayDesta, 612 Veterans Airpark Lane, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday
- GMF Midland, 1000 Loop 40 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

Centennial branch
- 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday
- 2503 W. Loop 250 N.
- 432-742-7400

Downtown branch
- 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday
- 301 W. Missouri Ave.
- 432-688-4320

Midland Municipal Court
- 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (M, T, W, F); 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday
- 201 E. Texas Ave.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 9-7-5
Pick 3 day: 1-8-3
Pick 3 evening: 8-2-3
Pick 3 night: 4-1-1
Daily 4 morning: 6-5-0-6
Daily 4 day: 9-1-5-9
Daily 4 evening: 4-9-1-8
Daily 4 night: 4-7-2-9
Cash Five: 3-7-11-15-22
Lotto Texas: 5-7-36-39-40-44
Powerball: 16-17-29-41-42 PB: 4 Power Play: 3
Texas Triple Chance: 2-7-17-23-28-29-36-39-40-55
All or Nothing morning: 2-4-6-7-10-12-14-15-21-22-23-24
All or Nothing day: 2-5-6-8-10-12-14-15-21-22-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 2-4-7-11-12-15-16-17-20-21-22-23
All or Nothing night: 4-5-7-9-11-13-14-16-17-20-21-22

AP file photo

In this 1986 file photo, Charles Manson is seen in court. Amid reports that Charles Manson has been taken from his California prison cell to a hospital, a state corrections official would confirm only that the 82-year-old killer and cult leader was still alive. Both TMZ and the Los Angeles Times reported Tuesday that Manson had been hospitalized.

Charles Manson's cult left 7 dead and killed a dream

By John Rogers and Scott Smith
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The seven grisly murders carried out by Charles Manson's disciples during the summer of 1969 did more than turn the hippie cult leader into the leering face of evil on front pages across America.

To many, the bloodbath exposed the scary underside of the counterculture movement and seemed to mark the end of the peace-and-love era that burst upon the country just two years earlier during San Francisco's Summer of Love.

"The 'Summer of Love' was more a media event than anything else," Todd Gitlin, one of the nation's foremost historians of the 1960s, told The Associated Press in an email Wednesday. "But if hippie paradise was a myth, it was a myth that a lot of people believed in. Manson damaged it gravely."

On Wednesday, Manson, now a grizzled, shuffling 82-year-old, lay hospitalized with an undisclosed illness after being taken from California's Corcoran State Prison, where he was serving a life sentence, according to news reports that correction officials would not confirm, citing privacy laws.

His reappearance in the news conjured a turbulent period in U.S. history when the country seemed to be coming apart at the seams.

A petty criminal who had been in and out of jail since childhood, Manson reinvented himself during the Summer of Love as a long-haired, Christ-like guru spouting Bible verses and Beatles lyrics.

After attracting a few dozen followers from San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury district, many of them young women, runaways or other lost souls, he took them to an old movie ranch on the edge of Los Angeles that he transformed into a commune of sex, drugs and music.

On Aug. 9 and 10, 1969, he sent some of his devotees out on a murderous mission to two of Los Angeles' wealthiest neighborhoods, where they killed pregnant actress Sharon Tate, several of her society friends and others. Most of the victims, including coffee heiress Abigail Folger, were stabbed.

Tate's husband, Oscar-winning director Roman Polanski, was out of the country at the time.

Authorities would learn that Manson had hoped the killings would touch off a race war. He had apparently gotten the idea from a twisted reading of the hard-rocking Beatles song "Helter Skelter."

The slayings shocked the country with their savagery. Messages like "Pigs" and a misspelled "Healter Skelter" were scrawled in the victims' blood on their walls and doors, and the city was paralyzed in fear. Residents of Los Angeles' nearby Laurel Canyon neighborhood, then a haven for musicians, began locking their doors.

The youngest member of the original Manson Family, Leslie Van Houten, a teenage runaway and former homecoming princess from a Los Angeles suburb, said he had brainwashed her and others with sex, LSD, constant readings from the Bible, repeated playings of the Beatles' "White Album" and rambling lectures about triggering a revolution.

Like other surviving followers who took part in the killings, Van Houten is serving a life sentence for murder. A parole board recommended her release last year but was overruled by Gov. Jerry Brown.

Another Manson Family member, Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, was never charged in the so-called Tate-La Bianca murders but went to prison later for trying to assassinate President Gerald Ford in 1975. Fromme, whose gun didn't fire, was paroled in 2009 after 34 years behind bars.

After Manson and his followers were caught, the nation got a front-page look at his piercing, demonic stare and the Nazi swastika he carved into his forehead during his trial.

The killings — along with a deadly stabbing in December 1969 at a free concert headlined by the Rolling Stones at the Altamont Speedway outside San Francisco — contributed to the sense that the era of peace and love that seemed to reach a high point at Woodstock in the summer of 1969 was over, the dream turned into a nightmare.

But in her book "The White Album," writer Joan Didion indicated people living in Los Angeles at that time shouldn't have been that surprised.

"This mystical flirtation with the idea of 'sin' — this sense that it was possible to go 'too far,' and that many people were doing it — was very much with us in Los Angeles in 1968 and 1969," she wrote. "A demented and seductive vortical tension was building in the community. The jitters were setting in."

During a 2013 Rolling Stone interview, Manson had seemingly lost none of his attitude — "If I can touch you, I can kill you," he told reporter Erik Hedegaard — but did not appear to be aging well.

"He's an old man with a nice head of gray hair but bad hearing, bad lungs, and chipped-and-fractured, prison-dispensed bad dentures," Hedegaard wrote, adding that Manson shuffled when he walked and used a cane.

Officers cleared to return back to duty following shooting review

From staff reports

Two Midland Police Department officers who were involved in a shooting in October are returning to their regular duties following a "no bill" ruling by a Midland County grand jury.

After hearing evidence from a Texas Rangers investigation, the grand jury for the 142nd District Court ruled Wednesday that Officers Aaron Renz and Aaron Trevino were found to have not committed criminal wrongdoing in a shooting that occurred Oct. 10, according to a press release from the city. Kheyanev Littledog, 19, was fatally shot by the officers when he refused to comply with orders and reached for a handgun in his waistband.

Midland police were called to the scene at around 7:30 p.m. to an area just southeast of downtown in reference to reports that a man — Littledog — was causing a disturbance and was in possession of a firearm. Officers located Littledog in the 500 block of East Industrial Avenue and found he had a handgun in his waistband. Dash camera footage and witness statements during the investigation revealed that Littledog was reaching for the gun when he was shot by the two officers. Littledog was transported to Midland Memorial Hospital, where he died. Officers found that Littledog was also in possession of a second firearm in his backpack. He was not licensed to carry a firearm.

The officers were placed on administrative leave per MPD policy immediately following the incident, and the Texas Rangers launched an investigation. An internal MPD administrative review board also found the two officers to be in compliance with all state/federal laws and department policy. Renz and Trevino were placed on administrative duty on Oct. 11.

Renz, 26, has been a patrol officer with the department for two years; Trevino, 31, has been an MPD officer for eight years and currently is a K-9 officer.

Sears in Odessa to close in March

From staff reports

ODESSA — Sears Holdings is shuttering 150 stores this year, and the Sears in Odessa is among them, according to a company press release released Wednesday.

The company will close 108 Kmart stores and 42 Sears stores in total, the release said. The closures represent about 10 percent of Sears' store base, according to a Business Insider report on the matter.

The Odessa location is an anchor store at Music City Mall, 4101 E. 42nd St. MCM officials weren't available to speak about the matter Wednesday afternoon.

Sears Holdings said liquidations are expected to begin as early as Friday. The Odessa store is slated to close by the end of March.

A complete list of store closings can be found here: http://bit.ly/2iclqbh.

'Cop in a shop' program aims to prevent store robberies

From staff reports

Midland police officers soon will be wearing a new kind of uniform to curb store robberies.

The Midland Police Department has plans to place undercover officers in multiple convenience stores across the city to combat a recent upward trend in robberies in Midland. The partnership between MPD and local convenience stores, dubbed "Cop in a Shop," will begin immediately. Officers will pose as store employees in order to prevent crime and catch criminals before they can run from the scene, according to a press release from MPD.

The department reported an average of 7.75 robberies per month in 2016, an increase from the average of five per month in 2015. Before last year, Midland saw an overall decrease of about 35 percent in the number of robberies between 2008 and 2015.

The MPD estimates convenience store robberies doubled between 2015 and 2016, said Sgt. Jimmy Young in an interview Tuesday.

"The Midland Police Department is always looking for innovative ways to minimize crime in our community," Chief Price Robinson said in the release, "After analyzing data and working with our local business owners, we see this as an opportunity to work together to bring down the number of robberies we've seen recently."

Any store interested in participating in the program can call the Midland Police Department at 685-7582.

SALES

From 1A

Jennifer Vega, owner of Midland Athletic Company on Courtyard Drive, noticed a steady increase in sales since her fitness store opened in July. She's optimistic that interest will continue despite anticipated fluctuations.

"We started at a mediocre time in Midland, and we have seen growth," Vega said. "The economy is always changing. We don't base our success off of the economy in Midland. That's why we offer a good experience to our customers. They will always need good shoes and the experience of getting fitted."

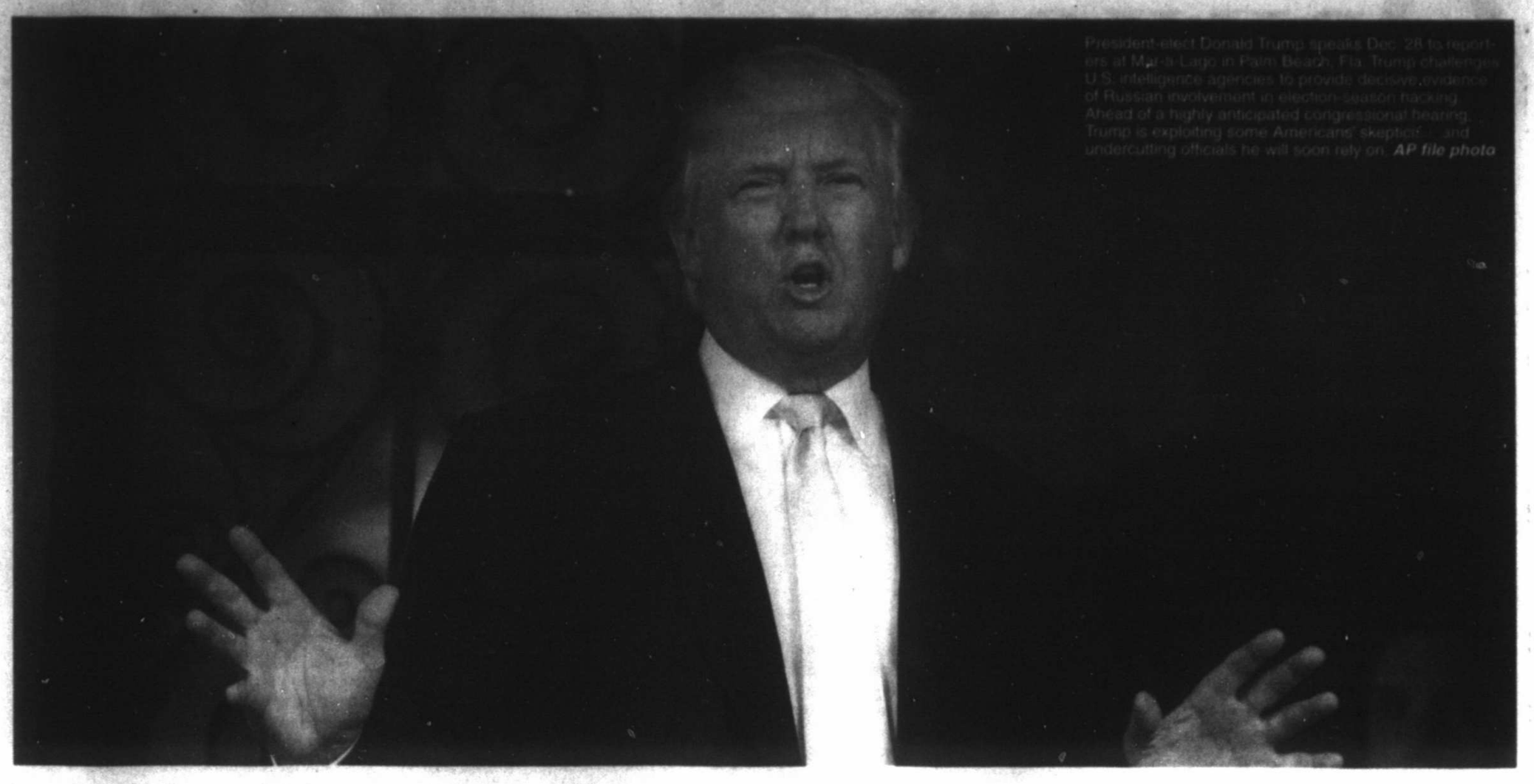
Other new business owners also have positive prospects about 2017.

Terry's Kids Shoes has been on Loop 250 for six months and saw sales spike during the holiday season, according to owner Chris Cato. He said there's always a need for shoes when children outgrow them, but he's expecting customers will make more purchases in the spring.

"You can get a lot of shoes for a lot less than the winter time," Cato said. "People buy boots or tennis shoes, but in the springtime people want all the colors to match outfits. ... And they're cheaper. You can buy four to five pairs of sandals or flip flops for the same price as some tennis shoes or boots."

As the owner of another growing business, Roland thinks The Pink Pug will appeal to people in the new year.

"A lot of people start the year wanting to lose weight or with a new idea of style," she said. "We have new trends here so people can come once they reach their goals."



President-elect Donald Trump speaks Dec. 28 to reporters at Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Fla. Trump challenges U.S. intelligence agencies to provide decisive evidence of Russian involvement in election-season hacking. Ahead of a highly anticipated congressional hearing, Trump is exploiting some Americans' skepticism — and undercutting officials he will soon rely on. *AP file photo*

Who hacked? Trump challenges intel agencies he'll oversee

By Julie Pace and Eileen Sullivan
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President-elect Donald Trump escalated his blunt public challenge to the U.S. intelligence agencies he will soon oversee Wednesday, appearing to embrace WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange's contention that Russia did not provide his group with the hacked Democratic emails that roiled the 2016 election.

Trump's defiance has increased the pressure on intelligence officials to provide decisive evidence of Russian election interference. A full report ordered by President Barack Obama last month is expected to be finalized by week's end, with high-level intelligence officials heading to New York on Friday to brief Trump on the classified findings. The Obama administration also plans to make an unclassified version public before the president leaves office on Jan. 20.

Russia not only meddled in the election, but did so to help Trump win, according to the intelligence agencies' assessment. But the administration has so far released only limited information to support that conclusion. And in the absence of such public evidence, the president-elect has seized on some Americans' skepticism of U.S. intelligence in general, citing high-profile missteps that led to the Iraq war.

But this Trump campaign has so far been a lonely one in Washington. His views put him at odds with Obama and leaders in his own party who see Moscow as a growing threat. And they put him in line with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Assange, whose organization has been under criminal investigation for its role in classified information leaks. Since 2012, Assange has been in the Embassy of Ecuador in London, unable to leave without being arrested for breaching his bail conditions.

Taking to Twitter on Wednesday, Trump noted that Assange "said Russians did not give him the info" — referring to the trove of emails stolen from the Democratic National Committee and John Podesta, a top aide to Democrat Hillary Clinton.

Vice President-elect Mike Pence commended Trump for his "very sincere and healthy American skepticism."

"Given some of the intelligence failures of recent years, the president-elect's made it clear to the American people that he's skeptical of conclusions from the bureaucracy, and I think the American people hear him loud and clear," Pence said after a meeting on Capitol Hill with Republican lawmakers.

Trump is to be briefed on the hacking report Friday by CIA Director John Brennan, FBI Director James Comey and Director of National Intelligence James Clapper. Brennan, in an interview Tuesday with PBS NewsHour, said the report will include "what was collected, what was disclosed and what the purpose and intent of that effort was."

Clapper is testifying on Capitol Hill today. But he could be limited in what he can say about the report's conclusions given that Trump — and perhaps Obama — may not have been briefed by that time.

Indisputable evidence of responsibility for hacking is difficult to come by and often technical. The information the administration has released so far does not lend itself to firm conclusions.

The most recent information has come from a joint analysis by the Homeland Security Department and the FBI that ties Russian government activities to the hacks of the DNC and others. The analysis includes a list of internet addresses identified by the administration as potentially tied to Russian hackers.

Many other addresses are untraceable. The Associated Press found at least 20 percent of the addresses had traced back to computer servers that help users browse the web anonymously, often for legitimate purposes. That web service, called Tor, was initially funded by the U.S. government and is now used prominently by activists and journalists working in hostile countries who need to keep their identities secret.

Other internet addresses released by DHS trace back to servers at several American universities, as well as tech giant Yahoo Inc. The government cautioned that the addresses weren't automatically tied to Russian malicious activity, but instead were indicators that computer security experts should investigate further.

Trump aides say that while he has received "raw data" on the Russian hacking, he is skeptical of the conclusions being drawn.

Steven Hall, a retired chief of Russia operations at the CIA, set expectations low for the public hacking report, saying agencies typically lean toward protecting intelligence-gathering techniques.

"The more information that is revealed, the more likely it is that sources and methods could be compromised, thereby limiting our ability to collect in the future," Hall said.

At the White House, press secretary Josh Earnest noted that all 17 U.S. intelligence agencies had agreed on the assessment about Russia's activities and added of Trump: "Who are you going to believe?"

"The decision he makes about that I think will have long-term consequences for the way he chooses to govern the country," Earnest said.

Indeed, Trump's challenges to the intelligence community since winning the election have been striking. The nature of the presidency gives the commander in chief discretion to decide how to respond to intelligence assessments. But any skepticism about the agencies' conclusions usually plays out privately in the Situation Room and Oval Office, not on Twitter.

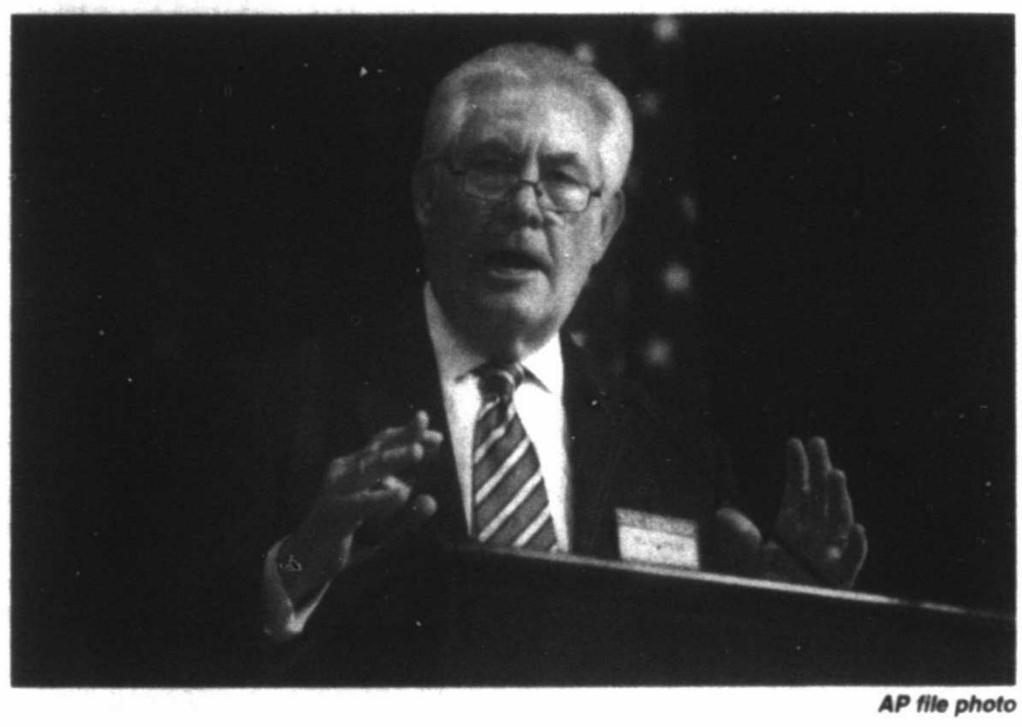
Trump's posture has appeared to be driven in part by concern that evidence of Russian meddling would raise questions about the legitimacy of his election.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., one of his party's fiercest Russia critics, said the issue was not about the validity of the election, but "the fact that a foreign entity hacked into a political party."

"When you compromise one political party, you compromise all political parties," Graham said.

Tillerson leaving Exxon with $180M retirement package

By Bernard Condon and David Koenig
Associated Press



AP file photo

Exxon Mobil CEO Rex Tillerson delivers remarks March 27, 2015, on the release of a report by the National Petroleum Council on oil drilling in the Arctic, in Washington. Tillerson, the nominee of President-elect Donald Trump for secretary of state, is severing ties with Exxon Mobil through a $180 million retirement package ahead of his Senate confirmation hearing.

NEW YORK — Rex Tillerson will get a $180 million retirement package from Exxon Mobil Corp. if he is confirmed as President-elect Donald Trump's secretary of state.

Tillerson will give up more than 2 million Exxon shares he would have received over the next 10 years. In exchange, the company will make a cash payment equal to the value of those shares to a trust to be overseen by a third party.

Exxon said Wednesday that Tillerson has already promised the State Department that he will sell another 611,000 shares he currently owns, worth about $55 million at Wednesday's price, if confirmed. His Senate confirmation hearing begins next week.

Tillerson's selection raised potential conflict-of-interest issues because Exxon has business interests around the globe, including Russia. Putting his retirement nest egg into a trust is intended to ease concerns that Tillerson could make decisions as secretary of state that would financially help himself or his former associates.

Federal ethics rules do not require government officials to sell off their investments but they must recuse themselves from matters that would affect those investments. Given Exxon's global operations, ownership of Exxon stock could severely limit Tillerson's actions as the nation's chief diplomat.

Tillerson has been CEO and chairman of the Irving, Texas, oil giant since 2006. Exxon spelled out the arrangement with Tillerson in a regulatory filing Wednesday with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Edwin Williamson, a former State Department legal adviser who has reviewed the agreement, said that Tillerson agreed to put the cash he gets from Exxon in a trust that will invest only in Treasury securities and diversified mutual funds.

"They have eliminated anything that runs afoul of the conflicts-of-interest rule," said Williamson, a lawyer at Sullivan & Cromwell in Washington.

Even without divestment requirements, business executives moving into top government jobs have often sold shares and created trusts to avoid suspicion that their decisions in government are influenced by personal finances.

Henry Paulson, who was CEO of Goldman Sachs when President George W. Bush nominated him as Treasury secretary, sold about $500 million worth of Goldman stock. His predecessor, former Alcoa chairman Paul O'Neill, sold his stock and options after first saying he should have been able to keep them.

The same conflict laws don't apply to the president and vice president. Dick Cheney received payments and held stock options from his former oil-industry employer, Halliburton Co., after becoming vice president in 2001, an issue that became a controversy because Halliburton was a major defense contractor.

Trump operates a sprawling global business with real estate holdings that aren't as easily divested as stock. He has said he won't make new deals while in the White House and will turn over his company to his adult sons and dissolve his charitable foundation.

Critics say that could leave Trump vulnerable to foreign governments that could try to influence him by rewarding or punishing his business interests in their countries. They say he should go much further and liquidate his assets and put the proceeds in a blind trust.

Because of the way Tillerson's compensation is being dispensed, he will give up about $7 million compared with what he would have been paid if he retired in March as planned before Trump announced his cabinet nomination. Tillerson stepped down as CEO over the weekend.

Under the agreement, if Tillerson returns to the oil and gas industry within 10 years, the money in the trust will be paid out to a charity chosen by the controlling trustee.

Tillerson began his career at Exxon as a production engineer straight out of the University of Texas at Austin in 1975. He replaced longtime CEO Lee Raymond in 2006 and led the company during one of the most turbulent periods in its history, including its most profitable years but also the 2008 financial crisis and the slump in oil prices that began in mid-2014 that sharply cut into Exxon's earnings.

Darren Woods, a 25-year Exxon veteran who had served as the company's president, took over as CEO on Sunday.

AP fact check: Album sales not up despite Trump tweet

Associated Press

NEW YORK — President-elect Donald Trump tweeted Wednesday that the album sales of Jackie Evancho, the teenage classical singer, have "skyrocketed" since the announcement that she would perform at his inauguration.

Not exactly, according to sales figures.

According to Nielsen Music, which tracks album sales, Evancho sold 7,206 albums the week ending on Dec. 15 (she announced she would sing the national anthem at the Inauguration on Dec. 14). The following week, which ended on Dec. 22, Evancho sold 13,788 albums, and the week after, ending on Dec. 29, the 16-year-old sold 11,096 albums.

Although some of the credit may be due to the announcement about the performance at the inauguration, Evancho's sales could simply be a result of the holidays. She released a new album, "Someday at Christmas," on Oct. 28, and she has other holiday albums in her catalog. And not surprisingly, holiday albums tend to sell particularly well during the holidays.

The singer's album sales also could have seen a boost thanks to her performance on NBC's "America's Got Talent: Holiday Spectacular," which aired on Dec. 19.

Her overall album sales, however, remain low. The top-selling album for the weeks ending on Dec. 22 and Dec. 29 was a cappella group Pentatonix's "A Pentatonix Christmas," which sold 206,000 and 101,000 equivalent albums, respectively.

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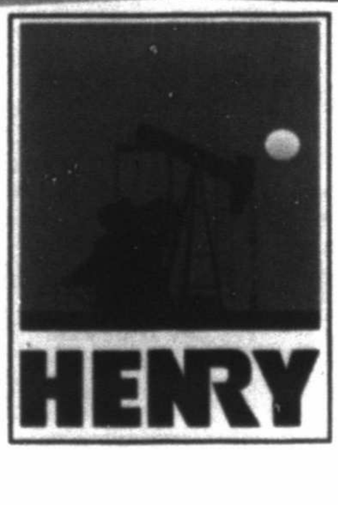

HENRY

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, so that no one would boast.

Obama going out in a blaze of self-interest

■ Russia and Israel show the president has put his agenda over what's best for the country and our allies

JONAH GOLDBERG

Tribune News Service

Of all Barack Obama's costumes, the most ill-fitting is that of the hawk. The guise doesn't work for all sorts of ideological and historical reasons. Plus, there's the fact that he's rushing to put on the outfit as he's heading out the door.

The new sanctions against Russia are fine with me on the merits, even if they are remarkably tardy and being sold in no small part for domestic, political reasons.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has been undermining American interests for a long time now. From the annexation of Crimea and a shadow war in Ukraine to his unabashed support for the butcher Bashar Assad in Syria, Putin has given the Obama administration every excuse to punch back. But until last week, Obama's response had been to offer various and sundry diplomatic "off-ramps" and a little bit of tongue-lashing. General dovishness combined with the single-minded pursuit of a deal with Iran led Obama to insist that we should avoid "provoking" Russia.

The satirist who goes by the moniker "Iowahawk" cut to the chase on Twitter:

Russia invades Crimea: oh well

Russia shoots down airliner: mistakes happen

John Podesta falls for phishing scam: RESTART THE COLD WAR

Obama's volte-face should be seen in the larger context of his last-minute legacy-padding and his widely alleged desire to "box in" his successor. The president is preparing to spend the next few decades as a celebrity in liberal circles.

Creating national monuments in Utah and Nevada, banning offshore oil drilling in the Arctic and the Northeast, deleting the database of Muslim men at the Department of Homeland Security: All of these things will earn him toasts at all the right parties.

Despite a remarkable lack of evidence that the Russians "hacked" the election (as opposed to their more obvious complicity in the WikiLeaks shenanigans), the conviction that Hillary Clinton lost because of Putin's skulduggery is rapidly gelling into liberal conventional wisdom. These sanctions give Obama yet another useful talking point in retirement.

They're also having the desired effect on the Trump team, which for obvious reasons hates any suggestion that the Donald's election was less than legitimate.

But will they actually "box in" a President Trump? It seems unlikely.

Putin is cleverly not taking the bait, preferring to run out the clock on the Obama presidency. When Trump is sworn in three weeks from now, he will have more leverage over Putin thanks to Obama's bad-cop act. While it would be politically tricky to lift the sanctions immediately upon taking office, Trump has long vowed to improve relations with Russia. Having more bargaining chips for some grand "deal" — whatever that might look like — only improves his position. (Why he is so enamored with a U.S.-Russian romance is a deeper mystery to me.)

A similar dynamic is at play with Obama's execrable maneuver at the U.N. Security Council. The decision to clear the path for a resolution holding that the Western Wall is actually a Palestinian possession is a serious blow to our ally (and our honor) and proof that Obama's rhetorical support of Israel was always more about political necessity than personal conviction. Even as the move will please some — though by no means all — leftists on the party circuit, it is nevertheless a political gift to the two politicians Obama (probably) detests most: Bibi Netanyahu and Donald Trump.

For almost eight years, Netanyahu has argued domestically that Israel's deteriorating relationship with the United States isn't his fault, but Obama's. The president just settled that argument for him.

Meanwhile, the resolution helps Trump enormously. Simply by taking office while holding what once were conventionally pro-Israel positions, Trump can play the role of Israel's defender, both domestically and abroad. It is lamentable that support for Israel is now a partisan issue in America, but Obama ceded the winning side of the question to his Republican successor.

Much has been written about how Obama has left the Democratic Party and ideological allies in shambles by putting his perceived interests and ego ahead of everything else. As he leaves office, he has turned that domestic story into an international one, too.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

OUR VIEW

MISD board needs to focus on improving, not making excuses

This week, the Texas Education Agency will unveil its preliminary ratings for schools across the state.

Considering the extent to which test score data will be used in determining the rating — or grade — we don't have much expectation that Midland ISD will fare well. That is life as we know it in a community where a school district spent about a decade on the decline.

There is a lot of anxiety over the release of these grades. Many are expecting the worst. Our message to the community is this: These scores are old news and will have little value for the people in our community.

This newspaper spent a large part of 2016 helping explain how Midland ISD went to the bottom of the largest school districts in the state. We helped bring to light — which for years previous superintendents and school boards didn't do — that there had been a decline in performance and achievement, and there are way too many schools that require improvement.

This newspaper called for more efforts by community members to hold MISD's school board accountable and rally around its school district. We celebrated efforts such as the creation of Educate Midland, and we appreciate those who started Midland Students First, which we believe will keep the community more informed on schools' performance and help hold its leaders accountable.

This newspaper sees 2016 as the bottom and has every intention of looking forward. That is why there won't be much attention given to these preliminary ratings. We see the next set of ratings in the fall of 2018 as the target. Are we seeing progress or not? Are the superintendent and trustees providing the leadership needed for a school district on the rebound, or are they providing the same excuses we have heard for the last few years.

The excuses stop now. Interim Superintendent Rod Schroder has called for a no-excuses philosophy in the classroom, so we are calling for a no-excuses attitude when it comes to district leadership. We expect that board member Karen Nicholson is going to introduce a resolution protesting the new rating system that gives a grade to each campus. The board says that grade — good or bad — doesn't tell the entire story of a school.

The resolution — if introduced — is another example of a school board creating excuses for a lower-performing school district. Those who ran for school board in the November election told us they wanted to change the culture when it came to board leadership. Well, here is your chance. Stop blaming Austin, the Texas Education Agency, the state Legislature, Republican leadership, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, Gov. Greg Abbott, state Rep. Tom Craddick or anyone else the Texas Association of School Boards says to call out. That is wasted effort that would be better used to fix the problem we have in Midland with low-performing schools.

Again, this newspaper is willing to push the latest set of ratings (grades) as yesterday's news, but that's if we see MISD leadership focused on the problem. We believe 2017 can be a turnaround year for MISD, but only if we are focused on the problem and move the culture of leadership from wanting to make excuses and blaming others.

The Midland Independent School District will conduct a public hearing for the 2015-2016 annual performance report on Monday as part of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Midland ISD board of trustees. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the auditorium of Bowie Fine Arts Academy at 805 Elk Ave.

The Texas Education Code requires each district's board of trustees to publish an annual report, which includes the Texas Academic Performance Report, district accreditation status, campus performance objectives, information on violent or criminal incidents and information on the performance of the previous year's graduates in their first year of college, as reported by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Following the public hearing, the reports will be available at each campus, the district's central office, and on all campus and district web pages. For further details, call the Office of Accountability at 432-240-1250.

Source: Midland ISD

How about sticking with our ally Israel?

■ The U.S. could still back its friend in the Middle East but not under President Obama's watch

JAY AMBROSE

Tribune News Service

So it's near the end of his time in office and President Barack Obama decides to put forever-threatened Israel at more of a disadvantage in maintaining its survival. Interestingly, the move could also weaken a United Nations that indeed needs weakening, but that was hardly the president's intent.

That said, what was his intent, anyway?

An answer of sorts came last week from Secretary of State John Kerry, stern of face, sour of disposition, spouting words like cannon balls, when he gave a speech lasting an hour and 10 minutes at the State Department.

He defended a vote of the U.N. Security Council to stop expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. The land belonged to Palestine, he said. The only way to get peace between Israel and Palestine was a two-state solution, namely for Israel to quit occupying the land.

Thus it was, he said, that the United States did not veto a U.N. resolution declaring Israel's actions illegal, thereby likely prompting more sanctions by other countries and lessening one of the few negotiating positions the Israelis had. But then Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a speech, roughly an hour shorter than Kerry's and 100 percent more persuasive.

He noted the Palestinian Authority's went beyond wanting just that land as its own. It wanted the eradication of the Jewish state. Terrorists, bombs and missiles were among its way of saying so. For eight years, the Palestinian leader had refused to negotiate at all. Netanyahu had made hundreds of calls to him without getting return calls and, by the way, there had been some serious offerings in the past.

Israel, of course, is a mere speck in the Arab Middle East, much of which has had Israel's demolition in mind since the country began its modern-age existence in 1948. One war followed another, and one of them was in 1967, when Syria, Egypt and Jordan plotted Israel's demise. Israel won, and that's when it took the West Bank, which then belonged to Jordan.

Some of that land had an Israel connection going back thousands of years, namely Jerusalem and its sacred sites. It also needed to hang onto this disputed territory for its own security's sake until it could be sure Palestine would really embrace peace. Even then, it would keep some of it. The Israelis kept control militarily, and life for the Arabs there has not been free or good. The Palestinian government has barely functioned and its economy is a flop.

So, yes, the situation has been horrible for the Palestinians for decades even though there were ways out. The situation has also been horrible for Israel because, without certain ironclad understandings, its future would be in additional jeopardy. Palestine should come through with those understandings. Consider, however, that Palestine pays monthly salaries to Palestinians who murder Israelis and guess how likely reaching an understanding will be.

As for the U.N., remember how ridden it is with corrupt dictators, how much of it is outright disgusted with Western values and how little attention it has paid to other nations committing gross cruelties almost as a matter habit.

There's congressional talk now about stripping away America's financial contributions, at least until the U.N. backs up on Israel. Some are even wondering if it does not do more harm than good and should go away.

Obama, frustrated that Netanyahu did not want to put Israel at risk for the sake of his own naivete, has disgraced himself with one more last stand that should not have happened. But turn to John Bolton, former U.N. ambassador under President George W. Bush and an advisor to Donald Trump, and we come to a solution. He has suggested giving the land back to Jordan, now an Israeli ally and a country that could govern without conflict and with benefit for all.

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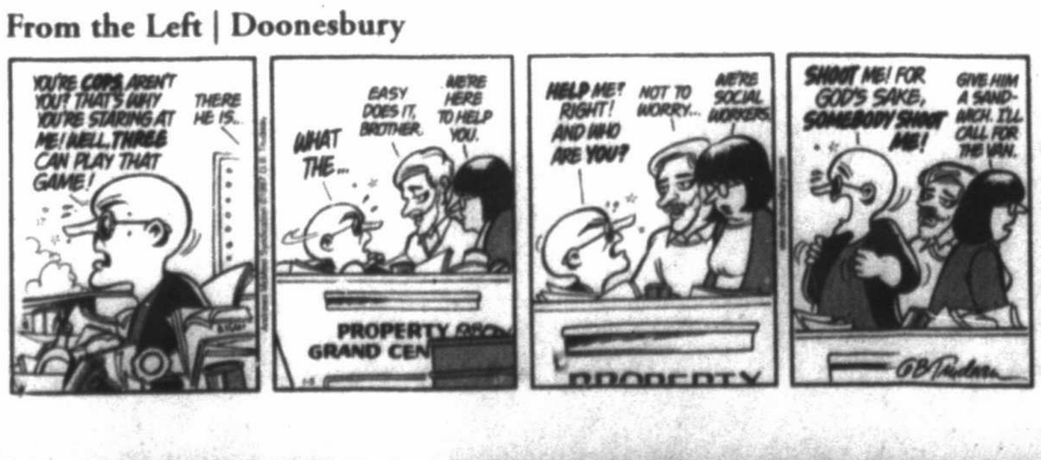
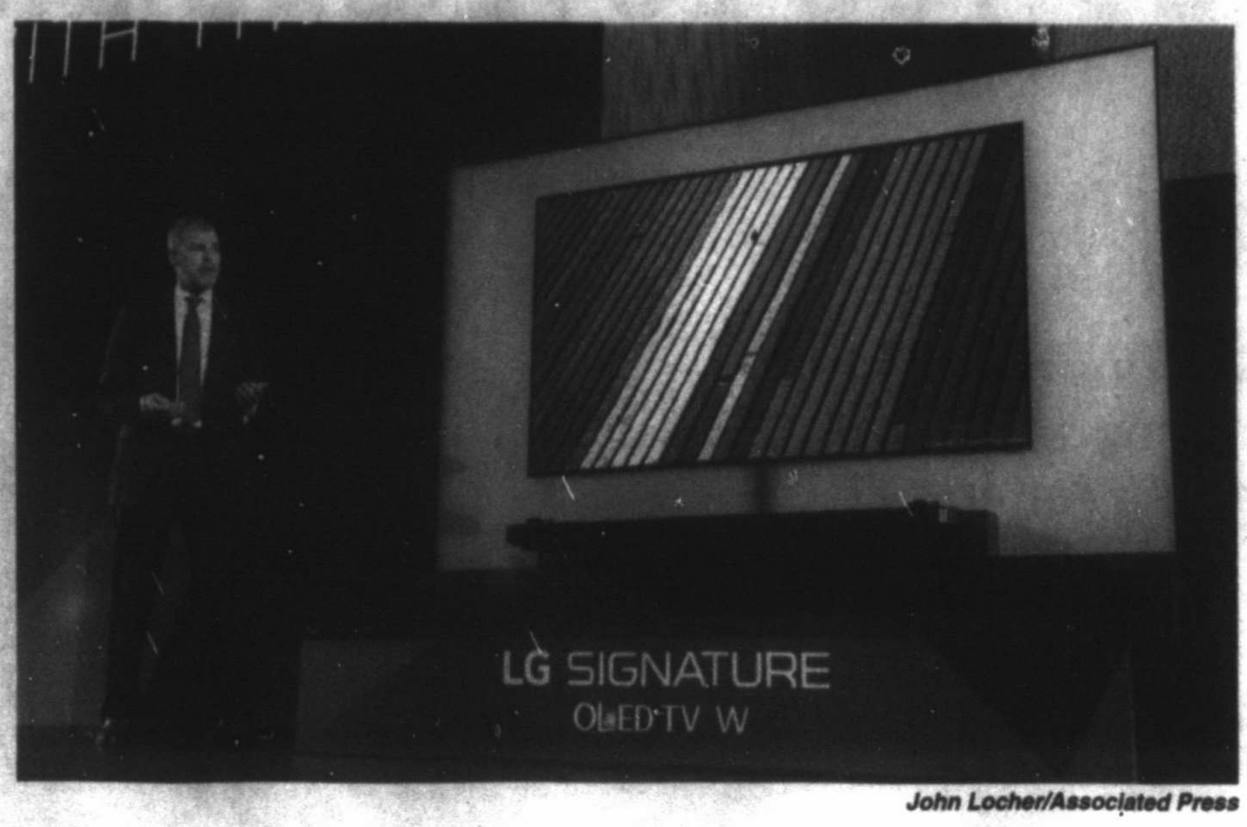
From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

The big thing in TV sets this year is ... big TV sets

By Mae Anderson
Associated Press



John Locher/Associated Press

David VanderWaal, vice president of marketing for LG Electronics USA, unveils the LG Signature OLED TV W during an LG news conference before CES International on Wednesday in Las Vegas.

LAS VEGAS — What's new in television sets this year? Incrementally better pictures, larger screens and cheaper prices — and that's about it.

True, set manufacturers are bombarding consumers with a whole series of buzzwords — OLED, 4K, 8K, HDR, QLED, wide color gamut — intended to spur excitement and generate sales. Flashy new sets with these supposedly "must have" features are getting the spotlight Wednesday at the annual CES gadget show in Las Vegas.

But when it comes down to it, none of these amount to revolutionary improvements for your living room. Set manufacturers may not have run out of technological tricks yet, but for this year, at least, they're reduced to improving what's already out there.

"That's a good thing," said Gartner analyst Brian Blau, looking for the bright side. "Products need to be improved."

Trapped in the box

Set manufacturers are in a bind. Gadgets like virtual-reality headsets and smartphones have snagged much of the buzz that flashy new TVs once had.

And while all sorts of other gadgets are getting more intelligent, so-called smart TVs that manage streaming-video services and let you play games have largely left consumers cold. Instead, the brains behind such features have largely migrated to set-top boxes offered by the likes of Roku, Apple and Amazon — or by cable companies themselves.

So TV makers like Samsung and LG have doubled down on what they know best: screen technology.

These days, you're seeing a lot more marketing buzz about "4K" sets, which offer twice the screen resolution of today's high definition, or HD, sets. 4K technology is making a push into the mainstream this year, as prices come down and video providers offer more 4K streaming and channels.

The next step in picture clarity is on its way with so-called 8K sets, which offer four times the resolution of HD, although the technology remains out of reach for most people. During the Summer Olympics last year, for instance, experimental 8K broadcasts were limited to public viewing areas in Japan.

Seeing in color

Some TV makers are pushing curved-screen models, which aim to provide more immersive viewing by giving viewers a wider image via their peripheral vision. They're also touting improvements in color.

OLED screen technology produces better colors in part because it doesn't have to be backlit the way standard TVs do. But it's more expensive. LG, which has sold the majority of OLED sets, announced a high-end, ultra-slim model Wednesday that's less than 4 millimeters (0.15 inch) thick; its price won't be revealed until February. Other manufacturers including Sony may announce OLED plans at CES.

Samsung, meanwhile, has been touting "quantum dot" technology, including a refined version called "QLED" announced Tuesday at CES. Quantum dot is essentially a layer of materials for purer colors and brighter displays. LG, Samsung and others also have "high-dynamic range," or HDR, for brighter whites, darker blacks, and a wider range of colors. TCL has an HDR variant called Dolby Vision.

Does it matter?

Whether the average human eye can really appreciate all this — particularly on smaller screens — is another matter. 4K sets, for instance, offer sharper pictures than older HD screens, but the difference is nowhere as dramatic as the change from older standard definition to HD.

And some of these technologies improve video only for the few movies and shows that support them. For now, technologies like HDR are high-end features for high-end sets, just as 4K was a few years ago.

"There's always a push-and-pull between what TV companies try to sell consumers and what they actually need," IHS Markit analyst Paul Gagnon said.

Ed Morrissey, a writer in Minneapolis, recently bought a 55-inch Samsung 4K TV with a curved screen and HDR, in part to future-proof a purchase he could be living with for almost a decade. "If I'm going to do something new, I want to make sure I have the emerging technology," he said.

It's far from clear, however, which of the color technologies will become standard. Buyers like Morrissey could end up stranded if, for instance, HDR fails to take off — just as buyers of 3-D sets were after the technology flopped.

TV manufacturers are taking some other steps to make their sets more useful. Gagnon said he expects announcements from TV makers about how their sets will work with new home hubs such as the Amazon Echo and Google Home. And Samsung, Philips and others are allowing people to use smartphones and tablets and voice control to better navigate through channels and streaming services.

Running for 4K

About 19 percent of TVs sold in the U.S. in the past year were 4K, up from just 7 percent a year earlier, according to NPD. That's expected to increase to about one-third of TV sales in 2017, as TV makers unveil more models at a wider range of prices, including budget options.

But HDTVs still suffice for many, especially those uninterested in large screens. 4K makes a difference only when the screen is large enough and the couch close enough.

"4K is kind of too much for the amount of time I use it," said John Murphy, a Barnstable, Massachusetts, retiree who bought a 50-inch Samsung HD TV recently to replace his 10-year-old Sony 42-incher.

A buying opportunity

High-end screens and other technologies that were out of reach for most TV shoppers are becoming much more affordable. Consumers are snapping up bargains. NPD says there were 37.4 million TV units sold in the U.S. in the 12 months ending in September, up 4 percent from a year ago. Over that time, the average TV selling price dropped 3 percent to $432.

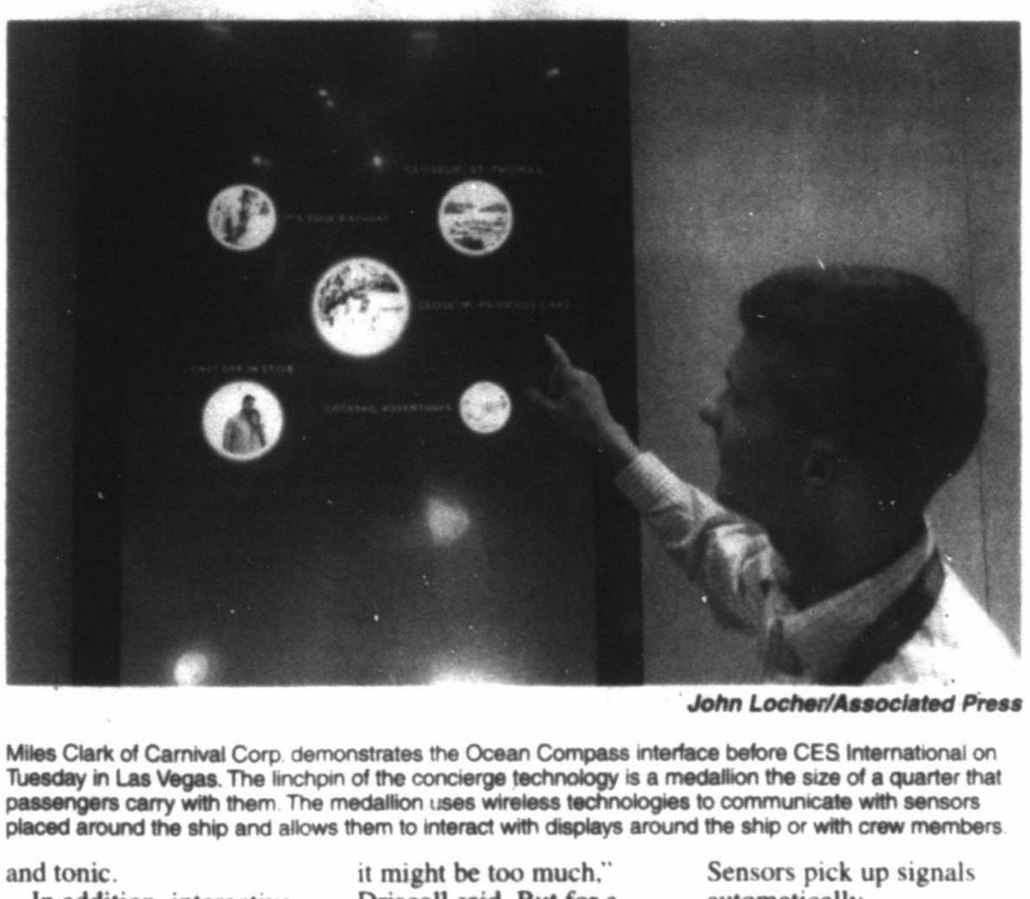
For some buyers, lower prices means a chance to upgrade to bigger sets. Jon Abt, co-president of Abt Electronics retail store near Chicago, said the 55-inch "sweet spot" TV size for the family room seems to have jumped to 65-inch and larger.

NPD said that 23 percent of all TVs sold were 55 inches or bigger, up from 20 percent a year earlier.

"We've seen strength across all categories, small screen, large screen, older technology and newer tech," NPD analyst Stephen Baker said. He said the combination of lower prices, picture quality and screen size has "brought a lot of customers back into the market."

Cruise ship operators bringing high tech to high seas

By Anne D'Innocenzio
Associated Press



John Locher/Associated Press

Miles Clark of Carnival Corp. demonstrates the Ocean Compass interface before CES International on Tuesday in Las Vegas. The linchpin of the concierge technology is a medallion the size of a quarter that passengers carry with them. The medallion uses wireless technologies to communicate with sensors placed around the ship and allows them to interact with displays around the ship or with crew members.

LAS VEGAS — High technology is taking to the high seas.

Cruise ships are being outfitted with sensors and trackers, all to help crew members better anticipate passengers' needs and whims.

Carnival Corp., the operator of cruise lines including its namesake, Princess, and Holland America, unveiled the new concierge technology at the CES gadget show in Las Vegas on Wednesday. It's scheduled to debut on the Regal Princess cruise ship in November.

With it, the door to your cabin will to unlock automatically as you approach wearing your personalized tracking medallion. The wait staff can bring your favorite cocktail before you even ask.

This type of personalization is important as cruise ships get bigger and come across as impersonal, says Mike Driscoll, editor-in-chief of Cruise Week, an industry publication.

It can also help cruise companies attract more first-timers, including tech-savvy millennials.

The leisure-cruise industry is playing catch-up with travel peers like hotels and airlines, which now let you unlock rooms with a smartwatch or fly with a boarding pass on your phone.

"It's catching up to what life is like on the land," Driscoll said.

The linchpin of the system is a tracking medallion the size of a quarter. Cruise passengers wear it as a pendant, throw it into a purse or place it in a pocket. The medallion uses wireless technologies to communicate with sensors placed around the ship, cruise terminals and even airports, where staff can provide personalized greetings as passengers fly in.

Crew members armed with tablets can respond to any needs nearby. For example, a guest could be having a drink when a crew member comes by to remind him that a yoga class starts in five minutes. Or a waiter working poolside can ask whether a guest wants her usual gin and tonic.

In addition, interactive displays can offer personalized directions to guests' rooms. And the medallion ties into a payment system, so no one has to swipe or sign anything when buying souvenirs or drinks.

Whether anticipating guests' needs will feel useful or creepy remains to be seen. Those who might be spooked don't have to use the medallion or can limit how much they want to participate, Carnival CEO Arnold Donald said.

"In the end, the guests will tell us," Donald told The Associated Press. "If it doesn't (resonate), it's back to the drawing board."

Donald said he hopes the service will encourage customers to sign up for repeat cruises while spending more on incidentals.

Different passengers might react quite differently to the service.

"With your 83-year-old aunt in Saskatchewan, it might be too much," Driscoll said. But for a passenger in his 50s, it could make life on the ship "just easier."

Miami-based Carnival plans to expand the setup to all other Princess ships in the next several years and eventually to other vessels. Carnival, the world's largest leisure travel company, owns more than 100 ships across 10 brands.

Personalization isn't new to the travel industry. Walt Disney World in Florida has a MagicBand wristband device that doubles as a room key and "FastPass" reservations to popular rides. The MagicBand is also linked to a credit card for speedier payments at restaurants and gift shops.

John Padgett, who was one of the chief architects of the MagicBand before joining Carnival in 2014, said the cruise ship's system goes further in eliminating the need to touch or tap a terminal. Sensors pick up signals automatically.

"There are no wires. There is no charging," Padgett said. "It doesn't require a guest or consumer to do anything specific."

Carnival officials say there will be safeguards against someone walking away with another guest's medallion. Each guest's profile is tied to a security picture, so a crew member can compare a passenger's photo on a portable device.

It also says the medallion doesn't contain sensitive information such as the stateroom number, much like a hotel room key. The company added that the system features additional authentication, although it declined to elaborate.

Donald said the technology could be adapted for other industries, too. Imagine a patient entering the hospital and being recognized immediately by a nurse without having to check in or fill out forms.

Upstart carmaker Faraday Future unveils prototype at CES

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Upstart vehicle company Faraday Future showed its prototype electric car at the CES gadget show in Las Vegas, amid renewed promises to have cars rolling off a new $1 billion assembly line in southern Nevada in 2018.

A demonstration Tuesday featured the company's four-door, 1,050-horsepower FF 91 model clocking 0-to-60 mph times against Bentley, Ferrari and Tesla vehicles. Faraday Future officials say the car's battery allows a travel range of up to 378 miles. A selling price wasn't disclosed.

Company spokesman Richard Otto said Wednesday that with the presentation behind it, Faraday Future is turning attention back to construction of its 3 million-square-foot production factory at the Apex Industrial Park site in North Las Vegas.

"We plan to start the next phase of construction in early 2017," Otto said in an email.

Work was suspended in November with company officials saying at the time they wanted to direct money and attention to developing the concept car for the consumer electronics convention.

Nevada pledged up to $335 million worth of incentives to attract Gardena, California-based Faraday Future, after Gov. Brian Sandoval called Nevada lawmakers to a special Legislative session to approve the package. It includes $215 million in tax breaks for the company and $120 million in infrastructure improvements.

The governor and Steve Hill, his chief economic development chief, say the state will be protected if the project fails.

Faraday Future doesn't earn tax abatements until it has invested $1 billion, Hill said, and the state won't issue bonds to fund infrastructure without security.

Bond funding isn't expected to occur until later this year, and it will need approval by the state Board of Finance.

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ATM's were originally thought to be failures, because the only users were prostitutes and gamblers who didn't want to deal with tellers face to face.

A traffic jam once lasted for more than 10 days, with cars only moving 0.6 miles a day.

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2017 Travel Showcases

Big Spring Travel Show
Friday, January 6
10:00 AM
Dora Roberts Com. Center
Comanche Trail Park
100 Whipkey Drive
Big Spring, Texas

Brownwood Travel Show
Tuesday, January 10
2:00 PM
Adams Street
Community Center
511 E Adams
Brownwood, Texas

Permian Basin Travel Show
Friday, January 6
2:00 PM
Holiday Inn Express Hotel
5309 West Loop 250 North
Midland, Texas

Concho Valley Travel Show
Wednesday, January 11
2:00 PM
Senior Annex Station 618
618 South Chadbourne
San Angelo, Texas

Abilene Travel Show
Saturday, January 7
1:00 PM
First Baptist Church
1333 N. 3rd
Abilene, Texas
Dining Hall, corner of N. 2nd & Hickory
NEW LOCATION

Lubbock Travel Show
Thursday, January 12
2:00 PM
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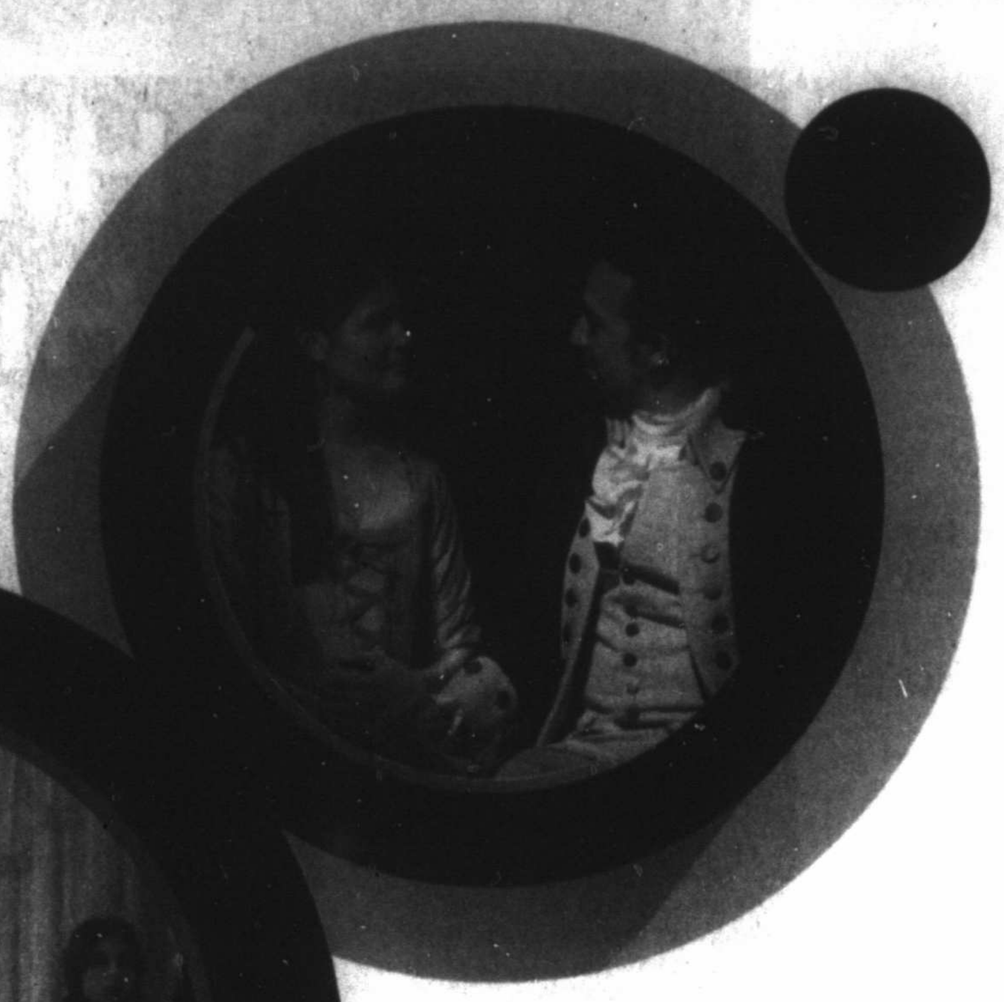
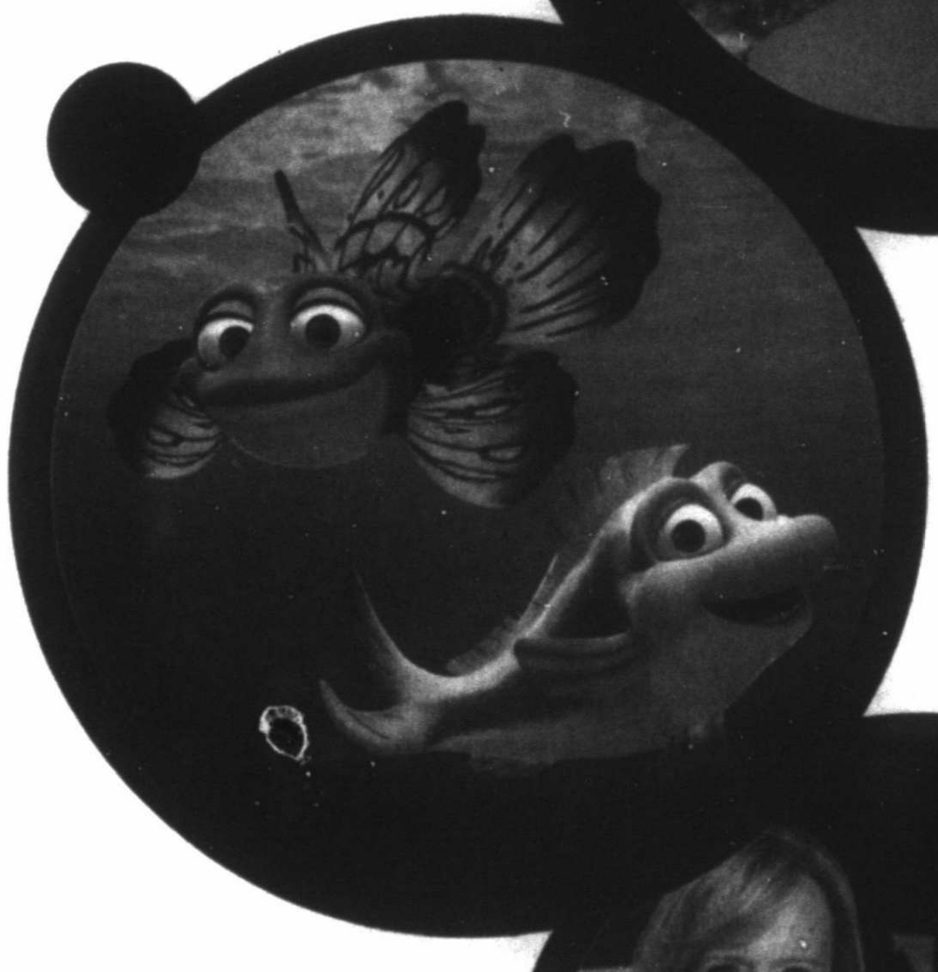


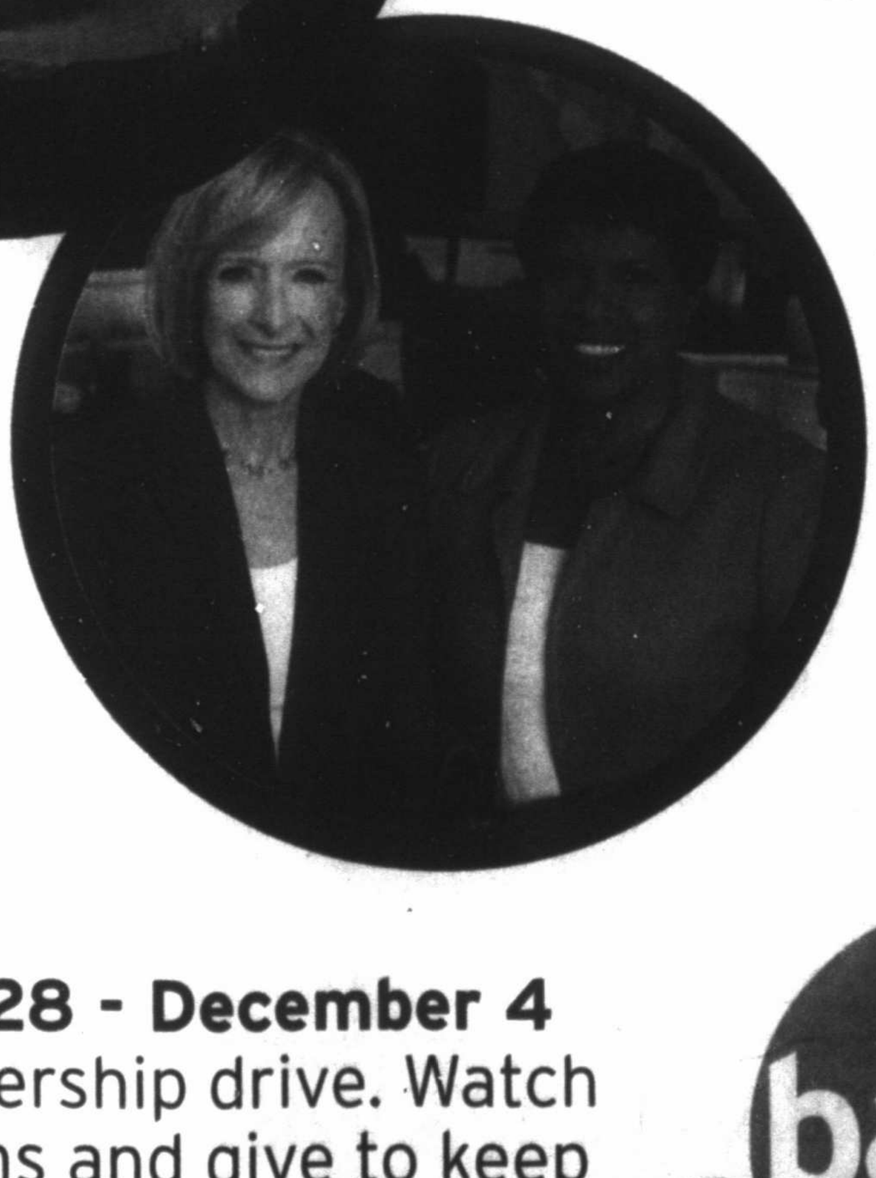
Is it the front row seat to artistic programs like **Hamilton's America?**

Is it the drama presented by Masterpiece like **Downton Abbey** & the upcoming **Victoria**?

Do you love **NATURE & NOVA?**



Or do you know that by encouraging your child to watch fun programs like **Splash and Bubbles** you are really helping them build a lifetime of learning?



Is it the news coverage from **PBS NewsHour** or **Charlie Rose?**

Tune-in November 28 - December 4 for our holiday membership drive. Watch your favorite programs and give to keep the programming you love on the air!

432-563-5728 BasinPBS.org

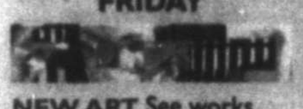
basin 10 years pbs

WEEKENDER

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PERMIAN BASIN

BEST BETS

FRIDAY



NEW ART See works by Trinity School grad Katie Pack at Kamiposi's First Friday opening reception. Her work will be on display throughout January. 6 p.m.

SATURDAY

OPERA ON SCREEN Ancient Babylon comes to life in The Met Live's screening of "Nabucco" with Placido Domingo at Tall City Stadium. 11:55 a.m.

SUNDAY

SERVE YOU Brew St. hosts Chef Alejandro from Curb Side Bistro for its Bubbles and Babes food and wine pairing. Reservations can be made by calling 218-7334. 6:30 p.m.

DOUBLE THE COUNTRY Travis Tritt and Little Texas bring a big night of country music to the Wagner Noel. Tickets are still available. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

BRAIN GAMES True Texas BBQ at the new H-E-B is now hosting live trivia each week with prizes to the winning teams. 7 p.m.

See complete schedule of weekend events on Page 2.

MOVIES

Films opening and closing this week at Midland theaters:

TALL CITY 14
Opening: "Hidden Figures," "A Monster Calls."

CINERGY CINEMAS
Opening: "Hidden Figures," "Underworld: Blood Wars."
Closing: "Office Christmas Party."

STAYING IN? Find out which movies are worth watching from the comfort of your couch. **Page 4**

COMING SOON

Broadway superstar Kristen Chenoweth will come to the Wagner Noel for a special appearance on Jan. 26. Get tickets to see the "Wicked" star at wagnernoel.com.

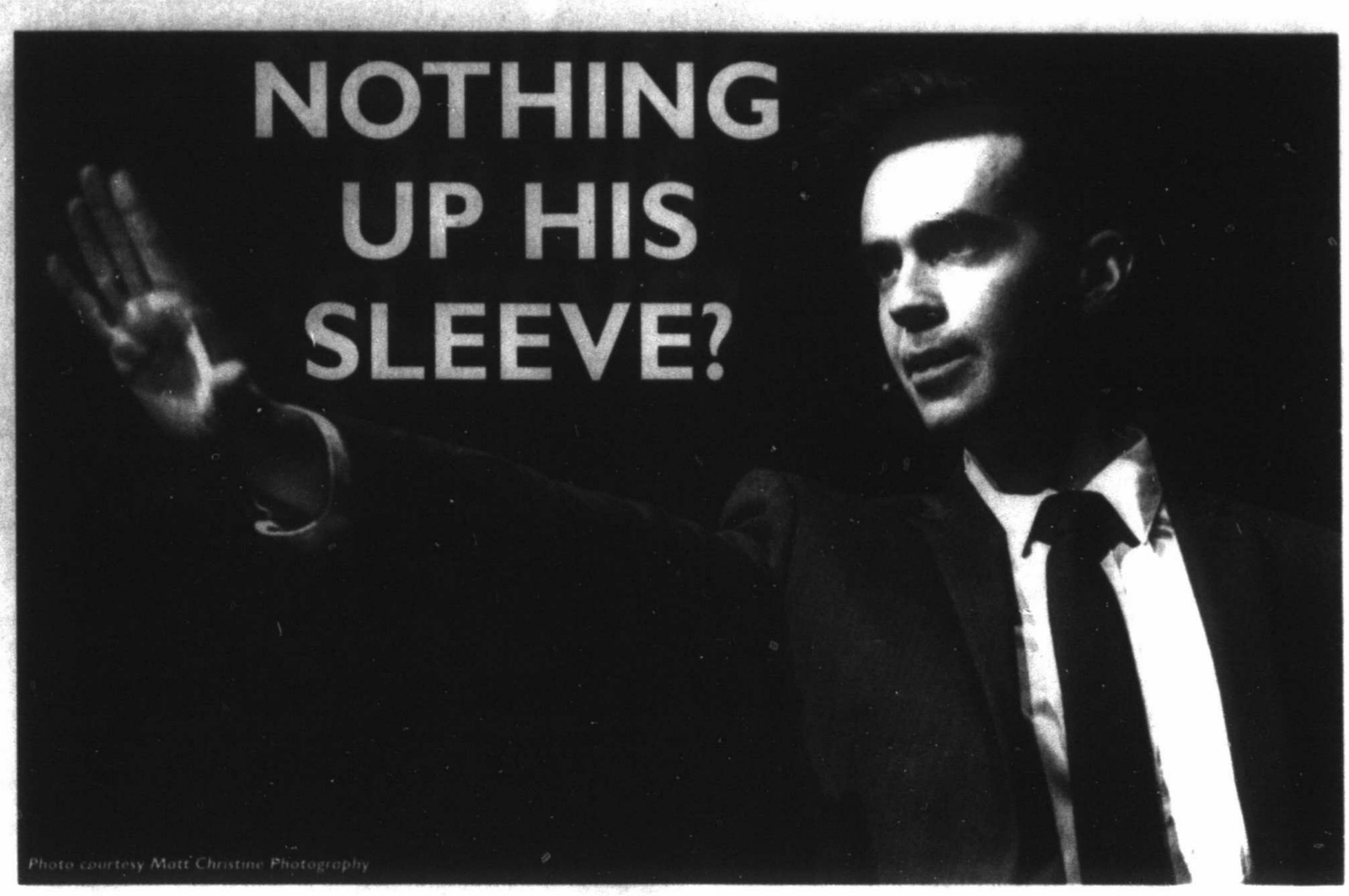


Photo courtesy Matt Christine Photography

Michael Carbonaro brings his magical effect to the Tall City

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

Finding magic in the everyday is what Michael Carbonaro does best — particularly to unsuspecting strangers on his show "The Carbonaro Effect." Perhaps the show's network, TruTv, describes it best: When Michael's around, the ordinary becomes the extraordinary. Hidden cameras and mundane scenarios help with his pranks like the self-tying shoelaces or the flat package bowling ball.

That won't be the case on Friday. He will bring his magic to Midland when Michael Carbonaro Live! takes over the Wagner Noel tomorrow.

Before his show, Carbonaro chatted about his live show, how he fools skeptics and the charge of still seeing a good trick.

MRT: Your show is a lot of fun, but the tricks seem so complex. How do you begin to construct your tricks?

Carbonaro: They really come from anywhere. Magicians have a wacked brain and a specific way of looking at things. We've all gone through that feeling of deja vu, but I try to create that feeling of something they've gone through already. The tricks come from there, really.

MRT: Why do you think people fall for tricks instead of being skeptical?

Carbonaro: You know, people love to be fooled. We do a number of secrets and lies to get to our tricks, and those moments stack up that it's hard to backtrack. There really is a psychology behind magic.

MRT: Is it fair to think magic as entertainment is different now?

Carbonaro: When I was younger, my family would watch David Copperfield's yearly special where he'd make the Statue of Liberty disappear. But David Blaine started to cross into things that people actually do. He would get into that head space.

MRT: Are you still impressed by magic?

Carbonaro: A magician loves magic. We have that moment where we see something that gives us an exciting feeling, like something levitating, for instance. It's like for me, I'll feel I have this world figured out and then you have that moment which gives you a charge. Now you want to know how it's done and how to create it for other people. It's a beautiful feeling.

MRT: Your fans will get something different in your live show.

Carbonaro: I was first interested in special effects, so this the show takes me back to that. But the fans will meet Michael the magician. They'll hang out with me and help me with the magic. I'll show some clips, and it's just like hosting a party at my house. People will tell me they watch the show with the whole family and that vibe is here, too. But they'll still wonder how I do the tricks.

IF YOU GO

Michael Carbonaro Live!, 7:30 p.m. Friday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $25-$47. Wagnernoel.com. For more information about his show, visit trutv.com/shows/the-carbonaro-effect.

A new year for Great White means new music and continued healing

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

As the music industry keeps changing, bands — particularly seasoned ones — have to acclimate. Technology, marketing and recording all have changed, but Mark Kendall is happy sticking to old-school ways as much as possible.

The founding member of heavy metal band Great White, which is popular for hits such as "Once Bitten, Twice Shy" and "Rock Me," said that is what keeps him in the game.

"We haven't changed that much," he said by phone from Los Angeles. "I prefer the human element of the past. I miss that. Back then, it seemed like you earned what you got."

That's not to say Great White hasn't changed with the times. Members thrived in their own way with an old-fashioned approach.

Right after their Saturday concert at the Wagner Noel with Vince Neil — on a solo tour from band Motley Crue — the band will head to Nashville to record its next album.

"We still like to get together to play and record. We don't email our parts in to be mixed together. I think there's something to say about the sound that comes from the whole band playing and recording," he said.

For the 2012 album "Elation," Great White went into the studio without preparation or songs. Holed up together in the studio, the band cranked out a song a day until members were satisfied they had an album. The result was a solid package of bluesy rock.

Thus, Kendall feels optimistic about Great White's new year, even though the shadow of disaster still looms over the band.

In 2003, a fire broke out at The Station, the Rhode Island club where Kendall was performing. One-hundred people died in the fire, and more than 200 were injured.

Kendall clarified that the show wasn't a Great White performance.

"We were disbanded at the time but (lead singer) Jack Russell was touring. His manager asked if I would come play some Great White songs," he said. "CNN simply reported that it was a Great White show."

Because of the inaccuracy, the band's reputation has suffered, he said, and the incident has been an unfortunate highlight in the history of Great White.

But for Kendall, the fire was tragically profound. He hung up his guitar for months after and worked to help families who lost loved ones.

"When something so horrific happens, it affects you deep down. It was the most devastating thing I ever saw in my life," he said. "The tragedy still affects us all, and we're still healing from it."

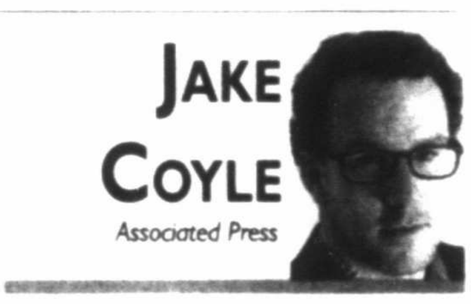
Feedback he's received from the victims' families has been crucial to his healing process. The best part has been the hugs and love, Kendall said.

And the fans have stuck by the band.

"They have been super loyal. It's so great to meet them and hear their stories about how one of our songs affected their lives," Kendall said. "So that's why we give everything we got in our shows. We love playing still, and at this point it's all for them."

IF YOU GO

Vince Neil, Great White, 8 p.m. Saturday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $55-$75. Wagnernoel.com.



JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

In uplifting 'Hidden Figures,' 3 women rise

Theodore Melfi's buoyant "Hidden Figures" is an old-fashioned feel-good movie with powerful contemporary relevance, spearheaded by a trio of unstoppable actresses playing black women who wouldn't be stopped.

Set in 1961 Virginia, the fact-based "Hidden Figures," adapted from Margot Lee Shetterly's non-fiction book, is about three peripheral characters at NASA who made important contributions to the space race. Their workplace, at Langley, is segregated (with separate bathrooms and drinking fountains) and the offices are uniformly run by white males in suits.

But the talent and smarts of mathematician Katherine Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), budding engineer Mary Jackson (Janelle Monae) and computer supervisor Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer) are becoming impossible to ignore.

Metaphors are all around. While rockets lift off, the women of "Hidden Figures" strive for their own upward movement. Arithmetic surrounds them, but they're continuously underestimated.

"That's NASA for you. Fast with rocket ships, slow with advancement," says Kirsten Dunst's manager.

Johnson is pulled out of a pool of

Please see 'HIDDEN FIGURES'/Page 3

CALENDAR

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

ART & DANCE

First Friday featuring works by Katie Pack, 6 p.m. Friday at Kamiposi, 510 S. Big Spring St. facebook.com/kamiposi.

"Visions of Santa" by Billy Keen on display through Sunday at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

"Spirit Lines: Helen Hardin Etchings" features 23 first editions of the artists copper-plate etchings. Through March 26 at Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E University Blvd, Odessa. noelartmuseum.org.

West Texas Line Dancing Classes, 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Midland Senior Center, 3303 W. Illinois Ave. meetup.com/crossingthelinewesttexas.

Permian Basin Dance Club with live country music, 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at St. Stephen's Ballroom, 4601 Neely Ave. $6. For more information, call 520-4343.

EVENTS

Star Party with the West Texas Astronomers. 6 p.m. Friday at Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. (in Haley Park behind the building). Free. museumsw.org.

FAMILY FUN

Pretend and Play provides a structured environment for caregivers and their children. For ages 2-6. 10:30 a.m. at Midland County Public Library downtown branch, 301 W. Missouri Ave. Fridays at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. co.midland.tx.us/lib.

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

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

Evening Storytime at the Library. 4:30 p.m. (2-6 years) Fridays at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. co.midland.tx.us/lib.

Pretend and Play for ages 3-6. 10 a.m. Friday at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. Every other Friday. co.midland.tx.us/lib.

Old Miner's Maze interactive adventure features a maze, rock walls, mechanical bull and more. Fridays 6-10 p.m., Saturdays noon-8 p.m., Sunday noon to 6 p.m. 4305 N. County Rd. 1140. oldminersmaze.com.

FOOD & DRINK

Bubbles and Babes food and wine pairing event with Chef Alejandro from Curb Side Bistro. 6:30 p.m. Sunday at Brew St. Bakery, 4610 N. Garfield St. $70 per person. To make a reservation, call 432-218-7334.

GAMES

Bingo Nights. The American Legion Auxiliary hosts weekly play throughout the week. 7 p.m. todays and Fridays, 4 p.m. Sundays. 501 Veterans Airpark Lane. 682-5511.

Zia Park Casino Hotel and Racetrack bus trips by Midland Shuttle Services. Departs at 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays to Hobbs, New Mexico. $55 adults, $45 65 and older. RSVP by calling 432-260-5428. midlandshuttleservices.com.

Hold 'em poker tournaments, 7 p.m. Fridays at The Detour.

Bridge lessons, 10 a.m. Saturdays at Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $3. permianbridgeclub.com.

Bingo, 6 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays at the Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.

Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and todays; 1 p.m. Tuesdays; 10:30 a.m. Saturdays; 1:30 p.m. Sundays. Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $6. permianbridgeclub.com.

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

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Basin Burger House.

$2 Tuesdays bowling after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

Trivia Game Night, 7 p.m. Wednesdays at True Texas BBQ, 5407 Andrews Hwy. Free.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 8 p.m. Wednesdays at Torino's. challengeentertainment.com.

LECTURES, MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

Andrew Pudewa Writing Workshops for students and teachers. Today and Friday at Midland Bible Church, 5900 Whitman St. $25-$89. iew.com.

Beginner 3D Print Class will introduce the basics of 3D printing from designing and sketching to getting it printed. 11 a.m., Saturday at Midland County Public Library downtown branch, 301 W. Missouri Ave.

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.

MUSIC

CHRISTIAN

Godswayonline Christian music revue, 6:30 p.m. Sunday at Greater Ideal, 411 S. Tyler St. Free. godswayonline.org.

CLASSICAL

Second Tuesday Salon with the Permian Basin String Quartet. STS is a free lunchtime concert series. Brown bag lunches or purchase from the local food truck onsite beginning at 11:30 a.m. Open to the public. 11:30 a.m. Jan. 10 at The Rose Building, 415 N. Grant Ave., Odessa. Free. odessaarts.org.

COUNTRY

Whiskey Myers, 7 p.m. Friday at Dos Amigos, 4700 N. Golder Ave., Odessa. $10 advance, $12 door. dosamigos.com.

Mike Ryan, 8 p.m. Saturday at Dos Amigos, 4700 N. Golder Ave., Odessa. $10 advance, $12 door. dosamigos.com.

Travis Tritt, Little Texas, 7:30 p.m. Sunday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $43-$63. Wagnernoel.com.

DJ/DANCE

#Hangovertodays, 7 p.m. today at Atrium Lounge, 3904 W. Wall St.

DJ Wildman, 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday at The Lift on 7th, 1401 E. 7th St. Odessa.

KARAOKE

Karaoke, 9 p.m. today at The Detour Bar, 1708 Rankin Highway. thedetourbar.com.

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

POP

Short Stories, 7 p.m. Saturday at Brew St. Bakery, 4610 N. Garfield St.

ROCK

Hogg Maulies, 5 p.m. today and Friday at The Bar, 606 W. Missouri Ave.

Vince Neil, Great White, 8 p.m. Saturday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $55-$75. Wagnernoel.com.

OUTDOORS, SPORTS & FITNESS

Adult Kickball, 2 p.m. Saturdays. Visit facebook.com/groups/Midlandkickball for more information.

Free skateboarding lessons, noon-1:30 p.m. Saturdays at RTD Skatepark. rtdskatepark.com.

Family Nite roller skating, Sundays from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at KC's Nutty Roller, 1004 A Andrews Highway. kcsnuttyroller.com.

Yoga at the Museum for museum members. 8 a.m. Wednesdays at Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E University Blvd, Odessa. Free. noelartmuseum.org.

THEATER, COMEDY & FILM

"Princess Mononoke: 20th Anniversary" 7 p.m., today and Monday at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $14.88. fathomevents.com.

Michael Carbonaro Live!, 7:30 p.m. Friday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $25-$47. wagnernoel.com.

"Nabucco" by The Met Live, 11:55 a.m. Saturday at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $25.17. fathomevents.com.

"The Bowden Dynasty: A Story of Family, Family and Football." 5 p.m., Sunday at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $17.60. fathomevents.com.

Auditions: "Agatha Christie's Murder on the Nile," 6 p.m. Sunday and Monday at Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. mctmidland.org.

Midland Quilters Guild Movie Night: "Quilts Bring History Alive." 6:30 p.m. Tuesday and 12:30 p.m. Wednesday at Alamo Heights Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 1305 N. Midland Drive. Midlandquiltersguild.com.

One Piece Film: Gold, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $13.53. fathomevents.com.

COMING SOON

Plant Pressing Part 1 of Sibley's Natural Hobbies Series. Participants will explore the Sibley Herbarium and press plants. For children grades K through 3. 10 a.m., Jan. 14 at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E Wadley Ave. $5 members, $7 nonmembers. sibleynaturecenter.org.

Granger Smith, 7 p.m. Jan. 14 at Dos Amigos, 4700 N. Golder Ave., Odessa. $17 advance, $20 door. dosamigos.com.

The Temptations and The Four Tops, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 15 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $39-$109. Wagnernoel.com.

Third Thursday Reading will featured the book "Is There Really a Human Race?" with copies given to each child. The monthly event is part of the Laura Bush Literacy Program. Free but space is limited so reservations are encouraged. Refreshments provided. 4:30 p.m. Jan. 19 at the George W. Bush Childhood Home, 1412 W. Ohio Ave. bushchildhoodhome.org.

Tenore, 7 p.m. January 16 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $33. liveonstage-pb.com.

Empty Bowls 2017 benefiting the West Texas Food Bank. 7 p.m. Jan 20 at West Texas Food Bank, 411 S. Pagewood Ave., Odessa.

Symphony SoundBites "Beethoven" is a pre-concert dinner with maestro Gary lewis and guest artist John Gunther speaking. The menu will feature an Italian pasta trio. Tickets must be purchased by Jan. 16. 6 p.m. Jan. 21 at Rea-Greathouse Hall, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $25. MOSC.org.

Robert Burns Dinner hosted by the Celtic Heritage Society of the Permian Basin. The event honors the Scottish poet and will feature social hour, a toast, buffet dinner, cash bar and entertainment. 6 p.m. Jan. 21 at Midland Country Club, 6101 N. State Highway 349. $36 registration by Jan. 15, $40 late registration by Jan. 19. facebook.com/celticheritagesocietypermianbasin.

MOSC Masterworks: Beethoven, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $9-$30. MOSC.org.

Intocable, La Reunion Nortena, Los Bravos de Ojinaga, 8 p.m. Jan. 21 at La Hacienda Event Center, 12610 SH 191. $35. Haciendamidland.com.

Indie Lens: "The Bad Kids" screening by Basin PBS. basinpbs.org.

The Oak Ridge Boys, The Gatlin Brothers, 7:30 p.m. Jan 23 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $38-$63. wagnernoel.com.

The Odd Squad, 6:30 p.m. Jan. 24 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $18-$68. wagnernoel.com.

An Evening with Kristin Chenoweth: Celebrating the Art of Elegance, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 26 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $59-$125. wagnernoel.com.

Third Annual Midland on Tap Craft Beer Fest will feature more than 100 brews from American breweries. Jan. 27 and 28 at High Sky Wing CAF, 9600 Wright Drive. 21 and older only. $20. americaontap.com.

Ron White, 8 p.m. Jan 27 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $49-$239. Wagnernoel.com.

Beginner 3D Print Class, 11 a.m. Jan. 28 at Midland County Public Library downtown, 301 W. Missouri Ave.

Annual Dances from the Islands, 7 p.m. Jan. 28 at the Yucca Theatre, 208 N. Colorado St.

Naughty by Nature, Coolio, Tone Loc, 8 p.m. Jan. 28 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $43-$63. wagnernoel.com.

Trout Fishing in America, Jan. 29 and 30 at The Yucca, 208 N. Colorado St. alohahulahalau.com.

THE GEORGE W. BUSH
Childhood Home
A PRESIDENTIAL SITE

10 AM-5 PM Tues.-Sat., 2-5 PM Sun. (Tours given until 4:30)
1412 W. Ohio, Midland, TX
432-685-1112

www.bushchildhoodhome.org

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FREE

Laura Bush Literacy Program Reading Event
Thursday, January 19th
from 4:30-5:30 PM in our Visitor Center
for kids of all ages.

We will read several books including
"Is There Really a Human Race?"
Each child will get a free copy of the feature book and snacks.

Call 685-1112 to Reserve a Space

Sponsors: The Hahl Proctor Charitable Trust, Midland High Students in Philanthropy, Lee High Students in Philanthropy, The Texas Pecos Trail Region, Ed Rachal Foundation, RBC Wealth Management & OXY USA

FREE Books for Kids
Bring your kids by our office any day we're open to pick out a free book from our Laura Bush Literacy Bookshelves. Limit one per day per child.

Explore the Joy of Reading!
Reading events on the 3rd Thursday each month

ON SCREEN

'A MONSTER CALLS'

'A Monster Calls' is a very emotionally intense motion picture for childrem

RAFER GUZMAN
Newsday

"A Monster Calls," J.A. Bayona's beautiful but wrenching movie about a boy whose mother is dying, may not be suitable for all young viewers. You are hereby warned: Though well-made on every level, with gorgeous visuals and raw, heightened performances, "A Monster Calls" is more emotionally intense than the average children's movie — by a factor of maybe two or three hundred.

Based on a book begun by British children's author Siobhan Dowd, but completed by Patrick Ness after she died of breast cancer in 2007, "A Monster Calls" opens with a nightmare. In it, 12-year-old Conor O'Malley (a very moving Lewis MacDougall) races through a crumbling graveyard to save his mother, Lizzie (Felicity Jones), from falling into a black chasm. The symbolism seems plain enough when we meet the real Lizzie, gaunt and weakened from a terminal illness, but nothing in this movie is as simple as it first appears.

The monster of the title is an old tree that uproots itself one night to stomp over to Conor's house. Thundering with the voice of Liam Neeson (who also provided the motion-capture performance), the monster insists on telling Conor three fictional stories in exchange for a true one. The monster's tales are troubling _ villains triumph, heroes perish, endings don't satisfy — and they're illustrated in an evocative, watercolor style of animation with angry streaks and splatters. Conor is outraged by these anti-fables, but the monster only growls, "Many things that are true feel like a cheat."

We sense this monster is partly a therapist — "Tell me your truth!" he bellows at the cowering boy — and partly a manifestation of unprocessed grief, guilt and rage. The most harrowing scene comes when Conor, in a kind of fugue state, destroys the house of his grandmother (Sigourney Weaver). It's the moment we realize Conor's external problems — bullies at school, a faraway father (Toby Kebbell) — are taking root deep inside him.

"A Monster Calls" is an uncommonly penetrating and unsparing film about coping with hard realities. Bayona, a protege of Guillermo del Toro (they share a dark sensibility), strikes such a sorrowful and wrenchingly cathartic tone, however, that the film becomes overwhelming, even draining. It might be best seen during the day, so that exiting the theater will at least guarantee another glimpse of sunshine.

'A Monster Calls'

3 out of 4 stars

PLOT: A boy with a dying mother encounters an ancient monster.

CAST: Felicity Jones, Liam Neeson, Lewis MacDougall

RATED PG-13

LENGTH: 1 48

BOTTOM LINE: Visually sumptuous, though children may be overwhelmed by the heavy themes of loss and grief.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

'HIDDEN FIGURES'

From Page 1

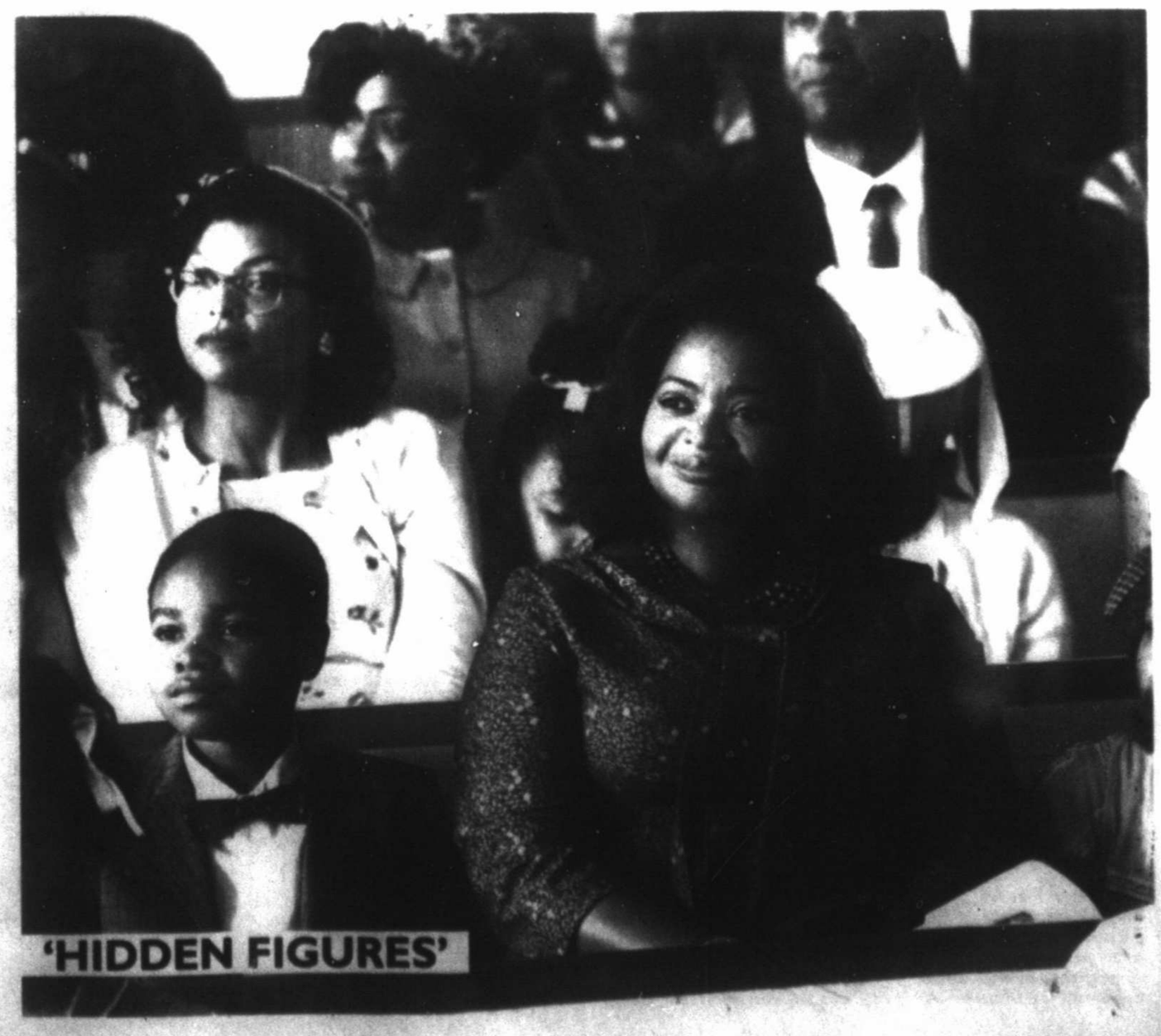
computers (human ones, though a room-sized IBM makes a late appearance) and brought into the all-white rocket center to check the trajectories and calculations of the scientists rushing to match Sputnik and lift John Glenn (Glen Powell) into space. Their leader is Al Harrison (a fine, scene-chewing Kevin Costner), who compassionately responds to Johnson's rise.

But "Hidden Figures," punctuated by bright original songs by Pharrell Williams (who also collaborated with Hans Zimmer and Benjamin Wallfisch on the score), avoids many of the typical notes of a civil rights drama and keeps its focus on its three indomitable leads and their characters' private lives. Nobody would mistake it for a deeply complicated examination of segregation and no one will wonder if Melfi's film is going to end on a high note.

Instead, "Hidden Figures" is a straightforward, satisfying tale of triumph, full of warmth and crowd-pleasing scenes that its excellent cast lends spirit and verve to. Henson fierily delivers the film's big, cathartic moment, one that will surely resonate for audiences familiar with her plight. In such scenes, "Hidden Figures" feels both of the '60s and of now. These are figures that have often been hidden from movie screens, too.

But of the formidable threesome, it's Monae who most stands out. Following her role in Barry Jenkins' "Moonlight" (whose Mahershala Ali also appears here, captivatingly as a military officer and love interest), the R&B singer has made an altogether arresting big-screen debut this fall. Regal, powerful and tender, she just might be a full-on Movie Star. The real rocket of "Hidden Figures" is Monae.

"Hidden Figures," a 20th Century Fox release, is rated PG by the Motion Picture Association of America for "thematic elements and some language." Running time: 126 minutes. Three stars out of four.



'HIDDEN FIGURES'

ON SCREEN

'LA LA LAND'

Reeled & Stream

By Nancy Adamson | nadamson@mrt.com

Revenge Western is best bet for stay-at-home fans

PICK O' THE WEEK

"In the Valley of Violence" (R) Doesn't rank up with "Hateful Eight" in the original story Western category — and one wonders just how long the horse can go without water — but this tale of revenge is a fine contribution to the genre. **B+**

ICK! O' THE WEEK

"When the Bough Breaks" (PG-13) The acting is the only positive that this otherwise annoyingly predictable thriller has going for it. **D**

MORE REVIEWS

"American Honey" (R) Despite several awards on the indie circuit — including the Cannes Jury Prize for director Andrea Arnold — this story of kids who travel the country selling magazines is, at nearly three hours, way too long. But its gritty portrayal of the kids is mesmerizing. **B**

"Beyond Valkyrie: Dawn of the Fourth Reich" (R) Surprisingly entertaining and taut action film considering its low budget and lack of star power. **B-**

"Coming Through the Rye" (PG-13) True story of prep schooler's quest to stage a play of "Catcher in the Rye" is both pretentious and a bit spectacular. **B**

"Dark Horse" (PG) Remarkable documentary about a group of blue-collar workers in Wales that breeds a racehorse spans the emotional gamut in a wonderful way. **B+**

"Dog Eat Dog" (unrated) Uneven crime drama displays a wicked sense of humor — and a bad Humphrey Bogart impression by Nicolas Cage — that makes its flaws forgivable. **B-**

"Greater" (PG) Fans of Arkansas football might appreciate this story of one of its players, but the rest of us would rather watch "Rudy" or "The Blind Side" or countless other, better inspirational stories centered on college football. **C**

"No Manches Frida" (PG-13) The lead character is such a despicable lout in the first and second acts that it's impossible, to warm up to him when he realizes the error of his ways. **C**

"Pet" (R) The twists in this horror fare lift it way beyond the typical stalker film. **B**

"Snowden" (R) Filmmaker Oliver Stone's take on the former NSA whistle-blower depicts Edward Snowden as a man obsessed with Rubik's Cube who sees it as his patriotic duty to show the nation what the government is doing to ordinary citizens. It's a good film, no matter which side of the issue you stand on, much in the same way Stone made stockbrokers fascinating in "Wall Street" and conspiracy theorists fascinating in "JFK." **B**

'La La Land' starts slowly, but the tempo changes in the last act

RICK BENTLEY
Fresno Bee

The first three quarters of "La La Land" is a light romantic musical movie that's slightly off the mark.

This modern take on the Hollywood musicals of the mid-20th century never embraces the foibles and fantasies that made those productions near perfect escapist material. Those films took the boy-meets-girl story and set it in a whimsical setting where anything could trigger a musical number.

There's too much 21st century influence in the story of Mia (Emma Stone), a small town girl who moves to Hollywood to become an actor, and Sebastian (Ryan Gosling), a talented jazz musician who laments the slow death of the musical genre. He wants to open a club to keep the beat going.

The closest director Damien Chazelle ("Whiplash") comes to capturing the spirit of the musical movie genre is in his use of color. There are splashes of bold color in every scene and has Stone dress in outfits of primary colors with no, or a limited amount, of patterns.

But the biggest issue is that "La La Land" starts slowly with both the romance and the musical numbers.

Chazelle's caution in the early part of the movie makes the production move like a tap dancer in lead shoes. It doesn't help that the early musical numbers by Gosling and Stone feature vocals so weak that it makes the viewer yearn for singing actors like Justin Timberlake and Anna Kendrick.

The early going is not a complete wash since Stone has an uncanny knack of making even the smallest scenes work. In one of her character's early audition sequences, Stone makes the reading powerful despite a lack of interest by the casting directors. It's a complicated emotional moment, as she shows both the feelings the character while revealing her own reactions to the indifference.

Gosling is also charming. His commitment to learning the piano parts for the movie give the production an authentic feel that often gets thwarted when it's necessary to fake an actor's musical skills.

Stone and Gosling are cute and do a decent job of dancing. In fact, Stone looks far more comfortable with the dance numbers than she does with the singing.

They are good enough to hold the movie together until this last act. As soon as Stone sings the showstopper "Audition (The Fools Who Dream)," that's when the movie becomes a brilliant mix of musical performance and visual storytelling. Stone delivers the tune — that summarizes the themes of the film brilliantly — with a power and passion that is nowhere to be found in the earlier numbers.

The song and Stone's performance — both of Oscar winning quality — are the catalyst that changes "La La Land" from being a light attempt to salute old Hollywood into a modern take on various forms of passion.

Chazelle finally picks up the tempo and keeps the beats defined, which gives the movie direction and purpose. At the same time, the director embraces many of the tropes of '50s movie musicals that elevate the film to a grand place.

After watching the early part of the movie unfold in such a predictable manner, Chazelle throws movie rules away for his finale. This makes it fresh and an engaging way to send an audience home, whether they are on board with the final plot points or not.

The last quarter of "La La Land" is so beautifully shot and performed, it makes up for the flat opening. It becomes a film that embraces a world where dreamers may seem foolish but eventually are very interesting.

WANT TO GO?

"La La Land" is now playing at Regal City Permian Place 11 at Music City Mall, 4101 E. 42nd St., Odessa.

"La La Land"

3 stars
Cast: Ryan Gosling, Emma Stone, Terry Walters, J.K. Simmons, Rosemarie DeWitt
Directors: Damien Chazelle
128 minutes
Rating: PG-13 (language)

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

REDBOX'S TOP 10 DVD RENTALS

The Top 10 DVD rentals for the week of Dec. 26:

1. Sully — Warner
2. Storks — Warner
3. Suicide Squad — Warner
4. War Dogs — Warner
5. Bad Moms — Universal
6. The Magnificent Seven — Sony
7. Central Intelligence — Warner
8. Kubo and the Two Strings — Universal
9. Mechanic: Resurrection — Lionsgate
10. Ben-Hur — Paramount

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

FILM CAPS

Assassin's Creed" (PG-13) Michael Fassbender plays a man who accesses his genetic memories via a new technology, learns he is descended from a secret society, the Assassins, and must battle their centuries-long adversaries, the Templar organization. With Marion Cotillard, Jeremy Irons, Brendan Gleeson, Charlotte Rampling, Michael K. Williams, Khalid Abdalla. Written by Michael Lesslie & Adam Cooper & Bill Collage, based on the game series. Directed by Justin Kurzel.

"Collateral Beauty" (PG-13) The friends of a New York ad executive intervene to halt his descent following a tragedy. With Edward Norton, Keira Knightley, Michael Pena, Naomie Harris, Jacob Latimore, Kate Winslet and Helen Mirren. Written by Allan Loeb. Directed by David Frankel.

"Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" (PG-13) Eddie Redmayne stars as Magizoologist Newt Scamander, whose misadventures in New York City include the escape of recently collected creatures. With Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol, Ezra Miller, Samantha Morton, Jon Voight, Ron Perlman, Carmen Ejogo and Colin Farrell. Written by J.K. Rowling. Directed by David Yates.

"Fences" (PG-13) Denzel Washington directs and reprises his 2010 Broadway role opposite Viola Davis in this adaptation of playwright August Wilson's drama about a former Negro League baseball player struggling to provide for his family in 1950s Pittsburgh. With Stephen Henderson, Jovan Adepo, Russell Hornsby, Mykelti Williamson, Saniyya Sidney.

"Hidden Figures." (PG) Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer and Janelle Monde are terrific in this feel-good family movie about a group of black female mathematicians who worked at NASA during the 1960s. The true story is about overqualified scientists who could only get jobs crunching numbers for their white male bosses, but who overcame prejudice to make their own mark on the space program. Where it lacks as serious history, the film makes up for with an empowering social message. The ensemble casts includes Kevin Costner, Glen Powell, Mahershala Ali and Aldis Hodge.

"La La Land" (PG-13) Starring a well-paired Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone, writer-director Damien Chazelle's tuneful tribute to classic movie musicals is often stronger in concept than execution, but it's lovely and transporting all the same. Now showing at Regal Cinemas Permian Place 11 in Odessa.

"Manchester by the Sea" (R) Powerful, emotional filmmaking that leaves a scar, Kenneth Lonergan's drama starring Casey Affleck and Michelle Williams is both heartbreaking and heartening, a film that just wallops you with its honesty, its authenticity, and its access to despair. Now showing at Regal Cinemas Permian Place 11 in Odessa.

"Moana" (PG) A Polynesian princess (well, a chief's daughter, anyway) joins forces with a shape-shifting demigod (no, not a shape-shifting demagogue) to bring peace to a troubled South Pacific isle. Songs are sung, cutesy sidekicks are introduced, oceanic canoe trips are taken, in Disney's 56th animated feature. With the voice talents of 2016's sexiest man alive, Dwayne Johnson, and Auli'i Cravalho in the title role.

"A Monster Calls" (PG-13) A boy (Lewis MacDougall) befriends a tree monster (Liam Neeson) to help him with his terminally ill mother (Felicity Jones).

"Passengers" (PG-13) Jennifer Lawrence and Chris Pratt play interstellar commuters traveling to a far off planet who awaken 90 years prematurely, threatening their survival and forcing them to investigate the cause as they fight their attraction to each other. With Michael Sheen. Written by Jon Spaihts. Directed by Morten Tyldum.

"Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" (PG-13) Before "A New Hope," a ragtag group of rebels set out to steal the plans to the Death Star. With Felicity Jones, Diego Luna, Ben Mendelsohn, Donnie Yen, Mads Mikkelsen, Alan Tudyk, Riz Ahmed, Jiang Wen and Forest Whitaker. Directed by Gareth Edwards.

"Sing" (PG) Animated musical about a theatrical mogul koala who stages a singing competition to save his stage. Voices by Matthew McConaughey, Seth MacFarlane, Tori Kelly, Reese Witherspoon, Taron Egerton, Scarlett Johansson. Written and directed by Garth Jennings.

"Underworld: Blood Wars" (R) Kate Beckinsale returns as a Vampire death dealer, simultaneously battling the Lycan clan and the Vampire faction that betrayed her. With Theo James, Lara Pulver, Charles Dance. Written by Cory Goodman, story by Kyle Ward and Cory Goodman, based on characters created by Kevin Grevioux and Len Wiseman & Danny McBride. Directed by Anna Foerster.

"Why Him!" (R) A vigilant father visits his daughter at Stanford and clashes with her tech mogul boyfriend. With James Franco, Bryan Cranston, Megan Mullally, Zoey Deutch, Cedric the Entertainer, Griffin Gluck, Keegan-Michael Key. Written by John Hamburg & Ian Helfer, story by Jonah Hill and Hamburg & Ian Helfer. Directed by John Hamburg.

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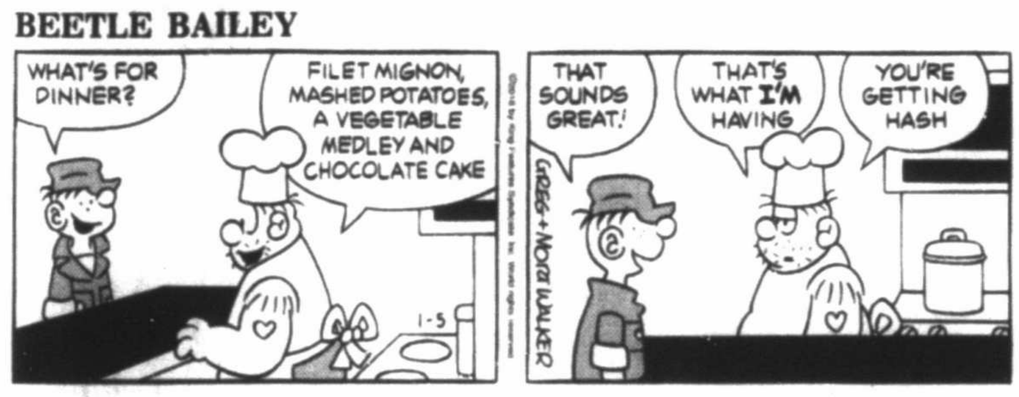
FUNKY WINKERBEAN

LUANN

BLONDIE

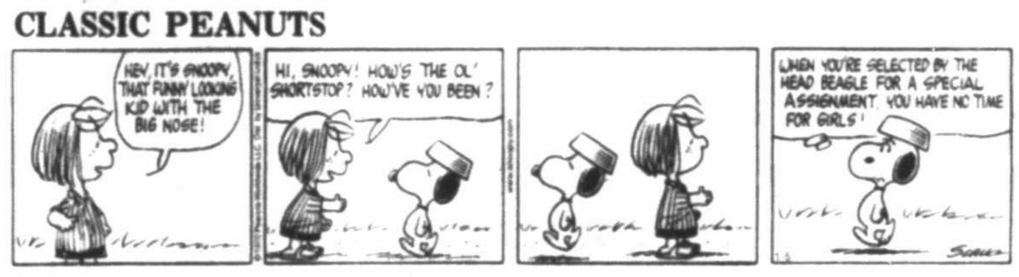
MARY WORTH

BEETLE BAILEY



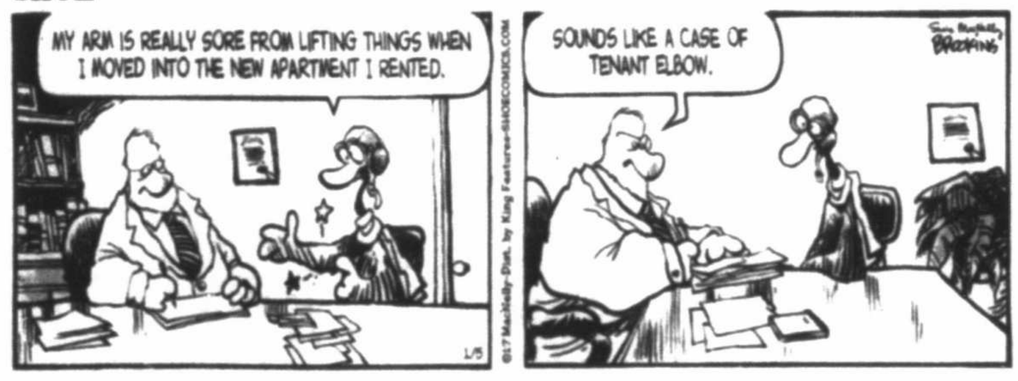
ZITS

CLASSIC PEANUTS

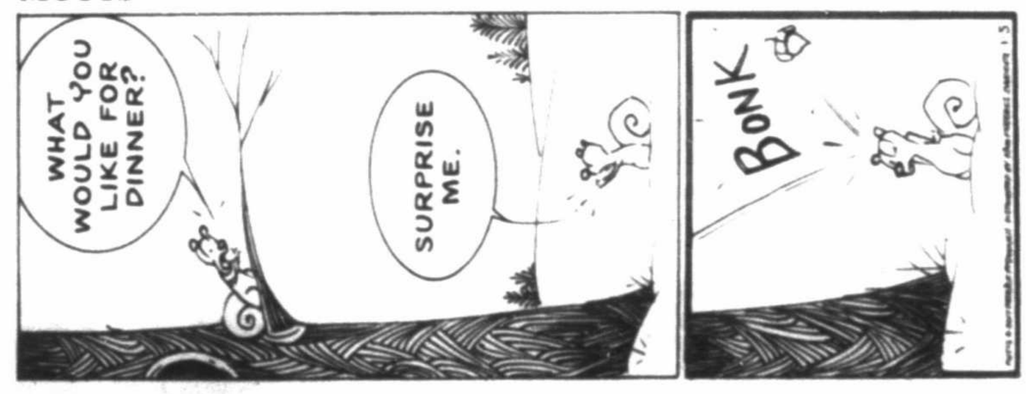


BABY BLUES

SHOE

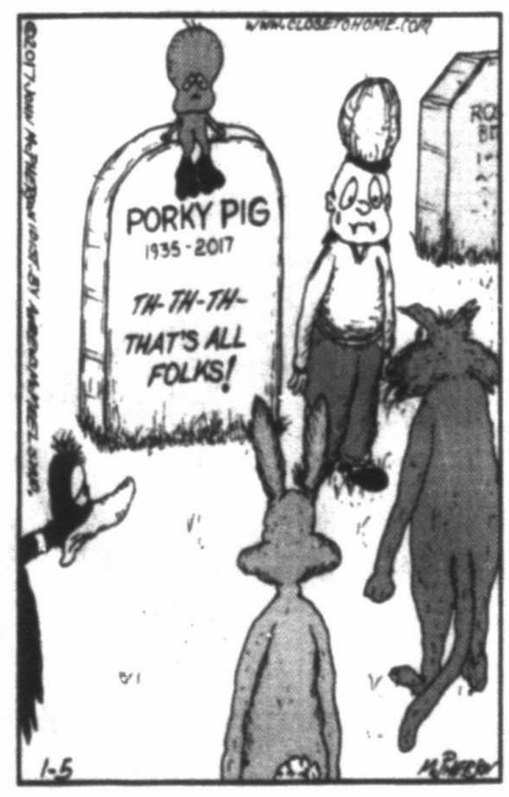


MUTTS



GARFIELD

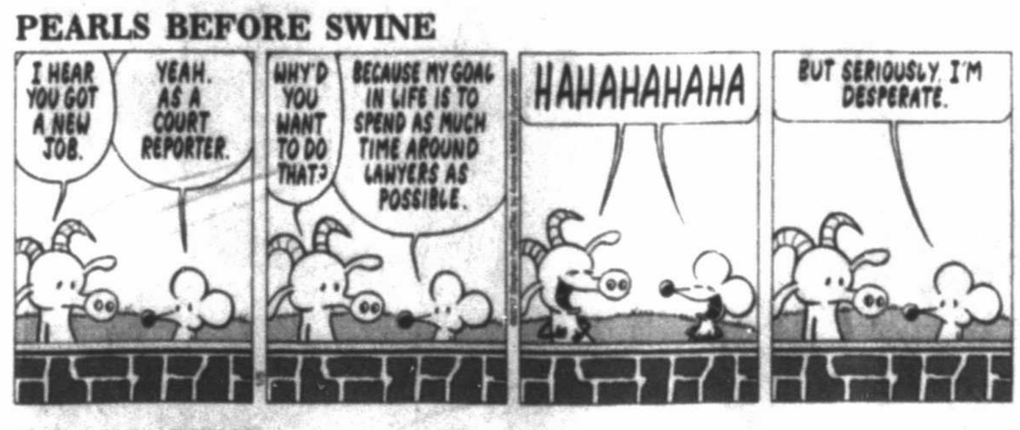
CLOSE TO HOME



DENNIS THE MENACE

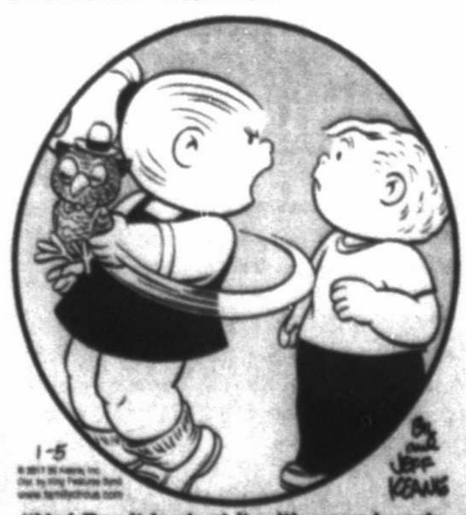
"RUFF CHASES HIS TAIL BECAUSE HE'S TRYING TO MAKE ENDS MEET."

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID

FAMILY CIRCUS

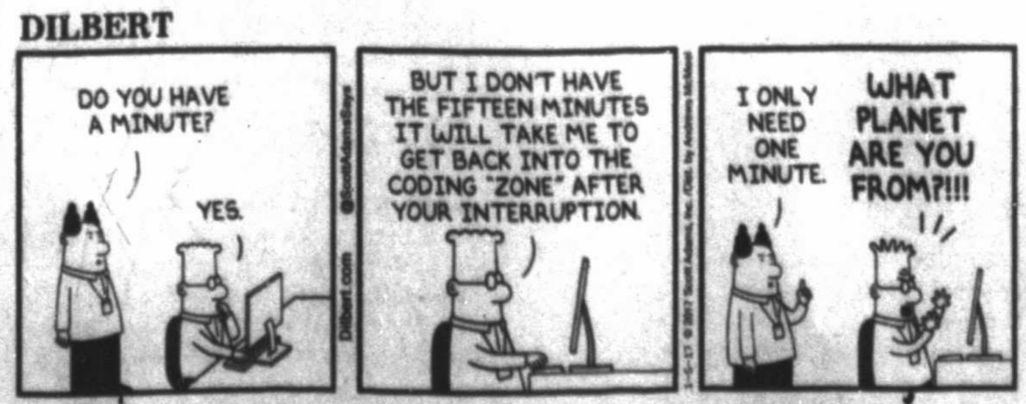


"No! Don't look at it with your hands, just your EYES!"

LOCKHORNS

"I THOUGHT LEROY AND I WOULD GROW OLD TOGETHER, BUT HE BEAT ME TO IT."

DILBERT

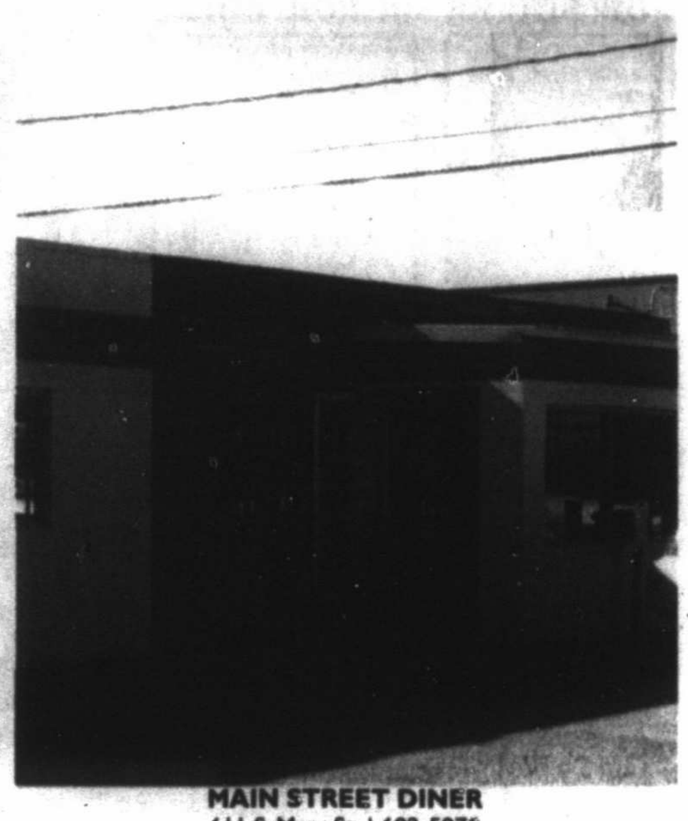


DINING

WEEKENDER PUBLISHES A PORTION OF THE RESTAURANT GUIDE EACH WEEK. ENTREE PRICE RANGE IS BASED ON THE AVERAGE ENTREE PRICE ON THE MENU: $ = $1-10, $$ = $10-20 AND $$$ = $20 OR MORE. RESTAURANTS ARE GIVEN A GENERAL RATING BASED ON QUALITY OF FOOD, SERVICE, CLEANLINESS, ATMOSPHERE AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE. 1 SPOON = POOR, 2 SPOONS = AVERAGE, 3 SPOONS = ABOVE AVERAGE, 4 SPOONS = GOOD AND 5 SPOONS = EXCELLENT.

STANTON DRUG AND OLD-FASHIONED SODA FOUNTAIN
201 N. ST. PETER ST., STANTON | 432-756-3731

MULBERRY CAFÉ
2101 W. WADLEY AVE. | 242-5952



MAIN STREET DINER
611 S. MAIN ST. | 682-5970

AMERICAN & GRILL

ADDIE'S DINER Great burgers and salads with a '50s diner vibe. Chicken fried steak or steak fingers, chicken fried chicken or chicken fingers, fried catfish, hamburger steak and grilled pork chop entrees. Breakfast until 10:30 a.m. 304 E. Florida Ave. 686-2044. | $ | 4 spoons

BUFFALO WILD WINGS Grill and Bar Sports bar with more than 40 TVs inside serves wings, burgers, sandwiches and snacks. Try one of the wraps with your choice of more than 14 sauces. Smoking allowed inside. 5107 W. Wadley Ave. 694-9400 | $ | 3 spoons

BUSH'S CHICKEN Save room for the red cinnamon apple pie for dessert. Fried chicken with traditional sides. Iced tea by the gallon. Three-lane drive through. 2210 N. Big Spring St. 687-7090 www.bushschicken.com | $ | 3 spoons

THE CAFÉ AT CRESTVIEW Quiet cafe inside Crestview Baptist Church is open to the public and serves fabulous desserts. Sandwiches, soups, burgers, Tex-Mex dishes. 301 N. Loop 250 West. 681-8200 www.crestviewmidland.org | $ | 3 spoons

CAFÉ AT THE GARDENS Want to feel like you've left West Texas? Enjoy a cup of soup next to a koi pond inside a green house. Sandwiches and burgers on freshly baked bread, quiche, salads. Open for dinner and drinks on Thursday night. 3300 Fairgrounds Road. 687-1478 www.alldredgegardens.com | $ | 4 spoons

CHILI'S Featuring comfort food and a full-service bar, the chain is famous for its baby-back, baby-back, baby-back ribs. The broccoli cheese soup is some of the best around, as are the Southwestern eggrolls. 2100 Loop 250 Frontage Road. 687-3744 | $$ | 3 spoons

CLEAR SPRINGS CAFE One of the few places in Midland specializing in seafood claims to have the best onion rings and catfish in "Texas, the World and the known Universe." This Texas chain also has locations in Tyler, New Braunfels, Nacogdoches and San Antonio. Seafood, steaks, burgers, salads. 5707 Andrews Highway 522-1188 www.clearspringscafe.com | $$ | 3 spoons.

COTTON PATCH CAFE Casual dining chain restaurant off of Loop 250. Specials include fried catfish. Soups, salads, steaks. 2320 W. Loop 250 N. 618-0070. www.cottonpatch.com | $ | 2 spoons.

CRACKER BARREL Breakfast all day. Chicken and dumplings, meatloaf, smoked ham, fried fish. Old Country Store sells candy, toys, rocking chairs, decorative items. 3108 N. Loop 250 West. 689-3137 www.crackerbarrel.com | $ | 3 spoons

DENNY'S Open 24 hours a day, Denny's is one of very few options for people looking to grab a bite to eat at 3 a.m. Breakfast, burgers, snacks, pies and coffee. 3701 W. Wall St. 520-5306 www.dennys.com | $ | 2 spoons

EDDIE'S CATFISH COMPANY When you open a catfish restaurant, why mess around with anything else? Except maybe fried shrimp, french fries, hush puppies, coleslaw and onion rings. That's the menu at Eddie's Catfish Company. All you have to do is decide how many pieces you want. 301 N. Lee St. 684-4422. www.eddiescatfishco.com | $ | 3 spoons.

FURR'S CAFETERIA One of Midland's oldest eateries, the restaurant has served the Tall City since the 1960s. The all-you-can-eat buffet lets you choose from an assortment of salads, entress, vegetables, breads and desserts, which includes the chain's world-famous pies. 1116 N. Midkiff Road 520-9629 | $ | 3 spoons

GRAHAM PHARMACY Refreshingly simple menu makes this a hot spot for lunch. Good luck finding a parking space. Try the pimento cheese sandwich and treat yourself to homemade fudge for dessert. Two locations 1601 W. Wall St. 684-5756, 4906 Briarwood Ave. 684-4479 www.grahampharmacy.com | $ | 3 spoons.

JOJO'S EATERY Possibly the best desserts in town. Buy pies and cakes by the slice or take one home. Oh yeah, and the sandwiches, salads and burgers aren't bad either. Downtown inside the Petroleum Building. 214 W. Texas Ave. 682-3134 | $ | 3 spoons.

LORI'S CAFÉ Homestyle, diner cooking with a few surprises like wild boar sausage served with two eggs and toast. Breakfast items, lunch menu. Lori's uses locally-sourced food when available. 210 W. Longview, Ave., Suite G, 570-1701 www.loriscafe.net | $ | 3 spoons.

MAIN STREET DINER Breakfast and lunch eatery feature fresh comfort foos such as chicken and dumplings. One Yelp review said "If you are traveling through and really want to experience a local place with the spirit of Midland, Main Street is it." 611 S. Main St, 682-5970 | $ | 4 spoons

MULBERRY CAFE The third restaurant under the Morales family banner, which also includes Gerardo's Casita and Gerardo's Bistro, is an ideal place for a relaxing Saturday or Sunday breakfast or a quick weekday lunch. The lunch and dinner menu features soups (the broccoli cheese soup is a filling meal), salads, wraps, sandwiches and burgers. The wraps, sandwiches and burgers come with homemade chips. 2101 W. Wadley Ave. | $$ | 4 spoons

THE RANCH HOUSE Stop by for a sandwich or pick up a whole ham or turkey for holidays. Sandwich options include chicken or tuna salad, turkey breast, peppered beef or ham, honey glazed ham, smoked brisket and barbecue. 5103 W. Wadley Ave. 699-0695 www.goldenglazedhams.com | $ | 3 spoons.

STANTON DRUG AND OLD-FASHIONED SODA FOUNTAIN Drive about a half-hour away from Midland for a hamburger or sandwich at Stanton Drug Store. Get there early. The owners close shop when they run out of meat for the day. 201 N. St. Peter, St., Stanton. 432-756-3731 | $ | 3 spoons

STRAWBERRY FIELDS CAFE Try the Santa Fe wrap. All organic menu with daily specials, sandwiches, wraps, smoothies. Soup and salad bar. If you can't find a table or need a quick lunch, check out the section of foods 'to go' inside the Natural Foods Market. 2311 W. Wadley Ave. 684-5869 www.naturalfoodsmkt.com | $ | 4 spoons

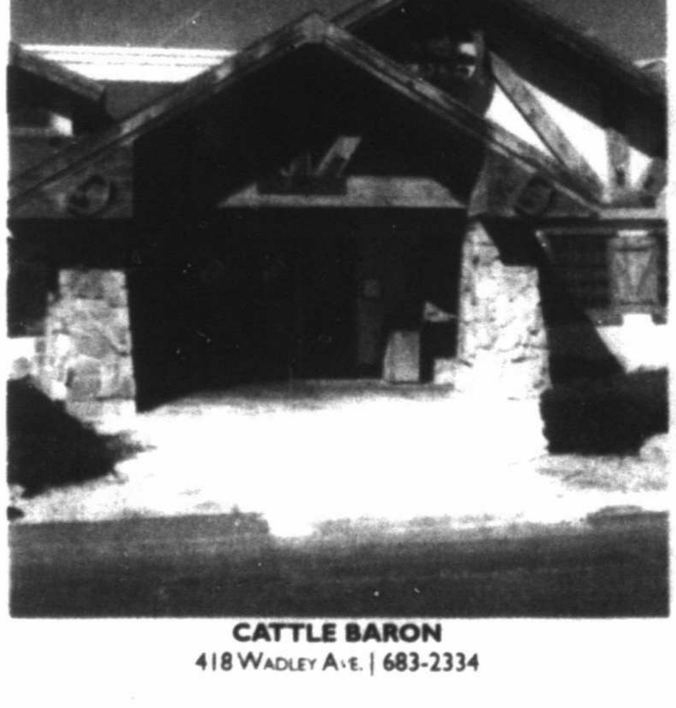
TATER WORLD The menu centers around this local restaurant's namesake. If you're hungry, go for the huge baked potatoes stuffed with brisket or steak. The menu has more than just potatoes. Ask around town and you'll hear Tater World has some of the best catfish in Midland. 802 S. Garfield St. 682-9111 | $ | 4 spoons

THE BAR Arguably the best burgers in town. Go during the fall or winter for the chili and cornbread. Live music and drink specials in the evenings. Try a bloody Mary with Saturday brunch. 606 W. Missouri Ave. 685-1757 www.thebarmidland.com | $$ | 4 spoons

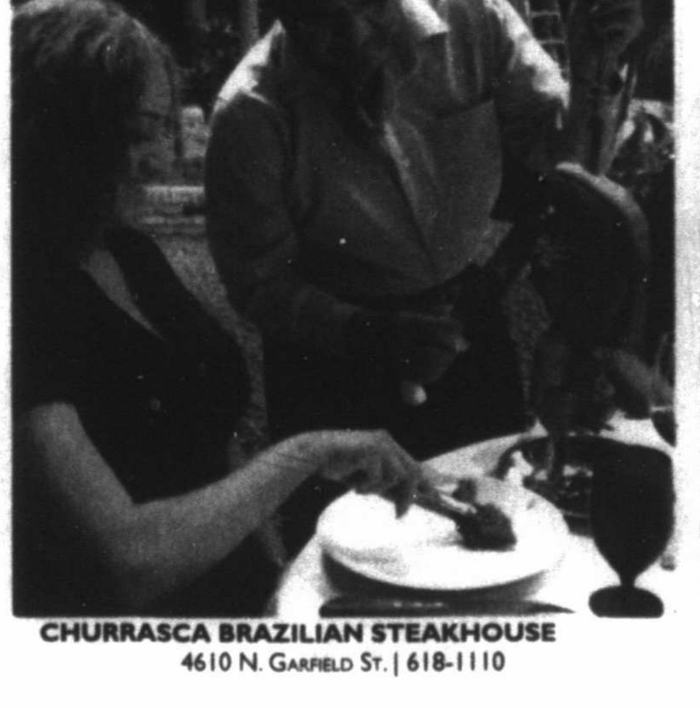
TRIPLE THREAT SPORTS BAR & GRILL Philly cheesesteaks are the star of the menu but this sports bar also offers popcorn shrimp, chicken tenders, salads and appetizers. Smoking is permitted inside. 12 Meta Drive 683-5300 | $ | 4 spoons

THE TURN SPORTS BAR & GRILL The former Sedona is all new, featuring a sports-themed look and an American classics menu, including a chicken fries steak that ranks among the best in town. 2101 W. Wadley Ave., 695-6240 |$ | 4 spoons

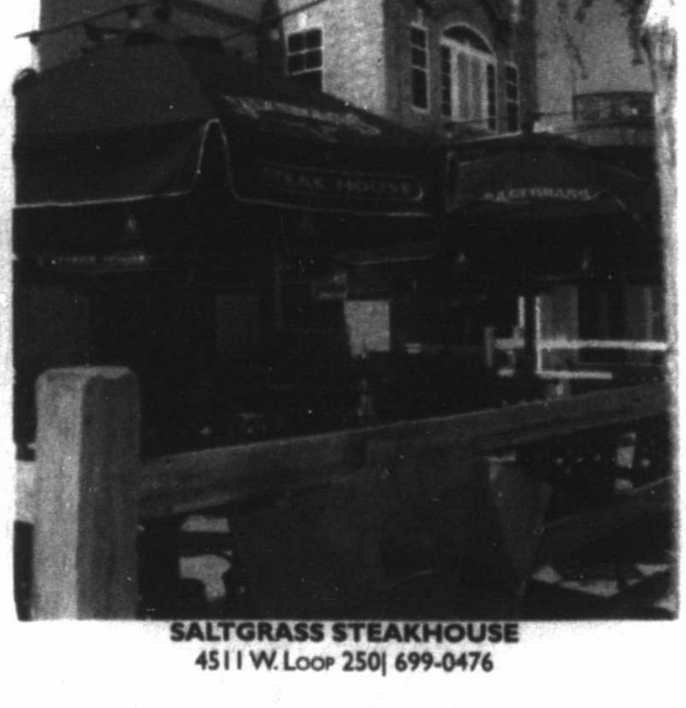
WING STOP Nine wing sauce flavors range from mild to atomic. In the middle are lemon pepper, Hawaiian and garlic parmesan. 3323 N. Midland Drive, Suite 105 694-WING (9464) www.wingstop.com | $ | 4 spoons



CATTLE BARON
418 WADLEY AVE. | 683-2334



CHURRASCA BRAZILIAN STEAKHOUSE
4610 N. GARFIELD ST. | 618-1110



SALTGRASS STEAKHOUSE
4511 W. LOOP 250| 699-0476

STEAKS & SEAFOOD

BILL'S BISTRO Locally-owned fine dining establishment featuring steaks and fresh seafood specials for dinner service and salads and burgers for lunch. Located next to The Wine Rack, diners may sit inside Bill's Bistro or The Wine Rack for lunch service. Appetizers from the restaurant are offered in the evenings at The Wine Rack. 4610 N. Garfield St. Suite D3 | 218-7383 | $$$ | 4 spoons

CATTLE BARON Western-themed steakhouse with prime rib, fresh catfish and Alaskan king crab. The salad bar is worth the trip. 418 Wadley Ave. 683-2334. cattlebaron.com | $$ | 3 spoons

CHURRASCA BRAZILIAN STEAK HOUSE Churrasca serves meat — from chicken to lamb and pork to beef — directly at the table in an all-you-can-eat style. 4610 N. Garfield St., 618-1110 | $$$ | 4 spoons

GARLIC PRESS Fine dining with menu items including hand-cut steaks, seafood and pasta. Or try something from the small plates menu. Dessert menu changes weekly. 2200 W. Wadley Ave. No. 6 Oak Ridge Square | 570-4020 | thegarlicpress.net | $$$ | 4 spoons

LOGAN'S ROADHOUSE American standards like burgers, steaks and ribs, plus signature cocktails and all the peanuts you can shell and eat, the chain's Midland location has had some issues with slow service and cold food but things look to be on the mend. 609 N. Loop 250 W 689-6464 | $$ | 2 spoons

RANCHLAND HILLS GOLF CLUB Renovated club restaurant doesn't require a membership. Go for breakfast or try steak seafood at dinner. 1600 E. Wadley Ave. 682-3729 www.Ranchlandhills.com | $$ | 4 spoons

SALTGRASS STEAKHOUSE Midland's only restaurant from the Landry's chain specializes in steaks. For something different, try the warm steak salad that includes grilled veggies and steak piled on top of a bed of greens. 4511 W. Loop 250 699-0476 www.saltgrass.com | $$ | 4 spoons

STEAK 42 Locally-owned steakhouse with fine dining menu and occasional live music and special events. Look for quarterly pop-up brunches. 911 S. Big Spring St. | 704-5242 | not yet reviewed

STEAK EXPRESS Surprisingly good steaks and burgers for take-out or delivery. Burgers are a meal by themselves. Steaks come with traditional sides. 3316 W. Illinois Ave. 694-4040 | $$ | 4 spoons

TEXAS ROADHOUSE Call-ahead seating is available for busy chain restaurant on Loop 250 offers steaks, burgers, sandwiches and more. 4512 W. Loop 250 N. 689-7427 | $$ | 4 spoons

WALL STREET BAR & GRILL Arguably the best steak and seafood in Midland. If you're in the mood for something else, try the chicken fried steak or the Dijon chicken. And save room for the Gold Brick dessert. 115 East Wall St. 684-8686 | $$ | 5 spoons

MC shakes off rust, beats Coastal Bend College

Bunn

Dixon

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Midland College women's basketball coach Ron Jones knew that his team would be rusty against Coastal Bend College on Wednesday because the Lady Chaparrals had not played in nearly a month.

That rust showed especially early when the No. 12-ranked Lady Chaps struggled to get out of the gate against the Cougars.

But once they got the kinks out and their post players started taking over, MC started the new year with a 66-57 win at Chaparral Center.

The Lady Chaps (9-3) shot only 37 percent from the game, including a chilly 7 of 26 from 3-point range. Coastal Bend (4-11) hit 10 of 31 from long range but just 28.2 percent for the game.

That was to be expected since the last time both teams were on the court was Dec. 9 when MC got a 74-55 win at Coastal Bend College.

"We should be (rusty) considering we haven't played in a month," Jones said. "That doesn't mean I enjoy watching 15 or 20 missed shots at the basket. But we'll play ourselves back into shape and back into a little bit of a rhythm. We got back and basically practiced two days. My expectations today weren't the same as they will be soon.

"I thought when we hit shots our energy was better. Probably the thing that disappoints me the most is that we can't have our energy go up and down with how we feel. We've got to stay energized, regardless of how things are going. That's what we'll keep working on."

MC will have two more non-conference games before getting back into Western Junior College Athletic Conference action next Thursday against rival Howard College.

Coastal Bend had as much as a 14-7 lead early in the game before a 9-0 run by MC gave the Lady Chaps the lead for good. Sophomore post player Janea Bunn had four of MC's points in that spurt and finished with a double-double of 19 points and 14 rebounds.

"I think we did pretty good coming after the break," Bunn said. "We just have to work on the basic things, like blocking out, and we have to finish shots. We were pretty much trying to get into shape."

Teneshia Dixon added 14 points and six rebounds, while Lisa Kaempf added 10 points.

Darias Whittington finished with a game-high 23 points, sank six 3-pointers and added eight boards, while Samantha Atkinson-Roach chipped in with 12 points for the Cougars.

MC will have another home game at 4 p.m. today when it hosts Trinidad State College in a rematch of a game on Nov. 11 in Trinidad, Colorado, in which the Lady Chaps won 68-56 in

Please see MC/3C

READY FOR THE FIELD

Dawgs, Rebs aim to make statements in 2017

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

MISD's two boys soccer programs finished on opposite ends of the District 3-6A standings last season.

On one hand, the Bulldogs dominated their regular season competition and bulldozed their way to the district title behind a superb 33-goal differential and 10 shutouts. Conversely the Rebels, snakebitten most of the season by an inability to finish scoring chances, tumbled to fifth in the district with an 8-10-2 overall mark.

This season, both clubs are looking to make statements in the new District 2-6A, which saw the departure of postseason fixture San Angelo Central.

MHS, which opens its 2017 campaign against Grand Prairie at 5 p.m. today in the Coppell Showcase, will seek to repeat its 2016 success with a much younger roster.

The Bulldogs graduated a standout senior class that included district MVP Alex VonHolle, dazzling forward Homero Vasquez and seven others who earned all-district first team, second team or honorable mention selections last season.

The hallmark of the 2016 Bulldogs was their experience and the team chemistry that grew with all of that time together on the field. Though much of that connection on the pitch will have to be rebuilt, MHS head coach Warren Cottle believes he has the right group of players to do it.

"The beauty of this group is that they work their tails off," said Cottle, now in his 10th year with the program. "This new group is pretty incredible, and I'm looking forward to what this team will be."

MHS' collection of returners is headlined by the district's reigning Newcomer of the Year and junior forward Brian Natividad, as well as steady senior goalkeeper Pedro Cereceres. Those two will be accompanied by several exciting newcomers, namely sophomore forward Fernando Quintero and junior center back Donte Ferguson.

Cottle added that producing another district championship will be a difficult task with a largely re-built roster, as well as the challenge of an always competitive district.

But in similar fashion to last season's run to the area round of the playoffs, the Bulldogs expect to grow closer together as the year moves along. They have the goal of pushing toward a final product and playing their best soccer by mid-March.

"(Early in the season), it'll be a learning experience," Cottle said. "They'll come together, and as long as they stay focused, the sky is the limit."

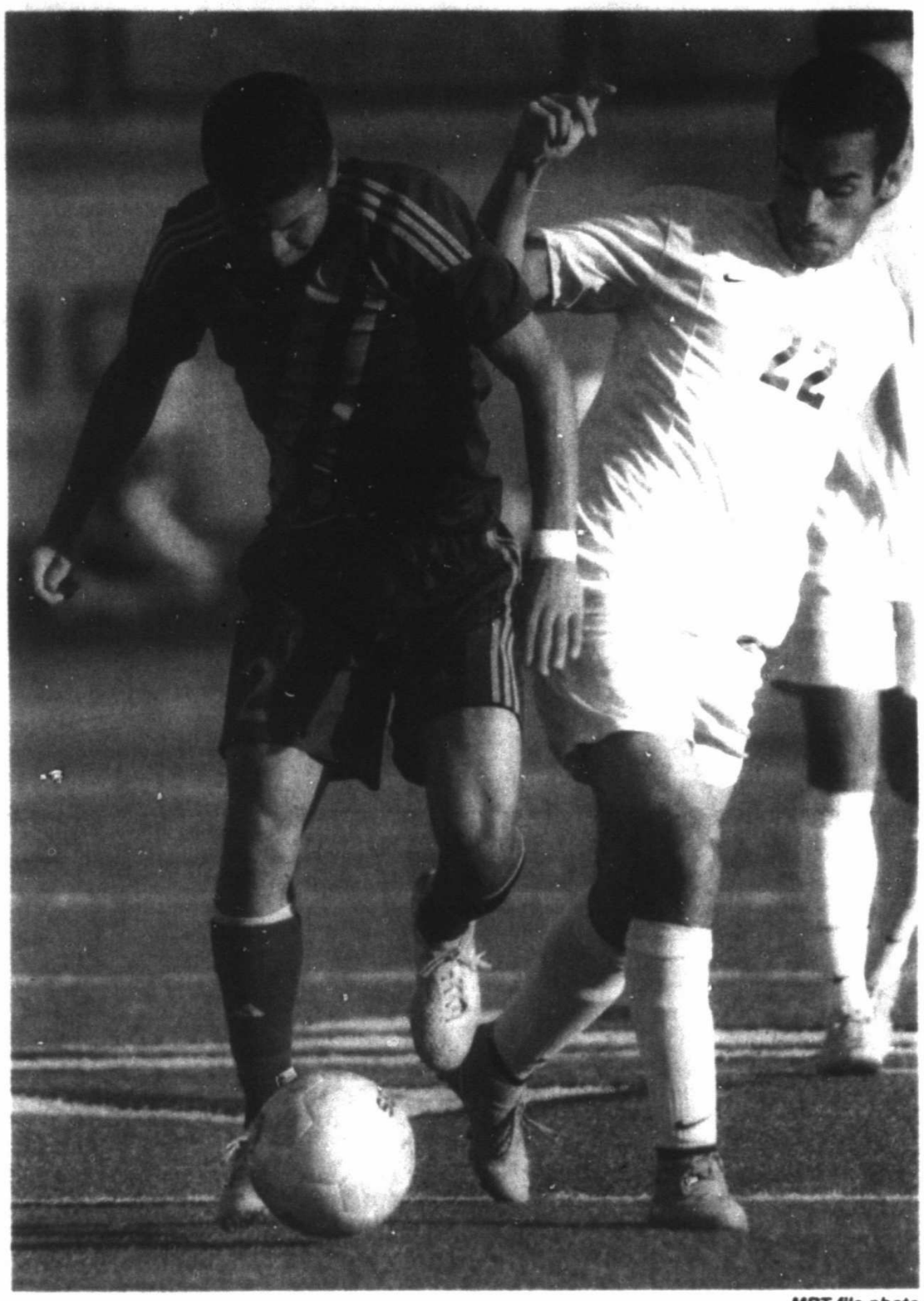
Meanwhile, Lee which kicks off today in the New Braunfels Tournament, is hungry to start putting the ball in the back of the net more often.

Finishing opportunities has been the Rebels' primary focuses since the end of last season. That was a major deficiency that cost Lee several points in the district standings and, perhaps, a spot in the playoffs for the first time since 2013.

"In many of our games last year, we outshot our opponents dramatically but we just didn't take advantage of opportunities," said Lee co-head coach Scott Hicks. "They just have to gain confidence when it comes to finishing."

Junior midfielder and captain Luis Aranda, who is entering his third varsity season, said the team keeping its

Please see BOYS/3C



MRT file photo

Midland High's Brian Natividad tries to shield the ball from Lee's Leandro Aranda on March 7, 2016, at Grande Communications Stadium.

New coaches Barham, Hinshaw lead MHS, Lee

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Lee girls soccer coach Mark Hinshaw works with his players Tuesday during practice.

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

The Midland ISD varsity girls soccer programs are ushering in new eras as both Midland High and Lee went through coaching changes over the summer.

At MHS, Cooper Barham makes the move from being an assistant coach for the Bulldogs' boys program to head coach of the girls' team, while Mark Hinshaw comes back to Texas to coach the Lady Rebels.

Both teams begin their season today. MHS will play Denton Ryan in the Dr. Pink Tournament at The Star in Frisco tonight, while Lee heads all the way to southeast Texas to take on Tomball Memorial in the College Station Tournament.

While both programs have new faces at the top, it seems like both coaches are eager to get started.

"Ever since we could start practicing after school, the girls have been working really hard," Barham said. "Being that this is my first head coaching job, I'm a little bit anxious but I'm also super excited to get started."

Added Hinshaw, "I've been working with the girls since August and they've been working hard. They're excited to get out there and start competing. I'm really excited to be here in Midland. It seems like we have

Please see GIRLS/3C

Rodriguez, Walls to headline 2017 West Texas Sports Banquet

From staff reports

The Midland RockHounds have announced that a Texas Rangers legend and a Dallas Cowboy great will highlight this year's West Texas Sports Banquet and Memorabilia Auction.

Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez and Everson Walls will be the featured guest speakers for this year's event, which takes place at Midland Country Club on Feb. 1. The silent auction will begin at 5:30 p.m., the dinner at 6 p.m. and then the program starts at 7 p.m.

Rodriguez is considered one of the greatest defensive catchers in Major League Baseball history and is on this year's ballot for the Hall of Fame, whose inductees will be announced on Jan. 18. Rodriguez played 21 seasons in the majors, winning the 2003 World Series with the Florida Marlins.

Rodriguez, however, spent the majority of his career with the Rangers, playing with the club from 1992-2001 and again in 2009. He was inducted into the Rangers' Hall of Fame in 2013.

Rodriguez' credentials are strong to enter Baseball's Hall as he was a 14-time All-Star, an 11-time Gold Glove winner, a seven-time Silver Slugger Award winner, the American League MVP in 1999, and the National League Championship Series MVP in 2003 when he helped the Marlins reach the World Series.

Walls was a four-time Pro Bowler with the Cowboys, playing in Dallas from 1981-89. He eventually won a Super Bowl with the New York Giants in 1991.

A native of Richardson, Walls was signed by the Cowboys as a free agent coming out of Grambling State but had an immediate impact with the team. He is one of only two players (Ed Reed being the other) to lead the league in interceptions three times and the Cowboys in picks five times.

In his college and pro career, Walls played for some of the game's legendary coaches, including Eddie Robinson at Grambling, Tom Landry and Jimmy Johnson in Dallas as Bill Parcells and Bill Belichick in New York.

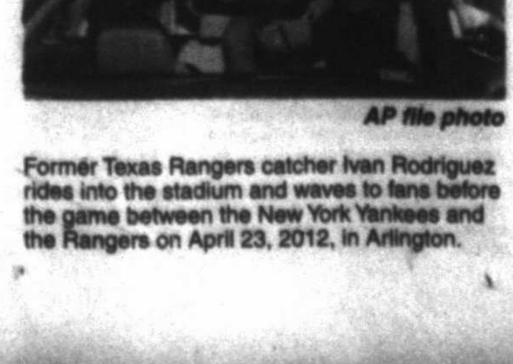
Everson's book, "A Gift for Ron," details his career on and off the field, including his decision to donate a kidney to former Cowboys teammate Ron Springs.

The event will also include the naming of the Scott Seator Community Achievement Award and will also include special guests Tom Kayser (former Texas League President), Tim Purpura (current Texas League President), former RockHounds managers Aaron Nieckula and Ryan Christenson, new RockHounds manager Fran Riordan and RockHounds co-owners Miles Prentice and Bob Richmond.

SCHULZE TO RETURN: The RockHounds also announced Wednesday that Don Schulze will serve as the RockHounds pitching coach for the upcoming season after John Wasdin was named as the minor league pitching coordinator for the Baltimore Orioles.

Schulze served as the RockHounds pitching coach from 2011-14 helping Midland capture the first of three consecutive Texas League titles in 2014.

In his previous stint in Midland, Schulze helped develop current major league pitchers Sonny Gray, Sean Doolittle, A.J. Griffin, Dan Straily and Ryan Dull.



AP file photo

Former Texas Rangers catcher Ivan Rodriguez rides into the stadium and waves to fans before the game between the New York Yankees and the Rangers on April 23, 2012, in Arlington.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV

GOLF

PGA: SBS Tournament of Champions, 1st Round, 5 p.m., GOLF

IIHF World Junior Hockey

Bronze Medal Game, 2:30 p.m., NHL

Gold Medal Game, 7 p.m., NHL

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Purdue at Ohio State, 6 p.m., ESPN

Connecticut at Memphis, 6 p.m., ESPN2

Davidson at George Washington, 6 p.m., ESPNU

Middle Tennessee at Rice, 7 p.m., beIN

Charlotte at Western Kentucky, 7 p.m., FCSA

Northern Arizona at North Dakota, 7 p.m., FCSP

UAB at North Texas, 7 p.m., ESPN3

New Orleans at Lamar, 7:30 p.m., ESPN3

Cal at UCLA, 8 p.m., ESPN

Gonzaga at San Francisco, 8 p.m., ESPN2

Minnesota at Northwestern, 8 p.m., ESPNU

Fairleigh Dickinson at Wagner, 8 p.m., CBSSN

Utah at Arizona, 9 p.m., FS1

BYU at Saint Mary's, 10 p.m., ESPNU

MEN'S SOCCER

Copa del Rey: Athletic Bilbao vs. FC Barcelona, 2:10 p.m., beIN, beIN2

NBA

Oklahoma City at Houston, 7 p.m., TNT

Phoenix at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., FSSW

San Antonio at Denver, 8 p.m., FSSW+

LA Lakers at Portland, 9:30 p.m., TNT

NHL

Buffalo at Chicago, 7:30 p.m., NBCSN

TENNIS

ATP: Qatar ExxonMobil Open, 1st Quarterfinal, 6:30 a.m., TENNIS

ATP: Qatar ExxonMobil Open, 2nd Quarterfinal, 8:30 a.m., TENNIS

ATP: Qatar ExxonMobil Open, 3rd Quarterfinal, 10:30 a.m., TENNIS

ATP: Qatar ExxonMobil Open, 4th Quarterfinal, 12:30 p.m., TENNIS

ATP, Brisbane International, Round of 16, 7 p.m., TENNIS

WTA: Brisbane International, Semifinal, 10 p.m., beIN

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

UT Martin at Belmont, 4 p.m., ESPNU

New Orleans at Lamar, 5:30 p.m., ESPN3

Richmond at VCU, 6 p.m., CBSSN

Boston College at Pitt, 6 p.m., FSSW+

Missouri at Kentucky, 6 p.m., SEC

Texas A&M at Georgia, 6 p.m., SEC+

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi at Stephen F. Austin, 7 p.m., ESPN3

Tennessee at Vanderbilt, 8 p.m., SEC

ON RADIO

NBA

Phoenix at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., KBST 1490 AM (Big Spring)

San Antonio at Denver, 8 p.m., KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring)

WHAT'S ON DECK

High school

GIRLS BASKETBALL

MCA at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

MCA at Garden City, 8 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER

Midland High at Coppell Tournament

GIRLS SOCCER

Lee at Tomball Memorial, TBA

Midland High at Dr. Pink Tournament, Frisco

Junior college

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Trinidad State College at Midland College, 4 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Named Don Schulze pitching coach of Midland (TL).

National League

MIAMI MARLINS — Agreed to terms with 1B Tyler Moore, LHP Kelvin Marte, OF Brandon Barnes, SS Ryan Jackson and RHPs Juan Benitez and Javy Guerra on minor league contracts.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

DETROIT PISTONS — Assigned F Henry Ellenson to Grand Rapids (NBADL).

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Recalled F Troy Williams from Iowa (NBADL).

PHILADELPHIA 76ERS — Waived F Hollis Thompson. Assigned F Richaun Holmes to Delaware (NBADL).

FOOTBALL

National Football League

DALLAS COWBOYS — Waived G Ryan Seymour. Signed G Jonathan Cooper. Signed WR Shaquelle Evans to the practice squad.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Waived S Tyvis Powell. Signed WR Devin Hester.

TENNESSEE TITANS — Fired wide receivers coach Bob Bratkowski and assistant wide receivers coach Jason Tucker.

Canadian Football League

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Re-signed QB Dominique Davis and WR Gerrard Sheppard.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

CAROLINA HURRICANES — Placed G Eddie Lack on injured reserve. Claimed F Ty Rattie off waivers from St. Louis.

NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Recalled D Anthony Bitetto from Milwaukee (AHL).

NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Assigned G Eamon McAdam from Bridgeport (AHL) to Missouri (ECHL).

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Reassigned Fs Yanni Gourde and Michael Bournival and G Kristers Gudlevskis to Syracuse (AHL). Recalled G Adam Wilcox from Syracuse (AHL).

VANCOUVER CANUCKS — Assigned G Michael Garteig from Utica (AHL) to Alaska (ECHL).

SOCCER

US SOCCER FEDERATION— Named Matt Reis goalkeeping coach. Thomas Rongen chief scout and Dave Sarachan. Pat Noonan and Kenny Arena assistant coaches for the men's national team.

Major League Soccer

LA GALAXY — Announced the retirement of F Mike Magee.

NEW YORK RED BULLS — Re-signed D Aurelien Collin.

PORTLAND TIMBERS — Acquired D Roy Miller via transfer from Deportivo Saprissa (Primera Division-Costa Rica).

SPORTING KANSAS CITY — Signed F Gerso Fernandes.

COLLEGE

AUBURN — DE Carl Lawson will enter the NFL draft.

BAYLOR — Named Matt Lubick, Phil Snow, Elijah Robinson, Jeff Nixon and George DeLeone assistant football coaches.

INDIANA — Named Mike DeBord offensive coordinator and Grant Heard passing game coordinator and receivers coach.

OHIO STATE — LB Raekwon McMillan will enter the NFL draft.

PENN STATE — DE Garrett Sickels will enter the NFL draft.

STANFORD — DL Solomon Thomas will enter the NFL draft.

TEXAS — Named Tim Beck offensive coordinator.

Canadiens beat Stars 4-3 in OT

Associated Press

DALLAS — Max Pacioretty's second goal of the game, on a breakaway 19 seconds into overtime, lifted the Montreal Canadiens to a 4-3 victory over the Dallas Stars on Wednesday night.

Pacioretty took a pass from Jeff Petry and skated in on Stars goalie Kari Lehtonen for the win. Montreal was playing its fifth straight overtime game and improved to 3-0-2 in the stretch.

Dallas' Esa Lindell scored with 2:47 left in regulation time to tie the game.

Nathan Beaulieu had a goal and two assists and Alexander Radulov also scored for the Canadiens. Al Montoya stopped 39 shots and Shea Weber added two assists.

Tyler Seguin and John Klingberg also scored for the Stars, and Lehtonen finished with 29 saves.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	39	24	9	6	54	119	90
Ottawa	37	20	13	4	44	94	98
Boston	40	20	16	4	44	95	97
Toronto	37	17	12	8	42	113	109
Tampa Bay	39	19	16	4	42	113	111
Florida	39	16	15	8	40	93	106
Detroit	37	16	16	5	37	93	107
Buffalo	37	14	15	8	36	82	102

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Columbus	36	27	5	4	58	126	74
Pittsburgh	38	25	8	5	55	130	107
N.Y. Rangers	41	27	13	1	55	141	103
Washington	37	23	9	5	51	105	83
Philadelphia	40	20	15	5	45	118	125
Carolina	37	18	14	7	39	95	101
New Jersey	39	16	16	7	39	82	115
N.Y. Islanders	36	15	15	6	36	104	113

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	40	23	12	5	51	109	98
Minnesota	36	23	9	4	50	113	76
St. Louis	38	20	13	5	45	108	111
Winnipeg	41	19	19	3	41	113	122
Dallas	39	16	15	8	40	100	117
Nashville	37	16	14	7	39	103	102
Colorado	37	12	24	1	25	76	125

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	38	23	13	2	48	95	82
Anaheim	39	19	12	8	46	107	109
Edmonton	39	19	13	7	45	111	104
Los Angeles	38	19	15	4	42	94	92
Calgary	39	20	17	2	42	105	111
Vancouver	39	18	16	3	39	97	116
Arizona	37	11	21	5	27	82	121

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Scores and schedules

Wednesday's Scores

Winnipeg 4, Florida 1

Montreal 4, Dallas 3, OT

N.Y. Rangers 5, Philadelphia 2

Colorado at Calgary, late

Arizona at Vancouver, late

Detroit at Anaheim, late

Today's Games

Edmonton at Boston, 6 p.m.

Columbus at Washington, 6 p.m.

Nashville at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.

Carolina at St. Louis, 7 p.m.

Buffalo at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.

Detroit at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

Minnesota at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

Friday's Games

Nashville at Florida, 6:30 p.m.

Toronto at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.

Carolina at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.

N.Y. Islanders at Colorado, 8 p.m.

Calgary at Vancouver, 9:30 p.m.

Arizona at Anaheim, 9 p.m.

TEXAS COLLEGE ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Men

TUESDAY'S LATE GAME

TEXAS TECH 77

NO. 7 WEST VIRGINIA 76, OT

LUBBOCK — Anthony Livingston had been practicing taking 3-pointers from the corner before the game. That's what gave him the confidence to take the game-winner for Texas Tech.

"It was definitely a tough challenge for us," Livingston said of Tuesday night's 77-76 overtime upset of No. 7 West Virginia. "I shot that shot I think over a hundred times before the game, the same exact corner shot. So, I shot that shot with a lot of confidence."

His shot went through with 4.6 seconds left in overtime and Jevon Carter missed a desperation 3 for the Mountaineers, who had won eight straight.

West Virginia coach Bob Huggins was asked what's next for his team.

TEXAS 82

OKLAHOMA STATE 79

AUSTIN — Tevin Mack scored 18 of his career-best 27 points in the second half, lifting Texas to an 82-79 victory over Oklahoma State on Wednesday night.

Eric Davis Jr. scored 16 points for Texas — 14 in the second half. Kerwin Roach Jr. added 11.

Jeffrey Carroll led Oklahoma State (10-4, 0-2 Big 12) with a career-best 24 points. Jawun Evans added 19.

Mack, a sophomore, scored eight points during a 15-0 push that gave Texas (7-7, 1-1) a 61-50 lead with 11:32 remaining in the game.

But Evans brought Oklahoma State back with a 3-pointer and three free throws, leaving the Cowboys trailing by only four.

Women

NO. 2 BAYLOR 91

NO. 17 WEST VIRGINIA 56

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Since falling at Connecticut, No. 2 Baylor is up to an even dozen straight wins.

The Lady Bears have started the Big 12 season the same way most of the nonconference schedule went — with double-digit wins.

Thank a 72-61 loss at top-ranked UConn for that.

"I guess you can say that it was a wake-up call," Baylor's Kalani Brown said. "Good teams can beat you and anybody can beat anybody. We just play focused."

That was evident on Wednesday night, when Baylor dominated No. 17 West Virginia 91-56.

Brown and Baylor were in control almost from the start. Brown scored 11 of the Lady Bears' first 16 points. Alexis Jones had a pair of baskets during an 8-0 run early in the second quarter and Baylor maintained a double-digit lead the rest of the game.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES

Men

SOUTHWEST

Baylor 65, Iowa St. 63

Texas 82, Oklahoma St. 79

SOUTH

Alcorn St. 62, Prairie View 55

Bethune-Cookman 38, Savannah St. 31

Campbell 92, Charleston Southern 82

Coppin St. 75, SC State 59

Duke 110, Georgia Tech 57

E. Mennonite 87, Bridgewater (Va.) 80

Emory & Henry 102, Lynchburg 91

Florida A&M 78, Howard 66

Gardner-Webb 70, Radford 59

George Mason 86, UMass 81

Georgetown (Ky.) 76, Washington Adventist 73

Georgia College 74, SC-Aiken 67

Guilford 73, Roanoke 57

Hampden-Sydney 69, Randolph 63

Lincoln Memorial 93, Mars Hill 84

Longwood 79, Presbyterian 76

Morgan St. 58, Norfolk St. 56

Randolph-Macon 67, Va. Wesleyan 63

Richmond 80, Fordham 72

South Carolina 67, Georgia 61

Transylvania 73, Earlham 54

Vanderbilt 80, Auburn 61

Winthrop 80, High Point 74

MIDWEST

Allegheny 68, Wabash 62

Alma 107, Kalamazoo 63

Aquinas 77, Siena Heights 70

Baker 84, Evangel 63

Bradley 74, Evansville 63

Butler 66, Villanova 58

Concordia (Mich.) 80, Marygrove 70

Concordia (Moor.) 74, St. John's (Minn.) 73

Cornerstone 75, Michigan-Dearborn 72

Davenport 83, Madonna 49

Fort Wayne 80, Omaha 78

Gustavus 78, Augsburg 75

Hamline 60, St. Olaf 58

Hope 85, Albion 79

Loyola of Chicago 77, N. Iowa 66

Marian (Wis.) 84, Lakeland 74

Michigan St. 93, Rutgers 65

Milwaukee Engineering 65, Concordia (Wis.) 54

Olivet 61, Adrian 59

Ripon 98, Grinnell 82

St. Mary's (Minn.) 76, Macalester 74

St. Norbert 67, Beloit 58

St. Thomas (Minn.) 83, Bethel (Minn.) 74

W. Illinois 82, S. Dakota St. 74

Wichita St. 90, Drake 65

Wis.-Lutheran 79, Edgewood 77

Wis.-La Crosse 82, Wis.-Whitewater 68

Wis.-Oshkosh 73, Wis.-Stevens Pt. 68

Wis.-River Falls 80, Wis.-Eau Claire 59

Wis.-Stout 82, Wis.-Platteville 73

EAST

Bloomfield 70, Philadelphia 67

Canisius 83, Quinnipiac 77

Dominican (NY) 64, Sciences (Pa.) 62

La Salle 75, Saint Louis 54

LeMoyne 69, Stonehill 66

Lehman 69, York (NY) 59

MIT 76, Clark U. 51

NJIT 75, Brown 73

Niagara 71, Siena 66

Post (Conn.) 81, Chestnut Hill 56

Providence 76, Georgetown 70

S. Maine 71, Maine Maritime 57

Scranton 75, Gettysburg 40

Staten Island 77, Baruch 68

Stockton 71, Rutgers-Newark 56

Syracuse 70, Miami 55

VCU 84, Duquesne 87

Wilmington (Del.) 82, Felician 73

Women

SOUTHWEST

Oklahoma 85, Kansas St. 80

Texas Tech 75, Iowa St. 66

SOUTH

Alabama St. 75, Jackson St. 64

Alcorn St. 62, Prairie View 55

Bethune-Cookman 38, Savannah St. 31

Carson-Newman 76, Tusculum 66

Chattanooga 77, Samford 61

Coppin St. 70, SC State 54

Emory & Henry 65, Roanoke 50

Grambling St. 68, Alabama A&M 53

Hampton 64, NC A&MT 57

Howard 72, Florida A&M 58

Lander 92, Clayton St. 71

Lincoln Memorial 95, Mars Hill 51

Norfolk St. 58, Morgan St. 47

SC-Aiken 72, Georgia College 61

South Florida 62, Tulane 53

Temple 79, Kennesaw St. 38

Texas Southern 77, Southern U. 71

MIDWEST

Albion 75, Adrian 70

Alma 66, Olivet 48

Aquinas 87, Siena Heights 54

Baker 70, Evangel 61

Ball St. 71, Kent St. 47

Cent. Michigan 89, Akron 62

Central Methodist 79, Clarke 72

Cincinnati 63, UCF 57

Concordia (Mich.) 76, Marygrove 56

Cornerstone 70, Michigan-Dearborn 61

Davenport 98, Madonna 96

DePaul 79, Creighton 65

Goshen 62, Spring Arbor 51

Gustavus 73, Augsburg 51

Hamline 85, St. Olaf 65

Indiana 78, Minnesota 62

Kalamazoo 70, St. Mary's (Ind.) 54

Marquette 79, Providence 74

Maryland 93, Nebraska 49

Mount Marcy 68, Culver-Stockton 57

N. Dakota St. 83, South Dakota 73

N. Illinois 89, Bowling Green 76

North Central (Ill.) 117, Carroll (Wis.) 86

Ohio 93, Buffalo 55

Purdue 66, Michigan St. 54

Ripon 69, Grinnell 64

Saint Catherine 65, Carleton 62

Saint Louis 89, George Mason 50

St. Benedict 68, Concordia (Moor.) 48

St. Mary's (Minn.) 58, Macalester 52

St. Norbert 67, Beloit 58

St. Thomas (Minn.) 71, Bethel (Minn.) 62

Texas 66, Kansas 54

Toledo 66, E. Michigan 49

W. Michigan 85, Miami (Ohio) 60

Wis.-Eau Claire 59, Wis.-River Falls 43

Wis.-Oshkosh 62, Wis.-Stevens Pt. 53

Wis.-Stout 72, Wis.-Platteville 59

Wis.-Whitewater 66, Wis.-LaCrosse 62

Xavier 72, Seton Hall 64

EAST

Albany (NY) 93, Mass.-Lowell 69

Baruch 77, Staten Island 71

Baylor 91, West Virginia 56

Binghamton 89, UMBC 82

Bloomfield 61, Philadelphia 56

Chestnut Hill 108, Post (Conn.) 80

Columbia 65, NJIT 51

Concordia (NY) 77, Georgian Court 72

Dayton 82, St. Bonaventure 80

Fairfield 71, Monmouth (NJ) 68

Farmingdale 64, Sage 49

Fordham 65, Davidson 72

George Washington 53, Saint Joseph's 44

Lehman 74, York (NY) 45

New Hampshire 49, Stony Brook 46

Old Westbury 84, St. Joseph's (NY) 68

Rutgers 68, Wisconsin 52

Springfield 72, Clark U. 63

Stockton 80, Rutgers-Newark 48

UConn 90, East Carolina 45

UMass 68, Rhode Island 67

Vermont 55, Maine 52

Villanova 71, Georgetown 50

Williams 55, Castleton 47

Wilmington (Del.) 78, Felician 75

NBA ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

BULLS 106

CAVALIERS 94

CLEVELAND — Jimmy Butler scored 10 straight points during a critical stretch in the fourth quarter, leading the Chicago Bulls to a 106-94 win Wednesday night over the Cleveland Cavaliers, who had a less-than-100 percent LeBron James and were without stars Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love.

Butler, who was coming off a 52-point game against Charlotte, scored 14 of his 20 points in the fourth as the Bulls held off Cleveland's comeback.

Doug McDermott added 17 points for the Bulls, who made a season-high 13 3-pointers.

HORNETS 123

THUNDER 112

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Nicolas Batum says there is an art to drawing a foul on a 3-point shot.

"It's not easy," Batum said with a wide smile.

Batum twice drew whistles on 3-pointers en route to a season-high 28 points in the Charlotte Hornets' 123-112 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder. Batum was a regular at the foul line Wednesday night, converting 13 of 15 free throws. As a team, the Hornets made 40 of 49 foul shots to snap a two-game losing streak.

BUCKS 105

KNICKS 104

NEW YORK — Giannis Antetokounmpo made a turnaround jumper at the buzzer to give the Milwaukee Bucks a 105-104 victory over the New York Knicks on Wednesday night.

Antetokounmpo finished with 27 points and 13 rebounds, and he gave the Bucks a final possession when he knocked the ball off Derrick Rose and out of bounds with 8.6 seconds left. Officials originally ruled the ball was off the Bucks but reversed the call after video review.

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	23	11	.676	—
Boston	21	14	.600	2½
New York	16	19	.457	7½
Philadelphia	9	24	.273	13½
Brooklyn	8	25	.242	14½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Charlotte	20	16	.556	—
Atlanta	19	16	.543	½
Washington	16	18	.471	3
Orlando	16	21	.432	4½
Miami	10	26	.278	10

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	26	8	.765	—
Milwaukee	18	16	.529	8
Indiana	18	16	.500	9
Chicago	18	18	.500	9
Detroit	16	21	.432	11½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	28	7	.800	—
Houston	27	9	.750	1½
Memphis	22	15	.595	7
New Orleans	14	22	.389	14½
Dallas	11	24	.314	17

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	22	14	.611	—
Oklahoma City	21	15	.583	1
Portland	15	21	.417	7
Denver	14	21	.400	7½
Minnesota	11	24	.314	10½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	30	5	.857	—
L.A. Clippers	23	14	.622	8
Sacramento	15	19	.441	14½
L.A. Lakers	13	25	.342	18½
Phoenix	11	25	.306	19½

Scores and schedules

Wednesday's Scores

Atlanta 111, Orlando 92

Charlotte 123, Oklahoma City 112

Milwaukee 105, New York 104

Chicago 106, Cleveland 94

Memphis at L.A. Clippers, late

Miami at Sacramento, late

Portland at Golden State, late

Today's Games

Atlanta at Orlando, 6 p.m.

Oklahoma City at Charlotte, 6 p.m.

Milwaukee at New York, 6:30 p.m.

Chicago at Cleveland, 7 p.m.

Memphis at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

Miami at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.

Portland at Golden State, late

Friday's Games

Houston at Orlando, 6 p.m.

Minnesota at Washington, 6 p.m.

Cleveland at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m.

Philadelphia at Boston, 6:30 p.m.

New York at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.

L.A. Clippers at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.

Memphis at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

Miami at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Wild-card Playoffs

Saturday

Oakland at Houston, 4:35 p.m. (ESPN)

Detroit at Seattle, 8:15 p.m. (NBC)

Sunday, Jan. 8

Miami at Pittsburgh, 1:05 p.m. (CBS)

N.Y Giants at Green Bay, 4:40 p.m. (FOX)

Divisional Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 14

Seattle, Green Bay or N.Y Giants at Atlanta, 4:35 p.m. (FOX)

Houston, Oakland or Miami at New England, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)

Sunday, Jan. 15

Pittsburgh, Houston or Oakland at Kansas City, 1:05 p.m. (NBC)

Green Bay, N.Y Giants or Detroit at Dallas, 4:40 p.m. (FOX)

Conference Championships

Sunday, Jan. 22

AFC

TBD

NFC

TBD

Pro Bowl

Sunday, Jan. 29

At Orlando, Fla.

AFC vs. NFC, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Super Bowl

Sunday, Feb. 5

At Houston

TBD, 6:30 p.m. (FOX)

FISHING REPORT

WEST

ALAN HENRY: Water clear; 48 degrees; 1.77 feet low. Black bass are slow on deep diving crankbaits, swimbaits and jerkbaits. Crappie and bass are slow on minnows. Catfish are good on rod and reel with punchbait on a #6 treble hook up the river.

ARROWHEAD: Water fairly clear; 49-56 degrees; 0.8 feet low. Black bass are fair on Texas rigs, drop shot rigs and Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are fair on live minnows. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers.

COLORADO CITY: 12.81 feet low. No report available.

FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water murky; 50-56 degrees; 0.5 feet low. Black bass are fair on shakyheads, chatterbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair on jigs and minnows. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water off color; 51-55 degrees; 0.57 feet low. Black bass are fair on Texas rigs, jigs and spinnerbaits. Crappie are fair to good on jigs and minnows. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers and cut bait.

NASWORTHY: 49-55 degrees; 1.28 feet low. Black bass are fair to good on Texas rigs and chatterbaits. No reports on crappie. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and cut bait.

OAK CREEK: Water stained; 48-56 degrees; 9.38 feet low. Black bass are fair on Texas rigs, crankbaits and shakyheads. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are fair on chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

O.H. IVIE: Water stained; 49-58 degrees; 34.04 feet low. Black bass are fair on pearl crankbaits, Texas rigs and swimjigs. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are fair to good on cut bait and nightcrawlers.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water off color; 48-55 degrees; 0.09 feet low. Black bass are fair to good on swimjigs, Texas rigs and medium running crankbaits. Crappie are fair on live minnows. White bass are fair to good on slabs. Striped bass are fair on live shad. Catfish are good on nightcrawlers.

SPENCE: 50.04 feet low. No report available.

STAMFORD: 0.3 feet low. Black bass and crappie are fair to good, but mostly undersized. White bass are fair to good on minnows and Rooster Tails. Blue catfish are fair to good on cut and live bait.

SWEETWATER: Water off color; 47-53 degrees; 23.16 feet low. No report available.

WHITE RIVER: Water stained; 45-52 degrees; 19.47 feet low. Black bass are very slow (the bass population was greatly reduced during the drought). No reports on crappie. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and cut bait.

SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water murky; 68-70 degrees; 16.27 feet low. Black bass are good on crankbaits, jerkbaits, and soft plastics. Striped bass are good on slabs, spoons, and jigs in 30-65 feet. White bass are good on slabs, spoons, and jigs in 30-65 feet. Catfish are good on shrimp, chicken livers, nightcrawlers, and cheesebait. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with live perch. Everyone in a boat must have a Mexico fishing license (if fishing the Mexico side) whether fishing or not.

CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water stained; 62-66 degrees. Black bass are fair on watermelon soft plastics, spinnerbaits, and Rat-L-Traps. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbait, shrimp, and frozen shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

BELTON: Water stained; 61-65 degrees. 0.62 feet high. Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits and crankbaits. Hybrid striper are fair on white striper jigs. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.

BROWNWOOD: Water stained; 63-67 degrees; 0.16 feet high. Black bass are fair on chartreuse/black jigs, small crankbaits, and watermelon red 4-inch worms over brush piles in 10-20 feet. Hybrid striper are fair on green striper jigs. White bass are fair on LI'l Fishies and watermelon red crankbaits under lighted docks at night. Crappie are good on LI'l Fishies and minnows over brush piles in 10-20 feet. Channel catfish are fair on stinkbait, minnows and shrimp in 10-20 feet. Yellow catfish are slow.

BUCHANAN: Water stained; 62-66 degrees; 2.00 feet low. Black bass are good on watermelon red JDC curl tail grubs on jigheads. Texas rigged blue flake Scoundrel worms, and blue back Fat Free Shads along ledges and points in 10-20 feet. Striped bass are good drifting live shad, and jigging Spoiler Shad swim baits and Pirk Minnows in 25-40 feet. White bass are fair jigging Tiny Traps and Curb's crappie jigs along main lake points and creek bluffs in 15-25 feet. Crappie are slow. Channel catfish are slow. Yellow and blue catfish are slow.

CANYON LAKE: Water stained; 63-67 degrees; 0.27 feet high. Black bass are good on watermelon red Brush Hogs, Texas rigged Red Shad JDC drop shot worms, and tubes on jigheads in the stickups and along bluffs in 15-20 feet. Striped bass are fair jigging Pirk Minnows and trolling Shad Raps in the lower end of the lake over humps. White bass are fair on blade baits along main lake bluffs. Smallmouth bass are good on white JDC grubs, watermelon tubes on jigheads, and smoke drop shot worms along main lake points and bluff ledges. Crappie are slow. Channel catfish are slow. Yellow and blue catfish are slow.

COLEMAN: Water stained; 64-66 degrees; 1.30 feet low. Black bass are good on watermelon Rat-L-Traps and crankbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows. Channel catfish are good on stinkbait, nightcrawlers, and frozen shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

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

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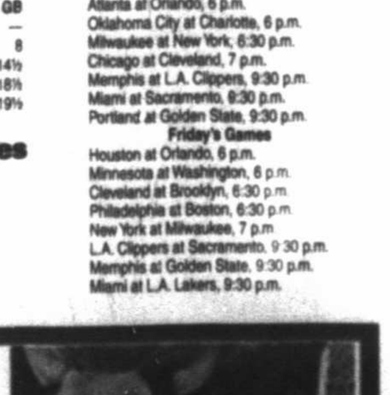
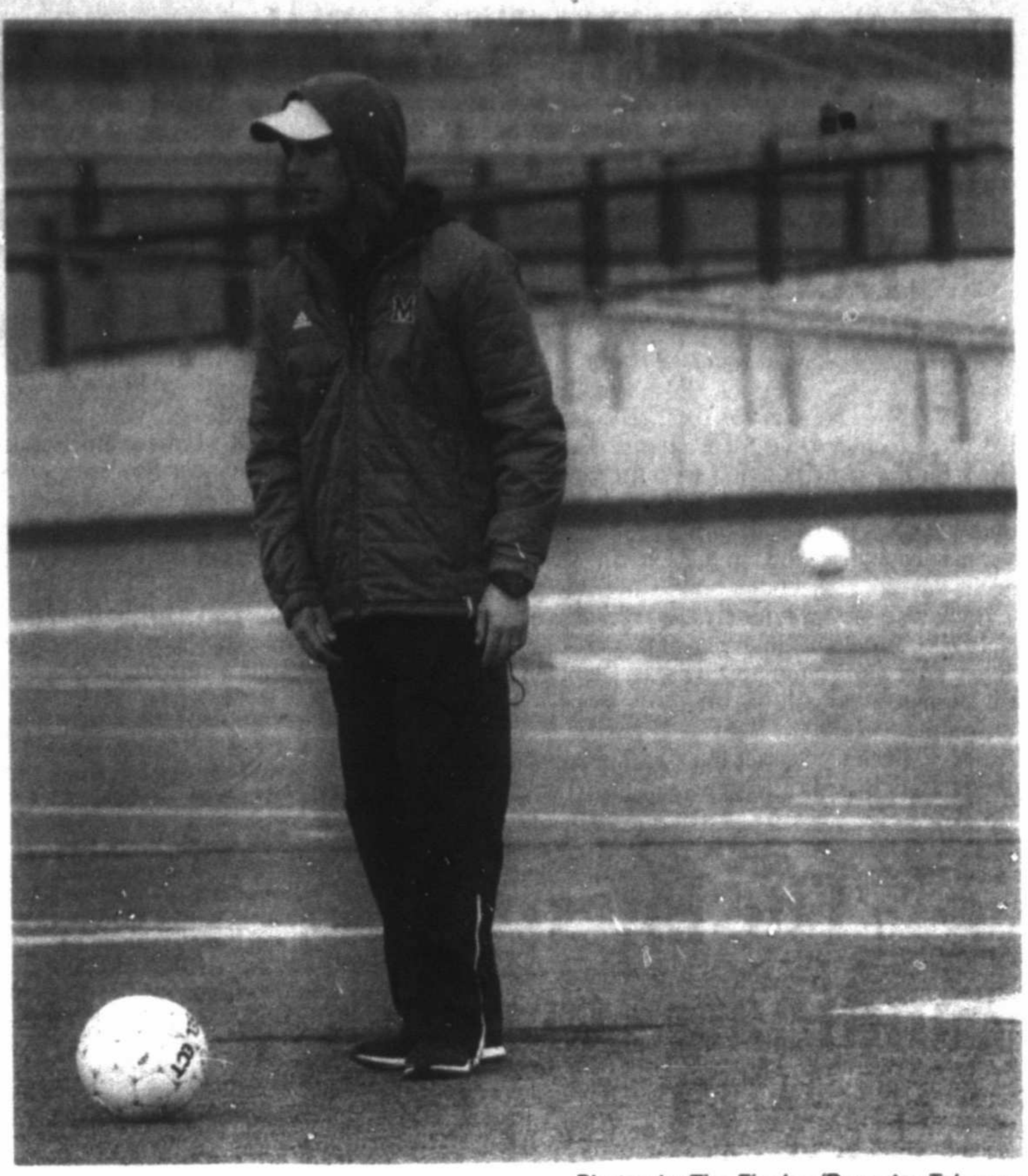


Caleb is a 1-2 year old male Corgi Mix. He is friendly, playful, and has a short easy to maintain coat. He is new to the Center and has not yet been introduced to dogs or children, but we do not foresee any problems as he is pretty easy going.



Photos by Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

LEFT: Lee boys run touch drills Wednesday during practice. **RIGHT:** MHS girls coach Cooper Barham works with his players Wednesday during practice.

BOYS

From 1C

composure in those scoring situations is key.

"(We need to) just (keep our) composure in the box," Aranda said. "With composure you can do anything and it's a big part of finishing."

Another potential building block of this year's Rebels club is its all out desire to rise to the level of the district's favorites. The foundation has been laid already with the team's top flight conditioning, something that caught Hicks' eye.

The team's hope is that effort will start to pay in the form of valuable points in the district table.

"We're in about the best shape physically that we've been since I've been at Lee," Hicks said. "We had a tradition around here for a long time of going to the playoffs. I really think they've (the Lee players) talked a lot about that amongst themselves."

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

Previewing the season

REBELS AT A GLANCE

Coach: Scott Hicks and Dusty Payne

2016 record: 8-10-2, 2-1-2-5 in District 3-6A (5th)

2016 playoffs: None

Key players lost: MF Nate Ortiz (District Midfield MVP); CB/DM Tre Sanchez; MF/F Leo Barba (first team all-district); MF/F Carlos Aranda (first team all-district)

Key players returning: MF Luis Aranda, Jr.; MF Leandro Aranda, Sr.; GK Eddie Ramirez, Sr.; D Nathan Bowden, Sr.; MF Jaime Dominguez, Sr.; D Deshawn Hunter, Jr.

Top newcomers: F Johnny Thang, So.; MF David Lawm, Sr.; MF Jackie Chan, Sr.

Notes: The Rebels will have to contend with the graduation of a quartet of talented and experienced players in Ortiz, Sanchez, and midfielder/forwards Barba and Aranda, who made special things happen at the top of the field last year. ... Lee co-head coach Scott Hicks, though, is confident in his team's ability to perform at a similiar level with an influx of emerging youngsters who spent time on the JV squad last season. "Overall, we feel like we lost four guys and I don't think we'll ever replace Leo's ability to move the ball all around. But I think with these guys we're going to be more of a one-, two-touch team moving the ball around. Overall, I think we are very similar to what we were last year. We feel like we've got eight, nine guys that played a lot of games last year."

BULLDOGS AT A GLANCE

Coach: Warren Cottle, 10th year at MHS

2016 record: 17-7, 6-2-1-1 in District 3-6A (1st)

2016 playoffs: Def. Arlington Lamar, 3-0 in bi-district; Lost to El Paso Socorro, 4-2 in penalty kicks in area

Key players lost: F Alex VonHolle (District MVP) F Homero Vasquez (first team all-district); CB/DM Jaime Marquez (first team all-district); MF Ezequiel Franco (first team all-district); MF Allan Aguilar (first team all-district)

Key players returning: F Brian Natividad, Jr.; GK Pedro Cereceres, Sr.

Top newcomers: CB Julian Montez, So.; CB/DM Donte Ferguson'

Notes: The Bulldogs will field a much greener roster this season after graduating a special class of senior talent from last year's squad. MHS sent eight of its seniors to the collegiate ranks. VonHolle signed at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs and seven others at Mountain View College, a two-year community college in Dallas. ... MHS also suffered the loss of defender Brooks Fergerson, who opted to forego his senior season to sign with Santos Laguna of Mexico's Liga MX. ... Cottle said this year's club, though younger, still expects to play in the same disciplined mold as the more experienced Bulldog teams of years past. "(We'll be) very balanced," Cottle said. "We have strength at all positions. This team is right on schedule and looking good."

GIRLS

From 1C

a good group of kids."

Hinshaw comes to Lee from Lovington, New Mexico, where he started the boys' high school soccer program. In his two years of leading the Wildcats, they went 20-18-1 and qualified for the state tournament in the program's inaugural season.

But Hinshaw wanted to get back closer to family in Texas and he was attracted to what the Lee girls program had to offer.

"I thought the visions that the Lee principal (Stan VanHoozer) and the athletic director (Randy Rowe) had for the program were similar to mine and I felt like it would be a really good fit," Hinshaw said.

Hinshaw was also very familiar with Midland. After finishing his college playing career at what is now the University of the Southwest in Hobbs, New Mexico, he played semi-professional soccer with the short-lived Permian Basin Shooting Stars — an indoor soccer team that played at the Ector County Coliseum — from 1989 to 1991. He said he lived in Midland during that time and had fond memories.

> *"When you're teaching them the game itself, it doesn't matter what gender they are. It's about the game."*
>
> **Mark Hinshaw,** Lee girls soccer coach

While this is his first time to coach girls, Hinshaw said he's not concerned because he considers himself to be a teacher of soccer, regardless of gender.

"The game is the game," he said. "It doesn't matter if I'm teaching boys or girls. When you're teaching them the game itself, it doesn't matter what gender they are. It's about the game."

Even though Barham had been an assistant under Warren Cottle on the MHS boys team the previous two seasons, he has some experience coaching girls as he was the Odessa Permian JV girls head coach and varsity girls assistant coach under Chad Peterson just prior to arriving at MHS.

Barham said the key to coaching girls is about developing good relationships.

"If you can develop that special relationship to where they can trust you, they'll jump through anything for you. They'll jump through fire for you if can have that kind of relationship with them," Barham said.

Barham also inherits a program that has tasted quite a bit of success over the years.

The Lady Bullodgs won a district title in 2015, and last year MHS made the playoffs for the ninth straight year.

Barham said the chemistry is already there between the girls and they just have keep pushing to improve that chemistry. He added that having the success has made the players push each other in an effort to keep that winning tradition going at MHS.

"They know that success is a year-by-year thing and nothing is ever given to them," Barham had. "But these girls hold themselves to a high standard. They don't want to be the ones to end that tradition of winning. They're not OK with just being average."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

Previewing the season

LADY BULLDOGS AT A GLANCE

Coach: Cooper Barham

2016 record: 10-12 overall, 7-0-0-3, 21 points in District 3-6A (3rd)

2016 playoffs: Lost to Arlington Lamar, 3-2 on penalty kicks, in Class 6A bi-district round

Key players lost: Adrienne Almodova (District Midfielder of the Year), D Hayden Burdsal (first team all-district), D Jaime Lujan

Key returners: F Claudia Fricker (first-team all-district), MF Marli Martin, D Lyndsey Vargas, MF Sofia Torres (first team all-district), MF Kylie VonHolle, F Raquel Houston

Barham on the Lady Bulldogs' key to success: "It's about loving the game and having fun with it. They're getting to do something they've done their whole lives. Playing soccer not only teaches you team lessons but teaches you about everyday life. If they love it, they're going to be successful no matter what."

Notes: This year's Lady Bulldogs has a lot of experience with nine seniors on the roster. ... That experience should help Barham's transition in his first year as a head coach. "They're very mature," he said. "They know what I expect. Some of them have been playing in the program for four years and they not only bring that experience but that leadership that this team really needs." ... MHS lost staples Almodova and Burdsal (both now playing at Lubbock Christian University) to graduation, but Barham believes he's got some great seniors to step into those key roles like team captain Fricker, Martin, who will play a huge role in the midfield, and Vargas, who Barham considers the heart of the defense.

LADY REBELS AT A GLANCE

Head coach: Mark Hinshaw

2016 record: 7-10-1, 1-0-1-8, 4 points in District 3-6A (6th)

Key players lost: D Rachel Pitchford

Key players returning: F Jessy Luna (first-team all-district), D Destany Rodriguez (first team all-district), D Gabby Granado (honorable mention all-district), D Rylee Rae Leonard

Hinshaw on Lady Rebels' key to success: "I think if they play hard, they'll do well. I think if they're buying into what work ethic is, then good things are going to happen."

Notes: Hinshaw believes that the Lady Rebels have talent to improve from last year and room for growth with several players back. With the return of first team all-district performers Luna and Rodriguez, the Lady Rebels should be optimistic in their hopes for improvement ... Hinshaw said the Lady Rebels should be strong defensively but there is still a lot of youth on the team. Lee only has three seniors on the roster but has eight juniors. There are also had four freshmen on the roster, including goalkeeper Jenna McEnaney.

2017 LADY REBELS ROSTER AND SCHEDULE

2017 LADY REBELS ROSTER

No.	Name	Class	Pos.
00	Jenna McEnaney	Fr	GK
1	Hadley Conner	Sr	F
2	Hattie Renfro	Fr	F
3	Ashton Morgan	Fr	D
4	Bella Cantu	Jr	M
5	Kaitlyn Gilbert	Jr	M
8	Gabby Granado	Jr	D
10	Jessy Luna	Sr	F
11	Kallie Waters	Fr	F
12	Andrea Olivas	Sr	D
15	Bella Wake	Jr	M
16	Tatiana Sandoval	So	M
17	Alexa Villa	Jr	M
18	Rylee Rae Leonard	Jr	D
20	Dominique Barela	Jr	M
21	Yamilet Vidales	Jr	M
23	Destany Rodriguez	Sr	D

2017 LADY REBELS SCHEDULE

Jan. 5	a-Tomball Memorial	3 p.m.
Jan. 6	a-Gregory Portland	3 p.m.
Jan. [illegible]	a-Willis	[illegible]
Jan. 10	at Del Rio	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 13	at Brownwood	6 p.m.
Jan. 21	Lubbock Estacado	[illegible]
Jan. 24	at Abilene Cooper	[illegible]
Jan. [illegible]	at San Angelo Lake View	[illegible]
Feb. 3	*Amarillo Tascosa	[illegible]
Feb. [illegible]	vs. *Midland High	[illegible]
Feb. 10	*Wolfforth Frenship	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	*Odessa High	5:30 p.m.
Feb. [illegible]	at *Odessa Permian	5:30 p.m.
Feb. [illegible]	at *Amarillo Tascosa	5:30 p.m.
March [illegible]	*Midland High	5:30 p.m.
March [illegible]	at *Odessa High	5:30 p.m.
March [illegible]	at *Wolfforth Frenship	5:30 p.m.
March [illegible]	*Odessa Permian	5:30 p.m.

a-at [illegible] Tournament

*denotes District 2-6A opponent

2017 BULLDOGS ROSTER AND SCHEDULE

2017 BULLDOGS ROSTER

No.	Name	Position	Class
0	Noah Venegas	GK	So.
1	Pedro Cereceres	GK	Sr.
2	David Purdy	OB	Jr.
3	Joshua Ibarra	MF	So.
4	Alan Rodriguez	CM/DM	Jr.
5	Donte Ferguson	CB/DM	Jr.
6	Roman Ramirez	WF	Jr.
7	Baltazar Brito	WF	Fr.
8	Robert Chandler Reese	CM/WF	So.
9	Brian Natividad	TF/WF	Jr.
10	Jeremy Martinez	WF	Jr.
11	Raul Jaramillo	OM	Jr.
12	Samier Xavier Prado	CM/WF	Sr.
13	Anthony Marroquin-Brito	OB	So.
14	Jake Moylett	OM	Jr.
16	Bradley Farrington	OM	Jr.
17	Fernando Quintero	TF	So.
21	Matthew Arizpe	OB	So.
23	Julian Montez	CB	So.
24	Raul Mendoza Ortega	OB	Sr.

2017 BULLDOGS SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 5	at Coppell Showcase	5 p.m.
Jan. 6	at Coppell Showcase	TBA
Jan. 7	at Coppell Showcase	TBA
Jan. 12	a-El Paso Austin	8 p.m.
Jan. 13	a-El Paso Socorro	7 p.m.
Jan. 14	a-El Paso Montwood	11 a.m.
Jan. 20	El Paso Del Valle	6 p.m.
Jan. 27	Amarillo High	4 p.m.
Feb. 3	at Odessa Permian*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	Lee*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 11	at Amarillo Tascosa*	2 p.m.
Feb. 14	at Wolfforth Frenship*	4 p.m.
Feb. 17	Odessa High*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	Odessa Permian*	7:30 p.m.
March 3	at Lee*	7:30 p.m.
March 7	Wolfforth Frenship*	7:30 p.m.
March 11	Amarillo Tascosa*	2 p.m.
March 14	at Odessa High*	7:30 p.m.

*Denotes District 2-6A opponent

a-denotes President's Cup game played at Grande Communications Stadium

2017 LADY BULLDOGS ROSTER AND SCHEDULE

2017 LADY BULLDOGS ROSTER

No.	Name	Class	Pos.
00	Allison Robinson	So	GK
1	Ashley Smith	Sr	GK
2	Lexi Tindle	So	M
3	Liz Sanchez	Sr	M
4	Sofia Torres	Sr	M
6	Naysa Quintela	So	F
7	Kylie VonHolle	Jr	M
10	Lyndsey Vargas	Sr	D
12	Marli Martin	Sr	M
13	Chloe Terebessy	So	D
14	Alee Moylett	So	M
19	Mackenzie White	Sr	F
20	Ashlynn Dominguez	Sr	F
21	Alexa Aranda	Sr	D
22	Claudia Fricker	Sr	F
23	Reagan Rivas	So	M
24	Noa Steuber	Jr	M
26	Raquel Houston	So	[illegible]

2017 LADY BULLDOGS SCHEDULE

Jan. 5	a-Denton Ryan	8:30 p.m.
Jan. 6	a-Lovejoy	5 p.m.
Jan. 7	a-Plano High	9 a.m.
Jan. 12	b-Amarillo Caprock	7 p.m.
Jan. 13	b-Lubbock High	Noon
Jan. 13	b-El Paso Socorro	7 p.m.
Jan. 14	b-Lubbock Estacado	2 p.m.
Jan. 17	at Lubbock High	5 p.m.
Jan. 20	El Paso Del Valle	4 p.m.
Jan. 27	Amarillo High	6 p.m.
Feb. 3	at *Odessa Permian	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	*Lee	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 11	at *Amarillo Tascosa	Noon
Feb. 14	at *Wolfforth Frenship	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 17	*Odessa High	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	*Odessa Permian	5:30 p.m.
March 3	*Lee	5:30 p.m.
March 7	*Wolfforth Frenship	5:30 p.m.
March 11	*Amarillo Tascosa	Noon

a-at Dr. Pink Tournament, Frisco

b-at Alamo Drafthouse Kickoff Classic, Lubbock

2017 REBELS ROSTER AND SCHEDULE

2017 REBELS ROSTER

No.	Name	Position	Class
0	Eddie Ramirez	GK	Sr.
00	Dustin Hunt	GK	Sr.
000	Pablo Muniz	GK	Jr.
1	Johnny Thang	F	So.
2	Joseph Fontana	MF	Jr.
3	Devin Ortiz	D	Jr.
4	Esteban Ballinas	MF	So.
5	Sonny Ortiz	D	So.
6	David Lawm	MF	Sr.
7	Jaime Dominguez	MF	Sr.
8	Jackie Chan	MF	Sr.
9	Jose Gutierrez	F	Jr.
10	Luis Aranda	MF	Jr.
11	Leandro Aranda	MF	Sr.
13	Isael Ramirez	MF	Jr.
14	Abraham Zunniga	MF	Jr.
15	Esau Soto	F	So
16	Deshawn Hunter	D	Jr
17	Tyler Irwin	F	Jr
18	Diego Montez	MF	Sr
19	Tristan Pacheco	D	Sr
20	Daniel Martinez	D	Jr
21	Nathan Bowden	D	Sr
23	Jeremiah Carrasco	D	Jr

2017 LEE SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 5	at New Braunfels Tournament	TBD
Jan. 6	at New Braunfels Tournament	TBD
Jan. 7	at New Braunfels Tournament	TBD
Jan. 12	a-El Paso Parkland	6 p.m.
Jan. 13	a-El Paso Montwood	7 p.m.
Jan. 14	a-El Paso High	1 p.m.
Jan. 21	b-Oak Ridge	6 p.m.
Jan. 22	b-Vista Ridge	Noon
Jan. 23	b-Southlake Carroll	Noon
Feb. 4	Amarillo Tascosa*	2 p.m.
Feb. 7	at Midland High*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 10	Wolfforth Frenship*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	Odessa High*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 17	at Odessa Permian*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	at Amarillo Tascosa*	7:30 p.m.
March 3	Midland High*	7:30 p.m.
March 7	at Odessa High*	7:30 p.m.
March 10	at Wolfforth Frenship*	4 p.m.
March 14	Odessa Permian*	7:30 p.m.

a-denotes President's Cup game played at Grande Communications Stadium

b-denotes opponent in Richardson Tournament

*denotes District 2-6A opponent

MC

From 1C

overtime.

"We should do a lot better (today)," Bunn said. "We've got to focus on the things coach wants us to focus on, like rebounding, blocking out and talking on the court."

MC NOTE: Jones announced that freshman post player Paige Robinson is out for the year with a broken finger that requires surgery.

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

NO. 12 MIDLAND COLLEGE 66, COASTAL BEND COLLEGE 57

Coastal Bend (4-11) — Sonerka White 2-7 0-0 4, Samantha Atkinson-Roach 5-15 0-0 12, Kristina Kana 4-18 0-2 9, Marilyn Davis 0-3 3-4 3, Shayla Martin 0-2 0-0 0, Darius Whittington 7-12 3-3 23, Precious Lopez 0-2 0-0 0, Kenya Haynes 0-4 0-0 0, Hadiya Norman 2-8 -12 6. Totals 20-71 7-11 57

Midland College (9-3) — Janea Bunn 8-19 3-6 19, Tae'lor Hodge 2-2 0-0 6, Kayla Bretherton 0-3 0-0 0, Alexandrea Washington 2-9 0-0 5, Lisa Kaempf 3-9 2-2 10, Tichina Coleman 1-1 0-0 2, Teneshia Dixon 7-12 0-4 14, Alexis Washington 1-5 0-0 2, Caley Barnard 0-2 0-0 0, A'Nyah Whittington 1-4 0-0 3, Matangiroa Flavell 2-5 0-0 5, Lowendie Laporal 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 27-73 5-13 66

Coastal Bend	14	11	13	19	—57
Midland College	16	15	21	14	—66

3-point goals — CBC 10-31 (D. Whittington 6-11, Atkinson-Roach 2-5, Kana 1-5, Norman 1-6, White 0-1, Haynes 0-3), MC 7-26 (Hodge 2-2, Kaempf 2-4, Alexan. Washington 1-7, A. Whittington 1-3, Flavell 1-3, Alexis Washington 0-4). Total fouls — CBC 13, MC 11. Fouled out — Davis. Rebounds — CBC 44 (Davis 13), MC 48 (Bunn 14). Turnovers — CBC 13, MC 11.

Next: Trinidad State College at Midland College, 4 p.m. today

Texas hires Ohio State's Beck for OC

Associated Press

AUSTIN — New Texas football coach Tom Herman has hired former Ohio State offensive coordinator Tim Beck for the same position with the Longhorns.

Hiring Beck fills one of the last major spots on Herman's staff as he tries to turn a program after three consecutive losing seasons under Charlie Strong. The Longhorns haven't played in a bowl since the 2014 season.

Beck also was previously the offensive coordinator at Nebraska and an offensive assistant at Kansas. He joins Texas after Ohio State lost 31-0 to Clemson last week in the College Football Playoff.

Contract details for Beck at Texas were not released Tuesday. Beck's contract must still be approved by the university's Board of Regents.

The latest candidates to ride the NFL head coach carousel

By Dave Campbell
Associated Press

Twelve teams are preparing for the NFL playoffs. Six clubs are searching for a new head coach. Ah, yes, it must be the first week in January.

With close to 20 percent of the league needing to fill a vacancy, the quest for the best candidate should be just as competitive as usual. Here's a glance at the favorites for 2017, as Buffalo, Denver, Jacksonville, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco sift through interviews, recommendations and resumes:

TERYL AUSTIN

Current job: Detroit defensive coordinator. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** No.

A candidate for vacancies with about a quarter of the league over the last two years, Austin has overseen a defense that has ranked fourth in the NFL in fewest rushing yards allowed and eighth in fewest total yards allowed since 2014. The secondary is his specialty.

Best fits: Los Angeles, San Diego.

HAROLD GOODWIN

Current job: Arizona offensive coordinator. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** No.

Four seasons with the Cardinals have yielded one of the league's most dangerous offenses, despite a down year in 2016. His specialty is the offensive line.

Best fits: Denver, Jacksonville.

ANTHONY LYNN

Current job: Buffalo offensive coordinator/interim head coach. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** No.

On almost every team's list, Lynn was promoted twice in his first year with the Bills after starting as running backs coach. Their offense led the league in rushing for a second straight season.

Best fits: Buffalo, Jacksonville.

JOSH MCDANIELS

Current job: New England offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** Yes.

His first try as a head coach with Denver was a failure, but he just turned 40 so the dream is far from dead. Thirteen seasons under Bill Belichick can't hurt his acumen.

Best fits: Los Angeles, San Francisco.

SEAN MCVAY

Current job: Washington offensive coordinator. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** No.

McVay, who turns 31 later this month, has held his current role for three seasons in supervision of quarterback Kirk Cousins, who has twice broken franchise records for completions and yards. Head coach Jay Gruden is a former offensive coordinator with heavy influence on the scheme, but McVay eventually assumed play-calling responsibility.

Best fits: Denver, San Francisco.

VANCE JOSEPH

Current job: Miami defensive coordinator. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** No.

A contributor to a playoff team in his first season in the role with the Dolphins, Joseph's specialty is the secondary, having played two years in the league himself.

Best fits: San Diego, San Francisco.

DOUG MARRONE

Current job: Jacksonville interim head coach/offensive line coach. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** Yes.

Buffalo went 9-7 in 2014 with Marrone in charge, the most wins by the Bills since 2004.

Best fits: Los Angeles, San Francisco.

MATT PATRICIA

Current job: New England defensive coordinator. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** No.

No team allowed fewer points this season than the mighty Patriots, whose defense has been directed by Patricia since 2012. The Bill Belichick coaching tree will almost certainly sprout a Patricia branch at some point.

Best fits: San Diego, Buffalo.

KYLE SHANAHAN

Current job: Atlanta offensive coordinator. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** No.

Nine years as an NFL coordinator at age 37 is a resume standout, as is learning from a father, Mike Shanahan, who won two Super Bowls as a head coach.

Best fits: Denver, San Francisco.

MIKE SMITH

Current job: Tampa Bay defensive coordinator. **Previous NFL head coach experience:** Yes.

His first season in the role helped steer a sharp turnaround by the Buccaneers, who went 6-2 in the second half while averaging 17.1 points allowed over the last eight games. Atlanta won two division titles and made four postseason appearances in his seven years as the head coach.

Best fits: Jacksonville, Los Angeles.

ALSO IN THE MIX

Seattle assistant head coach/offensive line coach Tom Cable. Best fits: San Francisco, Jacksonville.

Former New York Giants and Jacksonville head coach Tom Coughlin. Best fits: Jacksonville, Buffalo.

Los Angeles interim head coach/special teams coordinator John Fassel. Best fits: Los Angeles, San Diego.

Carolina defensive coordinator Sean McDermott. Best fits: Buffalo, San Diego.

Kansas City special teams coach Dave Toub. Best fits: Denver, San Diego.

USC, 'Bama and Clemson star on AP's All-Bowl Team

By Steve Megargee
Associated Press

The college football bowl season featured so many thrilling individual performances that even a few 200-yard rushers failed to make the Associated Press 2016 All-Bowl Team.

Ahead of next week's College Football Playoff championship, here are the picks for best performances of this year's college football bowl season.

OFFENSE

Quarterback

Sam Darnold, Southern California: Darnold threw for 453 yards and five touchdowns as No. 9 USC erased a 14-point, fourth-quarter deficit in a 52-49 Rose Bowl victory over No. 5 Penn State.

Honorable mention: Joshua Dobbs, Tennessee; Ryan Higgins, Louisiana Tech; Quinton Flowers, South Florida

Running back

Justin Jackson, Northwestern: Jackson rushed for 224 yards and three touchdowns on 32 carries as Northwestern upset No. 22 Pittsburgh 31-24 in the Pinstripe Bowl.

Bo Scarbrough, Alabama: Scarbrough needed just 19 carries to run for 180 yards and two touchdowns in No. 1 Alabama's 24-7 Peach Bowl triumph over No. 4 Washington.

Honorable mention: Dalvin Cook, Florida State; Jamaal Williams, BYU; Joe Williams, Utah

Wide receiver

Deontay Burnett, Southern California: Burnett caught 13 passes for 164 yards and three touchdowns, including a game-tying score with 1:20 left in the Rose Bowl.

KD Cannon, Baylor: Cannon had 14 receptions for 226 yards — including touchdown catches of 30 and 68 yards — as Baylor defeated Boise State 31-12 in the Cactus Bowl.

Honorable mention: Chris Godwin, Penn State; Trent Taylor, Louisiana Tech; Kendall Sanders, Arkansas State; Alenzae Staggers, Southern Mississippi; Olabis Johnson, Colorado State; Anthony Miller, Memphis

Tight end

Jaylen Samuels, North Carolina State: This tight end/fullback hybrid caught six passes for 104 yards and three touchdowns in the Wolfpack's 41-17 Independence Bowl triumph over Vanderbilt.

Honorable mention: Troy Fumagalli, Wisconsin; Metuisela 'Unga, Hawaii; Deon Watson, Idaho

Offensive line

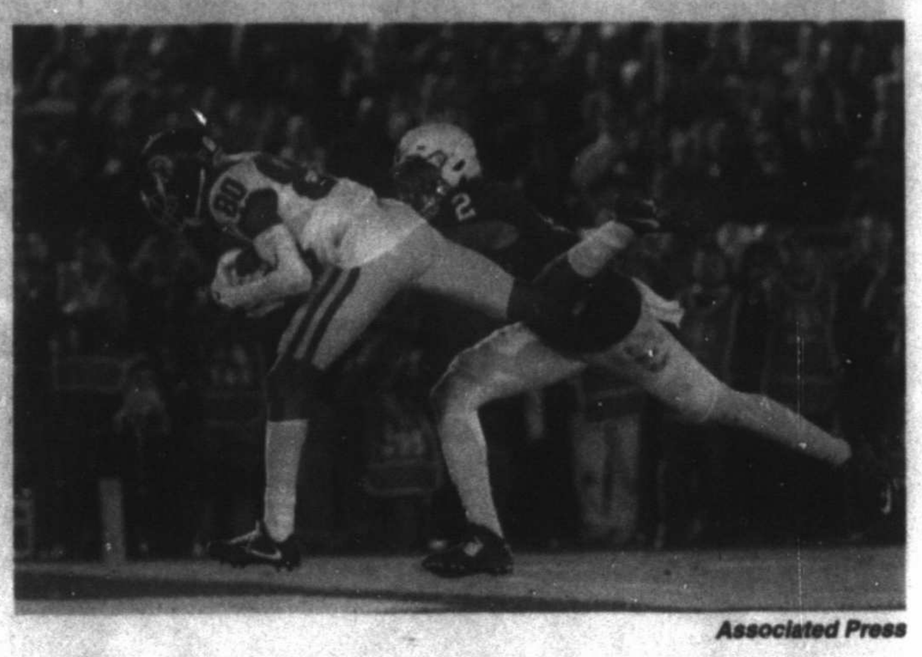
Isaac Asiata, Utah: Asiata paved the way for Joe Williams' 222-yard rushing performance in Utah's 26-24 Foster Farms Bowl victory over Indiana. Asiata won the Morris Trophy this season as the Pac-12's top offensive lineman, an award determined by voting from the conference's starting defensive linemen.

Scott Frantz, Kansas State: Frantz was the primary man responsible for holding All-America defensive end Myles Garrett to zero sacks and only one assisted tackle in Kansas State's 33-28 Texas Bowl victory over Texas A&M.

Jay Guillermo, Clemson: Guillermo graded out at 93 percent and tied a season high with five knockdowns as No. 3 Clemson breezed to a 31-0 Fiesta Bowl victory over No. 2 Ohio State.

Forrest Lamp, Western Kentucky: Lamp didn't allow a sack or a quarterback pressure in Western Kentucky's 51-31 Boca Raton Bowl victory over Memphis. He even scored a touchdown by catching a lateral and running 9 yards into the end zone.

Matt Leidner, Minnesota: This former walk-on and scout-team center had dropped 30 pounds before the Holiday Bowl to prepare for foot surgery since he wasn't expecting to play. He instead earned his first career start because of injuries to Tyler Moore and Jared Weyler. Leidner helped Minnesota defeat Washington State 17-12 and underwent surgery the following day.



Associated Press

Southern California wide receiver Deontay Burnett (80) catches a touchdown pass in front of Penn State safety Marcus Allen during the second half of the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., on Monday.

Honorable mention: Zach Banner, Southern California; Parker Braun, Georgia Tech; Jesse Burkett, Stanford; Tyler Gauthier, Miami; Ty Hayworth, Wake Forest; Tejan Koroma BYU; Chandler Miller, Tulsa; Jordan Rose, Idaho; Jonah Williams, Alabama

All-purpose

Saquon Barkley, Penn State: Barkley ran for 194 yards and two touchdowns while also catching five passes for 55 yards and a third score in the Rose Bowl. Barkley also totaled 57 yards on two kickoff returns.

Honorable mention: Joe Mixon, Oklahoma; Anthony Wales, Western Kentucky

DEFENSE

Line

Jonathan Allen, Alabama: Allen had six tackles — two for loss — with one sack and a fumble recovery to lead the dominant performance of Alabama's defense in the Peach Bowl.

Clelin Ferrell, Clemson: Ferrell recorded three tackles for loss and a sack in the Fiesta Bowl.

Ja'Boree Poole, Southern Mississippi: Poole made nine tackles and delivered three sacks in Southern Mississippi's 28-21 New Orleans Bowl victory over Louisiana-Lafayette.

Trenton Thompson, Georgia: Thompson set a Liberty Bowl record by recording three sacks in Georgia's 31-23 triumph over TCU.

Honorable mention: Derek Barnett, Tennessee; Jesse Brubaker, Tulsa; Nick Dawson-Brents, Western Kentucky; Patrick Gamble, Georgia Tech; Kyle Kelley, San Diego State; Harold Landry, Boston College; Ja'Von Rolland-Jones, Arkansas State; Solomon Thomas, Stanford; DeMarcus Walker, Florida State

Linebacker

Tashawn Bower, LSU: Bower sacked Heisman Trophy winner Lamar Jackson three times in No. 19 LSU's 29-9 Citrus Bowl rout of No. 15 Louisville.

Anthony Shegog, Virginia Tech: Shegog had six tackles, a sack, an interception and a forced fumble to help Virginia Tech rally from a 24-0 deficit to beat Arkansas 35-24 in the Belk Bowl.

Matthew Thomas, Florida State: Thomas had 15 tackles — 3 1/2 for loss — as No. 10 Florida State edged No. 6 Michigan 33-32 in the Orange Bowl.

Honorable mention: Ryan Anderson and Reuben Foster, Alabama; Thomas Brown, Wake Forest; Blake Cashman, Minnesota; Caleb Kelly, Oklahoma; Arden Key, LSU; Jeremy Timpf, Army

Secondary

Chauncey Gardner, Florida: Gardner picked off two passes and returned one for a 58-yard touchdown as No. 20 Florida trounced No. 21 Iowa 30-3 in the Outback Bowl.

Dallas Lloyd, Stanford: Lloyd forced a fumble, made six tackles and had two interceptions as No. 16 Stanford edged North Carolina 25-23 in the Sun Bowl. He scored on a 19-yard interception return early in the fourth quarter to put Stanford ahead for good.

Leon McQuay, Southern California: His 32-yard interception return in the final minute of the Rose Bowl set up the game-winning field goal. McQuay also had seven solo tackles and two pass breakups.

Ron Smith, San Diego State: Smith made 10 tackles and scored on a 54-yard interception return as part of a San Diego State defense that recorded eight sacks and four interceptions in a 34-10 Las Vegas Bowl triumph over Houston.

Honorable mention: Anthony Averett and Minkah Fitzpatrick, Alabama; Corn Elder, Miami; Khalid McGee, South Florida; Mook Reynolds, Virginia Tech; Elijah Riley, Army; Wes Steelhammer, Air Force; Orion Stewart, Baylor

SPECIAL TEAMS

Kicker

Harrison Butker, Georgia Tech: Butker was 4 of 4 on field-goal attempts with kicks of 23, 26, 44 and 52 yards in Georgia Tech's 33-18 TaxSlayer Bowl victory over Kentucky. He was 3 of 3 on extra-points and had touchbacks on each of his seven kickoffs.

Honorable mention: Jonathan Barnes, Louisiana Tech; Matt Boermeester, Southern California; Andy Phillips, Utah

Punter

Kenny Allen, Michigan: Allen averaged 47.4 yards per punt at the Orange Bowl and landed four of his eight attempts inside Florida State's 20-yard line. He also made each of his three field-goal attempts and had touchbacks on six of his seven kickoffs.

Honorable mention: Jake Bailey, Stanford; Mason King, Louisville; Zach Sinor, Oklahoma State

Returner

Darrynton Evans, Appalachian State: He scored on a 94-yard kickoff return late in the third quarter to give the Mountaineers a 28-21 lead in their 31-28 Camellia Bowl triumph over Toledo.

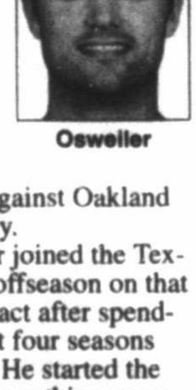
Honorable mention: Keith Gavin, Florida State; Nyheim Hines, North Carolina State; Kalija Lipscomb, Vanderbilt

Osweiler's second chance comes against Oakland

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Brock Osweiler is getting a second chance to start for the Houston Texans.

With Tom Savage out with a concussion, the Texans will look to their $72 million man to lead them in their wild-card playoff game against Oakland on Saturday.



Osweiler

Osweiler joined the Texans in the offseason on that huge contract after spending his first four seasons in Denver. He started the first 14 games this season before being benched in the second quarter against Jacksonville on Dec. 18 after throwing interceptions on consecutive drives to give him 16 for the season. Savage took over and rallied the Texans to the victory and started Houston's last two games.

But Savage suffered a concussion early in the second quarter Sunday in a loss to the Titans, and Osweiler took over and threw for 253 yards and a touchdown and ran for another score.

It will be Osweiler's first career playoff start after he was benched for Peyton Manning before the start of the postseason in Denver last season.

"It's a dream come true ... I couldn't be more excited," Osweiler said. "I can't wait for Saturday to be here. I wish it was here today. But I'll definitely be ready to go."

With Savage out Saturday, Brandon Weeden, who hasn't played since last season, will back up Osweiler.

Osweiler's coaches and receivers all thought he played more freely on Sunday than he had in the past and the quarterback explained what he thinks brought about the change.

"I told myself: 'If you get an opportunity to go back in, just go have fun. Get back to the joy of football,'" he said.

Osweiler set that tone the second he took the field on Sunday, gathering the offensive lineman telling a quick joke before getting down to business.

"Everyone had a good little laugh," Osweiler said.

But details of that joke will be left in the category of what happens on the field stays on the field.

Osweiler and star receiver DeAndre Hopkins had some trouble connecting this season with the quarterback often trying to force balls to Hopkins that were intercepted. Things were different on Sunday when Osweiler and Hopkins linked up repeatedly, and he ended with a season-high 123 yards receiving. It was the most yards he'd had since finishing with 113 in a win over Kansas City on Sept. 18.

"He did a great job coming in, being a leader and stepping in, forgetting about everything's that's happened," Hopkins said. "He's been doing a great job at practice on leading everybody, being the same guy that he was when he was first in there. Nobody's seen a change in the way he's been acting ... so I expect him to continue his play from last week."

Oakland coach Jack Del Rio, who will start rookie Connor Cook at quarterback Saturday, worked with the Broncos when Osweiler was there.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOWL GLANCE

Saturday, Dec. 17
Celebration Bowl
At Atlanta
Grambling State 10, NC Central 9
New Mexico Bowl
Albuquerque
New Mexico 23, UTSA 20
Las Vegas Bowl
San Diego State 34, Houston 10
Camellia Bowl
Montgomery, Ala.
Appalachian State 31, Toledo 26
Cure Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Arkansas State 51, UCF 13
New Orleans Bowl
Southern Miss. 28, Louisiana-Lafayette 21

Monday, Dec. 19
Miami Beach Bowl
Tulsa 55, Central Michigan 10

Tuesday, Dec. 20
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Western Kentucky 51, Memphis 31

Wednesday, Dec. 21
Poinsettia Bowl
San Diego
BYU 24, Wyoming 21

Thursday, Dec. 22
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Boise
Idaho 61, Colorado State 50

Friday, Dec. 23
Bahamas Bowl
Nassau
Old Dominion 24, Eastern Michigan 20
Armed Forces Bowl
Fort Worth
Louisiana Tech 48, Navy 45
Dollar General Bowl
Mobile, Ala.
Troy 28, Ohio 23

Saturday, Dec. 24
Hawaii Bowl
Honolulu
Hawaii 52, Middle Tennessee 35

Monday, Dec. 26
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Bowl
Mississippi State 17, Miami (Ohio) 16
Quick Lane Bowl
Detroit
Boston College 36, Maryland 30
Independence Bowl
Shreveport, La.
NC State 41, Vanderbilt 17

Tuesday, Dec. 27
Heart of Dallas Bowl
Army 38, North Texas 31, OT
Military Bowl
Annapolis, Md.
Wake Forest 34, Temple 26
Holiday Bowl
San Diego
Minnesota 17, Washington State 12
Cactus Bowl
Phoenix
Baylor 31, Boise State 12

Wednesday, Dec. 28
Pinstripe Bowl
Bronx, N.Y.
Northwestern 31, Pittsburgh 24
Russell Athletic Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Miami 31, West Virginia 14
Foster Farms Bowl
Santa Clara, Calif.
Utah 26, Indiana 24
Texas Bowl
Houston
Kansas State 33, Texas A&M 28

Thursday, Dec. 29
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl
South Florida 46, South Carolina 39, OT
Belk Bowl
Charlotte, N.C.
Virginia Tech 35, Arkansas 24
Alamo Bowl
San Antonio
Oklahoma State 38, Colorado 8

Friday, Dec. 30
Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.
Georgia 31, TCU 23
Sun Bowl
El Paso, Texas
Stanford 25, North Carolina 23
Music City Bowl
Nashville, Tenn.
Tennessee 38, Nebraska 24
Arizona Bowl
Tucson, Ariz.
Air Force 45, South Alabama 21
Orange Bowl
Miami Gardens, Fla.
Florida State 33, Michigan 32

Saturday, Dec. 31
Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
LSU 29, Louisville 9
TaxSlayer Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
Georgia Tech 33, Kentucky 18

CFP Semifinals
Peach Bowl
Atlanta
Alabama 24, Washington 7
Fiesta Bowl
Glendale, Ariz.
Clemson 31, Ohio State 0

Monday
Outback Bowl
Tampa, Fla.
Florida 30, Iowa 3
Cotton Bowl
Arlington
Wisconsin 24, Western Michigan 16
Rose Bowl
Pasadena, Calif.
Southern Cal 52, Penn State 49
Sugar Bowl
New Orleans
Oklahoma 35, Auburn 19

Monday, Jan. 9
College Football Championship
Tampa, Fla.
Alabama (14-0) vs. Clemson (13-1), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 21
East-West Shrine Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
West vs. East, 2 p.m. (NFLN)

NFLPA Collegiate Bowl
At Carson, Calif.
National vs. American, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 28
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
South vs. North, 1:30 p.m. (NFLN)

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52 FACES OF COMMUNITY

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PRESENTED BY CHEVRON AND THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY PRIME TIME — JANUARY 5, 2017

For complete information please check movie listings

	G	S	R	C	W.	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Baking Show "Patisserie Week" (N)		Truth and Lies: The Menendez Brothers A man and woman were brutally slain.				Local 2 News/ 10	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	The Big Bang (N)	Great Indoor (N)	Mom (N)	Life In Pieces (N)	Pure Genius "Hero Worship" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert	(:35) J.Corden	
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	MASH "Letters"	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	Griffith "The Jinx"	MacGyver "Jack of Lies"		Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett		P. Mason "The Case of the Pathetic Patient"	Twilight Zone
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Hell's Kitchen "Aerial Maneuvers" (N)		Hell's Kitchen "Fusion Confusion" (N)		Fox 24 News	TMZ	Modern Family	Two and a Half	Hot in Cleveland	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	Dollars & Sense	Hidden in Sight	Biblical Israel
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	NewsWest 9 Now	Supers-tore (N)	The Good Place (N)	Chic.Med "Uncharted Territory" (N)		The Blacklist "Lipet's Seafood Company" (N)		NewsWe-st 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Two for the Road	Daytri-pper	Secrets of the Dead "Vampire Legend"		Globe Trekker "Delhi and Agra"		Charlie Rose (N)		Newsline	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		Despertar contigo		Vino el amor		El color de la pasion		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	The X-Files "Nisei"		The X-Files "731" 2/2		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0	Access H.
FLIX	340	575		265		(6:45) Happy End...		Wonder Boys Michael Douglas.				Clerks II Kevin Smith.		(:40)		The Descent	
HBO	300	590	14	14		Movie	Vice News	The Sixth Sense			(:50)	Black Mass ('15, Cri) Joel Edgerton, Johnny Depp.				The Blues Brot...	
HBO2	302	591	15	101	23	(3:50) Gods of Egypt Gerard Butler.			Vice			(:15) Spy Melissa McCarthy.				(:15) I Am Legend	
HBO3	304	592	16	102		(5:25) The Revenant				Risky Business			(:45)	Minority Report ('02, Sci-Fi) Tom Cruise.			
MAX	380	597	17	120	24	(5:50) Mr. Woodco...		(:20) American Pie Chris Klein.				Harold & Kumar Escape F...		(:40) Search Party			
MAX2	382	598	18	122		(:15) Entourage ('15, Com) Adrian Grenier.				Fracture ('07, Thril) Anthony Hopkins.			(:55)	Unfaithful Richard Gere.			
PLEX			96			(5:30) Radio Days		The Visitor		(:45) The Magic of Belle Isle					(:35)	Memories of Me	
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	(:10) The Hateful Eight ('15, West) Samuel L. Jackson.						The Affair		SEX With	SEX With	The Affair	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:15) Jane Wants...		The Best Man ('99, Rom) Taye Diggs.				The Cookout Ja Rule.		Spring Breakers			
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	The First 48 "Red Brick/ Last Kiss"		The First 48 "Snapshot"		The First 48 "Murder on the Bluff" (N)		Night. "Southern Comfort" (N)		(:05) The First 48		(:05) The First 48 "Snapsho"	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(4:30) Ender's Game		Predators ('10, Sci-Fi) Topher Grace, Adrien Brody.						Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines			
BET	58	-		40		Nutty Professor II: The Klumps ('00, Com) Eddie Murphy.						Lip Sync	Lip Sync	Martin	Martin	Fresh P.	Fresh P.
BRAVO	65	76		41		Housewives Atlanta		To Be Announced		Top Chef (N)		Beverly Hills		Watch (N)	Vanderpump Rules		Top Chef
CNBC	46	52		39	72	Blue	Blue Collar	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Rich	Rich	Rich	Rich	Rich	Rich
CNN	43	50	51	38	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		A. Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360	
DISC	50	60	31	24	7	Street Outlaws "One"		Street Outlaws: Full Throttle (N)						Street Outlaws		Street Outlaws	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	30	Underc.	Good Luck	StuckMid	GoodLuck	Liv/Mad	Liv/Mad	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Jessie	Jessie	Girl M.	Friends
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball California at UCLA (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball (L)				NFL Live		Drone Racing	
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Chopped		Chopped		Chopped		BeatFlay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Chopped	
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	The Notebook ('04, Rom) Rachel McAdams, Ryan Gosling.						Beyond "Pilot"		The 700 Club		All About Steve	
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Cowboys Insider	SportsDay OnAir	Mavs Pre (L)	NBA Basketball Phoenix Suns at Dallas Mavericks Site American Airlines Center - Dallas, Texas (L)					Maveric-ks Live (L)	Under the Lights	Champio. "Football 1A, 2A and 3A"	
FX	31	56	59	64	69	(4:30) The intern...				22 Jump Street Channing Tatum.				22 Jump Street Channing Tatum.			
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	H.Hunt	House (N)	H.Hunt	House	FlipFlop	FlipFlop
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	To Be Announced		Alone "Outfoxed"		Alone (N)		The Selection (N)		Alone		Alone "Outfoxed"	
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Runway "Welcome to New York"		Porject Runway Jr (N)		Runway "En Garde Avante Garde" (N)		Tiny House Nation: Family Edition (N)		Project Runway "En Garde Avante Garde"		Project Runway Junior: Social Thread	
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		11thHour	Hardball	Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN	38	43				(5:30) To Be Announced			NHL Hockey Buffalo vs. Chicago (L)				(:45) NHL	Overtime	To Be Announced		NHL Top
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Paradise	Thunder	Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days				Friends	Friends	Nashville		Nashville	
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	(4:30) Gone in 60...		Shooter ('07, Act) Michael Peña, Mark Wahlberg.						Top Gun ('86, Act) Tom Cruise.			
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:00) Source Code		Oz the Great and Powerful ('13, Adv) James Franco.						Robin Hood Russell Crowe.			
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	2 Broke G. "Pilot"	2 Broke Girls	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan Tracy Morgan		Billy/Str-reet (N)	Conan
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(4:30) Toral Toral...		Public Wedding		Torchy Plays With Dy...		Brother Rat		Brother Rat Priscilla Lane			Brother Rat
TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		Silvana Sin Lana		La Doña		El Chema		Al rojo	La Doña		
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	My 600-lb Life "Christina's Story"		My 600-lb Life: Supersized "Brandi and Kandi's Story" (N)				Extreme Weight Loss "Kathie and Josh"		My 600-lb Life: Supersized "Brandi and Kandi's Story" (N)			
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	NBA Tip-Off		NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at Houston Rockets Site Toyota Center - Houston, Texas (L)				NBA Basketball San Antonio Spurs at Denver Nuggets Site Pepsi Center - Denver, Colo. (L)					
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	Griffith	(:35) Griffith	(:10) Griffith	(:50) Ray	(:25) Loves Ray		Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: S.V.U. Detectives in New York City work special victims cases				Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Shooter	
WGN	19	85				Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops

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2-time Olympic decathlon champion Ashton Eaton retiring

By Pat Graham
Associated Press

Two Olympic decathlon gold medals. Rewriting the world record not once but twice. Ashton Eaton really can't envision accomplishing much more in an event that comes with the label of world's greatest athlete.

Eaton

So, he's stepping away less than three weeks shy of his 29th birthday.

Eaton and heptathlete Brianne Theisen-Eaton announced their retirements Wednesday in side-by-side essays on their website.

Considered the first family of multi-events, Ashton and Brianne met at the University of Oregon as teenagers and married in July 2013. Their coach, Harry Marra, officiated the wedding.

Ashton hinted he might be moving on to other things soon after defending his title at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics in August. He leaves with his world record standing at 9,045 points, which he achieved at the 2015 world championships in Beijing. It was six points better than his previous record set during dreary weather in front of a hometown crowd in Eugene, Oregon, at the 2012 U.S. Olympic trials.

Some of Ashton's top rivals were already weighing in on Twitter. Fellow American Trey Hardee , who finished with silver at the 2012 London Games, posted a tribute to Ashton that ended with: "He carried the legacy flag of American decathlon champions and stuck it in the ground atop Everest."

Hardee also referred to Ashton as "GOAT" — Greatest Of All Time. That's high praise in a long line of distinguished American decathletes, which includes Jim Thorpe, Bob Mathias, Bill Toomey, Rafer Johnson, Bruce Jenner, Dan O'Brien and Bryan Clay, to name just a few.

Ashton's biggest influence may have actually been Roman Sebrle of the Czech Republic — the decathlete who inadvertently inspired him and whose colossal world record Ashton would eventually break.

Here's how the story goes, as recounted by Ashton: As a kid, he happened upon a newspaper with a headline along the lines of "Galactic Olympics " or "Interstellar Olympics," with the article wondering who would represent Earth should one take place. The opinion was Sebrle.

A clean slate and a fresh start for Jordan Spieth

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

KAPALUA, Hawaii — Three victories around the world. A chance to win another major. A Ryder Cup victory. Jordan Spieth had every reason to celebrate his year.

Part of him, however, couldn't wait for it to end.

Spieth

"I was happy when the ball touched down and 2017 started," Spieth said Wednesday.

He wasn't the least bit bothered by what he achieved last year, especially a pair of PGA Tour victories that ran his total to eight before he turned 23. He just knew he faced endless comparisons with the year before, and even matching that was going to be close to impossible.

Spieth was coming off the best season in golf over the last 40 years by anyone not named Tiger Woods. His five victories included the Masters and U.S. Open and as close as anyone has come to the modern Grand Slam. He capped it off with a FedEx Cup title and all the big awards.

And it didn't help when he started the next year with an eight-shot victory in Kapalua.

"Off of this week last year, it didn't necessarily help my own and anyone else's expectations, given the performance that we had," Spieth said.

One bad swing on the 12th hole at Augusta National could have changed that. Spieth lost a five-shot lead on the back nine of the Masters and never caught up, and then he never had much of a chance.

But consider his outlook a year ago.

Asked what he would consider a good season, Spieth at first joked, "Last year." He's not one to be specific about goals, though he did mention giving himself a serious chance in a couple of majors and closing out individual events. He had a chance in one major. He closed out victories at Kapalua, Colonial and the Australian Open. The Masters was the only tournament he had a chance to close out and let get away.

Not a bad year. Just not like the previous year.

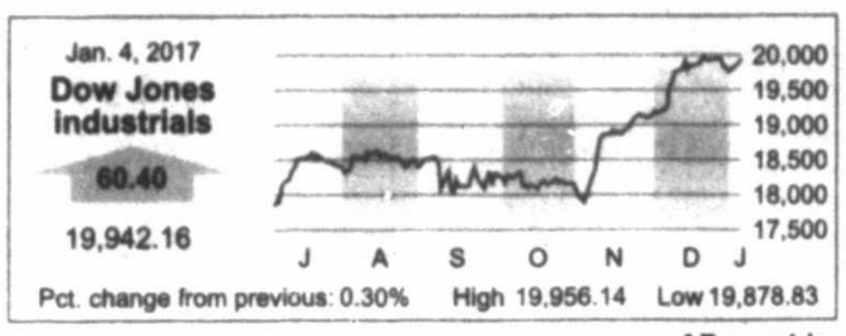
And now, 2015 is far enough in the past that it's easier to look forward. Another reminder is the world ranking. Even with three victories and a runner-up in a major, Spieth went from No. 1 to No. 5.

"Just have to get it back," he said.

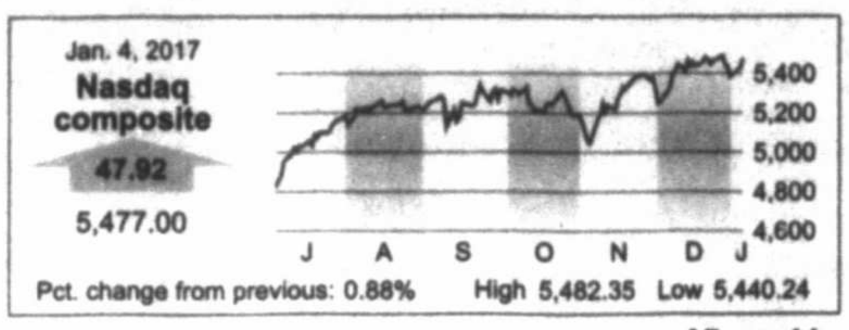
Attention Readers
Unfortunately Bananagrams is no longer available for Newspaper publications. We apologize for an inconvenience this may have caused. We are in the process of searching for a new daily puzzle.
If you have any recommendations please contact Lori Diaz at 687-8865

BUSINESS & OIL

A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



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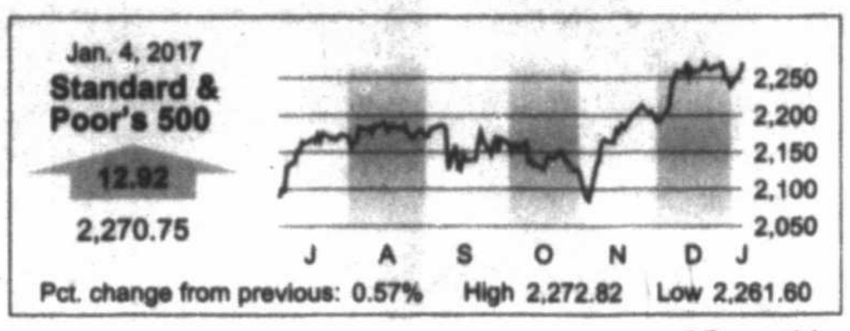


AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Wednesday:	$53.26
Previous:	$52.33

POSTED

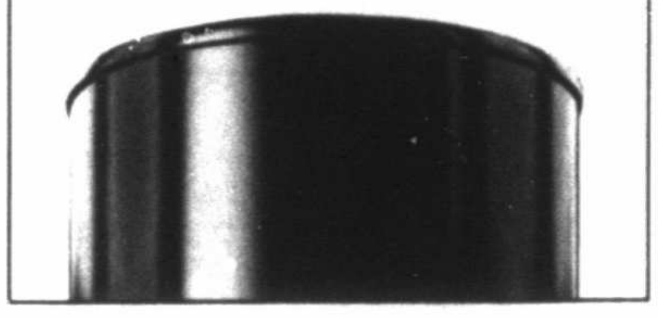
Wednesday:	$49.75
Previous:	$48.75

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Wednesday:	$45.30
Previous:	$43.20

NATURAL GAS

Wednesday:	$3.267
Previous:	$3.327



NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
iShEMkts	825995	35.70	+.27
FordM	766988	13.17	+.58
BkofAm	747477	22.95	+.42
S&P500ETF	699223	226.58	+1.34
VanEGold	538660	21.92	+.16

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
EKodk wtA	3.64	+.82	+29.1
WtWatch	13.40	+2.32	+20.9
Valhi	4.03	+.48	+13.5
NavMH pfH	8.79	+1.03	+13.3
DianaShip	3.68	+.38	+11.5

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
DxBiotBear	16.01	-2.52	-13.6
PUVixST rs	6.73	-.77	-10.3
CSVLgNG rs	29.06	-2.37	-7.5
DxHmbBear	29.40	-2.02	-6.4
LCI Inds	109.10	-7.40	-6.4

DIARY

Advanced	2,584
Declined	454
Unchanged	63
Total issues	3,101
New Highs	207
New Lows	6
Volume	3,634,982,924

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Globalstar	120776	1.71	-.06
NDynMn g	54079	1.88	-.06
B2gold g	44901	2.54	+.01
TherapMD	42661	6.42	+.45
NwGold g	40524	3.64	+.01

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
eMagin	2.55	+.40	+18.6
VirnetX	2.60	+.40	+18.2
CentrusEn	8.91	+1.32	+17.4
NobilisH n	2.60	+.20	+8.3
TherapMD	6.42	+.45	+7.5

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
IntellgSys	3.97	-.26	-6.1
RxVimxWk	7.28	-.42	-5.5
PacGE pfA	30.36	-1.47	-4.6
Compx	14.85	-.50	-3.3
PowrREIT	7.64	-.23	-2.9

DIARY

Advanced	257
Declined	99
Unchanged	20
Total issues	376
New Highs	11
New Lows	3
Volume	123,338,247

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Nvidia	294853	104.39	+2.38
SiriusXM	267049	4.53	+.09
FrontierCm	244783	3.67	+.09
Cisco	217961	30.10	-.18
Apple Inc	204098	116.02	-.13

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Orexign rs	3.40	+1.33	+64.3
EvokePhm	2.69	+.62	+30.0
HebronTc n	5.93	+1.25	+26.8
O2Micro	2.38	+.49	+25.9
Menus n	25.88	+4.81	+22.8

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
AgileThera	2.63	-2.37	-47.4
SocilRltyA n	5.16	-.98	-16.0
CSVixSh rs	7.32	-.85	-10.4
XeneticB n	4.87	-.53	-9.9
IntrpDia rs	6.80	-.70	-9.3

DIARY

Advanced	2,225
Declined	647
Unchanged	181
Total issues	3,053
New Highs	176
New Lows	25
Volume	1,819,998,058

GM, Ford, Nissan top estimates as US poised for sales record

Bloomberg

General Motors led the six top-selling automakers by U.S. sales in beating analysts' projections for deliveries in December, likely solidifying an unprecedented seventh-straight year of sales growth for the industry.

GM, the largest U.S. automaker, said deliveries rose 10 percent, beating analysts' estimates for an increase of about 4.4 percent. Ford, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and Japan's three largest carmakers all posted surprise gains.

Coming into Wednesday's reports, analysts had predicted that GM would stand alone among the six biggest sellers in the U.S. with higher deliveries for December, which had one less selling day than in the year-earlier month. With industrywide deliveries gaining for the month, the full-year total will top the 2015 record of 17.5 million.

Analysts on average had projected December sales will come in at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 17.6 million cars and light trucks, up from last December's 17.5 million rate. On Wednesday, GM predicted that when today's reports are complete, the industry selling rate will hit 18.2 million for December and 17.5 million or the full year.

GM and Ford shares both rose by at least 4.7 percent as of 12:25 p.m. in New York trading, while Fiat Chrysler's gained about 1.2 percent. GM was the lone traditional U.S. automaker to see its stock gain last year, by 2.4 percent. Ford's slumped 14 percent and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles slipped 0.2 percent.

Fiat Chrysler was the lone major automaker to report a sales decline for the month, with deliveries falling 10 percent — still better than a projected decline of 14 percent. Toyota Motor, Nissan and Honda each posted surprise gains.

Researcher Autodata Corp. will report the industry sales rate and deliveries total for last month and 2016 later Wednesday.

Among highlights of Wednesday's reports:

■ GM reported sales grains across all four of its brands, led by Chevrolet, driven by demand for Equinox sport utility vehicles and Malibu sedans.

■ Ford's F-Series pickup line had its best month in 11 years, with 87,512 trucks sold. Toyota reported its best month and year for light truck sales, paced by records on both fronts for the RAV4 and Highlander SUV models.

■ Nissan's Rogue crossover displaced the Altima sedan as its top-seller for the first time.

Automakers' biggest promotions were split into two polar-opposite group, said Michelle Krebs, senior analyst with Cox Automotive, citing research from the company's AIS Rebates unit: slow-selling fuel-efficient models and high-margin big trucks.

Stock indexes near records

U.S. stocks climbed Wednesday as investors bought shares of companies focused on consumers, including automakers and retailers. The Standard & Poor's 500 index finished a single point below its all-time high.

General Motors and Ford jumped as car companies reported generally strong sales for the month of December. Companies that mine for metals and make chemicals and other materials climbed as the dollar receded a bit from its recent highs. Small-company stocks picked up where they left off in 2017 as the Russell 2000 index outpaced other major indexes and missed a record close by a whisker.

Investors snapped up consumer-focused stocks that haven't done much celebrating since the election, like apparel and accessories retailers and discount store chains. Urban Outfitters is down about 11 percent the election and Gap has fallen almost that much.

The Dow Jones industrial average added 60.40 points, or 0.3 percent, to 19,942.16. The blue-chip index was held back by small losses from energy giant Exxon Mobil and insurer Travelers.

Metal prices rise

Gold picked up $3.30 to $1,165.30 an ounce and silver added 14 cents to $16.55 an ounce. Copper closed up 7 cents, or 2.7 percent, at $2.56 a pound.

Coca-Cola accused of tobacco industry-like deception in lawsuit

Bloomberg

Coca-Cola Co. was sued by activists who compare the beverage giant's advertising tactics to the tobacco industry's past efforts in minimizing the health effects of its products and targeting children to replenish the ranks of its customers.

The nonprofit Praxis Project seeks to stop Coke and the Washington-based American Beverage Association from deceptive advertising of sugary drinks, particularly to children, and for the disclosure of documents related to their impact on health. Studies have linked sugary drinks to obesity, Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease, the group said.

The lawsuit comes as drinks' manufacturers seek to fend off regulatory assaults on multiple fronts. The U.K. is pressing ahead with a tax on sugary drinks over the objections of the producers, following the example of France, Mexico and Hungary. In the U.S., cities including San Francisco and Chicago have also introduced taxes on sweet drinks, citing what they say is a disproportionate impact on residents' health.

Praxis, a California nongovernmental organization, is being represented by the Center for Science in the Public Interest, another nonprofit with a long history of litigation targeting the food and beverage industries.

"From the 1950s until the late 1990s, the tobacco industry engaged in an elaborate campaign of disinformation to cast doubt on the science connecting cigarettes to lung cancer and other diseases," Maia Kats, litigation director for the center, said in a statement.

"Like the tobacco industry, Coca-Cola needs to replenish the ranks of its customers, and it tries to recruit them young," Praxis said in its complaint, filed Wednesday in federal court in Oakland, California.

Coca-Cola didn't have an immediate comment on the lawsuit.

The American Beverage Association hasn't received the complaint, said William Dermody, spokesman for the group. "We can't comment on something we haven't received yet."

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $120.41 Up 1.37

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $135.67 Down 0.99

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $8.12 Up 0.14

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $103.57 Up 0.32

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $2.46 Up 0.06

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $4.99 Unchanged

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $32.05 Up 0.15

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $45.99 Up 0.59

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $13.54 Up 0.46

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $16.38 Up 0.13

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel		33	11.11	+.57	+8.8
AT&T Inc	1.96f	17	42.77	+.25	+.6
AbbottLab	1.06f	20	39.36	+.31	+2.5
Abraxas	...	...	2.88	+.21	+12.1
AdaDvsEq	.92e	...	12.85	+.07	+1.1
AMD			11.43		+.8
AgileThera			2.63	-2.37	-53.9
Alibaba		41	90.51	+1.91	+3.1
AlonUSA	.60		12.56	-.08	+10.4
Ambev	.06e		5.11	+.04	+4.1
Amgen	4.60f	14	152.87	+2.14	+4.6
Anadarko	.20	...	70.81	+.56	+1.5
Apache	1.00	...	63.59	-.19	+.2
Apple Inc	2.28	14	116.02	-.13	+.2
ApldMatl	.40	19	32.24	+.30	-.1
ArcelorMit		27	7.65	+.14	+4.8
Archrock	.48f		14.55	+.80	+10.2
ATMOS	1.68	22	74.97	+.42	+1.1
AutoData	2.28f	29	103.66	+.16	+.9
BP PLC	2.40a	...	38.29	+.29	+2.4
BakrHu	.68		64.75	-.28	-.3
BkofAm	.30f	18	22.95	+.42	+3.8
B iPVxST rs			22.48	-1.22	-11.9
BaringsCp s	1.20		15.65	+.24	+1.1
BarrickG	.08	37	16.40	+.01	+2.6
BasicEnS			45		
BerkHa A	...	16	246599.97	+749.98	+1.0
BlkHillsCp	1.68	22	60.81	+.29	-.9
Blackstone	1.74	26	29.80	+1.68	+10.2
BonanzaCE	...		1.38	+.40	+35.3
BrMySq	1.56f	41	59.14	+.08	+1.2
BrownFA s	...	29	46.92	+.45	+1.4
BrownFB s	...	...	45.58	+.50	+1.5
CVS Health	1.70f	14	79.75	-.60	+1.1
Caterpillar	3.08	25	93.57	-.42	+.9
Celestic g		10	12.20	+.43	+3.0
Cemex	.29t		7.96	+.06	-.9
CntryLink	2.16	10	25.48	+.13	+7.1
Chemours n	.12	...	22.21	+.99	+.5
ChesEng	...	...	7.00	+.08	-.3
Chevron	4.28	...	117.82	-.03	+.1
Chicos	.32	32	14.76	+.24	+2.6
Cimarex	.32	...	138.50	-.29	+1.9
Cisco	1.04	14	30.10	-.18	-.4

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Citigroup	.64	17	61.41	+.82	+3.3
ClayEng	...	...	120.41	+1.37	+1.0
CliffsNRs		20	8.86	+.25	+5.4
CocaCola	1.40	25	41.65	-.15	+.5
ColgPalm	1.56	24	66.26	+.72	+1.3
ConAgra	.80	21	39.09	-.67	-1.2
ConchoRes	...	...	135.67	-.99	+2.3
ConocoPhil	1.00	...	51.08	+.47	+1.9
CrackerB	4.60	21	163.38	+.23	-2.2
CSVInvNG			4.31	+.30	+42.2
CSVelIVST			52.86	+2.57	+13.1
CrosTim	1.06e	13	18.23	+.23	+1.4
DCP Mid	3.12	17	36.92	-1.67	-3.8
DTE	2.92	22	98.47	+.26	...
Dataram rs			1.80	+.06	-18.2
DevonE	.24	...	47.50	+.42	+4.0
DxSCBear rs			18.58	-.99	-6.4
DrGMBll s			6.94	+.32	+24.4
DxGBull s		...	8.76	+.16	+14.7
Disney	1.56f	19	107.44	+1.36	+3.1
DowChm	1.84	19	58.06	+.46	+1.5
EOG Rescs	.67	...	103.62	+.08	+2.5
EmpDist	1.04	23	34.09	...	...
EnCana g	.06		12.95	+1.01	+10.3
Energen	.08		59.24	+.85	+2.7
EngyTsfr	4.22		36.30	+.45	+1.4
EnPro	.84	52	68.77	+.87	+2.1
EntProdPt	1.62f	21	27.05	+.14	...
Ericsson	.46e		5.89	+.11	+1.0
EvokePhm			2.69	+.62	+33.2
ExxonMbl	3.00	36	89.89	-1.00	-.4
Facebook		33	118.69	+1.83	+3.2
Fitbit n		11	8.12	+.18	+10.9
FordM	.60c	6	13.17	+.58	+8.6
FrptMcM		...	14.83	+1.05	+12.4
FrontierCm	.42	...	3.67	+.09	+8.6
GATX	1.60	9	62.30	+1.22	+1.2
GabMultT	.94e	...	7.34	+.07	+1.4
GAInv	1.15e	...	31.46	+.34	+.9
GenElec	.96f	28	31.70	+.01	+.3
GenMotors	1.52	6	37.09	+1.94	+6.5
GileadSci	1.88	7	76.38	+2.22	+6.7
Globalstar	...	16	1.71	-.06	+8.2
GtPlainEn	1.10f	16	27.64	+.06	+1.1

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Groupon			3.51	+.01	+5.7
Hallibrtn	.72	...	55.89	+.21	+3.3
HostHotls	.80a	15	19.34	+.21	+2.7
HuntBncsh	.32f	19	13.48	+.16	+2.0
iShBrazil	1.03e	...	34.81	+.35	+4.4
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	35.51	+.36	+2.3
iShEMkts	.84e	...	35.70	+.27	+2.0
iS Eafe	1.70e		58.75	+.66	+1.8
iShiBxHYB	5.09	...	87.38	+.47	+1.0
iShR2K	1.77e	...	137.78	+2.26	+2.2
Intel	1.04	16	36.41	-.19	+.4
InterDig	1.20	16	91.45	+.80	+.1
JPMorgCh	1.92	15	86.91	+.16	+.7
JohnJn	3.20	18	115.65	-.19	+.4
KimbClk	3.68	19	115.18	+.62	+.9
LegacyRes	.60m	...	2.46	+.06	+16.0
Lubys	...	...	4.24	+.03	-.9
McDnlds	3.76f	23	119.48	-.14	-1.8
Merck	1.88f	16	60.13	-.02	+2.1
MeritMed	...	34	26.05	-.15	-1.7
MexcoEn	...	...	...	...	-.2
MicronT	...	...	22.36	-.19	+2.0
Microsoft	1.56f	26	62.30	-.28	+.3
Mosaic	1.10	41	30.81	+1.28	+5.0
Nabors	.24	...	17.49	+.68	+6.6
NatGrid	3.35e	...	57.60	-.08	-1.3
NOilVarco	.20	21	38.53	+.72	+2.9
NikeB s	.84f	23	53.07	+1.09	+4.4
NobleCorp	.08	...	6.62	+.26	+11.8
NSTFI3	.55a	...	14.21	+.10	+.3
NTXQI	.65	...	13.86	+.08	+1.0
Nvidia	.56f	63	104.39	+2.38	-2.2
OcciPet	3.04f	...	71.48	-.79	+.4
ParTech	...	17	5.56	+.06	-.4
ParkHot n	...	...	29.90	-.60	...
ParkDrl	...	...	2.85	+.10	+9.6
PattUTI	.08	8	28.38	+.67	+5.4
Penney	...	...	8.47	+.14	+1.9
PennaRE	.84	83	19.86	+.53	+4.7
Prmian-	.41e	22	8.04	...	+4.3
Petrobras	...	...	10.80	-.03	+6.8
Pfizer	1.28f	14	33.29	+.29	+2.5
PioNtrl	.08	...	184.17	-2.43	+2.3
PlainsAAP	2.20m	30	32.79	+.10	+1.5
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	120.19	+.65	+1.4

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Praxair	3.00	22	116.85	-.05	-.3
PrmEgy	...	...	54.00	...	...
PUVixST rs	...	...	6.73	-.77	-23.1
ProctGam	2.68	23	84.50	+.30	+.5
RangeRs	.08	...	33.55	+.95	-2.4
ReynAm s	1.84f	26	55.43	-.74	-1.1
RiteAid	...	75	8.27	+.09	+.4
Rowan	.40	7	19.64	+.09	+4.0
RoyDShllA	3.76	85	55.78	+.56	+2.6
SpdrDJIA	3.98e	...	199.15	+.73	+.8
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	226.58	+1.34	+1.4
SpdrLehHY	2.30	...	36.79	+.16	+.9
SabnR	1.93e	17	36.15	-.05	+2.8
SanderFm	.96f	12	97.67	+1.35	+3.6
Schlmbrg	2.00	56	85.43	+.63	+1.8
SiriusXM	.01p	38	4.53	+.09	+1.8
Smucker	3.00f	16	128.53	-.44	+.4
SwstnEngy	...	...	10.28	+.31	-5.0
Sprint	...	...	8.79	+.23	+4.4
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	23.70	+.19	+1.9
SP Util	1.55e	...	48.63	+.18	+.1
SunocoLog	2.04f	52	24.41	+.34	+1.6
TelefEsp	1.03e	...	9.33	+.01	+1.4
Tesoro	2.20	11	85.73	-3.05	-2.0
3M Co	4.44	22	178.32	+.27	-.1
Torchmark	.56	17	74.65	+.87	+1.2

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
TriContl	.82e	...	22.30	+.12	+1.1
Twitter	...	...	16.86	+.42	+3.4
TylerTech	...	52	146.61	+1.84	+2.7
UBSI	1.32	24	46.70	+.60	+1.0
US OilFd	...	...	11.58	+.14	-1.2
USSteel	.20	...	37.33	+2.62	+13.1
Vale SA	.29e	...	8.05	...	+5.6
ValeantPh	...	17	15.57	+.33	+7.2
ValeroE	2.40	14	67.89	-2.53	-.6
VanEGold	.12e	...	21.92	+.16	+4.8
VanE JrGld	...	...	34.20	+.56	+8.4
VangEmg	1.10e	...	36.50	+.33	+2.0
VerizonCm	2.31f	15	54.52	-.06	+2.1
VulcanM	.80	44	127.79	+3.15	+2.1
WEC Engy	2.08f	20	58.94	+.45	+.5
WalgBoots	1.50	19	82.98	+.02	+.3
Weathflntl	...	...	5.75	+.40	+15.2
WellsFargo	1.52	14	56.05	+.05	+1.7
WstnRefin	1.52	26	37.13	-1.31	-1.9
WhitingPet	...	...	13.10	+.46	+9.0
WmsCos	.80	73	31.36	-.10	+.7
XcelEngy	1.36	19	40.80	+.18	+.2
Xerox	.31	9	7.15	+.26	+24.3
Yahoo	...	...	40.06	+1.16	+3.6
Yamana g	.02m	...	3.02	+.04	+7.5

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to adoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
19,987.63	15,450.56	Dow Jones Industrials	19,942.16	+60.40	+.30	+.91	+17.96
9,490.29	6,403.31	Dow Jones Transportation	9,115.72	+91.86	+1.02	+.79	+26.31
723.83	569.12	Dow Jones Utilities	659.28	+1.96	+.30	-.05	+13.57
11,688.45	8,937.99	NYSE Composite	11,246.55	+92.20	+.83	+1.72	+13.97
5,512.37	4,209.76	Nasdaq Composite	5,477.00	+47.92	+.88	+1.74	+13.26
2,277.53	1,810.10	S&P 500	2,270.75	+12.92	+.57	+1.43	+14.09
1,698.70	1,215.14	S&P Midcap	1,695.83	+25.93	+1.55	+2.12	+24.62
23,802.01	18,462.43	Wilshire 5000	23,800.92	+186.19	+.79	+1.60	+15.58
1,392.71	943.09	Russell 2000	1,387.95	+22.46	+1.64	+2.27	+26.83

TODAY: Mostly sunny High: 50 Low: 18

FRIDAY: Partly sunny High: 31 Low: 18

SATURDAY: Sunny High: 38 Low: 24

SUNDAY: Sunny High: 48 Low: 32

MONDAY: Sunny High: 65 Low: 43

TUESDAY: Mostly sunny High: 71 Low: 40

Local forecast

The National Weather Service is calling for colder temperatures but no precipitation during the next three days. The high temperature Friday should be about 25 degrees below normal for this time of year.

The record high for Jan. 4 is 71, set in 1997. The record low is 8, set in 1959. On Jan. 4 of last year, the high was 50 and the low was 26

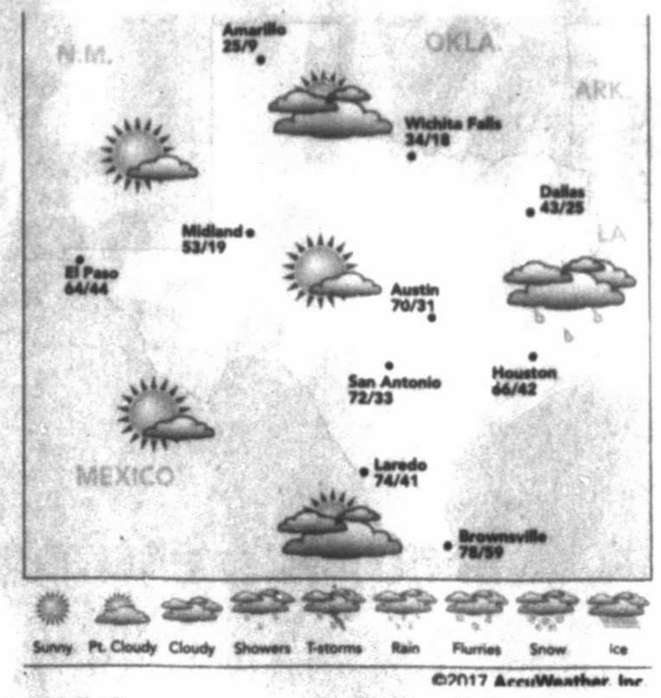
Weather brief

Southern states bracing for potential of snow, sleet, ice

ATLANTA — Forecasters say a winter storm system could blanket much of the South with a wintry mix of rain, sleet and snow from Texas all the way east to the Carolinas.

Even parts of the deep South were bracing for the possibility of snow by Friday.

Freezing rain and ice is also possible in areas such as Atlanta, where frozen freeways have shut down traffic in past storms. Forecasters say they don't expect the worst of the wintry weather to strike metro Atlanta until after schoolchildren are dismissed Friday afternoon.



Precipitation

Tuesday	0.00 in.
Wednesday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.08 in.
Year total	0.08 in.
Normal total (year to date)	0.05 in.

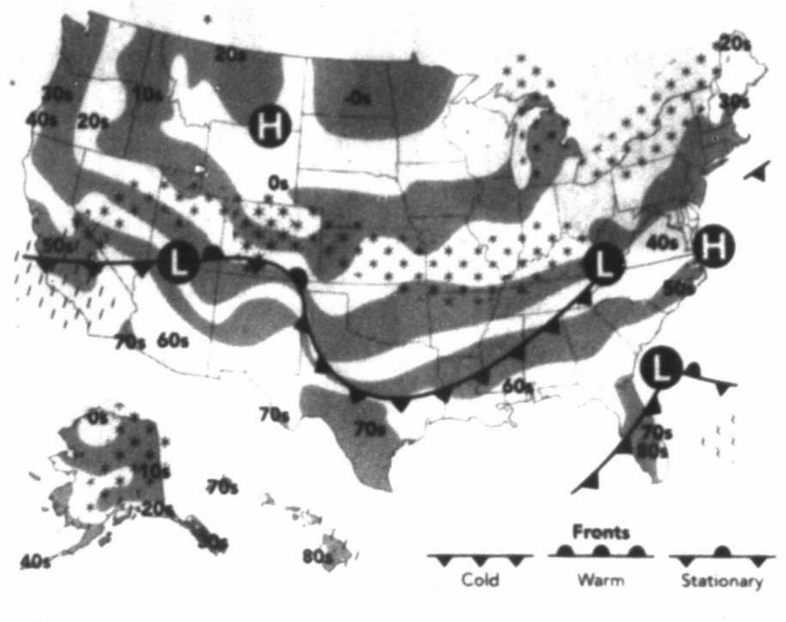
Wednesday's temperatures

High	54
Low	33
Normal high	57
Normal low	30
Sunrise	7:50 a.m.
Sunset	5:59 p.m.

National weather AccuWeather.com

Forecast for Thursday, January 5, 2017

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



Relative says family fundraiser has gone to the well too often

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: A family member keeps setting up fundraisers every time she wants to buy something for her family. If a child needs a special class, she asks the relatives to pitch in to pay for it. When her husband wanted to return to college, she brought all the extended family together to see who could contribute.

She has now set up a fundraiser for family and friends to raise $6,000 to send her teenaged daughter to an expensive performing arts camp. I think this is extravagant. If they can't afford it, they should select a camp they CAN afford or have the 16-year-old go out and earn the money. I also think they should be saving for college rather than camp.

This woman's father was a preacher, and sometimes I think she never got the message that fundraising is usually for charity, not for individuals who happen to need some cash. Am I wrong to be embarrassed by what she's doing, or is this a new normal? — EMBARRASSED IN TEXAS

DEAR EMBARRASSED: You say your relative is the daughter of a preacher. There is a saying in the Bible, "Seek and ye shall find." Another way of putting it is, "It never hurts to ask." If you feel your relative is using others for something that should be her responsibility, you are free to just say no, and to do so without embarrassment.

DEAR ABBY: I'm retired and have the time to sew and quilt projects, which I give as gifts. I presented a "Quilt of Valor" to my father to honor his military service. I also gave a sibling one of my personalized projects as a birthday gift.

Abby, when we visited their home recently, I was horrified to see one of their dogs sleeping on one of the pillows I had made for them. When the dog woke up, it proceeded to scratch itself and then drag the hair-covered pillow through the house. I have been asked to make a quilt for a disabled child living at home who also has a dog that sleeps on her bed.

I no longer want to invest my time and energy after what happened to my gift. I feel unappreciated. Would it be wrong to refuse the request and say something about "gift abuse"? — SEW PERPLEXED IN THE NORTHWEST

DEAR SEW PERPLEXED: Verbalizing your refusal would be undiplomatic. Regardless of the fact that your hard work wasn't appreciated as you hoped it would be, I do not recommend that you accuse the family of "gift abuse." It appears they're dealing with more important issues right now.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been together for 21 years. I'm extremely social, while he is not. For the past six to 10 years he has become increasingly resistant to going out in public places, especially when it involves getting together with my family or friends.

During last year's holidays, I pleaded yet another "sudden illness" on his behalf. I feel he makes himself ill with anxiety so he can bow out at the last minute. When I cancel plans we've made — which is often — he generally "feels better" after we cancel. It's frustrating. While I am sympathetic, I'm tired of making excuses knowing he's probably fine. What can I do? — SOCIAL BUTTERFLY IN PORTLAND, ORE.

DEAR BUTTERFLY: I think you should go without him and stop making excuses.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

The wild west

Neither vulnerable. South deals

NORTH
♠ A
♥ J 6 3
♦ 10 6 4 3
♣ Q 9 8 4 3

WEST
♠ Q 9 8 2
♥ 7 4
♦ K Q J 7 2
♣ K 6

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

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 7 4 3
♥ A 9 8 5 2
♦ 5
♣ A

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
4	All pass		

Opening lead: King of ♦

South had his cowboy boots on in the auction, but the final contract was sound.

The defense started with two rounds of diamonds. Declarer ruffed the second round and began to set up his spade suit. He led a spade to the ace, a club back to his ace, and then cashed the king of spades. West followed low **smoothly when** South led the jack of **spades. Declarer**, quite reasonably, **ruffed this in dummy** hoping that the **spades were splitting** 3-3. How would **you defend** from here with the East **hand?**

Did you choose to overruff and lead a **minor**, or a trump? If you did, you **will soon be** watching South score up **his game**. South can easily ruff another spade, establishing the suit. You can ruff again, if you like, but declarer will have no trouble drawing trumps after you have ruffed with your high ones.

The winning defense is for East to refuse to overruff. South can ruff a minor back to his hand and ruff another spade, but East will refuse to overruff again. Declarer can lead a trump to his hand, but is helpless after that. Another trump and East can draw trumps. A high spade instead allows West to ruff with the seven of hearts.

There are exceptions, of course, but it is usually best not to ruff with natural trump tricks. They will take tricks later anyway, so have a good reason before you use one up by ruffing. South might have been a cowboy on this deal, but East was the Sheriff who kept him under control.

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Gucci of fashion
5 Manual reader
9 Certain highlands musician
14 Celebrity
15 Salon service
16 Eco-friendly spa brand
17 >:-(
20 Gazpacho ingredient
21 Grammatical unit
22 Make up for skipping classes, perhaps
24 Scholar's deg.
25 :-(
30 Carpooling calc.
33 Frigid end?
34 Straight man
35 Bust
36 Vegetation
38 Tarzan creator's monogram
39 Virus named for a Congolese river
41 Trains above the road
42 Allows to attack
45 "Smack That" rapper
46 Manhattan part
47 ;-)
49 Pro
50 Cabinet dept. with an Office of Science
51 Dined at a table for one
56 Near-failing grade
60 :-O
62 Reached, as expenses
63 Veiny cheese
64 Work with needles
65 Med. specialty
66 Couture line
67 Gels

DOWN

1 Came to rest
2 Long drive?
3 Brown digs?
4 Many an Albee play
5 Puts on the internet, e.g.
6 Poivre companion
7 Slow Churned ice cream
8 Swarming (with)
9 Where many aces can be seen
10 Like some academic walls
11 Menial worker
12 Part of NEA: Abbr.
13 Demolish: in Devon
18 Gillette brand
19 Remove wooden pins from
23 Sacred songs
25 Mass consumption?
26 Like links-style golf courses
27 Sprang up
28 Razzie Award adjective
29 Easy to prepare, as desserts
30 Mushroom in Asian cuisine
31 Raptor's weapon
32 Go out with __
37 "The Jazz Singer" singer
40 Applicants with low credit scores to loan officers
43 Dutch banknotes
44 Gunter Grass novel, with "The"
48 __-plié: ballet movement with knees half-bent
49 Like marbled steak
51 Houston pro, locally
52 Captain who says, "For hate's sake I spit my last breath at thee"
53 Sharp flavor
54 Well-used crayons
55 Creator of Perry and Della
57 Diamond complement
58 Minute, e.g.
59 Some NCOs
61 __ shooter

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/05/17

By Morton J. Mendelson
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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017:

This year you open up to a new sense of well-being, though often you experience an internal conflict between what you want and what you know you'll get. Perhaps this is a learned habit from childhood. Regardless, accept yourself as you are. If you are single, you could meet someone who seems to send mixed signals. Wait until summertime, when you are likely to meet a potential sweetie who is more worthy of your time. If you are attached, you and your sweetie will manifest one of your long-term dreams. The period from summer on could be very special and significant to you as a couple. ARIES has a fiery personality, especially around you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★ Pressure builds throughout the day. You will need to deal with a personal matter, in which someone might be willful and manipulative. You can handle what comes down the path, but you'll decide to head in a different direction just to bypass this person. Tonight: As you like it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ You could be pushing hard to achieve your goals and get through several difficult tasks. Stay centered, and you will achieve much more than you even thought possible. Lighten the moment by applying a more positive mindset. Tonight: Get some extra sleep, if you can.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ You'll get the lay of the land quickly, whether it is through your friends or through your power of observation. Don't allow a partner to pressure you. Set limits and support yourself in maintaining them. Only then will a situation stabilize. Tonight: Get into weekend mode.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ Someone in control could become quite pushy. This person wants what he or she wants when he or she wants it. This might not be the time to discuss his or her controlling behavior. Clearly, the other party is in a foul mood. Tonight: Live in the here and now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Relax and get into the moment. Your priorities could be subject to change. Don't hesitate to reorganize your schedule. Unexpected news heads in your direction. You suddenly might feel revitalized; as a result, you could gain a new perspective. Tonight: Take off with friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Relate to someone directly. You could clear up a lot of problems, as long as you are able to stay focused. A loved one or close associate is likely to surprise you with his or her actions. You might need to take a step back and rethink your plans. Tonight: Opt for togetherness.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Sometimes you just can't sit on your playfulness any longer. Today is a prime example of that behavior. Avoid an encounter with a difficult person, as he or she could misread your attitude and cause a hassle that will take a while to resolve. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Pace yourself, and don't try to squeeze in too much at one time. You might not realize how difficult you can be at times. When an inevitable sequence of events starts playing out, know that your attitude might be the driving force. Tonight: Know when to call it a night.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You are flying high right now as you watch what is happening around you. You still might not be ready to join in, as you could be struggling to let go of a personal issue. Recognize that you are a force to be dealt with, no matter what is happening. Tonight: Be a little naughty.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Focus on what is positive, as opposed to what cannot be corrected. For you, going with the flow is difficult at times, as you always want to feel in control of whatever situation is playing out. Expect a little uproar on the homefront. Tonight: You probably won't be disappointed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Your observations are well-received, as are your lighthearted comments. You will be more aware of solutions than others might be. Someone could go out of his or her way to bully you. Little does this person know how futile his or her efforts are! Tonight: Visit with friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ You could be overwhelmed by what is happening around you. You might wish to have more control over certain events, but you know that that's not possible. You can control only yourself, but that is more powerful anyway. Tonight: Do some shopping on the way home.

BORN TODAY

Actress Diane Keaton (1946), actor Robert Duvall (1931), singer/songwriter Marilyn Manson (1969)

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1 year experience required in Natural Gas Compression. Must be able to read gauges, lift over 50 lbs., climb ladders. Must have valid DL and be able to work 12 hour shifts. Competitive wages and benefits. Fax resume to 432-458-3423 or email to vmccormack@wtggas.com.

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Natural Gas Services Group is seeking a PLC & Wiring Technician. Must be able to program, install and trouble-shoot FW Murphy, Allen-Bradley and GE as well as bend conduit and pull/terminate wiring. Minimum 3 years' experience required, compression experience preferred but will train.
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HEALTHCARE

Registered Nurse
Immediate opening for **RN,** experience preferred. FT.
Excellent benefit package. Send resume with references to:
jodyclinic@gmail.com or Midland Women's Clinic, Attn:
Jody Bulla, 2500 W. Illinois Ave Suite 100, Midland, TX 79701.

HUMAN RESOURCES

DIRECTOR OF HR
Midland oil and gas service company is looking for a Director of Human Resources to fill an immediate position. Candidate must meet the following qualifications:

Qualifications

- The successful candidate will have a minimum of eight (8) years of HR experience in the oil and gas industry. At least five (5) years in a Manager/Supervisory level position in HR is required.
- Understands business drivers for areas of responsibility, identifies and implements cost effective HR solutions to meet organization strategic goals.
- Has proven track record of working with executive leadership, as well as professionals at various levels in the organization.
- Has experience working with ADP payroll systems.
- Possess excellent verbal communication skills.
- Has a Bachelor Degree in Human Resources or related field.

Job Duties:

- Acts as a key advisor to senior management on the development of overall policy and long-run goals of the organization.
- Provides strategic direction to the organization regarding HR programs and practices.
- Ensures compliance with all applicable domestic employment laws and regulations.
- Designs and implements appropriate metrics to measure and monitor training, organization development, and performance management programs and initiatives.
- Produces results that have significant impact on costs and the achievement of function objectives or project-based goals.
- Regularly manages large-scale projects/activities which involve cross-functional teams.
- Drives employee benefits program and ensures that it is competitive with industry standards.
- Handles the payroll process.
- Maintains employee confidence and protects operations by keeping human resource information confidential.

Please email your resume to crudeoilmidstream@gmail.com

OTHER JOBS

Construction Positions
Johnson Bros now hiring Construction jobs position. Apply @ 5905 W I H 20 Big Springs, TX. 79720. Call Ryan 817-825-2403.

Gate Attendants needed
Gate Guard Services is looking for Gate Attendants in West Texas area, must have RV or Traveling trailer and must pass background. Requirements needed: Non-Commissioned license. Please call Patty for more information @ 361-949-8992.

GATE GUARD SERVICES, L.P.

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone?? Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram.

Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet.
Linda 687-8807

Multiple Positions Open
Production Chemical Company looking for ecperienced account managers, service technnicians, and CDL Drivers.
Please mail resumes to:
M-2 C/O The Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX. 79701

ROLLER OPERATORS / LABORERS NEEDED
Must be able to do heavy labor. Pay DOE. Call Mike @ (830)832-7729 M-F 8 to 5 ONLY. Acme Bridge Co. is EOE & A DRUG FREE WORK ZONE.

REAL ESTATE

Assistant Manager
Midland Village Apartments is taking applications for an assistant manager. Will train the right person. Please call for an appointment 432-683-9726.

SALES JOBS

Salesperson
Experienced pump salesperson needed. Excellent compensation and benefit plans provided. Send resumes to P-121 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX, 79701

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

SKILLED LABOR

Experienced Bench Jewelers needed
Anderson Bros Jewelers in Lubbock, Texas is seeking to fill a position for a bench jeweler.

THIS JOB REQUIRES RELOCATION TO LUBBOCK, TEXAS

QUALIFICATIONS:
5+ years experience
Experience in stone setting, laser welding, sizing

Salary and benefits - commensurate with experience.
Please email resumes along with 3 business references to jtoddfields@hotmail.com.
Anderson Bros Jewelers is an equal opportunity employer

Field Mechanics
Basin Engine & Pump
Mechanics needed for Industrial Oilfield Shop. Must be experienced working on centrifugal & positive displacement pumps. Furnish your own tools. Uniforms provided. Benefits package includes vacation, health insurance and retirement match savings. Salary depends on experience. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email toTodd@basinengine.com. Applications can be filled out at 1914 S. County Rd. 1083, Midland, TX 79706.

Heavy Equipment Operators
Hiring experienced heavy equipment operators for oilfield dirt work and rock crushing. 1-2 years operator experience required. Dozer experience a plus. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid!
Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX
or call 432-394-4604 for more information.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Class A CDL Drivers
Minimum of 2-3 years experience. Hazmat endorsement preferred but not necessary. Vacuum truck experience. Call 432-934-3829 or 432-561-8334.

KILL TRUCK DRIVER NEEDED
Immediate opening for an experienced driver w/ 2 years' experience. CDL license w/ endorsements and clean driving record. Must speak English.
Call 432-687-1370 w/ questions.
Apply in person at 2432 W Francis Ave Midland, 79701

GLOBE Energy Services

Now Hiring CDL Drivers
With Tanker Endorsement
Pump Truck Operators
Vacuum Truck Operators
Hot Oil Operators
Competitive pay, Health Insurance, Vacation and Retirement Benefits available.

Please apply at the following Main Office location:
2905 East I-20, Midland, Texas

DURING A TYPICAL WEEK, NEWSPAPER MEDIA REACH 77% OF ALL ADULTS.

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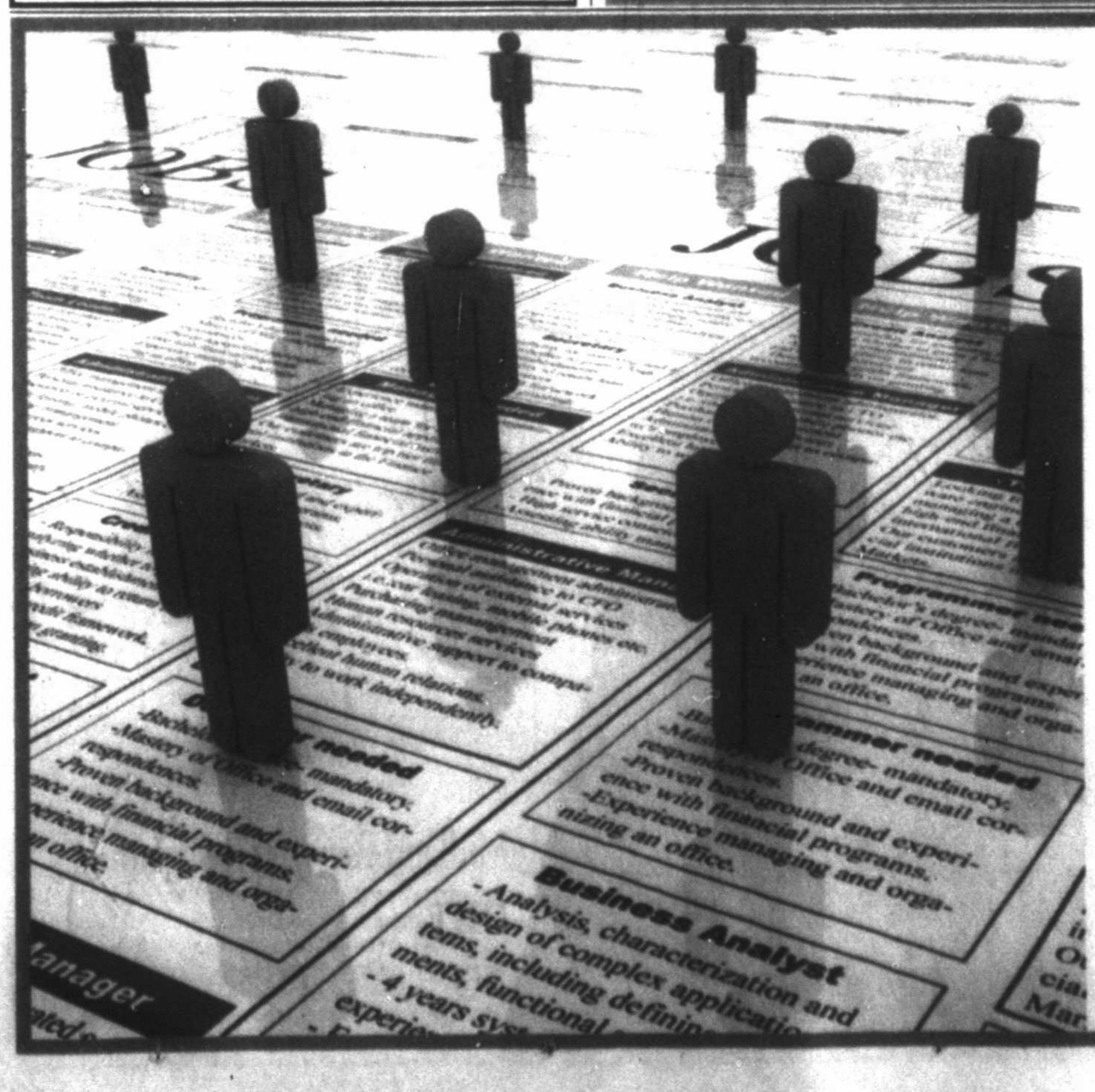

Looking For A New Job?

Log into the classifieds to find a job that suits you better.

Listings are updated daily.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
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201 E. Illinois
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www.naa.org

Extend your digital reach with newspaper media today!

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And their digital footprint leads straight to newspaper media

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com
Source: comScore, December 2014

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS AND PROVIDERS

Aetna Life Insurance Co., and Aetna Dental Inc. and their affiliates will accept written applications for participation in their PPO, POS and DMO networks during the period of December 1, 2017 through December 21, 2017. Physicians and providers including advanced practice nurses and physician assistants, who wish to contract with us, must apply during this period and applications must be received no later than December 21, 2017. Medical network applications should be submitted online at www.Aetna.com; please direct all credentialing questions to Aetna Credentialing and Application Management at 1-800-353-1232.

Requests to join the Aetna Dental network should be submitted online at www.aetnadental.com. Questions may be directed to the National Dentist Line at 1-800-451-7715.

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Studies show that more readers turn to Classifieds everyday than almost any other section of the newspaper.

Call Classifieds Today!

432-682-6222

Lost and Found

REWARD FOR 2 lost dogs. Male is large 50-60lbs dark and light brown resembles a German Shepherd. Female is about 40lbs and light (white) w brown spotting and looks like a heeler mix. Hunter and Sadie were not wearing there collars when they got out. 432-664-7734 https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8QP_D7ibrqsWUg4aWQ4RFR3cnM/view?usp=drivesdk

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS AND PROVIDERS

Cigna Health & Life Insurance Company and Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, which provide medical care benefit services, will accept applications for participation in their networks of physicians, pharmacies, and other providers from December 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. Applicants must meet all credentialing and other participatory criteria. 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:

Cigna Companies
Attn: Provider Relations
1640 Dallas Parkway
Plano, TX 75093

Legal and Public Notices

Notice to Physicians and Providers

The following healthcare organizations are accepting applications for physicians and providers who wish to become contracted physicians and providers during the period of February 1, 2017 through February 20, 2017. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, offered by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Texas, L.L.C., is a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) located at 14141 Southwest Freeway, Suite 800, Sugar Land, TX 77478, offers Medicaid Managed Care (STAR and STAR+PLUS) STARKIDS and Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP). UnitedHealthcare of Texas, Inc. and UnitedHealthcare Benefits of Texas, Inc. both located at 1311 President George Bush Highway, Richardson, Texas 75080 offer basic health care service Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plans. United HealthCare Insurance Company and PacifiCare Life and Health Insurance Company offer Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) and Exclusive Provider Organizations (EPOs). Applicants must meet practice standards, qualifications and other participatory criteria established by the HMO and/or PPO/EPO's. To initiate the application process, have your tax ID number available and please call 1-877-842-3210. Select the following prompts: 1) Other professional services and 2)Credentialing.

Legal and Public Notices

Garney Companies, Inc. is soliciting proposals for the Crane County Water District Well Field Expansion and Water System Upgrades project.

Proposals are to be submitted electronically prior to **2:00 p.m., prevailing time on January 24, 2017** in accordance with 00100 - Instruction to Bidders.

One single combined PDF proposal shall be submitted to the email addresses provided in "00100 - Instruction to Bidders addressed" to Mr. John Sedbrook & Mr. Kyle Krueger, and clearly denote: "**Bid Package 02: Edwards and Frost Well Field Rehabilitation**"

No proposal may be changed, amended, or modified after the above time and date. A proposal may however, be withdrawn and resubmitted any time prior to the time set for receipt of proposals. Any proposal received after **2:00 p.m.**, prevailing time on **January 24, 2017** will not be considered.

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on **January 17th, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** at the Museum of the Southwest located at 409 South Gaston Street, Crane, TX 79731.

Bid documents are available on the website below.

https://team.garney.com/CCWD

Respondents will be required to include contact information on the Contact List. Following, respondents will be emailed a link and password to access the Proposal Documents.

Proposal Documents may be downloaded from the above mentioned website for free. No hard copies will be made available. It is the responsibility of the interested party to download and print all necessary documents. Please contact John Sedbrook by email: jsedbrook@garney.com or phone at 303-335-6155 with any questions.

Legal and Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE
LEASE FOR OIL, GAS AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT
MIDLAND COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
MIDLAND, TEXAS

Proposal must be received by:
5:00P.M., January 18, 2017

Mail proposals to:
Midland County Hospital District
400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway
Midland, TX 79701

Attn: Rachel Hanna Jones
Director of Supply Chain

Proposals must be labeled "RFP#1202-010417"

Pursuant to Texas Natural Resource Code Chapter 71, Midland County Hospital District herein provides public notice of its intent to lease the following properties for oil and gas development:

2000 West Illinois Avenue:

Acres	Property ID	Geo ID	Legal Description
0.29	R000024833	00046000.011.0070	East 90' of the S/2 of Block 11' Highland Park Addition

2004 West Illinois Avenue:

Acres	Property ID	Geo ID	Legal Description
0.27	R000024834	00046000.011.0080	West 85' of the East 175' of the S/2 of Block 11, Highland Park Addition

2010 West Illinois Avenue:

Acres	Property ID	Geo ID	Legal Description
0.4	R000024832	00046000.011.0060	West 125 of the S/2 of Block 11 Highland Park Addition

2203 West Illinois Avenue:

Acres	Property ID	Geo ID	Legal Description
1.54	R000024833	00086000.07 4.0010	All of Block 74, West End Addition

The Midland County Hospital District Board of Directors shall accept bids for all or a part of the properties listed above, to the extent it owns an interest in said properties. Bids will be reviewed at the Board of Directors Meeting on January 26, 2017. On that same date at 11:45 A.M., the Board of Directors will hold a hearing at the Administrative Board Room of Midland Memorial Hospital, located at 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, to consider the bids and the award of a lease. If the Board of Directors determines that the bids submitted do not represent the fair value of the lease, it may reject the bids, give notice, and call for additional bids. For more information about the bidding process and Midland County Hospital District's requirements in the lease of the property described above, refer to Texas Natural Resource Code Chapter 71.

To advertise in Classified

Contact our Classified Department at 432-682-6222

email mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

fax 432-682-3793

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt★com

General Announcement

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

THANK YOU St. Jude and Sacred Heart for answering my prayers. TC.

Lost and Found

FOUND FEMALE boxer, 12/31-01/01. Call to identify. 432-697-5127

FOUND LOST sweet dog on Storey looks to be older Lab mix male. Looking for owner or someone to adopt. Call 432-889-6812

LOST 12/27/16 James Avery, I Am The Vine silver necklace and chain in parking lot of Tractor Supply or old Walgreens. Reward offered. Call 432-889-9856.

Autos For Sale-Lease

Passenger Cars

2003 PORSCHE 911. CONVERTIBLE Hard-top / Soft top. Lifetime garage. 6,800 miles. $35,000. Saddle Club. Charlie 432-570-1822

NEW 2016 Red Mercedes-Benz SLK 350 convertible. 950 mi. Paid $71,500 ask. $59,000. 325-473-2609. San Angelo, TX.

Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. 432-685-4078

Pickup Trucks

FORD F150 Lariat, 2007. 75,000 Miles. GREAT CONDITION! $9,000 OBO. 432-210-6561

Vans and Mini Vans

2013 Town & Country minivan, 72k miles, leather seats, free lifetime oil change, all upgrades, text 432-528-0395. se habla espanol.

Classified CAN 682-6222

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Recreation Vehicles

REDUCED HARLEY DAVIDSON 2005 Road King. 13K miles. $8,000 OBO. MUST SEE! 432-697-9787 leave message

Garage-Estate-Yard Sale

Yard - Garage Sales

79703

602 BROOKS Drive, in the backyard. Sat. 8am-? Designer shoes, baby items, popcorn machine, & musical instruments.

79707

4210 FERNCLIFF Saturday 8am-12pm. Hunting & fishing gear, tools, knives, home decor, freezer, clothing & baby items.

Area Sales

3921 FIRENZE St. Odessa, TX 79765. Huge four family moving sale. Friday, January 6th 9:00 a.m until 1:00 p.m. No early birds please!

Merchandise

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

Brand New Startrac stationary excercise bicycle. All the bells and whistles. Asking $1000 or best offer. Please call Kelly 432-556-1045

LANDSCAPING BRICKS - 8" Windsor Stone (red) 310 bricks never been used. On pallet (extra pallet loading) $1.30 / brick (min 50) $350 for pallet. Call (432) 352-6832

OAK, PECAN, hickory, mesquite, pinon. 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262

Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE
BY JOSEPH & TEAM
2004 W. Indiana Ave.
Midland's Museum District
Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

For pictures go to

http://www.estate sales.net/TX/Midland/79701/1403310

Legal and Public Notices

"ANNOUNCEMENT: As of 11:59 p.m., December 31, 2016, The Estate of Jerry Lee Jones, Amy Jones Cuellar, Lee Ann Jones Barrows, and Melody Jones Crowl will have dissolved all their individual and corporate relationships with Paragon Investigative Services Inc."

Legal and Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine & Beer Retailers Permit by Cafe Nitro Cold Brew & Eatery Inc. dba Cafe Nitro, to be located at 5701 Starboard Dr. Ste #1, Midland, Midland Texas. Officers of said corporation are Branson Sherman, President & Secretary .

Real Estate Rental-Sale

Residential Rentals

Apartment Rent Unfurn

ONE BEDROOM, electric, water, cable paid. Monthly $800 or weekly. American Realty. 432-520-7577

SPECIAL - Midland ★ Come to quiet, owner in residence, Whispering Oaks . We have very nice 2 bedroom apartments available for good quality tenants at exceptionally special low rates. Some have garages, all have covered parking, paid water and basic cable. Please call 432-694-4001 ★

Condo Thome Rent Unfurn

GREAT GUY SPACE
2 bedroom apartment with all utilities paid. Inside of a security fence with an electric gate. Located on the east side of Midland inside of Loop 250. $850 per month. For more information call Terry at 432-889-6073

Lots and Land

Acreage

21.23 AC. N. OF SAN ANGELO. LEVEL WITH NICE MESQUITE TREE COVER. DEER, HOGS, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. NEAR LAKE E. V. SPENCE. $2,926 DN-$486/MO.
CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

47.75 AC. W. TX. HUNTING, N OF COMSTOCK. DEER, JAVELINA, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. $2,375 DN-$394/MO.
CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Commercial

READY-RANCH RR
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

- **Reel County**
- 1,155 ac. n. of Snyder. 4 houses, pens/roping arens, 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 elevation change, oak-SOLD creek, blinds, feeders $3,550/ac
- 565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop. 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $4,425/ac
- **Howard County**
- 842 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer. cedar/mesquite, surface water, some oil/well traffic. $750/ac
- 150 ac. big canyon, SOLD mtks. 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 ***

Residential Rentals

ApartmentRentUnfurn

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT. 3BD/2BA. $1000/mo plus $1000 deposit. 2BD/1BA $800/mo plus $800 deposit. Call 432-210-4985, 432-634-4762 until 5pm, after 5pm text only for more info.

CondoThomeRentUnfurn

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL real estate advertising herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations of discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

To file a complaint, contact www.hud.gov or 1800-669-9777

Residential Rentals

House - Rent Furnished

FULLY FURNISHED room for rent $300 deposit, $575 month. all bills paid, pool included. Great location. 432-528-0395

House - Rent Unfurn

1712 S. Marshall 3 bedroom 1 bath, fenced backyard. $900/mo. $600 deposit. Call 432-458-3245.

210 N. Jackson 1 bedroom, 1 bath, storage, central heat & air, stove & refrigerator. $650 monthly, $650 deposit. Available November 15th. 432-683-5130.

2 BEDROOM duplex near Midland Memorial Hospital. $800 monthly bills paid. Please call 432-230-9667

3 BEDROOM, 2 living area, 1 1/2 baths, reasonable rent. 432-694-8834 or 432-967-5939.

402 EASTWOOD Drive. 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1 car, $1200/mo. $1000 deposit. No pets. Call 432-599-0442.

4512 PARKDALE 3 bedroom 2 bath, single carport, recently remodeled. Non smoker. 600 credit score required. $25 application on anyone over 18. $1,450 month. $1,450 deposit. 1 year lease. 432-940-0920.

Residential Rentals

House - Rent Unfurn

MOVE IN READY. 3809 Storey ave. #A. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage, 2 car carport, small yard, 1600 sq.ft., non smoking, small pet w/deposit. Rent $1600.00, deposit $1600.00 App fee $40.00 432-522-2659 or 432-638-2696

Residential Sales

Single Family Homes

HOME FOR sale in Midland, 3 bedroom, 2 baths with den. Nice cabinets. 5 rooms with hardwood floors. Well priced call 903-783-0259

Lots and Land

Acreage

GREAT INVESTMENT! Mitchell county 160 acres irrigated farm. Valley Center Pivot with 600 gallon per minute water well. Included in current USGS wolf camp study, released Nov. 15, 2016. 325-242-0771.

Ranches

RANCH FOR SALE
4,212 Acres
near Snyder, Tx.
Water, 3 houses,
great hunting.
Owner Financing
$795/ Acre
(432) 664-7764

Commercial

5 ACRE fenced caliche yard, available for sub lease. $1,200 month. 432-631-6079

COMMERCIAL YARD/ BUILD TO SUIT FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED
ELECTRIC GATE
$2200/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
432-664-7764

GREAT SPOT FOR a commercial yard. 1, 2, or 3 acre caliche yard for lease with secured fencing & electric gate. Located on the east side of Midland just outside of the city limits inside of Loop 250 For more information call Terry at 432-889-6073.

NOW LEASING
• Office/Warehouses •
• Small Office Suites •
• Fenced Yards
Various locations.
Call 432-661-4057

OFFICE / RETAIL space for lease.
45' X 75'
2209 N. Big Spring,
Call Matt
800-672-3911

OFFICE/ WAREHOUSE. 3650 sq ft with 8 offices, conference room, kitchen/ breakfast area. Plus 1500 sq ft warehouse with HVAC. Fenced yard with a wash bay for vehicles. 1601 Idlewilde. $5,300/ month. 432-638-1341.

Mobile Homes Rent

1407 WCR 135, 3 bedroom 2 bath, doublewide mobile home, 1/2 acre, $800 month, deposit. No pets. American Realty 432-520-7577

Mobile Homes for rent ranging between $650 - $800. Deposit $500. Fenced in yard. Paved roads. Ready to move in to. 432-687-6324.

Mobile Homes Rent

RVs and RV Spaces- All bills included. Call 432-770-7054 or 432-238-8048.

SMALL 1 Bedroom, trailer, single person or couple. $375 month Bills paid except electricity & butane. $100 deposit. 432-296-2023

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

		7						4
8	5	4			7		1	
		1				2		
5			7		9			
4								3
			2		6			5
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6						4		

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

4	8	2	5	6	7	1	9	3
9	3	1	2	4	8	6	5	7
5	7	6	3	9	1	8	4	2
2	6	3	4	5	9	7	1	8
7	9	8	1	3	2	5	6	4
1	4	5	8	7	6	3	2	9
6	5	9	7	2	3	4	8	1
8	2	7	6	1	4	9	3	5
3	1	4	9	8	5	2	7	6

1/5/17

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Cleaning Services

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A Experienced, Honest, dependable housekeeper has openings for weekly or biweekly cleanings. References available. Call 432-638-8679.

INDEPENDENT PERSON cleans houses. 10 yrs Experience, Free Estimates. References. Call or Text 432-234-0418.

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WINDOWS PLUS + Serving Midlanders since 1994. Residential, Commercial. 432-682-9322.

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A+ COMPUTER Tutor! Overcome Your Fear of Computers! ✔Your PLACE at Your PACE. ★Call Karen 432-553-2468 (leave msg).

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CLEANOUTS & TRASH HAULING. FAST SERVICE 432-254-3501.

HAULING & Cleanouts Home, storage, or office. 432-889-1318

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ADVANCED BRICK DOCTOR, brick & mortar repair, All types of new construction, specializing in block and brick fence. Steve Rickey. 432-853-2859.

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CABINETS OF ALL TYPES
Bathroom and Kitchen renovation specialists.
Native Midlanders'
Michael Friday 432-770-1048
Lance Friday 432-638-7495.

Home Services & Home Improvement

Brick-Block-Stone

BRICK, BLOCK & Stone Work. 45 years experience. References. Max 432-661-8699

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ALPHA MASONRY and Concrete work. Free Estimates. Small Jobs Welcome 432-813-8552.

AMH FENCING
Quick response. All types! No job to big or small. Foundation, driveways, patios, sidewalks, footing, and flowerbeds. Free estimates. 432-661-7627

FOR ALL your concrete needs, driveways, sidewalks, new slabs house or garage additions. Call Danny @ 432-894-0702

JS Concrete
Slabs, curbs, driveways, patios. Stamp concrete. Free Estimates. Bonded & Insured. Juan Sanchez, owner. 432-413-0924

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Contractors-Builders

CLEARAWAY
FOR all your REMOVAL needs and light construction, trash, & tree limbs, residential & commercial cleanout, Tired of higher prices? Give us a call for affordable prices. 432-235-9999

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A rating on Angie's List. Residential fence, builder and repair. Reliable, professional, and quick response. 432-661-7627

HANDYMAN SERVICES, We do it all! 432-254-3501.

STABILITY FENCING & WELDING. Repair or rebuild. Any size job big or small. Wood, sheet metal, block, brick & iron. Call 432-978-9990

Fireplaces-Firewood

ERIC'S FIREWOOD Oak/Mesquite or Mix 1/4-$100, 1/2 $200, Full $400. Call 432-258-9636. Thank you!

Home Services & Home Improvement

Fireplaces-Firewood

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.

FIREWOOD FOR sale. Oak $350 cord, $200 1/2 cord, Mixed $250 cord, $175 1/2 cord plus tax. Delivered/stacked. Williams Tree. 432-638-6163 or 432-561-8802.

Handyman Services

HANDYMAN SERVICES, We do it all! 432-254-3501.

Heat-Air Condition

At your service actionairplumbing .com (432) 620-8900

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service. Service all brands. 683-2679 TALCB00548Z.

Painting-Wallpaper

24 HR Handyman. For any type of job, big or small. Repair or rebuild. 432-978-9990

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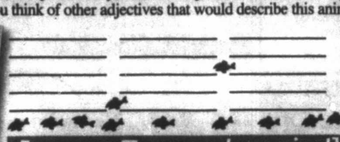
POLAR BEARS

Photo Images courtesy of Alan D. Wilson

Big and white, fluffy and furry, these are adjectives that describe a polar bear! Can you think of other adjectives that would describe this animal?



Polar bears love fish! How many fish can you catch on this page?

Polar Bear Fur Is NOT White!

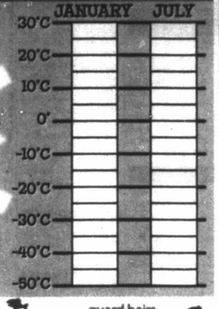
Each hair shaft is transparent with a hollow core that scatters and reflects visible light, much like what happens with ice and snow, giving it a bright white appearance.

Average Temperatures in the Arctic

In January, the average temperature in the Arctic ranges from a chilly 0°C to -34°C (32°F to -40°F).

In July, the average temperature range is from –10°C to 10°C (14°F to 50°F).

Color the graph to show the temperature range in each month using Celsius.



How Polar Bears Stay Warm

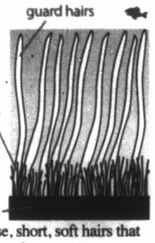
Polar bears live on ice near the North Pole in the Arctic, which is covered in ice and surrounded by very cold water. But that doesn't bother a polar bear.

In each box, write the letter that comes before the letter at the bottom of each box to find a couple of cool ways these fluffy fellows stay warm.

G	A	U	A	O	D			
B	B		B		E			
G	V	S						

Very Special Fur

Polar bears have two types of fur: long oily guard hairs and short insulating hairs.



The long, oily guard hairs are tiny, hollow tubes that trap warmth and hold it close to the skin. Their oily surface keeps polar bears dry.

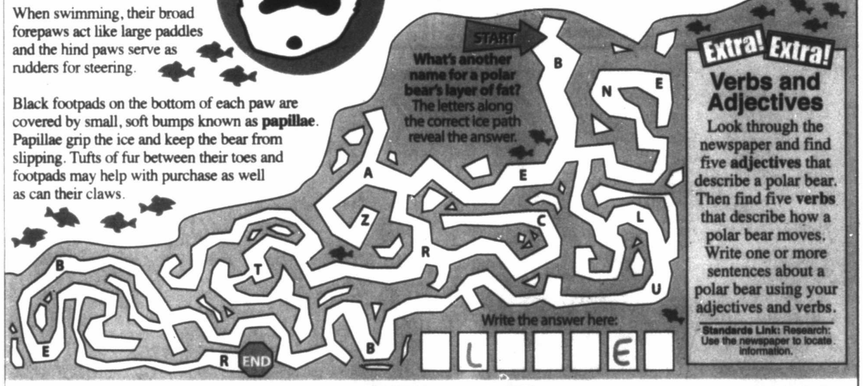
Under the guard hairs is a layer of dense, short, soft hairs that trap heat close to the skin, like thermal underwear.

Polar Bear Paws

Polar bear paws can grow to be 12 inches across (31 centimeters) and help distribute weight when treading on thin ice.

When swimming, their broad forepaws act like large paddles and the hind paws serve as rudders for steering.

Black footpads on the bottom of each paw are covered by small, soft bumps known as **papillae**. Papillae grip the ice and keep the bear from slipping. Tufts of fur between their toes and footpads may help with purchase as well as can their claws.



Extra! Extra!

Verbs and Adjectives

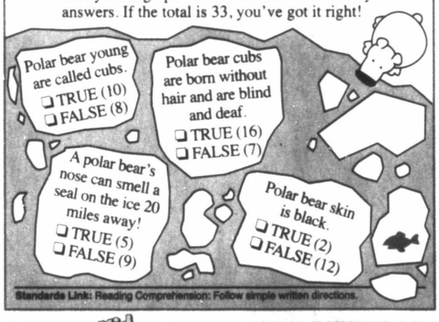
Look through the newspaper and find five **adjectives** that describe a polar bear. Then find five **verbs** that describe how a polar bear moves. Write one or more sentences about a polar bear using your adjectives and verbs.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Polar Bear True or False

These statements are either all true or all false. Check your answers by adding up the numbers next to each of your answers. If the total is 33, you've got it right!



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

REFLECTS
FOOTPADS
THERMAL
HOLLOW
ARCTIC
POLAR
BEARS
LAYER
WHITE
GUARD
HAIRS
DENSE
TUFTS
OILY
PAWS

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

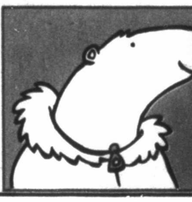
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

News Article Mix-Up

Cut out an article from the newspaper. Cut the article into four pieces. Give the pieces to a friend to see if he or she can put the article back together in the right order.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



Why do polar bears have white fur coats?

ANSWER: Because they'd look kind of silly in Hawaiian shirts!

Weekly Writing Corner

Bears: Fact & Opinion

Students write facts and opinions about bears.

There are many different types of bears in our world. Of all the bears in the world, polar bears are the most amazing. Fiercely protecting her cute cubs, a mother bear is dangerous. Bear cubs need both food and teaching from their mother to survive. One other interesting thing about bears is they are omnivores because they devour meat and berries. There's so much to learn about bears.

Julia, 5th grade

Bears sometimes eat berries. Bears sometimes climb mountains. I think bear cubs are cute. I think bears are loud.

Trevor, 2nd grade

Brown bears are very important to the world because of their role as predators. Living in the forests and mountains of North America, Europe, and Asia, brown bear cubs are so cute! Seeing two cubs would be a chance of a lifetime. In the fall, a brown bear may eat as much as ninety pounds of food each day. The brown bears snack on nuts, berries, leaves, and roots. Devouring other animals like fish makes the brown bears omnivores. There is so much more to learn about brown bears, but I only gave you a little information.

Claire, 5th grade

Bears are large mammals, their colors are brown, black or white. A bear's senses are important: smell, sight and hearing. What a sniffer! They rely on other bears that mark their territory, they can track food. Bears walk flat footed like humans. If you see a bear close up standing in front of you it surely will scare you. Being a cub isn't fun and games – it's like when I am going to school, it's a learning process. If cubs get too rough with each other when playing, they get swatted with a mama paw. Ouch!

Rayne, 2nd grade

Bears hibernate through winter. They eat lots of food before they go to sleep. Hibernating is not fun because you sleep through all of the winter, it snows, and I would rather play in the snow than sleep. Bears are omnivores which means they eat plants and meat the same as we do. I also think that when bears steal honey from beehives it is a mean thing to do, but I still like bears because of their beauty.

Lalana, 4th grade

Write On!

Do we need pennies?

Some people think we should get rid of all pennies. Do you think this is a good idea? Why or why not?

Deadline: January 29
Published: Week of Feb. 26
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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