MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2018 mrt.com *320,000 readers in print and online*

ONLINE

ACU encourages students not to apply to work at Hooters.

mrt.com

LADY BULLDOG VICTORY

Midland High beats Wolfforth Frenship in the 2-6A district opener.

Page 1B

Permian Basin rig count again hits 400

Country's most active basin accounts for 133 more rigs than this time last year

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

After a two-week layoff, the Permian Basin is back at 400 rigs.

The nation's most active basin added two rigs during the first week in 2018, according to Baker Hughes data.

Reeves County (66) and Midland County (52) each added a rig. Other counties with double-digit rig counts were Lea, New Mexico (43); Loving (34); Eddy, New Mexico (32); Martin (27); Howard (21); Reagan (20); Glasscock (14); Upton (14); Ward (13); Culberson (12); and Winkler (12).

Week in oil

Oil remains in the $60 range.

Page 6A

Activity ceased in Terry County.

Railroad Commission District 8A, which encompasses the most active counties in the Permian, added two rigs for a total of 266. For other areas with activity in the Permian, District 7B held at two rigs, District 7C was unchanged at 38, District 8A fell by one to 19 and New Mexico rose by one to 75.

The Permian had 267 rigs a year ago.

Texas & New Mexico

Texas as a whole added one rig statewide for a total of 454. The Eagle Ford in South Texas and the Barnett in North Texas were unchanged at 70 and 6, respectively.

Thirteen of the Haynesville's 43 rigs were in East Texas; half of the Granite Wash's 12 rigs were in the Panhandle.

Texas had one rig offshore.

New Mexico's rig count rose by one to 76. Its lone non-Permian rig was in San Juan County in the northwestern part of the state.

At this time last year, there were 327

Please see **RIG COUNT**/6A

WARMER WEATHER

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Vintage cars are visible through a fence Tuesday on the outskirts of town as Midland thaws from winter weather.

District Clerk Bush resigns

From staff reports

Midland County District Clerk Ross Bush has turned in his resignation.

Midland County Attorney Russell Malm said Friday that the district judges still have to accept the resignation and appoint a successor. And while an agenda for Monday's Commissioners' Court meeting included an item related to the resignation, Malm said the court will not be taking any action because it's up to the district judges.

Malm said he can't speak for the district judges, but expects they will accept the resignation Monday.

He said he doesn't know their time frame for appointing someone to finish Bush's term.

Bush was serving his second four-year term as district clerk. He also had filed to run for re-election.

Midland County Republican Party Chair Sherri Merket said Bush can't be removed from the Republican Party primary ballot because the deadline to do so has passed.

As far as the Republican candidate for November's general election is concerned, Merket said, "It is up to the county chair and precinct chairs to decide who the Republican candidate for the November ballot is."

County officials couldn't comment on any other matters related to Bush's resignation.

Small Bites: Bean and Grape announces opening; Dickey's adds items to menu

Editor's Note: This feature can be found every Friday at mrt.com

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

Small Bites is already looking toward a busy 2018 with new restaurants and drink shops on the horizon. A tea shop, Asian restaurant and a few fast food chains are already in the pipeline to open up soon. In the meantime, here is what's going on recently among food spots and restaurants.

Coming Soon

Coming off its New Year's Eve Party, the coffee, wine and beer boutique Bean and Grape announced today that it will open its doors on Monday.

Bean & Grape will be offer craft beer, wine, coffee and a tapas-style menu

The shop is located at 3211 W. Wadley next to Nothing Bundt Cakes. Its hours will be 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 5:30 a.m. to midnight Thursday and Friday, and 8 a.m. to midnight on Saturday. Bean and Grape will be closed on Sundays.

For more information, visit beanandgrapemidland.com and on Facebook and Instagram for updates on special offerings and events.

On the menu

Dickey's Barbecue Pit announced three new menu items Thursday that should appeal to Texas palates. Two side items and a new sandwich add to the long list of Dickey's comfort food, specifically the barbecue and traditional sides.

"Grilled Cheese, Texas Toast and cornbread are all southern staples folks love and we are proud to now offer that to our guests at all Dickey's locations nationwide," Renee Roozen, president of Dickey's Barbecue Restaurants, Inc. said.

"Dickey's is a family-owned, family-run business and we pride ourselves on serving our guests delicious food that they can share with their family. By incorporating these new items, we are able to better serve all of our guests."

The grilled cheese sandwich can be available as a Kids Meal or an a la carte option.

The restaurant also continues its Kids Eat Free through Jan. 31 with each purchase of a $10 dine-in meal.

Closing Time

Mercy Eatery and Catering Co. updated its closing time to 2 p.m. from 3 p.m.

Farm to Table

The sustainable and organic farm Farmer Troy of Odessa is now offering a create-your-own-bag option. Instead of the usual $20 bag, customers can now order custom bags with carrots, beets, turnips and even pecans. Farmer Troy is a sustainable and beyond organic farm.

Order pick-ups are 5-7 p.m. Tuesdays at 407 W. 47th St. in Odessa.

Please see **SMALL BITES**/2A

DA confirms criminal investigation into fatal wreck involving officer

From staff reports

The Midland County District Attorney's Office is investigating the Dec. 24 crash involving a Midland Police Department officer that killed a 90-year-old man.

District Attorney Laura Nodolf told the Reporter-Telegram on Friday that there is an ongoing criminal investigation and that her office is in communication with the police department.

On Dec. 24, Roy Neely was driving a Toyota Prius eastbound on Wadley Avenue. As he turned north onto Ward Street, his car was hit by an MPD car being driven by Officer Christian Abrahim,

Please see **WRECK**/2A

Visit us on social media

Price of oil
$61.44 ▼ $0.57
January 2018

The big number
1 person is dead after a wreck on SH 349. Page 2A

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

Brought to you daily by Jiffy Burger

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Daily $2, Sunday $3

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DPS: One dead after wreck on SH 349

From staff reports

One person is dead following a collision Thursday evening on State Highway 349 in Martin County.

Texas Department of Public Safety officials are reporting that the driver of a 2013 Ford pickup truck died after he rear-ended a Peterbilt truck tractor pulling a semitrailer. Both vehicles were traveling on SH 349 when the driver of the Peterbilt stopped to make a left turn into a private drive, according to DPS. That is when the Ford truck hit the Peterbilt, according to DPS.

The driver of the Ford was not wearing a seat belt. His name was not released as of Friday morning as next of kin had not been notified.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

LUBBOCK

Man arrested after chase, abduction, slaying

West Texas authorities say a 46-year-old man is facing aggravated kidnapping, capital murder and other charges after police found the body of woman in the back of his truck at the end of a 40-mile chase.

Police say Lucio Camacho, of Muleshoe, also had the slain woman's 3-year-old child with him when he was stopped early Friday morning at a Lubbock County sheriff's roadblock.

The chase began in Post, southeast of Lubbock in Garza County, when authorities say he showed up covered in blood and tried to take a weapon from a corrections officer at a prison.

His relationship with the woman, who was stabbed in Bailey County, wasn't immediately known but police say he's not related to her child, who was unhurt.

Her name wasn't immediately released.

PEARLAND

Ducks shot with arrows in suburban Houston neighborhood

Police in a suburban Houston neighborhood are looking for someone shooting ducks with arrows.

Pearland authorities say they've received several calls and at least two of the animals have been taken to a center run by the Houston chapter of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Executive Director Sharon Schmalz tells Houston television station KTRK one duck had two arrows in it. Another had one in a leg joint.

Pearland police say if someone has an issue with the ducks there are animal control methods to get the ducks moved, but shooting them with an arrow could result in a charge of animal cruelty.

Schmalz says it's mean and harmful to the animal and shooting arrows could be dangerous to people around the neighborhood pond.

DALLAS

Groups ask for denial of hunter's black rhino import request

Animal rights groups are calling on the U.S. government to block a Texas businessman from importing the carcass of an endangered black rhinoceros from Africa.

Lacy Harber killed the animal in Namibia in February, two months after paying $275,000 for a hunting permit auctioned by the Dallas Safari Club. Supporters have said the auction's proceeds go toward conservation efforts.

The Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International released a statement Friday saying that allowing hunters to kill black rhinos will take a severe toll on the species' population.

The groups said the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should block the import permit.

The agency is accepting public comment on the issue through Feb. 5.

Harber lives in North Texas. He didn't return phone messages seeking comment Friday from The Associated Press.

BEAUMONT

Lawyer argues dragging death a 'drug deal gone bad'

One of three white men convicted in the 1998 East Texas dragging death of a black man is arguing in an appeal that the killing was a "backwoods drug deal gone bad" and not racially motivated.

The Beaumont Enterprise reports that attorneys for John William King appeared Thursday before the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans.

King was sentenced to death in 1999 for James Byrd Jr.'s slaying in Jasper.

Attorney A. Richard Ellis says King's trial lawyers didn't present evidence that would have proven his innocence.

The Texas attorney general's office called King's claims "meritless."

The court didn't immediately rule.

Lawrence Brewer, King's co-defendant, was executed in 2011. Shawn Berry, who drove the truck to which Byrd was attached, is serving a life sentence.

GRAPEVINE

Ink shipped to DFW Airport turns out to be liquid meth

Federal authorities say Customs and Border Protection agents at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport have seized two boxes of bottles described as containing ink and valued at $90 each but really were filled with liquid methamphetamine worth nearly $300,000.

Officials say the 65 pounds of meth had been in a shipment this week from China to Memphis, Tennessee and then destined for Fort Worth.

The 100 bottles were unlabeled but agents reviewed an electronic manifest for the shipment. A drug dog alerted officers who then tested the liquids and confirmed the actual contents.

The Department of Homeland Security is investigating.

WACO

Biker set for trial in Waco after rejecting plea deal

The second biker set for trial on charges stemming from a 2015 shooting among bikers and police in Waco has rejected a plea deal.

Dallas trucker George "Scooter" Bergman declined the deal in court Friday.

Bergman and more than 150 other bikers were indicted on charges of engaging in organized criminal activity resulting in deaths and injuries. Nine bikers were killed and 20 injured in the shooting.

Bergman tells The Associated Press he was offered one year probation for pleading guilty to organized criminal activity and aggravated assault and that murder charges would be dropped before his January 22 trial.

McLennan County District Attorney Abel Reyna hasn't immediately responded to messages seeking comment.

In November, biker Christopher "Jake" Carrizal was the first to face trial. It resulted in a mistrial.

HILLSBORO

Teen killed by relative in accidental shooting

Police in Central Texas say a 15-year-old girl was shot and killed by a family member in an accidental shooting as she played a video game.

Hillsboro police say Jayla Riggs was shot in the head Dec. 30 at her home and was taken to a hospital where she died.

Authorities say a 17-year-old relative told investigators he didn't know the gun was loaded when he was handling it in the living room of the home. Police did not specify how Riggs was related to the 17-year-old.

Police say they're interviewing others who were in the living room when the shooting occurred but left before first-responders arrived.

The investigation is ongoing.

HOUSTON

Remains of missing World War II soldier ID'd as Waco man

The remains of a soldier missing in action in northern Italy since 1944 and 1945 have been identified as a Waco man whose 92nd Infantry Division was the only African-American Army division to fight in Europe.

Army officials say Defense Department scientists using dental and anthropological analysis and circumstantial evidence have identified 20-year-old Pfc. Lonnie B.C. Eichelberger. A funeral for Eichelberger is set for Wednesday in Houston.

He was declared missing after a battle near Strettoia, Italy. Remains recovered near there after the war in Europe ended in 1945 could not be identified and eventually were buried at the American cemetery in Florence, Italy.

The remains were disinterred in 2016 and ultimately identified as Eichelberger's.

The Army says nearly 73,000 service members from World War II are unaccountable.

PHOENIX

Texas man indicted for buying child porn videos from Arizona

A Texas man is facing charges for allegedly buying videos an Arizona woman made of her molesting two young children.

The Arizona Attorney General's Office said Friday that a grand jury has indicted Robert Canales on five counts of sexual exploitation of a minor, two counts of molestation of a child and three counts of sexual conduct with a minor.

He was released on $150,000 bond.

According to the indictment, the 31-year-old communicated with Keri Harwood, of New River, between last May and August about buying the videos, which were emailed to him.

Authorities arrested Canales at his parents' Sugar Land home and extradited him last month.

His arraignment is scheduled for Tuesday.

It was not immediately known if Canales had an attorney.

The 28-year-old Harwood is facing similar charges.

Obituaries

Dr. Graciella G. Blanco

Doctor Graciella Gaudencia Josefa de la Caridad Garcia Romeu de Blanco died after a brief illness on January 1, 2018 in Dallas, Texas.

She was born in Jovellanos, Matanzas, Cuba on February 18, 1916. She was the fourth child and only daughter of Severo Garcia Miranda from Asturias, Spain and Mariana Romeu Yanes from Jovellanos, Cuba, both deceased.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Dr. Jose Severo Garcia Romeu, Eng. Antonio Maria Garcia Romeu, and Dr. Delio Severino Garcia Romeu and their spouses.

On August 2, 1946, she married Dr. Victorino Segundo Blanco Martinez from Colon, Matanzas, Cuba during a vacation in New York City. He preceded her in death in 1985.

Survivors include the eldest son Eng. Victor Severo Blanco of Matagorda, Texas, his fiancée, Karen B. Foehse as well as Diane Keith Blanco, mother of his children, and grandchildren to the deceased - Victor Keith Blanco (spouse Jennifer Elizabeth Blanco, great-grandchildren Austin and Sydney) and Julie Blanco Hahn (spouse Steven Carl Hahn, grandchildren Hudson, Landon, and Colin).

She is also survived by the younger son - Dr. Jorge Desiderio Blanco of Dallas, Texas and spouse Teresa Ankewich Blanco as well as their children, and grandchildren to the deceased - Dr. Valerie Marie Blanco (spouse Dr. Isaac Alexander Bowman and great-grandchild, Vivian) and Jay Matthew Blanco.

Graciella graduated from the "Escuela Normal para Maestros de la Habana" on the 4th of June 1938. She also received a "Doctor en Pedagogia" degree (Doctor of Education) from "La Universidad de la Habana" on November 20, 1945.

She began teaching in a one-room school house in Madruga, Cuba to which she commuted on her trusty horse "Colon" who needed little direction to arrive at the school. Very quickly, she rose to teach in the capital city of La Habana, and eventually to become a Middle School Principal in La Habana. She loved teaching.

On August 16, 1961, she sent her two young children (Victor and Jorge) to the USA to avoid the Communist regime, and she and her husband (Victorino) followed on December 14, 1961. In the USA, they initially settled in Cullman, Alabama where she promptly began teaching High School Spanish. She followed her husband in 1964 to Mobile, Alabama where she taught Spanish Language and Literature at The University of South Alabama rising to the rank of Associate Professor. She retired from The University of South Alabama in 1980, but she eventually returned to teaching Spanish at LSC-Kingwood College in Houston, Texas. There are Endowed Scholarships in her name both at LSC-Kingwood College and at The University of South Alabama.

The story of her life is filled with wonderful adventures - teaching in the countryside; Christmas at her mother's; being lost in "Isla de Pinos" and eating wild guavas; Mother's Day trips to Monte Verde, Mariel; summers in "Alturas de Boca Ciega"; a short trip across the Gulf Stream; trying to discover what to do with the canned peanut butter from "El Refugio"; exploring caves in Northern Alabama; her transformation from a cook of "rice soup" to amazing lasagnas and other wonderful fare; living independently in her own house; and even helping younger residents of her final living facility with their wheelchairs.

She was a devoted daughter, sister, wife and mother who loved her family, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren dearly. She was an inspiration and role model to all who met her because of her love, intelligence, fairness, rationality, humor, strong will, and fierce independence. She had one hundred and one years of a life well-lived that all admired and many envied. She lives on in the legacy of love and family she leaves behind.

Visitation will be at Caballero Rivero Little Havana Funeral Home 3344 SW 8th Street Miami, FL on Saturday, January 6, 2018 from 12:00 Noon to 2:30 p.m.

Interment will be at Caballero Rivero Woodlawn Park North Cemetery 3260 SW 8th Street Miami, FL on Saturday, January 6, 2018 at 3 p.m..

Memorial donations may be sent to:

"The Graciella G. Blanco Scholarship Fund" In Care of The Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literature University of South Alabama 322 HUMB, 5991 USA Drive, N Mobile, AL 36688 or to *"The Dr. Graciella G. Blanco Endowment"* In Care of Lone Star College Foundation, 5000 Research Forest Drive, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.

Time is too slow for those who wait,
Too swift for those who fear,
Too long for those who grieve,
Too short for those who rejoice,
But for those who love, time is
Eternity.

By Henry Van Dyke

Susan Howard Strickland

Susan Howard Strickland, 67, of Midland, Texas, passed away on January 3, 2018.

Susan was born in San Angelo, Texas on December 31, 1950 to Bill Howard and Ann Hapgood Howard.

Those who knew Susan will remember her as a very independent and strong willed person. She welcomed all with a smile, laugh, and was always available for encouraging advice to help brighten your day. Susan was the most spiritual and selfless person we knew. She was described as religious, funny, and very kind by her grandchildren.

Susan is preceded in death by her parents; grandmothers, Gladys Howard and Evelyn Hapgood; and aunt, Randy Hapgood.

Susan is survived by one great-grandchild, Andrew; grandchildren, Dillon, Brayden, Lyndee, Ethan, Reagan, Taylor, Lilian, and Colter; siblings, Lauren Strubar, Randy McPherson, and Hap Howard; children, Eli Lambert, Nathan Lambert, Christine Renz, and Cherenae Votaw; and nieces and nephews, Andrea, Billy, B.J., and Kathryn.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 8, 2018 in the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to the "Howard Home Legacy" at the Methodist Home for Children in Waco at *www.mch.org* or at 1111 Herring Ave. Waco, Texas 76708.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-5585

Death Notices

Bradley Dean Wild

Bradley Dean Wild, 68, of Midland, passed away on December 29, 2017.

He is survived by his mother, Charlotte Honea; and by one brother and one sister.

There are no services scheduled at this time with American Heritage Cemetery /Funeral Home/Crematory.

Gloria Evans

Gloria Evans, 84, of Midland, passed away on January 4, 2018.

A memorial service is pending at a later time with Ellis Funeral Home.

Guadalupe Franco Pando

Funeral services for Guadalupe Franco Pando of Midland are pending with Avalos-Sanchez and Thomas Funeral Home.

Leonardo G. Porras

Leonardo Porras, 75, of Midland, passed away on Thursday, January 4, 2018.

Viewing will be held on Saturday, January 6, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sunday, January 7, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., with a rosary starting at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday evening at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral mass is set for Monday, January 8, 2018 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Shrine. Burial will follow to Serenity Memorial Gardens.

He is survived by his four sisters.

Samone Phedet

Samone Phedet, 68, of Midland, passed away on December 18, 2017.

There are no services scheduled at this time with American Heritage Cemetery /Funeral Home/Crematory.

SMALL BITES

From 1A

UPCOMING FOOD, DRINK AND RESTAURANT EVENTS

Sunday | Sunday Skool Brunch with DJ JRey. 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Steak 42, 911 S. Big Spring St.

Jan. 13 | Winter Market by the Midland Downtown Farmers Market. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave.

Jan. 14 | Urban Market Brunch with local vendors and food trucks. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at So...Fly Boutique, 312 N. Colorado St.

Feb. 2 | Empty Bowls 2018 hosted by West Texas Food Bank. The event features handmade ceramic bowls created by students and faculty of Odessa and Midland Colleges, UTPB, The Odessa High School International Baccalaureate Program, Boys & Girls Club of Odessa and Midland and Trinity School. Bowls are $15 each. 7-9 p.m. at Trinity School, 3500 W. Wadley Ave. wtxfoodbank.org.

WRECK

From 1A

Ladd said. After being hit by the MPD Crown Victoria — which was traveling westbound on Wadley — Neely's car spun around and hit a Ford Expedition that was stopped on Ward facing southbound, she said.

Abrahim was responding to a disturbance call at the time the wreck occurred, which was about 11:45 a.m., according to an MPD press release. He is on administrative leave pending the results of the investigation.

City spokeswoman Elana Ladd previously told the Reporter-Telegram that an MPD investigation would take place to determine is if the police car's siren and lights were activated, if Neely was wearing a seat belt and what the cars' speeds were at the time of impact.

Neely was transported to Midland Memorial Hospital, where he later died. Abrahim also was transported to the hospital and was treated and released, Ladd said previously.

Ladd said Friday that the city didn't have a comment on the DA's investigation and said the department's own investigation continues.

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JimBurrito
Aesthetic
[es-thet-ik or, esp. British, ees-] adjective
1. relating to the philosophy of aesthetics; concerned with notions such as the beautiful and the ugly.

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TODAYINMIDLAND

Things to do

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

■ Bridge game play, 10:30 a.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $6. For more information call 682-8595.

■ "What Do You Do With a Chance?" Storytime, 11 a.m., Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 2617 W. Loop 250 N. barnesandnoble.com.

■ Old Miner's Maze interactive adventure features a maze, rock walls, mechanical bull and more, noon-8 p.m., 4305 N. County Road 1140. Oldminersmaze.com.

■ Author signing: Tyler Frick will sign copies of his book, "Prevailing Soul," noon, Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 2617 W. Loop 250 N. barnesandnoble.com.

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

■ Clete Bradley, 9 p.m., at Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St.

■ Mike Stanley Band, 9 p.m., Oasis Bar and Grill, 5200 E. University Blvd., Odessa. mcmelegenteodessa.com.

■ Colt Ford at Dos Amigos, 4700 Golder Ave., Odessa. dosamigos.com.

Open today

■ U.S. Postal Service , Graves Station, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 3304 W Wadley Ave.

■ Midland County Public Library, Centennial and downtown branches, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Recycling Container Locations

Large 30-cubic yard open top containers:

H-E-B 3325 W. Wadley Ave., (Behind Starbucks), plastic and cardboard

Centennial Library 2503 W. Loop 250, (Behind IHOP), plastic and cardboard

Super Mercado 2208 N. Big Spring St. (Behind Bush's Chicken), cardboard

Midland College 3600 N. Garfield St. (Chaparral Center), plastic, aluminum and cardboard

Security Bank Ballpark 5514 Champions Drive (southwest corner of the stadium), cardboard, paper, plastic and aluminum

There are also 3-cubic yard containers at most of the local elementary schools where you can recycle cardboard and paper.

All recyclables can be taken to Butts Recycling Monday through Saturday. Butts Recycling is located at 26 West Industrial Loop.

For more information call Keep Midland Beautiful at 688-7745 or visit KMB's website at keepmidlandbeautiful.org.

Large item pickup

For residential customers, the city of Midland will pick up furniture and appliances at no additional charge. These items must be placed in the alley in the city right-of-way; the city will not go onto private property. Do not place your item next to the Dumpster; it needs to be behind your home, in the alley. These larger item collections must be scheduled with the Solid Waste Division. Please call 685-7278 to schedule this service.

Source: City of Midland

Worship before prayer

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Jake Sanchez plays guitar and leads others in song Thursday to kick off the Call to Prayer 2018 at Higher Grounds coffee shop.

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Jan. 6, the sixth day of 2018. There are 359 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Jan. 6, 1968, a surgical team at Stanford University School of Medicine in Palo Alto, California, led by Dr. Norman Shumway performed the first U.S. adult heart transplant, placing the heart of a 43-year-old man in a 54-year-old patient (the recipient died 15 days later).

On this date:

In 1540, England's King Henry VIII married his fourth wife, Anne of Cleves. (The marriage lasted about six months.)

In 1838, Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail gave the first successful public demonstration of their telegraph in Morristown, New Jersey.

In 1945, George Herbert Walker Bush married Barbara Pierce at the First Presbyterian Church in Rye, New York.

In 1974, year-round daylight saving time began in the United States on a trial basis as a fuel-saving measure in response to the OPEC oil embargo.

In 1994, figure skater Nancy Kerrigan was clubbed on the leg by an assailant at Detroit's Cobo Arena; four men, including the ex-husband of Kerrigan's rival, Tonya Harding, went to prison for their roles in the attack. (Harding pleaded guilty to conspiracy to hinder prosecution, but denied any advance knowledge about the assault.)

In 2001, with Vice President Al Gore presiding in his capacity as president of the Senate, Congress formally certified George W. Bush the winner of the bitterly contested 2000 presidential election.

Source: The Associated Press

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 4-3-9
Pick 3 day: 6-3-4
Pick 3 evening: 6-4-6
Pick 3 night: 3-4-9
Daily 4 morning: 2-5-6-0
Daily 4 day: 1-9-0-4
Daily 4 evening: 8-8-0-3
Daily 4 night: 7-3-4-3
Cash Five: 2-3-12-32-37
Triple Chance: 10-11-14-17-23-27-35-40-41-50

Mega Million: 28-30-39-59-70 BB: 10 Megaplier: 3
All or Nothing morning: 3-4-5-7-9-10-14-15-18-21-22-24
All or Nothing day: 1-2-5-8-10-14-15-16-17-18-22-24
All or Nothing evening: 2-6-7-9-10-12-13-14-17-18-23-24
All or Nothing night: 1-3-4-7-10-12-14-15-17-22-23-24

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Weather

Friday's temperatures
High 63
Low 23
Normal high 57
Normal low 30

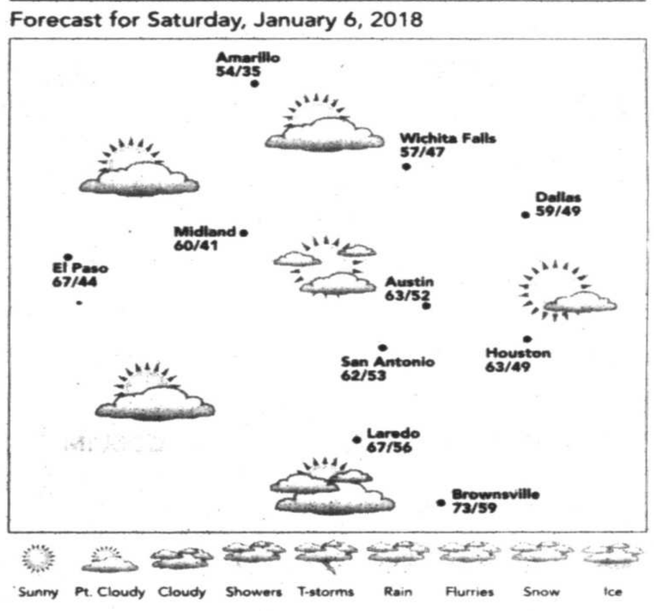
Jan. 5's records
Record high: 80 set in 1994
Record low: 2 set in 1971

Precipitation
Thursday ..... 0.00 in.
Friday ..... 0.00 in.
Month total ..... trace
Year total ..... trace
Normal total (year to date) ..... 0.07 in.

Winds
Average speed: 4.1 mph
Highest speed: 12 mph
Highest gust: 17 mph

Today's forecast
High: 63
Low: 43
Conditions: Sunny during the day/partly cloudy at night
Winds: 5-15 mph during the day and night
Chance of rain: None
Sunrise ..... 7:50 a.m.
Sunset ..... 6 p.m.

Forecast for Saturday, January 6, 2018



Source: National Weather Service

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for **Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018:**

This year you often make the correct choices. Your communication skills have developed to a new level, where you can deliver bad news and no one even seems to realize it. You might have a tendency to have too much energy and pick fights. If you are single, you know when you are wanted. You are likely to have many potential suitors. If you are attached, the two of you often want to head in a new direction, though you might disagree about which way to go. Learn to experiment more and be less rigid. VIRGO could be very critical of your choices.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You might want to encourage a friend to meet up with you in the morning. Quality one-on-one time allows you both to express your concerns about a situation. Someone in charge could be unusually demanding; try not to take his or her comments personally. **Tonight:** Say "yes."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Your imagination adds more fun and positivity to your day. You might need to avoid someone who pushes very hard to have his or her way, and wants to have control over what you are doing. You gain insight from what occurs. Open up to a loved one. **Tonight:** Fun and games.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Stay centered, and don't allow anyone to distract you. In fact, you might enjoy taking a few days or hours off. As a result, you'll feel renewed and happier about life in general. Though a situation might surprise or irritate you, you can work through it. **Tonight:** Happy at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ How you see a personal matter could change radically because of better and clearer communication. You could be stunned by what an older person says. Use care with how you express your anger. A misunderstanding could be the problem. **Tonight:** Speak clearly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Be careful about how you spend your funds. The purchase of an item could cause you a problem. You might want to hold off for a few days before taking action. Your sense of humor plays a significant role in easing up tension. **Tonight:** Let someone else pick up the tab.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ You beam in what you want right now. Just make sure you really want what you are pursuing. Laughter continues to play a significant role in what is occurring. How you see a situation could change, given some time. Worry less about what to do. **Tonight:** As you like it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Continue playing it low-key. When others dominate, you see much more of what really makes them tick. A loved one's unpredictability takes you down a new path. Know what you want. A smile goes a long way in keeping a situation calm. **Tonight:** The action is at your pad.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Zero in on what your friends are up to. Your ability to drive a point home emerges. Others often remember what you say. Listen well to what is being shared. If your opinion is strong or forceful, soften your words a bit. **Tonight:** Out and about where fun happens.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Your instincts push you to take control of situations if they seem unproductive. Try not to do this too often, as it burdens you, and you might want to leave an opening for someone else to take over. A loved one surprises you. **Tonight:** Wherever you are, expect to be noticed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You have a flair for the dramatic, though you often choose to tame down these characteristics. Remain sensitive to someone who might be from a different culture. You could be taken aback by this person's actions and choices. **Tonight:** Where you can be entertained.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Consider taking a more subtle role in planning. You express an offbeat personality that sometimes makes a loved one or close friend uncomfortable. Let this person create some fun plans for the two of you. Avoid making a snide comment at all costs. **Tonight:** Out late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Let go of a need to arrange plans and make the weekend work for you and others. At this moment, people seem to enjoy stepping up to the plate. You might shake your head for a long time when you see the cost of an unexpected development. **Tonight:** Try being a follower.

BORN TODAY
Actor Norman Reedus (1969), actress Kate McKinnon (1984), chef/TV personality Ree Drummond (1969)

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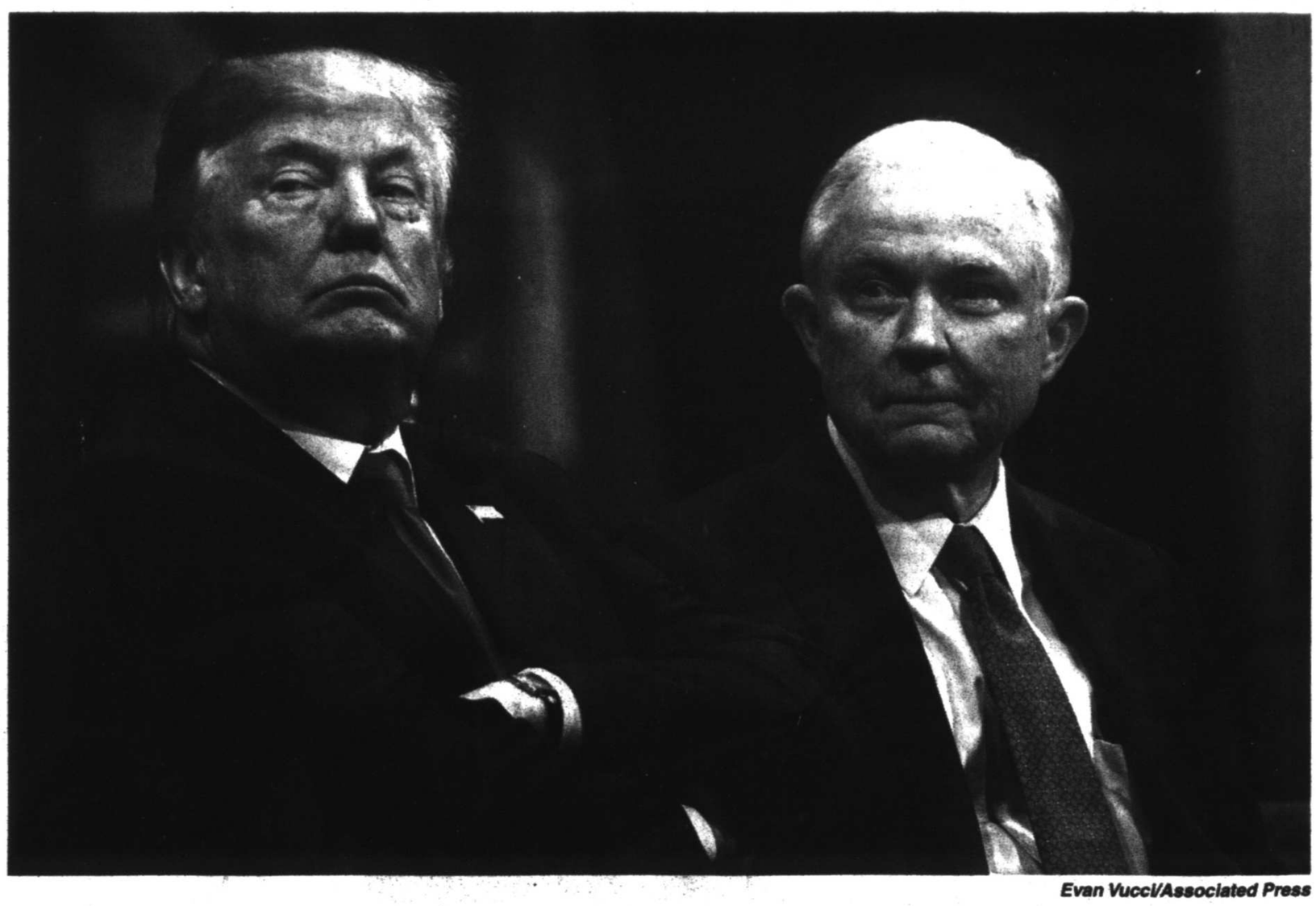
Trump's directive on recusal adds to obstruction questions

By Eric Tucker and Chad Day
Associated Press



Evan Vucci/Associated Press

President Donald Trump sits with Attorney General Jeff Sessions during the FBI National Academy graduation ceremony Dec. 15, 2017, in Quantico, Va. Trump's White House counsel personally lobbied Attorney General Jeff Sessions to not recuse himself from the Justice Department's investigation into potential ties between Russia and the Trump campaign.

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's effort to keep Attorney General Jeff Sessions, a vocal and loyal supporter of his election bid, in charge of an investigation into his campaign offers special counsel Robert Mueller yet another avenue to explore as his prosecutors work to untangle potential evidence of obstruction.

The federal investigation into possible coordination between the Trump campaign and Russia already includes a close look at whether Trump's actions as president constitute an effort to impede that same probe. Those include the firing of FBI Director James Comey, an allegation by Comey that Trump encouraged him to end an investigation into former national security adviser Michael Flynn and the president's role in drafting an incomplete and potentially misleading statement about a 2016 meeting with Russians.

The latest revelation — that Trump directed his White House counsel, Don McGahn, to tell Sessions not to recuse himself from the Russia investigation — is known to Mueller's investigators, who have interviewed many current and former executive branch officials. It adds to the portrait of a president left furious by an investigation that he has called a hoax and suggests that he worked through an intermediary to keep the inquiry under the watch of an attorney general he expected would be loyal.

Three people familiar with the matter confirmed to The Associated Press that McGahn spoke with Sessions just before he announced his recusal to urge him not to do so. One of the people said McGahn contacted Sessions at the president's behest. All three spoke on condition of anonymity to avoid publicly discussing an ongoing investigation.

"What this adds that is new is that he took action to prevent, to attempt to prevent, Sessions from recusing himself," said Notre Dame criminal law professor Jimmy Gurule, a former federal prosecutor. "So now we go simply beyond his state of mind, his personal beliefs, to taking concrete action to attempt to prevent Sessions from recusing himself."

Though the episode makes clear Trump's exasperation with the investigation, it remains unclear whether Mueller's team has evidence to establish that the president's collective actions were done with the corrupt intent needed to prove obstruction of justice.

Trump and his lawyers have repeatedly maintained that he did nothing improper and that, as president, he had unequivocal authority to fire Comey and to take other actions. They may also argue that the president was empowered to want the attorney general he appointed to oversee the Justice Department's Russian meddling investigation or, as McGahn contended to Sessions, that there was no basis or reason at that time for the attorney general to recuse himself.

Jonathan Turley, a law professor at George Washington University who supports Sessions' decision to recuse, said he sees Trump's order to McGahn as another sign of the president's novice — and norm-breaking — approach to governing, rather than evidence of any criminal wrongdoing.

"This may have been part of the learning curve," Turley said. "It does not necessarily mean that he was covering up a crime."

Turley said he believes McGahn made a mistake by agreeing to Trump's demand that he lobby Sessions on his recusal, a move that would be "highly inappropriate" if the White House counsel went into the conversation knowing Sessions already had decided to step aside. To his credit, Turley said, McGahn appears to have backed off once he learned Sessions was following the advice of career ethics officials to recuse.

Asked about McGahn's efforts to keep Sessions from recusing, one of Trump's lawyers, John Dowd, told the AP, "I know nothing about that" and hung up. Jay Sekulow, another of the president's personal lawyers, has not responded to phone messages Thursday or Friday seeking comment.

In stepping aside from the probe on March 2, Sessions said it was not appropriate for him to oversee any investigation into a campaign of which he was an active and vocal supporter, though the recusal also followed the revelation that he had had two previously undisclosed interactions during the 2016 campaign with the Russian ambassador to the United States. At his January confirmation hearing, he had said he had had no meetings with Russians.

But soon before the announcement, with White House officials anticipating that Sessions might be poised to step aside, McGahn spoke to Sessions by phone. During the conversation, according to the people familiar with the matter, McGahn argued to Sessions there was no reason or basis at that time for him to recuse himself. One person said McGahn also told him that recusal would do nothing to resolve concerns over whether Sessions had given a misleading answer at his confirmation hearing.

McGahn ultimately accepted the conclusion of officials who believed that Sessions should recuse.

The episode underscores McGahn's relevance to key moments of the Trump presidency that have come under Mueller's scrutiny.

Besides contacting Sessions, he also was the White House official approached in January 2017 by Sally Yates, then the acting attorney general, over concerns that Flynn was vulnerable to blackmail because of conversations he'd had with the Russian ambassador. Mueller has expressed interest in knowing how that information was handled within the White House.

Sessions' recusal left Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein in charge of the Russia investigation. But once Trump fired Comey two months later, Rosenstein appointed Mueller, the former FBI director, to run the investigation and to report to him.

Four people, including Flynn and Trump's former campaign chairman, have been charged so far in the investigation.

The Sessions recusal has been a sore spot for Trump for months, with the president publicly deriding the decision and lamenting his selection of the former Alabama senator as his attorney general.

In a July interview with The New York Times, Trump said, "Well, Sessions should have never recused himself, and if he was going to recuse himself, he should have told me before he took the job, and I would have picked somebody else."

Trump huddles with Hill's top Republicans at Camp David

By Jill Colvin and Andrew Taylor
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is huddling with congressional Republicans, Cabinet secretaries and aides at Camp David this weekend to discuss their 2018 legislative priorities.

A long list of high-stakes topics are on the agenda, including the budget, infrastructure, immigration, welfare reform and the 2018 midterm elections.

"We're going to Camp David with a lot of the great Republican senators, and we're making America great again," Trump said Friday afternoon as he left the White House for the presidential retreat in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains. He is being joined by Vice President Mike Pence, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and House Speaker Paul Ryan, among others.

The session's first meeting between Trump and the top congressional Republicans was held Friday afternoon. The White House said they discussed "the shared priorities that will shape the 2018 legislative agenda and soon be outlined in the President's State of the Union Address at the end of the month."

Republicans are beginning the new year with newfound optimism after finally scoring a win by passing the tax bill at the end of last year.

They face a pile of unfinished business that was punted into this year during the push on taxes. Just two weeks remain until a Jan. 19 government funding deadline, and there is little visible progress on several contentious issues, including a budget deal to boost spending on both the Pentagon and nondefense agencies and to extend protections for immigrants brought to the country illegally as children.

Talks are also expected to touch on a range of other issues, including the opioid epidemic and health care. And lawmakers are expected to hash out the order in which they plan to tackle two top White House priorities: a long-delayed infrastructure drive and welfare reform.

Senate Republicans are already dismissing a promised push by House conservatives to curb benefit programs like welfare and food stamps, and it's unclear what agenda items would get the requisite Democratic support for success, particularly in the Senate.

Politics, too, is on the agenda, GOP officials say, with House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., slated to lead a discussion on the political landscape for House Republicans, who are at risk of losing the majority they've held since 2011. McConnell, R-Ky., will do the same for the Senate, where GOP losses are possible, too, though many more Democratic incumbents are up for re-election.

The group will be joined Saturday by a number of top administration officials, including Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen and Education Secretary Betsy DeVos.

AP file photo

A Border Patrol agent walks along a border structure June 22, 2016, in San Diego, Calif. The Trump administration has proposed spending $18 billion over 10 years to significantly extend the border wall with Mexico. The plan provides one of the most detailed blueprints of how the president hopes to carry out a signature campaign pledge.

Trump seeks $18 billion to extend border wall over 10 years

By Elliot Spagat
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The Trump administration has proposed spending $18 billion over 10 years to significantly extend the border wall with Mexico, providing one of its most detailed blueprints of how the president hopes to carry out a signature campaign pledge.

The proposal by Customs and Border Protection calls for 316 miles of additional barrier by September 2027, bringing total coverage to 970 miles, or nearly half the border, according to a U.S. official with direct knowledge of the matter.

It also calls for 407 miles of replacement or secondary fencing, said the official, who spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because the plan has not been made public.

Trump has promised "a big, beautiful wall" with Mexico as a centerpiece of his presidency but offered few details of where it would be built, when and at what cost. His administration asked for $1.6 billion this year to build or replace 74 miles of fencing in Texas and California, and officials have said they also will seek $1.6 billion next year.

The 10-year plan, first reported by The Wall Street Journal, resulted from discussions with senators who asked the agency what it would take to secure the border, the official said.

It comes as the administration intensifies negotiations in Congress on a package that may include granting legal status to about 800,000 people who were temporarily shielded from deportation under an Obama-era program, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

Trump said last year that he was ending DACA but gave Congress until March to deliver a legislative fix.

The plan on border security came in response to a request by U.S. Sen. Jeff Flake, said Jason Samuels, a spokesman for the Arizona Republican.

An administration official confirmed the document was prepared at the request of congressional negotiators and said funding for the wall and other security measures must be part of any legislative package on immigration. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the plan has not been made public.

Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the wall would be "first and foremost" in any package that includes new protections for DACA recipients. She also said the administration wanted to close "loopholes" on issues that include handling asylum claims and local police working with immigration authorities.

Nielsen called the $3.2 billion requests for fencing during the administration's first two years a down payment.

"This is not going to get us the whole wall we need, but it's a start," she said.

Mexico has steadfastly rejected Trump's demand that it pay for the wall and few doubt that U.S. taxpayers will foot the bill if the wall is built.

The Customs and Border Protection document calls for a total of $33 billion in new border spending, including $18 billion for the wall, $5.7 billion for technology gear, $1 billion for road construction and maintenance and $8.5 billion for 5,000 new Border Patrol agents, 2,500 border inspectors and other personnel, the U.S. official said.

The document doesn't specify where the extended wall should be built.

Man left wife high and dry, now begs for second chance

DEAR ABBY

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

DEAR ABBY: I was divorced for 10 years, and am now remarried. Four months after we said "I do," my first husband left me (on Valentine's Day!) without a word.

It was out of character for him not to come home, and I was so worried I reported him to the police as a missing person. If that wasn't enough, he left me owing the power and water bills, and our rent was three months behind.

A few weeks later, he sent me an email. It read: "Don't bother me. I'm fine. Move on!" I was trying to do exactly that when, a month later, he knocked on my door, asking me to forgive him. I thought I had, but it still bothers me.

My ex is now begging me to give him a second chance. He has changed so much for the good, and he says he has never been with anyone more than two weeks because they can't live up to me. I have always loved him. He had a drinking problem, but he has been clean and sober now for nine years.

I'm not really happy with my second husband. I haven't been for a long time, and now I have someone I have always loved who wants me back, and I don't know what to do. Please help. — CONFOUNDED IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR CONFOUNDED: I'm sorry you didn't describe what has gone wrong in your second marriage because if it's fixable, you promised to love and honor your current husband until ... well, you know the drill. It would be a mistake to throw him aside without first trying to fix the problem.

Your first husband treated you with brutal disregard. If he has changed, he wouldn't be trying to break up your marriage. Be warned.

DEAR ABBY: I have been going through some tough times during the last few months. I have handled them as well as I can, but something just pushed me over the edge.

I'm not formally educated. I have no college education. I graduated from high school, but I was home-schooled and people tend to not take me seriously when they find that out. I opted out of college because I couldn't afford the loans. I love to learn and have continued to educate myself.

But today, someone I respected told me I'm not as smart as he is because I never went to college. He outright called me stupid and said I should stop pretending to be intelligent.

Abby, I am skilled with my hands. I own my own business and spend most of my time reading on various topics. When I told him his comment hurt me, he laughed and said that just proved I wasn't as intelligent as he is. I know he's not right, but I can't stop thinking about it. Can you help me? — STREET SMART IN ALASKA

DEAR STREET SMART: Gladly! The individual you were talking to isn't intelligent; he is a classless boor who tries to make himself feel superior by putting down the people around him.

If you are as smart as you say you are, you will avoid him as though he has an infectious social disease. It's true, because cruelty can be contagious.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

Bidding Quiz

Q 1 — Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠K Q 8 7 4 ♡K 3 2 ◇K Q 5 2 ♣A

With the opponents passing, you open one spade and partner raises to two spades. What call would you make?

Q 2 — North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠A 10 8 5 ♡A J ◇K J 2 ♣A K 6 2

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2NT	Pass	3♡*	Pass

*Transfer to spades

What call would you make?

Q 3 — East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠A ♡A 10 7 6 4 2 ◇A 6 5 ♣K 8 5

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♠	Pass	1♡	Pass
1NT	Pass	?	

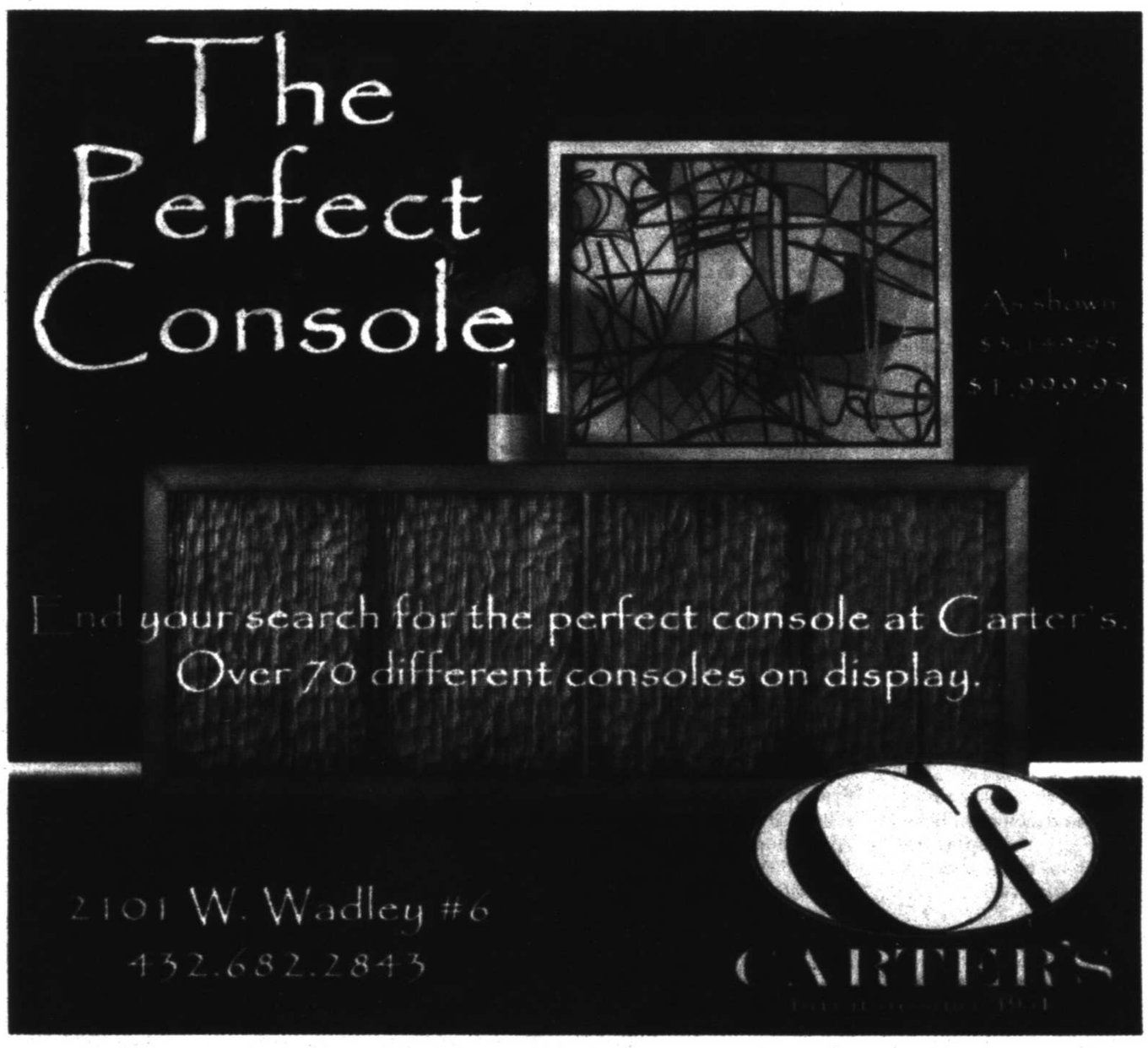
What call would you make?

Q 4 — Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠Q 2 ♡Q 6 5 ◇A 9 8 6 4 ♣K 8 6

Right-hand opponent opens one heart.

What call would you make?



Oil remains in the $60s

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

The psychological benchmark of $60 oil continued after the price stayed in that range for the past five trading days.

West Texas Intermediate futures contracts for February delivery reached $60.42 on Dec. 29. In the holiday-shortened week since, the price rose by $1.02 (1.69 percent) has WTI closed at $61.44 per barrel Friday. WTI was down 57 cents (0.92 percent) on the day.

The week high — and, thus, the year high — was reached Thursday at $62.01. Oil fell a nickel on Tuesday but jumped $1.26 the following day. Trading was closed Monday in observance of New Year's Day.

WTI spent about 2 1/2 years below the $60 mark until reaching that level Dec. 29.

Commercial crude oil supplies fell by 7.4 million barrels, according to the Energy Information Administration's weekly report. The reporting week was for Dec. 29.

The Strategic Petroleum Reserve added 400,000 barrels, bumping its volume of crude in storage to 663.7 million barrels. Commercial crude supplies were at 424.5 million barrels.

Total motor gasoline inventories jumped by 4.8 million barrels to 233.2 million barrels. Kerosene-type jet fuel inched 800,000 barrels higher to 40.6 million barrels. Distillates were up by 8.9 million barrels to 138.8 million barrels.

Domestic production was little changed. The U.S. produced about 9.782 million barrels of crude oil per day, an increase of 28,000 barrels per day. Imports fell by 292,000 barrels per day to 7.966 million barrels per day. Exports climbed 265,000 barrels per day to 1.475 million barrels per day.

Plains Marketing posted prices generally rise and fall in lockstep, but there were adjustments early in the week. The Reporter-Telegram tracks WTI "all other areas" and West Texas sour. On Tuesday, Plains priced WTI posted a quarter higher while raising the price of sour by a dollar. This put the spread between the crude grades at $2.

The following day, WTI posted was raised $1 and sour was priced 65 cents higher. A spread of $2.35 has held since.

On Friday, sour fetched $55.65 per barrel, down 50 cents (0.89 percent) on the day but up $1.65 (3.06 percent) for the week. WTI posted was priced at $58 on Friday, down 50 cents (0.85 percent) on the day and up $1.25 (2.2 percent) since Dec. 29.

The spread between WTI futures and WTI posted was $3.44 on Friday.

The average per-barrel price for WTI futures after four trading days in 2018 is $61.36. WTI posted has an average price of $57.88, and sour has been priced at an average of $55.61.

In other futures trading Friday, March contracts fell by 49 cents to $61.41, April dropped 43 cents to $61.30 and May was down 37 cents to $61.15.

Rig count

From 1A

rigs in Texas and 37 in New Mexico.

United States

Oil rigs nationwide tallied 742 this week, down by five. With a count of 172 natural gas rigs, the U.S. had a total of 924 rigs running. Seventeen were offshore in the Gulf of Mexico, down one. Rigs in inland waters fell by half to one.

By drilling trajectory, there were 798 horizontal rigs, up two; 62 vertical rigs, down three; and 64 directional rigs, down four.

The U.S. had 665 rigs a year ago.

Most active

Basins with the highest rig counts this week were the Permian, the Cana Woodford (73), the Eagle Ford, the Marcellus (48) and the Williston (46).

States with the most activity were Texas, Oklahoma (118), New Mexico, Louisiana (56) and North Dakota (45).

Canada & North America

Canada's rig count jumped by 38 rigs this week to 174 after falling by 74 the week before. Almost all of the gains were among oil rigs, whose tally rose by 36 to 98. Two more natural gas rigs went online for a total of 76. Canada had 205 rigs a year ago.

The total number of rigs in the North America region rose by 33 to 1,098. At this time last year, there were 870 rigs in North America.

Rig count: county by county

The following are county-by-county Permian Basin rig counts, with changes in parentheses, for the week ending Jan. 5.

DISTRICT 7B

Nolan	2
Total	2

DISTRICT 7C

Irion	2
Reagan	20
Tom Green	2
Upton	14
Total	38

DISTRICT 8

Andrews	5
Crane	1
Culberson	12 (-1)
Ector	1
Glasscock	14
Howard	21
Jeff Davis	1
Loving	34
Martin	27 (+1)
Midland	52 (+1)
Pecos	7
Reeves	66 (+1)
Ward	13
Winkler	12
Total	266 (+2)

DISTRICT 8A

Borden	2
Gaines	6
Garza	1
Scurry	4
Terry	0 (-1)
Yoakum	7
Total	19 (-1)

NEW MEXICO

Eddy	32 (-1)
Lea	43 (+2)
Total	75 (+1)

Julio Cortez/Associated Press

Job candidates are processed during a job fair Aug. 2, 2017, at the Amazon fulfillment center in Robbinsville Township, N.J. The U.S. government issued the December jobs report Friday

Modest US hiring and slow wage gains keep Wall Street happy

By Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hiring by U.S. employers slowed a bit as 2017 ended and pay growth was sluggish. Yet that's actually how investors, at least, like it.

The modest but steady pace of hiring is a reassuring sign for investors who have been buoyed by the just-passed Republican tax plan and have been sending stock market indexes roaring to uncharted heights.

U.S. employers added 148,000 jobs in December, the Labor Department reported Friday. Though down from November's 252,000, last month's job gain was still enough to suggest that the economy entered the new year with solid momentum. The unemployment rate remained 4.1 percent for a third straight month, the lowest level since 2000.

The unspectacular pace of job growth and wage increases is welcome news for financial markets because if the numbers were much higher, investors would grow concerned that the Federal Reserve might accelerate its interest rate hikes to ward off potential increases in inflation. Higher rates, in turn, could slow the economy and send stocks down.

Taken as a whole, Friday's report pointed to the job market's strength and resilience 8 1/2 years into an economic expansion. Hiring remains steady and is underpinning an economy that's both contributing to and benefiting from an improved global outlook. The tax cuts are raising hopes for faster growth and higher corporate profits and fueling powerful gains in financial markets.

"I think it's going to be an awfully good year," said Carl Tannenbaum, chief economist at Northern Trust. "Absent something unforeseen, this could be one of the best years of the expansion."

Investors again sent stock prices higher Friday, one day after the Dow Jones industrial average broke through the 25,000 mark for the first time.

"You've got the 'Goldilocks' pace for markets: Strong growth and low inflation," Tannenbaum said.

The slowing pace of job growth isn't surprising: It typically happens when unemployment falls to ultra-low levels and fewer people are available for hiring. Average monthly job growth has declined to 171,000 this year from a peak of 250,000 in 2014. Last year's gains were the fewest since 2010.

Despite low unemployment and the difficulty some employers face in finding enough qualified workers, pay gains remain sluggish. Average hourly earnings rose 2.5 percent in December from a year earlier — about a full percentage point lower than is typical in a healthy economy.

At the same time, the unemployment rate for African-Americans reached a record low of 6.8 percent in December. And the jobless rate for veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq fell to 3.3 percent, also a record low.

The African-American rate is still far higher than the rate for whites, which was 3.7 percent, or Asian-Americans, at 2.5 percent. Even among job applicants with similar education or experience, unemployment is typically higher for blacks than for whites — evidence, economists say, of discrimination and other disadvantages.

Solid economic growth in both the United States and major countries overseas is supporting more overall hiring. Factory managers say new orders grew more quickly in December than in any month since 2004. Retailers have reported strong holiday sales. Builders are ramping up home construction to meet growing demand.

Last month, blue collar hiring showed solid gains: Manufacturing and construction added 25,000 and 30,000 jobs, respectively. A category that includes hotels and restaurants gained 29,200.

Retailers cut 20,300 jobs, mostly in department store chains such as Macy's, which announced this week that it would close 11 additional stores. That suggests that stores hired fewer seasonal workers for the winter holidays, a sign of the impact of e-commerce.

Most economists expect the Trump administration's tax cuts to help speed the economy's already decent pace of growth. Some envision the unemployment rate dropping as low as 3.5 percent by the end of 2018. That would be the lowest rate in nearly a half-century and could finally force employers to raise pay at a much faster pace to attract workers. Many businesses might also seek to automate some tasks to slow labor costs.

Tom Gimbel, chief executive of the LaSalle Network, a recruiting firm in Chicago, said his clients are eager to hire and are willing to pay higher fees to attract workers who already have jobs. Some of his clients are expanding their HR departments because they expect hiring to be more difficult with unemployment so low.

"In 23 years, it's the best job market I've ever seen," Gimbel said. "I don't see that changing."

Many business are already howling that they can't find enough qualified people. There are roughly 6 million available jobs, near a record high, according to government data.

Wayne Jones, CEO of Anthony's Coal-Fired Pizza, a 65-restaurant chain, says his company had to work harder to find employees when it opened its first restaurant in Chicago in October. After a successful holiday season, the chain expects to open another restaurant in Chicago in the spring, creating roughly 70 jobs, and three more restaurants by year's end.

In Chicago, the chain took longer to staff up for its first restaurant, in order to find the right candidates. The company has kept wage growth above inflation: A starting cook can make up to $16 an hour.

"As the economy picks up steam," Jones said, "you can feel there's more pressure on wages."

Where many found jobs: Construction and health

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Construction boosted strong hiring in December, with builders and contractors expanding to keep up with heavy demand for homes.

The sector accelerated hiring to 30,000 jobs during the month. For the full year, construction added 210,000 jobs, up from 155,000 in 2016.

Health care and manufacturing also posted strong gains of 31,000 and 25,000 jobs, respectively, in December. Driving the manufacturing gains were makers of durable goods, including machinery and fabricated metal products.

By contrast, retailers shed 20,300 jobs last month as general merchandise stores, including department stores, struggle with a migration of consumers away from physical stores toward online purchases.

Macy's, Penney see holiday sales growth

By Anne D'innocenzio
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Macy's and J.C. Penney both reported holiday sales growth, offering encouraging signs that if department stores struggling to hold their own against online retailers had a decent period, other retailers did as well.

The results, announced Thursday, came after both retailers focused on improving their online services while highlighting more exclusive offerings. Low unemployment, a strong stock market and other factors set the stage for a good holiday season. The National Retail Federation believes retail sales could exceed its forecast for growth of 3.6 percent to 4 percent from a year ago and mark the best performance since 2014.

Much of that growth may go to online sellers, though, and Bain & Co. predicted that Amazon will account for half of the holiday 2017 sales growth. Many retailers, particularly department store chains, still have lots of challenges ahead as shoppers are increasingly buying online and shifting their spending more toward experiences. Sears Holdings Corp. has been among the hardest hit as it has failed to keep up with its peers. The company announced late Thursday that it will be closing over 100 additional stores. That comprises 64 Kmart and 39 Sears stores. Liquidation sales will begin as soon as next Friday. The stores will be shuttered between early March and early April, the company said.

Macy's said sales at established stores rose 1 percent in the November-December period. That excludes licensed businesses and compares to a 2.7 percent drop a year ago. The company said active apparel, shoes, dresses, coats, fine jewelry, men's tailored clothing, children's fashions and home furnishings were all top performers.

However, it still expects an annual sales drop at established stores of 2.4 percent to 2.7 percent, and total revenue is forecast to fall 3.6 percent to 3.9 percent compared to a year earlier. Macy's also says it will close another 11 stores, cut jobs and streamline non-store functions to save about $300 million. CEO Jeff Gennette says the company's focus has been expanding online, stabilizing its stores and laying the foundation for growth.

Macy's expects the headcount will be reduced by 5,000, or about 3.5 percent of its total workforce. Macy's has a total of 140,000 employees.

Neil Saunders, managing director of GlobalData Retail, said in an investor note that while the holiday sales growth is a welcome change, Macy's still lags the overall sector's growth and he believes it is losing market share overall and in key categories. Saunders also thinks that the sales growth is a function of a robust market where shoppers were willing to spend more than a result of specific actions taken by Macy's.

J.C. Penney, meanwhile, said revenue at stores open at least a year rose 3.4 percent for the nine-week period that ended Dec. 30. That compares to a 0.8 percent decline a year earlier. It also reaffirmed its full-year guidance for fiscal 2017. CEO Marvin Ellison said the sales growth was led by home, beauty and fine jewelry, and that Penney's clothing business is improving. He added that e-commerce business is outpacing prior-year results with double-digit sales growth, fueled by fine jewelry, home decor, luggage, toys boots and athletic footwear.

Still, Jefferies analyst Randal Konik said in a note that the November and December trend "doesn't change our overall thesis, as we believe the mall-based (department) store sector is challenged with structural issues."

Macy's shares slipped more than 3 percent, or 84 cents, to close at $24.49, while J.C. Penney's stock slipped a penny to close at $3.69 on Thursday. Sears Holdings Corp.'s shares fell nearly 5 percent, or 18 cents, to close at $3.58.

A sign advertises Powerball and Mega Millions lottery jackpots Thursday at a store in Atlanta. An estimated $550 million jackpot is up for grabs on tonight's Powerball lottery drawing, making it potentially the 8th largest prize in the nation. *David Goldman/ Associated Press*

Despite law changes lottery winners will face big tax bills

By Scott Mcfetridge
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Pity the Powerball and Mega Millions lottery game winners.

Federal tax law changes would seem to promise that those who beat the odds and win a jackpot could keep more of their winnings from the government. But even as the new law cut top federal income tax rates, it also reduced the ability to deduct state taxes.

There are exceptions, as 10 states including California, Texas and Florida don't tax lottery winnings. But in most of the country, the newly rich won't be even richer because of the tax law.

"The changes roughly offset," said Steven Rosenthal, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Tax Policy Center. "The new tax bill will not give any benefit to most lottery winners."

The issue arises because federal income tax bracket changes approved by Congress and signed into law by President Donald Trump last month take effect at a time when jackpots for the nation's two national lotteries have grown enormous. The Mega Millions game will offer a $445 million prize for Friday's drawing, and the Powerball game's top prize has reached $550 million for tonight's drawing.

The chances of winning the jackpots are incredibly small, at about one in 302 million for Mega Millions and one in 292 million for Powerball. Even for those who beat the odds, they might find that their dream paycheck is smaller than they thought.

In part, that's because nearly all winners take the cash option. For Friday's Mega Millions prize, that would mean winning not the much-trumpeted $445 million annuity paid over 29 years but $277 million in cash.

Of that, 37 percent, or about $102.5 million would be owed to the federal government in taxes. That's a savings of about $7 million from the old tax rate of 39.6 percent, but factoring in the state deduction change would wipe out the bonus.

Under the old law, unlimited state income taxes could be deducted from federal taxes, but that deduction is now capped at $10,000. State lottery taxes vary from about 3 percent to more than 8 percent, so on a $277 million cash prize, a winner's tax bill could climb by $15 million or more.

For someone suddenly showered with newfound wealth, would a few million more or less matter? Yes, said San Francisco tax attorney Robert Wood.

"Maybe someone shouldn't care if it's a million here or a million there," Wood said. "But anyone who looks at the size of a tax bill from a win like this is going to care at some level about taxes because the number is so huge."

For those mulling ways to avoid taxes, experts say, don't count on it.

Federal law lets people deduct up to 60 percent of their adjusted gross income to a recognized nonprofit, but for those not feeling so charitable, there's no way around the tax bill.

"I'm not aware of any other way to shield it," said Mildred Carter, a senior federal tax analyst at Wolters Kluwer, a Riverwoods, Illinois, tax and accounting analysis firm. "They'll have to pay."

FBI probing Clinton Foundation corruption claims

By Sadie Gurman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The FBI is investigating whether the Clinton Foundation accepted donations in exchange for political favors while Hillary Clinton was secretary of state, two people familiar with the probe confirmed Friday. The revelation comes as President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans have been urging the Justice Department to look into corruption allegations involving the foundation.

It is unclear when or why the probe began, but the sources told The Associated Press it has been ongoing for several months, with prosecutors and FBI agents taking the lead from their offices in Little Rock, Arkansas, where the foundation has offices. The people were not authorized to discuss the investigation publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. The Hill newspaper first reported the probe.

Critics have accused the Clinton family of using the foundation to enrich themselves and give donors special access to the State Department when Hillary Clinton was secretary of state. But public corruption prosecutors in Washington expressed disinterest in working with the FBI on a Clinton Foundation-related investigation in 2016, saying they had concerns about the strength of the FBI's evidence.

A spokesman for the foundation, Craig Minassian, said it had been "subjected to politically motivated allegations, and time after time these allegations have proven false."

Trump has repeatedly called for an investigation into Clinton, her aides and the foundation, harping on Attorney General Jeff Sessions for not taking action. Democrats say Trump is trying to steer attention away from investigations examining whether his campaign was involved with Russian attempts to influence the 2016 election.

Sessions in November directed senior federal prosecutors to evaluate a number of Republican grievances and determine whether a special counsel should be appointed to look into allegations that the Clinton Foundation benefited from an Obama-era uranium transaction involving a Russian state company. In a letter to the House Judiciary Committee, Sessions said the prosecutors would also make recommendations into "whether any matters currently under investigation need additional resources."

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'Fire and Fury' book released, blowing open GOP feud

By Zeke Miller and Steve Peoples
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The acrimony surrounding former White House adviser Steve Bannon's very public break with President Donald Trump is escalating, suggesting a permanent split between the president and the pugilistic strategist who helped put him in the Oval Office.

The new fissure, in an already fractious Republican Party, cast doubt on Bannon's hopes to foment a movement centered on "Trumpism without Trump."

It already has cost him a key backer. Rebekah Mercer, the billionaire GOP donor and Breitbart co-owner, issued a statement Thursday distancing her family from Bannon.

"I support President Trump and the platform upon which he was elected," she said. "My family and I have not communicated with Steve Bannon in many months and have provided no financial support to his political agenda, nor do we support his recent actions and statements."

Trump hailed that move on Twitter on Friday, saying: "The Mercer Family recently dumped the leaker known as Sloppy Steve Bannon. Smart!"

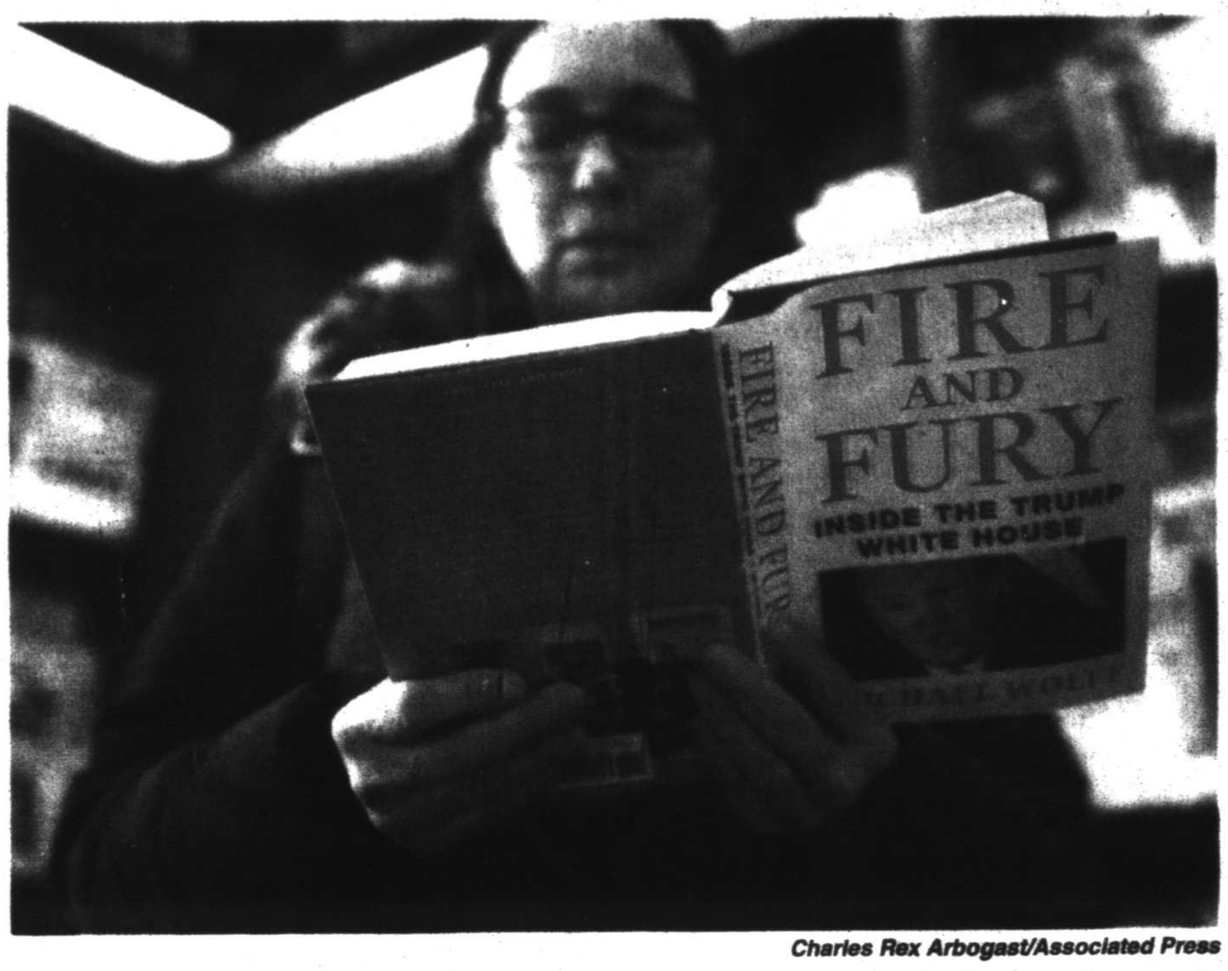
White House officials described the president as furious at Bannon's criticisms, laid out in an explosive new book that quoted the former aide as questioning Trump's competence and describing a June 2016 meeting at Trump Tower between Donald Trump Jr., Trump campaign aides and a Russian lawyer as "treasonous" and "unpatriotic."

On Twitter on Thursday night, Trump said the book was full of "lies, misrepresentations and sources that don't exist." He also came up with a new nickname for Bannon: "Sloppy Steve."

A parade of administration officials and allies worked to discredit Bannon as a disgruntled has-been. White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders went so far as to suggest that Bannon ought to be booted from Breitbart, the populist website he helps run.

"I certainly think that it's something they should look at and consider," she said.

Michael Wolff, author of "Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House," spoke on NBC's "Today Show" Friday, defending his reporting and saying the president's efforts to halt publication have been good for sales.



Charles Rex Arbogast/Associated Press

Kathy Mallin, from Glenview, Ill., looks over a copy of the book "Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House" by Michael Wolff on Friday at Barbara's Books Store in Chicago.

Asked about Bannon's comments in the book and in recent days, Wolff said: "The president has tried to put this, this book is about Steve Bannon. So let me say very forthrightly: This book is not about Steve Bannon. This book is about Donald Trump."

Bannon had helped Trump form a coalition of anti-establishment Republicans, blue-collar working class and economic nationalists that launched him to the White House, but Trump had long ago grown frustrated that Bannon seemed to be overstepping his role as a staffer.

The self-appointed keeper of Trump's nationalist flame during the president's first six months in office, Bannon had soured on the president even before he was pushed out of the White House for feeding the perception that he was Trump's puppeteer.

None of Bannon's close associates was willing to speak publicly about the fallout but privately conceded that the explosive comments may forever tarnish his brand. Bannon's political appeal had been deeply tied to the perception that he was an ally of Trump's. Those close to Bannon feared that the connection had been permanently severed.

Bannon was preparing to launch a nonprofit organization designed to help give Trump's brand of conservatism populism a permanent base. It's unclear how Bannon's new rift with the president, and the related impact on major donors, will affect the organization, dubbed Citizens of the American Republic.

Current and former White House officials, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss internal conversations, said Bannon had miscalculated by attacking the president and his family. Much of Bannon's political clout, they argue, stemmed from the assumption that he was acting with the imprimatur of the president, even if Trump wasn't visibly in lockstep.

Some Trump allies also expressed satisfaction that Bannon appeared to be finally cast out of the president's inner circle.

"Bannon has no contingent," former Republican House Speaker Newt Gingrich said Wednesday between media interviews to defend Trump. On Thursday, Gingrich echoed Trump's charge that Bannon had "lost his mind."

Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a longtime punching bag for Bannon, reveled in the aide's break with the president. "I'd like to associate myself with what the president had to say about Steve Bannon yesterday," he said mischievously Thursday.

Since leaving the White House, Bannon spent much of his time courting donors to help finance his self-declared war on the Republican establishment. He vowed to find Republican challengers for virtually every GOP senator seeking election this fall, chiefly for the purpose of electing candidates who would remove McConnell as majority leader.

Bannon publicly backed conservative challengers in Arizona, Nevada, Wisconsin, Mississippi and New York, where House challenger Michael Grimm issued a statement denouncing the ex-adviser's comments as "baseless attacks" that were "beyond disturbing."

Others who have received boosts from Bannon, including Arizona Senate candidate Kelli Ward and potential Mississippi Senate challenger Chris McDaniel, were more circumspect, wary of alienating either faction of the party's insurgent grassroots.

Bannon's political standing was already weakened after he went all-out last month to support failed Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore despite multiple allegations of sexual misconduct against Moore.

Doubling down on Moore left Bannon politically "incapacitated," said Steven Law, president and CEO of the super PAC led by McConnell.

"The only concern left was whether the president might give Bannon a temporary lease on life," he said. "But this repudiation was so methodical and so absolute that it really slams the door on that."

White House aides have tried to look past other loaded comments from Bannon in recent months while seeking to marshal his political following on the president's behalf.

But they warned Bannon's allies over the last 24 hours that Trump would likely never take his calls again. However, there are few absolutes in Trump's orbit, White House aides acknowledge, and he has been known to bury the hatchet with those he perceived to have wronged him.

Some Trump allies even encouraged him to welcome Bannon back into his good graces.

"You can either excise him or shun him, which I don't think is the best recommended strategy, or tell him to knock it off and bring himself back into the fold," Anthony Scaramucci, the former White House communications director, said on MSNBC.

Trump coolly noted Thursday that his full-throated counterassault appeared to have its desired effect on Bannon.

"He called me a great man last night," Trump said, referring to Bannon's radio show appearance. "He obviously changed his tune pretty quick."

"Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House," quickly shot atop Amazon's best-seller list, and the publisher moved up its release date by four days, to Friday.

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Chaps play flat in loss to Weatherford College

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Midland College men's basketball coach Pat Rafferty knew it wasn't going to be easy in his return to the program.

Having been hired late in the process and rebuilding the team from scratch were only going to be part of the challenges this season.

After a 94-81 loss to Weatherford College on Friday night, the Chaparrals are not in a good place mentally heading back into Western Junior College Athletic Conference play against Frank Phillips College on Monday night.

The loss was the third straight for Midland College (4-12) and ninth in its last 10 games.

Rafferty

On Friday night, Rafferty saw more of the same from his team as the Coyotes (9-6) seemed to always be a few steps quicker than the Chaps and finished plays better than MC. There wasn't much to brag about on the defensive end either as Weatherford shot 59 percent for the game and constantly blew past MC defenders to the basket or were able to hit wide-open 3-pointers.

Weatherford shot 66 percent in the first half and took a 54-39 lead into the locker room.

For an old school, defensive-minded coach like Rafferty, Friday's game was a frustrating one and it left him at times at a loss for words.

"We just have to make a better commitment to playing harder," he said. "And having some competitive pride.

"I'm OK with missed shots, I'm OK with missed executions and assignments, as long as they're playing hard and playing together."

Kangu

The Coyotes had as much as a 74-49 lead in the second half and there was a sign that the Chaps had some fight to them as a 13-0 run cut the lead to 12 (74-62).

But that hope was short-lived as Weatherford answered and never left MC cut the lead into single digits.

MC lost by 13 despite shooting 53 percent for the game and out-rebounding Weatherford 30-28.

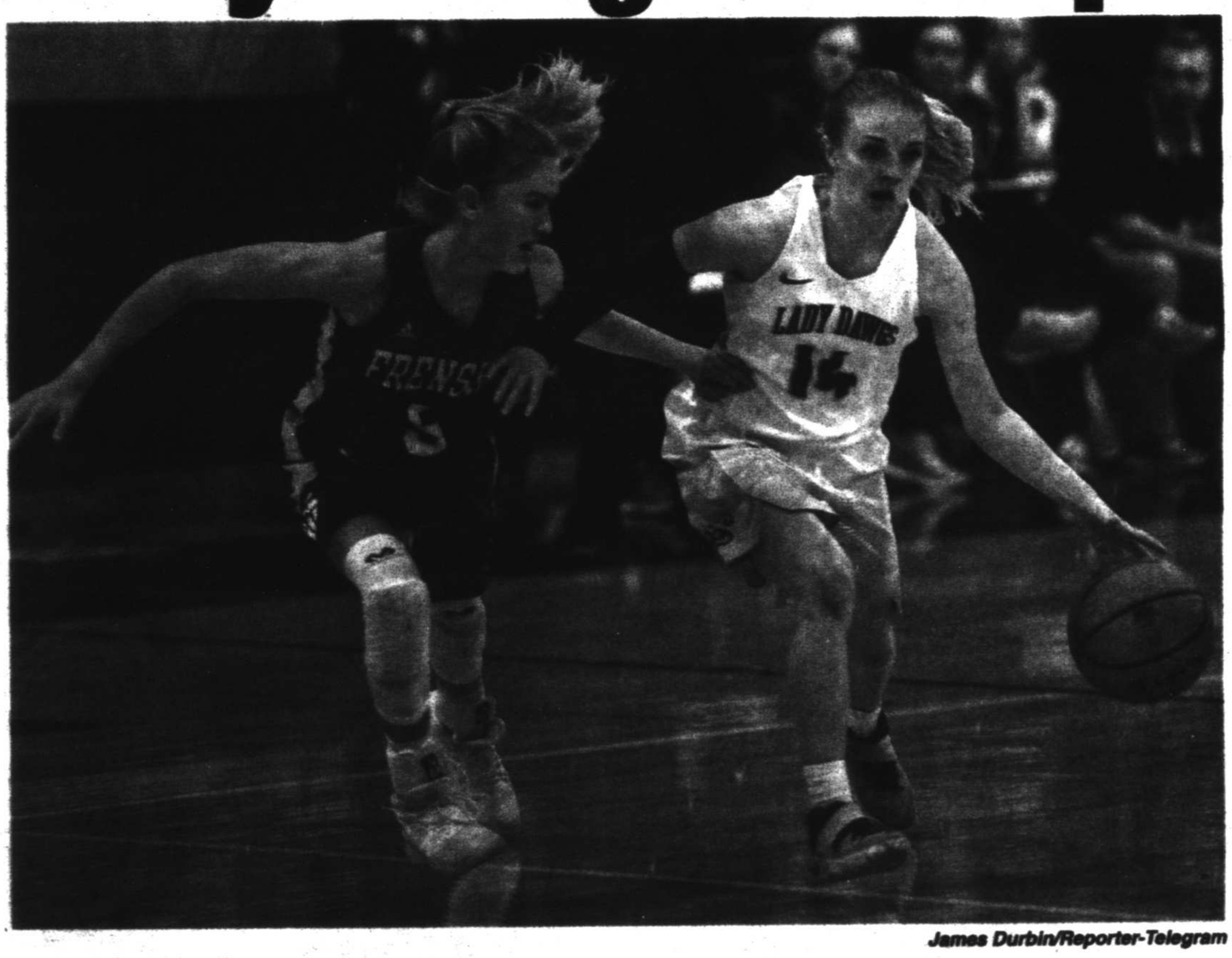
Four Coyotes scored in double figures, led by Zach Naylor with a game-high 25 points, Ken Busby had 23, while Josh Ihek and Ke'lyn Adams each added 15.

The Chaps were led by Kevin Kangu with 21 points, Marquell Frasher had 19 points and eight rebounds, Kayo Goricalves added 14 points and eight boards, and Michael Hillebrand chipped in with 13 points.

Midland College now has to regroup and get ready to dive back into the rough and tumble WJCAC, but where the Chaps go from here is Rafferty's concern. He very knows that this league is tough from

Please see **CHAPS**/3B

Lady Dawgs triumph



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Taysha Rushton (14) dribbles against Frenship's Maci Maddox (5) on Friday at Midland High.

Momentous 3rd quarter lifts MHS over Frenship

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

The Midland High girls basketball team has brought a fearless attitude to the hardwood all season long even though it's flushed with youth and it lacks height.

That theme continued Friday night as the Lady Bulldogs were unfazed by the challenge of facing defending co-District 2-6A champion Wolfforth Frenship in their district opener at the Midland High gym.

The Lady Tigers dwarfed MHS in size, and that was reflected by their performance on the glass.

But the Lady Bulldogs leaned on their bread-and-butter — their man defense — to pull out a 44-41 victory over Frenship.

Trailing 22-16 at halftime, MHS (17-9, 1-0 in District 2-6A) went on a game-changing 17-8 run in the third quarter to take control of the contest.

The Lady Bulldogs also held the Lady Tigers (19-6, 0-1) to only five field goals made in the second half, two of which were second-chance opportunities in the third quarter, and the other three were 3-pointers in the fourth.

At the final buzzer, Frenship's Maci Maddox, who made three 3s, missed a potential game-tying attempt from beyond the arc.

"A majority of their points were coming off offensive putbacks," MHS head coach Wes Torres said. "I thought we played solid defense on first shots. I didn't think we did on second shots and third shots because we gave up so many offensive rebounds.

"But again, our team is so resilient, they're just so tough. They're coachable. I got on a couple players hard, they came back out and made big plays in the fourth quarter when they had to."

One of the Lady Bulldogs that spearheaded their second-half charge was 5-foot-5 senior Quay Webster, who scored all eight of her points after halftime and grabbed a team-high six rebounds.

Webster also had a key steal that resulted in a 3-pointer by Taysha Rushton, who got wide open on a screen, which extended MHS' lead to 44-36 with 2:47 left.

"(Our goal was to) just to be a pest," Webster said. "We got a couple of steals and they were frustrated. They were pushing. They were shoving. We had to play hard defense the whole game. We had to wear them out."

Rushton led the Lady Bulldogs with 13 points, with 10 of them occurring after intermission.

Jurnee Williams added 12 points for MHS.

The Lady Bulldogs began the third quarter by out-scoring Frenship 14-4 in the first five minutes.

MHS senior post Racey Haile scored two instrumental baskets during the run, which included a putback that immediately followed a putback by Lady Tigers shooting guard Cassandra Awatt.

"We had a miserable third quarter," Lady Tigers head coach Trent Hilliard said. "We gave up 16 points in the whole first half and then 17 points in the third quarter. That was the difference in the game, we just decided we weren't going to play defense in the third quarter and Midland kept playing and they whooped us pretty good — all in that one quarter and that was the difference."

Frenship out-rebounded MHS by a 29-22 margin. Awatt had 10 rebounds, while 5-foot-11 Addison Wilson and 5-foot-10 Abre Godfrey each pulled down seven rebounds for the Lady Tigers.

Five of Frenship's six 2-point field goals were putbacks.

The Lady Tigers had no players score in double figures, as Maddox led their team with nine points.

"They are really good," Torres said.

Please see **MHS/4B**

Guards carry load in MC's win over Weatherford

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

It hasn't been easy being a guard on the Midland College women's basketball team this season.

Because of injuries, the position has been depleted and the healthy players are having to play a lot of minutes.

Thacker

Washington

Despite facing adversity and being on the court for a large chunk of the game, MC's guards did a good job of stepping up on Friday in a 68-53 victory over Weatherford College in a non-conference game at Chaparral Center.

Alexandrea Washington led MC (9-6) with a game-high 22 points, Bianca Thacker added 20 and Bethany Theodore chipped in with 12 as the Lady Chaparrals avenged a 73-64 loss at Weatherford on Dec. 6.

Washington, Thacker and Theodore played a minimum of 32 minutes each. It also didn't help that Abbi Hatton suffered some sort of pulled muscle, according to head coach Ron Jones, in Thursday night's 67-48 win over Connors State and had to sit out on Friday as more of a precaution.

After having lost point guards Alexis Washington and Destiny Byfield to season-ending knee injuries, the Lady Chaps can't afford many more injuries at a key position.

"We've got five girls that we are rotating (at the guard positions) and it's a challenge every night," Jones said. "They continue to fight even though they're pretty tired. But that's where we are right now. The guards did a good job. Bethany is playing a lot of minutes (37) and working hard.

"Every year is different. You wouldn't think that, coaching as a long as I have, but we've never had three (season-ending knee injuries) and we've never been down to one point guard. We're having to change our style a little bit. There's nothing good about it so we just have to accept the challenge."

Thacker said it has been tough on them as guards having to play a lot of minutes but added that the challenge is more mental than anything else.

"We just have to push through and play for each other," said the 5-foot-11

Please see **GUARDS/3B**

Steelers' Antonio Brown, unanimous choice on AP All-Pro Team

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press

The stunning turnaround by the Jacksonville Jaguars shows best in the NFL standings — and the All-Pro Team.

Rarely do the Jags have members of the elite All-Pro squad. For 2017, they have two: edge rusher Calais Campbell and cornerback Jalen Ramsey.

"It's huge," Campbell said. "That's a big testament to the work we put in. We don't just show up and perform. We grind day in and day out to be the best. This defense is very special, so I'm glad to see us get some accolades for our hard work."

Added Ramsey of The Associated Press All-Pro Team announced Friday:

"I can go on and on about corners I respect and I think are really good in the league. But I think (the voters) realize that I cover No. 1s every week, that I'm still putting up high numbers, still playing very well in my role and doing what I have to do."

What Campbell and Ramsey did was help the Jaguars rank first in pass defense and second overall, earning their first playoff berth since the 2007 season.

One player, Antonio Brown, was the only unanimous choice for All-Pro. The brilliant wide receiver of the Pittsburgh Steelers drew all 50 ballots from a nationwide panel of media members who regularly cover the league. Brown missed the last two-plus games with an ankle injury.

He was among four players to make a fourth All-Pro squad, joining New England tight end Rob Gronkowski, Carolina linebacker Luke Kuechly and Los Angeles Rams punter Johnny Hekker.

The repeaters from 2016 were Brown; Rams interior defensive lineman Aaron Donald, who got 49 votes, and punter Hekker; and Seattle linebacker Bobby

Please see **ALL-PRO/4B**

Don Wright/Associated Press

Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown (84) celebrates a 39-38 win over the Baltimore Ravens in an NFL game Dec. 11 in Pittsburgh. In voting announced Friday, Antonio Brown is one of four repeaters from last season on The Associated Press 2017 NFL All-Pro Team, and the only unanimous choice.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

Bobsleigh and Skeleton
Women's Bobsled, 7:30 a.m., NBCSN
Doubles Luge, 1 p.m., OLYHD
Women's Single Luge, 1:30 p.m., OLYHD
Two-Man Bobsled, 6 p.m., OLYHD

Boxing
Cesar 'Corazon' Juarez vs. Isaac Dogboe, 10 p.m., beIN E

Bull Riding
Monster Energy Buck Off at the Garden, 9:30 p.m., CBSSN

College Football
FCS Championship: North Dakota State vs. James Madison, 11 a.m., ESPN2

Figure Skating
US Championships: Pairs Free Skate, 3 p.m., NBC
US Championships: Men's Free Skate, 7 p.m., NBCSN

Golf
PGA: Sentry Tournament of Champions, 3rd Round, 2 p.m., GOLF

High School Football
US Army All-American Bowl, Noon, NBC

Hockey
SHL: Orebro HK vs. Lulea HF, 8 a.m., ELVN
OHL: Kitchener at Owen Sound, 2:30 p.m., NHL

Men's College Basketball
Xavier at Providence, 11 a.m., FOX
UMass at Dayton, 11 a.m., NBCSN
ECU at UConn, 11 a.m., ESPNews
Creighton at Georgetown, 11 a.m., FSN (FSSW)
Alabama at Georgia, 11 a.m., SEC
Illinois at Michigan, 11 a.m., BTN
Florida at Missouri, Noon, CBS
North Carolina at Virginia, Noon, ESPN
Texas at Baylor, 1 p.m., ESPNU
VCU at LaSalle, 1 p.m., NBCSN
DePaul at St. John's, 1 p.m., FSN (FSSW+)
Nevada at Air Force, 1 p.m., ATTSW
LSU at Texas A&M, 1:15 p.m., SEC
Nebraska at Purdue, 1:15 p.m., BTN
Seton Hall at Butler, 1:30 p.m., FS1
Notre Dame at Syracuse, 2:15 p.m., ESPN2
Duquesne at Fordham, 2:30 p.m., CBSSN
Iowa State at Oklahoma State, 3 p.m., ESPNU
Tulsa at Memphis, 3 p.m., ESPNews
Kansas State at Texas Tech, 3 p.m., FSSW+, FCSP
Mississippi State at Ole Miss, 3:30 p.m., SEC
Stephen F. Austin at Northwestern State, 3:30 p.m., ELVN
Indiana at Minnesota, 4:15 p.m., ESPN2
Fresno State at Colorado State, 4:30 p.m., CBSSN
Arkansas at Auburn, 5 p.m., ESPNU
Vanderbilt at South Carolina, 5:45 p.m., SEC
Oklahoma at West Virginia, 6:15 p.m., ESPN2
Duke at NC State, 7 p.m., ESPN
St. Bonaventure at St. Joseph's, 7 p.m., ESPNU
Marquette at Villanova, 7 p.m., FS1
Richmond at St. Louis, 7 p.m., FCSC
Kentucky at Tennessee, 8 p.m., SEC
Prairie View A&M at Texas Southern, 8 p.m., ATTSW+
Kansas at TCU, 8:15 p.m., ESPN2
Gonzaga at Loyola Marymount, 9 p.m., ESPNU
BYU at Pacific, 9 p.m., BYUtv
Portland State at Idaho, 9 p.m., ELVN
UC Riverside at UCSB, 11 p.m., ESPNU

Men's Soccer
FA Cup: Fleetwood Town vs. Leicester City, 6:30 a.m., FS1, FXDEP
FA Cup: Manchester City vs. Burnley, 8:30 a.m., FS1, FXDEP
FA Cup: Fulham FC vs. Southampton FC, 8:30 a.m., FS2
FA Cup: Exeter City FC vs. West Bromwich Albion FC, 8:30 a.m., FSP
FA Cup: Norwich vs. Chelsea, 11 a.m., FS1, FXDEP
Serie A: Cagliari Calcio vs. Juventus FC, 1:40 p.m., beIN
Liga NOS: SC Braga vs. Rio Ave, 2:30 p.m., GolTV
Ascenso MX: Atletico Zacatepec vs. Tampico Madero, 5 p.m., GolTV
Liga MX: Monterrey vs. Morelia, 6:55 p.m., UNI, UDN
Liga MX: CF Pachuca vs. Pumas de la UNAM, 7 p.m., ESPNDEP, GALA
Ascenso MX: Cafetaleros vs. Atalante, 7 p.m., GolTV
Liga MX: Club Necaxa vs. Veracruz, 8:55 p.m., UNI, UDN

Motorsports
Monster Energy Supercross: Anaheim, 9 p.m., FS1, FXDEP

National Football League
Tennessee at Kansas City, 3:20 p.m., ABC, ESPN, ESPNDEP
Atlanta at LA Rams, 7 p.m., NBC, NBCU

NBA G-League
Iowa at Texas, 7:30 p.m., FSSW

National Hockey League
Edmonton at Dallas, 2 p.m., FSSW
Vancouver at Toronto, 6 p.m., NHL

Rugby
Premiership: Northampton vs. Gloucester, 9 a.m., NBCSN

Skiing
Men's Giant Slalom, 9 a.m., OLYHD
Women's 10km Mass Start, 10 a.m., OLYHD
Moguls, 2:30 p.m., OLYHD
Men's 15km Mass Start, 5 p.m., OLYHD
Ski Jumping Four Hills Tournament, 7 p.m., OLYHD
Women's Slalom, 5:30 a.m., NBCSN

Tennis
ATP: Qatar ExxonMobil Open, Singles Final, 9 a.m., TENNIS
ATP: Brisbane International, Final, 3 a.m., TENNIS

Women's College Basketball
UMass at St. Bonaventure, 10 a.m., CBSSN
St. Louis at Fordham, Noon, CBSSN
Southern Miss at Western Kentucky, 2 p.m., FCSA
Pacific at BYU, 3 p.m., BYUtv
Penn State at Rutgers, 3:30 p.m., BTN
Prairie View A&M at Texas Southern, 5:30 p.m., ATTSW+

RADIO

Men's College Basketball
Kansas State at Texas Tech, 3 p.m., KCRS 95.5 FM/97.5 FM/550 AM, KPET 105.1 FM/690 AM (Lamesa)

NAHL Hockey
Odessa at Topeka, 7 p.m., KFZX 102.1 FM

WHAT'S ON DECK

High School

Boys Basketball
Trinity at MCA, 1 p.m.

Girls Basketball
Trinity at MCA, 11:30 a.m.

Boys Soccer
Lee at Frenship Tournament, Wolfforth
MHS at Flower Mound Marcus Tournament

Girls Soccer
MHS at Frisco Tournament

NHL GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	40	29	8	3	61	147	95
Boston	38	22	10	6	50	119	95
Toronto	42	24	16	2	50	138	122
Detroit	40	17	16	7	41	110	122
Florida	40	17	18	5	39	111	130
Montreal	41	17	20	4	38	103	127
Ottawa	39	13	17	9	35	105	135
Buffalo	40	10	21	9	29	88	135

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	41	25	13	3	53	128	117
New Jersey	40	22	11	7	51	126	120
Columbus	42	23	16	3	49	115	117
N.Y. Rangers	40	21	14	5	47	125	114
Carolina	40	19	13	8	46	114	119
Pittsburgh	43	21	19	3	45	120	133
N.Y. Islanders	42	20	18	4	44	141	154
Philadelphia	40	17	15	8	42	113	118

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	43	26	15	2	54	124	105
Winnipeg	41	23	11	7	53	136	113
Nashville	40	23	11	6	52	125	110
Dallas	42	23	16	3	49	127	117
Minnesota	41	22	16	3	47	121	116
Colorado	40	21	16	3	45	128	122
Chicago	39	19	14	6	44	117	108

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	39	27	10	2	56	136	108
Los Angeles	41	24	12	5	53	123	95
San Jose	39	21	12	6	48	109	102
Anaheim	42	19	14	9	47	115	117
Calgary	40	20	16	4	44	112	117
Edmonton	41	18	20	3	39	116	132
Vancouver	40	16	19	5	37	106	132
Arizona	42	10	27	5	25	97	148

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

Friday's Scores
Pittsburgh 4, N.Y. Islanders 0
Detroit 4, Florida 2
Ottawa 6, San Jose 5, OT
Buffalo at Winnipeg, late
Vegas at Chicago, late

Today's Games
St. Louis at Philadelphia, noon
Edmonton at Dallas, 2 p.m.
Carolina at Boston, 6 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 6 p.m.
Vancouver at Toronto, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Arizona, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Colorado, 8 p.m.
Anaheim at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Nashville at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

PRO GOLF SCORES

PGA

Tournament of Champions Scores
Friday
At Kapalua Resort (Plantation Course)
Kapalua, Hawaii
Purse: $6.3 million
Yardage: 7,452; Par: 73
Second Round

Marc Leishman	67-69—136
Brian Harman	68-68—136
Dustin Johnson	69-68—137
Pat Perez	72-66—138
Chris Stroud	72-66—138
Jhonattan Vegas	68-70—138
Jason Dufner	71-68—139
Hideki Matsuyama	70-70—140
Kevin Kisner	70-70—140
Patrick Cantlay	70-70—140
Rickie Fowler	69-71—140
Si Woo Kim	69-71—140
Jordan Spieth	75-66—141
Jon Rahm	71-70—141
Billy Horschel	70-71—141
Russell Henley	74-69—143
Daniel Berger	73-70—143
Wesley Bryan	74-70—144
Kevin Chappell	74-70—144
Xander Schauffele	72-72—144
Hudson Swafford	72-72—144
Patton Kizzire	72-72—144
Ryan Armour	71-73—144
Cameron Smith	75-70—145
Brendan Steele	71-74—145
Kyle Stanley	70-75—145
Bryson DeChambeau	73-73—146
Justin Thomas	71-75—146
Jonas Blixt	77-71—148
Austin Cook	74-74—148
Grayson Murray	74-74—148
Adam Hadwin	73-75—148
Brooks Koepka	78-74—152
D.A. Points	76-76—152

NBA ROUNDUP

BULLS 127, MAVERICKS 124

DALLAS — Kris Dunn scored a career-high 32 points, Justin Holiday added 23 and the Chicago Bulls held off a frantic Dallas rally in a 127-124 victory over the Mavericks on Friday night.

Rookie Lauri Markkanen had 16 with an emphatic follow-up dunk during a surge that put the Bulls up 10 with 1:08 to play.

The Mavericks slowly trimmed the deficit with full-court pressure and fouls in the final minute. Dallas actually had a shot to tie, but Yogi Ferrell's 3-pointer at the buzzer was short. The teams combined for 35 points in the final 68 seconds.

Wesley Matthews led Dallas with 24 points and Harrison Barnes had 23 in a fitting matchup of teams having nearly identical seasons — miserable starts followed by respectable recoveries that pulled each out of last place in its conference.

Dunn hit a jumper to start a 16-4 run that ended with Nikola Mirotic's layup on an assist from Dunn for a 114-104 lead.

The Mavericks fouled the Bulls eight times in the final minute-plus, and the Bulls made all 13 free throws. But Dallas chipped away by getting three points on four different possessions, capped by Dennis Smith Jr. He missed from beyond the arc but hit an even longer one after an offensive rebound by Barnes to get within 125-124.

Dallas quickly fouled Holiday, who made both free throws with 2.6 seconds left before Ferrell's miss from the left wing after a long inbound pass was relayed to him. The Bulls outscored the Mavericks 47-36 in the fourth quarter.

Holiday (5 of 6) and Dunn (4 of 5) combined to go 9 of 11 from 3-point range as the Bulls shot 50 percent (14 of 28) from beyond the arc.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 19 points and was 3 of 3 from long range, including one to give the Mavericks their final lead at 100-98. Smith scored 10 of his 15 in the final 44 seconds, including a dunk after a steal that helped give Dallas a chance at the buzzer.

SPURS 103, SUNS 89

SAN ANTONIO — Kawhi Leonard and Manu Ginobili each scored 21 points and the San Antonio Spurs beat Phoenix 103-89 on Friday night for their ninth straight win at home over the Suns.

Ginobili joined Vince Carter as the only 40-year-old players to score 20 points off the bench. He shot 7 for 10 from the field in setting a season high for points.

The Spurs were without starters LaMarcus Aldridge, who sat out for rest, and an injured Danny Green, but had 15 steals and six blocks against the Suns while shooting 47 percent.

Devin Booker had 21 points and Marquese Chriss added 12 for Phoenix.

San Antonio went on a 23-6 run after falling behind by eight points two minutes into the second quarter.

Leonard had eight points during the run in his most complete game of the season, especially on the defensive end. The two-time NBA Defensive Player of the Year set a season high with three blocks and tied his season best with four steals.

NUGGETS 99, JAZZ 91

DENVER — Trey Lyles scored a career-high 26 points, Jamal Murray also had 26 points and Denver beat Utah.

Lyles also grabbed seven rebounds. He averaged 21 points and 7.5 rebounds in the two home games against his former team to help the Nuggets split the season series with the Jazz. Denver outscored the Jazz 38-16 in the third quarter after trailing by three at halftime.

Donovan Mitchell had 15 points, seven rebounds and seven assists, Ricky Rubio also scored 15 points and Derrick Favors had 14 points and 10 rebounds for Utah. The Jazz have lost 12 of 15 since starting the season 13-11.

The game was tied at 56 when Murray hit a 3-pointer, was fouled and made the free throw to start a 20-5 Denver run.

RAPTORS 129, BUCKS 110

MILWAUKEE — Jonas Valanciunas scored all of his 20 points in the decisive third quarter and the Toronto Raptors beat the Milwaukee Bucks for the second time this week, 129-110 on Friday night.

Toronto outscored Milwaukee 43-19 in the third quarter to win its fourth consecutive game, including a 131-127 overtime victory over the Bucks on Monday. The Raptors have won 10 of 12.

Valanciunas picked up two fouls in the first 86 seconds of the game and was held scoreless without taking a shot in just five minutes during the first half. He played the entire third quarter, going 8 of 9 and grabbing nine of his 13 rebounds, as the Raptors extended a two-point halftime lead to 104-78.

Toronto made 17 of 25 shots in the quarter and outrebounded the Bucks, 18-2. The Raptors outscored Milwaukee 27-9 in the final six minutes of the quarter.

Serge Ibaka scored 17 of his team-high 21 points in the first half, and DeMar DeRozan, who scored 52 points in the Raptors' win over Milwaukee on Monday, had 14 of his 20 in the third.

76ERS 114, PISTONS 78

PHILADELPHIA — Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid almost outproduced Detroit in the first half and sparked the 76ers to a mammoth lead even they couldn't blow in a 114-78 romp over the Pistons on Friday night.

Embiid had 23 points and nine rebounds. Simmons had 19 points and nine assists to lead the Sixers to their fourth straight win, which moved them back to .500.

With 2 minutes left in the first half, Embiid and Simmons had combined for 26 points on 12-of-19 shooting. The Pistons had 26 points on 11-of-38 shooting.

The 76ers have a bad habit of blowing double-digit leads that crushed their push toward a more respectable spot in the standings. They wasted an 18-point lead in a loss to Portland. The Sixers turned a 22-point edge into a loss against Toronto. And they led by 16 points before Sacramento beat them.

The Sixers opened the game on a 15-2 run and, unlike their December collapses, they never let this one get close. They led 97-61 through three.

CELTICS 91, TIMBERWOLVES 84

BOSTON — Marcus Smart scored 16 of his 18 points in the second half, Kyrie Irving had 16 points, nine rebounds and eight assists and the Boston Celtics pulled away in the fourth quarter to beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 91-84 on Friday night.

Terry Rozier had 14 points and nine rebounds, Aron Baynes had 11 points and 10 rebounds and Jaylen Brown also scored 11 for Boston, which has won five straight and six of seven.

Karl-Anthony Towns led the Timberwolves with 25 points and a career-high 23 rebounds. Jimmy Butler scored 14, Jamal Crawford had 13 points and Andrew Wiggins scored 10 for Minnesota, which lost back-to-back games for the first time since November.

Towns pulled down more than half of the Timberwolves' 43 rebounds, and no other Minnesota player had more than four as Boston dominated the glass 56-43.

Boston had a rough night shooting, going 38 for 94 (40.4 percent) and making just 6 of 36 3-pointers. Minnesota shot 36.8 percent from the field.

NAHL: Jacks get 4-0 win over Topeka

From staff reports

TOPEKA, Kan. – The Odessa Jackalopes scored two goals in both the second and third periods to topple the Topeka Roadrunners, 4-0 on Friday at the Kansas ExpoCenter.

Odessa took a 2-0 lead in the second on goals by Zach Heintz and James Crossman, before Nick Wilson and Petr Miko tallied in the third.

Jackalopes goalie Alex Camarre recorded 29 saves in the shutout.

NBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	32	10	.762	—
Toronto	27	10	.730	2½
Philadelphia	19	19	.500	11
New York	18	21	.462	12½
Brooklyn	15	23	.395	15

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	22	16	.579	—
Miami	21	17	.553	1
Charlotte	14	23	.378	7½
Orlando	12	27	.308	10½
Atlanta	10	27	.270	11½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	25	13	.658	—
Detroit	20	17	.541	4½
Milwaukee	20	17	.541	4½
Indiana	19	19	.500	6
Chicago	13	25	.342	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	27	10	.730	—
San Antonio	26	13	.667	2
New Orleans	19	18	.514	8
Dallas	13	26	.333	15
Memphis	12	26	.316	15½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	24	16	.600	—
Oklahoma City	22	17	.564	1½
Denver	20	17	.541	2½
Portland	19	18	.514	3½
Utah	16	22	.421	7

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	31	8	.795	—
L.A. Clippers	17	20	.459	13
Phoenix	15	25	.375	16½
Sacramento	12	25	.324	18
L.A. Lakers	11	26	.297	19

Friday's Scores
Boston 91, Minnesota 84
Philadelphia 114, Detroit 78
Miami 107, New York 103, OT
Toronto 129, Milwaukee 110
Chicago 127, Dallas 124
San Antonio 103, Phoenix 89
Denver 99, Utah 91
Washington at Memphis, late
Atlanta at Portland, late
Charlotte at L.A. Lakers, late

Today's Games
Golden State at L.A. Clippers, 2:30 p.m.
Boston at Brooklyn, 5 p.m.
Chicago at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Cleveland at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Houston at Detroit, 6 p.m.
Milwaukee at Washington, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Minnesota, 6 p.m.
Denver at Sacramento, 9 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men

EAST
Bucknell 83, Army 66
Canisius 82, Quinnipiac 74
Cornell 93, Central Penn College 69
Drexel 87, Coll. of Charleston 82, OT
Hofstra 87, James Madison 81, OT
Iona 73, St. Peter's 69
Lafayette 71, Colgate 68
Lehigh 83, Holy Cross 77
Loyola (Md.) 68, Boston U. 65
Monmouth (NJ) 77, Manhattan 66
Navy 70, American U. 64
Niagara 84, Siena 76
Northeastern 72, Elon 60
Penn St. 78, Northwestern 63
Rider 96, Fairfield 77
Rutgers 64, Wisconsin 60
Towson 89, UNC-Wilmington 71
William & Mary 90, Delaware 65
MIDWEST
Toledo 67, Akron 65

TODAY'S GAMES
SOUTHWEST
Texas at Baylor, 1 p.m.
LSU at Texas A&M, 1:15 p.m.
Charlotte at Rice, 2 p.m.
Kansas St. at Texas Tech, 3 p.m.
Sam Houston St. at Incarnate Word, 3 p.m.
Iowa St. at Oklahoma St., 3 p.m.
SE Louisiana at Abilene Christian, 4 p.m.
South Alabama at Texas-Arlington, 4:15 p.m.
Troy at Texas State, 4:30 p.m.
Cent. Arkansas at Lamar, 4:30 p.m.
Old Dominion at North Texas, 5 p.m.
Nicholls at Houston Baptist, 7 p.m.
W. Illinois at Oral Roberts, 7 p.m.
Prairie View at Texas Southern, 7:30 p.m.
Kansas at TCU, 8:15 p.m.
SOUTH
Louisville at Clemson, 11 a.m.
Pittsburgh at Virginia Tech, 11 a.m.
Alabama at Georgia, 11 a.m.
UNC-Greensboro at VMI, noon
North Carolina at Virginia, noon
Winthrop at Campbell, 1 p.m.
Gardner-Webb at Longwood, 1 p.m.
Arkansas St. at Georgia St., 1:15 p.m.
Appalachian St. at Louisiana-Monroe, 2 p.m.
Savannah St. at Coppin St., 3 p.m.
MVSU at Alabama St., 3 p.m.
Tulsa at Memphis, 3 p.m.
UNC-Asheville at Radford, 3 p.m.
E. Illinois at E. Kentucky, 3 p.m.
Florida A&M at Morgan St., 3 p.m.
Presbyterian at Liberty, 3 p.m.
Bethune-Cookman at Howard, 3 p.m.
SIU-Edwardsville at Morehead St., 3:15 p.m.
Mercer at Furman, 3:30 p.m.
Mississippi St. at Mississippi, 3:30 p.m.
Lipscomb at Kennesaw St., 3:30 p.m.
Stephen F. Austin at Northwestern St., 3:30 p.m.
New Orleans at McNeese St., 3:30 p.m.
Middle Tennessee at FAU, 4 p.m.
UTSA at Southern Miss., 4 p.m.
UALR at Georgia Southern, 4 p.m.
ETSU at Chattanooga, 4 p.m.
Tennessee Tech at Tennessee St., 4 p.m.
Arkansas at Auburn, 5 p.m.
Jacksonville St. at Belmont, 5 p.m.
Grambling St. at Southern U., 5:30 p.m.
Jackson St. at Alcorn St., 5:30 p.m.
Vanderbilt at South Carolina, 5:45 p.m.
Jacksonville at North Florida, 6 p.m.
The Citadel at Wofford, 6 p.m.
Stetson at Florida Gulf Coast, 6 p.m.
W. Kentucky at Marshall, 6 p.m.
UTEP at Louisiana Tech, 6 p.m.
UAB at FIU, 6 p.m.
Ark.-Pine Bluff at Alabama A&M, 6 p.m.
Yale at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m.
Charleston Southern at High Point, 7 p.m.
Coastal Carolina at Louisiana-Lafayette, 7 p.m.
SE Missouri at Austin Peay, 7 p.m.
UT Martin at Murray St., 7 p.m.
W. Carolina at Samford, 7 p.m.
Duke at NC State, 7 p.m.
Kentucky at Tennessee, 8 p.m.
MIDWEST
Bowling Green at E. Michigan, 11 a.m.
UMass at Dayton, 11 a.m.
Illinois at Michigan, 11 a.m.
Florida at Missouri, noon
Drake at Indiana St., 1 p.m.
Buffalo at Ball St., 1 p.m.
Nebraska at Purdue, 1:15 p.m.
Seton Hall at Butler, 1:30 p.m.
N. Dakota St. at South Dakota, 2 p.m.
New Mexico St. at Chicago St., 2:05 p.m.
W. Michigan at Miami (Ohio), 2:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Cleveland St., 2:30 p.m.
N. Illinois at Ohio, 2:30 p.m.
Bradley at Evansville, 3 p.m.
S. Illinois at Valparaiso, 3 p.m.
Indiana at Minnesota, 4:15 p.m.
Green Bay at Youngstown St., 6 p.m.
Cent. Michigan at Kent St., 6 p.m.
Richmond at Saint Louis, 7 p.m.
Rio Grande at UMKC, 7 p.m.
S. Dakota St. at Nebraska-Omaha, 7 p.m.
FAR WEST
Arizona at Colorado, 1 p.m.
Nevada at Air Force, 1 p.m.
Fort Wayne at Denver, 2 p.m.
Washington at Washington St., 3 p.m.
North Dakota at Montana St., 3 p.m.
San Francisco at Pepperdine, 3 p.m.
Sacramento St. at E. Washington, 4:05 p.m.
Fresno St. at Colorado St., 4:30 p.m.
UCLA at California, 5:30 p.m.
Boise St. at Wyoming, 7 p.m.
S. Utah at Weber St., 8 p.m.
San Jose St. at New Mexico, 8 p.m.
N. Arizona at Idaho St., 8 p.m.
CS Bakersfield at Utah Valley, 8 p.m.
N. Colorado at Montana, 8 p.m.
Grand Canyon at Seattle, 9 p.m.
Long Beach St. at UC Irvine, 9 p.m.
Gonzaga at Loyola Marymount, 9 p.m.
Portland at Santa Clara, 9 p.m.
Portland St. at Idaho, 9 p.m.
Cal St.-Fullerton at Cal Poly, 9 p.m.
Utah St. at UNLV, 9 p.m.
BYU at Pacific, 9 p.m.
Hawaii at CS Northridge, 9 p.m.
San Diego at Saint Mary's (Cal), 10 p.m.
EAST
Xavier at Providence, 11 a.m.
East Carolina at UConn, 11 a.m.
Creighton at Georgetown, 11 a.m.
Bryant at Sacred Heart, noon
Albany (NY) at New Hampshire, noon
Maine at Binghamton, noon
Dartmouth at Harvard, 1 p.m.
Sarah Lawrence College at Columbia, 1 p.m.
DePaul at St. John's, 1 p.m.
VCU at La Salle, 1 p.m.
Notre Dame at Syracuse, 2:15 p.m.
Duquesne at Fordham, 2:30 p.m.
Hampton at Md.-Eastern Shore, 3 p.m.
CCSU at Mount St. Mary's, 3 p.m.
St. Francis Brooklyn at St. Francis (Pa.), 3 p.m.
Fairleigh Dickinson at Wagner, 3 p.m.
LIU Brooklyn at Robert Morris, 3 p.m.
SC-Upstate at NJIT, 3 p.m.
Rhode Island at George Washington, 3 p.m.
SC State at Delaware St., 3 p.m.
Wake Forest at Boston College, 3 p.m.
Stony Brook at Hartford, 6 p.m.
UMBC at Vermont, 6 p.m.
Oklahoma at West Virginia, 6:15 p.m.
St. Bonaventure at Saint Joseph's, 7 p.m.
Marquette at Villanova, 7 p.m.

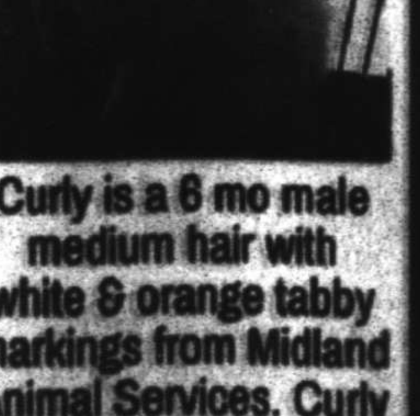
Women

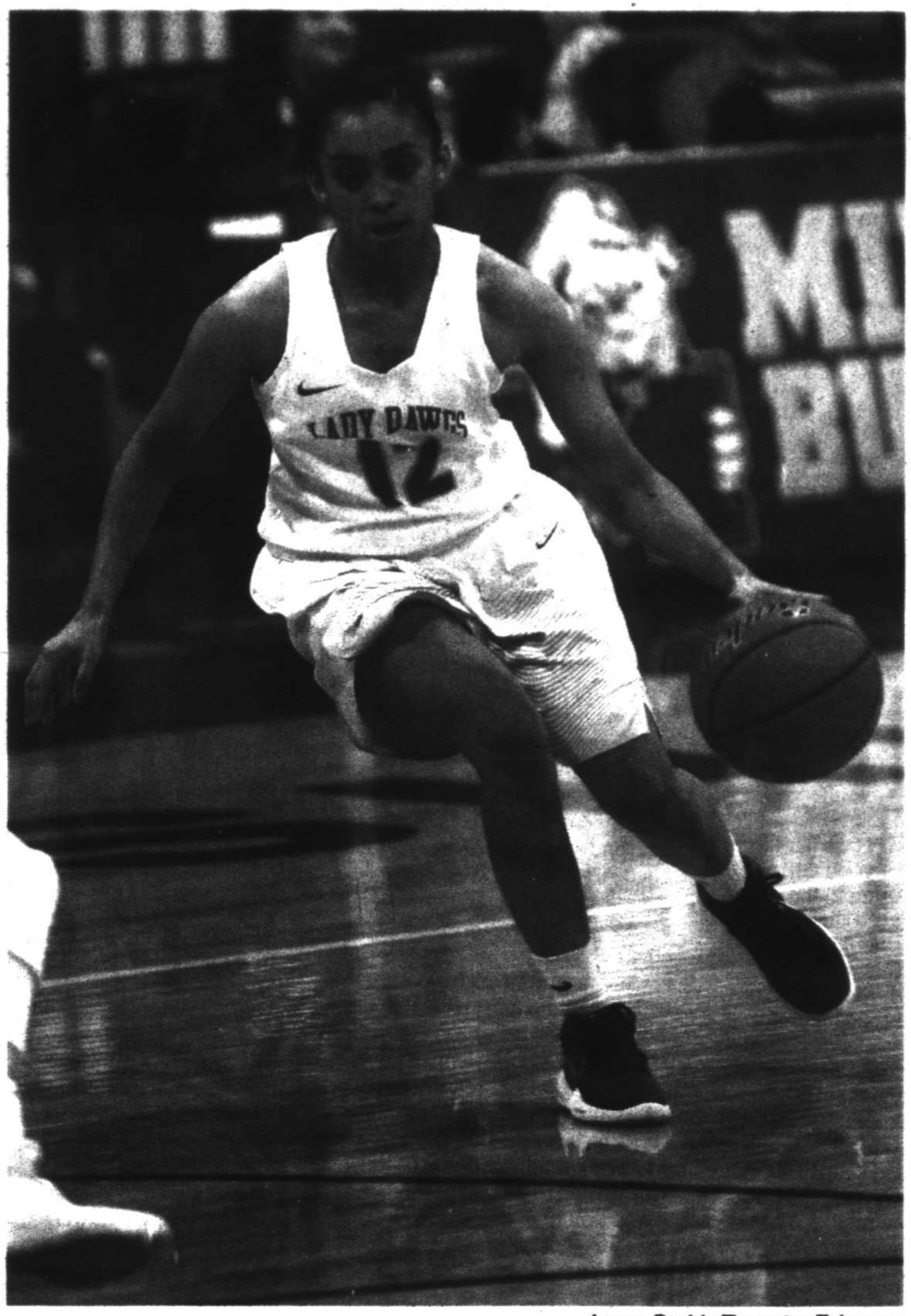
SOUTHWEST
Rice 50, North Texas 49
SOUTH
FAU 79, Marshall 59
Hofstra 75, Coll. of Charleston 60
James Madison 69, Towson 45
Louisiana Tech 63, UTSA 55
Northeastern 54, UNC-Wilmington 47
UTEP 77, FIU 76
MIDWEST
Bradley 59, Loyola of Chicago 57
Drake 80, Missouri St. 68
Indiana St. 56, Evansville 48
S. Illinois 60, N. Iowa 53
Valparaiso 56, Illinois St. 50
FAR WEST
Stanford 61, Arizona 46
UCLA 84, Oregon St. 49
EAST
American U. 46, Navy 41
Boston College 77, North Carolina 64
Boston U. 75, Loyola (Md.) 56
Brown 100, Johnson & Wales (RI) 79
Bucknell 60, Army 36
Butler 66, Georgetown 57
Delaware 80, Elon 66
Fairfield 61, Monmouth (NJ) 55
Holy Cross 54, Lehigh 49
Lafayette 63, Colgate 48
Seton Hall 65, Providence 56
St. John's 72, Creighton 65
Villanova 75, Xavier 57

Top 25 Fared

Friday

1. UConn (12-0) did not play. Next: at South Florida, Saturday.
2. Notre Dame (14-1) did not play. Next: at Georgia Tech, Sunday.
3. Louisville (17-0) did not play. Next: vs. Virginia Tech, Sunday.
4. South Carolina (13-1) did not play. Next: at No. 15 Missouri, Sunday.
5. Mississippi State (16-0) did not play. Next: at LSU, Sunday.
6. Baylor (13-1) did not play. Next: at Kansas, Saturday.
7. Tennessee (14-0) did not play. Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Sunday.
8. Texas (12-1) did not play. Next: at Kansas State, Sunday.
9. Oregon (13-2) at Southern Cal. Next: at No. 14 UCLA, Sunday.
10. Ohio State (14-2) did not play. Next: at No. 22 Michigan, Sunday.
11. Florida State (14-1) did not play. Next: at Syracuse, Sunday.
12. West Virginia (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Iowa State, Sunday.
13. Maryland (14-2) did not play. Next: at Wisconsin, Sunday.
14. UCLA (11-3) beat No. 16 Oregon State 84-49. Next: vs. No. 9 Oregon, Sunday.
15. Missouri (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 4 South Carolina, Sunday.
16. Oregon State (11-3) lost to No. 14 UCLA 84-49. Next: at Southern Cal, Sunday.
17. Duke (11-4) did not play. Next: at N.C. State, Sunday.
18. Iowa (14-2) did not play. Next: at Illinois, Sunday.
19. Texas A&M (12-4) did not play. Next: at Auburn, Sunday.
20. Oklahoma State (11-3) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma, Sunday.
21. Villanova (12-2) beat Xavier 75-57. Next: at Georgetown, Wednesday.
22. Michigan (13-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 10 Ohio State, Sunday.
23. California (10-3) at No. 25 Arizona State. Next: at Arizona, Sunday.
24. Stanford (9-6) beat Arizona 61-46. Next: at No. 25 Arizona State, Sunday.
25. Arizona State (11-3) vs. No. 23 California. Next: vs. No. 24 Stanford, Sunday.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
UPCOMING EVENTS
1/08 6:00 pm Adoption Center Volunteer Orientation
1/20 1:00 pm No-Sew Adoption Blanket Demo, Brew St.
PLEASE HELP US CONTROL OVERPOPULATION & PROTECT YOUR PET FROM STRESS & ACCIDENTAL PREGNANCIES.
$70 SPAY/NEUTER VOUCHERS AVAILABLE TO MIDLAND CITY & COUNTY RESIDENTS.
MIDLANDHUMANE.ORG/SPAYNEUTER-VOUCHERS
ENHANCED ADOPTION CENTER
Open for adoptions Mon. - Sat. 12-7 & Sun. 12-6
Adoption Fees (fully vetted & chipped):
Cats $110, Dogs $150
432.520.3134 ext. 7
Located within Midland's PetSmart Store
MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
P.O. Box 63213
Midland, TX 79710
midlandhumane.org

Curly is a 6 mo male medium hair with white & orange tabby markings from Midland Animal Services. Curly is very shy in his new surroundings, & will require a little time to adapt. His longer coat requires daily care.
AD SPONSORED BY BROWN'S PERMIAN ELECTRIC CO.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Quay Webster (12) dribbles against Frenship on Friday at Midland High.

Lee holds on to edge Permian in 2-6A opener

From staff reports

ODESSA — Alaysha Green scored a team-high 12 points to help the Lee girls basketball team hang on for a 42-41 victory against Odessa Permian in the two teams' District 2-6A opener, Friday at Permian Field House.

The Lady Rebels (12-11, 1-0 in District 2-6A) led 27-22 at halftime and were in front by nine points entering the fourth quarter. But on its home floor, Permian (10-10, 0-1) mounted a late charge to make things interesting. The Lady Panthers disrupted Lee's attempt to close out the win by collecting easy baskets with defensive pressure and turnovers.

Green

Lee head coach Alfred Acosta said he'll take the win, but he wasn't pleased with his team's poise in the waning minutes.

"We didn't close out the game the way we should," Acosta said. "We possessed the ball for probably 1:45 out of those last two minutes and Permian went down and scored a few times in those 15 seconds off of our turnovers."

Quinci Strambler added 11 points for Lee, while Paige Low had nine. For Permian, Alexis Contee netted a game-high 15 points and Klarissa Cruz supplied 14.

LEE 42, ODESSA PERMIAN 41

Lee (12-11, 1-0 in District 2-6A) – Karigan Edwards 3, Alaysha Green 12, Braydyn Hill 2, Destiny Stanford 5, Quinci Strambler 11, Paige Low 9

Permian (10-10, 0-1 in District 2-6A) – Cruz 14, Madero 8, Garner 4, Contee 15

Lee	15	12	13	2	–42
Permian	14	8	9	10	–41

Free throws – Lee 4-10, Permian 2-4. 3-point goals – Lee 4 (Green 2, Edwards, Stanford), Permian 3 (Contee 3). Total fouls – Lee 14, Permian 14. Fouled out – None.

Next: Amarillo Tascosa at Lee, 6 p.m. Tuesday; Midland High at Odessa Permian, 6 p.m. Tuesday

HS SOCCER ROUNDUP

BOYS
REBELS DOMINATE IN DAY 2 SWEEP

WOLFFORTH – The Lee boys soccer team had little trouble finding the back of the net Friday in the Frenship Tournament, as it rolled past Lubbock High 5-0 in its first match and then trampled Frenship JV, 8-1 in the nightcap.

Rebels junior forward Esau Soto scored five goals over the two matches, including a hat trick in the win against Frenship JV. Tyler Erwin added a goal and an assist on the day, Jose Gutierrez had a goal and two assists, Daniel Santos Barron scored a pair of goals and assists and Isael Ramirez notched three assists.

Lee (3-1) will play either San Angelo Lake View or Dumas in the tournament's third-place game at 4 p.m. today.

MHS SLIPS BY NIMITZ

COPPELL – Brian Natividad scored on a penalty kick in the 15th minute to vault the Midland High boys soccer team to a 1-0 regulation victory over Irving Nimitz on Friday in the Flower Mound Tournament.

With the win, the Bulldogs (2-0) advanced to today's championship match and will face Naaman Forest at 3 p.m.

Natividad's goal was set up by a Nimitz foul on MHS' Chandler Reese inside the 18-yard box.

Bulldogs goalkeeper Noah Venegas recorded his second straight regulation shutout in the win.

GIRLS
LEE BLANKS CANYON IN OPENER

CANYON – Lee rolled to a 4-0 shutout of Canyon in Friday's season opener.

Bella Wake, Tatiana Sandoval, Kallie Watters and Audrey Sokolowski all scored goals for the Lady Rebels (1-0), while Alexa Villa, Hattie Renfro, Sokolowski and Briana Baeza notched assists.

Lee goalkeeper Jenna McEnaney had one save.

The Lady Rebels led 2-0 at halftime.

Lee head coach Mark Hinshaw was proud of how his young team went on the road and left the Panhandle with a win.

"I think there were some nerves there," Hinshaw said. "We were a little bit sloppy with our first touch and possession. However, they maintained their cohesiveness."

LADY DAWGS POST SHUTOUT

FRISCO – The Midland High girls soccer team got goals from Kylie Von Holle, Amaris Portillo and Regan Rivas to coast to a 3-0 regulation victory over Forney during the Frisco Tournament, Friday at The Star.

VonHolle scored the game-winning goal for MHS (2-0) in the 24th minute, on an assist by Alexis Ramos. In the 60th minute, Portillo scored unassisted to make it 2-0, before Rivas tallied in 67th minute on another assist by Ramos.

MHS goalkeeper Allison Robinson recorded four saves in the win.

"They played really well," said MHS head coach Cooper Barham. "They're starting to figure everything out. We're starting to look like a really good team."

The Lady Bulldogs resume tournament play at 9 a.m. today against Midlothian at Independence High School.

MHS

From 1B

"But our girls stepped up to the challenge. It's another testament that Midland High needs to play their basketball games at Midland High School (instead of Chaparral Center). We're tough here. It's a home court advantage when we play on our own gym. We have not lost a game at Midland High and I think we need to be playing our games here."

MHS visits Odessa Permian (10-10, 0-1) at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

District 2-6A Girls Basketball Standings

	Overall		District	
Team	W	L	W	L
Midland High	1	0	17	9
Tascosa	1	0	14	9
Lee	1	0	12	11
Frenship	0	1	19	6
Permian	0	1	10	10
Odessa High	0	1	5	17

Friday's Scores

Midland High 44, Wolfforth Frenship 41; Lee 42, Odessa Permian 41; Amarillo Tascosa 86, Odessa High 35

Tuesday's Games

Amarillo Tascosa vs. Lee at Chaparral Center, Midland High at Odessa Permian, Odessa High at Wolfforth Frenship, all games at 6 p.m.

"I think it just builds our confidence," Webster said. "Our confidence is already high, but it just makes us more ready to play and get to the next challenge."

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

MIDLAND HIGH 44, WOLFFORTH FRENSHIP 41

Frenship (19-6, 0-1 in District 2-6A) – Maci Maddox 9, Katelin Heise 7, Ashton Beeles 3, Cassandra Awatt 8, Addison Wilson 8, Abre Godfrey 6

Midland High (17-9, 1-0) – Maya Duarte 2, Quay Webster 8, Savanna Carter 2, Taysha Rushton 13, Sadie Govan 3, Jurnee Williams 12, Racey Haile 4

Frenship	12	10	8	11	–41
Midland	9	7	17	11	–44

Free throws – Frenship 9-20, MHS 8-10. 3-point goals – Frenship 6 (Maddox 3, Heise, Beeles, Wilson), MHS 4 (Rushton 2, Govan, Williams). Total fouls – Frenship 12, MHS 15. Fouled out – None.

Next: MHS at Odessa Permian, 6 p.m. Tuesday; Odessa High at Frenship, 6 p.m. Tuesday

GUARDS

From 1B

freshman from Australia.

Washington helped MC take a 32-21 lead at the half against the Lady Coyotes (6-5) when she scored 11 of her points in the 23-point second quarter for the Lady Chaps.

The Lady Chaps then pulled away in the second half as they started to get more into a rhythm on the offensive end.

After a somewhat sluggish outing the previous night, the Lady Chaps agreed that Friday's showing was an improvement.

"I think it was a little better than (Thursday night)," Thacker said. "We seemed to have more intensity. We had been practicing twice a day since we came back and it was good to get on the court and start playing again."

Added Jones: "Our energy is still not where it needs to be but it was better than (Thursday). We still got tired, we're not in shape right now, but we dug a little deeper and fought for some possessions a little better than (Thursday)."

The Lady Chaps get back into Western Junior College Athletic Conference play at 5:45 p.m. Monday when Frank Phillips College comes to Chaparral Center and Jones said his team needs to be ready.

"I think these games were important for us to win, just from a psyche standpoint and to play ourselves into shape a little bit," Jones said. "Frank Phillips is coming in Monday and that's the best team they've had in years."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

MIDLAND COLLEGE 68, WEATHERFORD COLLEGE 53

Weatherford College (6-5) – Destiney Winkfield 4-9 0-0 9, Masha Vasilevko 6-14 3-3 18, Dovile Strimaityte 2-8 0-0 4, Reyna Ammons 1-4 0-0 2, Tahnia McDaniel 2-9 4-4 8, Kayla Hunter 3-6 0-0 6, Faith Norman 0-1 0-0 0, Grace Daniels 3-6 0-2 6. Totals 21-57 7-9 53

Midland College (9-6) – Bethany Theodore 4-10 2-2 12, Bianca Thacker 7-13 4-6 20, Alexandrea Washington 9-16 0-0 22, Paige Robinson 0-2 0-0 0, Matangiroa Flavell 1-10 0-2 2, Ella Tofaeono 1-4 6-12 8, Ogechi Nwodo 0-3 0-0 0, Alyssa Hayes 0-1 0-0 0, Wiebke Schwartau 0-0 0-0 0, Lowendie Laporal 2-7 0-0 4. Totals 24-66 12-22 68

Weatherford	11	10	14	18	–53
Midland	9	23	15	21	–68

3-point goals – WC 4-18 (Vasilevko 3-6, Winkfield 1-2, Strimaityte 0-3, Ammons 0-2, McDaniel 0-3, Hunter 0-1, Daniels 0-1), MC 8-25 (Washington 4-9, Theodore 1-6, Thacker 2-5, Flavell 0-5). Total fouls – WC 16, MC 16. Fouled out -- Lewis. Rebounds – WC 37 (Winkfield 6), MC 40 (Theodore 7). Assists – WC 7 (Winkfield 2), MC 16 (Theodore 7). Turnovers – WC 18, MC 14.

Next: Frank Phillips College at Midland College, 5:45 p.m. Monday

CHAPS

From 1B

top to bottom and there are no easy games the rest of the way.

Rafferty said it's now up to the players to take ownership and decide where the team is headed in the final 13 games of the regular season.

"As crazy as it sounds, my focus is not trying to win games," Rafferty said. "I want them to play hard. Let's focus on the process, compete and execute with effort. If there's enough attention and commitment to that, the wins will take care of itself."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

WEATHERFORD COLLEGE 94, MIDLAND COLLEGE 81

Weatherford College (9-6) – Tyrik Armstrong 3-9 1-2 8, Zach Naylor 10-16 3-4 25, Ken Busby 6-9 6-6 23, Chance Edwards 2-4 0-0 6, Josh Ihek 7-9 1-2 15, Ansu Sesay 0-0 0-0 0, Travis Barnett 1-1 0-0 2, Ke'lyn Adams 6-9 2-3 15, Jessie White 0-1 0-0 0, Naim Rabay 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 35-59 13-17 94

Midland College (4-12) – Marquell Fraser 9-14 1-1 19, Amari Hale 2-5 0-0 6, Kevin Kangu 9-15 0-1 21, Jardin van der Korput 2-6 0-0 4, Kayo Goncalves 4-11 4-4 14, Iseri Palacio 1-1 0-0 2, Erkam Kiris 1-2 0-1 2, Michael Hillebrand 6-10 0-0 13. Totals 34-64 5-7 81

Halftime – WC 54, MC 39. 3-point goals – WC 11-21 (Busby 5-6, Naylor 2-5, Edwards 2-3, Armstrong 1-4, Adams 1-2, Rabay 0-1), MC 8-19 (Kangu 3-7, Hale 2-4, Goncalves 2-4, Hillebrand 1-3, van der Korput 0-1). Total fouls – WC 15, MC 17. Fouled out – None. Rebounds – WC 28 (Ihek 9), MC 30 (Fraser 8, Goncalves 8). Assists – WC 17 (Naylor 6), MC 26 (Fraser 8). Turnovers – WC 9, MC 17.

Next: Frank Phillips College at Midland College, 7:45 p.m. Monday

HS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

BOYS
ANDREWS 60
LEE 59

ANDREWS – Zhuric Phelps scored a game-high 21 points, but Lee fell just short in a non-district loss against Andrews on Friday.

Loic Fouonji added 11 points for the Rebels (7-14), who were unable to hang on to a 30-24 halftime lead.

Markeese Lawrence and Brett Leach scored 16 points each for Andrews (16-5), which survived going 5-for-17 at the free throw line.

ANDREWS 60, LEE 59

Lee (7-14) – Jalen Harris 3, Zhuric Phelps 21, Cevonte Eaden 9, Jaythan Jones 3, Ben Oyelola 3, Loic Fouonji 11, Mykai Pertile 1, Kyler Pettus 8

Andrews (16-5) – Markeese Lawrence 16, Payton Lopez 15, Justin Jannamon 7, Brett Leach 16, Matt O'Connor 3, Noah Lujan 2, Giovanni Smith 2

Lee	15	15	13	16	–59
Andrews	9	15	16	21	–60

Free throws – Lee 8-17, Andrews 5-17. 3-point goals – Lee 5 (Eaden 2, Phelps, Oyelola, Pettus), Andrews 4 (Lawrence, Lopez 2, O'Connor). Total fouls – Lee 20, Andrews 18. Fouled out – Phelps.

Next: San Angelo Lake View at Lee, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday; Seminole at Andrews, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

SEMINOLE 66
GREENWOOD 48

SEMINOLE – The Seminole boys basketball team rolled past Greenwood in a non-district matchup Friday night.

Reese Moore had a game high 15 points, while Carter Laramore added 14 for the Indians.

Greenwood (13-11) Bram Mathes led the Rangers in scoring with 12 points, while Ryan Snodgrass added 10 points.

Greenwood will next host Denver City at 8 p.m. Tuesday.

SEMINOLE 66, GREENWOOD 48

Greenwood (13-11A) – Bram Mathes 12, Ryan Snodgrass 10, Logan Jarvis 8, Brody Ray 7, Seth Weatherby 5, Omarion Jameson 4, Jayden Kitchens 2.

Seminole – Reese Moore 15, Carter Laramore 14, Cade Bernard 7, Jesus Perez 5, Drew Dendy 3, Jalen Brattain 2, Anthony Moncayo 2

Greenwood	5	14	10	19	–48
Seminole	20	15	16	15	–66

Free throws – Greenwood 5-8, Seminole 4-7. 3-point goals – Greenwood 3 (Weatherby, Snodgrass, Ray), Seminole 2 (Dendy, Perez). Total Fouls – Greenwood 14, Seminole 12. Fouled out – None.

Next: Denver City at Greenwood, 8 p.m. Tuesday

CRANE 64
REAGAN COUNTY 39

CRANE – Carlos Montes scored a game-high 34 points to help Crane race past Reagan County Friday.

CRANE 64, REAGAN COUNTY 39

Reagan County – Seth Hernandez 3, JR Esquivel 1, Alex Chavez 2, Justin Chavez 4, Pablo Hernandez 2, Kaleb Morris 15, Chance Darr 9, Servando Carrasco 3

Crane (13-3) – Michael Holguin 3, Brandon Cerna 6, Jorhan Velasco 3, Thomas Tilley 1, Ivan Esparza 9, Carlos Carrasco 4, Ryan Hartman 4, Carlos Montes 34

Reagan Co.	11	6	9	13	–39
Crane	14	9	17	14	–64

Free throws – Reagan County 8-16, Crane 12-22. 3-point goals – Reagan County 1 (Morris), Crane 10 (Montes 6, Cerna 2, Velasco 1, Holguin 1). Total fouls – Reagan County 15, Crane 15. Fouled out – None.

GIRLS
NO. 4 MIDLAND CLASSICAL 64
ANDREWS 42

ANDREWS – Leia Beattie poured in 33 points to help No. 4-ranked Midland Classical roll to a non-district win against Andrews on Friday.

Lizabelle Russell scored 13 points in support for MCA (11-8), which led 39-26 at halftime.

Rae Johnson paced Andrews with 19 points in the loss.

NO. 4 MCA 64, ANDREWS 42

MCA (11-8) – Kori Kirk 8, Hilary Sunderland 9, Leia Beattie 33, Lizabelle Russell 13, Jenny Coco 2

Andrews (8-13) – MJ Trevino 3, Kamryn Falcon 2, Kassidy Epperson 4, Rae Johnson 19, Laura Madrilez 1, Savannah Infante 5, Belle Madrilez 5, Alivia Mayfield 6

MCA	17	22	20	5	–64
Andrews	13	13	13	3	–42

Free throws – MCA 12-15, Andrews 5-8. 3-point goals – MCA 5 (Beattie 3, Kirk 2), Andrews 5 (Johnson 3, Epperson, Trevino). Total fouls – MCA 13, Andrews 17. Fouled out – None.

Next: Trinity at MCA, 11:30 a.m. today; Andrews at Pecos, 7 p.m. Tuesday

GREENWOOD 61
PECOS 34

GREENWOOD – Natalee Karcher scored a game-high 16 points to lead Greenwood to a blowout District 4-4A victory over Pecos on Friday.

Ariana Leyva added 14 points and Bradi Good had 12 for the Rangerettes (11-10, 1-0), who led 20-14 at halftime, but pulled away with a 30-point third quarter.

GREENWOOD 61, PECOS 34

Pecos – Strain 2, Pattins 11, Jasso 8, Burleson 11, Terry 2

Greenwood (11-10, 1-0 in District 4-4A) – Natalee Karcher 16, Kaitlan Keel 4, Kensleigh Ellis 9, Ariana Leyva 14, Cassi Mebane 6, Bradi Good 12

Pecos	8	6	8	12	–34
Greenwood	9	11	30	11	–61

Free throws – Pecos 3-5, Greenwood 10-17. 3-point goals – Pecos 1 (Pattins), Greenwood 6 (Ellis 2, Good 2, Leyve 2). Total fouls – Pecos 15, Greenwood 9. Fouled out – None.

Next: Greenwood at Monahans, 6 p.m. Tuesday

LAMESA 36,
BROWNFIELD 23

LAMESA – Camren Clement scored a game-high 11 points to lead Lamesa to a District 2-4A win over Brownfield on Friday.

Lamesa used an 11-3 advantage in the third quarter to pull away.

LAMESA 36, BROWNFIELD 23

Brownfield – Romero 2, Silva 6, Powell 9, Martinez 2, Fisher 4

Lamesa (1-0 in District 2-4A) – Guajardo 3, Clement 11, Jackson 6, Mason 9, Ortiz 7

Brownfield	5	4	3	11	–23
Lamesa	14	2	11	9	–36

Free throws – Brownfield 1-5, Lamesa 6-14. 3-point goals – Brownfield 4 (Powell 3, Silva), Lamesa 2 (Clement, Ortiz). Total fouls – Brownfield 12, Lamesa 11. Fouled out – None.

Next: Lamesa a Denver City, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday

COLORADO CITY 60
STANTON 27

STANTON— The Colorado City girls basketball team opened District 5-3A play with a convincing win over Stanton.

Colorado City (10-2, 1-0) shot 35.4 percent for the game and out-rebounded the Lady Buffaloes 46 to 21.

Stanton (16-5, 0-1) struggled to score and shot 21.2 percent for the game. Payge Grable led the team in scoring with nine points.

The Lady Buffs will look to bounce back at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday when they travel to Merkel.

COLORADO CITY 60, STANTON 27

Colorado City (10-2, 1-0)— Individual stats unavailable.

Stanton (16-5, 0-1) – Payge Grable 9, Ashlyn Mauldin 6, Katie Harris 5, Keslee Jenkins 4, Kenzi Spinks 3.

Colorado City	14	17	11	18	–60
Stanton	5	7	12	3	–27

Free Throws – Colorado City 10-17, Stanton 11-17. 3-point goals – Colorado City 4, Stanton 2 (Grable, Harris). Total fouls – Colorado City 19, Stanton 18. Fouled out – Stanton (Mauldin)

Next: Stanton at Merkel, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday

Top teams try to recover from rude awakening in SEC play

Associated Press

A look at the upcoming week around the Southeastern Conference:

Game of the weekend: No. 17 Kentucky at No. 23 Tennessee: Kentucky has lost at Tennessee each of the last two seasons and now returns to Knoxville for a Saturday night matchup with a team that could use a big win. Tennessee has lost at No. 22 Arkansas and at home against Auburn in its first two SEC matchups after squandering double-digit leads in both games. Kentucky has won its first two SEC games over Georgia and LSU by a combined total of just eight points.

Looking ahead: The first week of the SEC season has turned into a rude awakening for some teams that had raced to fast starts. No. 11 Texas A&M was ranked as high as fifth in the nation before injuries and suspensions decimated the Aggies' roster and caused them to lose their first two SEC games by a combined 39 points. Tennessee is another Top 25 team with an 0-2 record in league play. Arkansas entered the Top 25 this week and responded by losing at Mississippi State. Is this a sign of the league's balance or an indication these three teams aren't as strong as they looked in December?

Player to watch: Georgia senior Yante Maten is averaging 19.5 points and 9.3 rebounds to rank second in the SEC in both categories. He's behind Alabama's Collin Sexton (20.4) in scoring and Texas A&M's Robert Williams (10.0) in rebounding. Maten has scored at least 13 points in each of his games this season and has been held below seven rebounds just twice.

Inside the numbers: Kentucky leads the SEC at No. 11 in the NCAA's RPI rankings through Wednesday's games. Behind the Wildcats are Arkansas (No. 12), Auburn (No. 15), Missouri (No. 16), Tennessee (No. 19) and Texas A&M (No. 24) ... Auburn has won 11 straight games for its longest winning streak since a 14-game run in the 1999-2000 season. ... Missouri (11-3, 1-0 SEC) already has exceeded its win total from each of the last three seasons. ... Mississippi State (13-1, 1-0) is off to its best start since 2002-03, when it won 21 of its first 22 games. ... Alabama's 79-57 victory over Texas A&M on Saturday was the Crimson Tide's most lopsided win ever against a top-five team. Texas A&M was ranked fifth at the time of the game. ... Tennessee has led by at least nine points in each of its four losses this season.

On the women's side: The SEC has three of the top seven teams in the Top 25 with South Carolina at No. 4, Mississippi State at No. 5 and Tennessee at No. 7. ... South Carolina's A'ja Wilson and Mississippi State's Teaira McCowan are both averaging more than 20 points and 12 rebounds. ... Texas A&M's Chennedy Carter leads all Division I freshmen in scoring.

AP Source: Raiders to announce Gruden hiring

By Josh Dubow
Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — The Oakland Raiders never really recovered from the decision to trade Jon Gruden to Tampa Bay 16 years ago.

There was a Super Bowl trip the following season when Oakland lost to Gruden's Buccaneers and another playoff appearance in 2016 under Jack Del Rio that garnered little optimism because quarterback Derek Carr was injured.

But there has been mostly a run of losing seasons under nine coaches as only the Cleveland Browns had lost more games during Gruden's 16-year absence than the Raiders.

Owner Mark Davis hopes that will all change now that he has finally lured Gruden back for a second stint as the team's coach.

A person with knowledge of the team's plans said the Raiders are planning a news conference Tuesday to announce that Gruden is leaving the broadcast booth to come back to coaching. The person spoke on condition of anonymity Friday because the team has made no formal announcement.

The Raiders fired Del Rio following a disappointing six-win season and talk immediately turned to Gruden, who has been out of coaching since being fired by Tampa Bay following the 2008 season. Gruden has spent the past nine years as the lead analyst for ESPN's "Monday Night Football" telecast. He is scheduled to work his final game Saturday in Kansas City when the Chiefs take on the Tennessee Titans in a playoff game.

Then after that he will head to Oakland with the task of resurrecting Carr after a down year and getting the Raiders back to the postseason.

AP file photo

Former Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Oakland Raiders head coach Jon Gruden reacts after being inducted into the Buccaneers Ring of Honor during halftime of an NFL game against the Atlanta Falcons on Dec. 18 in Tampa, Fla.

Oakland won 12 games in 2016 to earn Del Rio a four-year extension but the team fell flat this season: The offense regressed after the decision to fire coordinator Bill Musgrave and replace him with untested Todd Downing. The defense struggled mightily before a late-season switch from fired coordinator Ken Norton Jr. to play-caller John Pagano.

That led to the decision to fire Del Rio following his third season and go hard after Gruden.

ESPN reported that Gruden will receive a 10-year deal that could be worth close to $100 million. Gruden has already started putting together a staff with Cincinnati defensive coordinator Paul Guenther among those expected to join.

Gruden told ESPN earlier this week that he had a good talk with Davis about returning to the organization and believed there was a "good chance" it would happen.

Gruden spent four seasons as coach in Oakland from 1998-2001. After leading the Raiders to 8-8 records his first two years, Gruden helped the team reach the AFC title game following the 2000 season and got Oakland back into the playoffs the following season.

His tenure ended shortly after the "Tuck Rule" loss to the New England Patriots when he was traded the following month to Tampa Bay for two first-round draft picks, two second-rounders and $8 million.

Gruden beat the Raiders in the Super Bowl in his first season with the Buccaneers but didn't win another playoff game for Tampa Bay in his final six seasons. He has a 95-81 career record.

The Raiders have complied with the "Rooney Rule" and interviewed minority candidates for the job, according to NFL spokesman Joe Lockhart. "I can tell you we believe the Rooney Rule was complied with," Lockhart said. "Minority candidates were interviewed and we will wait and see the decision they make."

A second person with knowledge of the team's plans said one of the minority candidates who interviewed was tight ends coach Bobby Johnson. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the Raiders were not releasing the names of candidates.

This would not mark the first time the Raiders brought back a coach for a second stint. Late owner Al Davis hired Art Shell in 2006, 11 years after firing him the first time. Shell went 2-14 that season and was fired after one year.

Other teams have also done it, with one of the most recent notable coaching hires being Joe Gibbs in Washington. Gibbs stepped away following the 1992 season with three Super Bowl titles in his career. He came back in 2004 and had a 30-34 record in four seasons, leading Washington to two playoff berths.

The timing of the news conference was first reported by the Raiders Snake Pit website.

NFL PLAYOFFS GLANCE

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 6
Tennessee at Kansas City, 3:35 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)
Atlanta at Los Angeles Rams, 7:15 p.m. (NBC)
Sunday, Jan. 7
Buffalo at Jacksonville, 12:05 p.m. (CBS)
Carolina at New Orleans, 3:40 p.m. (FOX)
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 13
New Orleans/Carolina/Atlanta at Philadelphia, 3:35 p.m. (NBC)
Kansas City/Tennessee/Buffalo at New England, 7:15 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 14
Jacksonville/Kansas City/Tennessee at Pittsburgh, 12:05 p.m. (CBS)
Los Angeles Rams/New Orleans/Carolina at Minnesota, 3:40 p.m. (FOX)
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 21
AFC
TBD, 2:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC
TBD, 5:40 p.m. (FOX)
Pro Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 28
At Orlando, Fla.
AFC vs. NFC, 2 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 4
At Minneapolis, Minn.
AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 5:30 p.m. (NBC)

ALL-PRO

From 1B

Wagner.

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady made his third All-Pro team.

In their own turnaround season, the Rams led the way with six All-Pros, including two more specialists: kicker Greg Zuerlein and kick returner Pharoh Cooper. Running back Todd Gurley and left tackle Andrew Whitworth were honored.

"Dang, that's crazy. It means a lot, honestly," said Gurley, who likely would have led the league in rushing had he played in LA's finale. "It's a blessing. I've got so much respect for everybody in this league, and to be in this position just means so much to me.

"I've been following people around the NFL my whole life, and to be considered as an All-Pro, man, God is good, honestly. Honestly."

Three Steelers joined Brown on the roster: Le'Veon Bell as the flex, interior defensive lineman Cam Heyward, and right guard David DeCastro. No other team had more than two All-Pros, with the stronger NFC getting 18 players and the AFC 10.

Two rookies made it: punt returner Jamal Agnew of Detroit and special teamer Budda Baker of Arizona.

Also chosen: Eagles right tackle Lane Johnson and center Jason Kelce; Panthers left guard Andrew Norwell; Texans wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins; Saints edge rusher Cameron Jordan; Cardinals linebacker Chandler Jones; Vikings cornerback Xavier Rhodes and safety Harrison Smith; Detroit defensive back Darius Slay; and Titans safety Kevin Byard.

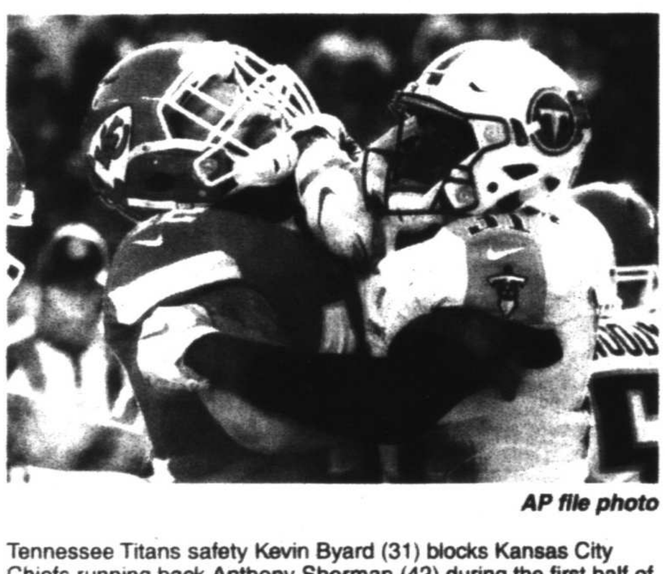
First-timers made an impression on both sides of the ball, with 15 on the team: Byard, Slay, Rhodes, Jones, Jordan, Ramsey, Campbell, Hopkins, Norwell, Kelce, Johnson, Agnew, Baker, Gurley, and Cooper.

Wagner is on his third All-Pro squad.

"When you get voted for these types of awards," he said, "it shows you all the work you do in the offseason, the grinding, all the things you push through ... when you get this, when people say this is not AFC, NFC, this is the league, this is who we deem the best at their position in the league, that says a lot. And you see the guys before you, the things they were able to accomplish, you've seen those things and you want those things. It's part of that mindset of wanting to be great and understanding what comes along with that, and wanting that kind of acknowledgment."

While making All-Pro has become almost natural for Wagner, Jordan finally got there in his seventh pro season.

"I'm definitely trying to push myself to be better than I was the year previous," he said. "I think I had a really good year last year. Of course, sack numbers won't show that, but in terms of playing the run, in terms of getting after the passer I thought last year was one of my better years (7 1-2 sacks, 17 tackles for loss). So what I wanted to do this year is, of course, push myself to be better than last. That probably only poses the problem of where I go next year. Now I've got to shoot for more than what I did this year."



AP file photo

Tennessee Titans safety Kevin Byard (31) blocks Kansas City Chiefs running back Anthony Sherman (42) during the first half of an NFL game Dec. 18, 2016 in Kansas City, Mo. The Chiefs and Titans meet in a wild-card playoff game today.

Chiefs, Titans meet to end years of postseason futility

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Chiefs linebacker Reggie Ragland was in swaddling blankets the previous time Kansas City won a home playoff game.

Wide receiver Tyreek Hill was nestled comfortably in the womb.

It was January 1994. Joe Montana was the quarterback and the Chiefs beat the Steelers on an overtime field goal by Nick Lowery to advance.

And it's hard to believe anybody packed inside Arrowhead Stadium that day imagined a quarter century would pass without another home playoff win.

"It would be nice to break that," Chiefs quarterback Alex Smith said, "but you can't add any extra motivation once you get to this stage. This is all the work we've been putting in as this team from day-one — this team. When we were putting in our goals and talking about that.

"It's tough to add any more motivation with historic streaks or things like that."

Besides, the Titans (9-7) are trying to end their own maddening stretch of playoff futility.

Tennessee rumbles into Kansas City for the wild-card round Saturday in its first postseason trip since 2008, when the Titans were the AFC's top seed.

If they can waltz out with a win, as they did in 2016, it would be their first playoff victory since January 2004.

"It's playoff time," Titans safety Kevin Byard said. "I dream about ... matchups, about going up against guys like (Travis) Kelce and going up against Andy Reid, a Hall of Fame-level coach. He's a great coach. And going into Arrowhead Stadium, one of the louder stadiums, I don't think there's better you can ask for in the first week of the playoffs."

Indeed, there are story lines galore in a game that could be overshadowed by higher-profile matchups, or perhaps overlooked because of the Chiefs' midseason swoon and the Titans' late-season slump.

Smith is trying to validate the best season of his career in what could be his final game for the Chiefs (10-6). Hill is hoping to show off his world-class speed on a national stage.

And running back Kareem Hunt, who won the NFL rushing title this season, will have a chance to etch his name alongside the likes of Todd Gurley and Le'Veon Bell as one of the league's best.

"If you lose, you go home," Hunt said simply. "Everybody is giving their all not to go home."

On the flip side, Titans quarterback Marcus Mariota will try to rewrite the story of an up-and-down season with his playoff debut. Running back Derrick Henry and his supporting cast will help. And embattled coach Mike Mularkey will try to prove he was the right man for the job all along.

"The intensity and everything goes up when you get to this point," Mularkey said.

As the Titans prepare to visit the Chiefs, here are a few more story lines to watch:

Deep threat: The Chiefs lost kick returner Akeem Hunt to an injury last weekend against Denver, and special teams coach Dave Toub said Hill could return against the Titans. The speedster was taken off that particular duty this season to keep him fresher for the offense.

Toub was asked what the Chiefs lost in that sacrifice. "Maybe two touchdowns," he said flatly.

Speaking of special teams: The Titans beat the Chiefs 19-17 in December 2016 on a game-ending field goal by Ryan Succop, who had spent most of his career with Kansas City. Succop came up short on his first attempt at the 53-yarder, but Reid had called timeout just before to give him another shot.

Patriots insist there is no Kraft, Belichick, Brady rift

By Kyle Hightower
Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — On the field, the defending Super Bowl champion New England Patriots are right where they want to be heading into the postseason.

As the AFC's top seed and the owners of a first-round bye, the 13-3 Patriots will get to rest up during the opening weekend of the playoffs. But as they prepare to begin their latest run, their biggest opponent might be the perception of a fracturing relationship between arguably the franchise's three most important pieces.

The Patriots dismissed as "flat-out inaccurate" a report suggesting a rift involving owner Robert Kraft, coach Bill Belichick and quarterback Tom Brady on Friday.

The three released a joint statement hours after an ESPN report, citing undisclosed sources, detailed an array of tension.

The story highlighted purported disputes concerning Brady's personal body coach, Alex Guerrero, in player-medical affairs. Also mentioned is a supposed difference between Kraft and Belichick over the decision to trade backup quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo. The story implied Brady has taken issue with a lack of praise from Belichick this season.

The statement said the three have had a "very good and productive working relationship" for 18 years and they regret having to "respond to these fallacies."

Brady and Belichick both eschewed questions last month about a chasm between and Belichick and Guerrero.

Belichick wouldn't address the validity of a Boston Globe report that Guerrero had been banned from the sideline or travelling on the team plane, but said "there are different relationships, different situations with dozens of other people."

Brady also took issue with a reporter last month who asked whether the quarterback and Belichick had talked about an adjustment to Guerrero's access to the team.

"I have a lot of conversations with him. Those are private between he and I, and I don't think anyone knows what we talk about," Brady said then. "Certainly I've never talked about it. He's never talked about it."

Despite the reported off the field issues, the Patriots have thrived on it.

Even after losing receiver Julian Edelman in the preseason to a knee injury and linebacker Dont'a Hightower in October to a season-ending pectoral injury, they enter the playoffs with the NFL's top-ranked offense and a defense that is allowing just 18.5 points per game.

Brady is also an MVP candidate, and passed Brett Favre for the most wins in one season for a quarterback after turning 40 years old.

Still, there are questions about Brady's durability heading in his 15th postseason.

He threw for a league-leading 4,577 yards passing and 32 touchdowns, but he also got hit a lot more than he did last season (32 sacks in 2017 after just 15 in 2016).

It didn't stop the Patriots from averaging 28.6 points. And certainly having a healthy Rob Gronkowski, who missed last year's playoffs, has given the Patriots a huge lift with 69 catches for 1,084 yards. Not to mention the boost of offseason addition Brandin Cooks with 65 receptions for 1,082 yards.

LA Rams make playoff return vs Falcons

By Greg Beacham
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Matt Ryan and the Atlanta Falcons visited the Coliseum late last season on their path to the Super Bowl, and they easily racked up a blowout victory over the woebegone Los Angeles Rams.

When they return on Saturday night for their NFC wild-card playoff opener, they might hardly recognize the guys in the horned helmets on the other sideline.

That 42-14 loss to the Falcons was a catalyst in the Rams' transformation from LA laughingstocks into NFC West champions, because coach Jeff Fisher was fired the next day. One month later, Sean McVay was hired to lead the most incredible one-year turnaround in recent NFL history.

"People are excited, and that was our goal when we came back here," McVay said. "We wanted to be able to provide a good football product that our fans can be proud of, and they want to come out and support."

Led by the 31-year-old McVay, who grew up near Atlanta, and a roster of playmakers including Jared Goff, Todd Gurley and Aaron Donald, the Rams (11-5) are in the playoffs for the first time in 13 years. The NFC's third seed drew a tough matchup with 2016 league MVP Ryan and the Falcons (10-6), who appear capable of making another conference run.

But the Rams expect to feed off the excitement of a city hosting its first playoff game since the LA Raiders' last postseason trip 24 years ago.

"It's definitely a cool thing," Goff said. "After football has been gone from here for so long, and we come back in Year 2 and are able to bring a playoff game to the Coliseum, that's very cool."

Goff, the second-year pro coming off a transformative 3,804-yard season , is eager to face off with Ryan, who is in the playoffs for the sixth time in 10 years. Both teams have a wealth of offensive playmakers, from Rams MVP candidate Gurley to star Falcons receiver Julio Jones.

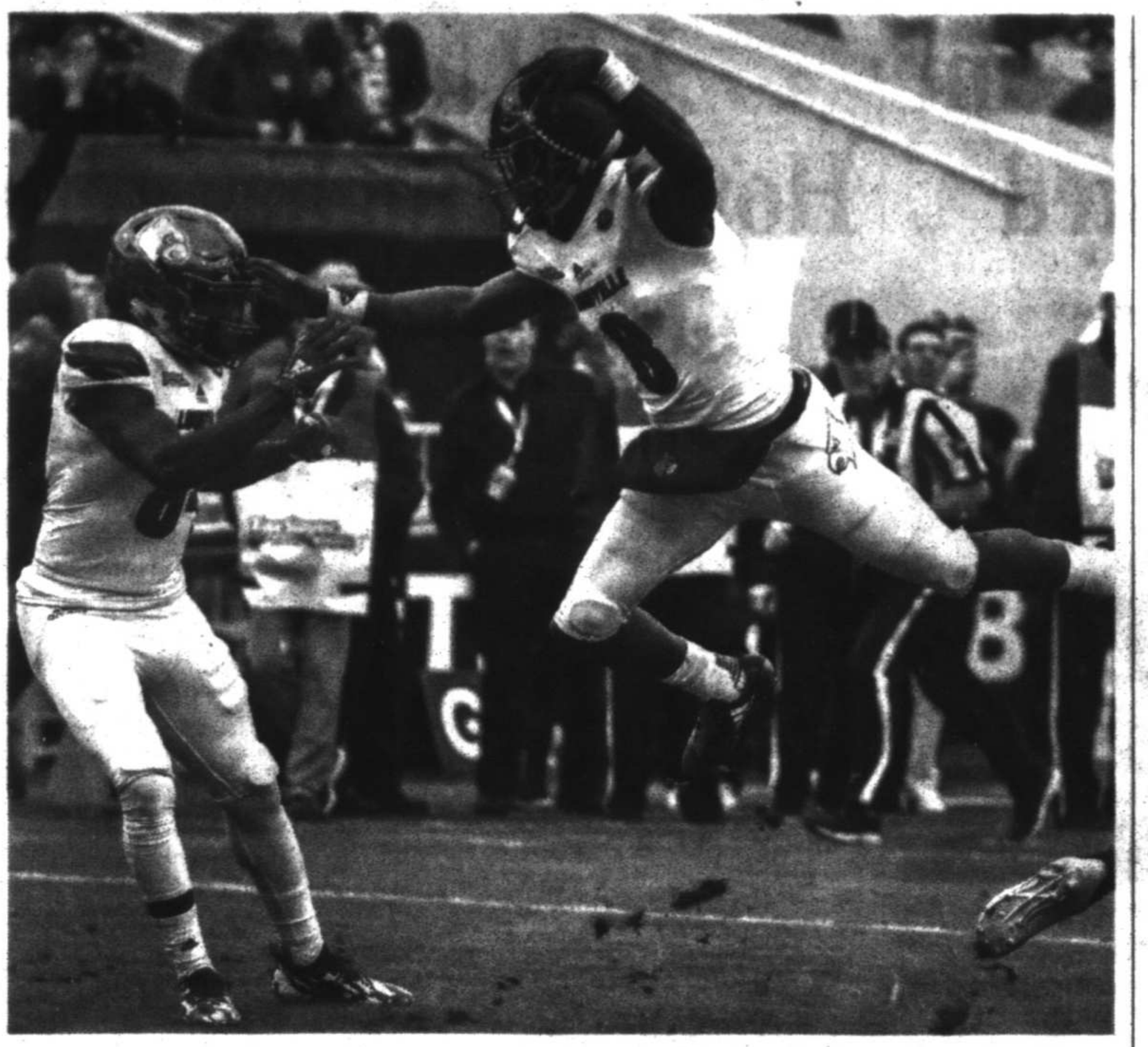
The Falcons are back for their first postseason game since that memorable Super Bowl collapse against New England. That loss could have broken weaker teams, but coach Dan Quinn kept this bunch together — and now they're the only group in the six-team NFC field that also made the playoffs last season.

"I love the resiliency and the toughness of this team," Quinn said. "When you've been through some of the fire together and you come out the other side stronger as a brotherhood, we're certainly improved."

Here are more things to watch when the Rams host their first playoff game in Southern California since January 1986:

Big numbers: Although both defenses are statistically solid, this game could turn into a shootout. The Falcons led the NFL in scoring last season, but the Rams took over the top spot this year in McVay's worst-to-first revitalization of the LA offense. Ryan and Jones have the skills to pick at the Rams' secondary if Donald can't be disruptive, while Goff and the versatile Gurley are eager to make their first mark on postseason football.

New guys: While the Falcons know everything about playoff pressure, the Rams seriously lack experience: Just six of their players have been in postseason games — including star left tackle Andrew Whitworth, who went 0-6 in Cincinnati. McVay also is the youngest head coach in a playoff game in NFL history.



Stephen B. Morton/Associated Press

Louisville quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) jumps over a Mississippi State defender before scoring a touchdown during the first half of the TaxSlayer Bowl NCAA football game Dec. 30 in Jacksonville, Fla.

Quarterback Lamar Jackson leaving Louisville for NFL draft

By Gary B. Graves
Associated Press

Lamar Jackson is leaving Louisville to enter the NFL draft, one season after becoming the youngest Heisman Trophy winner.

The 20-year-old junior quarterback tweeted Friday that he talked with his family before announcing the decision, which was confirmed by the school.

His decision was somewhat expected after he compiled some statistics that were better than those from his Heisman-winning numbers as a sophomore. He finished third in this year's vote.

Jackson thanked Cardinals coach Bobby Petrino, teammates and fans on Twitter. "It has been nothing short of an honor to be a member of #CardsNation and to play for this university."

Jackson, 6-foot-3 and 212 pounds, is a dynamic player but it's uncertain how high he'll be drafted this spring. Despite accounting for 5,261 offensive yards and 45 touchdowns — his second consecutive season in which he surpassed 1,500 yards rushing and 3,500 passing — questions remain about his accuracy and size.

The native of Pompano Beach, Florida, led the Cardinals to three consecutive bowl games, though they lost their last two. Jackson totaled 329 yards and three touchdowns in last week's TaxSlayer Bowl but also threw four interceptions in Louisville's 31-27 loss to No. 24 Mississippi State.

Fox Sports NFL analyst Charles Davis believes Jackson can play at the next level because of improved decision-making, along with his mobility.

"If we went back to 2016, I admit that I was not as bullish on his prospects as an NFL quarterback as I am now," Davis said recently. "What I saw in the last year reminds me of (Dallas Cowboys quarterback) Dak Prescott as a junior — minus the size because Dak is a bigger, thicker guy, and there's no getting around that.

"A lot of his big plays before occurred because of the run. This year I saw a better pocket presence, I saw better accuracy, better delivery. I've seen that improvement, that growth."

Louisville moves on without its first Heisman winner, whose resume is filled with highlights.

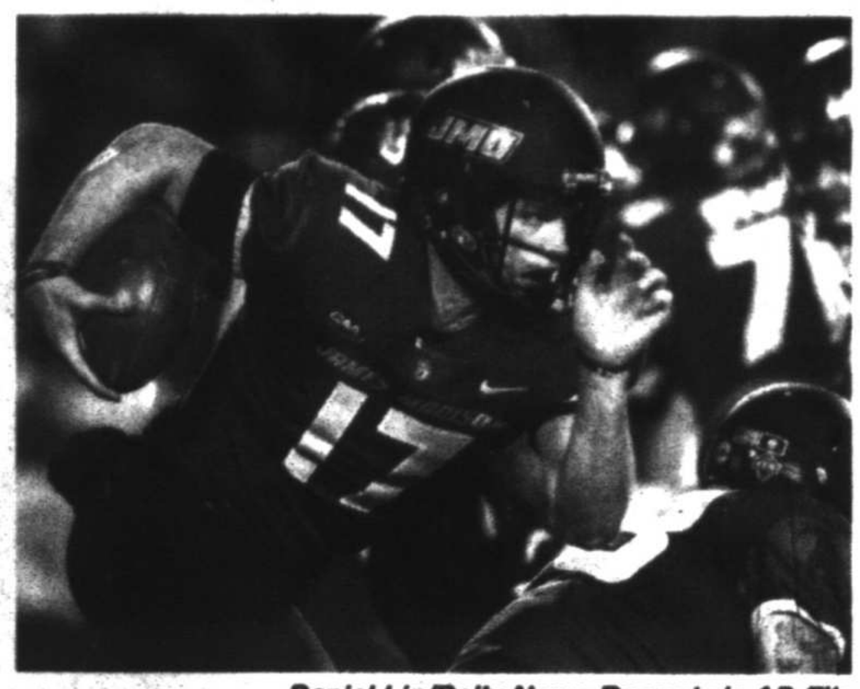
Jackson's definitive moment was hurdling a Syracuse defender into the end zone in 2016 en route to 610 yards and five TDs. He accounted for five TDs and 362 yards in a 63-20 pummeling of highly ranked Florida State the following week, a performance that established him as the Heisman favorite.

Jackson also had Louisville in consideration for the 2016 College Football Playoff before a late-season slide. A midseason slump — including a second consecutive loss to Clemson in another marquee matchup — dimmed some of the spotlight before he rallied the Cardinals with three straight wins to earn another New York trip for the Heisman presentation.

"My time in Louisville has produced some of the best memories of my life," Jackson tweeted.

James Madison seeks FCS repeat vs streak master, N Dakota St

By Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press



Daniel Lin/Daily News-Record via AP, File

James Madison quarterback Bryan Schor carries the ball against Weber State during the first half of an NCAA football game in the quarterfinals of the FCS playoffs Dec. 8 in Harrisonburg, Va. James Madison is one win from a second straight FCS championship. Standing in the way in Saturday's title game is a team quite familiar with that drill: North Dakota State.

FRISCO — The way James Madison coach Mike Houston sees it, North Dakota State's FCS dominance isn't quite over, even though his Dukes ended the Bison's five-year title run in the semifinals last season.

Houston speaks from experience with his team a win from an undefeated season as the defending champion. The final opponent in the pursuit of a second straight crown: North Dakota State on Saturday in the FCS championship game.

"I don't know that you'll ever see that again," Houston said. "It's almost an absurd achievement. And the fact that they made it to the semifinals last year, and they're back in the finals this year, I mean really you're talking about a seven-year run where there's just complete dominance week in and week out."

James Madison (14-0) ended North Dakota State's 22-game postseason winning streak in Fargo last season, and survived a 31-28 scare in the quarterfinals against Weber State this season.

The Bison (13-1) have cruised by an average margin of 36 points in the playoffs, perhaps with their eyes on a rematch .

"Not at first. I kind of put it behind me," said running back Bruce Anderson, who has taken the lead role with an injury to Lance Dunn. "But as we got closer, especially after we beat Sam Houston, I was looking forward to playing James Madison."

It's a rematch of experienced quarterbacks as well, with James Madison senior Bryan Schor trying to extend the second-longest FCS winning streak, currently at 26 games.

The longest FCS winning streak? Why, North Dakota State, of course — a 33-win run from 2012-14 that included one undefeated season.

"To consistently come back here, now that we've done it two years now, is really hard," said Schor, who threw for three touchdowns in last season's win over the Bison. "And they've done it for, what, six now? It's pretty incredible what they've done."

Easton Stick is starting his first title game for North Dakota State as a junior but has plenty of postseason experience, including 2015 when he won three playoff games before Carson Wentz returned from injury. Wentz was the No. 2 overall pick by the Philadelphia Eagles four months later.

Stick couldn't beat James Madison with his arm when the Dukes slowed North Dakota State's run-first offense last season. But he has 10 TD passes in three playoff games with three more touchdowns on the ground this season.

"I think to get to this stage you have to have a quarterback that's a winner, that's a playmaker, that the moment's not too big for them," Bison coach Chris Klieman said. "That's no question, both quarterbacks in this game are like that."

Story lines for the third meeting between these teams, the previous two in the playoffs with one win apiece:

Defense first: James Madison leads the nation in scoring defense, and North Dakota State is second. The Bison are first in total defense, the Dukes third. Schor says that expectation of a defensive struggle won't change his mentality. "I think you can get caught up in a paradox there of 'Do I be aggressive here?' and you start to question yourself," said Schor, who has accounted for 21 touchdowns with four interceptions in eight career playoff games. "As a quarterback, you've just got to play the game."

Speaking of turnovers: The Dukes forced 10 turnovers in a 51-16 win over South Dakota State in the semifinals. They have an FCS-leading 43 takeaways, including 31 interceptions. "Once the first one comes, we know that could be the game-changer and we want to capitalize as many times as we can," said safety Jordan Brown, who has nine interceptions.

Another Wentz: Carson Wentz's younger brother, Connor Wentz, is a senior tight end for the Bison. He has five touchdowns receiving, second on the team, on just 12 catches. His isn't sure if his older brother will attend the game. Carson Wentz is out of the season with a knee injury, and the top-seeded Eagles are on their bye before the NFC divisional playoffs.

X factor: North Dakota State linebacker Nick DeLuca missed last year's loss with a shoulder injury. The Senior Bowl invitee had three sacks, a forced fumble and an interception in the first two playoff games. "He's a next-level player that is finally 100 percent healthy, which he was through the playoff run," Klieman said.

ROB MAADDI
Associated Press

Terrell Owens belongs in Canton

When Pro Football Hall of Fame voters meet the day before the Super Bowl to choose the Class of 2018, the decision to select Terrell Owens should take less time than it does to microwave a bag of popcorn.

T.O. belongs in Canton. It's a no-brainer.

Owens is second to Jerry Rice in all-time receiving yards and third in touchdown catches behind Rice and Randy Moss, a finalist in his first year of eligibility.

No. 81 was a five-time All-Pro, a six-time Pro Bowl pick and one of the most entertaining players of his generation.

Owens deserved first-ballot induction. Case closed. Yet, he's been snubbed twice because voters are punishing him for his off-field and locker room "antics" during a sensational 15-year career.

But there is no "character clause" for the Pro Football Hall of Fame — and that's not saying Owens should fail it.

Owens was never arrested nor suspended by the NFL. He didn't have legal issues or drug problems.

Still, he's been kept out because of questionable behavior and the perception he was a malcontent.

Sure, Owens often spoke his mind and sometimes got under the skin of teammates and coaches. He threw some of his quarterbacks — Jeff Garcia, Donovan McNabb and Tony Romo — under a rapidly moving bus. He also defended Romo from criticism and famously cried once while doing it.

Owens should be judged for his value on the field. He made every one of the five teams he played for better. He wasn't the perfect teammate and he was disruptive at times, but when he stepped on the field, he was exceptional and durable.

Owens only missed 12 games in his long career, plus the nine he didn't play in 2005 after Andy Reid kicked him off the Philadelphia Eagles following a nasty feud with McNabb and a dispute with management over a new contract.

That came only several months after Owens helped McNabb have his best season, and then heroically returned from ankle surgery — against doctor's orders — to play in the Super Bowl. Owens would've been MVP of that game against the New England Patriots if McNabb didn't throw three interceptions in the 24-21 loss.

Anyone who covered the T.O. circus in Philadelphia and the aftermath knows Owens wasn't solely to blame for the way things went down. McNabb was overly sensitive and didn't like all the attention Owens received. McNabb was booed by Eagles fans at the 1999 draft and he never forgot it. The same fans embraced Owens from the second he arrived in Philadelphia after eight seasons in San Francisco.

Can Smart take down Saban? Check back in a few years

PAUL NEWBERRY
Associated Press

ATLANTA — When Kirby Smart returned to his alma mater, he already had a pretty good template for success.

He might as well have been wearing a wrist band with the letters "WWND."

What Would Nick Do?

In just two short years, Smart has taken Georgia to the cusp of its first national championship since 1980 , largely by following the process laid out by his former boss, Alabama's Nick Saban.

Perhaps it's only fitting that to win the title, Smart will have to beat the man who taught him so well.

Bring it on, says Saban, in the twilight of his career but still on top of his game.

"I have a lot of respect for all the guys that worked for me," the Crimson Tide coach said. "I'm happy to see them doing well wherever they go, and when we have to play against them, I'm sure they're doing everything they can to beat us for their team and their players. We're going to do the same with our players. It's not personal."

While some would have you believe this is one of those potential changing-of-the-guard games, let's not get ahead of ourselves.

Saban hasn't stared down a true coaching peer in the Southeastern Conference since Urban Meyer left Florida, and it would be foolish to anoint Smart to fill that role even if Georgia defeats the Crimson Tide in Monday night's national championship game.

Saban's greatness is in the longevity.

It will take more than one title to take down perhaps the greatest coach in college football history.

Like the man at the helm, Saban's program is a self-perpetuating behemoth that never sits still . His dynasty has endured for a full decade in an era of increased parity because it never takes time to revel in its accomplishments. Any celebrations are fleeting. When there's a rare stumble along the way, he always gets right back up.

Win or lose, Saban will go to work Tuesday with the same mindset, singularly focused on what it will take to build his next championship team. At 66, he shows no signs of slowing down, no signs of being the least bit satisfied with what he's accomplished, no signs of loosening his grip over every little aspect of football program he calls "the organization."

Those are lessons that Smart surely learned well during 11 seasons spent on Saban's staff, first at LSU, then with the Miami Dolphins, but mostly at Alabama, where he earned enough trust to be anointed coordinator of Saban's fearsome defenses.

"It's a demanding approach of never, literally never, taking your foot off the accelerator," said ESPN analyst Kirk Herbstreit, who will be part of the broadcast team for the title game. "They do a good job of loving on the guys when it's the training table or you're in the locker room or whatever. But as far as when it's time to work, man, it's unlike any other place you go as far as how demanding Nick Saban and Kirby Smart are, and how involved they are. I mean, I don't know how many calories they burn during practice, but they're involved."

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, Smart certainly came across as a Saban clone as soon as he was handed the keys to the Bulldogs, a sleeping giant of a program that never quite lived up to its full potential under predecessor Mark Richt.

For as long as anyone could remember, going back to the days of Vince Dooley, Georgia coaches had always held their weekly news conferences on Tuesday. But Saban performs this function on Monday, so that's the way it is now with Smart. Also following the lead of his mentor, Smart banned freshmen and assistant coaches from talking to the media, which meant Jake Fromm — who took over as the starting quarterback in the second game of the season — was off-limits to reporters until after the SEC championship game, when league rules require everyone to be available.

But Smart's battened-down dealings were the media were mere window dressing.

He knew the real key to Saban's success.

"Recruiting really good players that are really big and really fast," Smart said. "Then you have to block them, OK, or you have to be able to run the ball against them or you have to be able to defend the wideouts and the corner. It comes down to a lot more than his tendencies because his tendencies are very similar to a lot of good coaches: smart, good decisions, protect the ball, play great defense, kick your butt on special teams."

When Smart got to Georgia, he saw a roster that was talented at the skill positions but lacking in the trenches. He made it a priority to sign big, strong, quick lineman on both sides of the ball, knowing that's the foundation of any great program and certainly the reason that Saban has stayed No. 1 for so long.

For good measure, Smart's also had stunning success recruiting the most important position on the field. After taking over for Richt, the new coach persuaded top quarterback recruit Jacob Eason to stay in the fold. Even though he started as a true freshman, Smart landed another five-star prospect in Fromm, who wound up claiming the job when Eason was hurt in the season opener. Now, even though Fromm is seemingly set for at least next two years (Eason will almost surely transfer), Georgia picked off the nation's No. 1 dual-threat quarterback prospect, Justin Fields, in an early signing class that was a consensus choice as the best in the country .

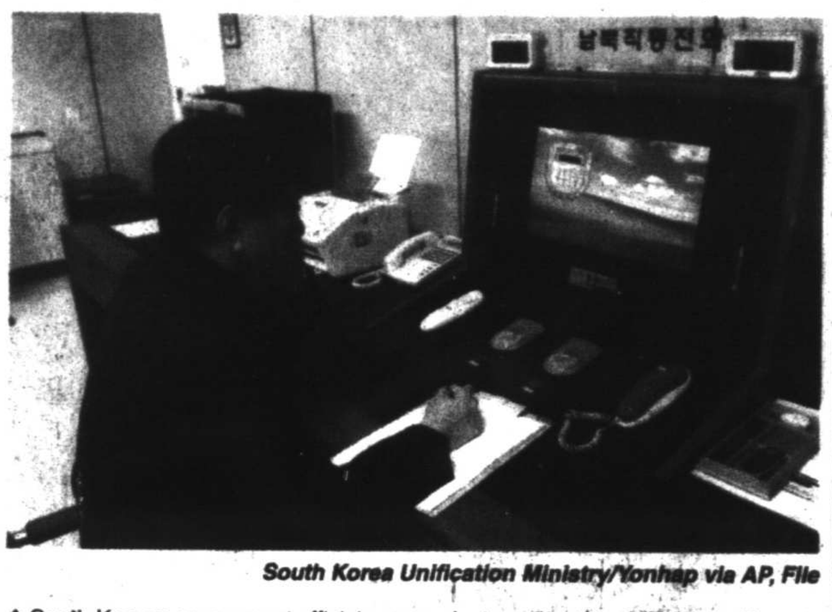
There's no longer any doubt that Georgia made the right call with its much-debated decision to dump Richt, trading in a really good coach for a potentially great one. Smart shows no signs of becoming another Jim McElwain, a former Saban coordinator who got off to a strong start at Florida but flamed out in less than three seasons.

Can Smart become the new king of the SEC?

Get back to us in a few years on that one.

Let the Games begin? Why Kim Jong Un might be interested

By Eric Talmadge
Associated Press



South Korea Unification Ministry/Yonhap via AP, File

A South Korean government official communicates with a North Korean officer during a phone call on the dedicated communications hotline Wednesday at the border village of Panmunjom in Paju, South Korea. With little time to spare, North and South Korea are preparing to discuss Kim Jong Un's offer to send a delegation to next month's Winter Olympics.

TOKYO — With little time to spare, North and South Korea are preparing to hash out Kim Jong Un's offer to send a delegation to next month's Pyeongchang Winter Olympics.

Skeptics are calling the offer, floated by Kim during his annual televised New Year's address, a cynical tactic to drive a wedge between Washington and Seoul, while optimists see it as a sign of hope that Kim has decided to dial back his defiance and come in from the cold.

The answer probably lies somewhere in between.

But why, after a year marked by the test of his country's most powerful nuclear bomb to date and a record number of missile launches, is Kim starting off 2018 by proposing talks across the Demilitarized Zone?

What's on the table

Kim stressed in his speech that 2018 will be an important year for the Korean nation.

The North will be marking the 70th anniversary of its Sept. 9 founding and the South's hosting of the games, Kim said, "will serve as a good occasion for demonstrating our nation's prestige" and "we earnestly wish the Olympic Games a success."

To that end, he suggested Pyongyang send a delegation and "adopt other necessary measures." He presented all of it in a familiar framing — saying the Korean people must work together on their own toward reunification to "frustrate the schemes by anti-reunification forces within and without."

In North Korea-speak, that means anti-Pyongyang hardliners in the South and the United States and its allies.

Kim did not say what kind of a delegation he has in mind. But North Korea quickly restored a hotline with the South that had been cut off for two years to allow communications to resume. South Korean President Moon Jae-in applauded the gesture and the two sides are set to meet on Tuesday at the border village of Panmunjom for the time since December 2015.

Taking seoul's temperature

Just about the time the Olympics will be wrapping up and the Paralympics getting underway, tens of thousands of U.S. and South Korean troops would normally be staging the world's biggest annual war games.

This year, however, Moon convinced President Donald Trump to postpone them until everything is over.

The exercises feature the United States' most advanced weaponry and in recent years have included training for "decapitation" strikes on Kim himself. In his New Year's address, Kim pointedly referred to that, claiming the U.S. can't launch an attack "on me or our country" now that North Korea has a viable nuclear deterrent.

Kim would love to see the war games called off for good. Or at least scaled down.

With their postponement, he might believe Moon may be willing to go further down that path. And if Moon isn't, Kim can say he tried and use that as a justification for launching more missiles or space-bound rockets and maybe even trying another nuclear test later this year.

The bottom line: it never hurts to take Seoul's temperature every now and then.

Engaging directly with Seoul does, in fact, tend to complicate things for Washington. Sanctions, meanwhile, are taking their toll. Easing tensions would give Kim breathing room to boost the domestic economy.

One of his key projects — also mentioned in the New Year's speech — is developing tourism in the Wonsan-Kumgang area on North Korea's east coast. Kim already built a luxury ski resort there and doesn't want to see it go to waste. With Trump's North Korea travel ban now in effect, Pyongyang might be thinking of wooing tourists from the South.

Kim's father, Kim Jong Il, had some success with that idea from the late 1990s until 2008, when a South Korean housewife was shot dead for wandering into a restricted zone.

Unusual, but not unprecedented

For sure, North and South Olympic rivalry runs deep.

The North boycotted the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul and instead hosted the World Festival of Youth and Students, a sort of socialist equivalent, the following year. The Koreas tried marching together under a "unification flag" in three Olympics, but that didn't stick. The blue-and-white flag last flew at the 2006 Winter Games in Turin, Italy.

Jeff Gordon, Howard Hughes join motorsports hall

Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Four-time and retired NASCAR champion Jeff Gordon was an obvious choice for the Motorsports Hall of Fame. One of his fellow inductees seemed like a totally random selection.

Some might even think his name was plucked out of thin air.

Gordon and record-setting pilot and eccentric billionaire Howard Hughes were among seven people selected for the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America.

The 2018 class was announced Friday at Daytona International Speedway.

The other inductees are dragster builder John Buttera, Indianapolis Motor Speedway founder Carl G. Fisher, motorcycle great Fred Merkel, three-time Indianapolis 500 champion owner U.E. Pat Patrick and sports-car team creator Bob Tullius.

They will be inducted March 13 in Daytona Beach.

Hall of Fame President Ron Watson called the joint selection of Hughes and Gordon "probably the best example we've ever had to illustrate the breadth of our inductee roll."

"Some of these aviators were the Babe Ruths of their day," Watson said. "So Hughes, with his colorful life, was a tremendous aviator and set records, and this is totally deserved."

More information on the inductees:

■ Buttera: Known as "Lil John," the late Buttera built championship-winning dragsters, funny cars and pro stocks for the biggest names in the sport in the 1960s and '70s, including Danny Ongais, Don "The Snake" Prudhomme, Tom "Mongoose" McEwen and Don Schumacher. He was inducted into the International Drag Racing Hall of Fame in 2010.

■ Fisher: The late Fisher helped popularize the automobile by competing in a series of exhibitions on Midwest fairground tracks beginning in 1902. After failing repeatedly to persuade automakers to support plans for speedways, he persuaded three business associates to join him in the 1909 construction of Indianapolis Motor Speedway. He served as track president until 1923.

■ Gordon: The retired driver and current Fox Sports ranks third all-time in Cup Series wins (93) behind Richard Petty and David Pearson. Gordon's four championships (1995, '97, '98, 2001) trail Petty, Dale Earnhardt and Jimmie Johnson. Gordon won three Daytona 500s, five Brickyard 400s and six Southern 500s.

■ Hughes: Founded Hughes Aircraft in 1932 and became one of the world's richest men. He set numerous records and built some of the world's most advanced planes. He was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame in 1973.

■ Merkel: "Flying Fred" is an American road-racing legend, winning two FIM Superbike World Championships (1988-89), three AMA Superbike Championships (1984-86) and setting multiple records along the way. He retired at the end of the 1995 season after a crash at Firebird International Raceway. He was inducted into the AMA Hall of Fame in 2001.

■ Patrick: Made his fortune as a wildcat oilman and then became a team partner in 1970. His three Indianapolis 500 victories came with Gordon Johncock (1973, '82) and Emerson Fittipaldi (1989). The same duo brought him two championships, with Johncock in 1976 and Fittipaldi in 1989. Patrick also served as first president of rival Championship Auto Racing Teams (CART) series. He was inducted into the Auto Racing Hall of Fame in 2016.

■ Tullius: Created the model for the modern American amateur sports-car team with Group 44. He was inducted into the SCCA Hall of Fame in 2014.

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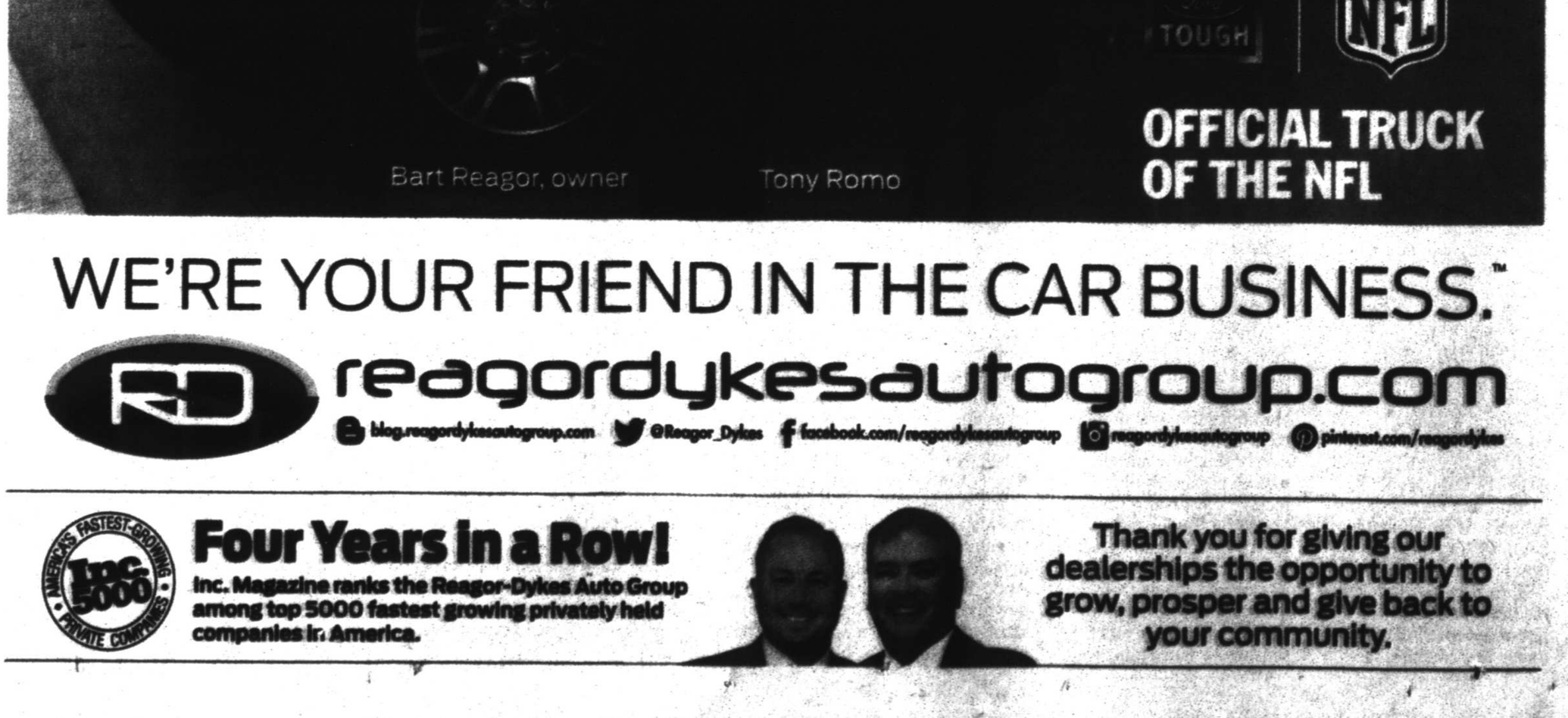

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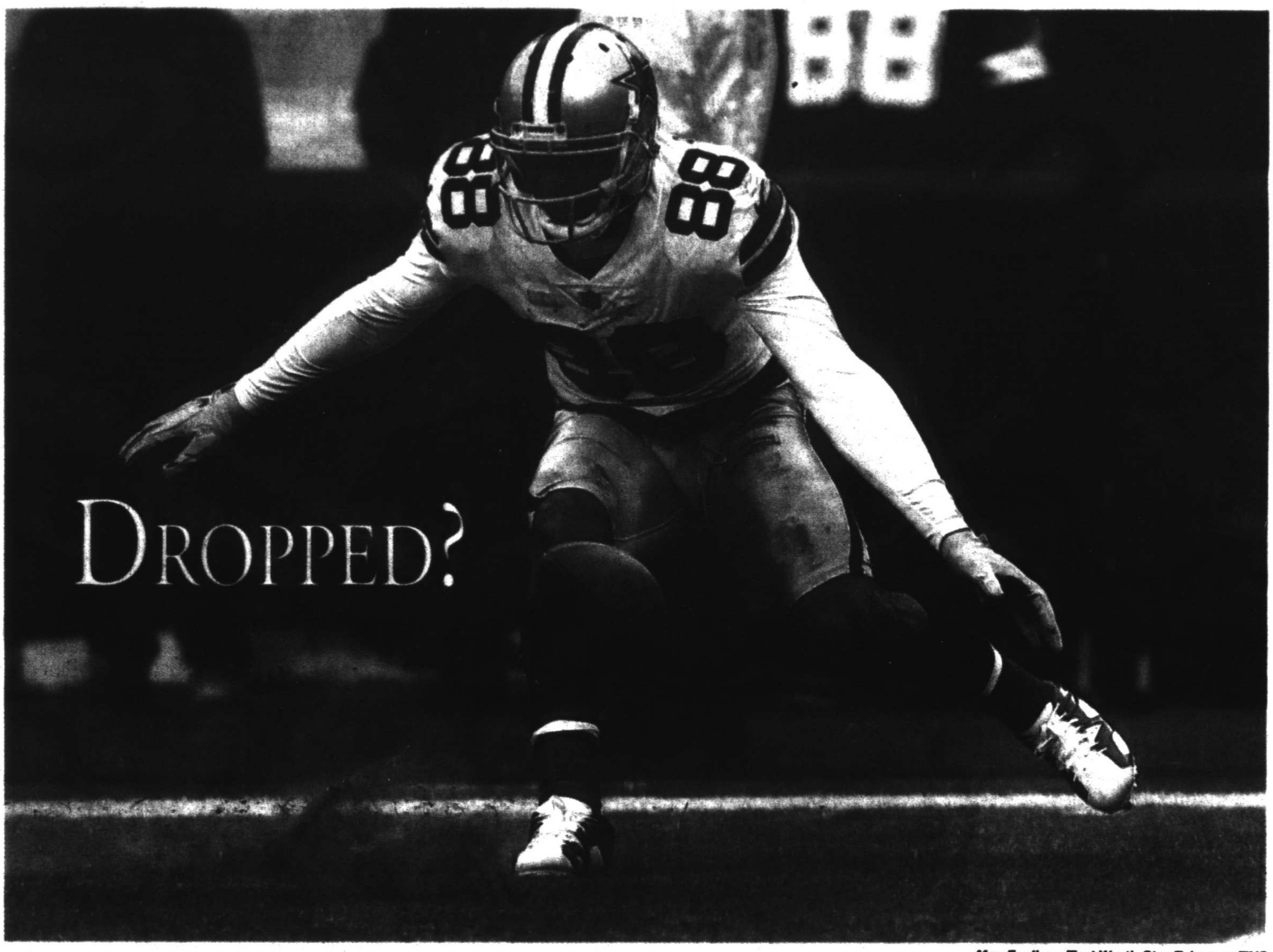

Max Faulkner/Fort Worth Star-Telegram/TNS

Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Dez Bryant (88) can't pull in a pass against the Philadelphia Eagles during the second quarter at Lincoln Financial Field on Dec. 31, 2017 in Philadelphia.

Get real, Jerry! Time for Cowboys to let Dez Bryant go — and that's just the first order of business

By Kevin Sherrington
The Dallas Morning News

■ COMMENTARY

In disappointing times like these, honest answers are required, which means the ideal outcome would be Jerry Jones facing up to his mistakes, holing up in his Preston Road estate and remembering not to talk business at the dinner table.

Of course, as Cowboys history has proved, none of the above looks promising. Hasn't stopped me from barking, either, so here we go.

First order of business: Time to let Dez Bryant go.

Pretty much since the day he arrived, we've known Dez's faults. Though he's still too emotional, and he remains a distraction, we've seen him grow up a lot. What we haven't seen is much improvement in his craft. The Cowboys have always been limited in what they do because of his inability to sell a route. As a former Cowboy great, Drew Pearson, has noted, Dez doesn't so much as pretend on a running play.

The Cowboys let him get away with it all this time because of his toughness and red zone production. But that was 2012-14, when he averaged at least 1,200 yards and 12 touchdowns a season. He'll be a well-worn 30 this fall, and those halcyon days appear long behind him.

For an idea of just how far behind, Dez just finished 24th in receptions, 28th in yards and tied for 139th in yards per catch.

And for that you'd pay him $14 million next season, sixth among receivers? Even if he takes a pay cut, he'll still demand to be the primary target, and he's no longer qualified.

Depending on who falls to them at 19, the Cowboys' first draft consideration should be a No. 1 receiver. Doesn't mean they'll find one, but I'm willing to bet you could come up with someone who'd approach Dez's numbers and save $8 million under the cap, to be used somewhere else.

Like on a backup offensive lineman who could get in front of something other than the buffet line.

Consider it from this angle: The Dak Prescott-to-Dez Bryant connection isn't working. Dak isn't the gambler Tony Romo was, nor is he as accurate. Just the same, the Cowboys have cast their lot with Dak, as they should. If Dak will be their quarterback for at least the next couple of years, they need to find him a guy with a big catch radius or one who gets separation from a defensive back. Preferably both.

Remember when Jerry was intent on making the Cowboys "Romo-friendly"? If the Cowboys really want to give Dak a chance, he deserves no less consideration. Get him a good No. 1.

Next: Determine what happened to the World's Greatest Offensive Line. Was it simply a matter of integrating new parts? Can we really blame it all on the backups? Has Tyron Smith actually been carrying this group?

As always at any position, upgrading talent is a must, if only among the backup linemen.

Or they could blame it all on Frank Pollack, the O-line coach.

Firing coaches works if for no other reason than it buys time with fans and media. Otherwise, it's a crapshoot, unless you can find a coach with a definitive track record.

For instance: Jerry should give Bruce Arians a call to see if he could talk him out of retiring. Maybe he'd like to run an offense featuring a big-time line and running back as well as a promising young quarterback. He's done wonders with less.

Unless you're adding someone of Arians' caliber, better to keep the system "Dak-friendly." That means Scott Linehan returns. And if Wade Wilson, the longtime quarterback coach, decides to retire, Kellen Moore could move over from player to coach.

As for all of you hoping that I buried the lead, no, I don't think firing Garrett is the answer. Not a great in-game coach, which, come to think of it, is one of the job requirements. But I'm not sure he's as bad as you think, either.

For better or worse, Jerry seems to have found his Jeff Fisher. Bud Adams, the Henry VIII of NFL owners, averaged a head coach every 2.5 years his first 35 with the Oilers/Texans. That included six marriages his first seven seasons, when he won two AFL titles.

Then came Fisher, whose first full season was '95. Like Garrett, he even put up three straight 8-8 seasons early on. The difference is he then took the Titans to the Super Bowl, which pleased Bud so much, he kept him around 16 seasons.

Fisher probably remained past his expiration date, but it's also worth noting that, until this year's wild-card berth, the Titans hadn't made the playoffs since 2008. And they've had three coaches since then. Four, if you count Fisher.

Given Jerry's success rate since his first hire, what makes you think he'd be any better finding a replacement?

Bottom line: When the Cowboys' best players are on the field, they've been pretty good. In the interests of continuity, Jerry should try giving Garrett a few more.

As noted previously, that starts at wide receiver and includes the offensive line, linebacker and safety. Also means re-signing DeMarcus Lawrence and Anthony Hitchens and matching any offer for David Irving, which is easier if you're not throwing money at Dez.

The Cowboys' problems are more fixable than what it may seem. But if next year we find ourselves in this same ol' malaise, well, then it's probably time to ask Jason for his keys. And that would be putting it kindly.

Jason Garrett is essentially the Marvin Lewis of the NFC, and that's not a compliment

By Tim Cowlishaw
The Dallas Morning News

■ COMMENTARY

Four of the Cowboys' NFC rivals (New York, Arizona, Chicago and Detroit) are searching for new head coaches. So are Indianapolis and Oakland, although it appears the Raiders had their man before the search began with Jon Gruden returning to his old home.

Everyone else is basically combing through the ranks of hot coordinators, and by hot I mean coordinators who have been on the job a few months and managed to develop some sort of name recognition. That includes Mike Vrabel, the former Patriots linebacker who has one year as Houston's defensive coordinator under his belt. His unit ranked 32nd in scoring defense, but the Texans basically lost anyone you've ever heard of to injury this season.

People named Matt Nagy and Kris Richard and Steve Wilks may get multiple interviews, and unless you follow the assistant coaching ranks much more closely than the average fan, these are just names.

And maybe that's why Jerry Jones decided to stay the course with Jason Garrett after a 9-7 season concluded Sunday in Philadelphia. Another winning season for Garrett, yes. You can fool around with the numbers and arrive at the fact that Garrett has had one losing record in eight full or partial seasons here.

Or you can say that his teams have won one playoff game out of three and lost four elimination games in the next-to-last or final game of seasons.

Jones might be torn between the two halves of good Jason and bad Jason, but maybe he was just unimpressed with the field of available candidates. Only the Raiders are hiring a big name, and Gruden hasn't coached in nearly a decade. His last few seasons in Tampa Bay were something of a mess.

Gruden is a personality and someone who will excite the fan base, but that's not something Jones has to worry about as long as 90,000 fans find their way to AT&T Stadium eight times a year to witness something a notch higher than mediocrity and below real success.

The real surprise was that Jones indicated he plans to keep coordinators Rod Marinelli and Scott Linehan. If you put the anomalous

Please see COWLISHAW/2C

Texans coach Bill O'Brien looks like he's about to get a win off the field

By Brian T. Smith
Houston Chronicle

■ COMMENTARY

Bill O'Brien is winning.

Not on the field, of course.

His Texans were a horrible 4-12 in 2017, finishing off a backward year as the worst team in the AFC South and tying for the third-worst record in the NFL.

It was the 0-16 Browns (who fired their general manager). The 3-13 New York Giants (who fired their coach and GM). And then your four-win Texans, who are on the verge of handing a coach with a 31-33 career record and one playoff victory increased organizational power and a contract extension.

See? I told you O'Brien was winning.

What do Washington D.C. politics, "Game of Thrones" and NFL front-office drama have in common?

Staying on top.

"We're having productive talks right now. We've had productive meetings," O'Brien said Tuesday at NRG Stadium, apparently also on the verge of renewing his season tickets and buying a suite. "If you know anything about the McNairs — Mr. (Bob) McNair, Cal McNair — these are very, very thoughtful people, people that care about this organization, care about this city. They don't rush into anything. They're fantastic bosses, people of high character, high integrity. We're having some very positive, productive talks right now."

Productive. Positive. Fantastic.

If you didn't know any better, you'd think Kirby Drive was preparing to host a playoff game for the third consecutive season.

O'Brien commands podium

You do know better, though, since you spent a cold Tuesday flipping through talk radio to hear that the Texans parted ways with five coaches the day after former general manager Rick Smith received a graceful public exit.

"I really respect his decision to step away from football and spend time with his family and help (his wife) Tiffany with her battle," said O'Brien, using the opening remarks of his season-ending news conference to wish

Please see SMITH/2C

Honeymoon phase ended quickly for Herman

By Nick Moyle
San Antonio Express-News

■ COMMENTARY

AUSTIN — The honeymoon phase ended abruptly — as most do — though its expiration date arrived sooner than all but the most cynical Texas fans anticipated.

About 15 minutes after the Longhorns' 51-41 season-opening loss to Maryland, Tom Herman sauntered to his postgame soapbox in the Moncrief-Neuhaus Athletic Center and tried making sense of it all.

"I told our guys to never get used to this feeling," the $5-million-a-year coach said, "but that if we all thought that we were going to come in here and in nine months, sprinkle some fairy dust on this team and think that we've arrived, then we're wrong."

Four months later, it's still difficult to reconcile the gamut of emotions experienced during Herman's first season in Austin. But it might help to explore some of those feelings in a retrospective context.

Sorrow: The regular season was bookended by losses to Maryland and Texas Tech, the latter of which featured a stunning fourth-quarter meltdown.

In between, UT nearly executed three shocking upsets. It came up short each time, felled once by Baker Mayfield and twice by the turnovers of its true freshman quarterback.

Sam Ehlinger doesn't deserve all the blame for UT's double-overtime loss to Southern Cal and overtime loss to Oklahoma State. Offensive coordinator Tim Beck's crunch-time play calling figured in both, plus Ehlinger might have played with a concussion against the Cowboys.

"Pretty heartbreaking loss," Herman said after UT's 27-24 defeat to USC. "To play with that much passion, energy, commitment and love for the guy next to you. It's amazing how many mistakes you can overcome with attitude and effort, and we made our fair share of them.

"I told them in the locker room, there's no moral victories in college football. They don't put 'loss,' and in parentheses, 'yeah but they played really hard.' That doesn't happen. We lost."

Pride: The Longhorns displayed grit after that heartbreaker in Los Angeles. Next time out they defeated Iowa State 17-7 in a notoriously hostile Thursday night road environment. They followed with a 40-34 double-overtime win over a Kansas State team that went on to beat Oklahoma State and smash UCLA in the Cactus Bowl.

"The one thing that was so very encouraging was, there was never any dejection," Herman said after the team's 1-2 start. "There was never any head hanging. There was never any finger pointing. It was just, let's get this fixed."

UT was never able to parlay its 2-0 start in conference play into a more fruitful season, but aside from a 24-7 road defeat to 10th-ranked TCU, Herman's team was competitive in each of its final dozen contests.

Bitterness: The injuries began before Maryland even left for Austin.

Elijah Rodriguez and Andrew Beck suffered major injuries in August, though Rodriguez returned to start at left tackle for the Texas Bowl. All-America left tackle Connor Williams suffered a knee injury in the first quarter against USC and missed the next seven games before skipping the bowl to prepare for the NFL draft.

"Where would we have been with Andrew Beck, Elijah Rodriguez and Connor Williams all season? I don't know," Herman said.

"Do we need to do better as coaches coaching up those true freshmen that are in there? Certainly we do. But there's not many teams out there lighting the world on fire offensively with true freshman right tackles, tight ends, tailbacks and quarterbacks. You don't see that very often."

Ehlinger and Shane Buechele traded various injury designations throughout the season. Holton Hill, the team's best cover corner, was suspended Nov. 7 for the rest of the season for a rules violation. In 13 games, UT started eight different configurations along the offensive line.

As the season wore on, the swelling numbers of unavailable players weighed on Herman and his staff.

"One of the most devastating things was pregame at TCU," Herman said. "I looked over, and our strength coach had Andrew Beck, Connor Williams, Zack Shackelford, Elijah Rodriguez, Toneil Carter and Sam Ehlinger working out in their shorts. That was the most frustrating thing, to go play that defense with those guys missing."

Hope: Despite the familiar peaks and valleys, Herman's first season ended on a hopeful note.

UT defeated Missouri 33-16 in the Texas Bowl to claim its first bowl title since 2012 and first winning season since 2013. It did so with a roster thinned by injuries and suspensions and players sitting out to preserve their bodies for the NFL.

"Anytime you can get confidence, give confidence to a fragile group of guys, it's big," Herman said. "They should have confidence going into this offseason with another year of development and a year of continuity and consistency. And then add in some of these newcomers that are extremely talented and extremely competitive — I think that it gives us a lot of hope."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency.

Texas A&M football may be spending millions, but becoming elite won't be that easy

By Ben Baby
The Dallas Morning News

■ COMMENTARY

Texas A&M engaged in college football's version of retail therapy on Thursday.

One day after the Aggies lost a high-profile battle with LSU over defensive coordinator Dave Aranda, A&M coach Jimbo Fisher decided to do a little spending to get over what happened.

But this was more than a quick stroll through the expensive part of the mall. Fisher and the Aggies opened up the wallet and actually came up to a solution to their problem.

Thursday, A&M announced the addition of Notre Dame's Mike Elko as the team's new defensive coordinator. The price, according to Yahoo!, is a three-year deal starting with a $1.8 million salary.

One month after A&M Chancellor John Sharp said the Aggies don't settle for secondary options after Fisher's improbable hire in December, they settled on Plan B. But in an A&M offseason that included Fisher's improbable (and expensive) hire, even the back-up plan turns out to be pretty good.

In Elko's only year with the Fighting Irish, he helped engineer Notre Dame's turnaround from a 4-8 campaign in 2016 into 10-3 year this year that ended with a victory over Aranda and LSU in the Citrus Bowl.

That likely made what happened Wednesday with Aranda sting a little more. After multiple reports stated Aranda's deal with the Aggies was all but a done deal, he decided to stay at LSU and became the nation's highest-paid assistant by an even wider margin.

LSU reportedly gave Aranda a significant raise from $1.85 million annually to $2.5 million as part of a four-year guaranteed contract.

That set the table for the negotiations with Elko, a conversation that appeared to stall out back in December.

Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly referenced Elko's situation and hinted at A&M's interest in an interview with IrishIllustrated.com. Kelly told the website the money and deals thrown around were getting "ridiculous" as he hinted that A&M may have made a big run at Elko.

"You look at it that way, you're probably going to catch somebody's eye early on in the process, and I'm not saying that it happened or it didn't happen, you can put two and two together," Kelly said.

Throwing money around isn't a foolproof plan to acquiring results or always getting what you want. A&M invested a lot in its previous coach (Kevin Sumlin) and defensive coordinator (John Chavis) and never saw a full return on investment.

But as it was with Fisher, it never hurts to have millions in spending cash. Those funds helped the Aggies recover from the Aranda loss to the Elko acquisition, a move that give A&M an elite SEC defense.

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SMITH

From 1C

Smith and his family "all the best."

Then the questions about the Texans' still-murky future poured in. And since Bob McNair hasn't spoken to the paying public in a while, the coach left standing after a four-year tug of war became the one to shine a little light on all our lingering questions.

New GM names were floated. The Texans hired a search firm to find the ideal person to work with (and, hopefully, get the best out of) the highly demanding O'Brien. Two valued names on Kirby — defensive coordinator Mike Vrabel and quarterbacks coach Sean Ryan — were attached to potential new jobs with organizations also going through major change.

O'Brien commanded the podium, answered what he could, talked around what he could not — Smith would have been proud — and sounded like a man who was finally on the verge of getting more of what he has wanted since 2014.

It's more than injuries

Increased power. Stronger support. A shared vision. And what already has become the key word on Kirby in 2018: alignment.

"The big thing for me and I think the big thing for the McNairs ... is alignment," said O'Brien, sounding more presidential and GM-like than ever. "Being aligned philosophically on what type of team we want. I am not looking for this, that or the other. I'm just looking for — moving forward with that situation, whatever Mr. McNair decides to do — just alignment is the best way for me to answer that."

Is this the best way for the Texans?

We should have a much better answer for that when the season we're already waiting for unfolds.

The bar isn't a return to 9-7 in 2018 because of a bad-luck '17. And no, overly sympathetic Texans supporters conditioned to mediocrity and annual disappointment, injuries weren't to blame for everything that went wrong last year.

With Smith finally out and a fifth-year coach having direct input in the new GM hire and already calling plays, this is set up as the season of no excuses. "It's on me" and "I have to coach better". were already tired, outdated phrases entering a broken 4-12 season.

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COWLISHAW

From 1C

Gruden hiring aside, most NFL GMs are opting for younger head coaches. The hot candidates this week include New England's Josh McDaniels (41) and Matt Patricia (43), Kansas City's Nagy (39), Carolina's Wilks (48) and Vrabel (42).

Garrett is 51, Linehan 54 and Marinelli 68. This is not to suggest any of the three fall into the "too-old-to-do-his job" category, but there's an emphasis on fresh ideas, especially given the creative ways in which Sean McVay has guided the Los Angeles Rams to a division title.

McVay is six months older than Cowboys linebacker Sean Lee. He wasn't born the last time the LA Rams hosted a playoff game, which Cowboys fans will recall was Tom Landry's last, a 20-0 can't-stop-Eric-Dickerson nightmare at the close of the '85 season.

The whole notion of which coaches deserve to stay or go is a strange one. Something propelled the usually reasonable Cris Collinsworth to tweet a strong defense of Cincinnati's Marvin Lewis on Tuesday. Collinsworth wrote, "Anyone who has a problem with the Bengals extending Marvin Lewis should look at what the Bengals were before he got there."

It's true the club was a mess during the David Shula-Bruce Coslet-Dick LeBeau years for more than a decade. Lewis has guided the team to the playoffs seven times. But he's 0-7, and that's in 15 seasons. At some point do Bengals fans deserve to ask for a postseason win?

Lewis already has held his job the same number of years it took Bill Walsh (a former Bengals assistant) to start coaching the 49ers, win three Super Bowls and reach the Hall of Fame.

Garrett, for better or worse, is the Lewis of the NFC. Yes, he has won a playoff game. But where does the belief that he and his staff will win big games — like Seattle two weeks ago, not his proud triumph of a second-string Eagles team Sunday — come from?

Does Jones honestly believe the odds are in Garrett's favor, that the ball is going to bounce his way in the Cowboys' next playoff game? And that that game is only 12 months away?

If so, he's putting more stock in Garrett's 67-53 record than I ever could. Losing crucial games means something over time. And a repetitive manner of losing games in which simple adjustments fail to get made (helping out Chaz Green at tackle, stopping the blitzing of Philip Rivers when he is carving your secondary apart) leaves Cowboys fans feeling betrayed, accusing Jones of caring more about the millions he rakes in each season than expanding the club's trophy case.

I've never accused Jones of that and wouldn't do it now. I believe he wants to win and badly. But just like we all hide from things we don't want to hear about our kids or loved ones, things we tell ourselves are insufficient to worry about, Jones sees the positives in Garrett and turns away from the rest.

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NFL: FINAL Power Rankings

Last week's rankings in parenthesis

1. Patriots 13-3 (1): Coordinators JoshMcDaniels and Matt Patricia could leave for head coaching jobs after trying for Pats' sixth title.

2. Steelers 13-3 (2): Focus has to be on whether WR Antonio Brown can bounce back from a calf injury in time for divisional round.

3. Saints 11-5 (3): Always one of the league's most accurate passers, Drew Brees set a single-season record with a completion percentage of 72.0.

4. Vikings 13-3 (4): Bye week is critical to heal injuries on the OL as well as TE Kyle Rudolph, who was playing on a sprained right ankle.

5. Rams 11-5 (5): Todd Gurley scored eight touchdowns in the last three games and leads the Rams storming into the postseason.

6. Chiefs 10-6 (8): The playoffs could be the final run for Alex Smith in Kansas City as Patrick Mahomes is waiting in the wings.

7. Panthers 11-5 (6): Cam Newton is 3-3 with a 83.9 passer rating in the playoffs. He'll need to be much better to win Sunday in New Orleans.

8. Eagles 13-3 (7): Coach Doug Pederson reiterated his faith in QB Nick Foles entering the playoffs, but things look shaky.

9. Falcons 10-6 (10): Tied for seventh all-time last season with 540 points. They fell to 353 this season, 15th in the league at 22.1 per game.

10. Jaguars 10-6 (9): Doug Marrone leads the Jags against the Bills, whom he coached before opting out of his contract in a stunning maneuver.

11. 49ers 6-10 (14): Few teams can say they acquired a franchise quarterback during the season, but that's positively what John Lynch did.

12. Chargers 9-7 (13): Coach Anthony Lynn will try to retain defensive coordinator Gus Bradley. The belief is things are pointing up.

13. Titans 9-7 (16): They found their way into the playoffs, but the season still seems a bit disappointing given expectations,Marcus Mariota's play.

14. Bills 9-7 (17): They're delirious in Buffalo after the Bengals' last-minute TD put the Bills in the playoffs for the first time since after the 1999 season.

15. Seahawks 9-7 (11): The defense isn't the intimidating force it once was, but with Russell Wilson a quick rebound is possible.

16. Lions 9-7 (20): Odds are that GM Bob Quinn follows his roots back to New England for the next Lions coach.

17. Ravens 9-7 (12): Brutal home loss to Bengals with playoffs on the line. They'll replace longtime defensive coordinator Dean Pees, who retired.

18. Cowboys 9-7 (15): There will be some staff shake-up but Jason Garrett remains safe. Might see Steelers play-caller Todd Haley surface here.

19. Cardinals 8-8 (19): Would Bruce Arians retire if he had a young QB? After Carson Palmer retired, they have no QBs under contract for 2018.

20. Packers 7-9 (21): They are searching for a new general manager. It's arguably the No. 1 job in the NFL, as there are no meddling owners.

21. Redskins 7-9 (18): The biggest offseason story for the third consecutive year will be what happens with Kirk Cousins.

22. Bengals 7-9 (26): Reports of Marvin Lewis' demise were premature. He's back with a two-year contract.

23. Raiders 6-10 (22): This was Jack Del Rio's dream job and he was pure class to the end, announcing his own firing at a postgame news conference.

24. Dolphins 6-10 (23): TE Anthony Fasano said the team struggled with distractions such as losing QB Ryan Tannehill for the season.

25. Buccaneers 5-11 (28): Dirk Koetter gets a third season, which was not afforded his predecessor, Lovie Smith.

26. Bears 5-11 (25): A coaching change and another offseason of moves await. They're 4-20 vs. the NFC North since 2014.

27. Broncos 5-11 (24): Vance Joseph kept his job as head coach but he's making major staff changes to his staff.

28. Jets 5-11 (27): The Jets handed out extensions after five wins for GM Mike Maccagnan and coach Todd Bowles.

29. Texans 4-12 (29): It looked like Bill O'Brien could be out, but GM Rick Smith took an extended leave of absence and now will be replaced.

30. Colts 4-12 (30): Owner Jim Irsay pledges QB Andrew Luck will return with a "107-degree fever" to succeed.

31. Giants 3-13 (31): There are some pieces for new GM Dave Gettleman, but they need a quarterback and the offensive line must be retooled.

32. Browns 0-16 (32): Hue Jackson will return after one win in two years.

Source: Chicago Tribune
Graphic: Staff, TNS

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SATURDAY MORNING JANUARY 6, 2018

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	G	S	R	C	W	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	WildA.	House	GMA Saturday		Wild C.	Ocean	S.Rescue	Wildlife D	Rock Park	Vacation	Paid	Paid
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS This Morning Saturday (N)				Lucky D.	Dr. Chris	Innovate	Inspect	Lucky D.	OpenRoad	PBR Bull Riding	
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	Hillbillies	Hillbillies	Track	Track	Have Gun	Have Gun	Maverick		Wagon Train		The Big Valley	
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Paid	Paid	Weird	Biz Kid$	Paid	Outdoors	Weekend Marketplace			Tip-Off	NCAA Basketball (L)	
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Light of Southwest		Creation	Consumed	Mani E	Faith	News	On Wings	Camino	Jerusalem	Creation	Zion
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	U.S. Farm Report		Saturday Today (N)				Voyager	WildVet	Journey	Naturally	Give	Champ
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	Bob Build	D.Tiger	D.Tiger	SplashB.	D.Tiger	Cat	Jet Go!	Wild K.	O. Squad	Arthur	Cyberch.	House
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Pagado	Pagado	Niños	Niños	Calimero	Calimero	Mickey	Handy	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		(4:00) Jewelry TV		Dr. Pol	Dr. Pol	Ocean M.	Rescue	Ocean M.	Outback	Into Wild	J. Hanna	RawTrav.	A.Athlete
FLIX	340	575		165		Movie	(:35) ★★★ The Illusionist Edward Norton.				★★ Can't Hardly Wait			(:15) ★★ The Legend of Bagger Vance			
HBO	300	550	14	14		(:20) ★★★★ How to Train Your Dragon				Sesame	Sesame	Classical	Honey, I Shrunk the Kids			(:10) Almost Chr...	
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	Movie	(:25) The Winning Season			1stLook	(:25) Cake Jennifer Aniston.			★★★ Deepwater Horizon			Movie
HBOS	304	552	16	102		(5:30) Robin Hoo...	(:20) ★★ The Sum of All Fears ('02, Act) Ben Affleck.						★★ Trapped Charlize Theron.			(:20) Logan	
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	Movie	(:45) ★★ The Bodyguard ('92, Susp) Whitney Houston.					(:55) ★★★ The Rookie Dennis Quaid.				StrikeBk	StrikeBk
MAX2	382	558	18	122		(5:20) Star Trek: N...	(:20) ★★★ Basic ('03, Act) John Travolta.					Altitude Denise Richards.			Puerto Ricans in Paris		
PLEX			96			(5:25) Beethoven's...	(:35) ★★ Beethoven				(:25) ★★ I Am Sam ('01, Dra) Sean Penn.				(:40) Lars and the Real Girl		
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	(4:45) Last Action ...		Inside the NFL		★★★ Miracle ('04, True) Kurt Russell.					The Light Between Oceans		
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	Movie	★★ Beverly Hills Ninja			★★★ The Prestige Christian Bale.				(:10) ★★ Employee of the Month			
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Flipping Vegas		Flipping Vegas		Zombie House Flip.		Zombie House Flip.		Rental (N)	Rental	Interve. "Chapter 1"	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	Rifleman	Rifleman	Rifleman	Rifleman	Rifleman	Rifleman	★★ Conan the Barbarian ('82, Fant) Arnold Schwarzenegger.					
BET	58	-		40		Showdown of Faith		Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	(:35) Martin	(:05) Martin	(:35) Martin
BRAVO	65	76		41		Million Dollar List		Top Chef		Top Chef		Top Chef		Top Chef		RelationShep	
CNBC	46	52		39	72	(5:30) Paid Program											
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	New Day Saturday		New Day Saturday		Smerconish		Smerconish		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Fishing	Bayou	ChasSun	Silver	To Be Announced				Dirty Jobs		Dirty Jobs	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Puppy	Vampirina	Transyl	Tangled	StuckMid.	StuckMid.	Andi M.	Andi M.	Bizaard.	Bizaard.	Raven's.	Raven's.
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)		NFL Countdown	
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	Basketball Classics		NFL's Greatest Games			MatchUp	NFL Live		NFL Chase (N)		NCAA Football	
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	(5:00) FOX & Friends Saturday						Bull Bear	Cavuto	Forbes	Cash In	America's News HQ	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	The Kitchen		Brunch	Barefoot	Contessa	Pioneer	Pioneer	Southern	The Kitchen (N)		Cooking	Baked (N)
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	★ Yogi Bear ('10, Adv)			(:35) ★★ G-Force ('09, Adv) Bill Nighy.				(:40) ★★★ Hop ('11, Ani) Russell Brand.				Movie
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	NCAA Basketball Oregon at Oregon State				WPT Poker		Paid	Paid	Golf (N)	Big East	NCAA Basketball (L)	
FX	31	56	59	64	69	Mother	Mother	Mother	Mother	The Longest Ride ('15, Rom) Scott Eastwood, Britt Robertson.						★★★ The Vow	
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	F.House	Full House	F.House	F.House	June in January Brooke D'Orsay.				For Better or for Worse Kim Fields.			
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Flip-Flop	Flip-Flop	Flip-Flop	Flip-Flop	Flip-Flop	Flip-Flop	H United	FlipVega	FlipVega	FlipVega	FlipVega	FlipVega
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Curse of Oak Island		Curse of Oak Island		The Curse of Oak Island: Outdoors "Sword Play" (N)						Hunting Hitler	
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Project Runway		The Lost Boys	
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	MSNBC	Business	H.Hewitt	MSNBC	MSNBC Live (N)		AM Joy (N)				News (N)	Velshi (N)
NBCSN	38	43				A.Skiing	American Ninja War.		IBSF Bobsleigh		Rugby	RFU Rugby English Premiership (L)				NCAA Basketball (L)	
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Loud H.	Loud H.	Loud H.	Loud H.	Loud H.	Loud H.	To Be Announced				Sponge	Sponge
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Paid Program		Paid Program		Bar Rescue		★★ The Transporter Refueled ('15, Act) Ed Skrein.					Movie
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:00) Paid Program		TwilightZone "Mute"		Twilight	Animal ('14, Hor) Joey Lauren Adams.				(:35) ★★ The Wolfman		
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	★★ Race to Witch Mountain			(:45) ★★★ Matilda Mara Wilson.				(:45) ★★★ Cinderella		
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:00) The Prisone...		★★★ Kismet ('44, Fant) Marlene Dietrich.				★★ Presenting Lily Mars Judy Garland.				Madame Curie	
TELE	20	-	10	20		Pagado	Pagado	El Viaje	Animales	Aventura	Natural	Una Mano	El Campe	Pagado	Pagado	America's Funniest	
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Say Yes to the Dress		Say Yes to the Dress		Say Yes to the Dress		Say Yes to the Dress	
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order		NCIS: New Orleans		NCIS: New Orleans	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Paid Program				Chicago P.D.		Chicago P.D.		Chicago "Prison Ball"		Chicago P.D.	
WGN	19	85				Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Home Videos		Home Videos		Home Videos		Home Videos	

SATURDAY AFTERNOON JANUARY 6, 2018

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	G	S	R	C	W	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Paid	Paid	NFL Champ. Chase		NFL Football Wild Card (L)							
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	NCAA Basketball Florida at Missouri Site: Mizzou Arena (L)					The NFL Today (L)		NFL Football AFC Wild Card (L)				
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	Gunsmoke		Bonanza		Rawhide		Wanted	Wanted	Rifleman	Rifleman	The Wild Wild West	
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	(11:00) NCAA Basketb.		World's Funniest		Paid	Paid	To Be Announced				2½Men	2½Men
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	News	Essentials	Hebrew	Shabbat	Light of Southwest		Light of Southwest		Faith	Shepherd's Heart		Creation
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	H.S. Football All American Bowl -- San Antonio, Texas (L)						ISU Figure Skating U.S. Championship (L)				Good T.	News (N)
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	Texas	Old House	House	Motor.	Woodwri.	Crossing	Italy	Travel	Museum	Parks	News. (N)	Bolder
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Sin Rollo		Recuerda y gana		Dr. Juan		Guapos	Guapos	Vecinos	Vecinos	María	Noticiero
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Access Weekend		Wondram.	Wondram.	50Plus	Hazelton	Outdoor	Outdoor	Fam.Feud	Fam.Feud	Moms Ev.	Studio 7
FLIX	340	575		165		Movie	(:25) ★★★ Music Within			★★ Slow Burn Ray Liotta.			(:35) ★★★ The Illusionist Edward Norton.				Movie
HBO	300	550	14	14		(11:10) Almost Chr...	(:05) Agnelli					★ I Love You, Beth Cooper			(:40) Fantastic Beasts & Wh...		
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(11:50) In a Valley of Violence			(:35) King Arthur: Legend of the Sword				(:45) Gunpowder		(:45) Gunpowder		(:50) Gun
HBOS	304	552	16	102		(11:20) ★★★★ Logan			(:40) Brillo Box		(:25) ★★ The Informant!			(:15) ★★ Sideways Paul Giamatti.			
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	StrikeB.	(:35) Strike Back		StrikeBk	(:10) Strike Back		StrikeBk	(:50) Strike Back		StrikeBk	(:25) Strike Back	
MAX2	382	558	18	122		(:55) ★★ Shakespeare in Love				★★★ Space Cowboys Clint Eastwood.				(:15) ★★★ Step Up Channing Tatum.			
PLEX			96			Movie	★★★ Connie and Carla			(:10) ★★ Untamed Heart Christian Slater.				(:55) ★★ True Heart			Movie
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	Movie	(:45) ★★ The Mist ('07, Hor) Thomas Jane.					★★ Scream ('96, Hor) Neve Campbell.				Shameless	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	★★ Outlander ('08, Sci-Fi) James Caviezel.				Out of the Furnace Christian Bale.				★ Bad Moms Mila Kunis.			Movie
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Interve. "Chapter 2"		Live PD						Live PD			
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	★★★ Rambo III ('88, Act) Sylvester Stallone.					★★★ 300 ('06, Epic) Lena Headey, Gerard Butler.					BreakBad "No Mas"	
BET	58	-		40		(:05) Martin	(:35) Martin	(:05) To Be Announced						To Be Announced			
BRAVO	65	76		41		RelationShep		Vanderpump Rules		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills		Beverly "Bad Guys"		★★★ Elf	
CNBC	46	52		39	72	(5:30) Paid Program								American Greed		American Greed	
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		Smerconish	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Dirty Jobs		Dirty Jobs		Naked and Afraid		Naked and Afraid		Naked and Afraid		Naked and Afraid	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Underc.	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Jessie	Jessie	StuckMid.	StuckMid.	Andi M.	Andi M.	Bizaard.	Bizaard.
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball North Carolina at Virginia (L)				30 for 30 "What Carter Lost"			ESPN Films "Morningside 5"			ESPN Films	
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	(11:00) NCAA Football Division I Tournament (L)				Score. /(:15) NCAA Basketball N.D./Syr. (L)				(:15) NCAA Basketball Ind./Min. (L)			
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	(11:00) News HQ		America's News HQ		Journal Editorial R.		America's News HQ		America's News HQ			
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Baking "Cookielicious"		Cakes	Cakes	Diners, Drive-Ins		Diners, Drive-Ins		Diners, Drive-Ins		Diners	Diners
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(11:45) Mr. Popper's Penguins			(:50) ★★★★ Lilo & Stitch Daveigh Chase.				(:50) ★★★ A Bug's Life ('98, Ani) Dave Foley.				
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	(11:00) NCAA Basketb.		Spotlight	Pre-game	NHL Hockey Edmonton Oilers at Dallas Stars (L)					Postgame	Champions Tennis	
FX	31	56	59	64	69	(11:00) The Vow		★★★ Under the Tuscan Sun Diane Lane.					★★ The Other Woman ('14, Com) Cameron Diaz.				
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Love's Complicated Holly Marie Combs.				Love in Paradise ('16, Dra) Luke Perry.				Moonlight in Vermont Lacey Chabert.			
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper	
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Pawn S.	Pawn Star	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	(11:00) The Lost ...		The Wrong Neighbor Michael Madsen.				Kept Woman ('15, Dra) Courtney Ford.				A Mother Betr...	
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	MSNBC Live (N)		MSNBC Live (N)		MSNBC Live (N)		MSNBC Live (N)		MSNBC Live (N)		AM Joy	
NBCSN	38	43				(11:00) NCAA Basketb.		NCAA Basketball VCU vs La Salle (L)				American Ninja War.		American Ninja War.		Speed Skating	
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Sponge	Sponge	SpongeBob SquarePants			Sponge	SpongeBob		Sponge	Sponge	To Be Announced	
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	(11:30) ★★★ Fast Five ('11, Act) Vin Diesel.					★★ xXx ('02, Action) Samuel L. Jackson, Marton Csokas, Vin Diesel.						Movie
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	Movie	★★ Gulliver's Travels Jack Black.				(:25) ★★★★ Faster Dwayne Johnson.				(:25) ★★ Spider-Man 3		
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	(10:45) Cinderella		Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Brooklyn	Brooklyn
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(11:00) Madame C...		(:15) ★★★ Payment on Demand				★★★ I'll Take Sweden Bob Hope.				The Thrill of It All	
TELE	20	-	10	20		Videos	Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2				The Condemned ('07, Act) Vinnie Jones, Steve Austin.					Decision	Noticias
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Say Yes to the Dress		Say Yes to the Dress		Say Yes to the Dress		Say Yes to the Dress		Say Yes to the Dress		Say Yes to the Dress	
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	★★ Run All Night ('15, Act) Ed Harris, Liam Neeson.					A Walk Among the Tombstones Liam Neeson.					Wrath of the Ti...	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Chicago P.D.		★★ Ocean's Thirteen ('07, Com) George Clooney.					(:35) ★★ Ocean's Twelve ('04, Act) George Clooney.				
WGN	19	85				MASH	M*A*S*H	MASH	MASH	MASH	MASH	MASH	MASH	MASH	MASH	Blue Bloods	

SATURDAY PRIME TIME JANUARY 6, 2018

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	(2:00) NFL Football	Wheel of Fortune	The Good Doctor "Mount Rushmore"		Ten Days-Valley "Day 9: Re-Cast" (N)		Ten Days "Day 10: Fade Out" (SF) (N)		News (N)	(:35) Blue Bloods		(:35) Am.Ninja
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	(3:30) NFL Football AFC Wild Card (L)		48 Hours (N)		48 Hours (N)		48 Hours		CBS 7 News (N)	(:35) Outdoors	(:05) Castle "Tick, Tick, Tick"	
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	Wonder Woman "Skateboard Wiz"		★★ Godzilla, King of the Monsters ('56, Sci-Fi) Takashi Shimura, Raymond Burr.				Batman	Batman	Star Trek "Friday's Child"		Galactica "The Night the Cylons Landed"	
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	The Four: Battle for Stardom "Week One" Four competitive singers battle it out.				Modern Family	Modern Family	Hell's Kitchen "Just Letter Cook"		Jerry Jones	FunnyAsk
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Wings of Truth	Mission: M25	Update News	Our Messiah	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Fruits of Zion	Faith for Families	Walls of Jerusalem	Creation Magazine
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsWest 9 (N)	County Reporter	ISU Figure Skating U.S. Championship Free Program -- San Jose, Calif. (L)						NewsWest 9 (N)	Saturday Night Live		
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	History Detectives		Backstage Pass "Joshua Davis"		Lost River Sessions	Songwriters	Ray Stevens	Songs Center	Austin City Limits (N)		Bluegrass Under	TBA
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Crónicas de Sabado		MFL Fútbol (L)				MFL Fútbol (L)				María de Todos	Noticiero Univision
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	Rizzoli & Isles		CSI "Bolt Action"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Major Crimes	
FLIX	340	575		165		(5:30) Open Water		★★★ The Boondock Saints				★★ Bangkok Dangerous			(:45) Punisher: War Zone		
HBO	300	550	14	14		(4:00) Fantastic B...		Everything, Everything			(:40) Hidden Figures Taraji P. Henson.				(:50) Kong: Skull Island		
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(5:50) Gunpowder		★★★ Back to the Future Michael J. Fox.				★★★ Back to the Future II			(:45) Back to the Future III		
HBOS	304	552	16	102		Movie	(:25) ★★ Zoolander Ben Stiller.			★★★★ Logan ('17, Act) Hugh Jackman.				(:20) ★★ The Informant! Matt Damon.			
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(:10) Strike Back		★★★ The Dark Knight ('08, Act) Christian Bale.					(:35) ★★★ Watchmen ('09, Act) Malin Akerman.				
MAX2	382	558	18	122		★★ Be Cool ('05, Com) John Travolta.				★★ Duplicity ('09, Rom) Clive Owen.				(:05) Within Michael Vartan.			Movie
PLEX			96			(5:30) Beethoven		★★ Groundhog Day			(:45) ★★ The Out of Towners			(:15) ★★★ Lars and the Real Girl			
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	★★★ Rocky ('76, Dra) Sylvester Stallone.				Chuck ('16, Dra) Liev Schreiber.			(:40) SMILF	(:10) The Light Between Oceans			
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:30) ★★ Inside Man Denzel Washington.				★ Cell ('16, Hor) John Cusack.			(:40) ★★★ Shaun of the Dead				★ Cell
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	(4:00) Live PD		Live PD /(:05) Live PD		Live PD Live access inside the country's busiest police forces. (L)						Live PD	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(:10) Breaking Bad		(:15) BreakBad "I.F.T."		(:25) Breaking Bad "Green Light"		Breaking Bad "Mas"		(:40) Breaking Bad			Movie
BET	58	-		40		Movie	To Be Announced					To Be Announced					
BRAVO	65	76		41		(5:00) ★★★ Elf		★★★ Elf ('03, Com) Will Ferrell.				★★★ Elf ('03, Com) Will Ferrell.				★★★ Elf	
CNBC	46	52		39	72	American Greed		American Greed		American Greed		The Profit-Marijuana		The Profit		American Vice	
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		United Shades		United Shades		United Shades		United Shades	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Naked and Afraid		Naked and Afraid		MythBusters		MythBusters		Tesla's Death Ray		MythBusters	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Alexander & the Terrible, H...			Alexander & the Terrible, H...			Andi M.	Underc.	Walk (N)	MECH-X4	Call Style	Call Style
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	(5:00) ESPN	SportC (N)	NCAA Basketball (L)				SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)		NFL PrimeTime (L)	
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	(:15) NCAA Basketball Okl./W.Va. (L)				(:15) NCAA Basketball Kansas at TCU (L)				(:15) Basketball (L)		SportsCenter (N)	
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	FOX Report Saturday		Watters World		Justice JudgeJeanine		Greg Gutfeld Show		Watters World		Justice JudgeJeanine	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Diners	Diners	Diners, Drive-Ins		BBQ (N)	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	BBQ	Diners
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(:35) ★★★ Tarzan ('99, Ani) Tony Goldwyn.				★★★★ The Lion King				(:05) The Lion King II: Simba's Pride			
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	(5:00) Tennis Classics		Mavricks	NBAGL Basketball Iowa Wolves vs. Texas Legends (L)					Football UIL State Championship			
FX	31	56	59	64	69	★★ Grown Ups ('10, Com) Adam Sandler.				Grown Ups 2 ('13, Com) Adam Sandler.				9-1-1		Baskets	Baskets
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	A Royal Winter ('17, Rom) Merritt Patterson.				Love on the Slopes Katrina Bowden.				G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Property Brothers		Property Brothers		Renovation (N)		LogCabin	LogCabin	Property Brothers	
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Pawn S.	Pawn Star	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	(5:00) A Mother ...		A Tale of Two Coreys Elijah Marcano.				Corey Feldman (N)		A Tale of Two Coreys Elijah Marcano.			
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		The 11th Hour		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary	
NBCSN	38	43				(5:00) Speed Skating		TBD See home team practices for upcoming games.						Dew Tour			Dew Tour
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	(5:00) To Be Ann...		To Be Announced				F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	(5:30) ★★★★ John Wick Keanu Reeves.			★★★ Fast Five ('11, Act) Paul Walker, Vin Diesel.							★★ xXx	
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(4:25) ★★ Spider-Man 3			★★ Twister ('96, Act) Bill Paxton, Helen Hunt.					Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	Frontal	2 Broke	2 Broke	Movie
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:00) The Thrill o...		★★★★ 2001: A Space Odyssey Keir Dullea.					(:45) ★★★ David and Lisa Keir Dullea.				Movie
TELE	20	-	10	20		The Last Airbender ('10, Act) Noah Ringer.				Journey 2: The Mysterious Island				Titulares	Decision	Videos asombrosos	
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Say Yes to the Dress		Yes Dress (SP) (N)		(:05) Four Weddings (SP) (N)				(:05) Say Yes-Dress		(:05) Four Weddings	
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	(5:00) Wrath of th...		★★ The A-Team ('10, Act) Liam Neeson.					★★ Need for Speed ('14, Act) Aaron Paul.				
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	G. Girls	G. Girls	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Mom	Mom	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Movie	★★★ Ocean's Eleven ('01, Cri) George Clooney.					Falling Water (N)		Damnation		SVU "Monogamy"	
WGN	19	85				Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods		★★★ The Departed Leonardo DiCaprio.			

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

6	5		1	8				7
2				9				1
	4				6			
		4				2	9	
3								8
	7	6				5		
			7				1	
7				5				9
5				4	9			2

SOLUTION TO FRIDAY'S PUZZLE

2	1	9	6	7	3	5	8	4
5	8	7	4	1	9	2	6	3
6	3	4	2	8	5	7	9	1
9	2	5	3	6	4	1	7	8
3	7	6	1	9	8	4	5	2
8	4	1	7	5	2	6	3	9
7	5	3	8	2	1	9	4	6
1	6	8	9	4	7	3	2	5
4	9	2	5	3	6	8	1	7

1/6/18

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VALCO

LAURR

DOLYNF

GALEGH

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print your answer here:

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: OUNCE KNIFE DECODE GLITZY
Answer: He couldn't believe the young goat could talk. Then the young goat said — I KID YOU NOT

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Vaudeville show, e.g.
11 Cuban pronoun
15 Group formed in Cairo in 1945
16 Make muddy
17 Reactionary '60s genre
18 Unfeeling
19 Identifies
20 Just
21 Great canines?
22 Tart fruits
24 Is bothered
25 More or less, informally
29 Brightly plumed songbird
31 Banned chem. contaminant
34 Most lascivious
36 Mess with
37 Super Bowl MVP after Peyton
38 Final hour?
39 Galoot
40 Big automotive initials
41 Like some observant Jews
42 Designing initials
43 Place for porcelain, possibly
45 Stuffed fare
47 Zero, to Nero
48 Opposite
52 Come to pass
53 Cryotherapy offerers
57 Give significance to, in a way
58 Travel in no particular direction
59 Trial records
61 Niggle
62 Collectible, maybe
63 Charity
64 Double helix pair

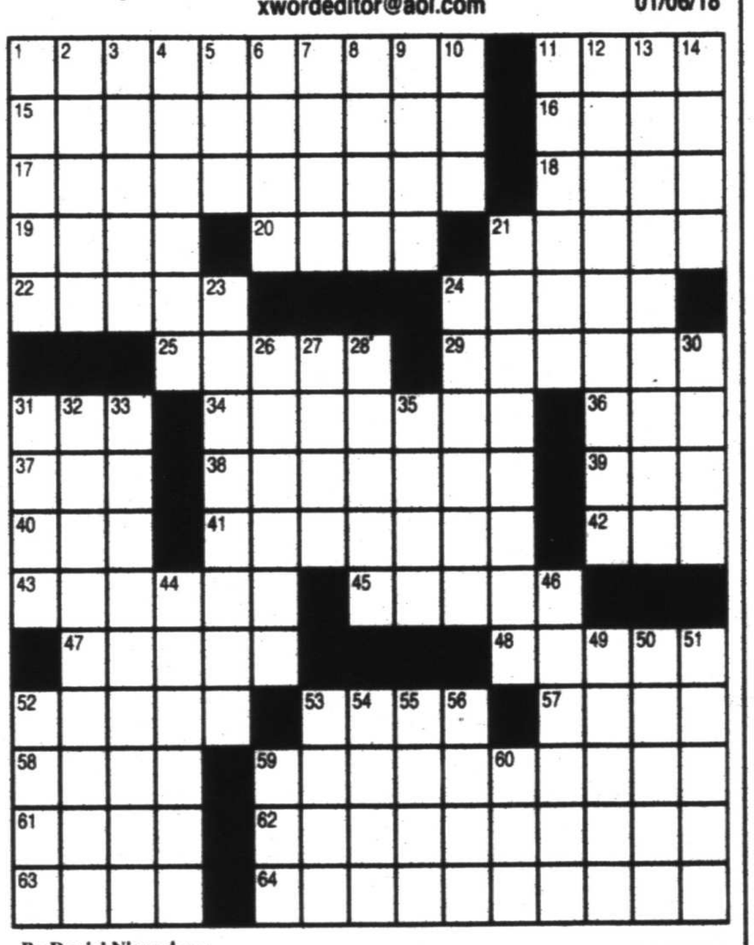
DOWN

1 Improvises
2 King Triton's daughter
3 2011 title cowboy chameleon
4 Sacred birds
5 Stately street adornment
6 __ spirit
7 School named for a Welsh merchant
8 Ingredient in the Japanese jellied dessert yokan
9 Means of correction
10 Some action in "Full Metal Jacket" took place on it
11 1844 Verdi opera
12 Seem reasonable
13 Plot devices for sci-fi travelers
14 Liturgical dress
21 Surprise bad guy
23 One who gets it all
24 Assembled artwork
26 Longtime pharmacy chain
27 Christmas poem opener
28 Let in
30 Pulitzer-winning biographer Leon
31 Wave generator?
32 Controversial technology involving carbon capture and storage
33 Part of a fictional six-million-dollar repair
35 Ancient Icelandic text
44 Hits hard
46 Chihuahua neighbor
49 Ipso facto, e.g.
50 Fix
51 Breaks in scores
52 Killer whale
53 Surprise big-time
54 Org. promoting veganism
55 Years in Granada
56 __ light
59 Land development aid
60 "On Point" syndicating org.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/06/18



By Daniel Nierenberg
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1. LEM ADE

2. SPIRITUALLY

Print Your Answers Here:

1.

2.

Today's Answers:

1. Lemonade
2. Spiritually inclined

1-6

Created by Tom Underwood
www.wuzzleking.com

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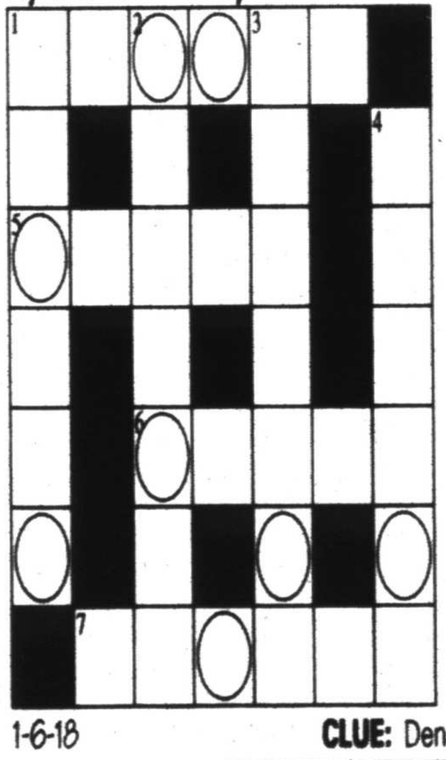
WUZZLES® Answers

1. Lemonade
2. Spiritually inclined

1-6

JUMBLE® CROSSWORDS™

by David L. Hoyt



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Boat ___	CROAHN
5. Putty ___	FENKI
6. ___ Banks	NREEI
7. Save	EEUSRC

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Piece of jewelry	KTEANL
2. ___ food	HEICESN
3. Marine	CAICNOE
4. ___ key	ELEEDT

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

1-6-18

CLUE: Dense growths

CLUE: Chunkiest

CLUE: Stocky

TRIPLE BONUS

The circled letters can be unscrambled to form three different BONUS answers.

I would love to hear from you... You can e-mail me at: DLHoyt@aol.com

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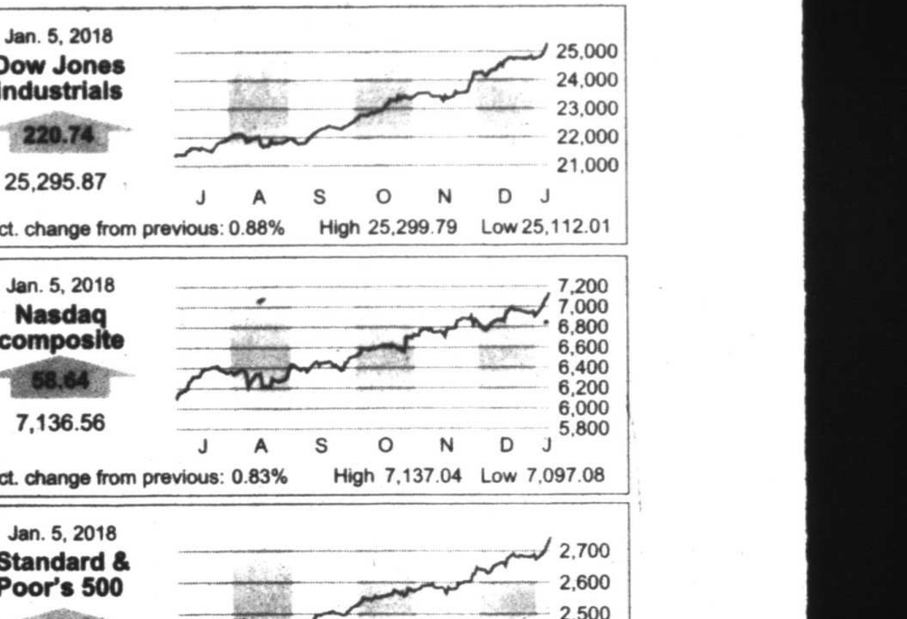
ANSWERS: 1A-Motor 5A-Knife 6A-Emus 7A-Plague 1D-Aides 2D-Chinese 3D-Cleanse 4D-Debate 5-Tricycle 6-Tricycle 7-Tricycle

Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE MARKET IN REVIEW

A DAY ON WALL STREET



NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Name	Div	Last	Chg
A-B-C			
ABB Ltd		76nd27.63	+.16
AES Corp		52f10.86	+.03
Aflac		80.10	-.02
AMC Ent		80.14	10
AT&T Inc		2.0068	13
AbbottLab		1.12858	99
Abbvie		2.94fv101.09	
+1.70			
AbbVie		80.18.26	+.08
AdvDvrsEq		1.39s16.39s	.03
AdvAuto		24112.18	+.18
Aegon		25wd4.42	+.01
Aetna		2.00185.80	+2.43
Alcoa Cp		54.09	-.61
Alibaba		180.70	+4.99
AllstnPrn		2.13e26.20	+.35
Ameriprise		1.33f170.20	+.51
Amerisbrg		30.73.79	-.19
Amerisbrg		30.86.83	
Amgen		056 8.67	+.03
Anheuscr		1.80f17.39	-.05
AnnovRL		17e17.43	+.17
Antaria		18.97	-.13
Aptiv		1.16u91.57	+2.65
Arconic		40 18.44	+2.43
Arcelorlt rs		34.53	-.03
Arlnata		1.28b50.64	+.24
Archrock		48 9.65	+.10
Ascena		24 2.62	+.08
AstraZen s		1.37e35.87	+.37
AT&NOS		1.88d31.02	
Avon		2.21	+.03
BHAT Cp		1.32f21.92	+.15
BP PLC		2.38f43.19	+.09
BNF SA		12.10	+.55
BaidAdrGE		n.68 34.47	-.16
BallCorp s		40 38.14	+.24
BcBilVArq		27e 6.77	+.09
BcBilVArq		27e 6.77	+.09
BcSanSA		14e 6.79	-.04
BkNYMel		48 30.84	+.15
BkNYMel		96 54.84	+.15
Barclays		15e10.77	-.26
B IPVSt rt		26.26	-.04
BarrickNok		80 12.00	+.04
Barracuda		27.46	-.01
Baxter s		84s59.19	+.77
Baytex g		3.11	-.17
BeiGene		29	
+1008.19			
BestBuy		201.44	+.75
BestBuy		1.99f111.60	-.61
BhtiaGpLt		2.04b5.72	+.66
BhtiaWtrCp		1.79f37.41	-.66
BioMedRlty		1.08f21.43	+.04
Bioverativ		2.52f33.01	-.25
Blackstone		1.60f32.06	+.25
BlkRkTCpn		1.12f14.57	+.09
BlkstnGrR		1.02e22.39	+.32
BlkstnMulC		1.08e15.79	+.09
BlkstnMuOp		1.08e15.79	+.09
BlkstnNYQ		1.08e15.79	+.09
BlkstnNYQ		1.08e15.79	+.09
BlkstnPA		1.08e15.79	+.09
BlkstnPA		1.08e15.79	+.09
BlkstnPA

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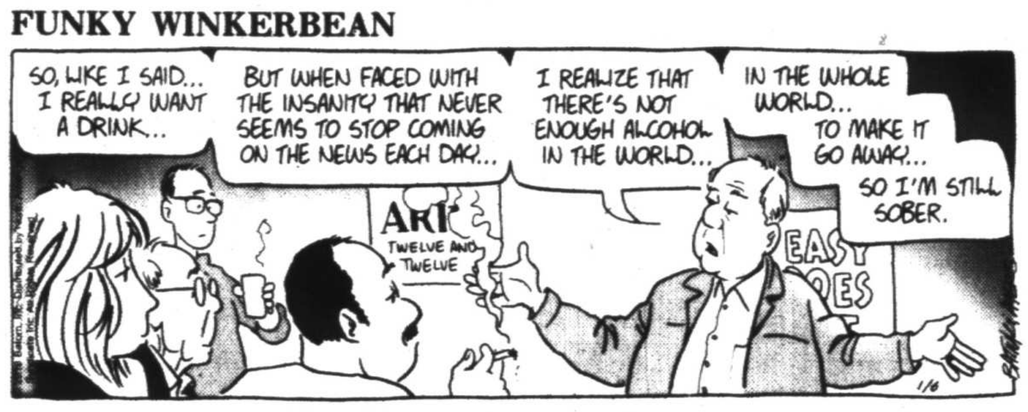


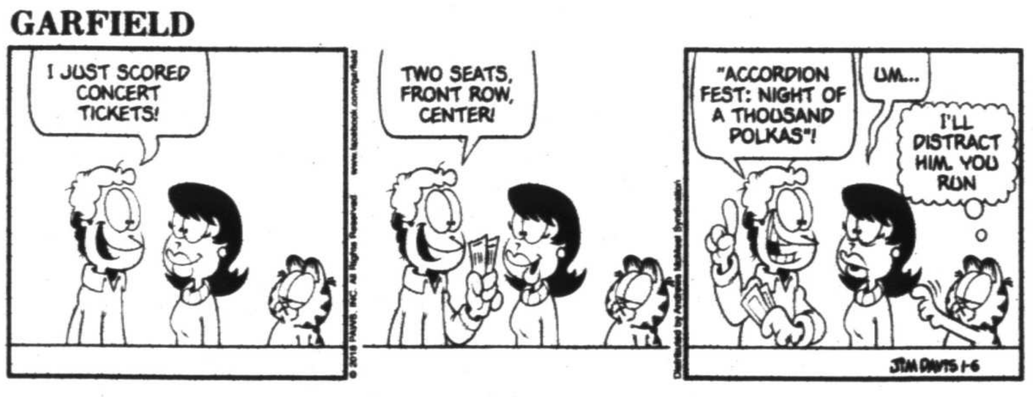
BLONDIE

BEETLE BAILEY

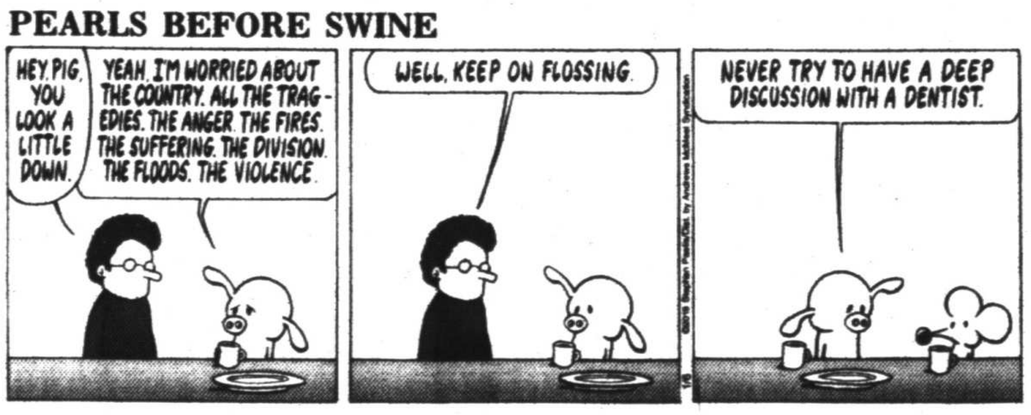
CLASSIC PEANUTS

SHOE

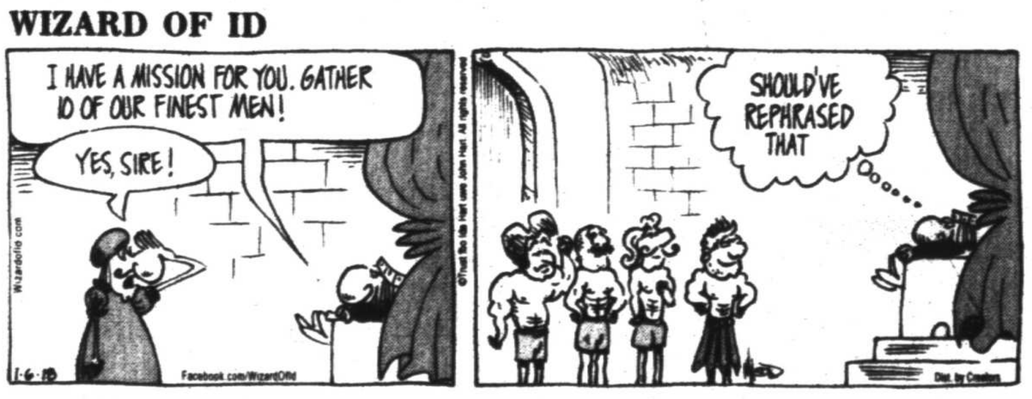
GARFIELD



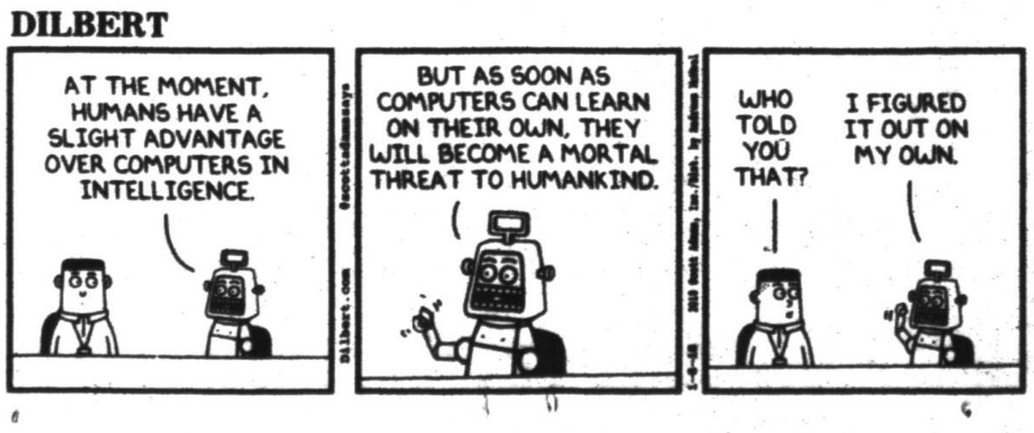
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

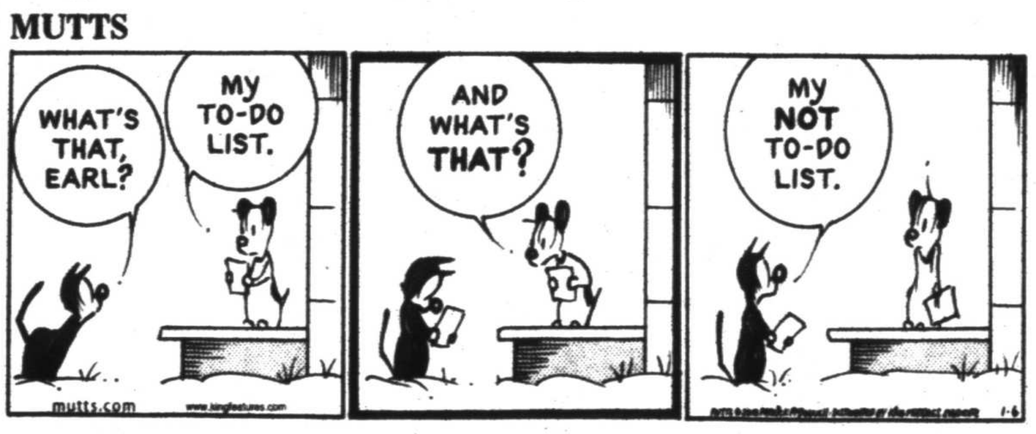
LUANN

MARY WORTH

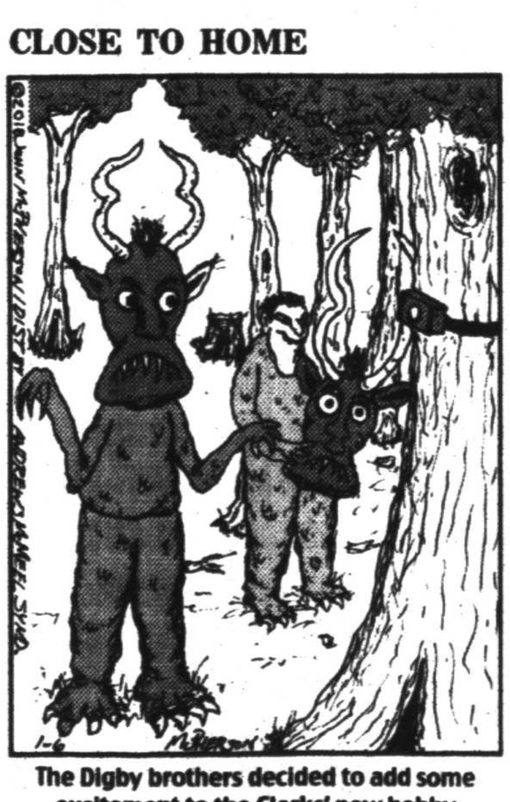
ZITS

BABY BLUES

MUTTS



CLOSE TO HOME



The Digby brothers decided to add some excitement to the Clarks' new hobby of taking candid wildlife photos.

DENNIS THE MENACE

LOCKHORNS

"LEROY PLANS SUPER BOWL SUNDAYS TWO TO THREE YEARS AHEAD."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"Hey, look! There's our Easter baskets! Shouldn't we just get them out now?"

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National Oilwell Varco now hiring Downhole Tool Service Technicians. Competitive pay and benefits. Apply in person or submit resume online at nov.com/careers or 8301 Groening Road, Odessa, TX. (Near the H & P yard). 432-563-1173

Plant Operator

PLANT OPERATOR NEEDED IMMEDIATELY: Experience preferred but not required. Gas Plant knowledge is a plus. Location near Rankin Tx. Fax resume to (432)693-2132 or mail to Benedum Gas Plant, HC 34, Box 63, Midkiff, Tx 79755

HEALTHCARE

Male Specimen Collector

Now hiring Male Specimen Collector. Please come by to apply at 711 W. Indiana Ave, Midland.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SECURITY

Drug Court Magistrate

Midland County is currently seeking a Drug Court Magistrate. Requirements include being a Midland County resident, current license to practice law, and being certified and in good standing with the State Bar of Texas. Benefits will begin after the 91st day of employment and include health, paid time off, and retirement. Please see our website: www.co.miland.tx.us/departments/hr/pages/employment.aspx for more details, pay, and applications. To be consider you must send a completed application with job reference numbers to the address indicated on the application.

OTHER JOBS

BOP TESTERS

Iron Horse Tools LLC HIRING EXPERIENCED BOP TESTERS IN PERMIAN BASIN Top Pay and Benefits Call Mark @ 814-482-8899.

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone?? Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram in the in the Midland, Odessa, Andrews, Stanton, and Big Spring areas.

Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Oscar Ronquillo 432-687-9001

Service Technician

Service Technician wanted. Servicing Safety Related equipment. Mechanical aptitude required with attention to detail. Requires licensing through TX State Fire Marshall for Portable Fire Extinguisher within 60 days of hire date. Paid Holidays, Accrued Paid Time Off, Medical Insurance, and 401K. Resume may be submitted by email serviceadmin@blazisafety.com. Apply at 1000 S Goode St Midland.

Classified CAN 682-6222

OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occassionally. We will train the right person. $11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

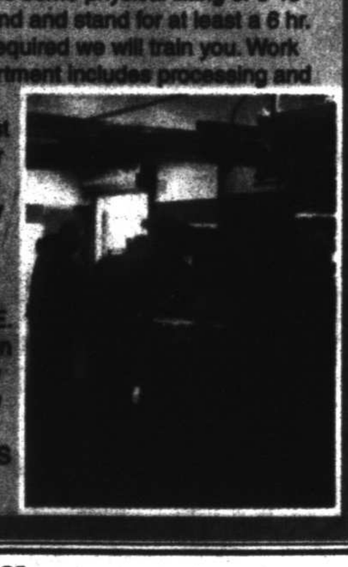
Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk > Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstmp.com NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person. $11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.



Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk > Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstmp.com NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Gymnastics Instructor

Coaches needed for class, team and cheerleading. Evening hours. Pay will depend on experience. Call 432-682-4113 for more information.

RETAIL JOBS

Bookkeeper / Part Time

Midland Habitat for Humanity is currently hiring a part time Bookkeeper. Must have experience in QuickBooks, accounts payables, payments posting and attention to detail. Please send resume' to P.O. Box 2555, Midland, Texas 79702, or come by the office at 305 E. Texas Avenue, 9am - 5pm.

Delivery Pickup Driver

Midland Habitat for Humanity is currently hiring full or part time delivery pickup driver. Must be 18 years old, pass a drug test, have a valid drivers license, able to lift 100 pounds, and have truck & trailer driving experience. Full time receives a vacation, sick leave and fully paid health insurance after 90 days probation. Send inquiry to P.O. Box 2555, Midland, TX 79702 or come by the office at 305 E. Texas Avenue, 9:00-5:00 p.m.

ReStore Supervisor

Midland Habitat for Humanity
We are looking for a ReStore Supervisor at our Habitat ReStore. Must have a valid drivers license, pass a drug test, dependable, honest, able to lift 75 pounds, and have retail experience. We offer vacation, sick leave, and fully paid health insurance after 90 days probation. Send inquiry to P.O. Box 2555, Midland, TX 79702 or come by the office at 305 E. Texas Avenue, 9:00-5:00p.m.

SALES JOBS

Energetic Sales Person needed for team

Local floor covering company is seeking energetic, detail oriented sales person to join our team. Must have ability to; Build and maintain strong relationships with current and new customers. Understand customer's flooring requirements, review job site conditions and provide estimates to customers.
Floor covering industry experience preferred. Salary, commission plus benefits. Please send resumes to gatbeshy@cableone.net

SALES JOBS

EMPLOYMENT SALES REPRESENTATIVE

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Employment customers.

Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop employment campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to: Cranderson@hearstmp.com

Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

OUTSIDE SALES REPRESENTATIVE

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers.

Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to: Cranderson@hearstmp.com

Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

SKILLED LABOR

Exp. Plumber & a Drain Cleaner

Roto Rooter is now hiring for an Experienced Plumber & a Drain Cleaner. Good driving record, benefits available. Apply in person at 1410 W. Carter between 8am-5pm Monday - Friday.

Heavy Equipment Mechanic

Need heavy equipment mechanic, part time. Please call 432-631-8079

Shop Welder/ Fabricator

Immediate opening for shop welder/ fabricator must have a minimum 3 years experience. Apply in person at 2710 SCR 1206, Midland, Texas 79706 between the hours of 8am- 2pm Mon.-Fri.

Painters/Coaters & Sandblasters

Industrial Painters/Coaters & Sandblasters Wanted
Local company is currently hiring for full-time Industrial Painters& Sandblasters. $18.00-25.00 an hr, depending on experience. Insurance and Vacations Benefits. Schedule appt. with Micheal McAfee 281-858-3680 or apply online mmcafee@universalcorrosion.com

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

DRIVER NEEDED

Truck Treaters
Hazmat, Tankers & Class A CDL
Call Fernando Uribe 432-556-0986

18 Wheel Drivers, need CDL
Call Roman Hernandez 432-894-1416

Send Resume to: Lydia.Garcia@CatalystOilfield.com

TEJAS TRUCKING INC.

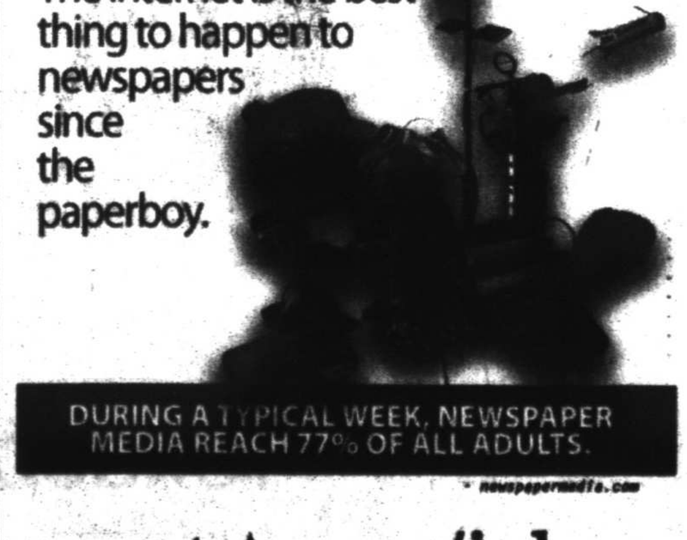
Experienced Class A CDL Truck Drivers Needed!
Pump Truck Drivers
Vacuum Truck Drivers
DAY & NIGHT SHIFTS AVAILABLE

We Offer:

$20.00 Hr.
30 Hours Guarantee
Health & Dental Insurance
Paid Vacations
401K Plan
Uniforms
Direct Deposit
Paid Weekly

This job is currently in Andrews TX and is oilfield related.

(All equipment stays in Andrews Yard)
Apply in person at 2185 East State Hwy 176
Andrews Tx or Call 432-523-5786
Must pass drug test



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432.682.3311

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Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS AND PROVIDERS

Aetna Life Insurance Company, Texas Health + Aetna Health Insurance Company, Aetna Health Inc., Texas Health + Aetna Health Plan Inc., and Aetna Dental Inc. and their affiliates will accept written applications for participation in their PPO, POS, HMO and DMO networks during the period of December 1, 2018 through December 21, 2018. 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, 2018. 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.

Send Dental network inquiries to: Aetna Dental West, 21215 Burbank Blvd., Suite 620, Woodland Hills, CA 91367 or via Fax to 1-866-445-4367. Attention: 2018 Provider Enrollment. Please direct dental network related questions/inquiries to 1-800-451-7715.

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, 2018 through February 20, 2018.** 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) STAR Kids 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

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 North Loraine, on a request by Jose Mateus for a Zone Change from PD, Planned District for an Office Center to PD, Planned District for a Shopping Center on the following described property: A 1.96-Acre Tract of Land out of Section 29, Block 39, T-1-S, T&P, RR Co. Survey, City and County of Midland, Texas.

Generally located on the south side of West Golf Course Road, approximately 270-feet west of North Midkiff Road. (Council District 3)

The meeting facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair entry ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled persons is available near the southeast entrance doors. Any disabled person needing special accommodations or hearing impaired persons wishing to have an interpreter should request services through the Administrative Services Department at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting Compliance Coordinator for the City of Midland, at (432) 685-7251. If communication via TDD is required, please call 1-800-735-2989.

CITY OF MIDLAND
Amy M. Turner, MMC
City Secretary

Legal and Public Notices

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2018, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, on a request by Troy Hunt Homes, Ltd. for a Zone Change from PD, Planned District for a Housing Development to an Amended PD, Planned District for Housing Development on the following described property:

Lots 10-13, Block 3, Common Area A, Block 4, Lots 16 and 17, Block 5, and Common Area B, Block 6, Quail Ridge Addition, Section 2, City and County of Midland, Texas.

Generally located on the north side of E. Business I-20, approximately 300-feet west of Chukar Lane. (Council District 2)

The meeting facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair entry ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled persons is available near the southeast entrance doors. Any disabled person needing special accommodations or hearing impaired persons wishing to have an interpreter should request services through the Administrative Services Department at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting Compliance Coordinator for the City of Midland, at (432) 685-7251. If communication via TDD is required, please call 1-800-735-2989.

CITY OF MIDLAND
Amy M. Turner, MMC
City Secretary

Lost and Found

EARRING FOUND at Dillards, Jan. 3rd, Call 432-697-8631 to identify.

WORK WANTED
20+ years bookkeeping experience. Proficient with Quickbooks. Email: pj.bookkeeping@yahoo.com. References available.

Autos For Sale-Lease

Passenger Cars

CADILLAC 2006 DTS. One owner, 60K actual miles. Garage kept. Have records of all service & oil changes. $9950. 432-212-1830

MERCEDES BENZ 2001, E320. $2,200. 432-517-5288

Antique and Vintage

BUICK 1993 Riviera pearlescent diamond white, with red padded Landau top, SE prestige option package, 1 owner, 91,094 miles, garaged since new. $8,500 firm. 432-218-8869.

RV Vehicles

RV trailer for rent, large space with fenced in gate. Green grass & trees. Very clean, come by and see. Ready by 1-1-18 Midland, 2505 WCR 140. 432-218-6960 or 432-212-2866.

RV Vehicles

WANT TO rent a 25' or less travel trailer for the week of Feb 21st through Feb. 25th. 432-684-4675

Garage-Estate-Yard Sale

Yard - Garage Sales

79706

MOVING SALE 1909 S.C.R 1133 Saturday 9am-5pm. Pool table, gas grill, desks, bookshelves, tools, yard tools, men & womens clothing, rugs, & house decor.

Merchandise

Free Stuff

FOR FREE 37 IN. Toshiba Analog TV. Call 432-664-1379 or 432-699-5536 for address.

Musical Instruments

ACOUSTIC GUITARS for sale. Alvarez, Blueridge, Michael Kelly, Morgan Monroe. $230 to $1,000. Call 432-528-2980 for more info.

GRAND PIANO 1926, Knabe model Louis XV. $10,000. 432-638-5127

OAK, PECAN, Hickory, Mesquite, Pinon. 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4282

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

FREON R12 WANTED
Certified buyer pays CASH for cylinders & cans.
(312) 291-9169, refrigerantfinders.com

Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE
BY JOSEPH AND TEAM
4801 Tanforan - Midland
Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Friday 9:00 .AM - 2 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

For pictures go to https://www.estatesales.net/TX/Midland/79707/1763106

Legal and Public Notices

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 North Loraine, on a request by Jose Mateus for a Zone Change from PD, Planned District for an Office Center to PD, Planned District for a Shopping Center on the following described property: A 1.96-Acre Tract of Land out of Section 29, Block 39, T-1-S, T&P, RR Co. Survey, City and County of Midland, Texas.

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CITY OF MIDLAND
Amy M. Turner, MMC
City Secretary

Legal and Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 2:00 P.M., January 24, 2018 to be opened at 2:00 P.M., in the Office of the City Secretary City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 18000360

For: Police Package Vehicles

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division
City of Midland, Texas

Pets-Animals

Dogs

AKC STANDARD POODLE PUPPIES, TAILS SHOWCUT AND DEWCLAWS REMOVED, VET HEALTH CHECKED, PARENTS ON SITE 432-210-4006, 432-212-7362

LABRADOR RETRIEVER PUPPIES Grand Hunting Retriever Champ. bloodlines Xmas day delivery in Midland! $1,000 English Labs OFA Cert Hips & elbows Avail. in time for Xmas! Brooke 432-978-5300

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fax 432-682-3793

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

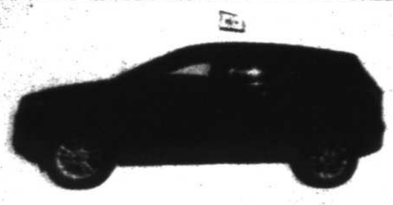
ROGERS

Ford LINCOLN

4206 W. WALL - MIDLAND, TX • 432-694-8801

~~Was $56,995~~
NOW $54,995
2017 Dodge Ram 2500
43,068 Miles
Stk# 17320512

~~Was $16,005~~
NOW $13,995
2016 Ford Focus
37,750 Miles
Stk# 1740069



~~Was $22,005~~
NOW $19,995
2017 Ford Escape
28,059 Miles
Stk# 1740066

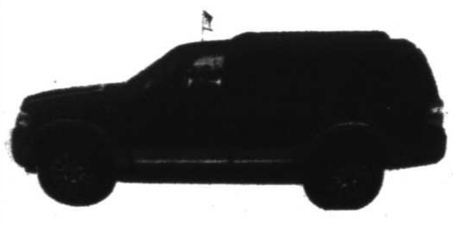
~~Was $16,005~~
NOW $13,995
2016 Toyota Corolla
34,242 Miles
Stk# 1740072

~~Was $22,005~~
NOW $19,995
2017 Nissan Altima
33,436 Miles
Stk# 1740071

~~Was $30,005~~
NOW $28,995
2015 Ford Explorer
28,929 Miles
Stk# 1750036

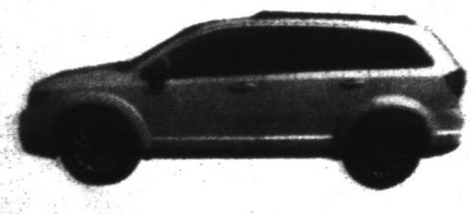
~~Was $17,005~~
NOW $15,995
2017 Ford Fusion
51,035 Miles
Stk# 1740075

~~Was $53,005~~
NOW $47,995
2015 Ford F-250
37,994 Miles
Stk# 17312801

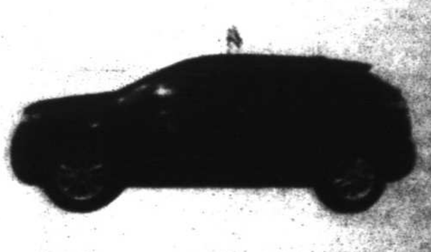


~~Was $31,005~~
NOW $28,995
2013 Ford Expedition
62,754 Miles
Stk# 17304742

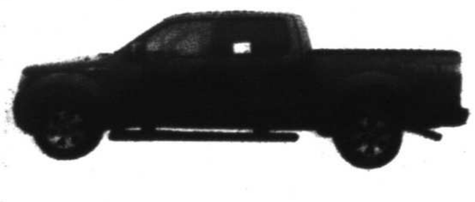
~~Was $30,005~~
NOW $26,995
2015 Ford Mustang GT
37,039 Miles
Stk# 17314351



~~Was $18,005~~
NOW $16,995
2017 Dodge Journey
34,409 Miles
Stk# 1740073



~~Was $26,005~~
NOW $24,995
2015 Ford Edge
26,312 Miles
Stk# 1750039



~~Was $32,005~~
NOW $28,995
2014 Ford F-150
65,981 Miles
Stk# 17314353

~~Was $51,005~~
NOW $45,995
2015 Ford F-250
67,039 Miles
Stk# 17309691

~~Was $27,005~~
NOW $23,995
2017 Chevrolet Impala
22,173 Miles
Stk# 1740052

~~Was $15,005~~
NOW $12,995
2016 Ford Focus
45,394 Miles
Stk# 1740068

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You can advertise your business for as little as $47.00 monthly. Call 682-6222 for details.

Accounting Financial

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REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers & Dryers. Free Service Call with Repair. Free Removal. Full Warranty. Very Affordable Prices. M&M Appliances 1007 N Midkiff, Midland Call 432-570-8278

Personal Services

♥ MASSAGE & Bodywork by Henry ♥ 2401 N. Dixie in Odessa - 4500 W. Illinois in Midland By Appointment only. 432-349-7811 www.sportsmassageodessa.com

Pet Services

THE HOWLIDAY INN DOG SUITES 2008 N. Torrance Ave. Odessa, TX. 79761 432-381-1949 - Javier Vigil

Miscellaneous Services

WATER TREATMENT

Culligan of West Texas Residential & Commercial FREE WATER ANALYSIS 563-2690

We buy homes in any area in any condition. Call the Scott Williams Team of Realtors 432-689-7770.

Cleaning Services

Home Cleaning

ALL IN one cleaning done right, also offering private sitting, C.N.A. Nurse and references available. Contact Segura at 432-269-4580.

Cleaning Specialist. Excellent references. Get ready for the holidays! 432-501-8822

Gutters - Downspouts

PATIO CLEANING

UPSCALE PATIO & CLEANING SERVICE Professional Patio, Window & Gutter Cleaning, will haul off old patio furniture. Spring Clean Your Patio's Now. Free estimate with an appointment. Call Rick Sanders @ 432-296-0723 email: upscalepatiocleaning@gmail.com web: www.upscalepatiocleaning.com

Home Services & Home Improvement

Brick-Block-Stone

ADVANCED BRICK DOCTOR, brick & mortar repair. All types of new construction specializing in block and brick fence. Steve Rivera, 432-853-2839

BRICK, BLOCK & Stone Work. 45 years experience. References. Max 432-661-8899

Concrete

For all your concrete needs, driveways, sidewalks, new slabs house or garage additions. Call Danny @ 432-894-0702

Electrical

ALL YOUR electrical needs met. Call G&S Electric. 32 Years experience. ~ 432-685-0859. Tecl # 22541

LAING ELECTRIC. 432-413-5880 Licensed and Insured. TECL 18544. Always appreciated!

Fences

ABC CONSTRUCTION Wood, chain link, block, gates & repairs are my specialty. Native Midlander building since 1979. Call Lonnie 432-528-5262

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Fences

ABH FENCING A rating on Angies List. Residential fence, builder and repair. Reliable, professional, and quick response. Local for 12 years 432-[illegible]

Fireplaces - Firewood

SPECIAL 1/4 cord $100, 1/2 cord $200, full cord $400, stacked & delivered. Thank you. 432-934-6198.

Handyman Services

Total Handyman Services A through Z and total remodel and room addition by native Midlander Manny Ribera (432) 967-3710. mRiberaConstruction.com

Heat-Air Condition

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service. Service all brands. 683-2679..TACLB005482.

Painting-Wallpaper

CRC INTERIOR and Exterior Painting Remodeling, fencing & fabrication. Clayton R. Cross. 432-770-6595. 1st ESTIMATE FREE.

PAINTING, SHEET rock, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor & bath. Permian Maintenance 432-697-5417

Home Services & Home Improvement

Painting-Wallpaper

PRECISION PAINTING FEMALE PAINTER: Interior/exterior, residential, very professional, takes pride in her work, very dependable & affordable. [illegible] 250-9645

Remodeling-Repair

PAINTING, SHEET rock, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor & bath. Permian Maintenance 432-697-5417

Roofing

J&J ROOFING All Types of Roofing & Repairs. Fence Repairs, Metal roofs. 25 years experience. Free Estimates Call Juan. 432-631-8861

Tile and Vinyl

CERAMIC TILE work all types. 57 years experience. Free estimates. 432-352-6509

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

Gardening

TREE removal, sprinkler repairs. Licensed & Insured. Call Williams Tree Lawn Sprinkler 561-8802. 638-6163.

Arbor Max Solutions Professional Landscape & Irrigation Services. Schedule your fall feeding fertilizer. Sept. Taylor Maxwell Degreed Horticulturist Certified Arborist TX3606A 432-528-1737

DAVID'S TREE & LAWN SERVICE Trimming trees & shrubs, leaf clean ups, mowing and more! Please call to make appointment 432-349-0694 www.facebook.com/davidstreelawnservice

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

LEYVA LAWN CARE Trees & Lawns, Professional & Efficient 432-250-9470 Free Estimates.

RAUL'S LAWN Services. Lawn mowing, edging, shrub trimming. Free estimates. Reasonable. Call Raul @ 432-254-6384.

RETIRED MIDLAND [illegible] Trim trees, shrubs, clean flower beds, clean up & mowing. Call 697-2030.

STRACENER IRRIGATION Sprinkler Systems Repairs & Installations License #4933 Call (432) 561-8525

Miscellaneous Services

Attention Truckers!! The Burrito Lady is open from 6am-1pm Mon-Sat Fresh Made to Order Call In's Welcome 325-456-0156 318 S Main St Eden,Tx

Real Estate Rental-Sale

Roommates

ROOMMATE WANTED $550. + $100 deposit, large Ste. own bath full privilege's. Call 601-764-8105

Residential Rentals

Apartment Rent Unfurn

APT FOR RENT all bills paid except electric. $450/mo. Call 432-522-1946.

Residential Sales

Single Family Homes

Contract fell through! BEAUTIFULLY REMODELED 3 bedroom 2 bathe, 2 car garage, large back yard. $169,000. Open house every Sunday 2-4 until sold. 5121 W. Illinois. 432-683-2243. No owner finance!

Residential Sales

Single Family Homes

FOR SALE 17 acres in Nogal Canyon and a home with a spacious living area with a rock fireplace. Property also includes, a courtyard, guest house, barn, shop, two entrances, fully fenced property. Seller will include a 140 acre lot in Anche with an acceptable offer for this Nogal, NM property. $299,000 Please check out the video: www.211nogalcanyon.com Offered by Darlen Ross Associate Broker Pinnacle Real Estate 931 Hwy 48 Alto, NM 88312 575-336-7711 Office 575-973-0117 cell.

PBSO 4 bedroom, 2 full baths, 1 3/4 bath and 1/2 bath, by heated [illegible] land. See pictures at Zillow.com. Call 432-853-9080 for an appointment to see.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Residential Sales

Lots and Land

Hunting Leases

ONE OF the most scenic, spectacular, premier, hunting ranches in West Texas located in the Eagle Mountains near Van Horn, TX. spanning over 10,000 acres with beautiful western style lodge approx. 3 hours from Midland is now for sale. For info contact owner at 830-238-3166

Oil and Gas Leases

100% OF Minerals for sale Border & Dawson County. 380 acres. Call 940-399-6119

Oil and Mineral for Lease: SE Terry County, Blk C 37,C 38, 5 Section Involed Shell, Weir, Camp, Wolf Betty, Fuseelmen. 2000 + acres avaible. Call 432-758-5245 or 432-209-2793

Ranches

GREAT 150 Acre Ranch near Christoval, paved road, $1,995 / Ac. Call agent 512-656-3789, A&G Land Mgt.

Lots and Land

Ranches

RANCH FOR SALE 4,212 Acres near Snyder, Tx. Water, 3 houses, great hunting. Owner Financing. $795/ Acre (432) 664-7764

Lots and Land

24.29 AC. N. OF SAN ANGELO IN COKE COUNTY. MESQUITE, CEDAR COVER. DEER, HOGS, QUAIL & DOVE. $3,334 DOWN, $552/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

46.64 AC. VAL VERDE COUNTY, N. OF COMSTOCK. W. TX BRUSH COUNTRY. DEER, JAVELINA, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. NEAR LAKE AMISTAD. $2,554 DOWN, $423/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Commercial

COMMERCIAL YARD/ BUILD TO SUIT - FOR LEASE 5 ACRES, FENCED 2 AC CALICHED $2350/MONTH JUST EAST OF MIDLAND 432-664-7764

Vacation-Resort

Lake Alan Henry - North Ridge Development. Two 1 acre Lots # 134 & 135 $75,000 for both, Build-able view of lake, paved roads, private water plant, private boat ramp, site map nrdah.com. 3111 Properties, LLC 806 441 7005

Open Houses

OPEN TODAY 1:00 - 3:00

2800 MIDKIFF - $289,900 INCREDIBLE, ALL STUCCO HOME IN MIDLAND WITH 5 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHS AND PLENTY OF ROOM FOR ENTERTAINING.

Call KELLY STEGALL, Agent Town Realtors 432-853-9856

Commercial

READY-RANCH RR WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

- Real County
  - 11,155 ac. E. of Snyder, 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 800 ft. elev., creek, lakes. Whitetail deer, mule deer and [illegible] $795/ac
  - 1,212 ac. Mesquite Basin, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail [illegible] $625/ac
  - 1,771 ac. whitetail, creek, blinds and feeders, great access and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail [illegible] $860
- Nolan County
  - 640 ac. over 3 mile SOLD creek, blinds, feeders, whitetail, turkey, [illegible] $900/ac
  - 160 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 300' acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill [illegible] $4,425/ac
- Howard County
  - 342 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some cultivation [illegible] $700/ac
  - 150 ac. big canyon, SOLD [illegible] oaks, cedar/mesquite, great deer, turkey, [illegible] $695/ac
- Martin County
  - 135 ac. Sulphur Springs SOLD deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal shop/barn [illegible] $1,150/ac

(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777 No Realtors - Buy Direct!!! Deal with Landowners that know the Country!!! *** Owner Financing Available ***

The Bottom Line

76 percent of adults have read a daily newspaper in the past five days.

Source: Scarborough Research, 2005

Midland Reporter-Telegram mrt.com

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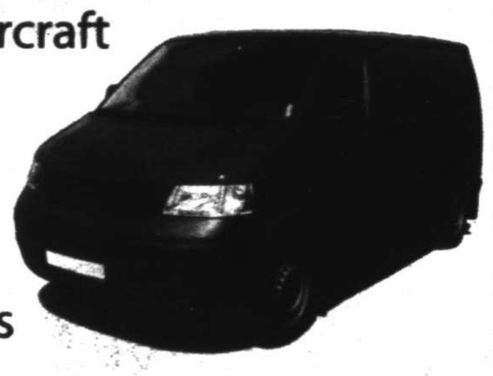

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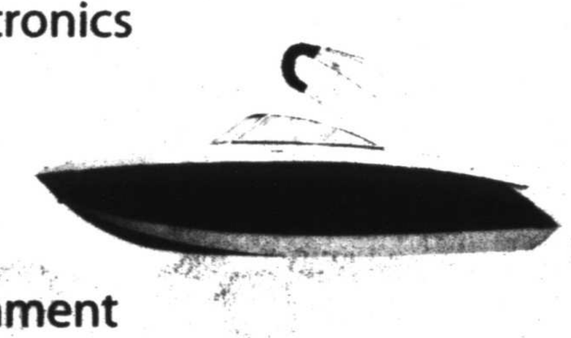

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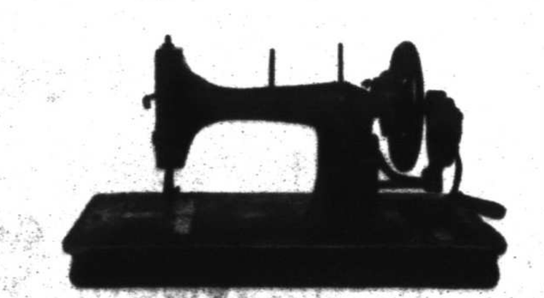
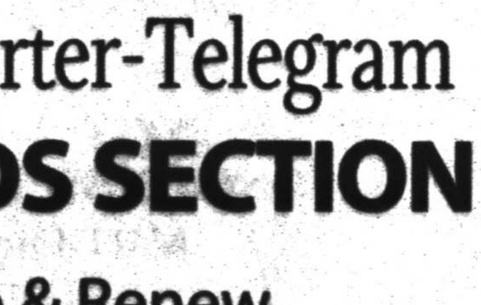


- Announcements & Events
- Farm Equipment



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3 REO COURT- $340,000

Don't Miss this 4 bedroom, 3 bath home at the end of a beautiful cul-de-sac. Kitchen newly remodeled in 2017 with beautiful stainless steel appliances. Living room has vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors & an office nook. Front room can be used for play room/office! Master suite has everything including double walk-in closets, double sinks & vanities and french doors to the beautiful covered patio. MLS Number: R50012277A. Contact Melissa Peeler 432-528-4648.

KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY (432) 520-5151

1605 NORTH H ST.

Gorgeous home located in "Old Midland" area. This home features 4 bedrooms with 3 full baths, 2 living areas, 2 dining areas, updated kitchen with custom made cabinets and granite counter tops, large master bedroom & bath. Large walk walk in master shower, walk in master closet, private back patio that is accessible off master bedroom, large bedrooms, lots of closet space, & over sized lot! Hosted by: Mallady Williamson, Realtor 432-559-7788.

JPS REALTY (432) 614-9255

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