MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

EXTRA CREDIT

Check out photos from Midland Festival Ballet's Cinderella Ballet Camp.

Page 6B

TRINITY MOVES TO 11-MAN

The move was announced by Trinity athletic director Jeff Young and head football coach Antwan Alexander during a press conference for the 2017 season. See more in Sports.

Page 1C

Commissioners vote against waste transport resolution

Court to take action next month on a resolution that addresses five points

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

Midland County commissioners on Monday voted against the resolution as described for the proposed transport of high-level nuclear waste through the county. The decision was based on five points members outlined to consider in the discussion.

Judge Mike Bradford said the language of the resolution included the word "consent," but the county doesn't have authority over the railways.

"We can't prohibit this," Bradford said. "We can only voice what our community says they don't want. It is at this point a federal government project."

The court is scheduled to take action on April 10 on a resolution that addresses five points.

Bradford said the court is considering the following points: local hearings along the proposed route; federal funding and training for first responders before the first shipment and for the duration of the transport; inspections and upgrades of rail capacity if it's the chosen shipment method; explanation for not storing waste at closer sites; and explanation for moving the waste.

"We would like these questions answered and become a participant in the discussion — not a legal intervener," Bradford said. "Talking with the legal community, they're saying, 'You're going to have a hard time getting legal standing because there's not a route now.'"

Proposed federal legislation would allow interim storage facilities for spent nuclear fuel, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram report. Spent nuclear fuel rods from more than 62 sites could be transported on rail lines through Midland County to a site in Andrews. Waste Control Specialists has applied for a license to store high-level nuclear waste at the site temporarily.

Luis Sanchez, commissioner for Precinct 3, said residents called him to express concerns about the proposal.

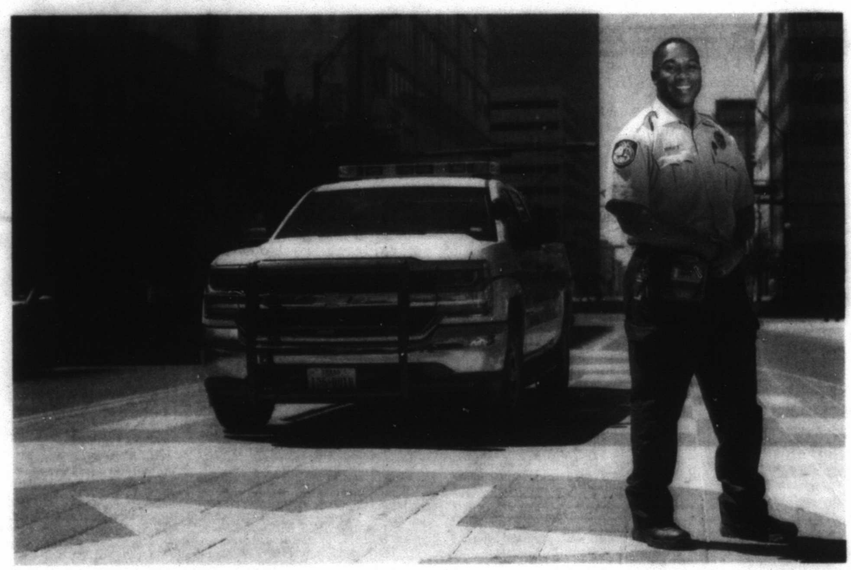
"Some fears are possible terrorist attacks or any accidents," Sanchez said. "Accidents can happen at 0.001 percent. Still, if one was to occur, how would we handle that? We talk about unfunded mandates. We would have to train local law enforcement and firefighters."

Before the vote, about a dozen people addressed the court — including Karmen Bryant, president of the League of Women Voters of Midland, and David Rosen, chairman of the Midland County Democratic Party.

Local scientist Steven Schafersman said

Please see **WASTE**/2A

PARKING DOWNTOWN



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Parking Enforcement Officer Rob Wilson is shown Monday on Wall Street in downtown Midland.
The city of Midland is strengthening enforcement of downtown parking laws in order to make more customer parking available for local businesses.
Midland Police Department's traffic unit recently hired Wilson, who will focus solely on downtown parking laws.
The funding for the position was provided by the Downtown Midland Management District, which promotes and develops downtown through funds that are raised by downtown property owners. Many of these businesses have expressed a desire to see more enforcement downtown that will ensure turnover in downtown parking spots and make more customer parking available.
Warnings will be administered during a grace period before ticketing takes effect.
Free parking for the public is available in the basement and first level of the Wall Street Lofts garage located at 108 E. Texas Ave., as well as the future site of the Midland Chamber of Commerce located at 300 and 310 W. Illinois Ave., which currently is a paved lot. More public parking is expected to be acquired downtown and will be announced in the future as it becomes available.

Source: City of Midland

US drillers secure higher prices in hedging surge

By Collin Eaton
Houston Chronicle

Oil prices have recently edged below $50 a barrel, but several U.S. drillers have already locked in higher prices for the barrels they sell this year, a new report says.

After OPEC announced it would trim oil production in late November, nearly three dozen of the largest U.S. explorers increased oil hedging activity by a third, energy research firm Wood Mackenzie said Monday.

Related stories

Saudi Aramco tax slashed to prepare oil producer for giant IPO.
Page 6C

Hackers increase attacks on energy sector computers.
Page 4A

France's Total invests in $1.7 billion Texas energy site
Page 4A

In the fourth quarter, they added 648,000 barrels a day to contracts that would lock in about $50 to $60 a barrel oil for the rest of the year. That was the largest quarterly volume of new oil hedges of the past year.

"Those producers — most of which are highly exposed to U.S. tight oil — will use hedging gains to plug any deficits caused by sub-$50 spot prices," said Andy McConn, an analyst at Wood

Please see **HEDGE**/4A

Women launch group to donate to local nonprofits

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

A new group aims to make a difference for area nonprofits, one donation at a time. The philanthropic group 100+ Women Who Rock the Permian Basin hosts its first giving session tonight.

At quarterly meetings, group members will hear pitches from three local nonprofits. After a voting session, each member will write a check to the chosen organization. The goal is for 100 women to donate $100 to a specific charity.

Giving meeting

Time: 7 p.m.
Date: Today
Location: UTPB Center for Energy and Economic Diversification
For more information, call 296-1123 or visit the group's Facebook page.

"The thing I love about this is I can give $100 to an organization, and it will be a drop in the bucket," said Kay Baker, nomination chairman. "If we collectively give $10,000 as a group, we can make an impact. My $400 a year will be multiplied by 100."

Board Chairman Shawn Spencer developed the idea after learning about a similar group, 100 Men Who Give a Damn in Midland.

"It intrigued me," Spencer said. "I was looking to do research about some group like that in Midland. There wasn't one in Midland or Odessa, so I decided to start one."

Unlike 100 Men, which meets quarterly, the women's group offers ways to participate throughout the year.

The group will collect donations from the upcoming giving meeting until April 25, when it's scheduled to present a check to the winning nonprofit and discuss future giving opportunities. During May and other months when only board members meet, others will be encouraged to volunteer at the nonprofits that presented pitches.

Spencer said 100+ Women

Please see **DONATE**/2A

Weather
Partly sunny
82/48
Get your complete forecast on 5B

Energy prices

WTI Futures	$47.73	▼ $0.24
WTI Posted	$44.00	▼ $0.50
WTS Posted	$39.95	▼ $0.50
Natural Gas	$3.052	▼ $0.024
Gasoline	$2.170	▲ $0.011

The big number

Sean Hannity is asking CBS News to release his full 45-minute interview with Ted Koppel for "Sunday Morning," criticizing the edited version as fake news. Page 5A

Word of the Day: omniscience

Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 3A.

Brought to you daily by Jumbo Tire

Vol. 89, No. 17
Daily $2, Sunday $3

Index Business 6C | Classified 1D | Comics 7C | Dear Abby 5B | Lottery 4A | Obituaries 2A | Puzzles 3B | Sports 1C | TV 3B

7 63647 00081 6

Eminent domain for border wall is fine, says Attorney General Ken Paxton

By Tom Benning
The Dallas Morning News

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, long a warrior for private property rights, said Monday that he nevertheless has no problem with the Trump administration's plans to use eminent domain for a "big, beautiful" border wall.

The Republican acknowledged legitimate concerns from residents along the Texas-Mexico border, adding that "these people need to be paid fairly." But he pointed out that eminent domain is used properly "all the time" in Texas for road construction and other projects.

The key distinction, Paxton said, is that the practice must serve an actual public purpose.

"In my mind, this is a very similar purpose," he said in an interview with The Dallas Morning News. "It's a public purpose providing safety to people not only along the border, but to the entire nation."

Land disputes are an all-but-guaranteed side effect of the border wall that President Donald Trump wants built from the Pacific Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico.

Early wall specifications call for thick barriers that are at are at least 18-feet-tall — but ideally, even taller. The walls must prevent tunneling six feet deep and must be able to withstand for at least 30 minutes an attack by sledgehammers and other handheld tools.

Those kinds of features require space. And so the White House is asking for funds in its first budget to pay for 20 Justice Department attorneys dedicated to gobbling up border parcels.

"This is the government doing what it has to do to protect its borders," White House press secretary Sean Spicer said last week. "There's nobody in America, and I daresay the world, that didn't believe that the president was committed to building a wall."

Texas, however, presents a special challenge.

Massive swaths of the border are privately owned, a fact that gummed up efforts under President George W. Bush to build some barriers. The winding Rio Grande and the rugged West Texas landscape also makes getting the necessary land no simple task.

And Texans have a deep affinity for protecting their property rights.

Paxton has often been at the forefront of that defense. As attorney general, he's made private property rights a central element to one lawsuit against the federal government over contested land along the Red River and another over a contentious water rights rule.

"Washington, D.C., needs to hear loud and clear that Texas will not stand for the federal government's infringement upon Texas land the property rights of the people who live here," Paxton said last year, announcing his office's involvement in the Red River case.

Asked Monday about those past stands, he nodded: "I know where you're going."

Like many Texas Republicans, Paxton takes a more measured view than Trump on the border wall. He said he supports a wall in "places that make sense," citing El Paso as an example of where border barriers have been effective.

"Then let technology and border agents cover the rest," said Paxton, who was visiting Washington meet with lawmakers.

But he said the other private property rights cases he's tackled in recent years aren't comparable, arguing that the federal government then wasn't pursuing a true public purpose. Still, he said his office would continue to monitor the development of the border wall in Texas.

"I want people to be treated fairly, so they shouldn't just have their land just taken from them," he said. "They need to be compensated fairly."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Obituaries

Barbara Jo (Galyardt) Cumbie

Barbara Jo (Galyardt) Cumbie, 72, March 24, 2017 left her family and friends with memories of her generous, gregarious, and fun-loving personality.

Graveside services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at Rosehill Cemetery, Cleburne.

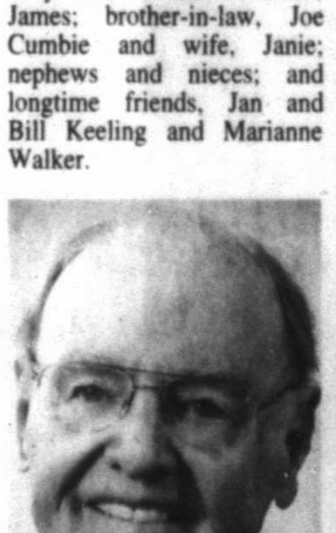
Visitation will be held from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on March 28, 2017 at Mountain Valley Funeral Home.

Barbie was born in Dodge City, Kansas in 1944. She graduated from high school in Midland. Barbie and Bill were active members of Pathway Church in Burleson. She worked for various insurance agencies in Fort Worth, Burleson, and the surrounding area.

Barbie seldom met a stranger, her smile and willingness to help was evident in her daily life. Her handpainted watercolors and oils grace her home while flowers and plants flourish in her gardens. Most of all, her grandchildren were her greatest joy.

Preceding Barbie in death are her parents, Ervin and Louise Galyardt; and her father-in-law and mother-in-law, Brown and Mary Cumbie.

Left to cherish her memory is her husband, Bill Cumbie; son, Glen Cumbie and wife, Angela; grandson, Chase Cumbie; granddaughter, Courtney Cumbie; sister, Judy Roberts and husband, James; brother-in-law, Joe Cumbie and wife, Janie; nephews and nieces; and longtime friends, Jan and Bill Keeling and Marianne Walker.



John Scharbauer Dublin, Jr.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

R. L. Braggs (Robert Lee)

R. L. Braggs (Robert Lee), 72, was born December 23, 1944 to George Washington and Gladys Ora Bragg in Hamlin, Texas. He went to meet his Jesus on March 24, 2017 in Hobbs, New Mexico.

R. L. married the love of his life, Gloria Jean Sanders, on June 20, 1962, in Midland, Texas. He loved God, his family and music. He had a love for studying the Bible. R. L. enjoyed fishing, woodworking, a good joke, and spending time with his family.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at Chapel of Hope, located at 3321 N. Dal Paso, Hobbs, New Mexico. His son, Royce Braggs, will be presiding over the service.

He is preceded in his death by his wife, Gloria Jean; his parents, George and Gladys; his brothers, George W. Bragg, Jr., Cecil W. Bragg, Willie I. Bragg, Richard G. Bragg, Jimmy A. Bragg, Leslie W. Bragg (infant); his sisters, Ethel J. Steward and Martha J. Houghton; one grandson, David Clay Shedd; and one great-grandson, Levi Aaron Braggs.

He is survived by a son, Ramey and his wife Cheryl of Colo, Iowa; a son, Royce and his fiancé KaLonna Phillips of Roswell, New Mexico; a daughter, Jock'Lene Shedd and her husband Joe of Levelland, Texas; one brother, G. W. Bragg of Midland, Texas; as well as 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

He also leaves a host of family and friends who loved him dearly.

Services are under the direction of Chapel of Hope Funeral Home in Hobbs.

You may send condolences via the website of *www.chapelofhopefunerals.com*.

Madysyn Valeigh "Mady" Hillger

Madysyn Valeigh "Mady" Hillger, 12, of Big Spring, Texas, died Sunday, March 26, 2017 at Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 31, 2017 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Courtney Ballard officiating. Interment will follow at Garden City Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 30, 2017 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

Mady was born June 11, 2004 in Big Spring. She was diagnosed with Rett Syndrome at 19 months old and fought the "Rett monster" her whole life.

Mady had a great sense of humor and loved to laugh and watch TV, especially cartoons and baseball. She loved to ride in the Cooks Teddy Bear Transport jet, thinking it was her personal jet.

Survivors include her mother, Amber Hillger, and her sister, Rylee Thomason, of Big Spring; her father and step-mother, Pete and Jennie Marrero of Haltom City and their children Andi, Precious, Patricia, Pharah, and Baby Pete; her maternal grandparents, David and Debra Hillger of Big Spring; her paternal grandparents, Pete and Gilda Marrero of North Richland Hills; her great-grandparents, Bob and Peggy Ballard of Big Spring; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

The family suggests memorials to Rett Syndrome at *www.retsyndrome.org* or to the Circuit Riders Cowboy Church, Mady Hillger playground fund, 5108 Nichols Road, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

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

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory
(432)-267-6331

Death Notices

Billie Jo Stokes

Billie Jo Stokes, 84, of Odessa, Texas, passed away on Friday, March 24, 2017.

She is survived by her two daughters, Tricia Tidwell and Mary Lynn Cleveland.

A visitation will be held today, Tuesday, March 28, 2017 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at American Heritage Chapel, 4100 N. FM-1788, Midland, Texas, 79707.

A graveside service will be held on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at American Heritage Cemetery.

Dolores Klein

Dolores Klein, 89, of Stanton, Texas, passed away March 26, 2017.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday March 29, 2017 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Stanton, Texas.

A Rosary Vigil will be held Tuesday March 28, 2017 at Stanton Memorial Funeral Home at 7:00 p.m.

Dolores is survived by her daughters, Denise Klein, Patricia McBride, and Tracy Bryan; sons, Benjamin Klein, Stephen Klein, and Robert Klein; and by three sisters and two brothers.

Gary L. Olgin

Gary Lopez Olgin passed away peacefully, Saturday March 25, 2017.

Viewing will be Tuesday, March 28, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home Chapel.

Rosary will be Tuesday March 28, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral mass will be Wednesday March 29, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Stephens Catholic Church.

He is survived by his son, two daughters, and his parents.

Jessica Rowland

Jessica Rowland, 44, of Midland, Texas, passed away Friday, March 24, 2017.

Memorial services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland.

Survivors include her husband, James Rowland.

Perfecto Puente

Perfecto Puente, 79, of Odessa, Texas, passed away Sunday, March 26, 2017.

Rosary will be recited at Acres West Funeral Chapel in Odessa at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 30, 2017.

Funeral Mass will be at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Midland at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 31, 2017. Interment follows at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

He is survived by sons, Perfecto Puente, Jr, Francisco Puente, and Ricardo Puente; daughters, Maria Puente, Blanca Puente, and Sonia Puente; and two sisters.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

LA VERNIA

9 high schoolers charged with sex assault in hazing

Nine Texas high school students are charged with sexual assault in a hazing scandal involving athletes, police said Monday.

Seven juveniles and two adults are charged with allegations dating back as far as 2014, La Vernia police Chief Bruce Ritchey said. All nine have at some point been athletes at La Vernia High School, which has about 1,000 students. Ritchey said the hazing primarily involved the football team, but the basketball and baseball teams were also involved to a lesser degree.

Ritchey declined to release the names of any of those charged. He said the juveniles were arrested last week and have been released to their parents. The adults were arrested Monday and were being booked into the Wilson County Jail in Floresville. Ritchey declined to specify the nature of the sexual assaults alleged.

Ritchey also said several "persons of interest" remain under investigation, but he declined to say how many or whether they are past or present students.

The allegations have rocked the farming town of about 1,000 residents situated about 20 miles east of San Antonio. Students from surrounding communities attend the high school.

"The travesty of the events occurring at the La Vernia High School have crushed the spirit of our community," School Superintendent Jose Moreno wrote in a posting on the La Vernia Independent School District's Facebook page. He pledged that the high school's administration and athletic directors "are implementing additional protocols to provide students a clear path of communication to report a concern, receive counseling and know that their voices will be heard while maintaining their privacy."

VERNON

2nd member of college rodeo team dies following wreck

A second member of a Texas college rodeo team has died from injuries suffered in a traffic accident while returning from a competition.

Twenty-year-old Jakob Plummer of Petrolia died Sunday, about a week after the March 18 wreck that killed another member of the Vernon College rodeo team.

The team was returning from a roping event in Central Texas when the accident occurred.

Nineteen-year-old Yancie McCuistion of Sugar City, Colorado, died at the scene near Haskell, north of Abilene.

Nineteen-year-old Vinita Trevino of Petrolia died a day later. Trevino was a Vernon College student but not a member of the team.

Authorities say McCuistion was the driver of a pickup that drove through a stop sign and was struck by a motor home.

AUSTIN

City leaders fire back after new 'sanctuary city' warning

A Texas county that has come under fire over so-called "sanctuary city" policies says rules about immigration enforcement are being followed despite new tough talk from the Trump administration.

Please see **BRIEFS/3A**

WASTE

From 1A

there are risks associated with transporting radioactive waste. He said bringing it to the interim storage site opens the possibility for additional shipments through the county.

"It's not going to be permanent storage like Yucca Mountain," Schafersman said. "You only want to have to move it once. You don't want to have to move it twice."

But Tom Jones, vice president of community relations for Waste Control Specialists, said safety hasn't been a problem when transporting radioactive material in the United States.

"Thousands of shipments of nuclear fuel have gone safely," Jones said. "Shipping containers have been designed almost indestructibly."

DONATE

From 1A

Who Rock the Permian Basin limits meetings to one hour so anyone can be involved.

"People are busy with full-time jobs, or they're homemakers," Spencer said. "We want people to know we value your time."

The group received guidance from 100 Who Care Alliance, the umbrella organization for more than 400 similar groups globally. Spencer said the Permian Basin chapter gives women the opportunity to learn about local nonprofits.

"There's so much we don't know," Spencer said. "For some smaller ones, $10,000 would change the face of their charities."

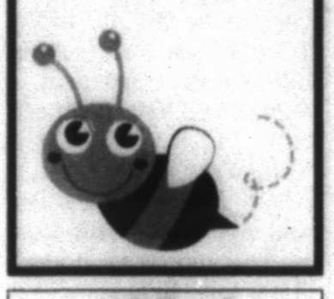
At tonight's giving meeting, the group will hear presentations from Bush Tennis Center, Family Promise of Midland and Look Good Feel Good shop at Texas Oncology — Midland Allison Cancer Center.

Spencer, who has long been involved with Show of Support, said the new group gives women a chance to collectively contribute to local causes.

"We want to change the face of the Permian Basin as far as giving," Spencer said. "In Midland and Odessa with the downturn, it's still a giving community. Even with the nonprofits (board members have) been in, there's a giving nature."

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JumBurrito

Omniscience
[om-nish-uh ns]
noun
1. infinite knowledge.



Midland Reporter-Telegram
AT YOUR SERVICE
ISSN 0890-5932
A Hearst Newspaper
Published each morning by the Hearst, Midland Reporter-Telegram Division, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701. Periodicals postage paid at Midland, TX 79711. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

MAIN SWITCHBOARD
432-682-5311

PUBLISHER
Jeffrey Shabram 687-8880
jshabram@mrt.com

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

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

■ ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR — BUSINESS & OIL
Trevor Hawes 687-8854
thawes@mrt.com

■ NEWS EDITOR
Brenna Norrell 687-8847
bnorrell@mrt.com

■ SPORTS EDITOR
Oscar LeRoy 687-8809
oleroy@mrt.com

■ OIL EDITOR
Mella McEwen 687-8860
mmcewen@mrt.com

■ PHOTO EDITOR
Tim Fischer 687-8833
tfischer@mrt.com

■ FEATURES EDITOR
Rich Lopez 687-8859
jrlopez@mrt.com

CIRCULATION
■ CUSTOMER SERVICE
688-2700

■ DIRECTOR
Sharon Heckler 687-8829
sheckler@mrt.com

ADVERTISING
■ ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Adrianne Hrebicek 687-8811

■ SALES MANAGER
Chad Anderson 687-8813
cranderson@mrt.com

RETAIL ADS
682-5311, ext. 4

CLASSIFIED ADS
682-6222 / 682-6999 (fax)
mrtclassified@mrt.com

PRODUCTION
■ DIRECTOR
John Maddox 687-8844
jmaddox@mrt.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
■ **How do I submit an announcement for a wedding or engagement?**
weddings@mrt.com

■ **How can I submit an obituary?** obits@mrt.com

■ **How can I handle a billing problem?**
Circulation: 688-2700
Advertising: 687-8806

CUSTOMER SERVICE HOURS
Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday & holidays: 7 a.m.-10 a.m.
Call us at 432-688-2700 if your newspaper has not arrived by delivery time (6 a.m. Monday through Friday; 7 a.m. on weekends and holidays). For Midland city area requests received before 10 a.m., we can offer same or next day redelivery. Outside the city delivery area, we will apply a credit to your account or redeliver the next day.
Please note: The publisher reserves the right to modify the cost of individual editions and/or subscriptions at any time.

HOME DELIVERY
All subscriptions payable in advance

7 day replica edition only	$1.47 per week
Daily/Sunday Inc eEdition	$5.82 per week
Wed/Thu/Sun Inc eEdition	$5.07 per week
Sunday only Inc eEdition	$4.78 per week

Mail rates — Texas

Daily/Sunday	$8.00 per week
Sunday only	$4.62 per week

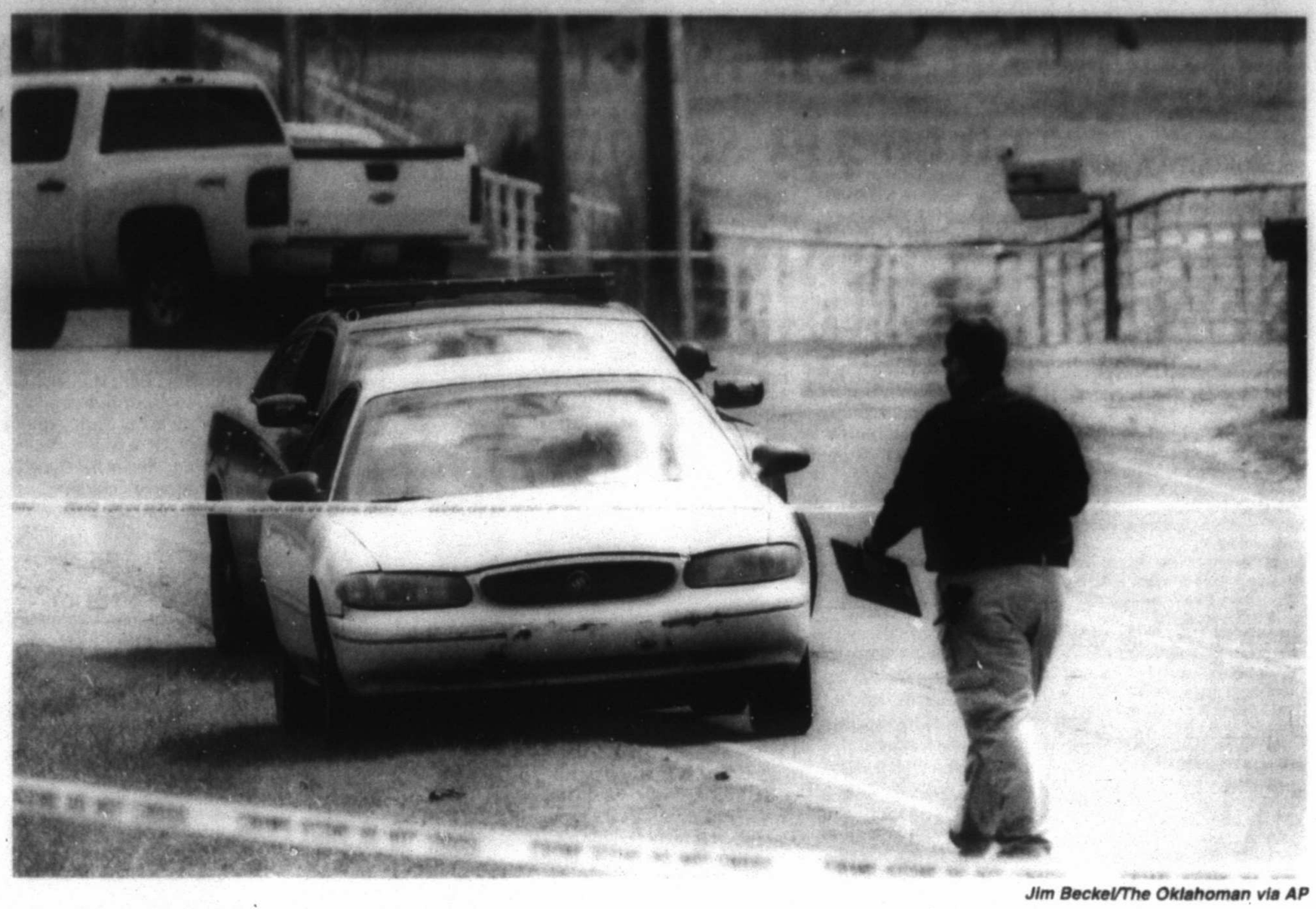
Mail rates — Other U.S.A.

Daily/Sunday	$9.23 per week
Sunday only	$4.62 per week

Overseas mail and other subscription rates furnished upon request.

NOTICE: All subscriptions include delivery of 11 Premium issues delivered throughout the year, including Christmas and Thanksgiving. They will be charged at an additional fee of up to $2.50. For each Premium issue, your account balance will be charged in the billing period when the Premium issue is delivered. This will result in shortening the length of your billing period.

Prices are subject to change: The Midland Reporter-Telegram continues to make a concerted effort to keep the cost of subscriptions at a minimum for our readers. When a price change or frequency change occurs, each subscriber's expiration date will be adjusted based on the credit balance on their account.



Jim Beckel/The Oklahoman via AP

Investigators work at the scene Monday where a Tecumseh, Okla. police officer was shot during a traffic stop overnight. Officer Justin Terney died Monday morning after undergoing surgery overnight, Tecumseh Assistant Police Chief J.R. Kidney said. The suspect was also shot and was in intensive care Monday morning, Kidney said.

Slain Oklahoma officer was new recruit, aspiring canine cop

By Adam Kealoha Causey
Associated Press

TECUMSEH, Okla. — A 22-year-old officer and new recruit died Monday after a shootout with a man who fled a traffic stop in central Oklahoma, police said.

Officer Justin Terney, who had only graduated from the police academy last summer, was shot several times late Sunday and died after undergoing surgery overnight, Tecumseh Assistant Police Chief J.R. Kidney said.

"He was a very young officer; just getting a start," Kidney said. "He was taken way too soon."

The man who fired on Terney was also shot multiple times. Kidney said he was in a hospital's intensive care unit Monday morning. Police have not released his identity.

Terney pulled over a vehicle about 11:30 p.m. Sunday in Tecumseh, 35 miles southeast of Oklahoma City, according to police. A woman was driving, and Terney called dispatchers to see if a male passenger had any outstanding warrants.

Kidney said the male passenger ran toward some nearby woods at that point. He said Terney chased the man on foot and used a stun gun, but that failed to stop the man, who then shot at Terney. The officer returned fire.

The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation said it will assist with investigating the crime scene, which is common for shootings involving police.

Officers detained the woman who was driving so they could ask her questions about what happened.

Kidney told The Oklahoman that Terney had a new puppy and had hoped to become a canine officer. Terney grew up in Canadian, a town in eastern Oklahoma, and was also a volunteer firefighter.

Dillon Degraffenreid, 21, a paramedic in Tecumseh who worked with Terney, said he stayed by Terney's side after he was shot and was part of the group that escorted his body to his hometown.

"It's a very rough day," Degraffenreid told The Associated Press on Monday.

Terney had quickly become part of Tecumseh and was known to play basketball with kids there. Degraffenreid said Terney was always ready for a laugh and often joked about how he only needed no-bake cookies and chocolate milk to be happy.

"He always had a smile on his face," Degraffenreid said.

Bruce and Shirley Walck, who were walking their dogs through Tecumseh's downtown Monday, said Terney's death was a shock to the close-knit community.

"Even though we didn't know him, we felt like he was part of the town," Shirley Walck said.

Gov. Mary Fallin, who grew up and graduated from high school in Tecumseh, offered her condolences to those affected by Terney's killing.

"It makes us remember and realize how dangerous being in law enforcement is these days," Fallin said. "Especially to have a 22-year-old officer who had just been an officer for a year is certainly very tragic, and our prayers go out with his family and his friends and relatives and certainly with the Tecumseh police force."

Fallin said she intends to order all flags on state property to be flown at half-staff on the day of Terney's funeral, which hasn't been scheduled.

Sheriff: ICE arrests immigrants reporting for labor detail

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — Federal immigration agents arrested 26 immigrants suspected of living in the country illegally as they reported for labor-detail sentences for unrelated crimes in Fort Worth, according to local authorities.

Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn told local television station KXAS that his office participated in the arrests Sunday morning at the request of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Of the 26, 23 are from Mexico and three are from Honduras, according to an ICE statement Monday. Twenty three of those arrested have criminal convictions for driving while intoxicated. Two have multiple DWI convictions, and one of those convicted of DWI was given an enhanced sentence for driving with a 15-year-old minor at the time. Four of those arrested have criminal convictions for possessing a controlled substance.

Three of those arrested have been previously deported, and will have their previous final orders of removal reinstated, according to the ICE statement. Six will be voluntarily returned to Mexico, and 12 have been issued notices to appear before a federal immigration judge who will determine their immigration cases. All those who have not been removed or voluntarily returned to Mexico remain in ICE custody pending their removal or disposition of their immigration cases.

Waybourn said the arrested individuals were suspected of living in the country illegally and had been convicted of

Please see **ICE**/4A

Biannual Trinity Site tour to be met with protest

Associated Press

TULAROSA, N.M. — New Mexico residents living near the test site of the first atomic bomb plan to hold a demonstration as visitors caravan to the Trinity Site for a tour.

The Alamogordo Daily News reports that the Tularosa Basin Downwinders advocacy group will be protesting Saturday.

On July 16, 1945, scientists from the then-secret city of Los Alamos successfully exploded the first atomic bomb at the Trinity Site. The bomb later was dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The group says the test altered the gene pools of residents in surrounding communities. Members say descendants have been plagued with cancer and other illnesses.

The group has been lobbying for compensation and apologies from the federal government for years.

The Trinity Site is open to the public only on the first Saturdays in April and October.

New Republican effort to target Arizona initiatives appears

By Bob Christie
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Just days after Gov. Doug Ducey signed a new law opponents said will make it harder for citizen initiatives to make the ballot, Republican Arizona lawmakers are reviving stripped parts of that legislation that will make it much easier for opponents to challenge initiatives in court.

The new proposal changes the legal standard required to keep an initiative off the ballot. It says the language in the proposed measure is subject to a "strict compliance" standard rather than "substantial compliance."

That will allow citizen's initiative to be thrown out for mere paperwork or language errors, even if the proposed law complies with other respects to the law.

The "substantial compliance" standard now in place allows such minor errors if the intent of measure remains clear.

"If people are going to put an initiative on the ballot that will either change our Constitution or change our statutes and the Legislature doesn't have realistically a way to change, I think there should be strict compliance," said Sen. Debbie Lesko, R-Peoria, who is allowing the new language to be put on a bill in her Appropriations Committee.

And there may be more elements that were stripped out of the legislation Ducey signed last week that emerge, House Speaker J.D. Mesnard said.

"Yeah, there could be more — people are talking about it now, what pieces," Mesnard said. "Mainly to give options, in other words to have them pass

Please see **TARGET**/4A

BRIEFS

From 2A

Travis County Sarah Eckhardt fired back Monday after U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions said compliance with immigration laws will be required for cities to receive some Justice Department grants. She says Travis County is already in compliance and called the warning "thin cloaking for political retribution."

President Trump had said during the campaign that he would "defund" sanctuary cities by taking away funding. But legal precedent suggests that would have been difficult to do.

Gov. Greg Abbott has blocked Travis County from some state grants after the newly elected sheriff announced her jails would no longer honor all immigration detainers.

Spring clean your kitchen with new countertops from...
Accent Granite & Marble
Showroom & Indoor Slab Gallery
Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM • Saturday 9AM-12PM
4309 SCR 1290 (Coors Road) • Odessa, TX 79765
(432) 563-8004 • accentgranitemidland.com
Locally Owned & Operated

GET READY FOR SPRING
SHAPE AND PRUNE YOUR TREES DURING THE COOL SEASON.
alldredge
Contact an Alldredge Arborist for Consultation and Estimate.
3300 FAIRGROUNDS RD (432) 682-4500
WE ARE MORE THAN JUST A GARDEN CENTER

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Highlights today

■ An Evening with Dr. Sanjay Gupta presented by the Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series, 7:30 p.m., Chaparral Center at Midland College, 3600 Garfield St. Gupta is a practicing neurosurgeon and medical correspondent for CNN. Free. midland.edu.

■ Chicago, 8 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $85-$125. wagnernoel.com.

Other things to do

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

■ Play Date, 10 and 11 a.m., Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. Free. museumsw.org.

■ Bridge game play, 1 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $6. For more information call 432-682-8595.

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

■ Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment, 7 p.m., Basin Burger House.

■ "MindGamers," 8 p.m., Tall City Stadium, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $19.49. Cinema audiences will help make neuroscience history: for the first time, 1,000 human minds will be simultaneously connected via cloud technology while they watch MindGamers. fathomevents.com.

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

■ $2 Tuesdays with the same price for games, shoes, select beers and arcade card after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

Meetings

City Council
10 a.m.
Council Chambers City H all
300 N. Loraine Ave.

MFD plans Fill the Boot campaign

■ The Midland Fire Department's annual Fill the Boot campaign to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association is 9 a.m.-6 p.m. April 3, April 5 and April 7. Firefighters and volunteers will be at the following intersections on those three days: Midkiff Road and Wadley Avenue, Midland Drive and Loop 250, Midland Drive and Andrews Highway and Garfield Street and Golf Course Road.

Midland firefighters have raised more than $108,000 each of the last two years; their goals this year is $110,000, according to a press release from the city.

Community Calendar

■ A UTPB Spring Job Fair will take place from noon to 4 p.m. Thursday at the UTPB Gym.

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

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

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

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

Stay connected

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

Watering schedule

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

Even-numbered addresses may water outdoors on Saturdays and Wednesdays.

Odd-numbered addresses may water outdoors on Fridays and Tuesdays.

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

The ban on washing outdoor surfaces is still in effect.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 9-0-4
Pick 3 day: 9-7-1
Pick 3 evening: 3-2-4
Pick 3 night: 0-0-6
Daily 4 morning: 4-0-7-6
Daily 4 day: 7-1-8-9
Daily 4 evening: 6-8-4-2
Daily 4 night: 0-2-3-8
Cash Five: 13-24-28-29-36
Triple Chance: 8-15-17-21-23-26-35-42-44-46
Texas Two Step: 7-12-18-26 BB: 13
All or Nothing morning: 3-4-5-7-9-11-12-16-17-22-23-24
All or Nothing day: 1-3-5-6-10-11-12-13-18-19-20-21
All or Nothing evening: 1-4-5-6-7-8-10-11-17-19-22-23
All or Nothing night: 8-10-11-12-14-16-18-19-20-21-22-24

Today in history

Today is Tuesday, March 28, the 87th day of 2017. There are 278 days left in the year.

On this date:

In 1834, the U.S. Senate voted to censure President Andrew Jackson for the removal of federal deposits from the Bank of the United States.

In 1930, the names of the Turkish cities of Constantinople and Angora were changed to Istanbul and Ankara.

In 1979, America's worst commercial nuclear accident occurred with a partial meltdown inside the Unit 2 reactor at the Three Mile Island plant near Middletown, Pennsylvania.

In 1990, President George H.W. Bush presented the Congressional Gold Medal to the widow of U.S. Olympic legend Jesse Owens.

Today's birthdays: Country singer Reba McEntire is 62. Singer Lady Gaga is 31.

Hackers increase attacks on energy sector computers

By Collin Eaton
Houston Chronicle

Reports released this past week by U.S. security officials and private cybersecurity researchers suggest hacking of energy facility computers is on the rise, and happens far more often than the public assumes.

The Department of Homeland Security said it received reports of 59 cyber incidents at energy facilities last year, up nearly a third from the year before.

The agency responsible for protecting the nation from cybercrime said it worked to mitigate 290 incidents last year across more than a dozen industries that rely on computer controls to run industrial sites, including manufacturing sites, power generation facilities, refineries, chemical plants and nuclear facilities.

It found more than a quarter of these intrusions originated from so-called spear phishing emails that hackers use to trick people into downloading infected attachments or clicking on virus-laden links.

More than one in 10 came from network probing and scanning.

"Every year, adversaries develop increasingly sophisticated attacks against control system networks," Homeland Security's Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team said.

The increased number of intrusions into energy computer controls last year brings the number of such incidents in the industry to more than 400 since 2011, Homeland Security data show.

Security specialists say that's likely a conservative number because energy companies aren't required to report cyberattacks to the U.S. government.

In another report, cybersecurity researchers believe computer controls at industrial facilities, including in the oil business, get infected by non-targeted malware at least 3,000 times a year.

Dragos Security, a cybersecurity firm in San Antonio, arrived at what it believes is a conservative estimate of worldwide industrial cyberattacks after studying 30,000 samples of infected control system files submitted over the past decade and a half to a publicly available database called VirusTotal, a web service owned by Google.

The findings show malware that isn't even tailored to industrial controls finds its way into critical technology far more often than the public assumes. Some of the malware can spread through these systems with ease, and some were designed many years ago.

"If you have really bad cyber hygiene and you're not paying attention to basic things, you're more likely to get impacted by a virus that was written nine years ago," said Ben Miller of Dragos.

For example, Miller found thousands of industrial files compromised by Sinowal, a Trojan horse first discovered in 2006. Even more common, though, were strains of malware that spread from computer to computer, created at least five years ago.

It's not clear how many of these industrial facilities were tied to the energy industry, because the VirusTotal data only provided the country of origin of the independently uploaded files.

But it's yet another grim revelation for oil companies that rely on automated computer controls to run refineries, pipelines and offshore platforms.

Miller said these breaches could begin during the equipment upgrades that happen when power plants, refineries and other energy facilities are taken offline for repairs.

Crews of engineers, equipment contractors and information technology specialists flowing in and out of the facilities could, for example, fail to follow security protocols and accidentally plug in infected USB drives into facility systems.

And they might only discover they've infected operational computers after they use the same thumb drives in corporate computers outfitted with antivirus alert systems, Miller said.

France's Total invests in $1.7 billion Texas energy site

By Angela Charlton
Associated Press

PARIS — French energy company Total is launching a multi-billion-dollar petrochemical joint venture in Texas as it tries to profit from the "business-friendly environment" under the current U.S. administration.

The plan announced Monday in Paris is the company's largest-ever investment in petrochemicals, and part of its strategy to benefit from cheap shale gas in the U.S. and President Donald Trump's support for the energy industry.

Total will partner with chemical companies Borealis and Nova to build two new units on the U.S. Gulf Coast.

One is an ethane steam cracker in Port Arthur, Texas that would convert natural gas into chemicals used for plastics and other materials. Total would provide the initial $1.7 billion for that operation.

The other is a new polyethylene plant in Bayport, Texas, also for making plastics. The cost of that plant is still being worked out among Total, Borealis and Nova, said Bernard Pinatel, president of Total's refining and chemicals. Overall, he said, the project would be worth several billion dollars and Total would hold 50 percent of it.

Total says the venture, which depends on regulators' approval, would start in 2020 and create at least 1,500 local jobs.

"We want to take advantage of the business-friendly environment" to boost Total's 60-year presence in the U.S., CEO Patrick Pouyanne said in a statement.

Pinatel told The Associated Press that the French company is not scared away by Trump's "America first" policies, and instead was encouraged by an "American administration favorable to everything that touches the energy sector."

Total SA employs 6,000 people in the U.S. in the oil, gas and solar activities.

HEDGE

From 1A

Mackenzie, in a statement released Monday.

Still, he added, most of the hedges expire by next year and many still haven't locked in prices above $55 a barrel, "which is what we think is needed to organically fund significant tight-oil production growth," McConn said.

Apache Corp. and Anadarko Petroleum Corp. led the oil hedging activity, Wood Mackenzie said.

TARGET

From 3A

through committee. I don't want something mashed in on the floor."

House Bill 2244 is set for a Senate committee hearing today.

The bill signed by the governor last week bans paying petition circulators for each signature they gather and make it easier to bring a legal challenge to initiatives.

The bill was originally a catch-all for a series of proposals tightening requirements for paid workers when they're collecting voter signatures to qualify an initiative or referendum for the ballot.

It also required petition companies to post a bond, required payments for circulators to register, and created a fund to enforce violations and other changes.

The provisions were stripped out by Mesnard after the measure became a lightning rod for criticism by voting rights advocates and Democrats.

Reviving the provisions in multiple bills may also prevent an effort to block them through a citizen's referendum.

Arizona's Constitution allows 5 percent of voters to sign petitions and block a law enacted by the Legislature until the next general election.

ICE

From 3A

high-level misdemeanors or low-level felonies. The sheriff said the individuals were taken to an ICE facility in Dallas for processing, and some may be released. He said their families were notified.

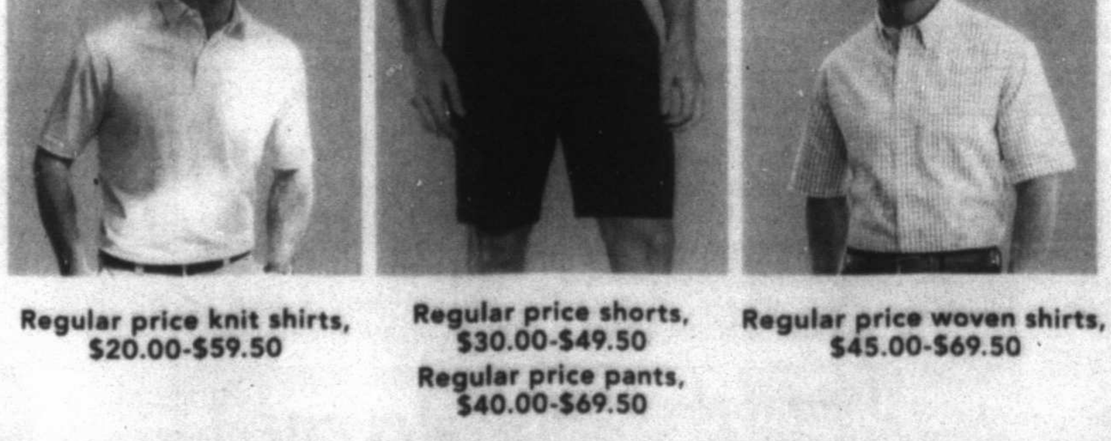
The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported that Waybourn's office was contacted about a week ago by federal authorities asking for information about people in the work detail. A judge can order suspects to report for work detail as part of a sentence.

"If someone gets booked into jail Friday night and bonds out on Saturday, ICE never has a chance to screen them," David McClelland, Waybourn's chief of staff, told the newspaper. "I don't believe the people detained were ever screened by ICE when they came into our jail."

Fort Worth-based immigration attorney Nicolas Chavez said Sunday's operation could have a "chilling effect" on immigrants who want to comply with the terms of their sentences but are concerned about federal enforcement action.

Chavez said he and other local immigration attorneys have seen a spike in clients who want a better understanding of their rights. He said many are also now seeking, for the first time, a permit allowing for legal residence.

YOUR CLASSIFIED HEADQUARTERS
SELLITTEXAS.com

Dillard's
ROUNDTREE & YORKE
STOCK UP & SAVE
ON OUR MEN'S SPORTSWEAR
LIMITED TIME!
BUY ONE, RECEIVE ONE 50% OFF*
MIX AND MATCH
KNIT SHIRTS | SHORTS & CASUAL PANTS | WOVEN SHIRTS

Regular price knit shirts, $20.00-$59.50
Regular price shorts, $30.00-$49.50
Regular price pants, $40.00-$69.50
Regular price woven shirts, $45.00-$69.50
ENTIRE STOCK OF REGULAR PRICE ROUNDTREE & YORKE KNIT & WOVEN SHIRTS, SHORTS AND CASUAL PANTS. SECOND STYLE MUST BE OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE. SELECTION VARIES BY SIZE AND STORE.
ALSO AVAILABLE IN BIG & TALL
Call 1-800-345-5273 to find a Dillard's store near you.
Earn points toward your choice of rewards when you use your Dillard's Card.
Visit dillards.com/payonline for more details. *Subject to credit approval.
See store associate for details.

Sean Hannity angry at treatment by CBS in interview

By David Bauder
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Fox News Channel's Sean Hannity is calling on CBS News to release the full tape of his interview with Ted Koppel for "Sunday Morning," in which the veteran "Nightline" anchor answered "yes" when Hannity asked if Koppel thought he was bad for America.

The exchange between two different generations of television news personalities continued to resonate Monday: It was the lead "hot topic" that hosts of "The View" kicked around on their talk show.

Hannity was interviewed for the Sunday show's cover story about partisan media, and sensed some unease by Koppel when he discussed his role as an opinion host. Hannity is a fervent supporter of President Donald Trump and has attacked his opponents and traditional media outlets for how they report on the president.

"You're cynical," Hannity said.

"I am cynical," Koppel replied.

"Do you think we're bad for America? You think I'm bad for America?" Hannity asked.

"Yeah," Koppel said.

Koppel said he lumped Hannity in with other opinion shows and that while he thought Hannity was "very good at what you do," his audience feels ideology is more important than facts.

It was one of two excerpts of Koppel's interview with Hannity that was included in the broader 10-minute story, and it quickly attracted attention. CBS News fanned it, breaking out a 45-second clip of their exchange for its website and writing a story about it.

Hannity, in a series of tweets, criticized the report as "fake edited news. I did about a 45-minute interview with CBS. They ran less than two. Why did Ted cut out my many examples of media bias?" He called on CBS to release the unedited interview so people could see the "games" being played by editors.

Hannity didn't indicate that his words were edited to make them appear misleading; he just seemed upset that so much got left on the cutting-room floor.

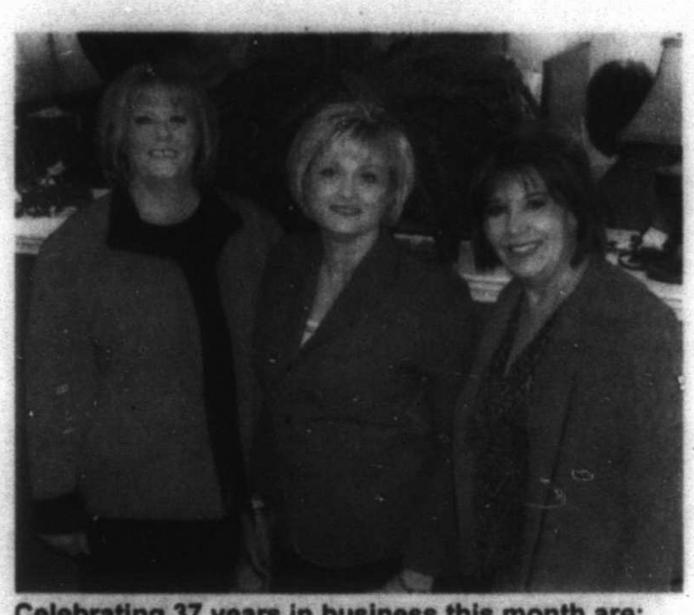
CBS News didn't respond to Hannity's request Monday. Koppel said he was content to let the story speak for itself.

Koppel has expressed similar opinions before. In an appearance on Fox's "The O'Reilly Factor" last year, Koppel told host Bill O'Reilly that he had changed the television landscape by taking news from being objective and dull to subjective and entertaining.

PAID CONTENT

for your information

To appear in *For Your Information* call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468 or your Midland Reporter-Telegram account executive at 682-5311.



Celebrating 37 years in business this month are: Debbie, Fran, Patricia and Caitlyn (not pictured). Staffing Resources can supply you with the right staff for the job. Call 432-684-0527 to learn more.

Staff up quickly, simply, easily with Staffing Resources

Staffing Resources celebrates 37 years in business this month

If you're in management in the Oil Patch, you don't have to read the headlines to know that millions—or billions—of dollars are being invested in the Permian Basin every week, it seems. Your company may be one of the big investors.

Operating those investments takes a great team—of humans that have been hired.

Hired. That means YOU have to hire them.

When? How? ARRRGGHHH!!

Take a deep breath and repeat slowly, "Staffing Resources. Staffing Resources." That's a start. Just repeating that won't solve your hiring issues. Eventually you do have to actually call Staffing Resources. They'll put their 37 years of experience right to work for you.

At that point, your hiring issues DO start to be resolved. You'll give the friendly professional at Staffing Resources all the job requirements: skills needed, experience level required, education/training needed. You'll discuss salary range and schedules and start date. If you know the job is temporary, you can discuss length of term.

Then you hang up and wait for the return call/email with your new staffer or staffers.

Right now Staffing Resources still has a good number of options for you—people who were laid off in the last bust or whose spouses were transferred here in the last couple of months, and are well qualified for your jobs.

For 37 years (this month!) Staffing Resources has been matching workers with the right jobs. They can do exactly the same for you.

One thing you should mention when calling is what kind of culture your company has—because the right match often involves more than just skills. It includes temperament and adaptability. Staffing Resources can include that in the matching criteria.

This means you're not keeping up with job ads, collecting resumes in person or by email, weeding out the bad ones, scheduling interviews and doing background checks. Instead, you're continuing to do the work you're paid to do.

Staffing Resources has already done background checks, verified previous employment and personally interviewed anyone they send you. If you'd rather, they can send you more than one applicant so you can interview and make the final decision.

And—this is huge—IF for some reason the person doesn't work out, there's no firing or unemployment involved. Just call Staffing Resources and ask for a replacement. They'll send you a new person and find the other person another position, all without any hassle.

In short—Staffing Resources allows you to staff up quickly, simply and easily, while you concentrate on your main job. Of course, you'll still need to give them any passwords, codes and keys; and assign someone to train them on your company's particular systems and procedures. But your new employee will have the basic skills required for them to catch on quickly and become an asset as soon as possible.

Ready to move ahead? Call Staffing Resources now!

Call Staffing Resources at 684-0527 to start making your work life easier. Their web address is www.igotthejobs.com.

Set your home apart with a cheery, protective sunroom from American Home Improvement

Set your home apart from the elements and from the norm, with a beautiful sunroom like this from American Home Improvement. Call them at 432-550-7224 for a free estimate.

For outdoor enjoyment, west Texas has a lot to offer: plenty of sunshine, at least a few warm days almost any month of the year and—plenty of sunshine.

In order to really enjoy the outdoors in Midland, the outdoors needs a little help. You need protection from flying insects, blowing trash and the occasional dust storm. And, let's face it—sometimes you want the dog to stay away so you can enjoy a snack or a drink.

American Home Improvement owner Rodney Martin says this kind of protection is the number one reason people in Midland and Odessa want a sunroom. In truth, a sunroom from American Home Improvement will add its own beauty, with stylish structures and windows that can be opened up to 75 percent of the way. They can be easily added to your existing porch or patio, making them very affordable.

On a quiet day you can open those windows and enjoy the light breeze and the sounds of the birds singing in your trees. On blustery days you can close those windows. Then you can still enjoy the sunshine and the view of your landscaping without hanging onto your hat or your book.

If you're in a rural setting, where various times of day can bring unwanted four-footed visitors, a sunroom can protect your own animals.

A sunroom can be anything you want it to be, not just a place to relax. It can be a gameroom, an exercise room, a place for the kids to have a sleepover, an office, a TV or video game room or…you fill in the blank. And it can change over time as your needs evolve.

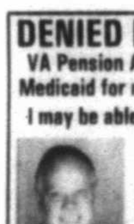
Unlike a full room addition, installing a sunroom takes only a few days. Once you've decided on the style, color, window options and trimmings, your American Home Improvement representative will carefully measure the space. Those measurements will be sent to the factory, where your sunroom's components will be made to those exact specifications.

When they arrive in town, American Home Improvement's experienced installers will install it for you in short order. Then all you have to do is bring in the furniture and let the enjoyment begin.

To further increase your enjoyment, ask about ceiling fans, air conditioning, window tinting and other comfort options.

You're going to LOVE this. It's functional, beautiful and it sets your home apart—from the weather and from the norm. Call American Home Improvement today and get started on the next aspect of your dream home.

American Home Improvement has been locally owned and operated for more than 20 years. Call them at 550-7224 for a free estimate and home demonstration. They are at the corner of 191 and FM 1788. Their website is www.ahi-texas.com.

DENIED BENEFITS?
VA Pension Aid & Attendance
Medicaid for nursing home care
I may be able to help! Please call today for your free consultation. I have been very successful in helping families who have been denied these benefits.

432-683-0796
Michael Watson with Watson and Associates works under the direction of attorneys.

"We Have Hiring Solutions" Call Us!!
Staffing Resources
The Power in Personnel
(432) 684-0527
www.igotthejobs.com
Call us to start making your work life easier!
Midland Born · Midland Managed · Midland Operated Since 1980

AMERICAN HOME IMPROVEMENT

Enjoy Outdoor Living... Indoors!
SUNROOMS

UP TO $1200 OFF
Call Today For A FREE in-home estimate and design.
www.ahi-texas.com
432-550-7224

Like or Share on Facebook and save on Electrical Work
City Wide Electric
Fast Service All Types Commercial and Residential Electrical Work
City Wide Electric
697-6456
city_wide@att.net
www.citywideelectricTX.com

ORIENTAL Rug Cleaning
Advantage CLEANING
Professional In-Plant Cleaning & Restoration
Holman Padgett
Certified Rug Specialist
• Pneumatic Dusting
• Deodorizing
• Refringing
• Appraisal
• Rug Pad
• Moth Treatment
550-8325
Find Us FAST In Names Numbers

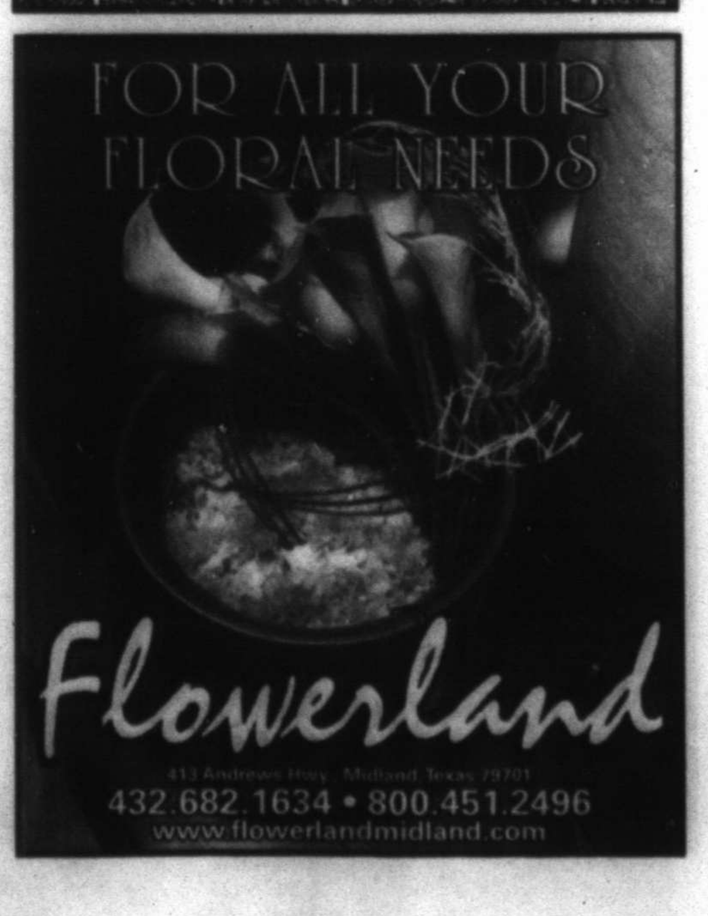
George Rood Masonry
Specializing in: Rotting Brick Repair & Block Fences
Brick Work & Grouting
All Masonry Repair
FREE ESTIMATES
664-1341
Serving West Texas for 32 Years

George Rood

Trustworthy, Caring, Professional
THE Sales TEAM REALTORS
(432) 618-1818

New Flooring
* Carpet
* Ceramic Tile * Hardwood
* Laminates
Together, Travis Kendrick & Robert Burton bring you 40+ years experience

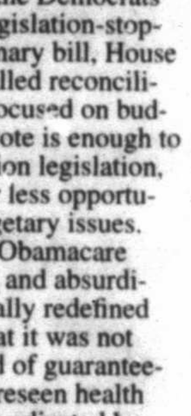
Southwest Floors
1113 Andrews Hwy 689-9312
Next to McDonald's

FOR ALL YOUR FLORAL NEEDS

Flowerland
411 Andrews Hwy · Midland, Texas 79701
432.682.1634 • 800.451.2496
www.flowerlandmidland.com

Complete Collision Repair
Vehicle Rentals
ALLSTAR REFINISHING & COLLISION and EXPRESS RENT-A-CAR
Check Out Our Website!
www.allstarmidland.com
4600 W. Wall 683-2761 570-0019

Obamacare is saved and disasters now chase us

■ Republican leadership didn't accomplish repeal; history will tell the story of what it means



JAY AMBROSE

Washington Post Writers Group

Democrats saved Obamacare from the Republicans but will not be able to save it from itself. The health plan is so badly misconceived that it will now become ever more distorted until finally it just won't be there. In the meantime, it will continue to do ruinous damage to the budget and economy. The Democrats will blame the Republicans, and the press just might let them get away with it.

The Republicans, whose House leadership has given up the ghost on repeal and replacement, had failed over the years to develop a viable, alternate plan, it is said. That's not entirely true. There were many plans but little agreement within a party more diverse than critics admit. It is true the GOP came together when passing repeal bills during the Obama years, obviously confident that vetoes would let them off the hook of something unworkable coming up.

This time around, House Speaker Paul Ryan had a plan that was in many ways reasonable although it needed renovations that could have come through Senate amendments and compromise the Democrats disallowed. Because the Democrats would have offered up a legislation-stopping filibuster for any ordinary bill, House Republicans stuck to so-called reconciliation legislation that was focused on budgetary issues. A majority vote is enough to act on and pass reconciliation legislation, but this approach offers far less opportunity to delve into non-budgetary issues.

So now we are left with Obamacare with all its misconceptions and absurdities intact. This act essentially redefined insurance in such a way that it was not insurance anymore. Instead of guaranteeing compensation for unforeseen health mishaps through premiums adjusted by risk, insurance was now a system of paying for health bills after the mishaps had already occurred with the people most at risk often paying the least money. It was as if you could buy fire insurance after your house had already burned down, or to use another comparison, as if a life insurance company charged sick people at age 89 less than healthy people at age 21.

The intentions were good — insurance for one and all that covered every conceivable ailment — but the consequences were a path to hell. To pay for those at high risk, those at small risk had to fork up big bucks through penalties they would otherwise suffer. It did not work well, and insurance firms kept raising premiums and deductibles to the point of people paying more than they could afford with the prospect of getting nothing back. Many decided the penalties were more comfortable, and major health insurance companies dropped out of the program.

Meanwhile, there were governmental subsidies left and right requiring taxes right and left along with budget deficits worsening the possibilities of a debt crisis. A favorite leftist solution was to convert to a single-payer system, which is to say, government would foot far more of the bill. Our threatening entitlement conglomeration would then reach a point where possibilities of a debt crisis would be converted into probabilities of a debt crisis, maybe even assurance of a debt crisis.

So here we are with a Republican plan down in the dirt and smiles on the faces of Democrats because they had salvaged a disaster of their making that at the moment is in fact doing good for large numbers of people. That's temporarily the blessing of all kinds of ill-conceived governmental solutions that then turn sour and require ever more hurt to supposedly stop the hurt.

Maybe, a few months down the road, Republicans will aim for a real legislative solution again, but maybe that will meet the same fate of disagreement and Democratic blockades. Maybe we will later see Obamacare combustion with millions of the once-insured uninsured and spending of a calamitous sort. Perhaps the Republicans will be held responsible, leading to Democratic victories at the polls and worse calamity. We will see.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

OUR VIEW

Another bill reminds us how parents are again passing the buck

It is a sad commentary on society that schools have to teach youth how to interact with law enforcement.

But that is the case. Senate Bill 30, a, Austin American-Statesman columnist told us in Monday's edition, addresses "the interaction of young people and cops during traffic stops"

As Ken Herman writes, "the topic is one that most parents should be qualified to handle." However, this can be added to the list of examples of parents not doing their jobs.

We once wrote here that there are laws in place because lawmakers had no other choice. It is that way with texting-driving bans and ordinances that prevent people from parking on their yard. However, if enough stupid people do dumb things, then government has to step in.

On the education front, we know the three R's have nothing to do with sex-ed. But schools have assumed that responsibility. The same can be said about schools providing breakfast and lunch to some students. We know some students don't regularly receive the first meal of the day. Again, it is our actions that have required government to step in.

We agree with state Sen. Charles Perry (R-Lubbock) that "we continue to lay social problems, be it common sense or otherwise, at the feet of our public education system." He was right that "you typically don't have a disagreement with someone wearing a gun and a badge in a disrespectful manner. But that's not the days we live in today."

This is on us as a community. For some reason, parents have been allowed to get away with not participating. There are parents who don't want to be part of their child's education. They handed that off to teachers as quick as they could and are then disappointed when the results aren't as expected or when a child is "indoctrinated" with an alleged activist teacher's point of view.

There are parents who don't want to teach their children to respect others or themselves, and then they wonder why their child ends up in trouble with the law, or why their child suffers the consequences that come with unprotected sex.

Parents always will be their child's first and primary influence. That's how it should be. Drug awareness, sex education, disciplinary issues, health and spiritual well-being -- they all start at home.

We leave you with the following quote from Frank Martin, who is the head coach of the University of South Carolina basketball team, which advanced to college basketball's Final Four. He was asked about coaches being less-demanding. Included in his answer was this:

"You know what makes me sick to my stomach? When I hear grown people say that kids have changed. Kids haven't changed. Kids don't know anything about anything. We've changed as adults. We demand less of kids. We expect less of kids. We make their lives easier instead of preparing them for what life is truly about. We're the ones that have changed. To blame kids is a copout."

Rich or poor; black, brown or white. We all could use a kick in the butt. Schools are being forced into raising our children for one reason — because many of us have chosen to take the easy way out and stop being parents.

One day we will look at Senate Bill 30 and say one of two things. The first is that the bill was part of a wake-up call Texas parents needed. The second, and sadly the more-likely scenario, is the bill was another instance when government had to step in because parents weren't doing their jobs.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

A Hearst newspaper

EDITORIAL BOARD

Jeff Shabram, Publisher
Stewart Doreen, Editor
Mary Dearen, Managing Editor
Trevor Hawes, Asst. Managing Editor

TO OUR READERS

Opinions, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the author's or artist's views and not necessarily the view of the Reporter-Telegram.

Abbott's Texas stomps local control

■ Governor doesn't think city governments know what's best for their residents

ALBERTA PHILLIPS

Austin American-Statesman

Welcome to Gov. Greg Abbott's Texas, where the state bullies local governments to bend to its will and strangles efforts of local people to govern themselves. That sounds surreal — but it is not a stretch if Abbott gets his way.

The Texas Tribune reported last week that Abbott is proposing a "rifle-shot" law to pre-empt regulations of cities and counties that run counter to the GOP's agenda for Texas. Such an approach would wreck the current democratic process in which the Legislature publicly debates local ordinances before either validating them or striking them down.

Here is what Abbott told the Texas Conservative Coalition Research Institute, an Austin-based think tank, during a Q&A session at the group's meeting in Corpus Christi:

"As opposed to the state having to take multiple rifle-shot approaches at overriding local regulations, I think a broad-based law by the state of Texas that says across the board, the state is going to pre-empt local regulations, is a superior approach," The Tribune reported.

Abbott added that such an approach, "makes it more simple, more elegant, but more importantly, provides greater advance notice to businesses and to individuals that you're going to have the certainty to run your lives."

Yes, governor, democracy is messy, tedious and time-consuming. But that is what the framers of the Constitution had in mind in setting up a system to ensure that ideas are debated in the public square in front of the people, so presumably the best ones would prevail.

A sweeping law aimed at diluting or eroding that process is antithetical to the Constitution.

Our democratic system was not intended to be "elegant," or a means of granting "notice to businesses and individuals" so as to provide certainty in their practices, profits or lives, as the governor seems to believe. And the notion that elected lawmakers need some kind of break in doing the jobs we elected and pay them to do — pass laws — is misguided.

Aside from being imprudent, Abbott's proposal is unnecessary, as the limits of municipalities — such as the city of Austin and all 254 Texas counties — are spelled out in the state's constitution and legal principles, as Austin attorney and former Travis County Judge Bill Aleshire, notes.

"The Texas Constitution and statutes establish different legal principles regarding power of cities and counties," Aleshire told me.

"The principle for home-rule cities is that they have any power necessary for protection for the health, welfare or safety of the city residents that is not prohibited by state law. The opposite is true for counties, which only have power that is granted to them by state law."

In other words, home-rule cities like Austin can legally ban plastic bags, require Uber and Lyft to fingerprint their drivers and regulate short-term rentals; those are areas in which the state has not established regulations, with the exception of some restrictions on plastic bag bans. So none of Austin's local ordinances in such areas violate state regulations.

And if the state does extend its reach in those areas — as some Republicans in the Legislature now are attempting to do — Austin's ordinances would have to come into compliance with state law. However, the city could decide to challenge state law in court. In either scenario, the current democratic system works in handling such issues.

As for Travis County, no doubt Abbott is madder than hell over new policies of Travis County Sheriff Sally Hernandez to deny most requests from Immigration and Customs Enforcement to detain jail inmates for federal immigration checks before releasing them.

I say that because counties have so little authority in general and already are limited to doing what the state prescribes. So Abbott's proposal with regard to counties makes no sense. That is especially true since state lawmakers now are considering a law to require Texas sheriffs to fully comply with ICE detainers or fine them civilly or criminally if they don't.

Currently, Hernandez is only honoring ICE requests when the inmate is charged with one of four crimes: capital murder, murder, aggravated sexual assault or continuous human smuggling.

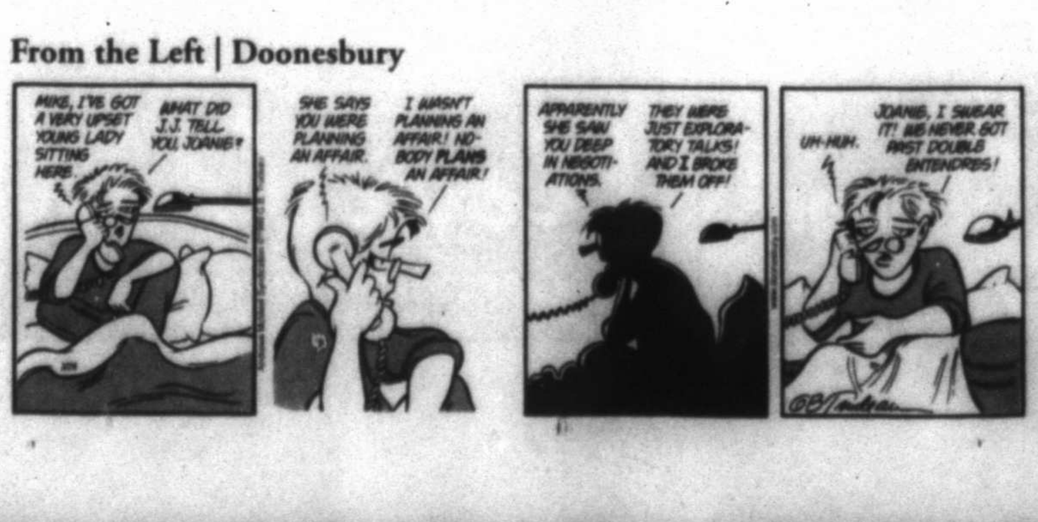
Again, our current legislative process — including debate and public meetings — is handling the local initiative that has Abbott all riled up. Austin and Travis County leaders might not agree with the Legislature's response to Hernandez's ICE policy, but even Hernandez has said she would follow state law under such circumstances, meaning she would honor ICE detainers if that is the law.

As a former Texas Supreme Court justice and state attorney general, Abbott should know that upheaval, disruption and disagreement are part of the formula for a healthy democracy. And can you even imagine the reaction of Abbott, who worships at the altar of states' rights, if the federal government struck that posture with Texas?

Let's face it — some of the most autocratic countries in the world are the ones with the most certainty and predictability for their people, governments and businesses. Like North Korea.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Visit to WH grounds by Intel chairman clouds investigation

By Eileen Sullivan
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House intelligence chairman Devin Nunes went to the White House grounds to review intelligence reports and meet the secret source behind his claim that communications involving Trump associates were caught up in "incidental" surveillance in the waning days of the Obama administration.

The location of the meeting, confirmed Monday by Rep. Nunes' spokesman, revived questions about the independence of the committee's investigation into Russia's interference in the 2016 election and Trump associates' ties with the Kremlin. Democrats have accused Nunes of coordinating with the White House, an allegation he has strongly denied.

After reviewing the information last week, Nunes called a news conference to announce that U.S. spy agencies may have inadvertently captured Trump and his associates in routine targeting of foreigners' communications. Trump quickly seized on the statements as at least partial vindication for his assertion that President Barack Obama tapped his phones at Trump Tower — though Nunes and FBI Director James Comey as well as the committee's top Democrat have said there is no such evidence.

The Senate intelligence committee is also conducting an investigation into Russia's interference in the election and possible ties with the Trump campaign. And on Monday, it announced that Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner has agreed to be interviewed. The White House confirmed that Kushner, a senior Trump adviser, had volunteered to be interviewed about arranging meetings with the Russian ambassador and other officials.

Kushner is the fourth Trump associate to offer to be interviewed by the congressional committees looking into the murky Russia ties. Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, Trump adviser Carter Page and Trump associate Roger Stone last week volunteered to speak as well.

"Mr. Kushner will certainly not be the last person the committee calls to give testimony, but we expect him to be able to provide answers to key questions that have arisen in our inquiry," the chairman, Sen. Richard Burr of North Carolina, and the top Democrat, Mark Warner of Virginia said in a joint statement Monday in a sign of bipartisanship.

Pablo Martinez Monsivais/AP

In this March 22 file photo, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif, speaks with reporters outside the White House in Washington following a meeting with President Donald Trump. Nunes' spokesman says the congressman met on the White House grounds with the source of the claim that communications involving President Donald Trump's associates were caught up in "incidental" surveillance.

The House investigation, meanwhile, has been plagued with partisan divisions under Nunes' leadership.

The chairman did not tell the top Democrat on the committee, Rep. Adam Schiff, about the meeting at the White House complex. It is highly unusual for a committee chairman and ranking member not to coordinate meetings related to an investigation.

"I think the chairman has to make a decision whether to act as a surrogate of the White House — as he did during the campaign and the transition — or to lead an independent and credible investigation," Schiff said Sunday on CBS' "Face the Nation."

Spokesman Jack Langer said Monday that circumstances required that Nunes go to a secure room at the White House complex to review classified "executive branch documents that have not been provided to Congress."

In addition to the White House itself, the grounds include an adjacent building with offices for National Security Council and other executive branch employees.

"Because of classification rules, the source could not simply put the documents in a backpack and walk them over to the House Intelligence committee space," Langer said. "The White House grounds was the best location to safeguard the proper chain of custody and classification of these documents, so the chairman could view them in a legal way."

Nunes would not name the source of the information. In an interview with Bloomberg View on Monday, Nunes said the source was not a White House staffer and was an intelligence official.

White House spokesman Sean Spicer would not comment on whether White House officials were involved with Nunes.

"I'm not going to get into who he met with or why he met with them," Spicer said.

The clandestine meeting was remarkable for a committee that seeks to demonstrate bipartisanship, said Jonathan Turley, a law professor at George Washington University who has written extensively about separation of powers.

"Ideally, any meeting at the White House on a subject under investigation would have been done with the knowledge of the ranking member or his staff," Turley said. "Because these committees are the least transparent in Congress, both parties have historically tried to be open with each other on contacts or meetings with agencies on key questions."

The disclosure renewed calls for an independent committee to investigate the Russia ties.

Indeed, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer called on House Speaker Paul Ryan to replace Nunes as chairman of the intelligence committee.

"He has not been operating like someone who is interested in getting to the unvarnished truth. His actions look like those of someone who is interested in protecting the president and his party," Schumer said.

When Nunes disclosed the intelligence reports last week, he said what he reviewed had nothing to do with Russia, which could suggest that Trump associates were in touch with other foreign targets of U.S. intelligence surveillance in November, December or January.

"The chairman is extremely concerned by the possible improper unmasking of names of U.S. citizens, and he began looking into this issue even before President Trump tweeted his assertion that Trump Tower had been wiretapped," Langer said.

It is unclear exactly what documents Nunes reviewed.

Nunes and Schiff have asked the FBI, CIA and National Security Agency for the names of officials who were cited in intelligence reports. The committee has said it is getting some of what it requested, but has not received everything.

Will Cabinet follow Tillerson's lead in limiting media access?

By David Bauder
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, who has famously declared himself "not a big media press access person," isn't alone in President Donald Trump's Cabinet. But it's too early to call him a trendsetter, either.

Education Secretary Betsy DeVos and Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao, both with extensive private sector backgrounds, have similarly been press-averse at the beginning of their tenures. Others seem to be following the leads of predecessors. In some cases, it's just too early to tell.

Tillerson's decision not to make room for reporters on the plane for his first major overseas trip earlier this month drew scrutiny because his job is generally considered the most important in the Cabinet and there's a rich tradition of secretaries of state keeping the public informed of foreign policy objectives. He's had little visibility so far and the plane decision is more than symbolic; many of his predecessors and their staffs used that time to answer reporters' questions.

In an interview with the one journalist allowed on the trip, from the right-leaning website Independent Journal Review, Tillerson said he personally doesn't need media attention.

"I understand it's important to get the message of what we're doing out," the former Exxon Mobil CEO said, "but I also think there's only a purpose in getting the message out when there's something to be done."

With attention paid to Trump's declaration of some media organizations as enemies of the American people, and reporters' jousting with White House press secretary Sean Spicer a near-daily television event, access to Cabinet-level officials can be overlooked.

Precisely because they don't get as much attention, it's important for journalists to understand and explain the work being done, said Nikki Usher, a professor of media and public affairs at George Washington University.

"These offices have tremendous power and most people don't know what goes on in there," she said.

Cabinet secretaries with a private sector background need to understand that they now work on behalf of the people, who have a right to know what these officials are doing in their names, she said.

"Corporate folks are used to not having to account for any kind of public conversations or talk to reporters with the exception of crisis communications or quarterly earnings calls with assessments of the health of their corporations," Usher said. They're used to being insulated.

The billionaire philanthropist DeVos' background is more private sector than public. She was the chairman of Michigan's Republican Party and her husband is the co-founder of Amway. Her lack of education background and support of school choice made her the most controversial Cabinet pick, and she needed the tie-breaking vote of Vice President Mike Pence to be confirmed.

Perhaps as a result, she's not been shy about avoiding the media.

The department did not announce it when she visited her first school as education secretary. Reporters showed up anyway, tipped by advocacy organizations, but were not allowed in the school. DeVos does not take reporters' questions after speeches and her few interviews were with conservative news outlets. Her public schedule is often not released ahead of time.

Chao has both a public and private sector background, as a banker, former Labor Secretary, director of the Peace Corps and CEO of United Way. She hasn't held a meeting or news conference with reporters since her Jan. 31 Senate confirmation, and hasn't spoken to reporters following public appearances.

Ray LaHood and Anthony Foxx, the two transportation secretaries under former President Barack Obama, met frequently with reporters.

How the Trump appointees interpret their boss' attacks on the press will be watched closely. "The press is not the enemy," said Peter Cook, a former reporter and spokesman for the Department of Defense during the Obama administration.

It's also common for top executives in many fields, for reasons of ego or message control, to keep a tight rein on underlings. Requests to speak to agency heads in the administration of New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a potential 2020 Democratic presidential candidate, have to go through the governor's office.

Here's how some of the other Cabinet offices have been working:

■ Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and other senior defense and military leaders continue to take media contingents with them overseas. Mattis and the others hold media availabilities on the trips, although Mattis has not yet gone to the Pentagon briefing room.

■ Trump's Homeland Security Department has operated the way others have in the early stages. Its Immigration and Customs Enforcement branch uses Twitter to defend enforcement actions; under Obama, the feed was largely confined to news releases.

■ Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, a former Goldman Sachs manager, took reporters on his plane to the Group of 20 meeting with finance officials in Germany earlier this month. He's done interviews with business news networks, the Wall Street Journal and the news site Axios.

■ Former presidential candidates Rick Perry, the new energy secretary, and Ben Carson, secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, also are accustomed to dealing with the media. It remains to be seen how being used to — or needing — media attention will play into their new roles.

Dems force 1-week delay on panel vote on Supreme Court pick

By Mary Clare Jalonick
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats on Monday forced a one-week delay in a committee vote on President Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, who remains on track for confirmation with solid Republican backing.

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, announced that, as expected, Democrats have requested a postponement. The committee vote on Judge Neil Gorsuch now will be held April 3.

As the committee readies to vote, four additional Democrats said they are likely to vote against the Denver-based appeals court judge. Minnesota Sen. Al Franken, Florida Sen. Bill Nelson and Hawaii Sen. Mazie Hirono said they will vote against Gorsuch, and Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy tweeted that he still was undecided but inclined to oppose him. Leahy is a senior member of the Judiciary panel and a former chairman.

Gorsuch "has an extreme record on everything from corporate accountability and workers' rights to women's health, and I fear that as a Supreme Court justice he will guarantee that the highest court in the land continues to favor powerful interests over the rights of average Americans," Franken said in a statement.

That means at least 18 Democrats and independents, led by Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York, have announced their opposition to the Denver-based appeals court judge, arguing that Gorsuch has ruled too often against workers and in favor of corporations.

The Democrats who have announced their opposition have also said they will try to block the nominee, meaning Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., will have to hold a procedural vote requiring 60 votes to move forward. The Senate GOP has a 52-48 majority, meaning McConnell will need support from at least eight Democrats or independents.

It was unclear whether he would be able to get the 60 votes. If he doesn't, McConnell seems ready to change Senate rules and confirm him with a simple majority.

Republicans had hoped that they'd see some support from the 10 Democrats running for re-election in states won by Trump in the presidential election, but four of those senators — Nelson, Pennsylvania Sen. Bob Casey, Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown and Wisconsin Sen. Tammy Baldwin — have already said they will oppose the nominee.

Leahy, however, signaled that he may be willing to break from Schumer and vote with Republicans on the procedural vote, while also signaling in a separate tweet he'd vote against Gorsuch in the final, up or down vote.

"I am never inclined to filibuster a SCOTUS nom," Leahy tweeted. "But I need to see how Judge Gorsuch answers my written Qs, under oath, before deciding."

Several Democrats have expressed frustration with the lack of answers Gorsuch gave during two lengthy days of questioning at his confirmation hearing last week, criticizing him for declining to give his personal views on most issues, including abortion, campaign finance and others they asked him about. They also expressed concerns that he wouldn't be an independent voice from Trump, who nominated him in January.

"Judicial philosophy is important, and he just wouldn't go there," Hirono said in an interview shortly after she announced her opposition.

California Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the top Democrat on the Judiciary panel, also noted at the brief committee meeting Monday the "depth of feeling" among Democrats after Republicans blocked former President Barack Obama's nominee for the same seat, Merrick Garland. Within hours of Justice Antonin Scalia's death in February 2016. Republicans said they wouldn't take up Obama's eventual choice, saying the next president should have the say.

Republicans praised Gorsuch's testimony, saying he showed humility and a deep understanding of legal precedent and separation of powers.

Fun Facts Sponsored by
FRANKLIN FOLIAGE
LANDSCAPING
"Serving West Texas Since 1981"
It's Tree Trimming Time!
Call us today to create the garden of your dreams!
685-3521
www.franklinfoliage.com
In the Caribbean there are oysters that can climb trees.
Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

DAILY PROMISE BROUGHT TO YOU BY
HENRY
Psalm 36 7-9
"How priceless is Your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of Your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light."

Q&A: Who'd gain from a Trump border wall? Hint: Not Mexico

By Alex Veiga
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — As a billionaire developer, Donald Trump built casinos, luxe condo towers and lush golf courses. Now, as president, Trump aims to develop perhaps his most ambitious and surely his most contentious project yet: A wall along the nearly 2,000-mile U.S.-Mexico border.

How? At what cost? And who would benefit?

Much remains unknown. Ultimately, though, experts say the project, if built, could deliver a windfall for some large construction companies and their suppliers. Engineering and infrastructure companies that have worked on previous government projects could capture a chunk of the multibillion-dollar work. Among them are Kiewit and Flour Enterprises. Subsidiaries of both have signed up as interested vendors.

But the project would likely also be stymied by the struggles that have beset the industry in recent years, notably a shortage of skilled labor and rising materials costs.

Here's what's known and not known about the potential effects on U.S. construction companies and workers:

Q: Which companies would likely work on the wall?

A: The government has laid out plans to hire contractors for design and construction. Some smaller businesses would serve as subcontractors. One factor the government is to consider in choosing contractors is their track record in hiring small businesses as subcontractors and making significant use of them. The Customs and Border Protection agency has set a goal of having 38 percent of subcontracts go to small businesses.

Roughly 850 companies have expressed interest online in being vendors. Among them are self-described small, disadvantaged firms, like Nationwide Construction Services of Jacksonville, Florida, and Northwest Geotechnical Consultants of Wilsonville, Oregon. Some of the big companies include a subsidiary of the construction and engineering firm Parsons Corp. and Vulcan Materials Co., a producer of asphalt and ready-mixed concrete.

"It probably will take a really big general contractor that is used to managing multiple projects under one large umbrella and that will need many suppliers," said Ty Gable of the National Precast Concrete Association. "It's going to help a lot of individual suppliers along the way."

The Trump administration has said it wants the wall to provide not only a physical barrier but also access roads, motorized vehicle gates, lighting, communication towers, ground sensors and remote video surveillance. That would mean job opportunities for companies beyond construction firms. Some that have expressed interest include Border Technology Inc. of Hereford, Arizona, whose website says it's worked with the Border Patrol using drones and other equipment to monitor the border.

Jason Hoekema/Brownsville Herald via AP

This Feb. 16 photo shows a section of the border fence along the U.S.-Mexico border in Brownsville. As a billionaire business tycoon, Donald Trump forged deals to acquire or develop casinos, luxury condo towers and lush golf courses. Now, as president, Trump aims to build perhaps his most ambitious and certainly his most contentious structure yet: A wall along the nearly 2,000-mile border between the United States and Mexico.

Q: What kinds of jobs are we talking about?

A: Along with engineering and design work, the project would require numerous construction and heavy machinery operators. Among the jobs: Truck drivers to ferry materials, crane operators, concrete workers, digging-equipment operators, site supervisors and general laborers. Any employees who work on-site would have to pass an immigration and criminal-history check.

Finding enough skilled laborers could be tough, though, because thousands of skilled construction workers left the industry after the housing meltdown and Great Recession a decade ago.

"It ultimately comes down to how much they're willing to pay," Ken Simonson, chief economist for the Associated General Contractors of America, said of the contractors. "Firms would price in the difficulty of recruiting workers in their bids for doing the work."

Q: How long might it take to build?

A: Unclear. For now, the government's contract solicitations are intended only to assess prototype designs for the wall and to build some segments of the structure. In addition, acquiring land from private owners that would be needed to build the wall would likely add delays.

Q: What might the wall look like?

A: The government has been inviting companies to submit designs for a wall made of either reinforced concrete or other materials. The idea is to evaluate several prototypes before deciding on a design and material.

The wall is envisioned being as high as 30 feet, with automated gates for pedestrians and vehicles. The wall would also extend at least 6 feet underground to deter tunneling across the border; be resistant to climbing tools; and be strong enough to withstand attempts to make a 12-inch diameter breach in the wall using a sledgehammer, drill or other power tools.

And, among other things, the Trump administration wants the side of the wall facing the United States to be "aesthetically pleasing in color."

Q: What benefits might the wall deliver for the U.S. construction industry?

A: Given the estimated cost — somewhere between $8 billion and roughly $20 billion — the project would represent just a thin slice of overall U.S. construction spending. Spending last year on public construction totaled $286 billion. And that was just a quarter of overall construction spending, which includes residential and commercial developments.

Still, "as a single project, it would dwarf everything else," Simonson said. "Even if it came in at the low end, a single $8 billion construction project would top anything else that's out there now."

Q: How soon will a design be chosen?

A: Companies have until Wednesday to submit prototype designs. Up to 20 finalists will be selected to make more detailed design renderings and an oral presentation in Washington. The government would then award a contract based on sample walls that are to be built in San Diego and be visible to the public. It's unclear how soon construction on prototype designs would begin or when the designs would eventually be available to see. Initial documents laying out the timeline for how companies should submit wall designs indicated that the government wants to finalize a design and begin awarding contracts as early as May.

Q: How much would the project cost?

A: Unclear. Trump has suggested that the project would cost $12 billion. Congressional Republicans have estimated it could go as high as $15 billion.

An internal report prepared for Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly projected the cost of building a wall along the entire U.S.-Mexico border at about $21 billion, according to a U.S. official who is involved in border issues. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the report has not been made public. An estimate by engineers at the National Precast Concrete Association puts the cost of the wall at $8 billion. This would be for a design made up of reinforced concrete panels, with some portion of the panels extending underground. Not included is the potential cost of acquiring land.

"That's the variable that probably gets these numbers much higher than $8 billion," Gable said.

Q: Where would the money come from?

A: The White House's budget proposal to Congress included a $2.6 billion to forge ahead with the border wall.

Critics — Democrats and some Republicans — have argued that a border-long wall is unnecessary and have chafed at the notion that Trump wants to draw upon U.S. taxpayer money, even though he promised repeatedly during the campaign that Mexico would be forced to pay for the wall.

It's unclear how soon Congress might act on Trump's request or how much money might be approved or appropriated. The government has cautioned would-be contractors that the project is subject to "availability of appropriated funds."

Q: Any other potential hurdles?

A: The Trump administration appears to be bracing for a fight with private landowners over the government's likely use of eminent domain. Under eminent domain, the government can, under some circumstances, order landowners to accept buyouts for their property to make way for the fence. The administration's recently proposed budget includes money to hire 20 lawyers to work on land acquisition.

AP exclusive: 'Bathroom bill' to cost North Carolina $3.76B

By Emery P. Dalesio and Jonathan Drew
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Despite Republican assurances that North Carolina's "bathroom bill" isn't hurting the economy, the law limiting LGBT protections will cost the state more than $3.76 billion in lost business over a dozen years, according to an Associated Press analysis.

Over the past year, North Carolina has suffered financial hits ranging from scuttled plans for a PayPal facility that would have added an estimated $2.66 billion to the state's economy to a canceled Ringo Starr concert that deprived a town's amphitheater of about $33,000 in revenue. The blows have landed in the state's biggest cities, as well as towns surrounding its flagship university, and from the mountains to the coast.

The AP analysis — compiled through interviews and public records requests — represents the largest reckoning yet of how much the law, passed one year ago, could cost the state. The law excludes gender identity and sexual orientation from statewide antidiscrimination protections, and requires transgender people to use restrooms corresponding to the sex on their birth certificates in many public buildings.

Still, AP's tally is likely an underestimation of the law's true costs. The count includes only data obtained from businesses and government officials regarding projects that canceled or relocated because of HB2. A business project was counted only if AP determined through public records or interviews that HB2 was why it pulled out.

The AP also tallied the losses of dozens of conventions, sporting events and concerts through figures from local officials. The AP didn't attempt to quantify anecdotal reports that lacked hard numbers, or forecast the loss of future conventions.

Bank of America CEO Brian Moynihan — who leads the largest company based in North Carolina — said he's spoken privately to business leaders who took projects elsewhere because of the controversy, and he fears more decisions like that are being made quietly.

"Companies are moving to other places, because they don't face an issue that they face here," he told a World Affairs Council of Charlotte luncheon last month.

Other measures show North Carolina has a healthy economy. By quarterly gross domestic product, the federal government said, North Carolina had the nation's 10th fastest-growing economy six months after the law passed. The vast majority of large companies with existing North Carolina operations have made no public moves to financially penalize the state.

HB2 supporters say its costs are tiny compared with an economy estimated at more than $500 billion per year, roughly the size of Sweden's. They say they're willing to absorb those costs if the law prevents predators from posing as transgender people to commit assaults in restrooms — acts the law's detractors say are entirely imagined.

Republican Lt. Gov. Dan Forest issued a statement Monday accusing the AP of "another attempt to mislead and confuse the public through a bogus headline." Forest questioned the tally and said that even if true, it would represent only a sliver of the state's economy.

Forest, who declined an interview request to discuss AP's analysis before its publication, recently told Texas legislators considering a similar law: "Our economy is doing well. Don't be fooled by the media."

But the state governor — Democrat Roy Cooper, who's long opposed HB2 — responded to AP's story by saying: "We now know that, based on conservative estimates, North Carolina's economy stands to lose nearly $4 billion because of House Bill 2. That means fewer jobs and less money in the pockets of middle class families. We need to fix this now."

And AP's analysis shows the economy could be growing faster if not for projects that have canceled.

Those include PayPal canceling a 400-job project in Charlotte, CoStar backing out of negotiations to bring 700-plus jobs to the same area, and Deutsche Bank scuttling a plan for 250 jobs in the Raleigh area. Other companies that backed out include Adidas, which is building its first U.S. sports shoe factory employing 160 near Atlanta rather than a High Point site, and Voxpro, which opted to hire hundreds of customer support workers in Georgia, rather than North Carolina.

"We couldn't set up operations in a state that was discriminating against LGBT" people, Dan Kiely, Voxpro founder and CEO, said in an interview.

All told, the state has missed out on more than 2,900 direct jobs that went elsewhere.

An analysis by the state Commerce Department shows that state officials expected the PayPal expansion to contribute more than $200 million annually to North Carolina's economy. By the end of 2028, the state expected PayPal to have added $2.66 billion.

The same analysis of the Deutsche Bank project estimated a total impact of about $543 million by the end of 2027. The economic model has been used for more than a decade when the state offers major tax breaks.

State officials said they didn't run the same analysis for CoStar, Voxpro and Adidas, so losses attributed to them were calculated using wages and other figures from the companies or state documents.

Meanwhile, canceled conventions, concerts and sporting events have deprived the state of more than $196 million, according to tourism officials around the state.

All told, the state will have missed out on more than $3.76 billion by the end of 2028. The losses are based on projects that already went elsewhere — so the money won't be recouped even if the law is struck down in court or repealed.

By the end of 2017 alone, the lost business will total more than $525 million.

Tourism officials in several cities say the numbers they report represent only a fraction of the damage the law has done. They typically track large conventions but don't have firm numbers when smaller groups cancel — or rule out North Carolina before booking.

"The biggest impact is how many times our phones are not ringing now," said Shelly Green, CEO of the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau. She said several sporting events and conventions that canceled have deprived the city of about $11 million.

"When you think about it," Green said, "this whole thing is just such a Dumpster fire, and nobody wants to go near it."

Deborah Cannon/Austin American-Statesman via AP

In this March 6 photo, North Carolina Lt. Gov. Dan Forest, center, talks about his state's "bathroom bill" at the Capitol in Austin, Texas. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, right, looks on. Forest is a strong supporter of the bill. He has accused news organizations of creating a false picture of economic upheaval. The Associated Press has determined that North Carolina's law limiting LGBT protections will cost the state more than $3 billion in lost business over a dozen years.

GUEST VIEW

Lawmakers coming up woefully short on pre-K funding

The Dallas Morning News

It was good to see educators, advocates, business leaders and philanthropists come together in Austin earlier this month to put pressure on lawmakers to make quality pre-K funding a priority.

A similar scene played out in Dallas recently, with Mayor Mike Rawlings, former police Chief David Brown and others imploring lawmakers to invest in the state's youngest residents. Brown credited pre-K with changing the trajectory of his life, giving him a foundation that carried throughout his career.

Why the full-court press? Political posturing and horse trading have left a $236 million grant program to improve pre-K on the cutting room floor in the Senate and the House.

Quality pre-K holds promise to pay big achievement and economic dividends. Experts have repeatedly said full-day programs not only set kids up for success throughout their school years, but save communities big in the long run — with fewer dropouts, reduced crime and an educated workforce.

Texans can't afford not to see a bigger investment in this program.

Gov. Greg Abbott deserves credit for making early-childhood education a priority in the last session, where he pushed lawmakers to add $118 million in grants to improve pre-K. He asked lawmakers this year to approve $236 million for the next two years.

The Senate's budget never came close to that amount. But even that small sum for a grant was zeroed out entirely in the financial package sent to the Senate floor. Instead, SB1 provides $65 million over two years for pre-K public-private partnerships, with few details on how they would work. The House plan relegates the $235 million over two years to a "wish list" that might be considered later.

That's not good enough. The stakes are too high.

In DISD alone, students are now twice as likely to be ready for kindergarten if they've attended a high-quality pre-K program. They're three times as likely to be reading at grade level by third grade.

With those results, it's stunning that we still have this logjam.

Many observers believe that the pre-K funding is caught up in the testy backlash Abbott is experiencing for not stomping hard enough for his Republican colleagues in last year's primaries. And he's been criticized for not taking a stand on other big Austin issues, such as the bathroom bill and school vouchers.

It's time we put this infighting aside.

Abbott recognizes how important pre-K is to this state. He now needs to take the initiative to bury the hatchet and sit down with lawmakers, particularly House Speaker Joe Strauss and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, to constructively resolve any differences.

A bit of gamesmanship is expected at this point in any legislative session, especially when the budget is so tight. But it's wrong to use pre-K as a bargaining chip. State leaders shouldn't risk our kids' future.

Please see **FUNDING**/2B

KERNELS FOR LILLIPUT

ABOVE: Ryleigh Hamilton, an eighth grader at Midland Christian School, arranges giant popcorn pieces in a display at Popcorn Premiere on Monday. **RIGHT:** MCS art teacher Jena McClaine, far right, and students in her class built giant popcorn kernals as a class project. The MCS junior high students made the fake popcorn for the store at 1000 N. Midkiff Road. They also made two 15-foot papier-mache trees, and painted the stone walls and fireplace for the school's production of the musical "Cinderella."

PHOTOS BY JAMES DURBIN
REPORTER-TELEGRAM

Bonham teacher appreciates support after diagnosis

■ Kara Murrow faces surgery for Cushing's disease

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

Murrow

For Kara Murrow, the most rewarding moments as a teacher come when students learn about animals in the classroom. So it's difficult for the Bonham Elementary fifth-grade science and social studies teacher to be away from school while she prepares for surgery.

"I enjoy it, and I know my kids enjoy the class and enjoy science because of it," Murrow said. "With the science club I do after school once a week, the kids get upset when it gets canceled because of meetings. Not having it now is upsetting, too."

Murrow was diagnosed this month with Cushing's disease, a condition that develops when a tumor on the pituitary gland causes it to secrete too much adrenocorticotropic hormone. Murrow, who moved to West Texas from Arizona three years ago, said she has received support from Midland ISD employees and others in the local community.

Murrow's mother, Louise Gonzalez, also appreciates Midlanders' concerns for her daughter.

"People in Midland have been wonderful, considering how new we are to the area," Gonzalez said. "The school district sent out the GoFundMe page and there's been an outpouring of support for that. People at my church always ask me."

Murrow's family is collecting donations from the website GoFundMe to cover the costs of medical and travel expenses. Murrow and her husband, Kai, recently spent money on hospital stays connected to their 4-year-old son's food sensitivities.

"They've been paying off those bills and doing OK until this came," Gonzalez said. "Plus, she's been going to the doctor about this. Because Cushing's is so rare, doctors don't recognize it."

Murrow was diagnosed with the disease after medical professionals discovered a tumor on her pituitary gland. For six years, she experienced symptoms — including weight gain, dizziness and headaches — but said doctors couldn't determine the cause. Murrow was thankful when she received an answer.

"It was a huge relief to finally have a diagnosis and know that I wasn't crazy or making things up," Murrow said. "It's weird to be excited about a brain tumor. It's a relief to know what was happening and that I have a solution."

Murrow traveled this week to Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix, where she's scheduled to undergo surgery to remove the tumor. Though Murrow said recovery lasts several months, she hopes to return to the classroom next school year.

Jaime White, fourth-grade language arts and social studies teacher at Bonham, said both staff and students miss her presence. She said Murrow expresses concern for her students during her time away.

"She's worried about how kids will do on the STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness)," White said. "She doesn't want them to think she abandoned them. The disease has to take center stage."

At school, White said she noticed her colleague's dedication toward helping her students understand science.

"She's hands-on," White said. "When it comes to science, she's always making sure the kids are doing some sort of experiment. She wants to make sure the kids grasp it."

Murrow teaches students about animals through dissections and presentations. Before she became a teacher nine years ago, she coordinated outreach programs at an Arizona zoo.

When she came to MISD, Murrow saw an opportunity to generate enthusiasm about science. She launched an invite-only science club for fifth-graders who show interest in the subject.

"I started it because there wasn't really anything," Murrow said. "They have tutorials for reading and math. There's not a lot kids can do with science after school. They get science in the younger grades, but the focus is on reading and math. Science is something kids really enjoy."

Though Murrow is disappointed about not being able to facilitate the club, she recognizes the importance of her upcoming surgery. She's happy her mother, husband and two children will be in Phoenix for support.

Please see **MURROW**/2B

AMBER KELLY
Howard College

Students must accept that some things are meant to be hard

Like so many people, I celebrated the new year by implementing a workout program. Three months later, I am still committed, something that surprised even me since my resolutions never stick. The other day I mentioned to a trainer friend that I felt like I wasn't making much progress since some of the exercises (I'm talking to you, burpees) are still really hard. She replied, "Your workout should make you uncomfortable. If you aren't a little uncomfortable, you aren't challenging yourself."

Her statement came back to me, not as you might expect, during a round of those pesky burpees, but standing in my Composition II class. During the previous class the students had engaged in a debate about the nature of morality and evil, spurred by our discussion of Alan Moore's graphic novel, "Watchmen." Things got heated as the students stood physically divided after I asked them to go to different parts of the room to reflect their thinking on the moral implications of various acts. The next time we met, one of the students, who had been at odds with the rest of the class, shared that after the previous period she had spent three hours discussing her shock at how differently her classmates viewed something she considered to be so fundamental. My first impulse was to apologize for having made her uncomfortable, but before I could, she stated, "It was the best class all year. I can't get over it."

Much has been written about the place of college educators. Some are criticized for coddling students, while others are targeted as inciting discord instead of teaching. The purpose of teaching thus becomes politicized for various agendas, none of which usually have to do with the actual process of learning.

Although I do not pretend to know all the answers to how teachers should teach, I do think back to that idea my trainer friend shared. Our students, or at least mine, tend to avoid things that make them uncomfortable — whether it be taking a more challenging science class, trying a new technology or debating a topic with which there is not necessarily a right answer. Maybe, however, that is OK. Maybe we should be uncomfortable.

Currently, I am taking three courses in my Ph.D. program. When I pull out my books to begin studying each night, I find I am resistant to begin work on one of the classes. In writing a reflective journal this week, I came to the realization that it is because the content does not come easily to me. I cannot study with Bruce Springsteen blaring in the background; I have to read many passages more than once, and I cannot rely on past coursework to figure it all out. The course makes me uncomfortable because it is hard.

Come on, you might say, it is a doctoral class. It is supposed to be hard.

That is exactly right, but like the burpees, that realization does not make it any easier to get through. It does, however, make me consider my own teaching and how my kids are advancing in school. I have written before about the importance of students knowing how to recover from failure. Just as important, students must also learn how to adapt to things that do not come easily and how to accept that some things are meant to be hard. Terms such as grit, resilience, perseverance —

Please see **KELLY**/2B

MAKINGTHEGRADE

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Phillips

Midland High School senior **Joe Turner Phillips III** has been honored by the Midland Rotary Club. He is the son of Kim and Joe Phillips II.

He is a member of the football, powerlifting and track teams, National Honor Society and Students in Philanthropy. He is a track and football letterman and second team All-District in football. He is a Texas Scholar.

He attends First United Methodist Church and volunteers at Buckner Family Place, High Sky Children's Ranch, Meals on Wheels, Midland Fair Havens and Odessa Animal Control and After-School Kids.

Phillips plans to attend University of Texas and major in petroleum engineering.

* * *

Elliott

Greenwood High School senior **Blake Elliott** has been honored by the Midland Rotary Club. He is the son of Ariel and Shay Elliott.

He is a member of the basketball team, National Honor Society and Interact Club and is second team All-District.

He volunteers with Commemorative Air Force, Habitat for Humanity and First Baptist Church's Sunday school.

Elliott plans to attend Southwestern University and major in political science.

* * *

Reams

Lee High School senior **Angela Reams** has been honored by the Midland West Rotary Club. She is the daughter of Rachael Reams.

She is a member of the robotics team and Dixie Dolls.

She volunteers with Lone Star Animal Sanctuary, One Hope Church of Christ and Lee High Youth Center.

Reams plans to attend University of Texas of the Permian Basin and major in mechanical engineering.

* * *

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Midlander **Bryce Hoppel** was named to the honor roll for the fall semester at the University of Kansas.

To be eligible, students have to be in the top 10 percent of the school or meet a minimum GPA.

* *

ABILENE — Midlanders **Benjamin Brockman** and **A'lexus Scott** received a scholarship during Scholarship Day competition at McMurry University.

The awards are made to incoming freshmen and can be up to $8,000 a year for four years.

EDUCATIONBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Education awards to be presented

The Midland Chamber of Commerce will honor 82 teachers and non-classroom personnel at the 25th annual Excellence in Teaching & Unsung Hero Awards in a ceremony at 5 p.m. today at Green Tree Country Club.

Each Midland County school submitted a nominee and a panel of judges determines an overall winner in each of three categories: elementary, secondary and Unsung Hero (a non-classroom staff member whose efforts contribute to the campus' overall success).

During today's ceremony, all campus winners will be presented with a gift valued at $50, and each of the three overall category winners will receive a check for $2,500.

H-E-B is the event's presenting sponsor. The Unsung Hero awards have been underwritten by the Abell-Hanger Foundation.

Leadership program accepting nominations

Nominations and applications are being accepted for the Four Star Leadership with General Tommy Franks, a summer leadership program planned for July 9-14 at Oklahoma Christian University in Hobart, Oklahoma. Seventy high school students from around the world will be selected. Students will have a chance to earn more than $15,000 in scholarships.

Program curriculum is designed around the four core principles of the four stars of leadership: character, common vision, communication and caring, according to a press release.

Application and nomination deadline is May 8. For more information, to apply or to nominate, visit FourStarLeader.com or call 580-726-5900.

UTPB student to present research

ODESSA — A chemistry major at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin is among 63 students representing 51 universities who will participate today in Texas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol.

Jason Snitker is presenting "An Alternative Technique for the Control of Biofilm Growth Caused by Anaerobic Sulfate Reducing Bacteria: Applying Rational Design of Silver Nanoparticles."

The biennial event showcases research of students across the state. The presentations are through poster displays, according to a press release from UTPB.

Zach Hyman/Sesame Workshop via AP

This image released by Sesame Workshop shows Julia, a new autistic muppet character debuting on the 47th season of "Sesame Street," on April 10 on both PBS and HBO.

'Sesame Street' introduces Julia, a Muppet with autism

By Amy B Wang
Washington Post

In a coming episode of "Sesame Street," a new character will make her television debut. Her name is Julia — and like so many other Muppets, she's "smiley, curious and loves to play."

Julia also has autism, which means she does some things a little differently. For instance, upon her introduction to Big Bird, she doesn't make eye contact or speak, but rather continues coloring.

"I thought that maybe she didn't like me," Big Bird told "60 Minutes" correspondent Lesley Stahl, in a recent special about Sesame Street's newest resident.

Elmo was quick to chime in: "Yeah, but you know, we had to explain to Big Bird that Julia likes Big Bird," he added. "It's just that Julia has autism. So sometimes it takes her a little longer to do things."

It is through this spirit of acceptance and friendship that "Sesame Street," the much-heralded children's show, hopes to promote understanding about autism to a new generation. One in 68 children in the United States has been identified with autism spectrum disorder, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Though there is not a one-size-fits-all definition of autism, the CDC notes that the developmental disability can cause social, communication and behavioral challenges.

"In writing Julia for Sesame Street episode, the big question was, what do we talk about?" show writer Christine Ferraro told the Associated Press. "Because with autism, there's such a range and there's so many different ways that autism affects people, and there's no way we could possibly show everything. ... So we had to pick one lane and go in it."

The show announced Julia's arrival on social media last week, following the "60 Minutes" special on CBS, to overwhelmingly positive response.

"Through Julia, we aim to show that all kids are amazing, and that all kids can be friends. #SeeAmazing," the show tweeted.

In "Meet Julia," the episode that airs April 10, the adult character of Alan is careful to frame his responses to questions about Julia's autism as what that means "for Julia."

At one point in her first episode, Julia gets upset by a siren, covering her ears; Alan simply explains to the other Muppets that Julia doesn't like loud noises.

Constructing a new Sesame Street character with autism presented a few challenges. Because Julia flaps her hands when she gets upset — a behavior that is not uncommon among those with autism — her Muppet required two separate sets of arms: ones that could flap and others that didn't, according to CBS.

Emotionally, however, the puppeteer behind Julia has felt like she has been preparing for the role for years. Stacey Gorden, a Phoenix-based puppeteer, has a son who has autism, and used to work as a therapist to children on the autism spectrum.

"The 'Meet Julia' episode is something that I wish my son's friends had been able to see when they were small," Gordon told the AP. "I remember him having meltdowns and his classmates not understanding how to react."

Julia is not an entirely new character. She first appeared in a 2015 Sesame Street online storybook, titled "We're Amazing, 1, 2, 3!" In it, Julia is introduced as one of Elmo's longtime friends, and the two of them share many favorite activities, even if they approach them differently. Where Elmo enjoys building block towers and then knocking them down, Julia likes to line up her blocks in a row to build a wall. They both play with toy cars, but Julia especially likes to spin the wheels on hers over and over again.

Both of them go to a playground, where Elmo introduces Julia to his other friend Abby. When Julia doesn't answer or make eye contact, Elmo steps in to explain why.

"Elmo's daddy told Elmo that Julia has autism," he tells Abby in the storybook. "So she does things a little differently. Sometimes Elmo talks to Julia using fewer words and says the same thing a few times."

The online storybook's author, Leslie Kimmelman, said on the website that her son was diagnosed with autism more than 20 years ago, changing her life "instantly and profoundly."

"I knew nothing about autism, and it seemed that those around me — even the professionals — didn't know much either," Kimmelman wrote. "Today, happily, that has changed. There's greater awareness, and there has been much progress understanding autism. But it's still a puzzle, and every child is affected differently."

The response to the online storybook character was so positive that show producers began exploring how to bring Julia from the online storybook to the three-dimensional, Muppet world.

"Sesame Street" aired its first episode in 1969, and for decades, it has remained one of the most powerful and effective ways to reach children. In 2015, a landmark study showed that children could benefit as much from watching "Sesame Street" as from going to preschool. The show now runs on HBO as well as PBS.

"Sesame Street" also has a history of tackling difficult life topics for young children where other shows might gloss over them. After the death of Will Lee — the actor who played Mr. Hooper, the beloved proprietor of "Sesame Street's" neighborhood store — producers initially considered simply saying he had moved away. Ultimately, they chose to address the character's death on the show to teach children about death and grieving. "Farewell, Mr. Hooper" remains one of the most memorable and heralded episodes in the show's history, winning a Peabody and Daytime Emmy awards.

As for Julia, it's too early to tell whether she will become a major character, Ferraro told Stahl on "60 Minutes." The show writer said she hoped so — but also that Julia's autism would not be such a big deal one day.

"I would love her to be not Julia, the kid on 'Sesame Street' who has autism," Ferraro told Stahl. "I would like her to be just Julia."

Our nation's schools should be ICE-free zones

ESTHER J. CEPEDA
Washington Post Writers Group

CHICAGO — Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers are all over America's public schools.

Not physically, of course, but they are ever-present in the minds of millions of students who are either in the country without legal status or have parents who are.

It comes out in countless ways — fidgetiness belying anxiety, depression manifesting itself as anger, and sometimes as just the plain old listlessness of a student who is sleepy in class because he or she was awake in the night wondering if parents, uncles or grandparents will be taken away soon.

Even teachers aren't immune to such fears. Though educators are never informed by the school about the legal status of students or their families — not only are school personnel prohibited from inquiring about the immigration status of students, by federal law the schools themselves are not allowed to ask families or students about their citizenship — teachers worry.

Sometimes students or their parents openly discuss their immigration problems with teachers they trust. Other times teachers just infer things from conversations with families at open houses or conferences. But in most cases we don't really know.

Early last week, a Hispanic student was called out of my class by the office for a parent pick-up. The girl looked at me and another teacher in the room quizzically and said, "No, I'm not supposed to go home early."

We called the office and confirmed that this student was being taken out of school in the middle of the day and, ultimately, she was asked to pack up and go.

At the time, I had the fleeting thought: "Oh no, I hope this isn't some sort of terrible immigration emergency and this is the last time I'm ever going to see this kid."

The next day, she didn't come to school and I willed

Please see **CEPEDA/4B**

KELLY

From 1B

these all get bandied about while still making the same point: it is OK to be uncomfortable, but it is not OK to give up.

Education should challenge skills and knowledge. Good education should not set out to tell students how to view the world; instead, it should challenge them to amass knowledge to change their own views of the world. College, especially, should not serve just to re-teach what students already know or automatically confirm their existing perceptions of society. In my Western Civilization class, I teach the history of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. This is not to promote any religious agenda; I tell my students, "You have your beliefs and it isn't my job to change them. It is my job to help you understand the bigger picture so you can better grasp why the world is the way it is and make up your own mind."

As parents, we want to protect our kids from things that make them uneasy. The challenge is to gauge what is merely difficult and what is in fact impossible. Most things are not impossible — we just need to push ourselves and our kids to work through the discomfort, even if all we accomplish is one more burpee.

Amber Kelly teaches English and history at Howard College and is dean of General Studies.

MURROW

From 1B

"I hope that it will bring about a sense of relief to all the symptoms I've been dealing with and provide a chance for myself and my family to continue along with a full life," Murrow said.

FUNDING

From 1B

What you can do

Urge lawmakers to renew the provisions in last session's HB 4, and to increase funding for pre-K in this session's Senate appropriations bill.

Contact your legislator to register your support for increased pre-K money in SB 1. To find out who represents you and how to contact them, go to www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/Home.aspx and type in your address.

Email forms are available on each lawmaker's website. Find them at www.house.state.tx.us/members and www.senate.state.tx.us/directory.php.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

52 FACES OF COMMUNITY

To nominate a Face of Community, please visit mrt.com/52Faces

PRESENTED BY CHEVRON AND THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

Casa de Amigos
HELPING PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES
United Way
1101 E. Garden Ln., Midland, TX 79701
432-682-9701
casadeamigosmidland.org

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
"Change the Path of a Pet's Life"
4206 W. Loop 250 - Midland, TX 79707 (Inside PetSmart)
432-520-3134 ext. 7
www.midlandhumane.org
LIKE us on Facebook

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midland Texas
Big Brothers Big Sisters
714 W. Louisiana Ave. Midland, Texas 79701
432-687-0195

SENIOR LINK MIDLAND
Older Adults & Baby Boomers Volunteer here to meet your needs
Call Today
432-689-6693
SeniorlinkMidland.org

TUESDAY PRIME TIME — MARCH 28, 2017

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

		G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
BROADCAST	KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle	Am.Wife "Surprise"	Am.Ho-usewife	Fresh Off the Boat	People Icons "Sexiest Man Alive"-(SF) (N)		Local 2 News/ 10	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
	KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "The Wall" (N)		Bull "Name Game" (N)		NCIS: New Orleans "Quid Pro Quo" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert		(:35) J.Corden
	KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	MacGyver "Last Stand"		Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Bigamous Spouse"		Twilight Zone
	KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	New Girl (N)	The Mick (N)	Bones (F) (N)		Fox 24 News	TMZ	Modern Family	Two and a Half	Hot in Cleveland	Met Your Mother
	KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Our Messiah	Housecall	Update News	Behind the Veil	Light of the Southwest "Part 1"		Light of the Southwest "Part 2"		Aleph Course	Mission: M25	Ministerios Nueva Vida	
	KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	NewsWest 9 Now	The Voice "The Battles" (N)		Trial & Error (N)	Trial & Error (N)	Chicago Fire "Babies and Fools" (N)		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
	KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Dead Reckoning "The General's Ghost"		Dead Reckoning "The Blind Eye"		Dead Reckoning "In Our Time"		Charlie Rose (N)		Newsline	Tavis Smiley
	KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		Pequeños Gigantes USA		Vino el amor		La piloto		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
	KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	The X-Files		The X-Files "Emily"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0	Access H.
PREMIUM	FLIX	340	575			165	(5:00) Diary of a...		★★ Down to Earth				★★ Good Luck Chuck		(:10) ★★ Man About Town Ben Affleck.			
	HBO	300	550	14	14		BillMaher	Vice News	★ The Boss Melissa McCarthy.		1stLook	Girls	Crashing		★ Child 44 ('15, Thril) Tom Hardy.			
	HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(5:20) ★ Mr. Right		Bill Maher		Big Little Lies (N)		★ A Bigger Splash ('16, Dra) Tilda Swinton.		(:05) Carmichael: B			
	HBOS	304	552	16	102		(:35) ★★★ Rendition Reese Witherspoon.				★ Sisters ('15, Com) Amy Poehler, Tina Fey.				Real Sports		★ Rabbit Hole	
	MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:00) ★ Jem & the H...		★★ Dumb and Dumber		(:50) ★★ American Pie Chris Klein.						★★ Spy Melissa McCarthy.	
	MAX2	382	558	18	122		Movie	(:25) ★★ The Clearing			★★ Panic Room ('02, Thril) Jodie Foster.				(:55) ★ The Darkness			Movie
	PLEX			96			(5:30) ★ Frankie & ...		★★★★ Fiddler on the Roof ('71, Rom) Chaim Topol.						★★★ Driving Lessons			Movie
	SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	Movie	American Jihad			Billions "Indian Four"		Homeland		★★★★ The Hateful Eight			
	TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:15) ★★★ War		★★ The Alamo ('04, West) Dennis Quaid.						★ Blackway Julia Stiles.		★ Drug War	
CABLE	A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Intervention "Samantha C"		Intervention "Britney and Terry K"		Intervention "Bryceton"		Intervention "Diana"		60 Days In "Cellies"		(:05) Intervention "Britney and Terry K"	
	AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(3:30) ★ The Departed		★★★★ The Rock ('96, Act) Nicolas Cage, Ed Harris, Sean Connery.						★★★★ Goodfellas ('90, Crt) Ray Liotta.			
	BET	58	-		40		★★ Obsessed (2009, Thriller) Idris Elba, Ali Larter, Beyoncé Knowles.						Rebel (N)				Daily S.	Martin
	BRAVO	65	76		41		Beverly Hills		Bev Hills Social (N)		Beverly Hills (N)		Imposters (N)		Watch	Beverly Hills		Atlanta
	CNBC	46	52		39	72	The Partner		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		The Partner (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
	CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		A. Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360	
	DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Moonshiners		Moonshiners		Moonshiners (N)		Moonshiners (N)		Moonshiners		Moonshiners	
	DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Good Luck	StuckMid	GoodLuck	Liv/Mad	Liv/Mad	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Jessie	Jessie	Girl M.	Friends
	ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball NIT Tournament (L)				NCAA Basketball NIT Tournament (L)					SportsCenter		
	ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	SportsCenter		30 for 30 "The '85 Bears"				Baseball Tonight (L)		SportsC.	E:60Pics	Tonight	NFL Live
	FNC	45	48	53	23	55	The First 100 Days		The O'Reilly Factor		TuckerCarlsonTon		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		TuckerCarlsonTon	
	FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Chopped		Chopped		Chopped		Chopped (N)		Chopped		Chopped	
	FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(4:00) ★ The Holiday		The Fosters (N)		Switched at Birth (N)		Twins "Working Girls"		The 700 Club		★ National Lamp...	
	FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Stars Pre-game (L)	NHL Hockey Dallas Stars at Montréal Canadiens Site: Bell Centre -- Montreal, Que. (L)					Stars Live (L)	Stars Insider	Championship Spot. "Boys' Basketball" (N)		Championship Spot. "Girls' Basketball"	
	FX	31	56	59	64	69	★★★★ The Avengers ('12, Act) Chris Evans, Robert Downey Jr..						The Americans (N)		The Americans		Legion "Chapter 7"	
	HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
	HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Home Town		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper (N)		Home Town (N)		Fix Up (N)	H.Hunt	Fixer Upper	
	HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Counting Cars	CountCars	Counting Cars	Counting	Counting Cars		Forged in Fire (N)		(:05) Count.	(:35) Count.	(:05) Count.	(:35) Count.
	LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Little Women: LA "Things Fall Apart"		Little Women: LA "On Thin ice" (N)		Women "The Girl Who Cried Divorce" (N)		Little Women ATL "Spill The Tea" (N)		Women "The Girl Who Cried Divorce"		Little Women: LA "On Thin ice"	
	MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		11thHour	Hardball	Rachel Maddow	
	NBCSN	38	43				NASCAR (N)		TackRide	TackRide	TackRide	TackRide	TackRide	TackRide	TackRide	TackRide	TackRide	TackRide
	NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Hunter	Rank the	Thunder	GShakers	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
	SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	★★★ Fast Five ('11, Act) Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson, Vin Diesel.						Adam Carolla Builds		★★ 2 Fast 2 Furious Paul Walker.			
	SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(4:30) ★★ Red 2		Face Off		Face Off (N)		Cosplay Melee (N)		Face Off		★★ Ghost Rider	
	TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Seinfeld "The Pick"	Seinfeld "The Visa"	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Detour (N)	Big Bang Theory	Conan Joe Manganiello.		The Detour	Conan
	TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:30) ★ When in Ro...		★ The Three Faces of Eve				(:45) ★★★ Wilson ('44, Dra) Charles Coburn, Alexander Knox.					★ Lizzie
	TELE	20	-	10	20		Antesala	CONCACAF Fútbol Mexico vs. Trinidad & Tobago (L)					CONCACAF Fútbol USA vs Panama (L)				Titulares	Al rojo
	TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Big Fat Fabulous Li.. "Big Girl Dance Battle"		My Big Life "Whitney Gets a Date" (N)		My Big Fat Fabulous Life "Belly Up" (N)		She's In Charge "The Cowboy Rapper" (N)		(:05) Big Fat Fabulous Li. "Belly Up"		(:05) She's In Charge "The Cowboy Rapper"	
	TNT	24	34	40	26	50	(5:15) ★★ Tammy Melissa McCarthy.		★★★ Horrible Bosses 2 Three working stiffs plan to kidnap and ransom the adult son of a slick investor.						★★★ Horrible Bosses 2 Three working stiffs plan to kidnap and ransom the adult son of a slick investor.			
	TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	Griffith	(:35) Griffith	(:10) Griffith	(:50) Ray	(:25) Loves Ray		Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
	USA	26	55	42	27	49	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	WWE Smackdown! in long-running rivalries.		WWE superstars do battle		Chrisley Knows (N)	Chrisley Knows	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family
	WGN	19	85				Cops	Cops "Bad Girls 8"	Cops	Cops	Outsiders "Kill or Be Killed" (N)		Outsiders "Home for Supper"		Outsiders	"Healing"	Outsiders "Loyal to the Bone"	

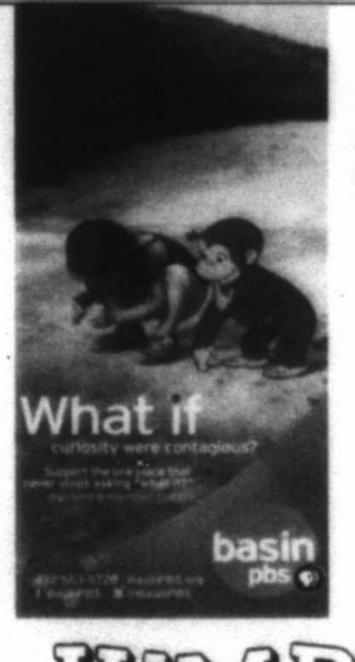
CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates FOR CHILDREN
CASA OF WEST TEXAS
1611 W Texas Ave.
Midland, TX 79701
(432) 683-1114

MARC
Empowering Lives
Offering opportunities for children and adults with disabilities
2701 North A Street
Midland, TX
432.695.9901

Midland Habitat for Humanity ReSTORE
Call for donation pick-up.
Come shop our store.
Open to the public.
Tues.-Sat.
8:30-4:30.
305 E. Texas
432-682-9606

Centers for children & families
Providing counseling for those in need, for children and adults, regardless of level of income. Counseling emphasizes support and healing of individuals and families.
3701 Andrews Highway
Midland, Texas 79703
432.570.1084
www.centerstx.org

The Uptown Midland BPW has a rich history of leadership and community involvement.
BPW
We invite you to learn more about us, and to consider joining us! Uptown Midland Business & Professional Women
MidlandBPW.com

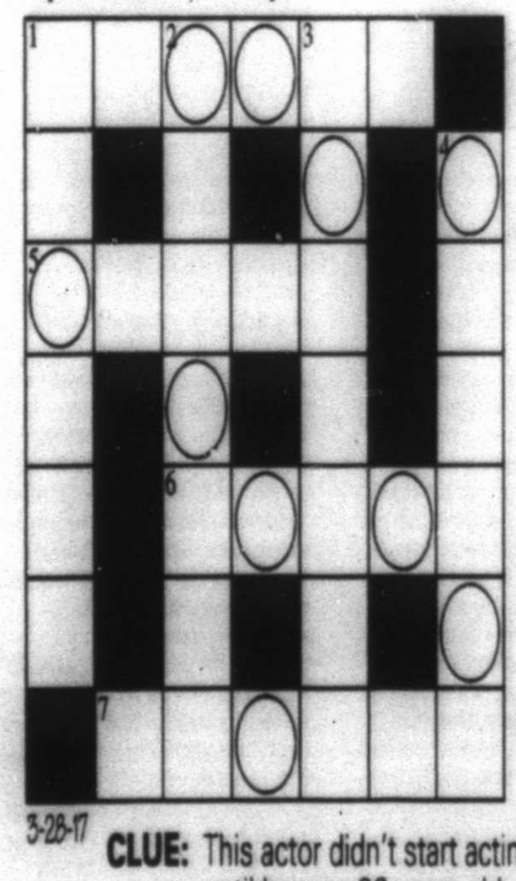


midland county child welfare board
BLUE RIBBON RUN
THE RACE TO END CHILD ABUSE
1K/5K
APRIL 8, 2017
REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!
MIDLANDCHILDWELFARE.COM

MIDLAND NEED TO READ
ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM
Enhancing the lives of Midland County adults through literacy
info@midlandneedtoread.org
432-682-9693
1709 W. Wall St.
Midland, Texas 79701

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Hurting	GCANIH
5. Certain decider	ROUJR
6. Draw out	CEUED
7. Side ___	RESTET

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Fine-tune	JSADUT
2. Most difficult	DRSTEHA
3. Feed, care for	EUURRNT
4. Sincere	SHOTEN

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

3-26-17

CLUE: This actor didn't start acting professionally until he was 36 years old.

BONUS

©2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. & Hoyt Designs. All Rights Reserved.

ANSWERS: 1-Acting 5A-Junior 6A-Educe 7A-Assist 1D-Intrude 3D-Nurture 4D-Hornet B-Lulu thrash

Send comments to TMS - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PAHYP

GOCIL

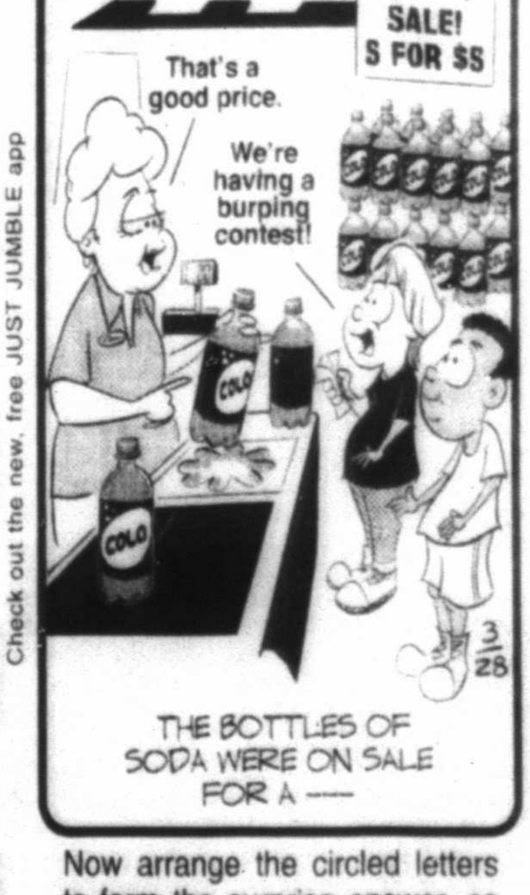
GAMEDA

LORHEL

©2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



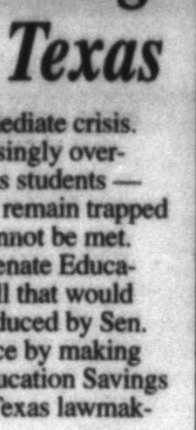
THE BOTTLES OF SODA WERE ON SALE FOR A ___

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WHEAT GUILT THORNY FLIMSY
Answer: Mimes don't speak during a performance... Of course that goes — WITHOUT SAYING



JORGE A. LIMA

The LIBRE Initiative

Program would bring school choice to Texas

Public education in Texas faces an immediate crisis. Booming enrollment has led to increasingly overcrowded public schools. And countless students — mainly by virtue of their ZIP code alone — remain trapped in schools where their educational needs cannot be met.

That is why I testified before the Texas Senate Education Committee last week in support of a bill that would address both of these problems. SB 3, introduced by Sen. Larry Taylor, would expand education choice by making all public school students eligible for an Education Savings Account (ESA). It deserves the support of Texas lawmakers.

Enrollment in Texas public schools has skyrocketed from about 3.3 million students in 1990 to 5.3 million last year. That number will rise to 9 million by 2050, according to an analysis from Rice University's Hobby Center for the Study of Texas, of whom nearly two-thirds will be Hispanic. Texas schools are already experiencing severe overcrowding, and school districts are struggling to cope. After years of increasing funding and soaring property taxes, the situation has scarcely improved. Meanwhile, student achievement is suffering.

Over 900,000 students attend failing schools in Texas. Seventy percent of these students are Hispanic or African-American, and 79 percent are economically disadvantaged. Disparities in educational achievement have persisted for decades. In the 2015 NAEP assessment for mathematics, fourth-grade Hispanic students in Texas had an average score that was 15 points lower than that of white students. In reading, the gap widened to 25 points. Poor and minority communities are in desperate need of greater choice in education, which would also help bring relief to overburdened public schools.

That's where ESAs come in. In an ESA program, parents gain control of their child's education through a savings account that is managed by the parents themselves. The state deposits funds into a debit card that parents can use on approved educational expenses. These funds allow parents to develop a K-12 plan tailored to their own child's needs and aspirations. Parents could use account funds to pay for homeschooling, tuition at private schools, community college, universities or any other qualified educational expense.

Existing ESA programs have enabled parents to afford special education services, online learning courses, therapy sessions and personal tutors. ESA programs also allow parents to save unused funds for next year's expenses or to pay for college tuition after high school. No other educational program matches the flexibility and broad array of options that ESAs provide parents, making them an ideal solution for parents whose children are enrolled in overcrowded schools.

The Latino community stands to be among the greatest beneficiaries of expanding school choice policies, so it is no surprise they are strongly in support. Nearly 70 percent of Latinos support school choice in general, and more than half support ESAs in particular. It makes sense for Texas policymakers to expand educational opportunity by enacting reforms that parents and families will welcome.

Four states — Arizona, Florida, Mississippi, and Tennessee — have already established ESA programs, and families are happy with the results. A survey of parents using an ESA in Arizona found that 71 percent were "very satisfied" with the program, and no parent reported any dissatisfaction.

Parents know their children best, and should be able to provide them the education that best serves their unique needs. Unsurprisingly, studies have found that choice-based programs like ESAs greatly improve the quality of education children receive. Last year, researchers at the University of Arkansas reviewed 19 studies on school choice programs around the world and found that participation in such programs led to "educationally meaningful achievement gains of several months of additional learning."

Expanding the range of educational opportunities open to our students will benefit families and public schools alike. I encourage our elected officials to support ESA programs and bring education choice to Texas.

Jorge A. Lima is executive director of LIBRE Initiative.

CEPEDA

From 2B

away negative thoughts about her family being on the run or otherwise in crisis.

As of this writing, she still hasn't been back to school. It's probably nothing, but I won't know until I see her again.

Realistically, these teacherly moments of stress are nothing compared to what the students themselves are contending with.

According to the National Immigration Law Center, about 2.5 million undocumented youth live in the U.S. and another 4.1 million children are U.S.-born but live in mixed-status households with at least one parent or family member who is unlawfully present. They all have the constitutional right to attend public schools.

And it's safe to say that whether any of these students have ever laid eyes on an ICE agent or not, the fear of having their family come into contact with one is nothing short of a daily source of trauma.

Some school systems, like the Chicago Public Schools, have told principals not to let federal immigration authorities inside district buildings unless they have a criminal warrant. They said in a statement, "To be very clear, CPS does not provide assistance to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the enforcement of federal civil immigration law."

Schools in California, Utah, Colorado, Pennsylvania and other states are conspicuously putting similar measures into place to ensure that immigration officials do not come onto school grounds without warrants.

Others, in communities with large Latino populations, are going so far as providing teachers with handouts about what they can do in the event that an ICE officer comes to their classroom.

"Ask to see the enforcement agent's credentials and warrants," "Ask the enforcement agent why this matter could not be dealt with at the student's home," and "Encourage enforcement agents to interview students outside of school hours and off school grounds," reads one fact sheet.

If this sounds like public schools are having to spend scarce resources and time preparing their administrators and teaching staff to stand up to armed federal agents — that about sums it up.

And these new duties are in addition to having to deal with instances of students making racial slurs and chanting taunts like "Build that wall!" in school hallways.

For schools in communities with large populations of unlawfully present immigrants, the specter of having ICE agents show up during class is revolting.

Though there is a policy stating that ICE officers and immigration agents should refrain from enforcement actions at K-12 schools, there is no statute or law guaranteeing it.

There ought to be.

Brett Coomer/Houston Chronicle

Texas A&M's newly-elected student body president Bobby Brooks, a junior from Belton, Texas, poses for a portrait in front of the War Hymn Monument on March 20 in College Station.

Texas A&M's first gay student president wants to meet Rick Perry

■ Former governor questions legitimacy of Bobby Brooks' victory

By Julieta Chiquillo
Dallas Morning News

The political drama over the election of Texas A&M University's first openly gay student body president continues.

In a letter signed Friday, Bobby Brooks invited Rick Perry to a meeting after the energy secretary challenged the 21-year-old's victory in the election for student body president.

Perry, who is also an Aggie, wrote an op-ed in the Houston Chronicle last week that called Brooks' election into question. He accused Brooks' supporters of "dirty campaign tricks" to disqualify his rival Robert McIntosh, who was denied the presidency over a charge that he omitted donated glow sticks used in a promotional video from a campaign finance report.

McIntosh had also been accused of voter intimidation in anonymous complaints, Perry wrote, but a student court tossed those charges.

The former governor of Texas and U.S. presidential candidate wrote in the op-ed that McIntosh had unfairly lost the election to Brooks because of "this quest for 'diversity.'"

Brooks, who is scheduled to take office April 21, didn't address Perry's allegations in a letter published online in student newspaper The Battalion and on the website of LGBT advocacy group GLAAD, but he thanked Perry for his interest in the university "we both love so much."

"It was heartening to see that you described yourself as 'proud' that the student body at your Alma Mater will be led for the first time in our history by a member of the LGBTQ student community," Brooks wrote. "I am indeed proud to be an openly gay student, and I share your pride that my fellow students see my sexual orientation as a simple matter of fact — not something that compromises my qualifications."

In his letter, Brooks told Perry that they share the view that all students should be honored and respected.

"I would like to invite you to come to Texas and meet with my team and me as we take office later this month to discuss how we can work together to achieve our common vision," Brooks wrote. "We have many students on this campus from all walks of life, whose perspectives I would care to share with you."

Brooks also offered to travel to Washington instead to meet with Perry and "speak about the important issues you raised in your op-ed."

It's unclear if Perry has read the letter and whether he will accept the invitation. Emails and a phone call seeking comment weren't immediately returned Sunday.

Brooks also didn't respond to a request for comment.

GLAAD has a petition on its website asking people to insist that Perry meet with Brooks. More than 2,800 signatures have been recorded so far.

Some people inside and outside the university questioned why Perry would wade into college politics. A Texas A&M spokeswoman disagreed with Perry's assessment that "political correctness" had cost McIntosh the election.

"I'm surprised that he's weighing in. I'm surprised he would have the time to do that," Texas A&M communications officer Amy B. Smith told The Dallas Morning News last week.

McIntosh is the son of Dallas-based Republican fundraiser Alison McIntosh. The Texas A&M student said through his attorney that he might have lost the election because he is a "heterosexual, white Christian male" and that he's considering a lawsuit.

At least one member of the Texas A&M board of regents plans to look into the election, The Texas Tribune reported. Regent Tony Buzbee told the news outlet that while board members typically don't get involved in student elections, "I would be concerned if the process resulted in an unjust result."

Perry appointed Buzbee to the board of regents in 2013.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Guest opinion

A&M election should be left to current students

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Secretary of Energy and former Texas Gov. Rick Perry decided to rain on the parade of a student election.

Last week, when Texas A&M named a new student body president, Perry questioned the legitimacy of the process.

Bobby Brooks of Belton won the seat after original winner Robert McIntosh of Dallas was disqualified for an expense report violation. A student judicial court ruled in the case and found McIntosh guilty.

Due process was served, but Perry, an A&M alumnus, decided to say his 2 cents. "It is difficult to escape the perception that this quest for 'diversity' is the real reason the election outcome was overturned. Does the principle of 'diversity' override and supersede all other values of our Aggie Honor Code?" Perry wrote in a Houston Chronicle op-ed.

His question might sound reasonable, but his words open some worrisome doors.

The election made Brooks the first openly gay student president of A&M. Perry's quip about the "quest of 'diversity'" belittled that event unnecessarily.

Government officials butting in on local affairs isn't new, or even surprising, but it can do damage.

A disturbing trend has emerged: Teenagers or young adults achieve something striking and progressive, like an openly gay student body president or an inclusive prayer room at school, but then a public official finds ways to tear it down.

New transgender guidelines for the Fort Worth school district? Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick starts to rant.

Prayer room used by Muslims and others in a Frisco high school? Attorney General Ken Paxton complains.

Gay A&M student president? Perry questions.

By attacking young people's attempts at living in the modern age, public officials are unintentionally creating a divisive and potentially toxic environment for our future.

That cause-and-effect can instill the perception that being socially progressive and inclusive can open you up for damaging political backlash.

We shouldn't allow young Texans who pursue their goals and dreams to be undermined and turned into election fodder.

We want to foster ambition, bravery, inclusion and forward thinking. This is not the way to achieve that goal.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Changing suspension rules may not be best action

By Jay Mathews
Washington Post

Fixing schools is slow. Superintendents and principals come up with plans. Guidelines are issued. Families are informed. Teachers introduce new lessons. Students follow as best they can, while years pass without big results.

Yet, one category of change is much faster, often not in a good way. School districts have been experimenting with changes in rules to reduce the number of children sent home for bad behavior. They do that, and boom. Out-of-school suspension rates plummet, usually producing not applause but bitter disputes over racial differences and renewed disruption.

In a revealing analysis of California data, where out-of-school suspensions dropped more than 30 percent from 2013 to 2015, a Brookings Institution scholar found that changing the size and configuration of schools may be a better approach than changing the rules for who gets sent home.

"Breaking large schools up into smaller units may reduce suspension rates for all students — and especially for black students — but that means reassigning students to new schools," said Tom Loveless, a nonresident senior fellow at the institution's Brown Center on Education Policy.

He also suggested that switching from separate elementary and middle schools to kindergarten-through-eighth-grade campuses — a change some Washington, D.C., public schools made in the past decade — could reduce suspensions of sixth-graders.

"A longitudinal study of New York City sixth-graders found that attending sixth grade in a middle school, as opposed to a K-8 school, produced a negative impact on achievement that began in the first year and extended throughout the middle school years," Loveless said. "In surveys of both students and parents, respondents described middle school campuses as less safe, peer behavior as more immature and antisocial, and the overall quality of education as lower than in K-8 schools."

By contrast, California appears to have achieved its sharp decline in out-of-school suspensions in two ways. It outlawed suspensions in some grades for "willful defiance," which can range from yelling expletives to forgetting to bring a book to class. It also held meetings for perpetrators, victims, parents, teachers and educators to help students take responsibility for their actions — a method called restorative justice. Loveless said it was difficult to determine what had the greatest effect on suspension declines, but some educators complained that safety and learning suffered when fewer troubled kids were sent home. A petition signed by teachers at a Fresno high school said increased disruptions after suspensions were reduced were "unfair to students who come to school ready to learn and the teachers ready to engage them."

Much controversy has been over black children continuing to be suspended out of proportion to their numbers even after suspensions have been reduced. Loveless noted that "the negative effects of disruptive students on rule-abiding peers almost certainly fall disproportionately on black students as well."

Restorative justice and other discipline method changes may prove to be good alternatives to out-of-school suspensions, Loveless said, but "their efficacy has not yet been evaluated in rigorously designed evaluations."

The same can be said for smaller schools, often associated with better school climates. "Large schools present management challenges that administrators in small schools do not face," Loveless said. Troubled students may be lost in big schools. Some charter schools say that their smaller sizes explain in part their better results. Loveless showed that 38.2 percent of California's largest schools, those with more than 1,300 students, have high suspension rates, compared with 22.4 percent with low rates, but there is not much research buttressing that connection, he said. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation failed to prove that reducing high school sizes leads to more achievement.

With so much unknown, school districts are unlikely to give smaller and better configured schools, the approaches Loveless finds most promising, much time to work. Sending disruptive students home seems the simplest solution to trouble at school, so it will remain a key method, even if it leaves children without adult supervision and falling further behind.

TODAY: Partly sunny	WEDNESDAY: Mostly sunny	THURSDAY: Sunny	FRIDAY: Sunny	SATURDAY: Mostly sunny	SUNDAY: Mostly sunny
High: 82 Low: 48	High: 74 Low: 46	High: 76 Low: 54	High: 88 Low: 55	High: 79 Low: 52	High: 73 Low: 50

Local forecast

Strong winds return to the forecast today and Wednesday. Gusts could be as high as 40 mph today and 35 mph Wednesday, according to the National Weather Service. The next chance of rain is expected Saturday.

The record high for March 27 is 95, set in 1971. The record low is 14, set in 1931. On March 27 of last year, the high was 68 and the low was 38.

Weather brief

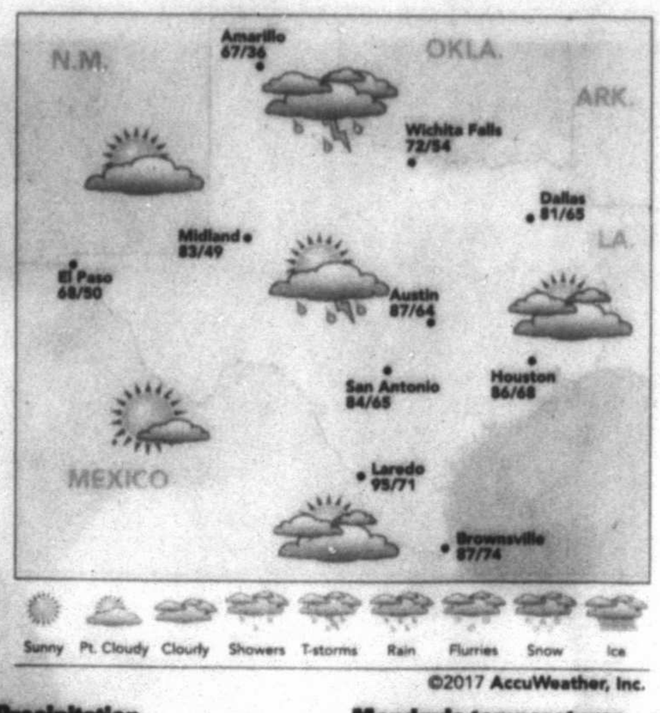
INDONESIA

Earthquake hits Bali island, but no casualties

JAKARTA — An earthquake has hit Indonesia's resort island of Bali, causing some panic among residents, but there were no immediate reports of damage or casualties.

The United States Geological Survey said the magnitude 5.5 earthquake that struck at 7:10 a.m. Wednesday was centered 1.4 milesnorth-east of Banjar Pasekan, a town in the southeastern part of Bali, at a depth of 74 miles.

In December 2004, a massive earthquake off Sumatra island triggered a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries.



Precipitation

Sunday	0.00 in.
Monday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.13 in.
Year total	1.97 in.
Normal total (year to date)	1.79 in.

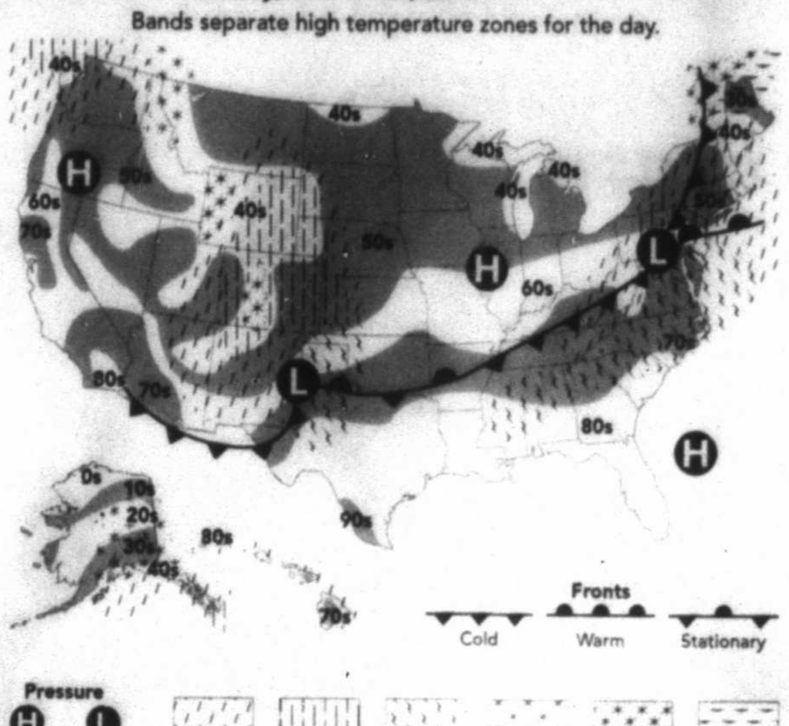
Monday's temperatures

High	80
Low	46
Normal high	73
Normal low	43
Sunrise	7:42 a.m.
Sunset	8:06 p.m.

National weather AccuWeather.com

Forecast for Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



Mom visiting dad in Mexico should leave baby at home

DEAR ABBY

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

DEAR ABBY: My 21-year-old daughter has a 6-month-old child. The father is a 36-year-old man who was recently deported to Mexico. He continues to contact her and wants her to travel to Mexico to visit him. I am terrified of all the things that could happen to her if she goes.

I don't trust him. I keep thinking, will he try to keep the baby? Will he try to keep them both or entice her to do something illegal? (He had an earlier felony conviction.) Am I overreacting? How can I get her to recognize that these types of things happen all the time? — MOTHER IN ILLINOIS

DEAR MOTHER: The most important thing you can do right now is calm down. Your daughter is an adult, and you need to treat her like one. You are within your rights to express your concern, but if she wants to go, you cannot stop her.

If I were her mother, I'd approach it this way: Offer to take care of your grandchild while she visits the baby's daddy. That way, she can get a look at how he's living and what he is doing. Suggest she take lots of photos with her. But unless she is absolutely sure that the environment is safe for her child, the little one should stay north of the border.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend's friend "Keira" moved back here to help take care of his mom. He has known her for more than 10 years. They didn't have an intimate relationship; it was more of a friendship than anything. He's very loving toward me and treats me like gold. The problem I've been having is, he doesn't understand how some things bother me.

For instance, when the three of us went to dinner, they were sharing food by feeding each other. I'm sure people probably thought they were a couple. When I asked him why he didn't put some food on a plate and give it to her, he didn't have an answer. Also, they watch TV in bed together. He thinks these are normal "friend things" to do.

I'm not a jealous person, but I have my limits. We don't live close, so we see each other only a few times a week. Keira doesn't pay anything to live there. He said she has nowhere to go, and it was his agreement with her that if she came home with him she would always have a place to stay.

I like her, but sometimes feel like I'm dating both of them. He's clueless. They are dependent on each other. She fixes things around the house, and he lets her borrow his car for work. Am I just being petty? — THIRD WHEEL IN THE EAST

DEAR THIRD WHEEL: Forgive me if this seems negative, but your boyfriend's primary relationship seems to be with the girl who is living with him 24/7 and watching television in his bed rather than with you.

Step back and look at it rationally: Keira's living with him, taking care of the house and his mother, spending time in his bed, hand-feeding him, and the few times a week you see him, she's coming along. He may treat you like gold, but it looks more like fool's gold to me.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

A star in France

Neither vulnerable. South deals

NORTH
♠ 7
♡ A Q 10 3 2
◇ J 9 6 4
♣ 10 9 2

WEST
♠ 4
♡ J 9 7 4
◇ Q 10 8 7 2
♣ K 7 6

EAST
♠ J 5 3
♡ K 5
◇ A K 5 3
♣ Q 8 5 4

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10 9 8 6 2
♡ 8 6
◇ Void
♣ A J 3

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	3♡	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♠	All pass		

Opening lead: Four of ♡

Today's deal is from a competition in Europe late last year. East was French star Cedric Lorenzini. He has done so well in American tournaments that he won the ACBL Player of the Year award in 2015.

The auction was a bit awkward. South clearly loved his hand and couldn't bring himself to settle for four spades on his last bid. North had bid both hearts and clubs, so South hoped to catch enough of a dummy to give slam a good chance. North passed as soon as he heard a non-forcing bid.

There is an excellent chance for 11 tricks. On a diamond lead, South would ruff, draw trumps, and lead a heart to the 10 at some point. The heart lead wouldn't have hurt declarer's chances very much except for the fact that Lorenzini was sitting East. South played dummy's queen of hearts on the opening lead, losing to East's king. Most players would have shifted to a high diamond, but Lorenzini studied the dummy and found the only play to defeat the contract. He led a heart back into dummy's ace-10!

There was nothing South could do. Should he try to cash another high heart, East would ruff and leave South with two club losers. Declarer took his only shot by leading a club to his jack, hoping that both missing club honors were in the East hand. West won with the king and shifted to a diamond. South had to concede another club to the defense in the end.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, March 28, 2017:

This year your birthday triggers unusual creativity and a new willingness to take risks. Weigh the pros and cons before deciding to jump right in. Always make sure you can afford a loss. If you are single, this adventurous quality could attract a similar type of personality. Attempt to restrain yourself from getting too wild. If you are attached, the two of you spend many hours out and about together. Your impulsive nature easily could emerge, making your sweetie feel left out. Be careful. A fellow ARIES knows how to push your buttons.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Your energy soars. Be willing to express your feelings, no matter how much uproar you could trigger. Clearly, someone needs to make an adjustment, and you are unlikely to be that person. You also are unlikely to bend to someone else's will. Tonight: Ask and you shall receive.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ You might be sorry that you have pushed so hard to get your way. You see the ramifications, and you don't like them. Relax, and be less uptight. A change of attitude could make all the difference in helping others lighten up. Tonight: Keep it your secret.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Emphasize the pros and cons of what is going on, without demonstrating a bias. Others will appreciate your neutrality. You are likely to make a greater impact on a key person if you do not take sides. Allow your imagination to lead the way. Tonight: Conjure up what you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You might be more open to new possibilities than you have been in a while. You can't force a matter, as you simply are not in the position to lead this conversation. Let go, and you'll see positive results. Visit with a friend or loved one in the near future. Tonight: In the limelight.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Step back and get an overview. You can't seem to figure out what is going on, perhaps because you are in too deep to have a perspective. Don't push someone too hard; otherwise, you might get a strong reaction. Understanding evolves to a new level. Tonight: Be yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ A partner could be challenging and looking for a response. You can work through this hassle fairly quickly and directly, if you so choose. Your response could determine the type of interactions you will have in the future. Tonight: Make an offer that a friend can't refuse.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ A collision of wills is never fun. You might be trying to recover from one of these episodes later in the day. A power play involving your personal life is likely to backfire. Try not to get involved in it, if possible. Tonight: Maintain a sense of humor about recent happenings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ You might be more invested in following through on what you think you need to say rather than considering the alternatives. Slow down, and think carefully before you make a decision. Consider what you want your long-term objective to be, then act accordingly. Tonight: Observe.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ You could feel so stressed out that you might want to back out of some plans. This situation indirectly ties you to a different matter that you would prefer not to be involved in. Honor your needs, but recognize that there likely will be a strong reaction. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Know that others can't push you into an agreement that you want nothing to do with. Your issue might be that you like the people involved but don't support a project they are pursuing. All you need to say is "no." You don't need to give an explanation. Tonight: Tackle a project.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ Your energy could be somewhat depleted as you attempt to handle a rather heated situation. The other person involved wants what he or she wants at whatever cost. Are you resisting because you disagree or simply out of spite? Tonight: Join a friend for dinner.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ You have determined your goals. A friend might try to convince you otherwise, which will trigger a disagreement or a need to do something very differently. Know that you will have the final say. Use your good sense with a money matter. Tonight: Buy a favorite treat.

BORN TODAY

Singer/songwriter Lady Gaga (1986), singer Reba McEntire (1955), actress Julia Stiles (1981)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Like some benefit golf tournaments
6 Baby bed
10 Deadly snakes in hieroglyphics
14 "It matters to me"
15 Italian money until 2002
16 Tackle box item
17 "Seeks shelter
19 Samoa's capital
20 "__ side are you on?"
21 Not up to snuff
23 Pierced ear part
26 Actor Jared
28 Conceals in one's hand
29 Tactical advancements
31 Like slugs
33 Jellyfish bites
34 Thrilla in Manila boxer
35 Stop stalling
37 Wee one
38 "Bob Marley togetherness classic
41 Mag mogul often seen in pj's
43 Letters in geometry
45 Duracell size
46 Ritzy spread
48 Ivory and Coast, for two
50 Tom Brady, notably
51 Garden bug
53 Airline to Tel Aviv
55 "The Piano" actress Paquin
56 "Just my luck!"
58 La Scala solos
60 Prime for picking
61 Stationery that may include a company logo ... or what the ends of answers to the starred clues can be?
66 "Got it"
67 Dole (out)
68 Chill-inducing
69 Camera part
70 Toboggan, e.g.
71 Second or sixth president

DOWN

1 Mango discard
2 Color TV pioneer
3 Sturdy furniture wood
4 "Is it a go for tonight?"
5 Sports jersey material
6 Wraps up
7 Fastener for Rosie
8 Rancor
9 Pub crawl stops
10 Montgomery's home
11 "System that gets goods to customers
12 Trojan War king
13 Chars
18 Reason for a heating bill spike
22 Wire service org.
23 Most wanted __
24 In the lead
25 "Major golf tournament won five times by Tom Watson
27 Nobel Institute city
30 Back in the day
32 Habitually misrepresent one's true self
34 Pie __ mode
36 Wyoming's Grand __ National Park
39 Lighten (up)
40 Md. winter hours
42 Spanakopita cheese
44 Evening affairs
47 Seriously vandalized
49 USN bigwig
50 Took different paths
51 Month with showers
52 Composure
54 Foamy pick-me-up
57 Tall shade trees
59 Environs
62 Slender swimmer
63 Pitcher's stat
64 Asset at the archery range
65 __ Moines

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 03/28/17

By C.C. Burnikel
©2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 03/28/17

Extra Credit

Midland Festival Ballet's spring break Cinderella Ballet Camp

Pirouettes, Plies & Princesses

Photos by James Durbin | Reporter-Telegram

Trinity will make jump to 11-man in 2017

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

The Trinity football program is headed back to 11-man competition.

Trinity athletic director Jeff Young and head football coach Antwan Alexander announced during a press conference at Beal Gymnasium Monday that the Chargers will return to 11-man play for the 2017 season.

Alexander

Trinity had excelled in six-man play since 2004, winning the TCAF Division I state championship in 2009, reaching the TAPPS Division I state championship game in 2015 and playing in the state semifinal this past season during a 7-4 campaign.

Despite the Chargers' recent accomplishments in six-man, Trinity fielded a successful 11-man program from 2000-03 that reached the TAPPS Division III semifinal in 2000 and quarterfinal in 2001 under the direction of John Wilkins, a coaching legend at Odessa Permian.

Young said a school committee began looking into the possibility of a 11-man move recently.

While the program had the numbers with a projected roster of 32-35 players and an experienced senior class to handle the 11-man jump, Trinity administration decided to commit to 11-man when it learned that Amarillo San Jacinto wanted to return to six-man, making it easier for both schools to switch districts and schedules.

In 2017, Trinity will take San Jacinto's spot in TAPPS Division III, District 1 that includes Fort Worth Calvary, Lubbock Trinity, Willow Park Trinity, Muenster Sacred Heart, Fort Worth Lake Country Christian and Lubbock Christian.

In addition, Trinity will likely assume some, if not all of San Jacinto's 2017 non-district opponents, which include Booker, Claude, Plains and Hollis, Oklahoma.

"The more we talked about it, we said 'Why can't we?'" Young said. "The numbers are still going to be there. It's just a combination of a number of things, like having a good senior class. All the obstacles disappeared so we decided let's go, let's jump in this. If we are going to do it, let's see if we can make it happen now and it worked out."

Alexander said he is in the process of hiring and adding new coaches to his current staff to handle the workload of an 11-man team.

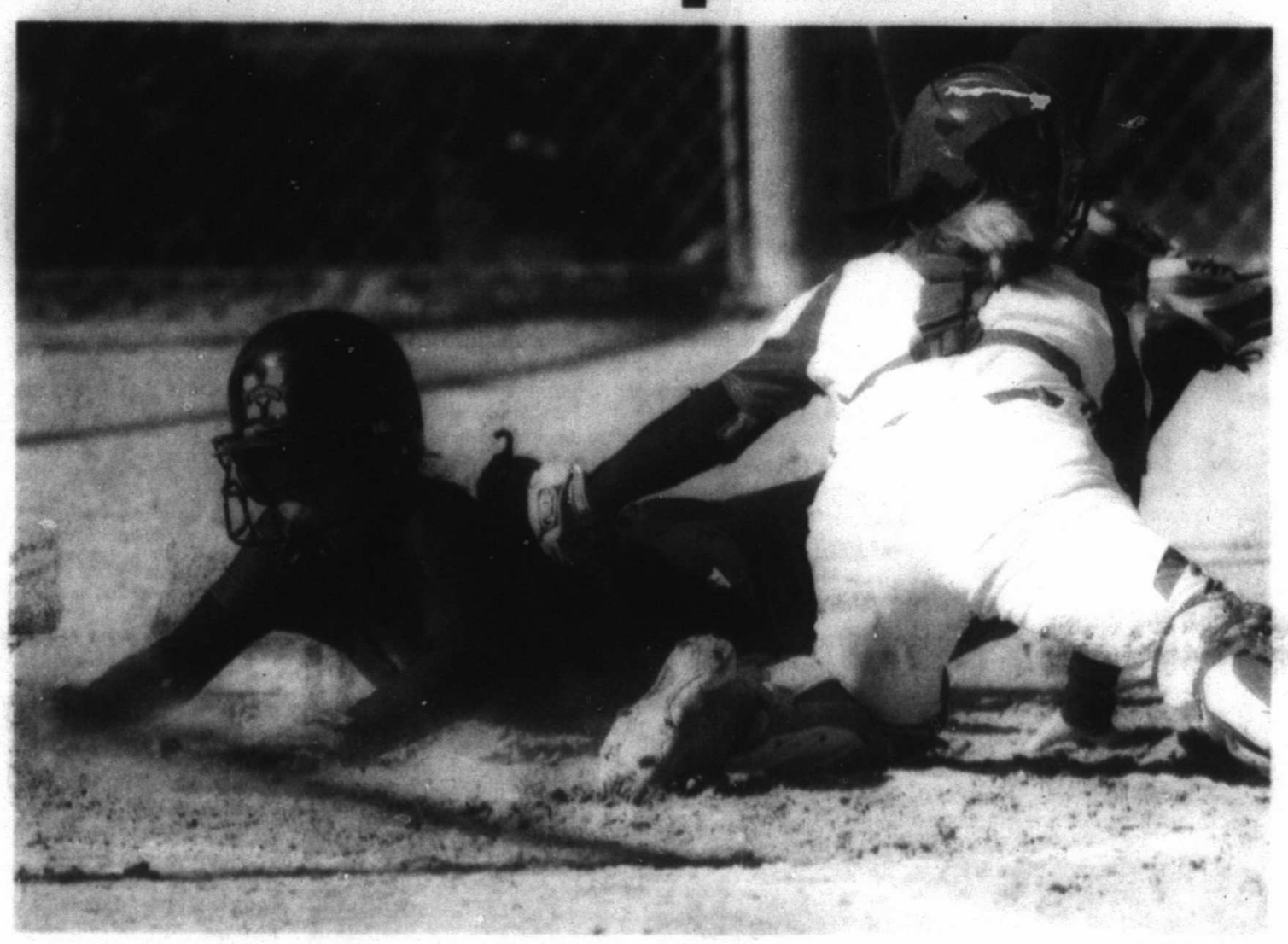
Please see **TRINITY**/2C

MRT file photo

Trinity's Jackson Pinnow looks for more yards as he gets a block from Wyatt Evans on Harvest Christian's Caydon Wright on Oct. 28, 2016, at Coombes Field.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL REPORT

A knack for production



MRT file photo

Midland High's Ashley McClellan slides past Shallowater catcher Sunny Ogle to score Feb. 25 at Freddie Ezell Softball Complex.

McClellan has proven to be tough out for MHS

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

Midland High senior center fielder Ashley McClellan is a tough out in the No. 2 spot in her team's lineup.

McClellan has a knack for getting on base any way she can.

Last week McClellan went 4-for-6 and reached base in six of her seven plate appearances during the Lady Bulldogs' two District 2-6A games.

One of the reasons for McClellan's success is that she has embraced her role in making contact as a No. 2 hitter.

"I go up there really confident and just say, 'Put the ball in play,'" McClellan said. "I don't care where you hit it, there's always a chance you're going to get on. This year it's been really different, I am so confident up there. I feel good. With my speed, they can make a little mistake and I will be there.

"I don't try too hard. I would rather just dribble it somewhere and run as fast as I can."

Once McClellan reaches base, her opponents' concerns seem to grow even more because the speedster is a threat to steal.

McClellan stole three bases in Midland High's 11-1 run-rule victory over rival Lee last Saturday.

"She gives us the opportunity to start moving on the base paths, put some pressure on some defenses," MHS coach Shawnda Vines said. "She's got that speed and she is a good baserunner. She is smart. She doesn't just run into outs. Most of the time, she makes good decisions on the base path as well."

The win over Lee capped a roller-coaster week for McClellan and her Midland High team, which is ranked No. 19 in the latest Texas Girls Coaches Association Class 6A state poll.

Earlier in the week on March 21, the Lady Bulldogs were embarrassed in a 10-3 loss to Odessa Permian, where defensive and base running miscues beset MHS.

McClellan said the team regrouped in practice after the Permian loss and put on-field communication as a priority going forward.

"We were just not talking on the field," McClellan said. "We weren't talking at all. It was dead silent the whole time. We weren't bringing each other up. We weren't helping our pitcher out. We were making little mistakes that we shouldn't be making. We definitely worked on that the next couple of practices."

McClellan says she believes her role as a senior and center fielder is to be vocal out on the diamond, whether it's to remind teammates of the number of outs or let her right or left fielder know where to heave their cut off throw.

For long-time MHS softball fans, McClellan has a resemblance to former center fielder Brittany Baggett, who now plays as a sophomore for Northeast Texas Community College.

Both McClellan and Baggett have their mark with their rangy play in center field, their ability to reach base and wreck havoc on the base paths.

"She was behind Brittany for a few years," Vines said. "She emulated her in some of the things she does in the outfield. They kind of have some of the same throwing motion, and of course, both of them are pretty quick."

Like Baggett, McClellan is going to follow in her footsteps as a college player, as she has pledged to play at

Please see **MCCLELLAN**/4C

Dreiling resigns as Chaps head coach

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Midland College and head men's basketball coach Jordan Dreiling have decided to part ways after four seasons.

Midland College Director of Athletics Forrest Allen announced Dreiling's resignation via press release on Monday afternoon.

Dreiling

Dreiling was 64-55 overall and 24-40 in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference in his four seasons with the Chaparrals. This past season, MC was 14-16 overall and 5-11 in the WJCAC to finish seventh in the WJCAC standings, missing out on a Region V Tournament berth for an unprecedented sixth straight season.

"It was a mutual decision," Allen said. "He wants to continue coaching and the feeling is that it's better for him to go wherever to get a fresh start. It was a good time to make a break for him and us. Jordan was great to work with but we're looking forward to getting a new guy in as soon as we can and get back to where we have been."

Allen said he and the coach went through an evaluation period about two months ago and the idea of going in a new direction came up then. He added that when they discussed it again recently, they agreed that parting ways would be a good time for the college and for Dreiling.

Dreiling did not return phone calls by the Reporter-Telegram, although the press release said he's expected to seek coaching opportunities closer to his family in Arizona.

Dreiling, a Kansas native, was hired from Central Arizona College at a time when the program was going through some turmoil following the sudden resignation of Chris Craig.

In Dreiling's first year, the Chaps struggled but he seemed to improve the talent over the next three seasons. However, his teams could never get over the hump of qualifying for the postseason, which is a rarity for a program that has had so much history of success, including winning the 2007 NJCAA national title and playing in two other national championship games within a five-year period prior to the recent postseason drought.

The head men's basketball position is expected to be posted to the Midland College employment page on the school's website within the next week and MC will begin taking applications, according to release.

Allen said he hopes to have a strong applicant pool, get that down to eight to 10 candidates for initial interviews and then cut it to down to four candidates for committee interviews.

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

NFL owners approve Raiders' move from Oakland to Las Vegas

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Invoking his father Al's name, and copying what the Hall of Fame owner did with the Raiders, Mark Davis is moving the franchise out of Oakland.

NFL owners approved the Raiders' move to Las Vegas 31-1 at the league meetings Monday. Miami was the lone dissenter.

"My father used to say the greatness of the Raiders is in the future," Davis said. "This gives us the ability to achieve that."

The vote was a foregone conclusion after the league and Raiders were not satisfied with Oakland's proposals for a new stadium, and Las Vegas stepped up with $750 million in public money. Bank of America also is giving Davis a $650 million loan, further helping to persuade owners to allow the third team relocation in just over a year.

The Rams moved from St. Louis to Los Angeles in 2016, and in January the Chargers relocated from San Diego to LA.

"You know our goal is to have 32 stable franchises for each team and the league," Commissioner Roger Goodell said. "We work very hard and never want to see the relocation of a franchise. We worked tirelessly over the last nine months or so on a solution. We needed to provide certainties and stability for the Raiders and the league."

The Raiders, whose relocation fee of approximately $350 million is less than the $650 million the Rams and Chargers paid, likely will play two or three more years in the Bay Area before their $1.7 billion stadium near the Las Vegas Strip is ready.

"I wouldn't use the term lame duck," Davis insisted. "We're still the Raiders and we represent Raider Nation.

"There will be disappointed fans and it's important for me to talk to them to explain why and how."

Las Vegas, long taboo to the NFL because of its legalized gambling, also is getting an NHL team this fall, the Golden Knights.

"Today will forever change the landscape of Las Vegas and UNLV football," said Steve Sisolak, chairman of the Clark County Commission and a former member of a panel appointed by Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval to study the stadium tax funding plan. "I couldn't be more excited for the fans and residents of Clark County as we move forward with the Raiders and the Rebels."

Please see **RAIDERS**/5C

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV

BOXING

Leduan Barthelemy vs. Reynaldo Blanco, 8 p.m., FS1, FXDEP

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Savannah State at Georgia, 5 p.m., SEC

Wichita State at Oklahoma State, 5 p.m, FSSW+, FCSC

Texas at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, 5:30 p.m., FCSA

Auburn at Alabama, 7 p.m., ESPNU

New Mexico at New Mexico State, 7 p.m., FCSP

HOCKEY

KHL Eastern Final, Gm 3: Metallurg MG at AK Bars, 11 a.m., ELVN

MLB

Spring Training: St. Louis vs. NY Mets, Noon, ESPN

Spring Training: San Francisco vs. Chic. Cubs, 3 p.m., MLB

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

NIT Semifinal: Cal State Bakersfield vs. Georgia Tech, 6 p.m., ESPN

NIT Semifinal: Florida vs. TCU, 8 p.m., ESPN

MEN'S SOCCER

Friendly: Russia vs. Belgium, 10:50 a.m., FS2, FXDEP

Friendly: Netherlands vs. Italy, 1:40 p.m., beIN

Friendly: France vs. Spain, 1:50 p.m., ESPN2, ESPNDEP

World Cup Qualifying: Bolivia vs. Argentina, 2:50 p.m., beIN2

World Cup Qualifying: Ecuador vs. Colombia, 3:50 p.m., beIN

World Cup Qualifying: Honduras vs. Costa Rica, 3:50 p.m., NBCU

World Cup Qualifying: Chile vs. Venezuela, 4:50 p.m., beIN2

World Cup Qualifying: Trinidad & Tobago vs. Mexico, 5:50 p.m., beIN, TELE

World Cup Qualifying: Brazil vs. Paraguay, 7:30 p.m., beIN2

World Cup Qualifying: USA vs. Panama, 8:50 p.m., beIN, TELE, NBCU

World Cup Qualifying: Peru vs. Uruguay, 9:40 p.m., beIN2

NBA

Golden State at Houston, 7 p.m., NBAtv

Washington at LA Lakers, 9:30 p.m., NBAtv

NHL

Dallas at Montreal, 6:30 p.m., FSSW

Washington at Minnesota, 7 p.m., NHL

TENNIS

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

WHAT'S ON DECK

High school

SOFTBALL

Crane at Midland Christian, 5 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

BOSTON RED SOX — Optioned INF Deven Marrero, OF Steve Selsky and C Blake Swihart to Pawtucket (IL). Reassigned C Dan Butler and 1B Sam Travis to minor league camp.

DETROIT TIGERS — Named Craig Hughner director of media relations and Bryan Almonte media relations coordinator and Spanish language translator.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Optioned LHP Scott Alexander and OFs Billy Burns and Peter O'Brien to Omaha (PCL). Reassigned RHPs Al Alburquerque, Yender Caramo and Malcom Culver; LHP Eric Stout; C Zane Evans and INF Humberto Arteaga to their minor league camp.

LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Reassigned INF Matt Williams to their minor league camp.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Reassigned C Wilkin Castillo and INFs Donovan Solano and Ruben Tejada to minor league camp.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Released OF Alejandro De Aza.

TAMPA BAY RAYS — Placed RHP Kevin Gadea on the 60-day DL. Agreed to terms with C Derek Norris on a minor league contract.

TEXAS RANGERS — Optioned RHP Eddie Gamboa to Round Rock (PCL). Reassigned OF Jared Hoying to their minor league camp. Released 1B James Loney.

National League

CHICAGO CUBS — Optioned RHP Eddie Butler and LHP Rob Zastryzny to Iowa (PCL). Assigned INF Ian Happ, OF John Andreoli and C Taylor Davis to their minor league camp.

CINCINNATI REDS — Released INF/OF Ryan Raburn.

COLORADO ROCKIES — Optioned OF Raimel Tapia to Albuquerque (PCL). Reassigned INFs Daniel Castro and Rafael Ynoa to their minor league camp.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Optioned RHP Mike Mayers and C Carson Kelly to Memphis (PCL). Reassigned INF Patrick Wisdom and OF Adolis Garcia to their minor league camp.

WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Released RHPs Joe Nathan and Matt Albers unconditionally.

Can-Am League

SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS — Released INF John Brucker.

American Association

KANSAS CITY T-BONES — Signed LHP Mark McCoy, RHP Cal Drummond and RHP Aaron Brooks.

LAREDO LEMURS — Signed OF Joey Armstrong.

LINCOLN SALTDOGS — Signed LHP Bennett Parry.

TEXAS AIRHOGS — Signed 1B Nic Wilson.

Frontier League

EVANSVILLE OTTERS — Signed RHP Tyler Thompson and RHP Tyler Vail to contract extensions. Signed RHP Wade McNabb.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MINERS — Signed RHP John Werner.

WASHINGTON WILD THINGS — Signed 1B Kade Sweeney.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

PHILADELPHIA 76ERS — Recalled F Tiago Splitter from Delaware (NBADL).

FOOTBALL

National Football League

NFL — Announced the approval of the Oakland Raiders' move to Las Vegas.

BUFFALO BILLS — Claimed DE Scott Crichton off waivers from Minnesota.

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed OL Matt McCants.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Signed LBs Dewey McDonald and Terence Garvin.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

NHL — Suspended San Jose F Michael Healey one game for roughing Nashville F Calle Jarnkrok during a March 25 game.

NEW YORK RANGERS — Agreed to terms with F Vinni Lettieri.

American Hockey League

STOCKTON HEAT — Assigned F Brett Pollock to Adirondack (ECHL).

ECHL

READING ROYALS — Named Ray Melcher interim general manager.

LACROSSE

National Lacrosse League

BUFFALO BANDITS— Acquired D Creighton Reid and a 2019 fourth-round draft pick from Colorado for T Brad Self. Traded Reid to Calgary for a 2017 fourth- and a 2019 second-round draft pick.

COLLEGE

CHARLOTTE — Named Jennifer Charles assistant women's volleyball coach and recruiting coordinator.

EASTERN MICHIGAN — Named Christian Spears interim athletic director.

FLORIDA — Named Cameron Newbauer women's basketball coach.

FORDHAM — Named Tommy Galt offensive line coach, Jon Guynes assistant defensive line coach/recruiting coordinator, Stephen Pribble offensive quality control coach and Liam Smith defensive quality control coach.

GEORGE WASHINGTON — Promoted interim men's basketball coach Maurice Joseph to permanent head coach and signed him to a five-year contract.

NC STATE — Named James Johnson men's assistant basketball coach.

NEBRASKA — Announced sophomore C Jessica Shepard will transfer to another school.

NEW MEXICO — Announced men's sophomore basketball G-F Sam Longwood will transfer.

SAINT ROSE — Named Kyle Young coordinator of athletics communications.

SYRACUSE — Named Justin Lustig special teams coordinator and running backs coach.

YOUNGSTOWN STATE — Named Jerrod Calhoun men's basketball coach.

MLB SPRING TRAINING

Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
New York	22	7	0.759
Seattle	19	13	0.594
Los Angeles	17	13	0.567
Baltimore	15	12	0.556
Kansas City	16	13	0.552
Oakland	16	13	0.552
Boston	16	13	0.552
Chicago	16	14	0.533
Minnesota	14	13	0.519
Cleveland	14	14	0.500
Houston	13	14	0.481
Texas	14	16	0.467
Tampa Bay	11	15	0.423
Detroit	12	18	0.400
Toronto	10	16	0.385

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
St. Louis	19	8	0.704
Pittsburgh	19	9	0.679
Colorado	15	14	0.517
Los Angeles	16	15	0.516
San Francisco	15	16	0.484
Milwaukee	14	15	0.483
Washington	13	14	0.481
Arizona	13	14	0.481
New York	15	17	0.469
Cincinnati	15	18	0.455
Chicago	11	15	0.423
Philadelphia	11	15	0.423
Miami	10	16	0.385
San Diego	11	19	0.367
Atlanta	8	21	0.276

Scores and schedule

Monday's Scores

Boston 11, Baltimore 9

N.Y. Mets (ss) 5, Miami 0

Washington 6, N.Y. Mets (ss) 0

Chicago White Sox 5, L.A. Dodgers 2

San Francisco 14, Cincinnati 2

Texas 6, Colorado 5

Kansas City 10, Oakland 3

L.A. Angels 4, Arizona 2

San Diego 12, Seattle 2

Atlanta 11, Detroit 3

Pittsburgh 4, Minnesota 1

St. Louis 3, Houston 2

Philadelphia vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla., late

Chicago Cubs vs. Cleveland at Goodyear, Ariz., late

Today's Games

Baltimore vs. Atlanta at Kissimmee, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

Houston vs. Miami (ss) at Jupiter, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

Tampa Bay vs. Minnesota at Fort Myers, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

St. Louis vs. N.Y. Mets at Port St. Lucie, Fla., 12:10 p.m.

Texas vs. Colorado at Scottsdale, Ariz., 2:10 p.m.

Chicago White Sox vs. Kansas City at Surprise, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.

Cleveland vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix, 3:05 p.m.

L.A. Dodgers (ss) vs. Cincinnati at Goodyear, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.

San Diego vs. L.A. Dodgers (ss) at Glendale, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.

San Francisco vs. Chicago Cubs at Mesa, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.

Arizona vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz., 3:10 p.m.

Oakland vs. L.A. Angels at Tempe, Ariz., 3:10 p.m.

Boston vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla., 5:05 p.m.

Detroit vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fla., 5:35 p.m.

Miami (ss) vs. Washington at West Palm Beach, Fla., 5:35 p.m.

Toronto vs. Philadelphia at Clearwater, Fla., 5:35 p.m.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	75	42	24	9	93	204	187
Ottawa	74	41	25	8	90	194	191
Toronto	74	35	24	15	85	227	219
Boston	75	39	30	6	84	214	202
Tampa Bay	75	37	29	9	83	210	210
Florida	75	33	31	11	77	195	213
Buffalo	76	32	32	12	76	192	218
Detroit	75	31	32	12	74	188	220

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Washington	74	49	17	8	106	238	163
x-Columbus	74	48	19	7	103	232	171
x-Pittsburgh	75	46	18	11	103	258	211
N.Y. Rangers	76	46	26	4	96	241	201
N.Y. Islanders	75	35	28	12	82	219	228
Carolina	74	33	27	14	80	196	212
Philadelphia	75	35	32	8	78	197	220
New Jersey	75	27	35	13	67	171	220

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Chicago	76	48	21	7	103	229	197
x-Minnesota	75	44	24	7	95	240	190
Nashville	75	39	25	11	89	225	206
St. Louis	75	41	28	6	88	211	200
Winnipeg	76	34	35	7	75	225	241
Dallas	75	31	33	11	73	206	238
Colorado	74	20	51	3	43	145	249

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	75	41	23	11	93	199	185
San Jose	75	42	26	7	91	201	182
Edmonton	75	41	25	9	91	223	195
Calgary	75	42	29	4	88	207	202
Los Angeles	74	35	32	7	77	180	186
Vancouver	75	30	36	9	69	172	219
Arizona	76	27	40	9	63	181	244

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

x-clinched playoff spot

Scores and schedule

Monday's Scores

Buffalo 4, Florida 2

Nashville 3, N.Y. Islanders 1

Detroit 4, Carolina 3, OT

Tampa Bay 5, Chicago 4, OT

St. Louis 4, Arizona 1

Colorado at Calgary, late

Today's Games

Buffalo at Columbus, 6 p.m.

Nashville at Boston, 6 p.m.

Detroit at Carolina, 6 p.m.

Ottawa at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.

Winnipeg at New Jersey, 6 p.m.

Dallas at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.

Florida at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.

Washington at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Los Angeles at Edmonton, 8 p.m.

Anaheim at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

N.Y. Rangers at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

Wade, Little earn Big 12 honors

From staff reports

Two Midlanders playing on Big 12 baseball teams have been honored by the Big 12 Conference.

TCU junior outfielder and Midland High grad Austen Wade has been named Big 12 Player of the Week, while Texas Tech freshman outfielder and Midland Christian grad Grant Little was named Newcomer of the Week.

This is the first time ever that two Midlanders have received Big 12 baseball honors in the same week.

Wade helped the No. 3-ranked Horned Frogs sweep No. 16 Oklahoma State by batting .455 and also posting a .571 on-base percentage thanks in part to drawing three walks.

Wade

Little

He has reached base safely in 11 straight games.

Wade was 3-for-4 in Friday's 7-5 come-from-behind win as his two-run double capped off the victory. That was his 23rd multi-hit game of his career and fourth of the season.

He was also 2-for-2 on stolen-base attempts and added two outfield assists.

Little batted .412 over 17 at-bats last week, helping the Red Raiders complete a perfect 5-0 week, including the first three-game sweep over Wichita State in program history. He tallied seven hits, including a double and two triples, along with three RBI, two runs scored and two walks.

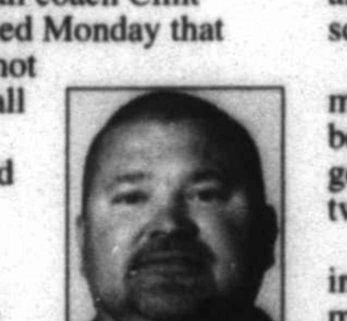
In the first game of the series against the Shockers, Little came one hit shy of the cycle, needing a home run to accomplish the feat, giving him his third three-hit game of the year. He followed it with another triple and a single in Saturday's 4-1 win over WSU.

Little is tied for the team-lead in multi-hit performances this season with 2017 conference honorees and teammates Hunter Hargrove and Tanner Gardner at 10 each. Little also leads the Big 12 in OBP at .475 and is tied for the conference lead in batting average at .385.

Lee opts not to have spring football practices

From staff reports

Lee head football coach Clint Hartman announced Monday that the program will not hold spring football practice this year.



Hartman

Rather than hold the allotted 17 spring practices which would culminate in a spring game in May, the program opted per University Interscholastic League rules, to start fall practice one week early. The Rebels will hold 36 practices before the 2017 season opener and will also play a second fall scrimmage.

Hartman said it was a decision made by he and his assistants, who believe the move will help the Rebels get a head start on the season when two-a-days begin in August.

He noted the importance of keeping players healthy during the summer while working out, as well as not losing a week of practice due to spring academic testing.

He added that he also conferred with Texas' all-time winningest head coach, Calallen's Phil Danaher, as well as Converse Judson — two top programs who have foregone spring practice several times in the last few years. Additionally, former Lee state champion head coach John Parchman was known to pass on spring practice and opt for the early fall start.

"We think it's the best fit for us to keep going (into next season)," Hartman said. "Since we'll start early (in the fall), we don't want to let anyone catch us."

The Rebels went 3-7 overall and 2-4 in District 2-6A play last year in Hartman's first season with the program.

TRINITY

From 1C

Alexander said the Chargers' style of offense and defense in 11-man has yet to be determined.

Alexander, a former Lee star and Texas Tech cornerback, last coached 11-man when he was at Goddard Junior High in 2006.

"The biggest challenge is going to come from the coaches," Alexander said. "We are behind as far as the style of 11-man in terms of offense and defense. I hadn't played 11-man since 2000. I haven't coached 11-man in awhile. The game has changed since I played and the game has changed since I last coached 11-man.

"With that being said, the kids will pick up what we give them. As a coaching staff, we have to make sure we give them the right tools to succeed and that's bringing in the right people to work here, the right system that's going to benefit our kids. As long as we have the support from the school and the fans and the families, then we will succeed."

As of now, Trinity doesn't plan to engage in a spring football program, so Alexander said that the summer 7-on-7 season will be instrumental in getting the Chargers prepared for the 11-man transition.

Trinity begins practice Aug. 1.

Logan Ramsey and Cade Lawson, both Trinity standouts that are seniors-to-be, said Monday that they have never played 11-man.

But they're both looking to the challenge.

"Ever since first grade, our teachers have been telling us to 'work hard, work hard, work hard,'" Ramsey said. "That's in our blood as a Trinity student, so having this, it's just the next goal. It's just the next thing to work hard for and achieve."

And Trinity's challenges aren't just limited to the playbook.

"We have to get the field reconfigured," Young said. "One thing you don't think about is jerseys. In six-man, it's 1 through 30. We got to get linemen jerseys in here. But it's going to be fun. I think the kids were kind of shocked at first, but as they start thinking about it, I think they're excited. And I know Coach Alexander is excited and the rest of coaches are looking forward to it."

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

Senators urge USA Hockey to end dispute with women's team

By Stephen Whyno
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Pressure is mounting on USA Hockey in its wage dispute with the women's national team.

On Monday, 16 U.S. senators wrote a letter to executive director Dave Ogrean, urging him to resolve the matter. The message came four days before the start of the women's world championship, which players threatened to boycott if significant progress was not made toward an agreement.

USA Hockey's board of directors held a meeting Monday afternoon, but had not emerged with a resolution as of late Monday night. Players said Sunday in a statement that they were hopeful USA Hockey would agree to what was hammered out after 10-plus hours of in-person talks a week ago.

The senators, all Democrats, cited the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act and told Ogrean he should ensure the team receives "equitable resources."

They joined a chorus of support that includes unions representing players from the NHL, NBA, NFL and Major League Baseball. Those organizations said over the weekend they stood with the women's team and criticized USA Hockey for attempting to find replacement players.

Associated Press

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass. speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington on March 14. Warren, and other senators have written a letter to USA Hockey executive director Dave Ogrean to express their concerns about the organization's treatment of the women's national team.

Prominent NHL agent Allan Walsh tweeted Sunday, "Word circulating among NHL players that American players will refuse to play in men's World Championships in solidarity with the women."

Zach Bogosian, an American-born Buffalo Sabres defenseman, went to high school with U.S. captain Meghan Duggan. He tweeted his support and said he hopes the dispute is resolved.

The U.S. is the defending champion at the International Ice Hockey Women's World Championship, which begins Friday in Plymouth, Michigan.

In negotiations over the past 15 months, players have asked for a four-year contract that pays them outside the six-month Olympic period. The senators' letter notes the $6,000 that players earn around the Olympics and USA Hockey's $3.5 million annual spending on the men's national team development program and other discrepancies.

"These elite athletes indeed deserve fairness and respect, and we hope you will be a leader on this issue as women continue to push for equality in athletics," the senators wrote.

The letter was signed by: Elizabeth Warren and Edward Markey of Massachusetts, Patty Murray of Washington, Dianne Feinstein of California, Patrick Leahy of Vermont, Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut, Maggie Hassan of New Hampshire, Sherrod Brown of Ohio, Thomas Carper of Delaware, Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin, Robert Menendez and Cory Booker of New Jersey, Mazie Hirono of Hawaii, Bob Casey of Pennsylvania, Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION

UPCOMING EVENTS

4/6 6:30-8:30 Microchipping at Beer Garden's Yappy Hour

4/10 6:00-8:00 Volunteer Orientation at MHC's Adoption Center

6/24 3rd Annual Hot Dog Run 5K and 1K

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

ENHANCED ADOPTION CENTER

Is located within Midland's PetSmart Store

ADOPTION HOURS

Monday thru Saturday 12-7 & Sunday 12-6

432.520.3134 ext. 7

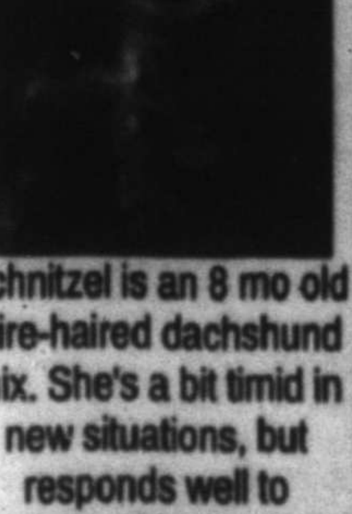
AD SPONSORED BY BROWN'S PERMIAN ELECTRIC CO.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION

P.O. Box 53213

Midland, TX 79710

midlandhumane.org



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

Associated Press

Connecticut's Katie Lou Samuelson shoots over Oregon's Lexi Bando during the second half of a regional final game in the NCAA women's tournament Monday in Bridgeport, Conn.

NCAATOURNAMENTROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Women

UCONN 90 OREGON 52

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — Everything UConn lost to graduation made another Final Four even more special for Geno Auriemma and his Huskies.

Napheesa Collier scored 28 points, Gabby Williams had 25 and the Huskies advanced to the national semifinals for the 10th straight year with a 90-52 victory against Oregon on Monday night.

"There were a lot of question marks going into the season and maybe they didn't have any in their own minds," Auriemma said. "They seemed to answer every single one of those questions. They deserve to be in the Final Four. They earned it."

The Huskies' 111th consecutive victory moved Auriemma past Pat Summitt for the most NCAA Tournament wins. Auriemma now has 113 and counting.

Next up for top-seeded UConn (36-0) is Mississippi State on Friday night in Dallas. It is just two wins away from a fifth consecutive title and 12th overall.

"It means a whole lot, especially with this group because no one thought we'd be here and we worked so hard this year," said Collier, who earned most outstanding player of the region honors.

The Huskies jumped all over 10th-seeded Oregon (23-14), stopping its impressive run through the tourney.

SOUTH CAROLINA 71 FLORIDA STATE 64

STOCKTON, Calif. — Kaela Davis scored 23 points and A'ja Wilson added 16 and top-seeded South Carolina held off No. 3 seed Florida State 71-64 in a furious finish Monday night to win the Stockton Regional.

Davis scored immediately off the tip and again on a timely, brilliant left-handed drive with 1:42 to go.

Allisha Gray drove her way to 11 points for South Carolina (31-4) — and Dawn Staley's Gamecocks are back in the Final Four for the first time since 2015 still chasing the program's first NCAA championship.

Leticia Romero cut the South Carolina lead to five, 65-60, on a driving jumper with 3:51 left. Then Brittany Brown's steal and layup at 3:25 made it 65-62, but the Seminoles wouldn't get closer.

South Carolina has both basketball teams in the Final Four. The men's program reached its first Final Four with a stunning upset of Florida on Sunday that sent the women screaming in delight at Stockton Arena all the way across the country from the victory at Madison Square Garden.

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

SPURS 103 CAVALIERS 74

SAN ANTONIO — Kawhi Leonard scored 25 points and the San Antonio Spurs dismantled the ailing Cleveland Cavaliers 103-74 on Monday night in a showdown that turned into a major letdown for the defending NBA champions.

LaMarcus Aldridge and Pau Gasol added 14 points apiece for the Spurs, who won their fifth straight.

Cleveland (47-26) dropped its second in a row, set a season low for points and fell a half-game behind Boston (48-26) for the top seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Cavaliers star LeBron James was injured late in the third quarter after taking an elbow to the base of his neck. He remained on the bench for a while receiving medical attention, then headed toward the locker room and didn't return to the game.

His status was not immediately known.

Cleveland has been out of sync recently, losing three of five, and those struggles only got worse against San Antonio. The Spurs led by as many as 33 points to the delight of the sold-out crowd.

San Antonio (57-16) is two games behind Golden State (59-14) for the league's best record entering a home showdown with the Warriors on Wednesday.

Cleveland opted to play its stars rather than sit them for rest, but the trio of James, Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love sat out the fourth quarter of its second rout in the past two weeks.

James exited with 25 seconds remaining in the third after taking an elbow to his neck from David Lee on a rebound. James continually rubbed the area before collapsing after he crossed midcourt and remained on the floor for about a minute before walking unassisted to the bench. He left for the locker room early in the fourth quarter during a timeout.

THUNDER 92 MAVERICKS 91

DALLAS — Russell Westbrook hit a pull-up jumper with seven seconds left and the Oklahoma City Thunder erased a 13-point deficit in the final four minutes to beat the Dallas Mavericks 92-91 on Monday night.

Westbrook scored 37 points, including 16 in the fourth quarter, with 13 rebounds and 10 assists for his third straight triple-double and 37th of the season.

The Thunder finished on a 14-0 run, capped when they gained possession on a replay reversal with 13 seconds to go and Westbrook hit the decisive shot from just beyond the free throw line over Wesley Matthews. Westbrook scored 12 of the final 14 points.

Dallas didn't call a timeout and Harrison Barnes missed a long 3-pointer just before the buzzer, clinching the first losing season for the Mavericks (31-42) since 1999-2000, the season that owner Mark Cuban bought the team with Dirk Nowitzki in his second year.

The Thunder (42-31) won for the seventh time in nine games since a four-game losing streak that matched a season high. They kept at least a 1 1/2-game lead over Memphis for the sixth seed in the Western Conference.

RAPTORS 131 MAGIC 112

TORONTO — DeMar DeRozan scored 36 points and Cory Joseph had 15 points and 13 assists as the Toronto Raptors defeated the Orlando Magic 131-112 on Monday night for their sixth straight victory.

DeRozan, selected the Eastern Conference player of the week earlier in the day, set the pace early by scoring 18 in the first quarter. Joseph added six rebounds and Jonas Valanciunas had 17 points and nine rebounds for the Raptors (45-29).

Elfrid Payton had 22 points and nine assists for Orlando (27-47). Evan Fournier added 20 points, and Nikola Vucevic had 12 points and 15 assists.

It was the first game between the teams since the Raptors traded Terrence Ross to the Magic for Serge Ibaka in February. Ross finished with 17 points and two rebounds, while Ibaka had 16 points and seven rebounds.

The Raptors took a 99-89 lead into the fourth quarter.

DeRozan's basket gave Toronto a 19-point lead with 8:15 to go in the third. But the Magic, winners of seven games this season after falling behind by double digits, fought back.

Bismack Biyombo made a pair of free throws to cut Toronto's lead to five with 12 seconds left in the period.

KNICKS 109 PISTONS 95

NEW YORK — Derrick Rose scored 27 points, Kristaps Porzingis had 25 and the New York Knicks handed the Detroit Pistons another damaging defeat with a 109-95 victory Monday night.

Carmelo Anthony returned from a two-game absence due to a sore left knee and added 21 as the Knicks snapped a five-game losing streak and avoided playoff elimination.

Marcus Morris scored 20 points but Detroit dropped its fourth straight and fell 1 1/2 games behind Miami for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. Ish Smith had 15 points while former starting point guard Reggie Jackson didn't play.

The Knicks shot 60 percent in the first half and turned it over to their defense to start the second, pitching a shutout for more than seven minutes to start the third quarter.

The Pistons had already lost to Brooklyn, Chicago and Orlando during what should have been a favorable portion of their schedule to mount a playoff push, and coach Stan Van Gundy said his players were frustrated because of how badly their offense was struggling.

Elite not good enough for Baylor women in NCAA Tournament

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

"I just went in the locker room and apologized to the four seniors that I couldn't, as their coach, get them to a Final Four. I thanked them for four wonderful years of Elite Eight basketball. Many players and schools across the country would trade places with them in a heartbeat."

Kim Mulkey, Baylor coach

Being elite just isn't enough anymore for Baylor in the women's NCAA Tournament.

Again so close, and so far away from what the Lady Bears wanted to accomplish.

Baylor got to the Elite Eight for the fourth year in a row, and fell short again of getting to the Final Four.

"I just went in the locker room and apologized to the four seniors that I couldn't, as their coach, get them to a Final Four," Kim Mulkey said after the season-ending overtime loss to Mississippi State. "I thanked them for four wonderful years of Elite Eight basketball. Many players and schools across the country would trade places with them in a heartbeat."

But the expectations are much higher for the Lady Bears (33-4), who haven't been back to the Final Four since their 40-0 national championship in 2012.

And now they won't even be part of this week's Final Four in Dallas, only about 100 miles from their Waco campus and the one that Mulkey had been talking about for more than two years.

"It doesn't feel real right now," said Alexis Prince, one of the seniors.

"It's a disappointment. Just sorry I couldn't get (the seniors) there," said 6-foot-7 sophomore forward Kalani Brown, who finished with 27 points on 11-of-13 shooting and had nine rebounds Sunday night.

Nina Davis was an AP All-American last season and a three-time All-Big 12 pick, but she will leave Baylor without a Final Four trip and national championship chance she really wanted.

The four losses in the Elite Eight spanned Davis' entire career, as well as Prince and Khadijiah Cave. Alexis Jones played in the last two, and was a redshirt for a third, after transferring from Duke.

"I just hate it for them, because they really are Final Four type of kids," said Mulkey, who has two national titles and three Final Fours in her 17 seasons at Baylor. "This was a Final Four type of team."

When Mulkey mentioned the 2017 Final Four during the early rounds of the 2015 NCAA Tournament, she knew who would be seniors this season — a class that became the first in school history with all of them scoring at least 1,000 career points. Plus, Australian guard Kristy Wallace was finishing her freshman season.

The Lady Bears then also were awaiting the arrival of McDonald's All-America posts Brown and Beatrice Mompremier, both now coming off steady sophomore seasons.

"I think Kalani, from her freshman year to a sophomore year, is a completely different presence in the paint for us both offensively and defensively," Mulkey said.

Another pair of McDonald's All-Americans, post Lauren Cox and guard Natalie Chou, were freshmen this season.

Baylor has already signed four standout guards for next season. They include the Gatorade players of the year from Texas (Alexis Morris) and Louisiana (Cara Ursin).

After the Lady Bears won their first three NCAA Tournament games by margins of 89, 40 and 34 points, Mississippi State forced them into 17 turnovers that led to 20 points.

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Boston	48	26	.649	-
x-Toronto	45	29	.608	3
New York	28	46	.378	20
Philadelphia	27	46	.370	20½
Brooklyn	16	57	.219	31½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Washington	45	28	.616	-
Atlanta	37	36	.507	7½
Miami	35	38	.479	9½
Charlotte	33	40	.452	12
Orlando	27	47	.365	18½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Cleveland	47	26	.644	-
Milwaukee	37	36	.507	10
Indiana	37	36	.507	10
Chicago	35	39	.473	12½
Detroit	34	40	.459	13½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-San Antonio	57	16	.781	-
x-Houston	51	22	.699	5½
Memphis	40	33	.548	17
Dallas	31	42	.425	26
New Orleans	31	42	.425	26

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Utah	44	29	.603	-
Oklahoma City	42	31	.575	2
Portland	35	38	.479	9
Denver	35	38	.479	9
Minnesota	28	44	.389	15½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Golden State	59	14	.808	-
x-L.A. Clippers	44	31	.587	15
Sacramento	28	45	.384	30½
Phoenix	22	52	.297	37
L.A. Lakers	21	52	.288	37½

x-clinched playoff spot
z-clinched division

Scores and schedule

Monday's Scores

New York 109, Detroit 95
Toronto 131, Orlando 112
San Antonio 103, Cleveland 74
Oklahoma City 92, Dallas 91
Memphis at Sacramento, late
New Orleans at Utah, late

Today's Games

Milwaukee at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Miami at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Golden State at Houston, 7 p.m.
Denver at Portland, 9 p.m.
Washington at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT GLANCE

NCAA Men

FIRST FOUR
At UD Arena
Dayton, Ohio
Tuesday, March 14
Mount St. Mary's 67, New Orleans 66
Kansas State 85, Wake Forest 68
Wednesday, March 15
UC Davis 67, N.C. Central 63
Southern Cal 75, Providence 71

EAST REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 18
At KeyBank Center
Buffalo, N.Y.
Wisconsin 65, Villanova 62
At Amway Center
Orlando, Fla.
Florida 65, Virginia 39
Sunday, March 19
At Bon Secours Wellness Arena
Greenville, S.C.
South Carolina 88, Duke 81
At BOK Center
Tulsa, Okla.
Baylor 82, Southern Cal 78
At Madison Square Garden
New York
Regional Semifinals
March 24
South Carolina 70, Baylor 60
Florida 84, Wisconsin 83, OT
Regional Championship
Sunday
South Carolina 77, Florida 70

SOUTH REGIONAL
First Round
Second Round
Saturday, March 18
At BMO Harris Bradley Center
Milwaukee
Butler 74, Middle Tennessee 65
Sunday, March 19
At Bon Secours Wellness Arena
Greenville, S.C.
North Carolina 72, Arkansas 65
At Bankers Life Fieldhouse
Indianapolis
Kentucky 65, Wichita State 62
At Golden 1 Center
Sacramento, Calif.
UCLA 79, Cincinnati 67
At FedEx Forum
Memphis, Tenn.
Regional Semifinals
March 24
North Carolina 92, Butler 90
Kentucky 86, UCLA 75
Regional Championship
March 26
North Carolina 75, Kentucky 73

MIDWEST REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 18
At BMO Harris Bradley Center
Milwaukee
Purdue 80, Iowa State 76
Sunday, March 19
At Bankers Life Fieldhouse
Indianapolis
Michigan 73, Louisville 69
At BOK Center
Tulsa, Okla.
Kansas 90, Michigan State 70
At Golden 1 Center
Sacramento, Calif.
Oregon 75, Rhode Island 72
At The Sprint Center
Kansas City, Mo.
Regional Semifinals
March 23
Oregon 69, Michigan 68
Kansas 98, Purdue 66
Regional Championship
March 25
Oregon 74, Kansas 60

WEST REGIONAL
Second Round
Saturday, March 18
At KeyBank Center
Buffalo, N.Y.
West Virginia 83, Notre Dame 71
At Amway Center
Orlando, Fla.
Xavier 91, Florida State 66
At Vivint Smart Home Arena
Salt Lake City
Gonzaga 79, Northwestern 73
Arizona 69, Saint Mary's 60
At SAP Center
San Jose, Calif.
Regional Semifinals
March 23
Gonzaga 61, West Virginia 58
Xavier 73, Arizona 71
Regional Championship
March 25
Gonzaga 83, Xavier 59

FINAL FOUR
At University of Phoenix Stadium
Glendale, Ariz.
National Semifinals
Saturday
South Carolina (26-10) vs. Gonzaga (36-1), 5:09 p.m.
North Carolina (31-7) vs. Oregon (33-5), 7:40 p.m.
National Championship
Monday, April 3
Semifinal winners

NCAA Women

BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
March 25
At Bridgeport, Conn.
Oregon 77, Maryland 63
UConn 86, UCLA 71
Regional Championship
March 26
UConn 90, Oregon 52

OKLAHOMA CITY REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
March 24
At Oklahoma City
Mississippi State 75, Washington 64
Baylor 97, Louisville 83
Regional Championship
March 26
Mississippi State 84, Baylor 85, OT

LEXINGTON REGIONAL
Second Round
Sunday, March 19
At Lexington, Ky.
Ohio State 82, Kentucky 68
At Austin
Texas 84, N.C. State 80
At South Bend, Ind.
Notre Dame 88, Purdue 82, OT
March 20
At Manhattan, Kan.
Stanford 69, Kansas State 48
Regional Semifinals
March 24
At Lexington, Ky.
Notre Dame 99, Ohio State 76
Stanford 77, Texas 66
Regional Championship
March 26
Stanford 76, Notre Dame 75

STOCKTON REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
March 25
At Stockton, Calif.
South Carolina 100, Quinnipiac 58
Florida State 66, Oregon State 53
Regional Championship
Monday
South Carolina 71, Florida State 64

FINAL FOUR
At Dallas
National Semifinals
Friday
Stanford (32-6) vs. South Carolina (31-4), TBA
UConn (36-0) vs. Mississippi State (33-4), 8:30 p.m.
National Championship
Sunday, April 2
Semifinal winners

NIT Men

Second Round
Saturday, March 18
Mississippi 85, Syracuse 80 Sunday, March 19
Georgia Tech 71, Belmont 57
TCU 94, Iowa 92, OT
Richmond 87, Oakland 83
Monday, March 20
UCF 63, Illinois State 62
Texas-Arlington 85, Akron 69
Illinois 71, Boise State 56
CS Bakersfield 81, Colorado State 63
Quarterfinals
March 21
TCU 86, Richmond 68
Georgia Tech 74, Mississippi 66
March 22
UCF 68, Illinois 58
CS Bakersfield 80, Texas-Arlington 76
Semifinals
At Madison Square Garden
New York
Today
Georgia Tech (20-15) vs. CS Bakersfield (25-9), 6 p.m.
TCU (22-15) vs. UCF (24-11), 8:30 p.m.
Championship
Thursday
Semifinal winners, 8 p.m.

NIT Women

Second Round
Saturday, March 18
Michigan 71, Wright State 66
Iowa 78, South Dakota 73
Washington State 68, Wyoming 67, OT
Sunday, March 19
Indiana 71, Saint Louis 53
St. John's 60, Harvard 56
Villanova 56, Drexel 51
James Madison 61, Virginia 55
Virginia Tech 73, Navy 62
Penn State 70, Fordham 51
Colorado 81, South Dakota State 75, OT
Alabama 55, Little Rock 53
Middle Tennessee 73, Wake Forest 66
UC Davis 58, Colorado State 57
Georgia Tech 63, UCF 51
Tulane 66, Grambling State 49
Monday, March 20
SMU 79, Abilene Christian 52

Third Round
March 23
Michigan 60, St. John's 40
Georgia Tech 70, Middle Tennessee 57
Virginia Tech 64, Penn State 55
Villanova 69, James Madison 67, OT
Indiana 64, SMU 44
Iowa 80, Colorado 62
Alabama 72, Tulane 64
Washington State 71, UC Davis 62

Quarterfinals
Saturday, March 25
Michigan 80, Virginia Tech 62
Sunday, March 26
Villanova 69, Indiana 57
Georgia Tech 76, Alabama 66
Washington State 74, Iowa 66

Semifinals
Wednesday
Washington State at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m.
Villanova at Michigan, 6 p.m.
TBD Championship
Saturday, April 1
TBD, 2 p.m.

CBI

Semifinals
March 22
Coastal Carolina 89, UIC 78
Wyoming 74, Utah Valley 66
Championship Series
(Best-of-3)
(x-if necessary)
Monday
Coastal Carolina 91, Wyoming 81, Coastal Carolina leads series 1-0
Wednesday, March 29
Coastal Carolina at Wyoming, 8 p.m.
Friday, March 31
x-Coastal Carolina vs. Wyoming, TBD

Johnson makes the toughest test look easy

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Even for a player of Dustin Johnson's immense ability, the Dell Technologies Match Play was always going to be the toughest for him to capture all four of the World Golf Championships.

Johnson

Somehow, he made it look easy.

It's not just that Johnson never trailed at any point during the week. He was leading after every hole he played until the 12th hole of his quarterfinal match against Alex Noren. That's when Johnson heard the words "all square" for the first time all week, and then he birdied three of the next four holes and won.

No wonder that when Hideto Tanihara was asked for his strategy in his semifinal match against Johnson , he said through his translator, "He looks unbeatable."

"I hope he doesn't feel good, so maybe I have a chance," he said.

It was harder than it looked.

Tanihara hit two marvelous shots on the 13th and 14th holes to square his match against Johnson and was the first player to take him to the 18th hole, where Johnson had to make an 8-foot par putt to keep the match from going extra holes.

Jon Rahm also made Johnson's heart beat a little faster — presumably, anyway — when he rallied from 5 down with 10 holes to play by taking on risky shots, pulling them off and sending the match to the 18th hole.

Johnson again avoided overtime when Rahm, after a 382-yard drive that went to the back of the green, was rattled at the sound of a portable bathroom door slamming, flinched on a tough chip and left it above the hole with a sharp-breaking, next-to-impossible birdie putt to make.

He missed and Johnson got his par, and his trophy.

"This week is very hard to win," Johnson said. "It's a lot of golf playing against a lot of great players. And you've got to beat them all."

Johnson became the first player to win all four of the World Golf Championships. He won the HSBC Champions in Shanghai in 2013, pitching in for eagle on the 16th hole. He won the Cadillac Championship at Trump Doral in 2015, and then won the same event when it moved to Mexico City this year. Last summer, fresh off his U.S. Open victory at Oakmont, he rallied to beat Jason Day in the Bridgestone Invitational.

But that requires a small asterisk.

Tiger Woods won them all before the HSBC Champions was added to the WGC lineup in 2009. He only played in Shanghai twice, getting smoked by Phil Mickelson in the final round in 2009, and finishing 12 shots behind Francesco Molinari a year later. The last few years, Woods has not been eligible, and he skipped it twice when he was.

Even though Woods was more dominant than Johnson is now, the Match Play was the toughest for him to win. Woods won five World Golf Championships before he finally won Match Play in 2003. He either had one bad round at the wrong time, or ran into one hot player.

That's how it usually is for everyone. Winners usually have one big break during the week. Bill Haas, for example, chipped in from 120 feet for par to halve the hole in a sudden-death playoff to advance out of his group, and he later got away with a bad drive at a key moment when his ball caromed off a spectator's head into the fairway.

Johnson didn't have any good breaks, because he didn't need any.

"I really never hit it in trouble," he said.

Johnson forgot about the tee shot he hooked into the hazard on No. 3 in his semifinal match, perhaps because he still made par, and even won the hole.

That speaks to the level of golf he's at right now.

Dating to that U.S. Open victory, when a rules dispute kept him from knowing the score on the back nine at Oakmont, Johnson has won six times in his last 18 starts worldwide. He has 15 finishes in the top 10 over his last 19 tournaments.

Not since Rory McIlroy (British Open, Bridgestone Invitational, PGA Championship) has anyone won three straight tournaments. One more victory and it will be the longest winning streak since Woods won six in a row from the BMW Championship in September 2007 through the Arnold Palmer Invitational in March 2008.

The Las Vegas Westgate Superbook, which still had Jordan Spieth as a slight favorite at Augusta National a week ago, now has Johnson at 5-1, with Spieth next at 13-2.

"What am I going to say that you guys don't know?" Rahm said. "It's amazing how he's able to keep cool the entire round. It amazes me. And he's just a perfect, complete player."

Blunt and sarcastic, Arena relaxes US after Klinsmann

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

PANAMA CITY — Alejandro Bedoya missed a goal in training, and Bruce Arena wanted to make sure the midfielder knew he noticed.

"He threatened to chop my man bun off," Bedoya said, smiling.

Humor has returned to the U.S. national team since Arena replaced Jurgen Klinsmann as coach in November, following losses in the first two games in the final round of World Cup qualifying. In the first competitive match of Arena 2.0, the U.S. responded with a 6-0 rout of Honduras on Friday, and the Americans could even their record quickly with a win at Panama tonight.

A member of the U.S. National Soccer Hall of Fame who coached the national team from 1998-2006, Arena wanted to quickly put aside worries the Americans would fail to qualify for an eighth straight World Cup. He turned over staff, tore up rules and defined players' roles during his first four months. He discarded Klinsmann's curfew, eliminated the prohibition on meetings with agents at the team hotel, limited training sessions to one per day and allowed the support staff to sit in on video analysis sessions with players.

"Be on time and be respectful. Those are the rules," he said Monday. "If it's my job to control them all day, then I don't think we have a chance, and I'm basically not interested in doing it. I'd just open up a preschool somewhere."

If not quite chaos under Klinsmann, there was constant uncertainty. Arena brought his own brand of Brooklyn bluntness back to the job, a self-confidence boosted by five NCAA titles at Virginia and five Major League Soccer championships with D.C. United and the LA Galaxy.

"If I was coaching college today I'd be fired, because there's too many rules," he said. "In my days there was nothing wrong with having a beer with one of your players."

McClellan

From 1C

McMurry University in Abilene.

"She is like my best friend," McClellan said of Baggett. "She taught me a lot out there.

"Brit was so good. I guess running the bases, watching her taught me a lot. Because she was fast, me and her would race each other. We would play this game where we would run and we would always be up against each other. It was so much fun. We always competed, about who was faster."

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

MCS HAS AN UP AND DOWN OPENING DOUBLEHEADER

The Midland Christian softball team couldn't have a much better start to the TAPPS Division II, District 1 play.

In Thursday's opener, the Lady Mustangs erupted with eight first-inning runs against host Fort Worth Southwest Christian. However, MCS couldn't sustain that level of play over the last 13 innings of the doubleheader.

Midland Christian won the first game, 14-4, and then followed with an 11-9 loss.

"We thought all of this was going to be a piece of cake and we got more or less complacent and just kind of sat back," MCS coach Lee Summers said. "Before you know it, we had to play seven innings to get a run-rule."

In the second game, Summers said MCS' three errors proved to be more costly than six errors committed by Southwest Christian.

The Lady Mustangs will be back at home at the Freddie Ezell Softball Complex this week, as they host Crane at 5 p.m. today for Senior Night and play doubleheaders against Fort Worth Christian in district play on Friday (5 p.m.) and a single game on Saturday (10 a.m.).

Summers likes where his team stands at this point in the season.

"The girls play together, they work together, they trust each other more," Summers said. "Because of that, we're making plays that we didn't make at the beginning of the year."

District 2-6A Softball Standings

Team	District W	District L	Overall W	Overall L	Overall T
Midland High	3	1	18	6	0
Odessa Permian	3	1	13	7	1
Wolfforth Frenship	3	1	14	9	0
Odessa High	2	2	16	6	1
Lee	1	3	17	6	0
Amarillo Tascosa	0	4	5	20	1

Saturday's Score
Midland High 11, Lee 1, 6 innings
Friday's Games
Amarillo Tascosa at Lee, 4:30 p.m.; Midland High at Wolfforth Frenship, 7 p.m.; Odessa High at Odessa Permian, 7 p.m.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Courtney Monk, Sr., Midland Christian — Monk was 4-for-4 with a double, three RBI and two runs in MCS' 11-9 loss to Fort Worth Southwest Christian in its second game on Thursday. Monk completed the doubleheader with six hits, five RBI, two doubles and three runs.

HONOR ROLL

Taylor Conner, Sr., Midland High — The first baseman doubled twice in a 10-3 loss to Permian on March 21 and followed with three RBI in Saturday's 11-1 run-rule victory over Lee.

Clarissa Martinez, Sr., Midland Christian — Martinez went 5-for-5 with three doubles, two RBI and three runs to lead MCS to a 14-4 victory over Fort Worth Southwest Christian in its TAPPS Division II, District 1 opener Thursday. In the circle, Martinez tossed a two-hitter, while striking out seven. Only two of Martinez's four runs allowed were earned.

Alex James, So., Lee — The center fielder was 2-for-3 with a three-run homer in the Lady Rebels' 7-6 loss to Wolfforth Frenship on March 21.

Shea Keithley, Jr., Midland High — The leadoff hitter went 3-for-4 with two doubles, an RBI, two runs scored and a stolen base against Lee.

NASCAR off to a fast start, but ratings still sink

■ COMMENTARY

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Bad news first: The overnight television ratings for NASCAR's race in California were down. The ratings were down for Phoenix, Las Vegas and Atlanta, too. Basically, nothing NASCAR does can stop this slide, it seems.

So what's the good news?

Well, NASCAR really couldn't have asked for a better start to its season.

Five drivers won the first five races. The lead changed in the waning laps each time.

Kyle Busch got into a fight on pit road that left him with a bloody gash on his forehead — generating all sorts of mainstream attention — and nobody was punished. Similarly, Austin Dillon avoided any penalty when he wrecked Cole Custer in retaliation.

Danica Patrick, for one, argued NASCAR did the right thing by withholding heavy-handed punishments.

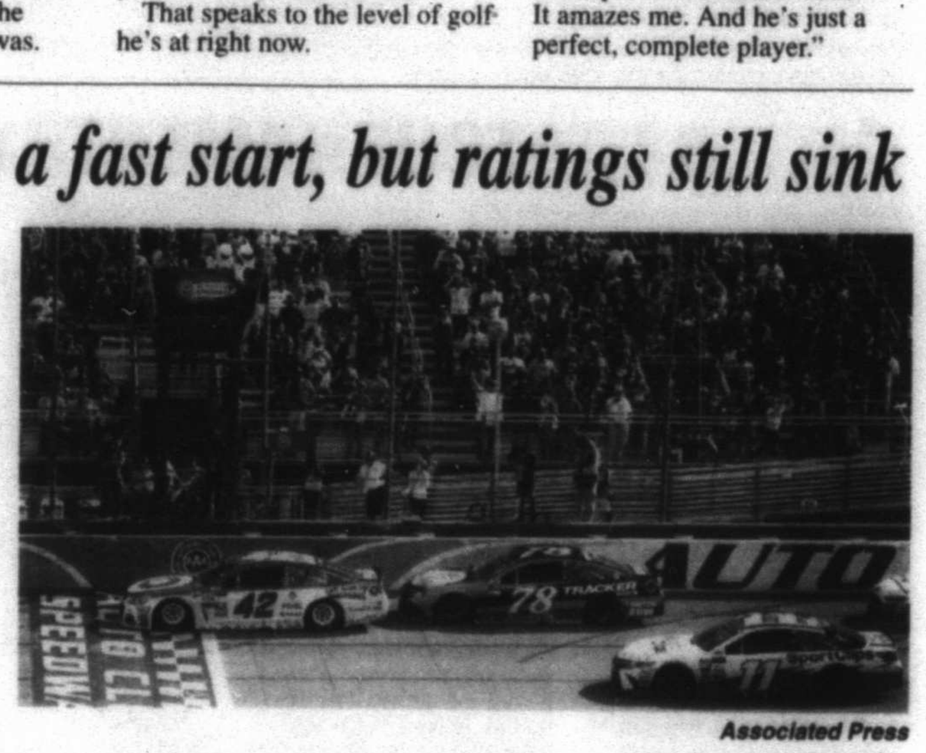
"It makes for good TV," she said, "and we handle it on the track ourselves."

Professional partier — oh, and NFL star — Rob Gronkowski was the main attraction at the season-opening Daytona 500, and celebrities came out in full force to watch NASCAR on Sunday in Fontana, California. Among the many in attendance were Jada Pinkett Smith, Kaitlin Olson, Dean Cain, Terry Crews, Fred Savage, Scott Eastwood and Justin Hartley, "Kevin/The Manny" from NBC's hit "This is Us," who apparently caught NASCAR fever and attended various events over the last few months.

For all the hand-wringing over the ratings slump, NASCAR appears to be headed in the right direction.

Heck, even Clint Bowyer, one of the largest personalities in the series, is emerging from his lengthy slump. He finished third Sunday and wrote on Twitter: "first time in a long time I grabbed the bottle of Jack in the plane for the right reason." Trust us, a happy Bowyer is good for everyone in NASCAR.

There's parity among the manufacturers — Chevrolet, Ford and Toyota all have wins this season — and the younger drivers have found themselves in the mix every week. Kyle Larson, victorious Sunday, in theory could have five wins already this season. He ran out of gas while leading the Daytona 500, notched three consecutive runner-up finishes, then finally finished first at Fontana after several nail-biting restarts.


Associated Press

Kyle Larson (42) leads in front of Martin Truex Jr. (78) and Denny Hamlin (11) in final laps of the NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif., on Sunday. Larson won the race.

But the bad news always comes on Monday, when the TV numbers are released. The ratings become the main focus of the sport: Naysayers fixate on decline; excuse-makers trot out all manner of explanations.

How about this? NASCAR, no matter how many story lines or rule changes or celebrities lining the grid, is an underwhelming overall product. Even with its new stage format, events are too long in this day and age of instant gratification — even the NFL recently announced ways it is going to try to shorten games — and the racing itself often isn't all that exciting until the end.

Another issue is that viewers are essentially being asked to tune in to watch colorful cars go in circles for 500 miles. When the cars themselves become the "stars," it's a lot harder to become emotionally invested in the product. It doesn't help that Jeff Gordon, the sport's biggest star for more than two decades, is now in the TV booth and Tony Stewart, the man of the people, is also retired.

The people left who need to be embraced are stuffed into cockpits, wearing helmets, and aren't heard from until the end of the event. Their personalities are hidden, too. It's so different from, say, the NCAA Tournament, which once a year makes celebrities out of basketball players few have heard of.

Gonzaga center Przemek Karnowski has a beard of Bunyanesque proportions that earned its own Twitter account and made him famous over the last two weeks. North Carolina forward Luke Maye hit the shot of his life — the game-winner Sunday over Kentucky to send the Tar Heels to the Final Four — then received a standing ovation when he showed up for his 8 a.m. class back in Chapel Hill on Monday.

Most other sports provide an opportunity for fans to feel the tension, see and hear the emotion, experience the highs and lows of the participants in real time. NASCAR hasn't found a way to capture that, barring, of course, an angry Busch stomping down pit road at Las Vegas to take a swing at Joey Logano.

That's as big a problem for NASCAR as the length of its races, its over-saturated 11-month schedule and the constant corporate-speak of its drivers. Figure out a way to show us more — take off the sunglasses, be engaging, give us energy and passion — and then maybe people will start watching again.

Vettel breaks drought with victory at Aussie GP

By John Pye
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Sebastian Vettel jumped onto the podium at the Australian Grand Prix and held up his right index finger, celebrating the end of Ferrari's Formula One drought and a break in the Mercedes dominance.

It was back to No. 1 for Ferrari, at least after one race to open the season.

Ferrari hadn't won an F1 GP since Vettel's victory in Singapore in September 2015, and so his unrestrained joy on Sunday signaled renewed confidence from him.

"For now, we're just over the moon," four-time world champion Vettel said after holding off Mercedes teammates Lewis Hamilton and Valtteri Bottas. "It's been a great day for us. The team has been working so hard at the track as much as back at the factory. It's a great feeling."

"Grazie mille," he added, a nod to the Italian manufacturer, "you can't say much more."

With regulations designed to make the 2017 F1 cars faster — wider tires, greater aerodynamics, bigger fuel loads and increased downforce — Vettel proved Ferrari's extra pace in pre-season testing was genuine.

"It's good to know we have a great car but it's just the beginning ... with new regulations, a new generation of cars," Vettel said. "Mercedes have a great engine and a great car the last couple of years — we're the ones who've had to catch up. Whatever happens this year, the race today doesn't hurt."

Vettel finished in 1 hour, 24 minutes and 11.672 seconds, almost 10 seconds clear of Hamilton, to give Ferrari its first win in Australia since Kimi Raikkonen took the title in 2007. Raikkonen, in the second Ferrari, finished fourth this year.

For the second year running, Hamilton started on pole position at the Albert Park circuit and placed second. Last year, he lost to then Mercedes teammate Nico Rosberg, who went on to edge him for the world championship before retiring. This time, Vettel took the lead when Hamilton pitted for new tires on lap 18 and then got stuck in traffic behind Red Bull driver Max Verstappen.

Vettel was able to pit much later and gradually build up his lead as Hamilton drove conservatively on older tires to ensure he finished the race.

"That's motor racing," Hamilton said of the hold-up, adding it was his decision to pit and change tires. "A big congratulations to Sebastian and Ferrari.

Mercedes won 19 of the 21 GPs last season, and Red Bull won the other two. But Red Bull was well off the pace in Melbourne, with Verstappen placing fifth — almost 29 seconds behind Vettel — and local hope Daniel Ricciardo failing to finish.

In fact, the Australian driver almost didn't start. Ricciardo's day started badly and kept getting worse as he got a grid penalty, missed the start after a mechanical failure in the warmup, and then retired after 28 laps.

He was among seven drivers who retired during the race. Former champion Fernando Alonso continued to struggle in his McLaren, retiring on the 50th of 57 laps, while 18-year-old Canadian rookie Lance Stroll was handed a grid penalty after needing an unscheduled gearbox change after a crash in practice and was wayward in his 40 laps on debut for Williams.

Felipe Massa earned points for Williams with a sixth-place finish, while Force India teammates Sergio Perez and Esteban Ocon were 7th and 10th in their pink cars and finished either side of Toro Rosso drivers Carlos Sainz and Daniil Kvyat.

Antonio Giovinazzi placed 12th on his F1 debut for Sauber, a late replacement after Pascal Wehrlein withdrew following the opening practice sessions on Friday.

"I want to thank Sauber and Scuderia Ferrari for this opportunity," Giovinazzi said. "It was an amazing race weekend for me."

Ferrari leads the constructors' standings by four points from Mercedes, with Formula One moving to Shanghai next month for the Chinese Grand Prix.

All bets are off opening day when Raiders come to Las Vegas

■ ANALYSIS

By Tim Dahlberg
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — They're not quite the Las Vegas Raiders, at least not yet. There's a stadium to be built and three more seasons to be played before everything is done.

But after approval of the their move to Sin City, here are a few things guaranteed to happen opening day 2020 in the new Raiders Stadium overlooking the Las Vegas Strip:

■ Three 7's line up on the giant slot machine replica that covers the front of the stadium. The Raiders have hit the jackpot.

■ An hour before game time, someone notices the head linesman isn't there. He's found at the craps table at Caesars Palace shouting something about his baby needing some new shoes.

■ A fan in section 301 sees the roof being opened on a warm desert night. Believing this bodes well for Derek Carr, he pulls out his phone and places a parlay bet on the Raiders and the over. It's a bet Las Vegans like, mostly because it pays 13-5.

■ Roger Goodell appears on the massive video screens towering over the field, reminding fans that the NFL prohibits betting inside the stadium. Bookies set the over/under on Goodell's video warnings at three and a half.

■ Wayne Newton sings the national anthem, somehow managing to do it without ever actually opening his mouth. Siegfried and Roy are quickly brought in to make Newton disappear.

■ Instead of the traditional coin flip to determine who kicks off, the referee rolls a pair of dice. They come up snake eyes, and somewhere Ken Stabler is cheering.

■ Fans are asked to remove their hats for a moment of silence to remember the sacrifices of the mobsters who built Las Vegas.

■ Drunken fans in Raiders masks and studded black leather are surprised when they are led by a tuxedoed maître d' to their end zone seats. They're even more surprised when the bottle service charge comes to $1,500 for a bucket of Bud Lights.

■ Jack Del Rio orders a deep pass on third and 10 with the Raiders trailing in the third quarter and bookies immediately post 5-1 odds against it being successful. Goodell uses the new NFL betting app he has just installed on his phone to bet that it will.

■ On the sidelines, the new Las Vegas Raiders cheerleaders struggle to keep their balance while wearing huge silver and black showgirl headdresses. Two are flagged down by medical officials and taken to the locker room to check for possible concussions.

■ The halftime entertainment is provided by Cirque du Soleil, and stars two Russian acrobats who leap around inside a giant moving ball. The Raiders are so impressed with their contortions that they sign them as wide receivers, and they go on to become co-MVP's in Super Bowl.

■ Goodell is seen leaving just before the third quarter. He shares a limo with Newton, whom he invites to be the halftime show at the Super Bowl.

■ A huge roar goes up with 35 seconds left when the Patriots score on a long pass play to pull within 38-17. The game goes over the total, making winners of the fan in section 301 and everyone else who parlayed that and the Raiders.

■ The Raiders announce that their new slogan will be "Just Cover, Baby!"

■ Del Rio celebrates the big win by jumping in the Bellagio fountains. A group of ecstatic Raider fans in leather jump in with him, and they all link arms while singing to Frank Sinatra crooning "Luck be a Lady" over hotel loudspeakers.

■ Hundreds of Raider fans miss their flights home after TSA insists on putting their studded helmets and other assorted Raider gear through metal detectors. Davis misses his flight, too, after sticking around to get a haircut.

■ All of Las Vegas celebrates what promises to be a long relationship with the new team. They know that, unlike Oakland, what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas.

Associated Press

Matt Gutierrez carries a Raiders flag by a sign welcoming visitors to Las Vegas on Monday in Las Vegas. NFL team owners approved the move of the Raiders to Las Vegas in a vote at an annual meeting in Phoenix.

NHL poised to skate into China, hockey's next frontier

By Stephen Whyno
Associated Press

When Andong Song started playing hockey in China at age 6, he wore figure skates on his feet and had to use the straight parts of short-track speedskating rinks for practice.

His father brought back equipment from his travels one piece at a time, and his family moved to Canada a few years later so he could pursue a career in the sport. Song, the first Chinese player selected in the NHL draft, envisions a day when that sort of cross-global exodus is no longer necessary for kids growing up in China.

That could be coming soon with the NHL looking at China as hockey's next great frontier. With the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, China is eager to step up its game and the league is intrigued by the potential of a new nontraditional market with 1.4 billion people that might take to hockey like it did basketball.

"It's a place that hasn't had that much of an opportunity to be introduced to what everybody acknowledges is a great game," commissioner Gary Bettman said. "Because of the size of the market and the fact that lots of sports haven't been developed there, it's a good opportunity to expand the sport even further."

This week, Bettman is expected to announce NHL preseason games in China between the Los Angeles Kings and Vancouver Canucks, along with grassroots programs to build a hockey foundation where the NBA has laid one for decades. It's the first big step toward the NHL making inroads in China, whether or not players participate in the 2018 Olympics in neighboring South Korea.

NHL Players' Association executive director Don Fehr said showcasing the NHL, running clinics and getting more broadcast coverage all figure into the long-term strategy. Even though Russia's expansive Kontinental Hockey League now has a team based in Beijing, NHL exhibition games — and potentially regular-season games as early as fall 2018 — will have a bigger impact.

"Even with the KHL there, they know it's not the best league," said Song, a Beijing native and sixth-round pick of the New York Islanders in 2015 who now plays for the Madison Capitols of the United States Hockey League. "They know it's not the NHL."

According to the International Ice Hockey Federation, China only has 1,101 registered players and 154 indoor rinks. Despite having a quarter of China's population, the U.S. has 543,239 players and 1,800 indoor rinks.

By October , 14 different NBA teams will have played 24 preseason games in greater China since 2004, so the NHL has some catching up to do. The Boston Bruins sent an envoy on a Chinese tour last summer that included players Matt Beleskey and David Pastrnak, and Washington Capitals owner Ted Leonsis recently said his team could be next after hosting youth players from China in January.

"There will be about 200 new rinks being built in China and we would expect China being a very, very formidable force in the Olympics," said Leonsis, who called China the next great hockey market. "And also we'll see that China will be producing players and I would expect that we'll have NHL players that were born and trained, just like we've seen in the NBA, and China will be able to bring players here."

The NBA gained popularity in China in part due to Yao Ming, the first pick in the 2002 draft. The NHL is going into China hoping to develop homegrown stars. Chinese broadcaster and producer Longmou Li, who has worked the Stanley Cup Final and helped families move to North America for hockey, said 500 to 600 new families are joining the Beijing Hockey Association each year, which could mean churning out an NHL first-round pick every five to six years.

Song said because the sport is still in its infancy in China and centralized in the northeast and in big cities, keeping the best players there instead of seeing them leave for North America is the biggest challenge.

About 200 Chinese hockey families currently live in North America, Li said, and the return of those players, coupled with the KHL's Kunlun Red Star's presence and a commitment to skill development, will help the national team grow in preparation for the 2022 Olympics. With a broadcasting deal already in place to air four NHL games on state-owned China Central TV and 10-12 online through Tencent each week, his keys to the growth of Chinese hockey are players reaching the NHL and the national team competing at the top level of the world championships.

Stanley Cup-winning coach Mike Keenan was recently tapped to take over Kunlun and oversee the men's and women's national teams, so the process is underway.

"If NHL can help China to get that, I think we can at least get 100 million fans from China," Li said. "Because hockey is just so passionate a game, is so fast a game, it's so easy to get people to get involved. But they will need to attract them to watch."

Although being awarded the Olympics was impetus for the Chinese government to pour resources into hockey, it's getting some help from the private sector in the form of Zhou Yunjie, the chairman of of metal can manufacturing company ORG Packaging. The goaltender-turned-billionaire is at the forefront of hockey's growth in China through NHL partnerships and sponsorships.

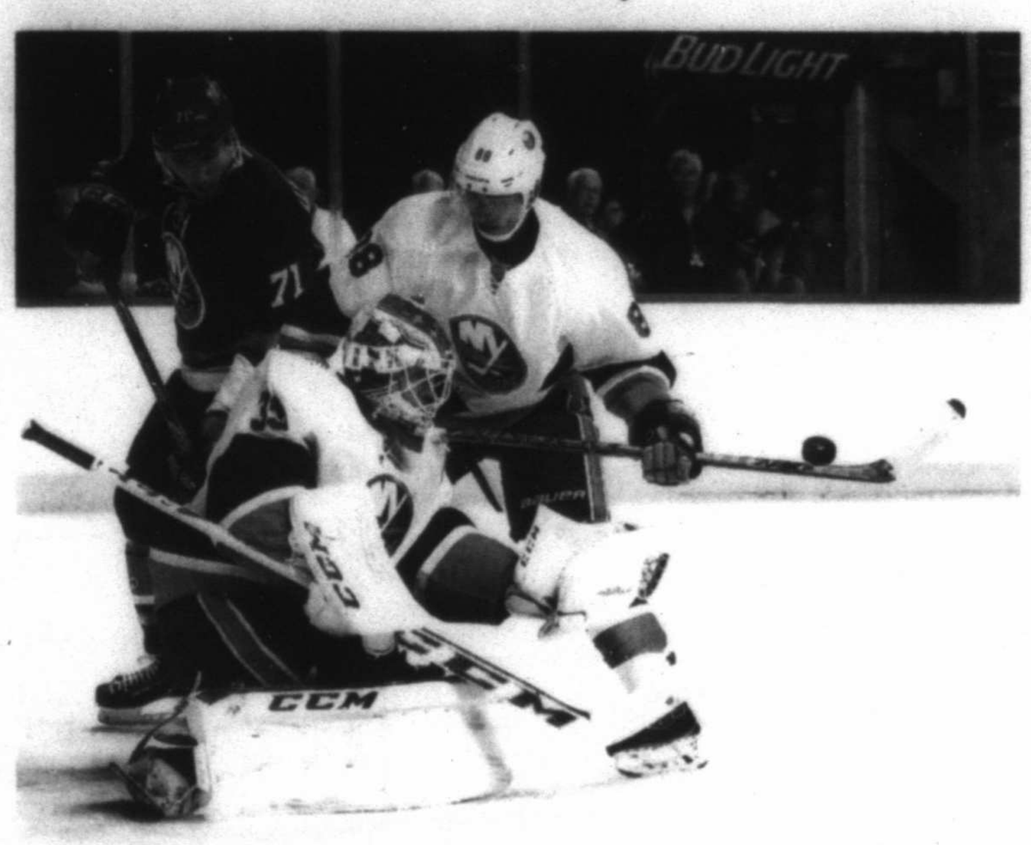
"As long as (TV networks) in China broadcast many more games in China, it will attract more people to notice the NHL, especially the youth hockey player," Zhou said through an interpreter. "Because there are many Chinese kids that have started learning hockey there, and there is a good population of the people that will develop hockey in China."

When Chris Pronger famously plastered Justin Bieber into the boards during a celebrity game at NHL All-Star Weekend in January, not only was Zhou playing goal but an ORG Packaging patch was on players' jerseys. Talking about spreading the "gospel" of hockey, Leonsis called Zhou "the greatest evangelist."

Zhou can't do it alone, and NHL integration in China is also connected to the 2022 Olympics. After NHL players participated in the past six Olympics, there's pessimism about the league going to Pyeongchang next year. Discussions about Beijing will happen later.

By then, the league should know if the experiment is working.

"If we can get in on the ground floor, help them with that (and) bring our expertise," deputy commissioner Bill Daly said. "You can't argue with the population or the economy, so if we're able to do that it could be a great opportunity for us."



AP file photo

New York Islanders goalie Kevin Lankinen (35) and defenseman Andong Song (88) defend as Michael Dal Colle (71) looks on during the New York Islanders Blue and White scrimmage at the Barclays Center in New York on July 8, 2015. Song was the first China-born hockey player to be drafted by the NHL.

Seahawks' Boykin in vehicle that hit 7 on Dallas sidewalk

Associated Press

DALLAS — Seattle Seahawks backup quarterback Trevone Boykin has been arrested in Dallas after police say he was in a vehicle that hit seven people on a sidewalk.

Jail records show the former TCU quarterback was booked early Monday on misdemeanor charges of public intoxication and possession of marijuana. Bond was $500.

Police say a vehicle backed onto a sidewalk and struck seven pedestrians and a bar, slightly injuring a bartender. None of the injuries is life threatening. The female driver was arrested, accused of felony intoxication assault with a vehicle.

The Seahawks say they are "disappointed" and are gathering more information.

In 2015, Boykin was suspended for TCU's Alamo Bowl game after his arrest following a bar fight. Last June, he pleaded no contest to resisting arrest and received a year's probation.

RAIDERS

From 1C

Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf and a group trying to keep the team in Oakland, made a last-ditch presentation to the NFL last week. But that letter was "filled with uncertainty," according to Goodell.

Monday, she asked owners to delay the vote, wanting to give her city a chance to negotiate with a small group of owners to complete a stadium deal at the Coliseum site.

"Never that we know of has the NFL voted to displace a team from its established market when there is a fully financed option before them with all the issues addressed," Schaaf said in a statement. "I'd be remiss if I didn't do everything in my power to make the case for Oakland up until the very end."

Schaaf said the city presented a $1.3 billion plan for a stadium that would be ready by 2021. She said the existing Coliseum would be demolished by 2024, with the Oakland Athletics baseball team either moving to a new stadium at the Coliseum site or somewhere else in the city.

But the presence of the A's in that sports complex was particularly troubling to the NFL, Goodell said.

"We understand the Raiders' need for a new stadium," A's President Dave Kaval said. "Oakland is an incredible sports town and we would be sorry to see them leave. We commend the city's and county's efforts to keep the Raiders in Oakland. The mayor and her team have worked incredibly hard to save the franchise.

"We are focused on, and excited about, our efforts to build a new ballpark in Oakland and look forward to announcing a location this year."

Dave Kaval, Oakland A's president

"We are focused on, and excited about, our efforts to build a new ballpark in Oakland and look forward to announcing a location this year."

The Raiders' move became more certain this month when Bank of America offered the loan. That replaced the same amount the Raiders lost when the league balked at having casino owner Sheldon Adelson involved and he was dropped from the team's plans.

Davis on Monday thanked Adelson for his "vision and leadership," saying the entire deal might not have happened without him.

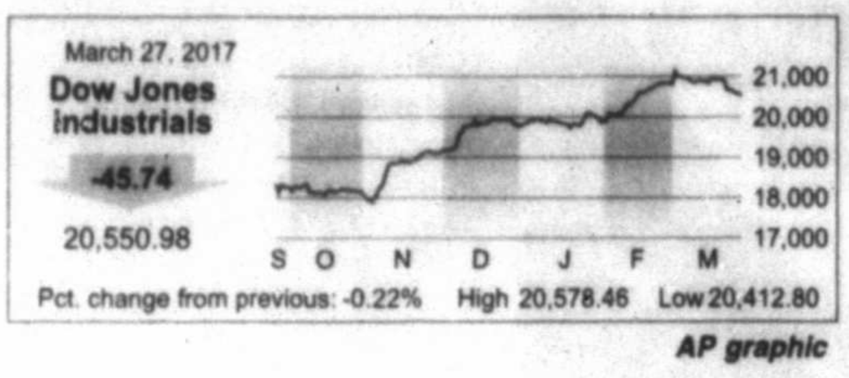
Leaving the Bay Area is not something new with the Raiders , who played in Los Angeles from 1982-94 before heading back to Oakland. Davis was passed over last year in an attempt to move to a stadium in the LA area that would have been jointly financed with the Chargers. Instead, the owners approved the Rams' relocation and gave the Chargers an option to join them, which they exercised this winter.

"The opportunity to build a world-class stadium in the entertainment capital of the world," Davis said, "is a significant step toward achieving that greatness."

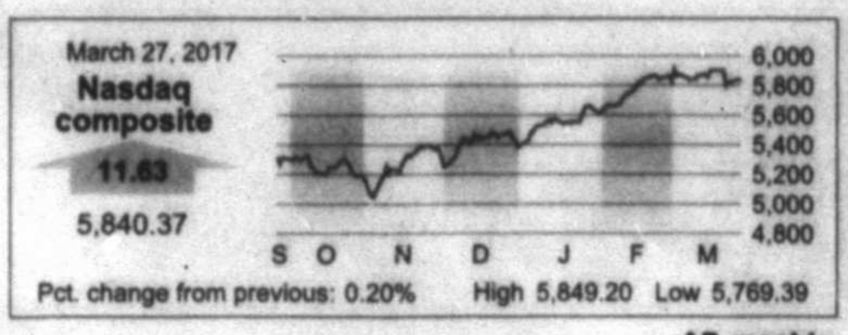
Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt★com | Tuesday, March 28, 2017 | Page 6C

BUSINESS & OIL

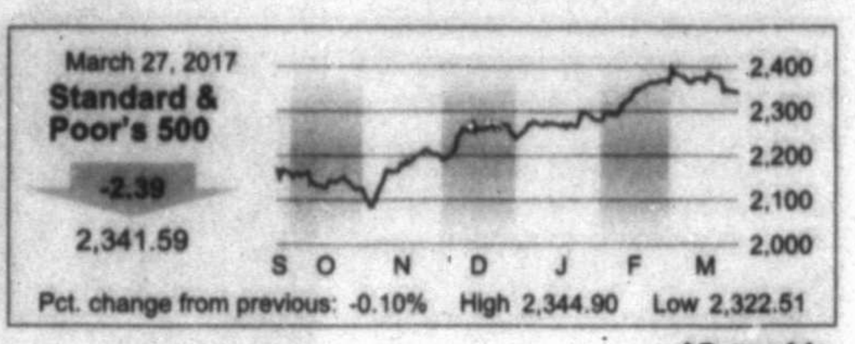
A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



AP graphic



AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Monday: $47.73
Previous: $47.97

POSTED

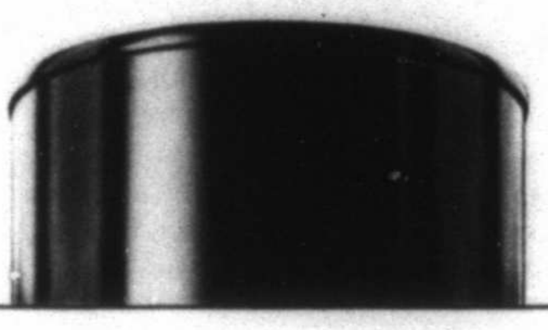
Monday: $44.00
Previous: $44.50

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Monday: $39.95
Previous: $40.45

NATURAL GAS

Monday: $3.052
Previous: $3.076



NYSE

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BkofAm	1126489	23.03	-.09
SPDR Fncl	1010608	23.45	-.09
S&P500ETF	776507	233.62	-.24
B iPVxST rs	727262	16.44	-.33
VanEGold	557143	23.43	+.51

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Systemax	9.85	+2.65	+36.8
BioAmber	2.41	+.26	+12.1
RubyTues	2.67	+.22	+9.0
GlassBr rs	4.52	+.35	+8.4
Weathfintl	6.36	+.47	+8.0

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
SunTr wtB	11.82	-1.12	-8.7
BiP GCrb	5.55	-.50	-8.3
ProPetr n	12.47	-1.03	-7.6
KeanGrp n	14.18	-1.03	-6.8
DirDGlBr rs	28.75	-1.95	-6.4

Diary

Advanced	1,479
Declined	1,472
Unchanged	121
Total issues	3,072
New Highs	50
New Lows	43
Volume	3,140,836,729

AMEX

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
NewConcEn	122377	2.70	+1.08
NwGold g	59042	3.01	+.09
TherapMD	33094	6.80	+.03
NDynMn g	32262	1.43	+.09
B2gold g	29265	2.97	+.06

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NewConcEn	2.70	+1.08	+66.7
Auxilio n	4.99	+.49	+10.9
ImunoCll rs	2.93	+.24	+9.0
AsteriasBio	3.50	+.25	+7.7
LGL Grp	5.07	+.35	+7.4

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
iPathLong	214.83	-22.11	-9.3
ErinEn rs	2.30	-.20	-8.0
IntelligSys	4.34	-.35	-7.4
YumaEn rs	2.21	-.10	-4.3
NthnO&G	2.45	-.10	-3.9

Diary

Advanced	206
Declined	134
Unchanged	26
Total issues	366
New Highs	5
New Lows	4
Volume	104,980,316

NASDAQ

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
MicronT	449488	28.76	+.33
FrontierCm	428488	2.02	-.07
Apple Inc	219584	140.88	+.24
SiriusXM	194031	5.10	
PwShs QQQ	177080	130.84	+.21

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
CellectB wt	3.66	+2.61	+249.0
CellectBio n	10.90	+4.64	+74.0
ImpaxLabs	12.70	+3.45	+37.3
CancerGen	5.05	+1.15	+29.5
Itus Cp hrs	3.02	+.59	+24.1

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Foamix	5.30	-3.80	-41.8
ZionB wt18	7.20	-1.26	-14.9
G-III s	19.69	-3.23	-14.1
Zais Grp	2.53	-.39	-13.4
PrmEgy	47.05	-4.95	-9.5

Diary

Advanced	1,593
Declined	1,227
Unchanged	206
Total issues	3,026
New Highs	71
New Lows	59
Volume	1,608,876,688

Saudi Aramco tax slashed to prepare oil producer for IPO

Bloomberg

Saudi Arabia slashed the tax rate paid by state oil producer Saudi Aramco, a key milestone in preparing the company for what may be the world's biggest initial public offering.

Aramco's income tax, paid on the company's profit, is being cut to 50 percent from 85 percent, Chief Executive Officer Amin Nasser said in an emailed statement. The centerpiece of plans to overhaul the economy of the world's largest oil exporter, Saudi Arabia aims to sell as much as 5 percent of the company late next year in an IPO that the kingdom estimates could value the business at about $2 trillion.

"The new tax rate will bring Saudi Aramco in line with international benchmarks," Nasser said. The new rate is effective retroactively from Jan. 1.

Reducing the company's income tax payments by more than 40 percent will free up billions of dollars of cash flow that Aramco can pass on as higher dividend payments, a step seen as crucial to enticing investors to the IPO and maximizing the company's valuation. It will also shake up the kingdom's finances: the state relies on taxes on oil production for about 60 percent of government revenue.

"The 50 percent tax rate will be very lucrative to investors who should be gearing up for its privatization," John Sfakianakis, director of economic research at the Gulf Research Center Foundation in Riyadh, said in an emailed statement. "This is one of many steps that will begin a process of investor-friendly initiatives that will help in whetting appetites."

The Aramco share sale is part of policy proposals by Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to set up the world's biggest sovereign wealth fund and reduce the economy's reliance on hydrocarbons. Saudi Aramco's crude reserves are estimated at about 260 billion barrels.

His $2 trillion valuation, based on Aramco's right to exploit the kingdom's giant oil reserves, would see the sale raise $100 billion and dwarf Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. as the largest IPO in history. But others have said that valuation could be ambitious given uncertainty about oil prices, the future of fossil fuels and political risks in the Middle East.

"This is one of many steps that will begin a process of investor-friendly initiatives that will help in whetting appetites."

John Sfakianakisl, director of economic research at the Gulf Research Center Foundation in Riyadh

While Aramco has yet to reveal any detailed financial information, setting a lower income tax rate will remove one of the most important variables as the global investment community sizes up the deal. As well as income tax, Aramco currently pays a 20 percent royalty on revenue, a levy today's announcement left unchanged.

The fact that Saudi Arabia's finance ministry will need to depend on dividends from Aramco means that potential investors can probably rely on stable payments.

"It is very important to make it clear that the hydrocarbon resources of Saudi Arabia remain sovereign," Energy Minister and Aramco Chairman Khalid Al-Falih said in a statement.

Under the new rates, hydrocarbon companies in Saudi Arabia with capital of more than 375 billion riyals ($100 billion) will pay a tax of 50 percent, according to SPA. Those with capital of between 300 billion and 375 billion riyals will pay an income tax of 65 percent. Companies with capital of between 225 billion and 300 billion riyals will pay 75 percent, and those with capital below 225 billion riyals 85 percent.

Flow reduced in leaking underwater Alaska gas pipeline

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The owner of a leaking underwater pipeline has reduced the amount of natural gas spewing into Alaska's Cook Inlet by about half.

Hilcorp Alaska LLC over the weekend lowered line pressure.

The company says the leak will be cut to 85,000 cubic feet of processed natural gas per day.

Hilcorp is waiting for ice to clear so divers can safely repair the pipeline and expects to deploy divers within 10 days.

The pipeline since mid-December has leaked gas from an 8-inch line that supplies four production platforms in waters inhabited by endangered beluga whales.

Alaska Gov. Bill Walker asked the company to temporarily shut down production at the platforms to reduce flow from the leaking supply line.

Hilcorp completed temporary shutdown procedures over the weekend.

Stocks sink

Worries that Washington may not be able to help businesses as much as once thought knocked stock indexes down hard early Monday, but they clawed back most of their losses and ended the day mixed.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 2.39 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,341.59 for its seventh drop in the last eight days. The Dow Jones industrial average sank 45.74, or 0.2 percent, to 20,550.98, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 11.64, or 0.2 percent, to 5,840.37.

When trading opened for the day, it looked as if losses would be much worse. The S&P 500 sank from the start and was down as much as 0.9 percent.

The weakness followed last week's failure by Republicans to repeal the Affordable Care Act, something they've been pledging to do for years, which raised doubts that Washington can push through promises to help businesses. Investors have been anticipating that President Donald Trump and the Republican-led Congress will cut taxes, loosen regulations for companies and institute other corporate-friendly policies.

Metal prices mostly rise

The price of gold rose $7.20 to settle at $1,255.70 an ounce. Silver rose 36 cents to $18.11 per ounce. Copper was close to flat at $2.63 per pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $128.27 Up 0.25

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $125.20 Up 0.02

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $5.50 Up 0.03

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $98.94 Down 0.79

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $1.90 Down 0.04

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $3.84 Up 0.04

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $24.50 Down 0.35

ProPetro Holdings (PUMP)
Closing Price $12.47 Down 1.03

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $38.92 Up 0.27

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $9.76 Up 0.21

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $17.75 Down 0.01

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel		25	7.11	-.05	-30.4
AT&T Inc	1.96	16	41.49	-.19	-2.4
Abraxas	...	...	**1.93**	**-.09**	**-24.9**
AdaDvsEq	**.92e**	...	**13.59**	**-.01**	**+6.9**
AMD			13.70		+20.8
AlonUSA	.60		12.17	+.05	+6.9
Ambev	.06e	5	5.63	+.02	+14.7
Amgen	**4.60f**	**15**	**164.91**	**-.83**	**+12.8**
Anadarko	**.20**	...	**59.94**	**-.40**	**-14.0**
Apache	**1.00**	...	**49.72**	**-.52**	**-21.7**
Apple Inc	2.28	17	140.88	+.24	+21.6
ApldMatl	**.40**	**19**	**38.86**	**-.11**	**+20.4**
ArcelorMit		9	8.26	-.03	+13.2
Archrock	.48		11.90	-.20	-9.8
ATMOS	**1.80f**	**23**	**80.31**	**+.17**	**+8.3**
AutoData	2.28	27	102.91	-.47	+.1
BP PLC	**2.40a**	**40**	**33.75**	**-.03**	**-9.7**
BakrHu	.68		58.07	-.92	-10.6
BkofAm	.30f	18	23.03	-.09	+4.2
B iPVxST rs			16.44	-.33	-35.6
BaringsCp s	1.20		15.44	-.17	-.3
BarrickG	.12f	35	19.60	+.39	+22.7
BasicEnS			.45		
BerkHa A	...	**16**	**250881.03**	**-1420.00**	**+2.8**
BlkHillsCp	**1.78f**	**21**	**66.34**	**+.13**	**+8.2**
BrMySq	**1.56f**	**33**	**56.04**	**+.15**	**-4.1**
BrownFA s	...	**29**	**47.48**	**-.07**	**+2.7**
BrownFB s	...	...	**46.87**	**-.22**	**+4.3**
CVS Health	2.00f	13	78.51	+.02	-.5
CallonPet	...	**54**	**11.92**	**+.05**	**-22.4**
Caterpillar	3.08	28	91.51	-.64	-1.3
Celestic g	...	10	14.18	-.14	+19.7
CntryLink	2.16	9	22.61	-.15	-4.9
ChesEng	...	...	5.16	-.06	-26.5
Chevron	**4.32f**	...	**106.28**	**-1.71**	**-9.7**
Chicos	.33f	19	13.97	-.10	-2.9
Cimarex	.32	...	117.26	+.61	-13.7
Cisco	1.16	17	33.99	-.09	+12.5
Citigroup	.64	12	58.33	+.26	-1.9
ClayEng	...	...	**128.27**	**+.25**	**+7.6**
CliffsNRs	...	8	8.26	+.12	-1.8
CocaCola	**1.48f**	**26**	**42.32**	**+.20**	**+2.1**
ColgPalm	**1.60f**	**26**	**73.43**	**-.24**	**+12.2**
Comcast s	.63f	21	37.11	-.27	+7.5

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
ConAgra	**.80**	**21**	**40.14**	**-.33**	**+1.5**
ConchoRes	...	...	**125.20**	**+.02**	**-5.6**
ConocoPhil	**1.06f**	...	**44.29**	**+.19**	**-11.7**
CrackerB	4.60	25	157.13	+.64	-5.9
CSVelIVST	...		70.59	+1.43	+51.0
CrosTim	**1.07e**	**13**	**14.20**	**+.04**	**-21.0**
CypSemi	.44	29	14.84	+.39	+29.7
DCP Mid	3.12	19	37.80	+.48	-1.5
DTE	3.30f	23	101.89	-.28	+3.4
Dataram rs	...	...	1.14	-.02	-48.2
Delcath rs	...	...	.10	+.01	-88.9
DevonE	**.24**	...	**38.88**	**+.08**	**-14.9**
DxGlMBr rs	...	...	13.80	-.90	-60.7
DxSCBear rs	...	...	19.17	-.13	-3.4
DrGMBll s	...	...	7.01	+.40	+25.6
DxGBull s	...	...	9.78	+.57	+28.0
Disney	**1.56f**	**20**	**112.38**	**+.24**	**+7.8**
DowChm	**1.84**	**20**	**64.02**	**+.94**	**+11.9**
EOG Rescs	**.67**	...	**93.38**	**-1.48**	**-7.6**
Energen	.08	...	51.25	-.26	-11.1
EngyTsfr	4.22	...	35.51	-.32	-.8
EnPro	**.88f**	**55**	**64.63**	**+1.06**	**-4.1**
EntProdPt	1.64	21	26.93	-.14	-.4
Ericsson	.46e	...	6.69	+.14	+14.8
ExxonMbl	**3.00**	**36**	**81.25**	**+.02**	**-10.0**
Facebook	...	33	140.32	-.02	+22.0
Fitbit n	...	...	5.69	+.29	-22.3
FordM	.60a	6	11.46	-.16	-5.5
FrptMcM	...	...	12.21	-.60	-7.4
FrontierCm	.42	...	2.02	-.07	-40.2
GATX	**1.68f**	**9**	**57.50**	**-.46**	**-6.6**
GabMultT	**.94e**	...	**8.02**	**+.10**	**+10.8**
GAInv	**1.15e**	...	**33.19**	**-.01**	**+6.4**
GenElec	**.96**	**24**	**29.44**	**-.28**	**-6.8**
GenMotors	1.52	6	34.71	+.15	-.4
Gerdau	.02e	...	3.48	-.07	+10.8
GtPlainEn	**1.10**	**17**	**28.87**	**-.04**	**+5.6**
HTG Mol h	...	...	9.55	-.10	+326.3
Hallibrtn	.72	...	47.78	-1.63	-11.7
HuntBncsh	.32	19	13.02	-.09	-1.5
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	39.06	-.19	+12.5
iShEMkts	.84e	...	39.70	-.11	+13.4
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	62.30	+.16	+7.9
iShR2K	1.77e	...	134.74	+.25	-.1

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
ImpaxLabs	...	...	12.70	+3.45	-4.2
Intel	**1.09f**	**16**	**35.39**	**+.23**	**-2.4**
InterDig	1.20	10	85.85	+.75	-6.0
JPMorgCh	1.92	15	87.24	-.05	+1.1
JohnJn	**3.20**	**19**	**125.80**	**+.32**	**+9.2**
Keycorp	.34	17	17.18	-.06	-6.0
KimbClk	**3.88f**	**22**	**132.36**	**-.09**	**+16.0**
LegacyRes	.60m	...	1.90	-.04	-10.4
Lubys	...	...	**3.16**	**-.01**	**-26.2**
MGM Rsts	.39p	23	26.58	+.87	-7.8
MarathnO	.20	...	14.75	+.14	-14.8
McDnlds	3.76	24	129.49	+.15	+6.4
Merck	1.88	17	63.19	+.01	+7.3
MeritMed	...	**36**	**28.55**	**-.18**	**+7.7**
MexcoEn	...	...	3.84	+.04	-23.2
MicronT	...	35	28.76	+.33	+31.2
Microsoft	1.56	29	65.10	+.12	+4.8
MorgStan	.80	14	41.58	-.88	-1.6
Nabors	.24	...	12.03	-.38	-26.6
NatGrid	**3.35e**	...	**63.90**	**+.36**	**+9.5**
NOilVarco	.20	30	38.42	-.04	+2.6
NewConcEn	...	54	2.70	+1.08	+25.0
NokiaCp	.30e	...	5.46	+.09	+13.5
NSTFI3	**.55e**	...	**14.20**	**+.12**	**+.2**
NTXQI	**.65**	...	**14.28**	**-.01**	**+4.1**
Nvidia	.56	40	108.25	+.78	+1.4
OcciPet	**3.04**	...	**62.87**	**+.04**	**-11.7**
Oclaro	...	...	9.87	-.24	+10.3
PDC Engy	...	...	**61.29**	**-.54**	**-15.6**
ParTech	...	**22**	**7.12**	**+.08**	**+27.6**
ParkDrl	...	...	**1.55**	**+.10**	**-40.4**
PattUTI	**.08**	...	**23.06**	**-.93**	**-14.3**
Penney	...	...	5.59	+.02	-32.7
PennaRE	**.84**	**10**	**14.41**	**-.09**	**-24.0**
Prmian	.44e	25	9.08	+.06	+17.8
Petrobras	...	...	9.16	+.10	-9.4
Pfizer	**1.28f**	**14**	**34.18**	**+.18**	**+5.2**
PioNtrl	.08	...	180.40	-.51	+.2
PlainsAAP	**2.20**	**29**	**31.25**	**-.05**	**-3.2**
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	130.84	+.21	+10.4
Praxair	**3.15f**	**21**	**117.89**	**+1.48**	**+.6**
PrmEgy	...	...	**47.05**	**-4.95**	**-12.9**
PUVixST rs	...	...	17.51	-.71	...
ProctGam	**2.68**	**24**	**90.49**	**-.08**	**+7.6**
ProUShSP	...	...	13.70	+.02	-9.3

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
RangeRs	.08	...	27.82	+.14	-19.0
RegionsFn	.26	16	14.08	-.15	-1.9
Rowan	.40	7	14.52	-.01	-23.1
RoyDShllA	3.76	79	52.27	+.21	-3.9
SpdrDJIA	3.98e	...	205.23	-.52	+3.9
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	233.62	-.24	+4.5
SpdrS&P RB	.74e	...	52.78	-.29	-5.0
SpdrOGEx	.73e	...	35.37	+.16	-14.6
SabnR	1.92e	16	34.10	-.25	-3.0
SanderFm	**.96**	**12**	**102.76**	**+2.41**	**+9.0**
Schlmbrg	2.00	67	77.02	+.06	-8.3
Schwab	.32f	30	39.42	-.60	-.1
SiriusXM	.01p	39	5.10	...	+14.6
Smucker	3.00f	16	132.89	-.17	+3.8
SnapInc A n	...	...	23.83	+1.09	-2.7
SwstnEngy	...	...	7.70	+.14	-28.8
Sprint	...	...	8.29	-.21	-1.5
SP Engy	2.04e	...	68.24	-.32	-9.4
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	23.45	-.09	+.9
SP Inds	1.12e	...	64.30	-.23	+3.3
SunocoLog	2.08f	24	23.75	-.26	-1.1
SynrgyPh	...	...	4.78	+.21	-21.5
TelefEsp	**1.03e**	...	**11.35**	**+.08**	**+23.4**
Tesoro	2.20	12	81.44	+1.16	-6.9
3M Co	4.70f	23	190.43	-1.08	+6.6
Torchmark	**.60f**	**17**	**76.34**	**-.25**	**+3.5**

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Transocn	...	7	12.05	-.21	-18.2
TriContl	**.82e**	...	**22.82**	**-.05**	**+3.5**
21stCFoxA	.36	20	31.90	+.38	+13.8
Twitter	...	...	14.99	-.15	-8.0
TylerTech	...	**49**	**154.13**	**-.35**	**+8.0**
UBSI	**1.32**	**20**	**40.55**	**-.35**	**-12.3**
US NGas	...	...	7.43	-.05	-20.4
US OilFd	...	...	10.04	-.05	-14.3
USSteel	.20	...	32.28	-.54	-2.2
Vale SA	.29e	...	9.34	+.04	+22.6
ValeroE	2.80f	18	66.23	+.45	-3.1
VanEGold	.12e	...	23.43	+.51	+12.0
VanE JrGld	...	...	36.94	+.74	+17.1
VangEmg	1.10e	...	40.09	-.12	+12.0
VerizonCm	2.31	12	49.14	-.54	-7.9
VulcanM	**1.00f**	**37**	**112.50**	**-.24**	**-10.1**
WEC Engy	2.08	21	60.98	-.10	+4.0
WalgBoots	1.50	18	83.56	+.59	+1.0
Weathfintl	...	...	6.36	+.47	+27.5
WellsFargo	1.52	14	55.39	-.44	+.5
WstnRefin	1.52	28	35.20	+.54	-7.0
WhitingPet	...	...	8.31	+.09	-30.9
WmsCos	1.20f	49	28.66	-.03	-8.0
XcelEngy	**1.44f**	**21**	**44.77**	...	**+10.0**
Xerox	**.25m**	**10**	**7.14**	**-.05**	**+24.2**

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
21,169.11	17,063.08	Dow Jones Industrials	20,550.98	-45.74	-.22	+3.99	+17.20
9,639.33	7,029.41	Dow Jones Transportation	8,935.11	+6.33	+.07	-1.20	+13.70
723.83	616.19	Dow Jones Utilities	702.45	-3.50	-.50	+6.49	+6.87
11,688.45	9,918.72	NYSE Composite	11,414.33	-4.56	-.04	+3.23	+12.94
5,928.06	4,574.25	Nasdaq Composite	5,840.37	+11.63	+.20	+8.49	+22.52
2,400.98	1,991.68	S&P 500	2,341.59	-2.39	-.10	+4.50	+14.95
1,761.08	1,399.84	S&P Midcap	1,691.81	-2.60	-.15	+1.88	+19.28
25,008.97	20,583.79	Wilshire 5000	24,353.20	-24.09	-.10	+3.96	+16.37
1,414.82	1,065.62	Russell 2000	1,357.32	+2.68	+.20	+.01	+25.65

TODAY'S COMICS SPONSORED BY

HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
432-522-1117
QUALITY, INTEGRITY, EXPERIENCE
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!!!

The wiseman built his house on a rock
Then he hired Hartman to roof it!!!
All Types of Roof and Roof repair • Free Estimates
Commercial • Residential
www.HartmanRoofing.com

HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
Mention this ad. and receive $300.00 off a full roofing job or $50.00 off any repair of $200.00 or more

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

FUNKY WINKERBEAN

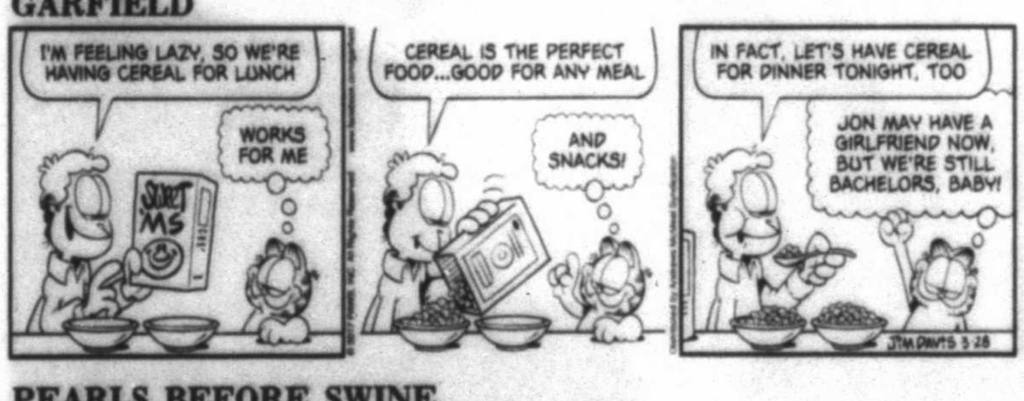
BLONDIE

BEETLE BAILEY

CLASSIC PEANUTS

SHOE

GARFIELD

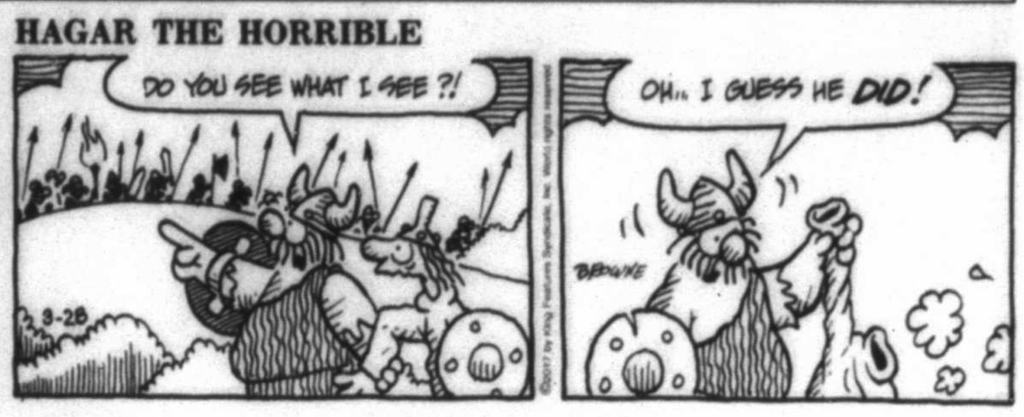


PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

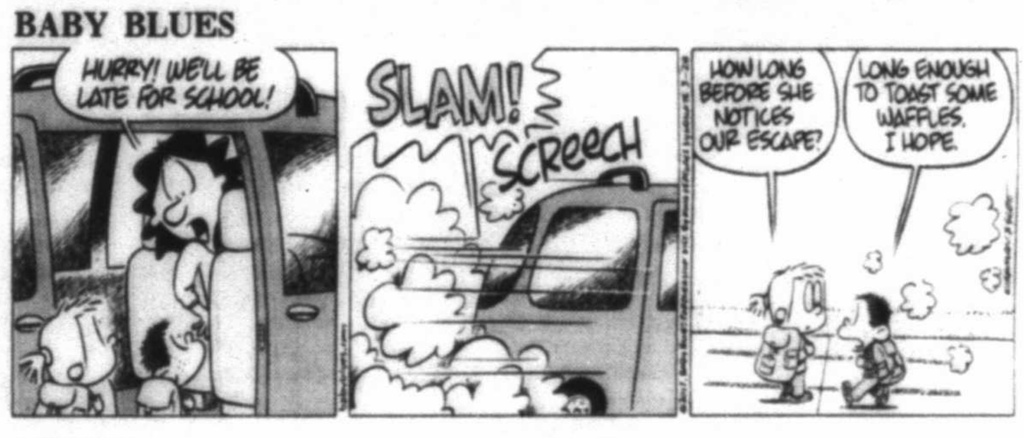


LUANN

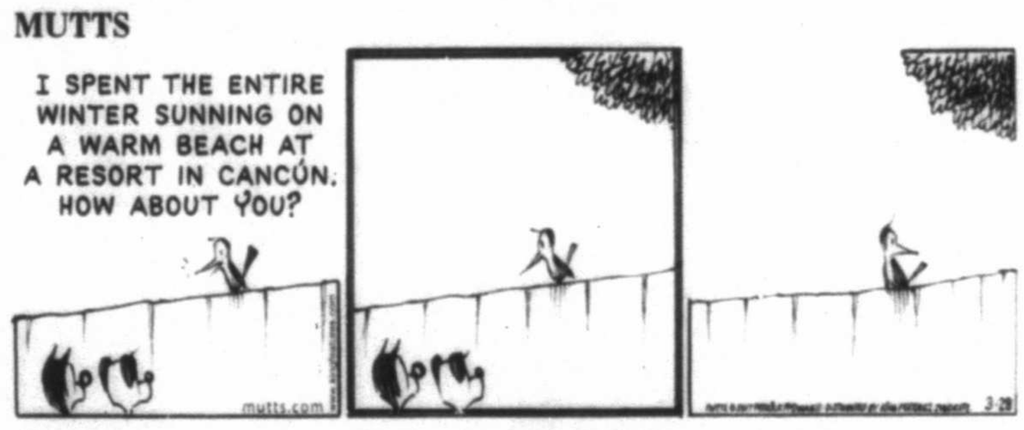
MARY WORTH

ZITS

BABY BLUES



MUTTS



CLOSE TO HOME

"How about you, sir? Care for a soundproof helmet for making phone calls?"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"YOU'RE NOT EVEN DIRTY, DAD. WHY WOULD YOU WANT MOM TO GIVE YOU A BATH NEXT?"

LOCKHORNS

"THE AUTOMATED VOICE SOUNDS TOO MUCH LIKE MY MOTHER-IN-LAW."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"But I thought it was dangerous to try to stop a sneeze!"

Hunting for the Easter Bunny!

You'll Find Him at the Dillard's Courtyard

Every Child receives a FREE pair of bunny ears

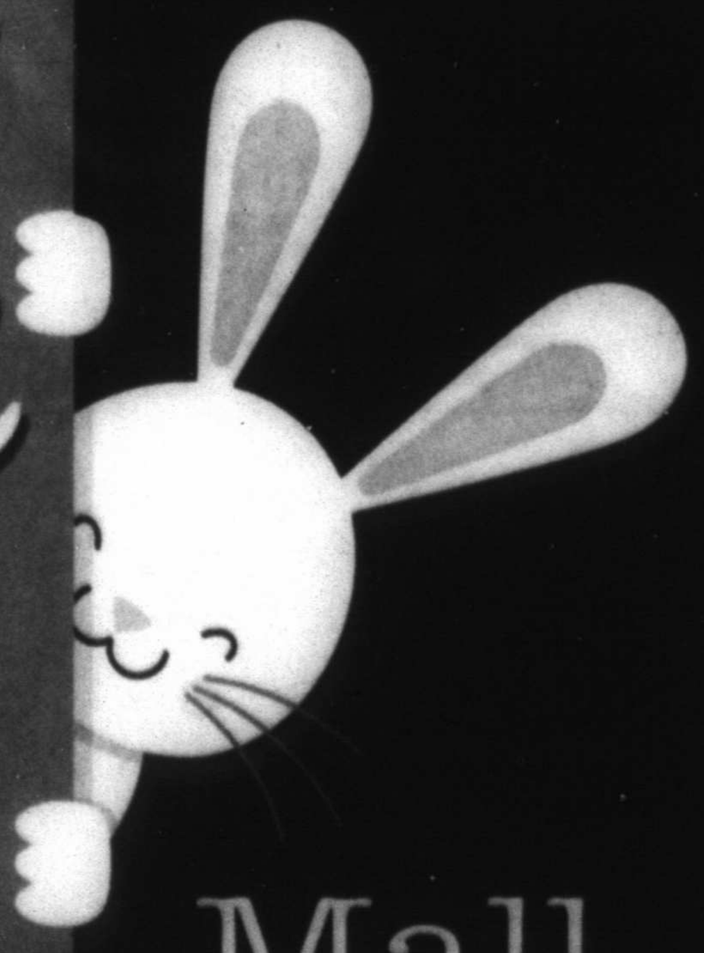
MUSIC CITY MALL

MUSIC CITY MALL

Music City Mall • 42nd & JBS Parkway • Odessa, TX

An ICA Company For employment opportunities: www.icajobs.net

Something For every Bunny



Happy Easter Hunting

Mall Wide Easter Sale.

MUSIC CITY MALL

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

ACCOUNTING-FINANCE

Receptionist/ Administrative Assistant

Production Lift Cos. is looking for a receptionist with professional phone skills to answer phone and greet visitors. Additional duties will be daily filing and administrative support. Hours are Mon-Fri, 8-5. Compensation is hourly with a company benefits program. Respond to: mswihart@productionlift.com.

CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

Sales Assistant

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for a dynamic self-starter with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task ina deadline oriented environment with minimal supervision. Duties include supporting the advertising sales staff in day-to-day operations and helping the sales team consistently reach its revenue targets. Conducting sales and marketing research, creating sales presentations, event coordination and preparing reports are a few of the duties required. Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package. $1,000 sign-on bonus available after 90 days.

Please send resume to: acramirez@hearstnp.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Adrianne Hrebicek Director of Advertising. No phone calls please.

EDUCATION-TRAINING

Daycare Teachers

St Lukes Child Development Program.....We are currently hiring for full & part time positions, must be 18 years of age with a high school diploma or its equivalency. We offer vacation, sick and personal time/ 401k/ Health plan.. Apply in person at 3011 W. Kansas, Midland, TX.

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

True-Chem

Creating True Value

TRUE CHEMICAL SOLUTION is a service oriented specialty chemical company that is now hiring for all positions.

- Sales
- Service Tech
- CDL with Hazmat

Please call Kelly Gabriel 432-664-7363 for more information.

HEALTHCARE

Optician & Technician

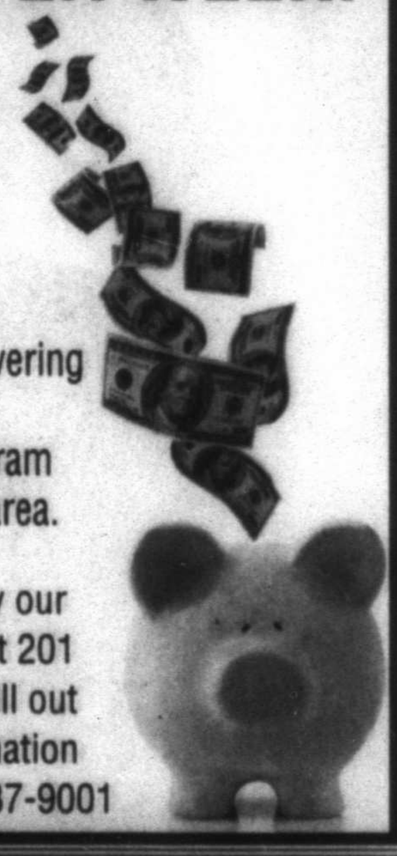
PT optician with sales experience and PT technician with a high school degree or equivalent. Email resumes to: texascountryeyecare@gmail.com

OTHER JOBS

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone?? Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram in the Odessa area.

Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Oscar 687-9001



★

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. $10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com NOPHONECALLSPLEASE

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person. $10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com NOPHONECALLS PLEASE

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES

Buffalo Wild Wings Now Hiring All Positions

Management Fax Resumes to 806-783-8901
All other positions apply in person at Buffalo Wild Wings locations
5107 W Wadley in Midland, 4241 Grandview in Odessa

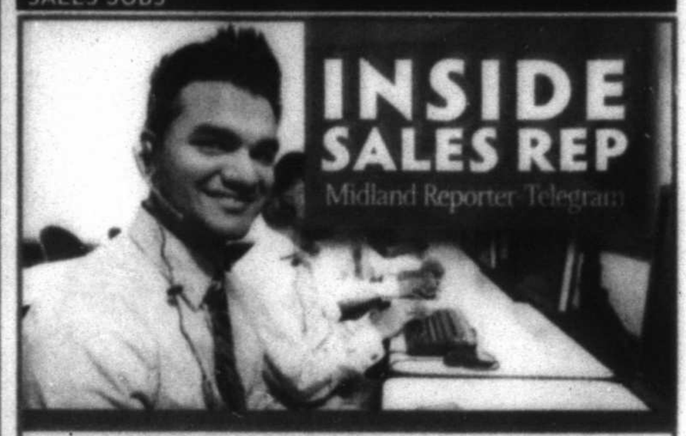
RETAIL JOBS

SALES ASSOCIATE

Wood's Boots is currently hiring part time sales associates. No phone calls! If you are interested in wearing boots and jeans to work, and working with great customers, come see us at 4803 Andrews Highway.

Classifieds Can! Call 432-682-6222

SALES JOBS



The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Classified Advertising customers. Responsibilities include answering incoming Classified calls, assisting walk-ins, making outbound sales calls for recruitment and special projects, tracking sales activity, meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals, and develop multi-media advertising campaigns.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/ punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to:

Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager
201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701
or cranderson@mrt.com.
No phone calls please.

HEARST *media services*

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/ punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to:

Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager
201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701
or cranderson@mrt.com.
No phone calls please.

HEARST *media services*

SKILLED LABOR

Seeking Valve Technicians

Seeking a service technician and shop technician for valves.
Experience preferred. Hourly pay with benefits of group health and dental. Life insurance and 401K participation after one year of employment.
Email resume to jobs@jwwellheads.com

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

CDL Drivers & Owner Operators

Local trucking company Now hiring Class A CDL Drivers & Owner Operators, clean driving record is required. Must pass a criminal background check and DOT drug test. Apply in person at 3913 FM 715, Midland, Texas 79706

CDL Truck Driver

LPZ Enterprises is hiring responsible drivers for belly dump trailers. Two years experience is required. Your pay depends on your experience. Only serious drivers need to apply. For more information we are located at 4500 W. Illinois, Suite 305, Midland, TX. 79703.

DRIVERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY

Regional Ice Manufacturer Seeking FULL-TIME Route delivery Drivers for the Midland, TX. Area. Home Every Night. Class A or B CDL Required. Pre-Employment Drug Screen and Clean Driving Record a Must. Able to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. Pays hourly wage plus commission. Full Benefits Package Available. Apply online at arcticglacier.com

Helpers Needed Immediately

Regional Ice Manufacturer Seeking Helpers for Route Delivery for the Midland, TX Area. Able to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. Hourly wage $11.00 an hour. APPLY AT www.arcticglacier.com

These Midlanders each play a different role in making the Tall City a better place to live.

THEY ARE FACES OF COMMUNITY

To read about Midland's unsung heroes and volunteers or nominate someone for the honor, visit mrt.com/52Faces.

Human Energy
Fuels Our Community

Chevron supports Midland.

Chevron
Human Energy™

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Legal and Public Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: Invitation to Lease of Oil Interests.

The University of Alabama is receiving sealed proposals for the lease of an undivided interest in this tract or parcel of land in Culberson County, Texas:

160 gross acres, 64 net acres, more or less, situated in the Public School Lands Survey, A-2458, Block 45, Section 266, Culberson County, Texas, being more particularly described in that certain Warranty Deed dated March 8, 1954, recorded in Volume 59, Page 326, of the Official Public Records of Culberson County, Texas Proposals for the tract will be received by the University of Alabama in the office of:

University of Alabama
Attention: Director of University Lands
[Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease]
106 Hayden-Harris Hall
Box 870166
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

until 2:00 PM on April, 4, 2017, and will be opened in the office of the Director of University Lands of the University of Alabama at the same location.

The property is an undivided interest in **OIL ONLY** and will be leased for not less than fair market value. The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama will select the proposal deemed most advantageous to the University. Acceptance of any proposal must be approved by the Board of Trustees. The award of any Oil, Gas and Mineral Lease shall be approved by Resolution of the Board of Trustees.

Proposals must be made in the official name of a firm or individual under which exploration and production is conducted (showing official business address) and must be signed by a person or persons authorized to legally bind the person, partnership, company, or corporation submitting the proposal.

Telecopied, e-mailed, or faxed proposals will not be accepted.

THE UNIVERSITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES DEEM APPROPRIATE AND TO WAIVE ANY INFORMALITY OR PORTION[S] OF ANY PROPOSAL. THE UNIVERSITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO NEGOTIATE SPECIFIC LEASE TERMS WITH ANY LESSEE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE UNIVERSITY.
ANY OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LEASE WILL CONTAIN NO WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED INCLUDING THE QUANTUM OF INTEREST OWNED BY THE UNIVERSITY.
ALL PROPOERS SHOULD SATISFTY THEMSELVES AS TO THE UNIVERSITY'S TITLE TO THE PROPETY AS TO THE ACCURACY OF THE ACREAGE BEING OFFERED FOR LEASE.

The University makes no representations, warranties, or conditions, either express or implied, including, without limitation, warranties of title to the Property or to oil and gas, or any other minerals; regarding the presence, quality or quantity of oil and gas on the Property; the physical condition of the Property; or merchantability, or fitness for a particular purpose, and the University expressly disclaims any such warranties, representations, or condition.

Legal and Public Notices

Notice is hereby given that on Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction at the storage facilities listed below, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the following locations: Auctioneer: Jack Parnell Lic # 16100 (Karen's Auction Resource): 10% buyer's premium.
Facility 1772: 1904 West Loop 250 N. Midland, TX 79705, (432)258-1370, April 14, 2017, 10:00 AM
Jared Conde/Torque Line Industries Unit #0811 Tires and parts. Joy MarioWilhoit Unit# A018 beach comber cart and horse statue
Facility 1770: 5005 Andrews Hwy. Midland, TX 79703 (432)694-5959, April 14, 2017, 11:00 am
Paula Rogers unit#236 household goods, Kevin Thompson household goods 1970 ford mach 1 mustang vin 0f05th140727, Tamika Johnson unit#502 household goods, Kevin Thompson unit#841 household goods, Michael Christopher Powell unit#1066 totes, Kevin Thompson unit#844 household goods, Irma Gandar unit 912b household goods and boxes
Facility 1814: 2504 N Loop 250 W Midland, TX 79707 (432)-694-1111, April 14, 2017, 11:30 AM
Sammy Aponte Cruz unit#669 household items, Ramon Lujan unit#809 tools, household items.
Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Legal and Public Notices

PROPOSED ANNEXATION

The City Council of the City of Midland will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, on a request to consider the initial zoning of annexed land as follows:

Legal Description of the Initial Zoning.

Being a 36.36-acre tract of land out of Section 35, Block 40, T-1-S, T&P, RR Co. Survey, City and County of Midland, Texas. (Generally located on the north side of Brandy Hill Road, approximately 330-feet east of State Highway 158.)

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

PROPOSED ANNEXED LAND

The City Council of the City of Midland will hold public hearings at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, on a request to consider the initial zoning of annexed land as follows:

Legal Description of the Initial Zoning

Being a 120.625-acre tract of land out of Section 38, Block 40, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey, Midland County, Texas. (Generally located on the west side of Arlington Road, approximately 1800-feet south of State Highway 191.)

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

FOUND 3/15/2017 @ Whataburger on Big Spring. Sweet, good natured dog - no collar or chip. Call 432-664-0688 to identify and claim.

FOUND MALE Basset Hound on Midland Drive & Monty. Please call & describe. 432-631-5881

FOUND: MALE pomeranian. Found downtown near Wellsfargo. Call Linda 432-556-9721.

Autos For Sale-Lease

Passenger Cars

1968 CHEVELLE Sport coupe body. Motor, transmission and other parts. $5,000 for all. 432-238-6423

CADILLAC 2012 SRX Premium Edition. Cadillac red, 61K miles, all service records, brand new tires. Asking $20,000. For more information Tony 432-238-4134

FORD 2004 Thunder Bird, silver with black interior, very nice 45k miles. $16,500. Call Jerry 432-557-7674

MAZDA 2, 2013. Excellent condition. 15,500 miles!! Call after 11:00 AM 432-296-9142

Pearl White Beautiful, fun to drive AM/FM, CD, IPod MP4,MP3 adaptable. 4 door. Automatic. $6,700.

NISSAN 2014 Altima 2.5 SV, gray extended warranty 50 k miles, 5 years, $11,000. 432-687-2113

VOLVO 2011 XC 70, navy exterior, light gray leather interior, 29,700 miles. $22,000. Call 432-218-8484

Antique and Vintage

1949 PACKARD SEDAN restored, flat-head 8 cylinder. $6,000. Call 432-210-8517 for an appointment.

Pickup Trucks

DODGE 2005 Ram 1500, 103 K miles, single cab, white, new tires & more. Good condition 1 owner. $6,000. 432-269-8680

TOYOTA 2012 Tundra Crew Max, 4x4 pick-up, silver, w/toolbox one owner, excellent condition 147K barely broke in for Toyota. $21,000. Call 432-889-6073.

4WD and SUV

2014 F-350 King Ranch Dually, excellent condition, white, navigation, sunroof, loaded, factory 5th wheel. 24,000 miles. $53,000 OBO 432-889-7889

CHEVY 2011 Tahoe LTZ, fully loaded, diamond ext. tan int. 107K miles, very good condition. $20,000. Call Jesse 432-853-2355. Also have 98 JEEP Wrangler for sale.

RV Vehicles

2001 Polaris Ranger Clean. Excellent condition, low hours. $4,800. Call 432-889-6073

RV SPACES for rent. Utilities and cable furnished. Call 432-894-8234.

Recreation Vehicles

2003 POLARIS Magnum (4 wheeler) 330 4x4 w/front & rear racks. Runs great. $2,800. Call 432-889-6073

2007 V-STAR Yamaha 1100. Only 420 miles. $4,000. One owner. 432-238-6423

2014 ROYAL Traveler 5th wheel, 42', 3 slide outs, 2 AC's, tri axle, rollout awning, 2 bedrooms, sleeps 6, washer & dryer. Loaded. No pets, non smoking, located in Odessa. Must sell $32,500 OBO. 303-944-4180

2015 36' trailer, 2 slides, fairly new, washer & dryer 2 A/C's. Never had pets, children or smoking. $23,000 817-846-7675

2015 WINNEBAGO Micro Mini, model 1760FD, never been used. $15,000. Contact Bob @ 432-559-4405.

FIBERGLASS 2016 5th wheel 45ft. self contained, 2 BD, 5 slide outs, washer, dryer, dishwasher, large refrigerator & freezer, 2 hide a bed couches, 1 in the living room, the other in the 2nd bedroom. Table & chairs, garden tub w/optional shower, 2 a/c. Winterized. Lots of living/storage space, has a large living room. Very comfortable, like new. Asking $42,777 (obo) will deliver. 505-307-1954

HARLEY 2011 Ultra Classic two tone metallic root beer. Looks new, too many extras to mention. 26K miles, all services up to date and verifiable. Lots of spare parts & accessories. Must see firm at $13,500. 230-4122 for Mike

HARLEY DAVIDSON 2013, Road King Classic. Two-tone red/merlot. 380 miles. Garage kept. Mint condition. Asking $15,750. 432-254-0025

KAWASAKI 2015 Mule Pro FXT-LE 4x4, windshield, hardtop, comes w/ 2011 Century UT. $15,000. Call Stacey Haines 940-765-5828

MY PARENTS ARE GROUNDED! For sale 1999 Monaco Dynasty Motor home. 38 Foot diesel. Washer & dryer. Large refrigerator 2 TV's. 65,000 Miles. 1 Slide. Lots of wood! $60,000. Great shape. Please call Terry at 432-230-7213.

REDUCED
HARLEY DAVIDSON 2005 Road King. 13K miles. $6,500 OBO MUST SEE! 432-697-9787 leave message

STARCRAFT 1995 FIBERGLASS BOAT. 172" long, open gasoline inboard/outboard drive. 135 HP engine White/ Red Good condition Trailer included. $4,700.00 Call 432-413-9190

Garage-Estate-Yard Sale

Yard - Garage Sales

79707

2001 GLADEWOOD DR. MOVING SALE! TONS OF EVERYTHING 4/1 8:20-12:30

Pets-Animals

Other Pets

FREE TO LOVING home 8 month old rescue pup. Catahoula mix. Very sweet disposition. Potty trained and well behaved. Loves children, snuggling and being with people. Call 432-559-0446

WANTED: WHITE female miniature poodle puppy. Joyce E from Greenwood area. If you are still raising poodles, please call Jerry Brown at 806-777-1073.

Mobile-Modular Homes

Mobile Homes Rent

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH double wide mobile home for rent. $1,000 security deposit, $1,450 a month. Please call or text 432-889-3907 for more information. Available immediately.

Mobile Homes Sale

3/2 DOUBLE wide in park on large lot. Handicap ramp on front porch. Fenced yard. $25,000. Cash only. No owner finance. Call 432-813-7096

Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

IF IT'S CLASSIFIED

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Let Classifieds Work For You! Call 432-682-6222

Classified CAN 682-6222

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call 432-682-6222

General Announcement

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

General Announcement

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit **www.sudoku.org.uk**

		9						
8				3				
4	6					7		
		8		3		7	4	
9				1				8
	5	1		6		9		
	9			2			5	7
			9					2
		3				8		

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

2	3	5	1	4	8	7	9	6
8	1	7	9	3	6	4	5	2
4	6	9	7	2	5	1	3	8
6	5	3	8	7	4	2	1	9
7	8	1	6	9	2	3	4	5
9	2	4	5	1	3	8	6	7
3	7	8	4	5	9	6	2	1
5	4	6	2	8	1	9	7	3
1	9	2	3	6	7	5	8	4

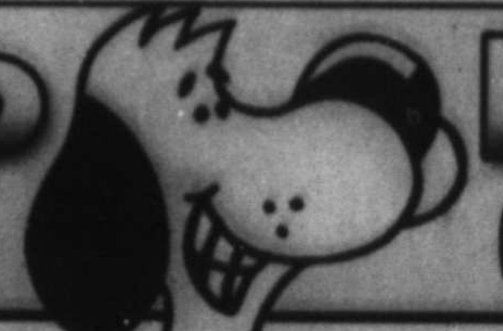
3/28/17

© 2017 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All rights reserved.

GET AN AD FOR AS LITTLE AS $0

VISIT SELLITTEXAS.COM FOR MORE DETAILS

Who's Who For Service



You can advertise your business for as little as $47.00 monthly.

Call 682-6222 for details.

Accounting-Financial

APPLIANCE REPAIR

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

Accounting-Financial

NEED HELP with your books, consulting, can come to your office. Degreed Accountant. Call Tami @ 432-349-6867.

Cabinetry-Finishing

KITCHEN & BATH CABINETS
Bathroom and Kitchen renovation specialists. Native Midlanders' Friday Building Corporation 432-638-7495.

Home Services & Home Improvement

CONCRETE / METAL BUILDINGS HIRAM'S
If you can think it, we can build it.
Free Estimates, Call Hiram 432-599-1328

Cleaning Services

Home Cleaning

RELIABLE & consistent high-quality cleaning with years of experience. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly and one time rates available. For your home, office, real estate and new construction. 432-212-6176

Window Cleaning

WINDOWS PLUS + Serving Midlanders since 1994. Residential, Commercial. 432-682-9322.

Computer Services

Repair-Replacement

A+ COMPUTER Tutor! Overcome Your Fear of Computers! ✔Your PLACE at Your PACE. ★Call Karen 432-553-2468 (leave msg).

Hauling

CLEANOUTS & TRASH HAULING. FAST SERVICE 432-254-3501.

Brick-Block-Stone

ADVANCED BRICK DOCTOR, brick & mortar repair, All types of new construction specializing in block and brick fence. Steve Rickey. 432-853-2859.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

UNCLEANED CHIMNEY'S can catch your house on fire!! We clean from top to bottom. Give us a call our work is guaranteed. 832-654-5797

Home Services & Home Improvement

Concrete

ALPHA MASONRY and Concrete work. Free Estimates. Small Jobs Welcome 432-813-8552.

CABALLERO MASONRY. Brick/block/stone, stucco, driveways, sidewalks, wood fences. Insurance. Bonded. Residential & Commercial. Free estimates. 432-631-8781

FOR ALL your concrete needs, driveways, sidewalks, new slabs house or garage additions. Call Danny @ 432-894-0702

JS Concrete
Slabs, curbs, driveways, patios, Stamp concrete. Free Estimates. Bonded & Insured. Juan Sanchez, owner. 432-413-0924

M & M Concrete. Specializing in all types of concrete work, Stamp, Stained, Block, Brick, Rock, & Stucco work. 432-230-3372

Contractors-Builders

ALL-N-1 Construction
All phases of new const & remodels, residential & commercial.
Call Jesse at 432-214-4586

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

LAWNGEVITY
25 Years experience.
All your lawn care needs.
I dont send a crew,
I'm one of the crew!
We show up!
432-661-9518

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

EDDIE'S LAWN SERVICE
Cut and Trim Yards, Trees and Bushes. Clean up yards & rake leaves. Free Estimates.Call 432-638-5559

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

MAJOR REPAIR SPECIALISTS
Need sprinkler ready for spring, Give us a call. Big or small repair. Let us get your yard ready No service charge with repair. 432-599-2904 OR 432-528-4182

Home Services & Home Improvement

Electrical

LAING ELECTRIC. Licensed and insured. TECL 18544. 432-413-5880. Always appreciated!

Fences

ALPHA WELDING Carports, iron works & fencing. Small jobs welcome. Call 432-813-8552.

CABALLERO MASONRY. Brick/block/stone, stucco, driveways, sidewalks, wood fences Insurance. Bonded. Residential & Commercial. Free estimates. 432-631-8781

HANDYMAN SERVICES, We do it all! 432-254-3501.

Handyman Services

HANDYMAN SERVICES, We do it all! 432-254-3501.

Home Services & Home Improvement

Heat-Air Condition

At your service actionairplumbing.com (432) 620-8900

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service. Service all brands. 683-2679. TALCB005482.

Painting-Wallpaper

DOUBLE TT PAINTING
Interior and Exterior Texture, tape & bed also auto paint & body. Low Prices. Work gauranteed. References Available. 432-288-7849 or 352-4633.

PAINTING, SHEET rock, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor & bath. Permian Maintenance 432-697-5417

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.

Home Services & Home Improvement

Painting-Wallpaper

FEMALE PAINTER: Interior/exterior, residential/commercial very professional, takes pride in her work, very dependable & affordable. FREE Estimates. 432-250-4643

HENRY'S PAINTING Exterior/Interior 35yrs exp. Free estimates. Senior Discount. Call 684-8135 / 770-9658.

JP's Paint Contractor for all your painting needs. Interior & exterior. Free estimates. 432-212-0543

NEED PAINTING? Call Tony. Int. & ext. 25+ years exp Call 432-222-4033

YANACEK PAINTING, Commercial & Residential Painting. All Types of Wall Finishes and Pressure Washing. 432-683-7500

Plumbing Home Svc

At your service actionairplumbing.com (432) 620-8900

Home Services & Home Improvement

Plumbing Home Svc

HANDYMAN SERVICES, We do it all! 432-254-3501.

Septic Installation
actionairplumbing.com 432-620-8900

Remodeling-Repair

ALPHA GENERAL Construction, residential or commercial. New constructions, remodeling & additions. Small jobs welcome. Call 432-813-8552.

COMPLETE REMODELS, specialize in kitchen & baths, Handyman services. 14 Years experience. 889-8387

PAINTING, SHEET rock, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor & bath. Permian Maintenance 432-697-5417

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

Lawn and Garden

L & C Lawn Service. Mowing, trimming, alleys, clean up. 40 years experience 432-260-4242

Home Services & Home Improvement

Roofing

J&J ROOFING
All Types of Roofing & Repairs. Fence Repairs, Metal roofs. 25 years experience. Free Estimates Call Juan, 432-631-6861

Tile and Vinyl

TETRIS TILE SERVICES. Walls & Floors 432-413-9761 Midland, TX

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

Lawn and Garden

AFFORDABLE TREE shrub pruning, removal, sprinkler repairs. Licensed & Insured. Call Williams Tree Lawn Sprinkler 561-8802, 638-6163.

LEYVA LAWN CARE
Trees & Lawns. Professional & Efficient 432-250-9470

M & M Landscape 22 years experience. Grass sodding, Xeriscaping, tree & shrub removal. Native Midlander 432-230-3372.

♣**MURPHY'S LAWN CARE**
Mowing, edging, trimming, Hedge/ shrub trimming, clean-ups. Bill or Maryann. (432)687-2131

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

WILL TRIM, prune or uproot just about any tree, very reasonable prices. Call Norman 432-296-1424.

RETIRED MIDLAND fireman with 30 years experience. Weekly and biweekly mow, scalp, edge & weed eating. Free estimates. Call 697-2030.

STRACENER IRRIGATION
Sprinkler Systems Repairs & Installations License #4933
Call (432) 561-9525

VILLA'S YARD Service Free Est., Reasonable Rates. Mowing, flower beds, tree trimming & removal. 432-349-3893 Lord Is My Shepherd, I Shall Not Want. Psalm 23:1

Personal Services

IRMA'S UPHOLSTERY & DRAPERY. 20 yrs exp. 432-352-4633.

PRIVATE CARE for the sick or elderly. Cooking, cleaning, hygiene, CPR certified. Will also clean apartments or babysit. Call 432-553-0037.

Classified CAN 682-6222

CondoThomeRentUnfurn

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL real estate advertising herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations of discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

To file a complaint, contact www.hud.gov or 1800-669-9777

Residential Rentals

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT. 3BD/2BA $1000/mo plus $500 deposit. 2BD/1BA $800/mo plus $500 deposit. Call 432-210-4955, 432-634-4762 until 5pm, after 5pm text only for more info.

Lots and Land

Acreage

HUNTING, RETIREMENT, INVESTMENT PROPERTY. 20 - 60 ACRES IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES: EDWARDS, KINNEY, CONCHO, COKE AND MENARD. SCENIC VIEWS, NATIVE GAME WITH FREE RANGING EXOTICS IN SOME COUNTIES. STARING AT $2,916 DOWN, $485/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Lots and Land

WEST TEXAS TRANS PECOS AREA, NEAR LAKE AMISTAD. 40 - 65 ACRES. MESQUITE, CEDAR, BRUSH COVER. WHITETAIL, JAVELINA, BLUE QUAIL, TURKEY, DOVE. STARING AT $2,084 DOWN, $339/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Residential Rentals

Apartment Rent Unfurn

SPECIAL - Midland
★ Come to quiet, owner in residence, Whispering Oaks. We have very nice 2 bedroom apartments available for good quality tenants at exceptionally special low rates. Some have garages, all have covered parking, paid water and basic cable. Please call 432-694-4001 ★

Condo Thome Rent Unfurn

1 BD w/ office, recently remodeled, great location. $775/mo. + dep. Background check. Call 432-697-3739. leave message.

Residential Rentals

LOWEST RENT! Spacious 1 - 2 - 3 Bedroom Apartments. 432-687-4514.

4413 CROCKETT. 2 bedroom 1.5 bath. No pets. for lease. 2 Story, backyard, aprox. 1,200 sq.ft. $1,000. Call 602-432-0888.

Residential Rentals

House Rent Unfurn

3409 CUNNINGHAM 4 bedroom, 2 living, 1 1/2 baths, garage. $1,250 month $1,250 deposit. 432-697-2137 or 432-230-8741

4409 ST Andrews, 4700 Sunshine Pkwy. updated nice 3 bedroom houses. 432-694-9853.

4707 B Harvard 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 carport, new pant, tile, granite & carpet. No pets non smoking $1,300 monthly. 432-620-9222 or 432-425-2739

507 W ESTES
$650/Month
$500/Deposit
Includes Water & Gas
1 Bedroom 1 Bath
No Pets Please
432-614-0781

5106 B RAINBOW, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 garage, 1 carport. New granite, carpet, tile & paint. No smoking. No pets. $1,800 monthly. 432-620-9222 or 432-425-2739.

DUPLEX FOR rent 2 bedroom 1 bath. $900 month. $600 deposit. 432-520-6618.

Nice 2 bedroom houses. $850- $975 monthly. 432-694-9853.

Commercial

READY-RANCH
RR
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

• **Kent County**
*11,155 ac. n. of Snyder, 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 800 ft. mtn., creek, lakes, Whitetail deer, mule deer and quail ... $795/ac
*4,212 ac. Maveric Creek, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail ... $825/ac
*1,771 ac. windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great w-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail ... $850
• **Nolan County**
*646 ac. over 1 mile **SOLD** creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oak ... $3,550/ac
*565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill ... $4,425/ac
• **Howard County**
*842 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some oilfield traffic ... $750/ac
*150 ac. big canyon, **SOLD** anks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, jav ... $895/ac
• **Martin County**
*135 ac. Sulphur Springs **SOLD** deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal stor ... $1,150/ac

(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777
No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that know the Country!!!
Owner Financing Available

NEW CONSTRUCTION
FOR LEASE! FOR LEASE!

5 acre tract With 7650 sq. ft. shop & office.

1200 sq. ft. shop/office on Hwy 80 East at Loop 250

Call Tim Riggan @ 664-2718

FOR LEASE!!! FOR LEASE!!!

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Commercial

NOW LEASING
• Office/Warehouses •
• Small Office Suites •
• Fenced Yards
Various locations.
Call 432-661-4057

LAKE HOUSE IN DEEP WATER Estates on Lake Brownwood with excellent boat dock. Call 325-636-3612 or email huntland@web-access.net.

Lots and Land

Hunting Leases

DEER LEASE available in San Angelo, Texas 2,500 Acres. Year round lease & long term lease. Randy 830-570-7323.

DEER LEASE White Tail Mule deer at Best, Texas. Need 7 hunters. Contact 940-284-1518 or 940-665-3212

Ranches

RANCH FOR SALE
4,212 Acres near Snyder, Tx. Water, 3 houses, great hunting. Owner Financing $795/ Acre (432) 664-7764

Commercial

4,500 sq. ft. Dock High Warehouse. Midland Industrial Warehouse. $1,125/mo. 830-388-0216.

COMMERCIAL YARD/ BUILD TO SUIT FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED.
$2350/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
432-664-7764

Commercial

MOBILE HOME Park or Man Camp FOR SALE. Gardendale, TX. 4.2 acres $750,000. 7 mobile homes (late model/like new). Private yards w/ fences 4 RV sites, 2 water wells, county water. For more details, 432-889-6556.

Residential Rentals

House Rent Unfurn

HOUSE FOR RENT 300 W. Hamby Avenue. Midland. 2 bedroom/2 bathrooms. Perfect fro roommates! New carpet, paint, bathrooms Utility room. $800/month, $800 deposit. Call Patience 432-349-5242.

Single Family Homes

3201 ECR 139
4/2.5 house & 3 acres & old 3/2 BR mobile $115,500. Up Group. 432-296-1470

5009 HEATHER
Saddle Club South
Fabulous redo!!
4/4.5/3/2 $399,500
UP Group 889-2934

Lake LBJ waterfront in Highland Haven. near Marble Falls, Texas. 3/2/2. Priced reduced, $459,000 fireplace oversized 2 car garage. boat & boat house included. automatic sprinkler system. Approximately 2,156 sq. ft. All offers will be considered. 830-220-8981.

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

Classified Ads - For Sale Auction #2017-002

Midland College is seeking bids for the sale of an Avaya phone system. The phone system will be sold "as is" and the buyer will be responsible for uninstalling and moving it. The system is located on the main campus, 3600 North Garfield, PAD Phone Room, Midland, Texas. Bids will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 28, 2017.
For additional information, contact Barbara Fennell, Director of Purchasing, (432 686-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all auction bids.

FREON 12 WANTED
Certified buyer will pick up and pay CASH for cylinders & cases of R12 cans. (312)291-9169, sell@refrigerantfinders.com

Sporting Goods

GUN SHOW
Midland Horshoe
Apr. 1st & 2nd
806-253-1322
midlandgunshow.com

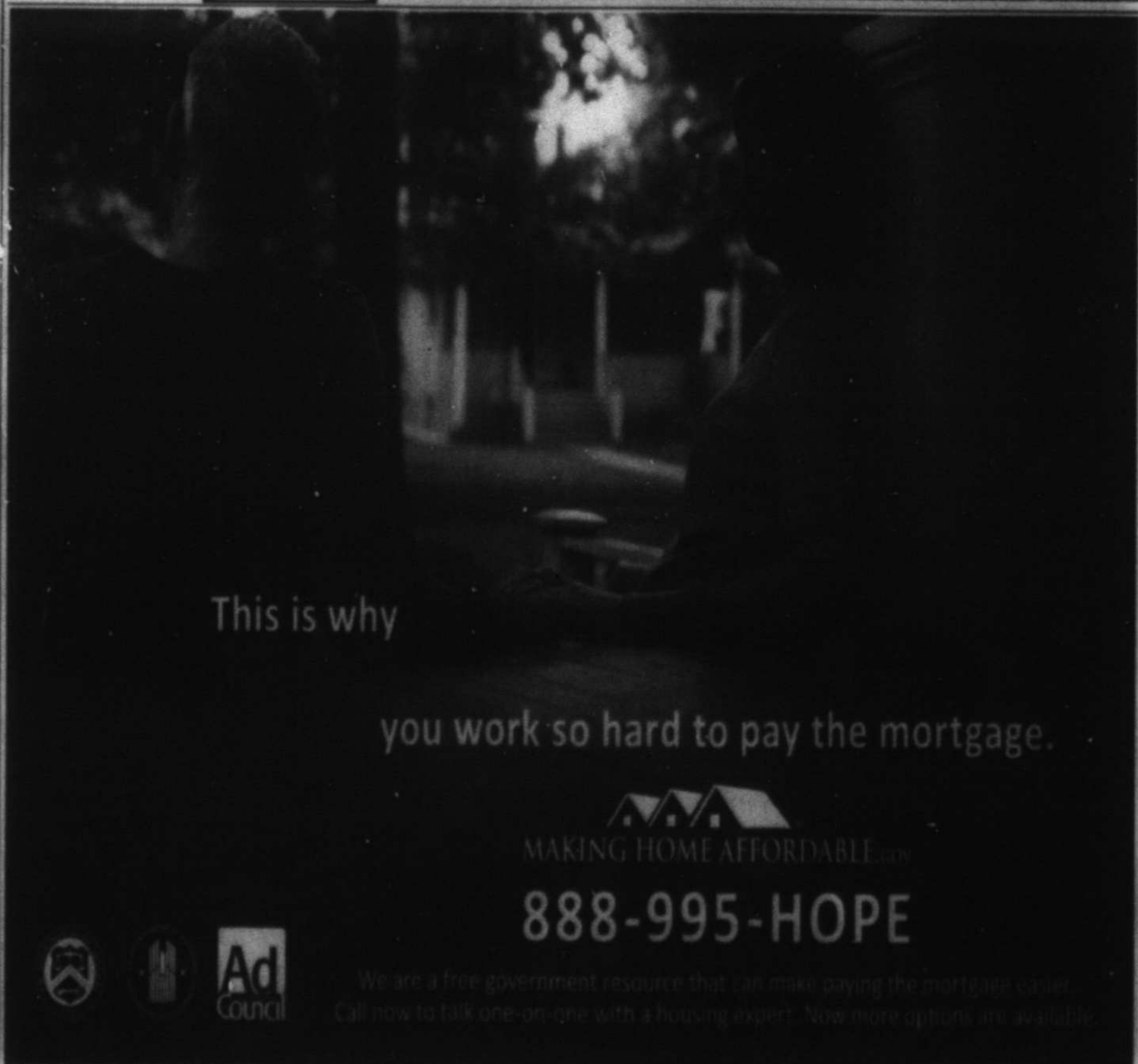
Merchandise

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

55 GALLON plastic barrels $15, 30 gallon plastic barrels $5, office chairs; 3 positions adjustments, arm rest, high back, very good condition. $15. 432-352-8419

N SCALE model RR. 200 locos. 200 frt/pax cars, power pks, scenery 7 bldgs., many extras. Selling due to health. $1000 for all. Will not subdivide. 432-853-1378.

Find It! Buy It! Sell It! Call 682-6222

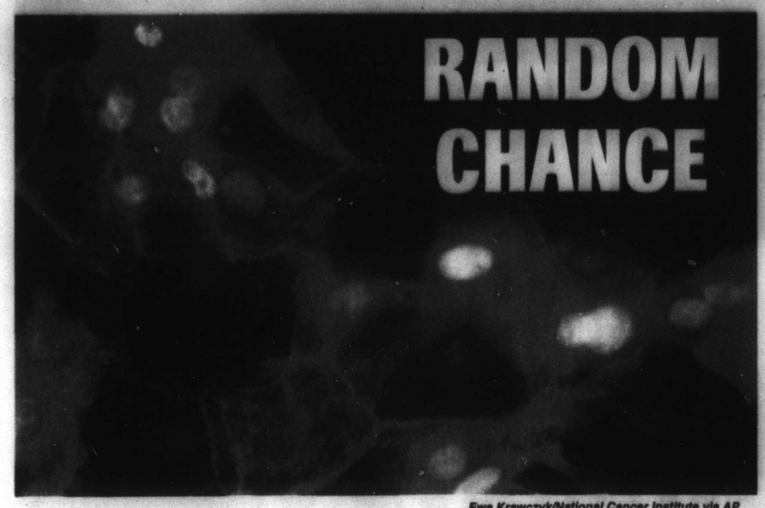


YOU DON'T WANT THEM RESPONDING TO YOUR TEXT.

STOP TEXTS STOP WRECKS.ORG

Ad Council

NHTSA



Ewa Krawczyk/National Cancer Institute via AP

This undated fluorescence-colored microscope image made available by the National Institutes of Health in September 2016 shows a culture of human breast cancer cells. Environmental risks and heredity get the most blame for cancer, but new research released Thursday suggests random chance may play a bigger role than people realize: Healthy cells naturally make mistakes when they multiply, typos in your DNA that can leave new cells carrying cancer-prone genetic mutations.

Unavoidable typos in DNA help fuel cancer

By Lauran Neergaard
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Cancer patients often wonder "why me?" Does their tumor run in the family? Did they try hard enough to avoid risks like smoking, too much sun or a bad diet?

Lifestyle and heredity get the most blame but new research suggests random chance plays a bigger role than people realize: Healthy cells naturally make mistakes when they multiply, unavoidable typos in DNA that can leave new cells carrying cancer-prone genetic mutations.

How big? About two-thirds of the mutations that occur in various forms of cancer are because of those random copying errors, researchers at Johns Hopkins University reported Thursday in the journal Science.

Whoa: That doesn't mean most cases of cancer are solely because of "bad luck." It takes multiple mutations to turn cells into tumors — and a lot of cancer is preventable, the Hopkins team stressed, if people take proven protective steps.

Thursday's report is an estimate, based on a math model, that is sure to be hotly debated by scientists who say those unavoidable mistakes of nature play a much smaller role.

But whatever the ultimate number, the research offers a peek at how cancer may begin.

And it should help with the "why me" question from people who have "done everything we know can be done to prevent cancer but they still get it," said Hopkins' Dr. Bert Vogelstein, a pioneer in cancer genetics who co-authored the study. "They need to understand that these cancers would have occurred no matter what they did."

Gene mutations cause cancer but what causes the mutations?

You might inherit some mutations, like flaws in BRCA genes that are infamous for causing aggressive breast and ovarian cancers in certain families.

More commonly, damage is caused by what scientists call environmental factors — the assault on DNA from the world around us and how we live our lives. There's a long list of risks: Cigarette smoke, UV light from the sun, other forms of radiation, certain hormones or viruses, an unhealthy diet, obesity and lack of exercise.

Then there are those random copy errors in cells — what Vogelstein calls our baseline rate of genetic mutations that will occur no matter how healthy we live.

One way to think of it: If we all have some mutations lurking in our cells anyway, that's yet another reason to avoid known risks that could push us over the edge.

How cells make typos

New cells are formed when an existing cell divides and copies its DNA, one cell turning into two. Every time DNA is copied, about three random mutations occur, Vogelstein said.

We all harbor these kinds of mutations and most don't hurt us because they're in genes that have nothing to do with cancer or the body's defense mechanisms spot and fix the damage, said Dr. Otis Brawley of the American Cancer Society, who wasn't involved in the new research.

But sometimes the errors hit the wrong spot and damage genes that can spur cancerous growth or genes that help the cell spot and fix problems. Then the damaged cells can survive to copy themselves, allowing important mutations to gradually build up over time. That's one reason the risk of cancer increases with age.

The study findings

Thursday's study follows 2015 research by Vogelstein and statistician Cristian Tomasetti that introduced the idea that a lot of cancer may be because of "bad luck," because those random DNA copying mistakes are more common in some kinds of cancer than others. Cancer prevention advocates worried the idea might sway people to give up on healthier lifestyles.

This time around, the duo analyzed mutations involved in 32 types of cancer to estimate that 66 percent of the gene flaws are because of random copy errors. Environmental and lifestyle factors account for another 29 percent, while inherited genes made up just 5 percent of the mutations.

Different organs, different risks

The same person can harbor a mix of mutations sparked by random DNA mistakes, heredity or environmental factors. And which is the most common factor differs by cancer, the Hopkins team said.

For example, they estimate that random cell errors account for 77 percent of critical mutations in pancreatic cancer — while still finding some caused by lifestyle risks like smoking. And the random DNA mistakes caused nearly all the mutations leading to childhood cancers, which is not surprising because youngsters have had little time to be exposed to environmental risks.

In contrast, most lung cancer mutations were the result of lifestyle factors, mainly from smoking. And while lung tissue doesn't multiply frequently, the small number of mutations caused by chance DNA errors might explain rare cases of never-smokers who still get sick.

"This paper is a good paper," said the cancer society's Brawley. "It gives prevention its due respect."

Other scientists see more to the story

Estimates from Britain suggest 42 percent of cancers are potentially preventable with a healthy lifestyle, and the Hopkins team says their mutation research backs that idea.

But Dr. Yusuf Hannun, Stony Brook University's cancer center director, contends that's just the number known to be preventable today — researchers may discover additional environmental risks we can guard against in the future.

He said the Hopkins paper exaggerates the effect of the unavoidable DNA mistakes. His own 2015 research concluded they account for 10 to 30 percent of cancer cases.

Blind chemist creates STEM curriculum for sightless children

By Olivia Johnson
Minnesota Daily

MINNEAPOLIS — When she was 6 or 7, Mona Minkara's eyesight began to fade.

Eventually diagnosed with macular degeneration and cone rod dystrophy, the post-doctoral research fellow in the University of Minnesota's chemistry department is now working to create a STEM curriculum for blind children in developing countries, the Minnesota Daily reported.

Minkara, is creating the curriculum with the help of her assistants, who aide her in her computational chemistry research. She studies surfactants — molecules with one end that is attracted to water and another end that is not.

Minkara said she wants the STEM curriculum to be blind-accessible and low-cost. It will be implemented at a camp in Lebanon that has programs for both blind and sighted children.

The camp trains blind children in life skills and integrates them with sighted children through sports and artistic activities. Minkara's sister started the camp in 2009.

"We would love for them to consider the option or possibility that maybe one day they could become scientists," she said of blind children.

Minkara said most blind-accessible curricula are expensive and her team wanted to create a way to translate visual science experiments into something blind students can understand.

"What can we do to open up — no pun intended — these kids' eyes to science?" she said. "It was an interesting process."

The team of four is raising money to travel to Lebanon in July so they can teach the curriculum to camp volunteers.

Connor Venteicher, a recent chemistry graduate, works as Minkara's full-time access assistant and helps her with anything pertaining to her research in computational chemistry.

Venteicher is also helping develop the curriculum, and said he looked to elementary school science projects to create activities for the camp, called Empowerment Through Integrity.

"The real challenge was getting it to be less visual than it usually is," Venteicher said, adding that he and other assistants put on blindfolds and tried to build a volcano out of clay, baking soda and vinegar to see how classic science projects could be adapted for blind children. "I was able to feel the warmth of it when it was heating up and felt the foam coming out the top."

Robert Hembree, a post-doctoral researcher in the computational chemistry lab, said the biggest challenge was turning visual science — such as chemistry, which is based on diagrams and experiments — into something blind children can understand.

"Everything about the way people approach it is visual," he said. "You have to translate that into sounds, feelings, tastes, smells."

Minkara was born in Maryland to immigrants from Lebanon. Though her parents wanted to return to Lebanon, they stayed in the United States with the hope of a better education for Minkara, whose sight was quickly disappearing.

Minkara became interested in chemistry in her elementary and high school years because she was interested in how the world works.

"Even though I'm blind, I'm a very visual learner," she said. "Yeah, ironic, I know."

Committed teachers and a strong interest in science pushed Minkara to construct models of molecules with her hands and trace diagrams in order to learn concepts, she said.

Minkara graduated from Wellesley College in 2009 with a dual degree in chemistry and Middle Eastern studies, received her Ph.D. from the University of Florida and took a research position at the University of Minnesota a year and a half ago.

Minkara is legally blind, with 2 percent vision in her left eye and some light perception in her right eye.

"I think the biggest obstacle would be to be on the receiving end of pity," she said of her blindness. "It inhibits learning. It inhibits believing in yourself."

Several websites offer tools for building your own website

Dear PropellerHeads: Dude. Like, why should I pay you thousands of dollars to build me a website when I can do it on Wix for free?

A: You shouldn't. We aren't for everybody. In fact, we turn away a lot of potential customers for exactly this reason. If you are setting up a small site for yourself, a non-profit you volunteer for, or some similarly small organization, then you probably don't need us.

You mention Wix (wix.com). This is but one of several companies that specialize in getting a good-looking, mobile-friendly website with all sorts of bells and whistles and social networking integrations up and running in literally just minutes for little to no cost. Who are some of the others?

BigCommerce (bigcommerce.com), Jimdo (jimdo.com), Shopify (shopify.com), Squarespace (squarespace.com), Webflow (webflow.com) and Weebly (weebly.com). Though for you, dude, I might recommend DudaOne (dudamobile.com/responsive-website), affectionately named after "The Dude" of Big Lebowski fame. There are dozens more. I found Jason Vissers at Merchant Maverick does a good job reviewing most of them (bit.ly/2mGxOWp).

Now your grandma (the reason you're setting up a site in the first place, as she refuses to join Facebook) probably beat into your noggin that "there ain't no such thing as a free lunch." But you, wise webizen that you are, know there is plenty that is free in the world, but it is either limited or has ads. The same is true for a free website.

The typical restrictions one encounters are a 500MB storage limit, though some will limit the number of pages you can have. Your site will be a subdomain of the host. For example, thedude.wixsite.com, as opposed to the much more appealing thedude.me. Ads? Yep, your site will have them. Many hosts also have monthly bandwidth limits, much like your phone has. Though, unless you are delivering lots of high-resolution photos and videos, that likely won't be a problem.

If you want to have your own domain name, get rid of ads, and get bumps in storage as well as some other perks, you are looking at the $8-12/month range. If you are looking to sell merchandise online, another important detail you will need to know is what the host's cut is. This usually starts at about 3% and goes down the more you upgrade your plan.

But, with all that said, I have to admit there are some pretty crazy cool sites one can whip up without knowing much at all about web development. The biggest problem you will have is selecting which template that best represents what you are trying to accomplish with your website.

I gave Wix a deep dive, designing a website for my sister-in-law. Yes, it was an understood responsibility going into my marriage that I'd be doing all of my relatives' websites. I found navigating through the editor pretty straightforward and understandable. Rarely did I get stuck wondering how to do something. It was more like "I wonder if they'll let me…?"

The quantity and variety of widgets you can include on your website is truly mind-blowing. In addition to the out-of-the-box elements such as photo galleries, lightboxes, maps and lists, you can add "apps" that will really open up doors. They include customized forms, chats, social networking feeds and sharing options, event calendars, storefronts, and the list goes on.

The only downside I had during the experience is often there was a bit of delay from when I clicked on something before the expected response actually occurred. But when building a website this cool, it is often worth the wait.

So yes, I'd definitely recommend Wix or one of their competitors if you just need a simple website. However, if your website ambitions involve integrating with multiple databases, interfacing with third-party APIs, or retiring an ancient AS/400, all while being scalable and reliable, then by all means, give us a buzz.

When the PropellerHeads at Data Directions aren't busy with their IT projects, they love to answer questions on business or consumer technology. Email them to questions@asktheropellerheads.com or contact us at Data Directions, Inc. 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Visit our website at www.asktheropellerheads.com.

Chevron

Thank you Chevron for supporting Newspapers in Education