# MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2013 mrt★com *Delivering life ... every day*


**NEW YEAR'S**

See what's going on tonight in Midland to help ring in 2014.

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**DURBIN'S BEST**

This year was in many ways a historical one for Midland. Our photographers are indispensable in documenting those events. See the best photos taken by James Durbin in 2013.

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# TOP STORIES OF 2013

**Other stories**

**See the other top stories of the year on Pages 2A-3A**

*James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram*

There were 43 fatalities in 40 crashes on Midland County Roads in 2013. The crash pictured occurred on Farm-to-Market Road 1788.

## Number of deaths on Midland County roads hits 43

**1.** The sun had just started to set on a windy but clear West Texas day when Midland police and wrecker services retrieved a Yamaha motorcycle from the median of State Highway 191.

Its rider, 34-year-old Erik Kator, was traveling westbound when a pickup merged into his lane, forcing the him to take evasive action and leave the highway. Kator — who was wearing a helmet — was transported with serious injuries to Midland Memorial Hospital where he died.

Four more minor wrecks over the course of an hour shut down the eastbound lanes of Highway 191 near Farm-to-Market Road 1788. As traffic backed up, cars, trucks and commercial vehicles drove across the grassy shoulder to the service road, kicking up dust in the orange glow of the sunset.

Later, a white SUV hit a young boy on a bicycle crossing Midland Drive at Neely Avenue. He was transported to the hospital with unknown injuries. Police also responded to a rollover on South Loop 250 near Business 20.

What happened on that late October day is a harsh reality of living in Midland County, which had a death toll for the books this year with 43 fatalities in 40 wrecks. That's more than double from 2011, when 20 people died within the county, and 36 percent more than last year, when 30 people died.

Most of the wrecks were on roadways monitored by the Texas Department of Transportation, according to Reporter-Telegram records.

TxDOT meets monthly to discuss and review fatalities, said Gene Powell, public information officer for the Odessa district.

"We're looking for trends and things we can address from an engineering standpoint," Powell said. "We know that traffic counts are up. We know commercial traffic is heavy. And we're dojng everything we can that's financially feasible to address concerns."

Still, drivers need to be personally responsible, he said.

"What we see a lot of is speeding and distracted driving," Powell said. "Those tragedies can't be avoided through engineering."

The Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance originally was formed to secure state funding for transportation projects, but it started the Drive Smart campaign after the high traffic fatality rate sounded an alarm bell, said James Beauchamp, MOTRAN president.

"We don't have the capacity we once had," Beauchamp said. "That causes people to get frustrated, get into a hurry and make poor choices."

**By Rachael Gleason** | *Reporter-Telegram*

**Another fatality**

Midland County had its 43rd death in 40 crashes on Farm-to-Market Road 1379

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Data from 2009 and 2011 show single-vehicle roadway departures caused by distracted driving and failure to yield the right of way at intersections to be primary factors in fatal wrecks, Beauchamp said.

"People always want to find the magic bullet. What causes this? A lot of people blame the oil field," he said.

Oil and gas workers are 8.5 times more likely to die in on-the-job wrecks than workers in other industries, according to a study by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

And more than one-third of oil and gas workers killed in wrecks between 2003 and 2009 were from Texas, according to the study, published online by Accident Analysis & Prevention in March 2013.

Still, Beauchamp said fatal wrecks include plenty of garden-variety drivers drawn to the Permian Basin's robust energy economy, and people need to be more aware.

"Few us of want to take responsibility for the fact we're all a little bit sloppy," Beauchamp said. "We all have a role to play in this."

About half of this year's wrecks occurred within Midland city limits, which Lt. Ray Leible, of the Midland Police Department, attributes to driver inattention and driving too closely behind other vehicles.

Please see **DEATHS**/7A

**Weather**
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58/38
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**Energy prices**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WTI Futures | $99.29 ▼ | $1.03 |
| WTI Posted | $96.00 ▼ | $0.75 |
| WTS Posted | $88.85 ▼ | $0.75 |
| Natural Gas | $4.427 ▲ | $0.059 |
| Gasoline | $3.074 ▲ | $0.019 |

**The big number**
It has been
13 years
since a day without deaths on Texas roads. Page 5A.

**Today in Sports**
See major events of 2013. Page 1C

**Coming Wednesday**
Find out what to look out for in 2014.

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Daily $1, Sunday $2

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# TODAY IN MIDLAND

### Today is New Year's Eve

New Year's Eve, which is on Dec. 31, is the last day of the year in the United States. It is a major social observance and many parties are held, particularly in the evening.

*Source: www.timeanddate.com*

### Thing to do

Black and White New Year's Eve Party at The Blue Door. Reservations required. 218-8793.

See more events on Page 7A.

### New Year's Eve weather facts

(1930-2012)
Average high: 57
Average low: 30
Warmest Dec. 31: 77 (2005, 2011)
Coldest Dec. 31: 14 (1976)
Record precipitation: 0.24 of an inch (1959)
Record snow: 2.9 inches (1982)

*Source: National Weather Service*

### Christmas tree disposal

The city of Midland has two drop-off areas designated for Christmas tree disposal.

Residents are encouraged to take their trees to the following areas:

- Citizen Collection Station, 4100 Smith Road (north of ClayDesta post office off Veterans Airpark Lane)
- Hogan Park - Field No. 7, 1201 E. Wadley Ave. (behind the Armory; enter off Lamesa Road) -- trees can be dropped off through Jan. 15.

Parks and sanitation crews will pick up the trees from the Hogan Park location and haul them to the city landfill for mulching.

Disposing trees in other areas is considered illegal dumping.

### Support groups, club meetings today

(List is subject to change due to the holiday)

- Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the consequences of sexual abuse meets Tuesdays. Child care available; House of Hope, 570 5935.
- Overeaters Anonymous; noon Wednesdays and 4:30 p.m. Sundays; B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 553-1031.
- A confidential peer-to-peer support gathering for combat veterans, first, third and fifth Tuesdays at Midland College Cogdell Center, 201 Florida Ave.; Steve Cree, 770-7469.
- Peer to Peer support group for veterans, active duty, guard, reserves and their families, 6 p.m., Permian Basin Community Center, 401 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 403; Wil Hoggard, 213-5342, william.hoggard@wtcmhmr.org.
- Classic Movie Club, 7 p.m., Cigar Frog's, 216 N. Main St.; 687-1671.
- Midland Optimist Club, noon, Abuelo's, 4610 N. Garfield St.; 685-7486.
- Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1303 E. Taylor, bingo games 7 p.m.

### Community calendar

- The Midland Archeological Society is to meet 7 p.m. Thursday at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. Paul Katz is to present "Irish Antiquities and Archaeoastronomy."

The program is an overview of the prehistory and early history of Ireland and a look at the stone monuments that dot the countryside.

### Water Usage

Friday's total: 11,670,000 gallons (CRMWD 9,324,000, Paul Davis fields 2,346,000)

Saturday's total: 11,415,000 gallons (CRMWD 9,067,000, Paul Davis fields 2,348,000)

Sunday's total: 12,076,000 gallons (CRMWD 9,734,000, Paul Davis fields 2,342,000)

Last week (Dec. 22): 11,358,000 gallons

Current total storage by CRMWD in their lakes is 101,242 acre-feet. (1 acre-foot is approximately 325,800 gallons). Total storage last year at the same time was 159,876 acre-feet.

*Source: City of Midland*

### City hires new finance director

The city of Midland hired a new finance director earlier this month. Pam Simecka will replace Bob McNaughton, who retired.

She relocated to Midland from Topeka, Kan., where she worked in various positions over the last 9 1/2 years, including as finance and budget director. As finance director for the city of Midland, Simecka will oversee the Accounting, Investments, Tax, Customer Service, and Meter Shop divisions.

Simecka will earn a salary of $125,000.

*Source: City of Midland*

### Lottery

**Pick 3 morning:** 8-0-7
**Pick 3 day:** 9-5-3
**Pick 3 evening:** 8-2-3
**Pick 3 night:** 3-7-0
**Daily 4 morning:** 7-1-3-9
**Daily 4 day:** 3-4-6-1
**Daily 4 evening:** 8-5-4-5
**Daily 4 night:** 4-7-4-0
**Cash Five:** 3-18-26-32-33
**Texas Two Step:** 13-14-18-23 BB: 3
**All or Nothing morning:** 3-6-7-8-10-12-15-17-19-21-22-24
**All or Nothing day:** 2-3-4-7-8-12-15-16-17-19-21-24
**All or Nothing evening:** 2-3-4-5-9-12-13-14-15-17-19-20
**All or Nothing night:** 1-2-9-10-11-12-17-19-20-21-22-23

Closure at long last

## 2. NTSB cites city, Show of Support in train wreck investigation

After almost an entire year in which information about the fatal Show of Support parade train wreck was released sporadically, major progress was made when the National Transportation Safety Board concluded on Nov. 5 that the city of Midland and Show of Support were to blame for the deaths of four veterans and the injuries of 14 other people.

During a meeting in which NTSB staff presented a final report to board members, the federal agency made several conclusions that hinged on the city's and Show of Support's failure to minimize the risk of routing a parade through a railroad crossing. The agency focused on the parade float driver, the parade law enforcement escort and the parade planning process as safety issues that led to the accident.

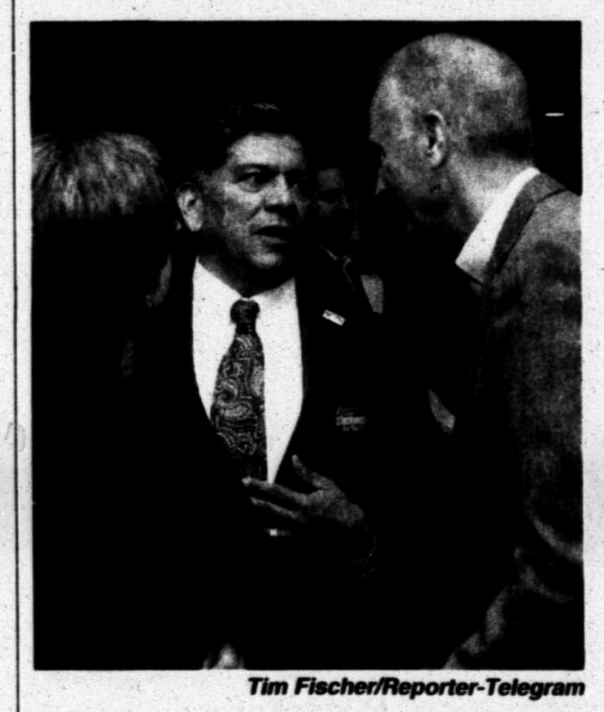
The NTSB concluded that the driver, Dale Hayden, was in a "safety bubble" while he drove a tractor-trailer that carried 24 passengers. The law enforcement escort led Hayden and the rest of the parade participants through red traffic lights, including the preempted lights at the South Garfield Street and West Front Street intersection just north of the railroad crossing where the crash occurred. Hayden's expectation of safety, paired with the noise of the parade, impaired Hayden's ability to hear the train crossing's warning bells and train horn.

The federal agency also cited the city and Show of Support's lack of planning before the parade. The NTSB found that Show of Support lacked permits for its annual Hunt for Heroes parades for several years, thus determining that the city was not enforcing its own rules.

Both groups also failed to notify Union Pacific in advance of the parade. Other than avoiding the train crossing itself, the NTSB determined that notifying UP of the parade was "the most effective way" to have prevented a grade crossing collision.

The NTSB recommended that the city create an ordinance that requires all organizations to develop safety plans. Elements in the plan should include route selection, mitigation of unavoidable hazards and lines of communication among event participants.

The city implemented a safety plan requirement in its special event ordinance shortly after the NTSB made its recommendation. Show of Support continued on its yearly tradition of honoring veterans with a Hunt For Heroes banquet on Nov. 21, though this time, without a parade.



*Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram*

Jerry Morales, center, speaks with former Mayor Carroll Thomas, right, and his wife, Georgia Thomas, on Election Night. Morales will be Midland's first Hispanic mayor and succeeds Wes Perry, who did not seek another term.

## 5. Perry is out of mayoral seat, Morales is in

2013 was a year in which three City Council seats were up for election.

But it was the mayoral position, soon to be relinquished by two-term Mayor Wes Perry, that garnered the most attention this election cycle.

By the end, At-large Councilman Jerry Morales won by a huge margin, gaining 60.58 percent of the votes. In second place was District 3 Councilman John James, who acquired 26.8 percent of the votes. The remaining three candidates each gained less than 10 percent of the votes.

The race for mayor began in March when James became the first candidate to announce his intent to run. James added a caveat though, saying that he would run only if Perry was not going to do so.

Perry stayed quiet about his political future until July. His decision was not influenced by others' aspirations to become mayor, but rather his sense of accomplishment of securing a long-term water source for the city. The T-Bar Ranch water source is estimated to provide Midland with water for 40 years.

Days after Perry made his announcement, Morales became the second person to announce his intent to run. About two to three weeks afterward, Keith McLelland, Kathy White and Dan Anderson then announced their candidacies.

Each candidate had their own set of philosophies to attract voters, be it limited government or improving quality of life, but Morales' focus on his Midland roots, family values and conservative ideology helped him stand out. The at-large councilman gained endorsements from Perry, former mayors and oil industry presidents and CEOs, boosting his profile to the mostly Republican voting bloc.

The mayoral race was also noteworthy for the amount of funds the top two candidates raised this year. As of Oct. 28, Morales raised $129,000, while James raised $92,276. Both amounts surpassed the amount raised by any previous City Council candidates.

Morales' large fund was reflected at his victory party at Ranchland Hills Golf Club the evening of Nov. 5. Former city leaders, business leaders, friends and family packed the club house that night as Morales thanked them all.

*Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram*

The Energy Tower at City Center was unveiled on March 18 at a press conference at Centennial Plaza with Mayor Wes Perry, from left, William Meyer and Wendel "Scooter" Brown, both with Energy Related Properties.

## 3. Energy Tower comes closer to reality amid an extremely mixed response

Following its announcement and the ensuing persistent buzz that Energy Tower made all year long, City Council gave its final approval on the project on Sept. 17.

In the term sheet approved by four councilmen (three members abstained from voting), the city, the Midland Development Corp. and the downtown Midland Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone will provide about $60 million in incentives to tower developer Energy Related Properties. MDC will dispense $1 million annually for 10 years. The city and TIRZ will give back 80 percent of the city's portion of ad valorem tax that Energy Tower will generate — up to $50 million in an 18-year period.

In exchange for the incentives, ERP agreed that the funds will be used for infrastructure improvements first, then for the multistory underground parking garage that will house both private and public parking spaces, and lastly for the construction of the high-rise itself.

Also contained within the term sheet were provisions for a park area, chamber block and a new Midland Center. ERP will construct the new Midland Center, of up to 30,000 square feet, and remove Centennial Plaza, while the city will remove the former Midland County Courthouse and current Midland Center and Chamber of Commerce buildings.

Although ERP originally had a March 2014 deadline to prove to the city that it has done its due diligence — such as securing tenants — the term sheet included extending the deadline to Sept. 30. At that time, ERP would then obtain ownership of the property.

The council approved the term sheet a few weeks after public resentment for the project resurfaced. During public meetings that were meant to focus on the city's budget and tax rate for fiscal year 2014, members of the public voiced criticism of the project, namely the city's involvement in it. Some candidates who ran in this year's City Council elections used Energy Tower as a talking point during their campaigns, often criticizing the use of incentives for a project that they said should have been completely private.

## 4. Midland leads nation in highest per capita income thanks to oil boom

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reported this year that no area in the nation could boast the per capita income that existed in Midland.

Midland topped Bridgeport, Conn., on the annual list, knocking Fairfield County from its lofty perch after a 26-year run.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis reported Midland's metro area reported a per capita income of $83,049, which topped the $81,068 for the Bridgeport metro area that includes Norwalk, Stamford, Greenwich and Danbury.

San Francisco, San Jose, Calif., and Washington, D.C., rounded out the top five metropolitan areas.

Midland's rise to the top of the list, according to the Connecticut Post, was fueled by a 12.1 percent increase in personal income growth. And Fairfield County's personal income growth last year? A modest 3.2 percent.

The income per capita kept the regional economic machine churning. Midland set a record for new home permits in 2013 with more than 700 (a 20 percent increases compared to 2012).

The activity included increases in airport boardings, which nearly hit 500,000 this past fiscal year. The city of Midland also reported setting a new record with more than $38 million in sales tax revenue, a 10.82 percent increase compared to the previous year.

Midland also boasted a 2.9 per unemployment rate in November, which again will be among the lowest in the nation. Midland recorded the lowest unemployment rates in the state every month in 2013. Midland had also posted the lowest unemployment rate in the nation for five consecutive months during a stretch in late 2012 and early 2013.

Other accolades for Midland in 2013 included:

*James Cannon/Reporter-Telegram*

The Permian Basin's oil boom has led to Midland leading the nation in per capita income.

- In February, Midland ranked first in Texas and 14th in the nation in concentration of high-income households, according to the U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey.
- In March CNN, Money and Fortune magazines included Midland among the top-nine fastest growing boomtowns — Midland was fourth, Andrews third and Odessa eighth.
- Midland was named the best small city for jobs in 2013 by Forbes Magazine.

## 6. CAF gets votes to leave the area after turbulent couple of months

The Commemorative Air Force is cleared for takeoff to a larger metropolitan area after a turbulent six months.

The CAF announced in May the desire to elevate its national presence by relocating administrative offices and establishing a new air base. But not all community members and leaders were on board with the move.

Brown

State Rep. Tom Craddick — who fights for funding each legislative session for the CAF American Airpower Heritage Museum — said the organization broke commitments to individuals and foundations who brought the CAF to Midland in 1991.

Still, the CAF proceeded with an election, needing three-fourths of eligible colonels to give the board of directors the one-time authority to make a final decision. A two-vote margin concluded the election in mid-November, with 75.1 percent in favor of the amendment.

Mayor Wes Perry, who helped negotiate a deal between the City Council and CAF for this year's $50,000 in AirSho funding, believes the CAF will honor a commitment to keep the American Airpower Heritage Museum and annual AirSho in Midland for future generations.

"If that changes, I'll be really disappointed," Perry said in November.

Starting with 25 cities in May, the board narrowed the list down to three airports in Dallas, Sherman-Dennison and Houston in December and will make a final selection in the first half of next year, according to the CAF.

"The three airports selected as possible locations are all within a metropolitan community of at least 1 million people and are easily accessible to tourists and visitors," said Stephan C. Brown, CAF president and CEO, in a prepared statement.

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**AT YOUR SERVICE**

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James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland ISD employees honored Jim Henry at a reception earlier this month. The Henry Foundation and Scharbauer Foundation awarded grants of $1 million and $3.3 million, respectively, to help MISD teachers and support staff with their rents.

## 8. Organizations, foundations, entities go above and beyond for housing

The Scharbauer Foundation provided the first of many gifts received by Midland ISD employees this fall by pledging $3.3 million to provide teachers with rental assistance up to 40 percent.

WesTex Communities, which owns 20 apartment complexes between Midland and Odessa, then agreed to operate an apartment locator hotline for teachers and provide them with a 10 percent discount.

Wanting to ensure MISD's custodians, secretaries and other support staff members could also afford to live in Midland, the Henry Foundation stepped up and provided $1 million for rental or utility assistance.

MISD Superintendent Ryder Warren praised the contributions of each organization.

"This simply does not happen in most places, to have organizations pledge to help teachers and staff," Warren said. "I will be forever grateful to the Scharbauer Foundation and Henry Foundation for supporting our staff and our children."

Scharbauer Foundation funds are expected to provide rental assistance of either $500, or 40 percent of the contracted lease or rental rate, to 300 teachers this year and 250 for the 2014-15 school year.

Half of the funds donated by the Henry Foundation will be used to provide rental and utility assistance to current support staff employees through the 2014-15 school year. The other $500,000 will be used to recruit new employees in the district's vacant positions. There are chronic staffing shortages in the transportation, maintenance, food service and janitorial departments.

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Ariel Elliott was hired as the Greenwood ISD superintendent after former superintendent Doug Young resigned because trustees didn't renew his contract.

## 9. Greenwood superintendent saga

Swift changes were made in Greenwood ISD shortly after school released for the summer and as a result, the district has a new superintendent.

Trustees chose not to renew the multi-year contracts of Superintendent Robert Doug Young and his wife, curriculum director Maudine D'Laine Young, this spring. As a result, the Youngs voluntarily resigned from their positions on June 19 after six years with the district and were paid a combined $195,000, based on contractual obligations.

Trustees immediately appointed high school principal Ariel Elliott as interim superintendent. After conducting a superintendent search in October, trustees named Elliott as the lone finalist and hired him as superintendent on Nov. 11.

Maudine D'Laine Young was arrested Sept. 30 in Wise County on charges of improper relationship between an educator and student. A former GISD student made a complaint to the Midland County Sheriff's Office on June 15 and said a relationship took place between 2009 and 2011.

She was charged with "engaging in sexual contact, sexual intercourse and deviate sexual intercourse with a male student whom was enrolled at Greenwood High School," the documents stated.

Greenwood ISD officials said they had no evidence of illegal conduct when accepting the Youngs' resignation.

If convicted, Young could face up to 20 years in prison.

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

From left, former Mayor Ed Magruder, Mayor Wes Perry, and Jose Cuevas, president of the Midland County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1, celebrated the completion of the T-Bar Ranch water pipeline project.

## 7. Long-term water source T-Bar project reaches completion

From June 2012 to May 2013, Black & Veatch and Garney Construction constructed 67 miles of pipeline from the T-Bar Ranch in Winkler and Loving counties to Midland County.

It cost $200 million to build the pipeline that opened up on May 31. T-Bar is Midland's largest public works project to date.

A ceremony on May 31 at the site of one of the project's elevated storage tanks was not merely a formality of the project's completion; it was a celebration of life and sustainability. Former mayor Ed Magruder, Mayor Wes Perry and Jose Cuevas, president of the Midland County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1, cheered and then drank the water that the three of them helped bring to Midland.

Even though construction took 12 months, the project had roots that dated back to the 1960s. The City Council of 1965 purchased 20,229 acres of land for $750,000 as a means to secure a future water source.

When the statewide drought began in late 2010, the Midland County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1 was established. Its mission is to build infrastructure for water sources. Their first project eventually became the T-Bar pipeline.

The city did not immediately use T-Bar water, as it continues to receive water from the Colorado River Municipal Water District. But as of Dec. 12, it began accepting T-Bar water in amounts between 1 million to 3 million gallons a day.

## 10. Craddick saves Tech PA program from leaving MC

Though officials with Texas Tech University's Health Sciences Center spent the summer "exploring all options for the long-term viability" of its physicians assistant program, it will remain in Midland.

Craddick

State Rep. Tom Craddick, R-Midland, helped secure $3 million in state funding for the establishment of the joint venture between TTUHSC and Midland College in August 1997. MC raised $3 million through private contributions, and the Dorothy and Todd Aaron Medical Sciences building was constructed to house Tech's PA program on the Midland College campus.

It was established in Midland rather than Lubbock because "the legislature and the Midland community were successful in securing significant financial and logistical support for the program," according to a question-and-answer section on TTUHSC's website.

However, this summer, TTUHSC officials explored the possibility of moving the program from Midland in an effort to restore administrative order. Former PA program leaders neglected administrative duties, such as sending required information to the accrediting board, that resulted in the issuance of a probationary accreditation status from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant.

The high cost of housing was also a reason for exploring a move, but Craddick worked with TTU Board of Regents Chairman and Midlander Mickey Long to ensure the program would remain in Midland.

"It was very concerning to me since I created the program and helped secure funding. It's done so well and has been an asset to the community. I didn't want to see it move," Craddick said.

Tech officials decided to leave the program in Midland and added an assistant dean to oversee the program. TTU Chancellor Kent Hance said he hopes to double the program's enrollment in the next two to three years.

"I've been friends with Tom Craddick for a long time and I know what he did to start the program," Hance said. "In my opinion, the program would not have been started in Midland, Texas, if it were not for Tom Craddick. I felt there was no way it could leave."

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# DPS: Man dies days after crash in east Midland

*From staff reports*

A Midland man died early Thursday, three days after his car crashed into a dirt mound in east Midland, according to a report released by the Department of Public Safety.

Vincent Pashilk, 58, was pronounced dead about 12:10 a.m. Thursday. The crash occurred about 6 p.m. on Dec. 23.

Pashilk was driving southbound on Farm-to-Market Road 1379, about 2.2 miles south of Highway 158. His vehicle left the roadway and he overcorrected, causing him to skid sideways into a large dirt mound. He suffered critical injuries and was transported to Midland Memorial Hospital, where he died, said Elena Viramontes, DPS spokeswoman.

He was not wearing a seat belt. The road was dry and the weather was clear-cloudy at the time of the crash, according to the report.

Pashilk is one of 43 deaths in 40 crashes to occur on Midland County roads this year, according to Reporter-Telegram reports.

The most recent fatality occurred Saturday when a driver, an Ohio woman, died after a head-on collision near mile marker 131 on Interstate 20. The woman's husband was treated and released at Midland Memorial Hospital. The driver of the other vehicle, an Odessa woman, was transported to a Lubbock hospital for treatment.

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.

## Start now to build your new home in Greenwood in time for the fall semester

**It's already time** to think about September? Yes, says WBC Custom Homes's Monty Wheeler, if you want to build a new home in a new subdivision in time for your kids to enroll in the Greenwood School District.

Champion's Run is a brand new gated community located on SCR 1060 south of FM 307 (Cloverdale Road) in Greenwood. The subdivision is offering 1.5 acre tracts with water wells. Horses and certain other animals are welcome, subject to the deed restrictions.

Since it is just opening, many of the best lots are still available, although, as you can imagine, people are picking theirs out very quickly in this market.

Monty points out that this is the perfect place for kids who want to be in 4-H or simply to ride and stable a horse. It's also great for a garden, a large dog or two, a large workshop or anything that requires some breathing room.

If you call Monty this month and pick your lot and a home design that fits your family's needs, you should be able to move into your new home in time for school to start in the fall.

Remember, this is GreenWOOD, not Green ACRES, so you'll have the open skies of country living with all the security and amenities that are part of a gated community.

For Monty's part, he's ready to help you with your home design, whether you found one in a magazine or you've sketched something out yourself. If you saw a predrawn plan that needs some tweaking, Monty can do that for you.

Energy efficiency, low maintenance requirements, special needs or anything else you're looking for in a home, Monty can get done for you. He has been in various phases of construction and remodeling for over 30 years. He can get you the home you want!

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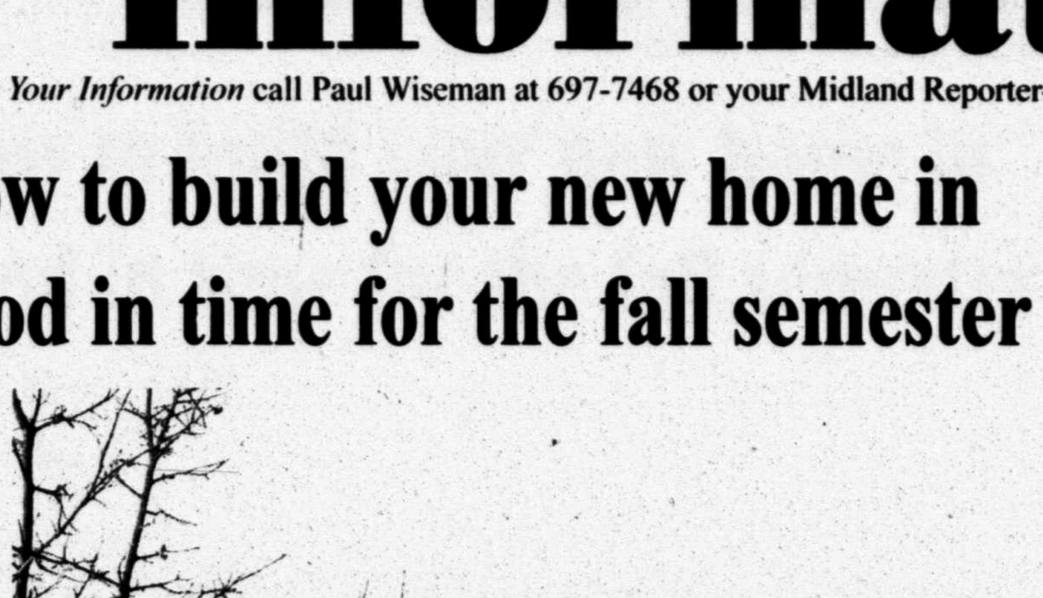

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# It's been 13-plus years since day without road deaths

*Associated Press*

HOUSTON — Lonny Haschel remembers delivering the news to a man that his family had been wiped out in a traffic wreck.

"The most difficult job is to go knock on someone's door and say a loved one is not coming back anymore," the Texas Department of Public Safety sergeant said.

Like people throughout the world, many Texans will gather tonight to ring in the New Year with booze-fueled parties. Despite increased warnings about drinking and driving during the holiday season, though, the state is nearly certain to add another notch to Texas' ignominious streak of having at least one road death per day for more than 13 years.

The last day without a traffic death in Texas was Nov. 7, 2000, state Department of Transportation figures show. Since then, more than 45,000 motor vehicle fatalities have occurred. It's believed to be the longest streak ever for Texas, where state records on traffic fatalities go back to 1940.

California, the only state more populous than Texas, most recently had a traffic fatality-free day in September 2009, said Chris Cochran, spokesman for the California Office of Traffic Safety.

Reasons for the Texas streak are varied, but a "big three" stand out, according to Fort Worth-based Haschel.

"What we see are speed, failure to use seat belts and impaired driving," he said.

Nearly one-third of all the fatalities since November 2000 are attributed to alcohol.

"We're No. 1 in the entire country, and people don't think there's a problem," says Carol Levin, whose 26-year-old son and his girlfriend were killed in 2006 by a drunken driver who ran a red light at a Houston intersection.

The 22-year-old driver of the other car is serving 10 years in prison for two counts of intoxicated manslaughter but is eligible for parole. The driver could have been sentenced to up to 20 years behind bars, but Texas judges have wide discretion in deciding sentences. A 16-year-old earlier this month in Tarrant County received probation for a four-fatality wreck.

"The drunks are the ones who get off," Levin said. "And we're the victims and we're victimized and victimized and victimized. Holidays, birthdays are impossible. You have to grieve all over again."

Safety efforts today include 15 agencies on patrol across Central Texas looking for drunken drivers as part of an initiative called Arrive Alive. In Houston, the city's public transit agency, METRO, is offering free service from evening into early Wednesday.

In California, more than 2,000 sobriety checkpoints a year help reduce its death toll, but Texas hasn't used such roadblocks since 1994 when a state appeals court ruled that they violated the Texas Constitution because there were no statewide guidelines.

Daniel Hottman, an assistant pastor at a Montgomery church, was killed when Amanda Doyle slammed head-on into his family's car in February 2008. Hottman's wife and three children were seriously hurt.

"'Nothing will happen to me, no way.' That's what I'm sure everyone is thinking," Doyle, 29, said from a Gatesville prison, where she's serving 20 years for intoxicated manslaughter and four 10-year terms for intoxicated assault.

She doesn't remember what happened, but acknowledges it was a "horrific" act. Her blood alcohol content was more than twice the legal limit.

"He was a good man," she said of her victim. "They did missionary work. Everything they taught their children came back to God. They did not deserve this at all."

If there's any good news, it's that the fatality rate is falling despite the continued daily occurrences.

Experts credit better roads, safer cars and increased seat belt use, although police reports show that more than 45 percent of those killed in 2012 weren't buckled in.

Doyle's parents are raising her 7- and 9-year-old daughters, who know why she's incarcerated. She said she's told her children that prison is like school, except that instead of a principal, she has a warden.

"My story: It's true and it can happen to anybody," Doyle said with her voice cracking. "When I go home, I can still do things with my life. I can teach my kids things. Mr. Hottman, his kids don't get that opportunity."

## STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

FORT WORTH

### Mixed drinks could get pricier as sales tax shifts

A change in Texas sales taxes could cost people buying mixed drinks at bars.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported that changes enacted by the Legislature that take effect Wednesday cut the taxes businesses pay on mixed drinks sold, from 14 percent to 6.7 percent. But purchasers of mixed drinks will pay a new sales tax of 8.25 percent.

CORPUS CHRISTI

### Texas A&M-Corpus Christi to be Texas drone center

Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi has won designation as the research headquarters for 11 Texas test sites working to develop drones for commercial use.

Texas is one of six states announced Monday by the Federal Aviation Administration as development sites for the unmanned aircraft.

The university's president, Flavius Killebrew, said the school is "proud to be a part of this historic moment in aviation history."


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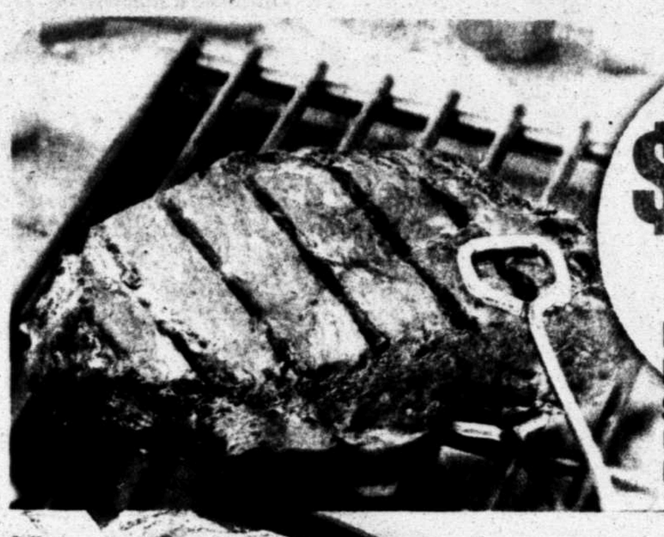
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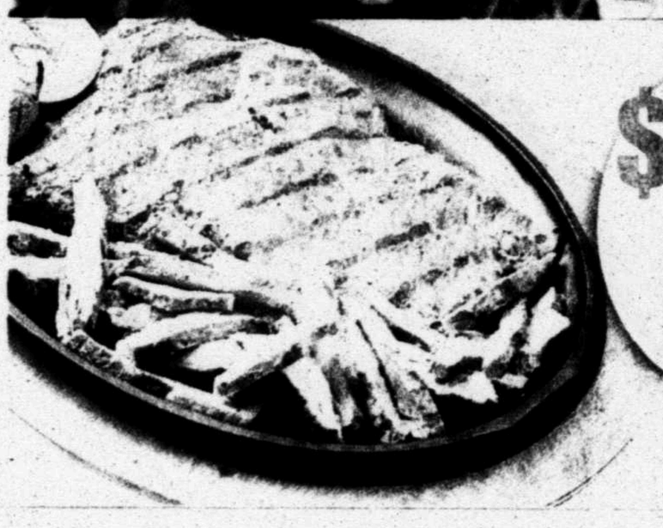
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# OPINION



# Republicans have chance for rebirth in 2014

■ After a dismal year in politics for both sides, the GOP could seriously rebound

MICHAEL GERSON
*Washington Post Writers Group*

The effects of the holiday season linger. Like the post-haunting Scrooge, I am as light as a feather, as happy as an angel, as merry as a schoolboy, determined to keep Christmas well. And still, when forced to consider it: 2013 was a dismal, terrible, cringe-inducing year in American politics. God help us, everyone.

It was a year in which the left, in implementing Obamacare, showed its worst face: overconfident, coercive, economically irrational and incompetent. The whole enterprise of technocratic planning will henceforth be shadowed by three numbers: three, 500 million and six. Three years to prepare the launch of HealthCare.gov. About half a billion dollars spent on contractors. And six people (according to an internal memo) signed up the first day.

It was also a year in which the right, in the government shutdown, showed its worst face: angry, fractious, ideological and uninterested in governing. "They pushed us into this fight to defund Obamacare and to shut down the government," House Speaker John Boehner later complained. "Most of you know, my members know, that wasn't exactly the strategy that I had in mind." When is the last time a congressional leader publicly admitted to being railroaded by an irrational political faction?

In both of these cases — the Obamacare launch and conservative attempts to defund the program — there were clear signs of trouble ahead. The software and the strategy were obviously flawed — like ice too thin to take the required weight. But politics and ideology compelled smart people to strap on skates and attempt their doomed salchows.

This led to an extraordinary spectacle in the fall. The central appeals of two great political parties were discredited at the same time: Health care politics as a new governing majority. Anti-government populism as the wave of the future. Neither worked out as planned.

So what emerges from these ideological ruins? Perhaps a centrist governing coup, in which the Obama administration and congressional leaders plot immigration reform, measures to encourage economic mobility and major health care reform revisions? Not likely. While 2013 did end with a budget deal, it was the result of political exhaustion, not ideological innovation.

The politics of 2014, leading up to the midterm elections, will probably be dominated by two holdover trends from 2013.

First, the travails of implementing Obamacare will continue, with unexpectedly high premium and deductible costs, restricted doctor networks and small business plan cancellations that affect millions. The conditions of exchange systems in various states will vary radically — some relatively healthy, others with catastrophically underpopulated and risky insurance pools. Many Americans, of course, will benefit from provisions of the Affordable Care Act. But the disastrous launch of Obamacare has created a narrative of failure, leading to the natural selection of press stories consistent with that assumption.

The central problem of Obamacare will not yield to technical or rhetorical solutions. President Obama sold it to Americans as a plan with no losers. But it is a redistribution program, creating both winners and losers. And many of the losers in Obamacare consider themselves middle class. This realization may eventually lead a number of elected Democrats to favor serious revisions.

The second trend is an outgrowth of the first. The problems of Obamacare are likely (and perversely) to delay any serious ideological repositioning of the Republican Party. The argument will be: "Why take any risk of dividing the GOP with, say, an immigration reform push, or a health reform alternative, when Democrats are in the process of self-destructing?"

Republicans have a serious prospect of retaining control of the House and regaining control of the Senate in November — assuming that tea party challenges don't knock off some of their stronger Senate candidates. The generic congressional ballot is increasingly favorable to Republicans. It is the probability of losing elections that forces parties to creatively alter their appeal. The failures of Obamacare, in short, reinforce Republican ideological timidity, at least at the congressional level.

The central problem for the GOP is a split political personality. For congressional Republicans, ideological timidity is a reasonable, short-term electoral strategy. For Republicans concerned about retaking the presidency in 2016, it is wholly insufficient. There is an urgent need to reposition the party with minorities, women and the young. Pointing and laughing at the failures of Obamacare will not be a sufficient governing vision.

This is, perhaps, the best a Republican can hope for in 2014: to benefit from the failures of Obamacare, while incubating the ideas that move the GOP beyond reflexive negativity.

## OUR VIEW

# Grim news again is No. 1 on list of year's top stories

For the second straight year, those who have fallen topped the Reporter-Telegram's list of news stories. Last year, we mourned for the four wounded veterans who lost their lives when a train hit a float during the Show of Support parade.

This year, the grim news comes from the roads inside Midland County, where 43 people, as of press time Monday, lost their lives.

It is not the news we wanted to bring you, but 40 times, according to Reporter-Telegram records, law enforcement officials delivered the worst news possible.

As we have written in this space before, we hope drivers in Midland take responsibility not only for themselves but also for other drivers on the roads. We are not talking about driving defensively — that is what we expect of those who navigate the freeways of larger cities. We are talking about driving smartly. Put aside those things that can cause distractions, don't be in such a hurry, and remember there is someone else on the road also trying to get from a point A to a point B.

Traffic in Midland and inside the county will never be the same. Commutes will take longer, and roads need to be improved, no matter the cost — and we have to be prepared to pay.

But we hope when we look back at 2013, we remember those people who lost their lives and then think about what can be done to make sure the number of driving deaths decrease in 2014.

We have offered in today's edition the top 10 stories of 2013, as picked by the Reporter-Telegram Editorial Board. The following are some more take-aways from the past 12 months.

■ The National Transportation Safety Board concluded on Nov. 5 that the city of Midland and Show of Support were to blame for the deaths of four veterans and the injuries of 14 other people. A lot of Midlanders wanted to sweep this under the rug as time moved on. We have no idea why no one wanted to talk about accountability in this case. Four veterans died, and we know that didn't have to be the case.

■ Jerry Morales easily won a mayoral race that many, including ourselves, expected to be closer. Midlanders stepped up to the ballot box to make Morales the first minority mayor in our city's history. We look forward to what should be an exciting and productive three years.

■ No community in America can boast the money being made per capita that Midland does. We believe with that distinction comes an awesome responsibility to ensure that the wide gap between the haves and the people needing a little extra help does not become even wider. We are not talking about some Washington-like redistribution scheme to bring relief when there is income disparity. We do hope to see more Midland companies, foundations and individuals step up and assist when the opportunity arises.

■ Planned Parenthood closed its doors in Midland, and months later, that is still very good news in Midland. We want to remind people of two things. One, funding decisions by Planned Parenthood statewide is the reason the organization is no longer in Midland. Their donors apparently didn't think it was worthwhile to make donations to keep Planned Parenthood's doors open in Midland and other cities in West Texas. Two, Midlanders still have a responsibility to make sure women's health issues — and we are not talking about abortion — are taken care of. We must do everything possible to make sure people know services are available now that Planned Parenthood is out of the region.

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**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.

# That was a really good column, but ...

■ Those who respond provide insight to those who think they know it all

KATHLEEN PARKER
*Washington Post Writers Group*

The year-end review required of all columnists inevitably brings us to the mailbag and a few clarifications.

For the record, I read my mail but never online comments. Anonymity liberates hostility, we've learned, and the customary online abuse riot undermines the grandiosity required to write opinion. But don't stop! For some reason, my family thinks the comments are a hoot.

The mail that does reach my inbox is about evenly split between fans and not-so-fans. I've concluded that there must be a repository of letter-to-columnist templates out there somewhere. About 70 percent of missives begin with one of the following:

■ "I usually stop reading your column after the first sentence, but ..."

■ "I rarely agree with you, but ..."

■ "I am a fan -- you knew this was coming — but ..."

*And this just in.* "I'm not sure how columnists like you who write for a living get paid." KP: Usually by direct deposit.

Otherwise, my response to all of the above: *So whaddya want for a buck?*

A few days ago, a letter arrived asking me whether I ever considered that I might be wrong? My one-word response: "Constantly."

Which is true, up to a point. A columnist couldn't write if she thought she were wrong, right? But oftentimes we write to find out what we think, and sometimes we surprise ourselves. Many times I wish I thought otherwise, since life would be so much easier, but then we'd be bored.

Sometimes, yes, I even change my mind. When you've written columns as long as I have (26 or 27 years, I can't remember), you'd best change your mind or admit that you never trouble yourself with thinking. Certitude is a mask one dons only for deadlines, after which, feet on desk, one ruminates on the source of such certitude. This, of course, leads to crippling self-doubt, which in turn may lead to drinking or, worse, yoga.

For my own edification, a few words about the differences between online writing and newspaper writing. Like the difference between the male and female sexual appetites (just to keep you interested), one is a microwave, the other a crockpot. Online writers zip and zap across the digital realm in real time, sometimes accelerating before news breaks. Newspaper writers, especially columnists, tend to simmer.

You'll notice at this point that columnists tend to digress. They also generalize because, we must. It's our nature. We don't care that some females have appetites equal to males. If three is a trend, "most" is enough to generalize. Plus, we are easily bored (note the constant imperative to not be bored), and nothing is more tedious than punctiliousness. On the other hand, using a word like punctiliousness can make one want to smoke a cigarette afterward.

Back to the matter of differences. Because of print deadlines, I typically write two to three days before a column appears in print. Thus, I have to consider on Thursday what might still be of interest by Sunday. Though one is, therefore, always late to the game, I can think of few commentaries that don't benefit from a few days' simmer.

Another difference has to do with standards. Newspaper tradition requires that we heed the "family" rule: What is appropriate for family consumption, especially on Sunday mornings? This mandate was born (ages ago) of the desire never to offend anyone, which can make for some rather arid reading and writing that doesn't swell one's breast. One must be clever enough to select words that sneak past the kiddies, who, having wearied of FaceTime twerking, might accidentally trip over a grown-up thought.

Another frequent reader comment: "Nice job, but you failed to mention ..." or "You left out ..."

KP: Yes, but ... columnists are strictly held to a non-negotiable word count — in my case, 750 and not a definite article more. My definition of a column, soon to be a book title, is: "A Sliver of a Slice of a Piece of a Moment." It is a glimpse of an insight viewed through the prism of another's tenure on Earth, served with trepidation and self-flagellating humility.

This is to say, thanks for the memories, the corrected syntax and the astute observations about my laxity and bombast, and special gratitude to those (you know who you are) who shared often-brilliant insights through their own tenured prism.

I couldn't do it without you.

*Cheers!*

**From the Left | Doonesbury**

**From the Right | Mallard Fillmore**

# DEATHS

From 1A

Police will continue enforcement efforts on Loop 250 and at high-wreck locations, Leible said.

"We hope that people realize it takes longer to get to and from work in Midland and that they need to leave earlier and drive with more patience," he said. "Everyone knows how dangerous our roads have became. It's up to each of us to drive defensively."

The Midland Fire Department, which requires all of its firefighters to have emergency medical services training, has more assets on the road to help deal with fatal wrecks.

In addition to fire engines, the department also deploys lighter response vehicles — which are easier to maneuver and sometimes quicker — to wrecks, said Chip Balzer, MFD assistant fire chief.

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

The driver of an 18-wheeler was killed on June 3 when his rig was struck by a train at the Fairgrounds Road crossing.

The Department of Public Safety handles wrecks on county roads. If they involve tractor-trailers, Bobby Hennis, owner of B&B Wrecker & Recovery, might also respond.

"I never had a yard full of 'em like I do now," said Hennis, who recently set up a tow truck in the northside Wal-Mart's parking lot with a crushed Chevrolet Tahoe to remind Midlanders what can happen to distracted drivers.

The driver of the Tahoe on display fell asleep while driving and walked away from the wreck, Hennis said.

But not all of Hennis' customers are so lucky, especially if they're distracted — the leading cause of Texas roadway deaths — or texting while driving — which state Rep. Tom Craddick, of Midland, tried unsuccessfully this year to criminalize.

"It's my job to clean up these messes, but I'd rather not," Hennis said. "I'd much rather go help a broken down car than clean up a tangled mess."

## 2013 WRECK TRENDS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

■ Most occurred either on Farm-to-Market Road 1788 or State Highway 158, each yielding six wrecks. Both roadways also had wrecks with multiple deaths. Three people died and another passenger was injured Jan. 15 after colliding with a pickup on FM 1788, and two out-of-towners died April 27 in a four-vehicle crash on State Highway 158.

Other roadways with treacherous travels include Loop 250, five wrecks; Interstate 20, four wrecks; Business 20, three wrecks; and State Highway 191, two wrecks. Few occurred on city streets within Loop 250.

■ About a quarter of fatalities involved tractor-trailers, and seven motorcyclists died after T-boning other vehicles, being struck by other vehicles or leaving the roadway.

■ Five people were ejected from their vehicles, and three wrecks involved fatal hit-and-runs. A 35-year-old pedestrian died May 17 after being struck by a driver who fled the scene.

■ About 83 percent — or 34 of the victims — were men, and most of the victims, men and women, were in their 20s. Other fatalities include drivers in their 30s, 10 wrecks; 40s, 10 wrecks; and 50s, five wrecks.

Only one person was under the age of 20, and a woman in her 80s died July 17 after two strokes caused her to lose control of her vehicle on Lockheed Drive and strike a brick pillar.

Source: Reporter-Telegram records

## 2013 FATAL WRECKS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

**Jan. 8:** Lance Howard Schneider, 50, of San Antonio died after a collision with a tractor-trailer on Tom and Nadine Craddick Highway. Pickup passenger Dannie Schlag, 22, of Atascosa, was transported to Midland Memorial Hospital with serious injuries.

**Jan. 11:** Motorcyclist Jesse Kinsey, 23, of Midland, died on Midland Drive after hitting a pickup.

**Jan. 15:** Francisco Manuel Ortega, 26, and Manuel Jesus Loera, 47 — both of Odessa — and Joshua Edward Stearns, 27, of New Caney, died after colliding with a pickup on Farm-to-Market Road 1788. A fourth worker, Jesus Carballo, 27 — of Ehrenberg, Ariz. — suffered serious injuries but survived the crash.

**Feb. 5:** Motorcyclist Joe Anthony Montemayor, 36, of Midland, died after colliding with a pickup at the intersection of Big Spring Street and Loop 250.

**Feb. 6:** Justen Vogel, 39, of Big Spring, died when his pickup collided with a tractor-trailer at the intersection of Farm-to-Market 1787 and Farm-to-Market 1492.

**Feb. 19:** A 46-year-old Odessa passenger died from injuries sustained in a rollover crash on Farm-to-Market Road 1788 because of poor weather conditions.

**Feb. 23:** Jerry Lee Rigdon, 54, of Midland, died at Midland Memorial Hospital after his tractor-trailer cab was hit by a pickup on Highway 158.

**March 5:** Delma Fuentes Madrid, 41, of Midland, died after a single-vehicle rollover on Highway 158.

**March 20:** Michael Ray Ware, 37, of Corpus Christi, died from injuries suffered in a two-vehicle crash on an Interstate 20 service road.

**March 21:** An Odessa man in his 40s died in a wreck on Business 20 near the Ector and Midland county line.

**March 22:** Dale Stevens, 54, of Mayer, Ariz., died from injuries suffered in a head-on collision on the Midkiff Road overpass at Interstate 20.

**March 30:** Rocky Maxey, 49, of Midland County, died after his SUV rolled over and caught fire on the East Loop 250 service road.

**April 4:** Motorcyclist Colten Lance Duran, 22, of Odessa, died at Midland Memorial Hospital after being hit by an SUV near the southside Wal-Mart on Longview Ave.

**April 27:** Zachary Antonio Dibble, 19, of Lampasas, and Gonzalo Barraz, 47, of Rio Grande City, died in a four-vehicle crash on East Highway 158.

**May 5:** Joshua David Cobos, 23, of Midland, died at Midland Memorial Hospital after his pickup rolled over on Loop 250 near North County Road 1150.

**May 8:** Arthur Lynn Rios, 41, of Odessa, died after his vehicle was hit by an 18-wheeler on an Interstate 20 service road in Odessa but within Midland County limits.

**May 10:** Greta Caldwell, 33, of Midland, died after a tractor-trailer T-boned her car and pushed it 100 yards at the Rankin Highway overpass at Interstate 20.

**May 17:** Pedestrian Natalie Hartman, 35, of Midland, died in a hit-and-run while walking eastbound on Midkiff Road. Hartman was hit by a vehicle driven by 22-year-old Midlander Stefanie Kaye Moore, who is scheduled to stand trial next month on a charge of intoxication manslaughter.

**May 19:** Roberto Vasquez, 21, of Big Spring, died after driving the wrong way on West Illinois Avenue, losing control of his vehicle because of alcohol and speed and hitting a tree.

**May 25:** Motorcyclist Jesus Villanueva-Benavides, 44, of Midland, died after an SUV hit him on East Front Street near Fairgrounds Road. The driver fled the scene.

**May 31:** Federico Holcombe, 47, of El Paso, died after losing control of his tractor-trailer on Highway 158, a half mile east of the landfill.

**June 3:** Steven Baker, 53, of Riverside, Calif., died after his tractor-trailer was hit by a Union Pacific train at the Fairgrounds Road crossing.

**June 25:** Shauntay Rose, 22, of Midland, died after a collision with a tractor-trailer on Farm-to-Market Road 1788.

**July 10:** Robert Dale Evans, 31, of DeRidder, La., died in a one-vehicle rollover after crashing into a speed sign on Interstate 20.

**July 17:** Margaret Litton, 83, of Midland, died from injuries that led to her death — she also suffered two strokes — after losing control of her vehicle on Lockheed Drive and striking a brick pillar.

**July 19:** Julio Ricky Aguero, 25, of San Angelo, died after he veered into oncoming traffic and hit a tractor-trailer on Highway 158.

**July 26:** Oscar Fernandez Jr., 30, of El Paso, died after his vehicle veered into the southbound lanes, collided with a guard rail, rolled and he was ejected on South Farm-to-Market Road 1788.

**Aug. 2:** Tommy Lee Boerner, 33, of Midland, died after he hit a pickup pulling a utility trailer that failed to yield the right of way at Faudree Road and Business 20 in Odessa, which is in within Midland County.

**Aug. 3:** Dustin Wigington, 20, of Odessa, died after his SUV was hit by a distracted driver attempting to change lanes and exit the westbound lane of Highway 191.

**Aug. 31:** Cheyenne Mansell, 21, of Midland, died after being ejected from a pickup in a rollover crash on Loop 250.

**Sept. 10:** Motorcyclist Malcolm McPherson, 45, of Midland, died after being hit by a car turning southbound into westbound traffic on Business 20.

**Sept. 15:** Noah Alexander Flemister, 28, of Midland, died after being ejected from his SUV on Rankin Highway. The SUV was hit by a pickup; the driver fled the scene.

**Oct. 5:** Motorcyclist Frances Allen Zdeb, 58, of Midland, died following several days at Midland Memorial Hospital after his motorcycle left the roadway and he was ejected on South Loop 250.

**Oct. 12:** Kelby Shane Culvert, 23, of Midland, died following a week at Midland Memorial Hospital after his pickup veered into the Interstate 20 center median and he was ejected.

**Oct 25:** Motorcyclist Erik Kator, 34, of Midland, died after a pickup entered Highway 191, forcing Kator to take evasive action, leave the roadway and crash into the center median.

**Nov. 27:** Adam Lee Blake, 32 of Longview, died after his pickup hit a tractor-trailer on Highway 158.

**Dec. 9:** Justin Dean Cox, 24, of Midland, died in a three-vehicle crash on Farm-to-Market Road 1788 after his pickup veered into the northbound lanes and hit two tractor-trailers and their towed units.

**Dec. 16:** Katlin Gaddy, 27, of Odessa, died after veering into oncoming traffic on Farm-to-Market 1788 and crashing into a pickup.

**Dec. 26:** Vincent Pashilk, 58, of Midland, died three days after his car crashed into a dirt mound at Farm-to-Market Road 1379, about 2.2 miles south of Highway 158.

**Dec. 28:** Marilyn Erker, 65, Maryfield Heights, Ohio, died after a head-on collision at the 6300 block, or mile marker 131, of West I-20. An Odessa woman lost control of her vehicle, which traveled into the center median, broke through a cable barrier and continued to the westbound lanes. The two vehicles then collided.

Source: Reporter-Telegram records

# Variety of venues available to ring in the new year

By Tyler White
twhite@mrt.com

With Midland's various bars and entertainment options, there's no excuse to be stuck at home on New Year's Eve.

While many people may crowd nearby watering holes, there are alternatives to the bar scene.

The Palmer Drug Abuse Program will host the eighth annual Celebration Midland event at Midland Center. The party runs from 7 p.m. until midnight, providing a fun environment for all ages, said Kim Henderson, PDAP prevention director.

Patrons can expect free food, games and entertainment. Henderson said there will be a scavenger hunt where participants must use their electronic devices to find the wanted items. There also will be face painting, video games, a prize walk, door prizes and life-size "Jenga" to help pass the time, she said.

Bowling alleys and movie theaters in Midland and Odessa will be open.

Those looking for an upscale party are out of luck. Tickets for The Blue Door's party are sold out and The Hemingway will be closed today and Wednesday.

Many Midland bars and nightclubs will serve free champagne and offer drink specials and party favors. Most will have DJs, but a few venues will have live music.

The Bar will host The MoneyShot Band, with $50 cover charge for reservations and $25 cover charge for walk-ins. Free champagne and breakfast burritos will be available at midnight.

Riley's Bar and Grill's party kicks off at 9 p.m. with Blacklisted providing tunes for the evening. There is a cover charge of $10 per person and $15 per couple, but there will be complimentary food and a champagne toast at midnight.

Meanwhile, there will be live music at Lone Star Bar and Los Badd Boyz del Valle will perform at Rudy's Sports Bar.

### Top songs

Go to mrt.com to check out our top songs for ringing in the new year.

Those looking to ring in the new year in Odessa can do so at Graham Central Station, Oasis Bar and Grill or Club Sin Citi. Expect cover charges, drink specials and more at these locales.

**Family-friendly activities:**

■ AMF Midland Park Lanes: Closing at 1 a.m.

■ Astro Bowl, in Odessa: Colored pin events start at 9 p.m., food served at 8:30 p.m.; $25 per person, free champagne and party favors at midnight.

■ Diamond Lanes, in Odessa: Colored pin events at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.; one session is $25 per squad of four people, $40 per squad for both session; pizza buffet at 9 p.m. and free champagne at midnight.

■ Midland Center: Celebration Midland, hosted by Palmer Drug Abuse Program; 7 p.m. to midnight.

**Venues without cover charge:**

■ Buffalo Wild Wings: Closing at 2 a.m., free champagne at midnight.

■ Torinos Pizza Bar: Closing at 2 a.m., downstairs area open to public, free champagne at midnight.

■ Triple Threat Sports Bar & Grill: Closing at 2 a.m., drink specials, party favors and free champagne at midnight.

■ Woofers and Tweeters: Open 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., karaoke until midnight and DJ until close, open to those 21 and older, free champagne and party favors at midnight.

**Venues with cover charge:**

■ Rockin Rodeo: Closing at 2 a.m., $12 cover charge for 21 and up, $20 cover charge for all others: $1.50 bar drinks and longnecks until 9 p.m., $2 glass and $20 bottles of champagne.

■ Sedona Mexican Grill & Cantina: Closing at 2 a.m., $10 cover charge, 21 and older, free champagne and party favors at midnight.

■ The Reserve (at DoubleTree by Hilton): Closing at 2 a.m., $10 cover charge, free champagne at midnight, with music provided by DJ. Package available for $199, which includes dinner, room and access to bar.

**Venues with live music:**

■ Lone Star Bar: Closing at 2 a.m., free champagne at midnight, shots and drink specials throughout the night, taxis ready for transport.

■ Riley's Bar and Grill: Open 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., cover charge of $10 per person, $15 per couple, free food, free champagne at midnight.

■ Rudy's Sports Bar: $20 cover charge, $25 for reservations, free champagne toast at midnight, with live music by Los Badd Boyz del Valle.

■ The Bar: Open 5 p.m. to 2 a.m., reserved seating is $50, walk-in is $25, free champagne and breakfast burritos at midnight.

**Odessa bars and nightclubs:**

■ Club Sin Citi: Closing at 2 a.m.: half-off cover charge and drink specials before 9 p.m., free champagne at midnight, with music provided by DJ.

■ Graham Central Station: Open 6 p.m. to 2 a.m., $8 cover charge before 9 p.m., $10 after 9 p.m., $1.50 bar drinks and long necks between 6 and 9 p.m., free party favors.

■ Oasis Bar and Grill (MCM Elegante): Closing at 2 a.m., $10 cover charge, free champagne and party favors at midnight, with a music provided by a DJ collaboration.

■ Ogi's Restaurant and Bar: Closing at 2 a.m., with music provided by DJ.

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Accent Granite & Marble
Showroom & Indoor Slab Gallery
Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM • Saturday 9AM-12PM
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Sedona Grill
New Year's Eve Party
Tuesday Night 9pm-2am
$10 Admission • Party Favors • Champagne Toast
Call 570-9600 for reservations or more info
DJ Tony will ring in the New Year!!!
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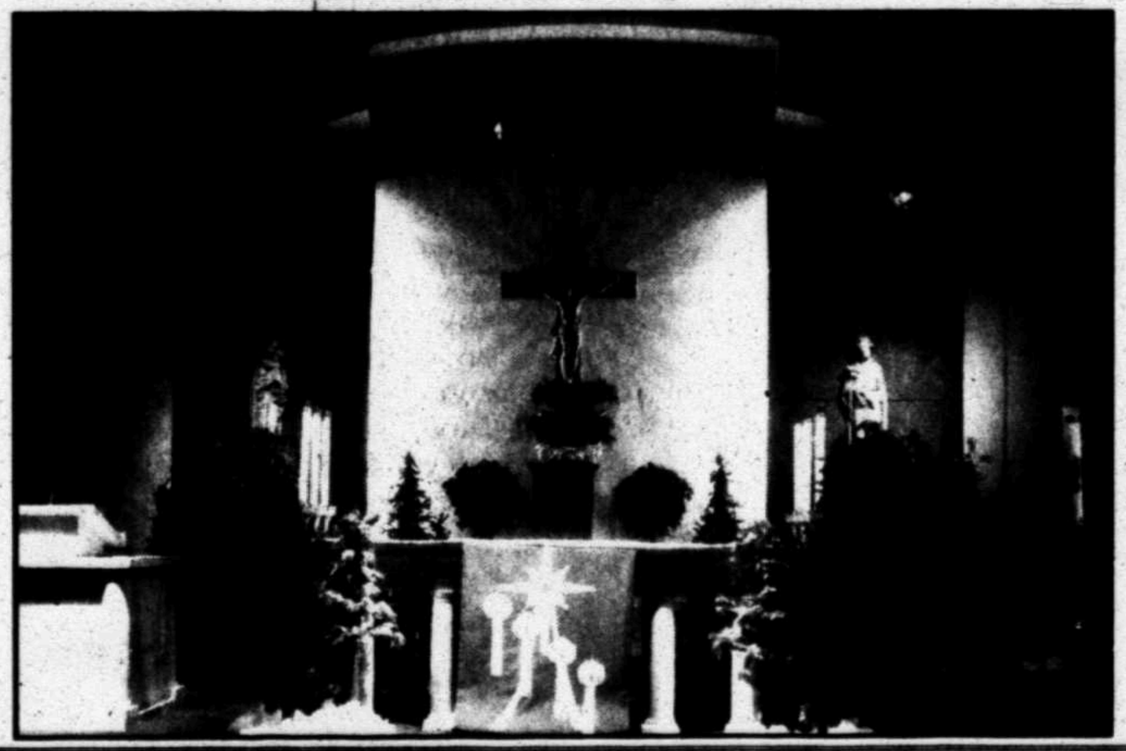
REJOICE!



New Year's Masses
Anticipated Mass Tuesday at 5 p.m.
Midnight Mass at 12 midnight
8 a.m. 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Spanish Mass at 12:30 p.m.
St. Stephen's Catholic Church
4601 Neely — (432) 520-7394 — Non-Catholics Welcome!

Attention Readers
In observance of
New Year's Day
The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed
Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014

Advertising Deadlines

Classified Word Ads

| Publishing On: | Deadline is: |
|---|---|
| Wed., Jan. 1st | Tues., Dec. 31st, NOON |
| Thurs., Jan. 2nd | Tues., Dec. 31st, 2 PM |

Classified Display Ads

| Publishing On: | Deadline is: |
|---|---|
| Wed., Jan. 1st | Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM |
| Thurs., Jan. 2nd | Mon., Dec. 30th,, 5 PM |
| Fri., Jan. 3rd | Tues., Dec. 31st, NOON |

Retail Display Ads

| Publishing On: | Deadline is: |
|---|---|
| Wed., Jan 1st | Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM |
| Thurs., Jan 2nd | Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM |
| Sun., Jan 5th (Oil Report/West Texas Living, Arts & Ent.) | Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM |
| Fri., Jan 3rd | Tues., Dec. 31st, Noon |

CIRCULATION HOURS
Customer Service calls will be taken
Wednesday, January 1st from 7 AM-11 AM only.
We will re-open Thursday, Jan. 2nd for regular business hours.
Midland Reporter-Telegram

# Ring In The New Year!

Have A Grandé Time At The Fun Dome

MCM Grandé HOTEL FUNDome

*Affordable Luxury.*

Room includes

5:30-7pm

FREE Hot Breakfast Buffet with Eggs Cooked to Order New Year's Day 7am-10am. Limit 4 persons per room.

Party in Toby's Lounge

TOBY'S LOUNGE

cover charge of $15 per couple, $10 per person

First Come First Seated

Champagne toast at Midnight!

## Room Rates

$99.99 Exterior Corridor
$109.99 Interior Corridor
$119.99 Parlor Suite
$129.99 Jacuzzi Suite

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# Celebrate the new year

New Year's Eve Room Rates
STANDARD KING OR DOUBLE
$119.99

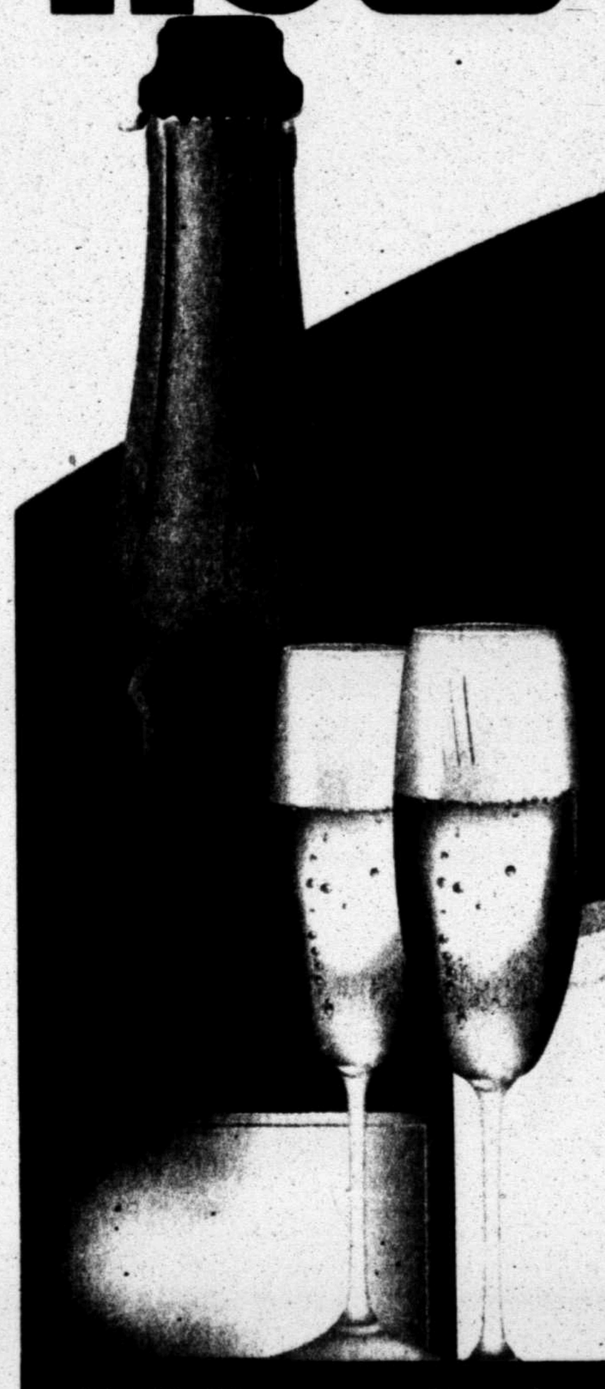
## New Year's Eve Buffet
5:00PM - 10:00PM

Shrimp Boat SEAFOOD

Cod Almondine
Crab Cakes
Lemon Pepper Tilapia
Chicken Cordon Bleu
Red Roasted Potatoes
French Style Green Beans
Rice Pilaf
Fresh Mixed Vegetables

Peel-N-Eat Shrimp
Prime Rib
Pasta Bar
Assorted Desserts & Bread Pudding

Adults $24.99 • Seniors (65+) $19.99
Children (6-11) $9.99 • Children (5 and Under) Free



## Oasis Bar & Grill
## New Year's Eve Party

Your Favorite Dance Music
Party Favors • Champagne Toast
Frist Come, First Seated

MCM Elegante

$10 per person cover charge
5PM - 2AM

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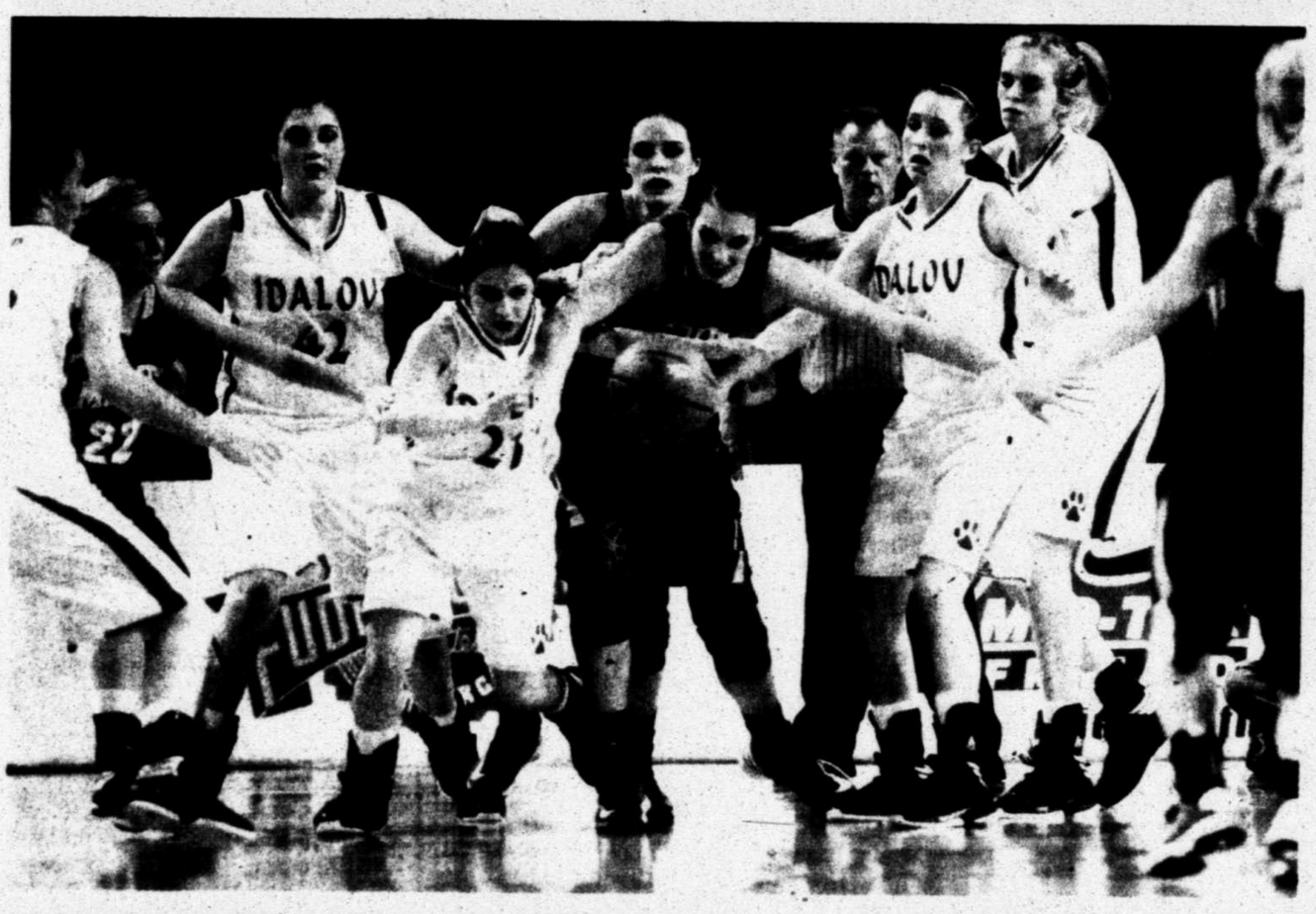
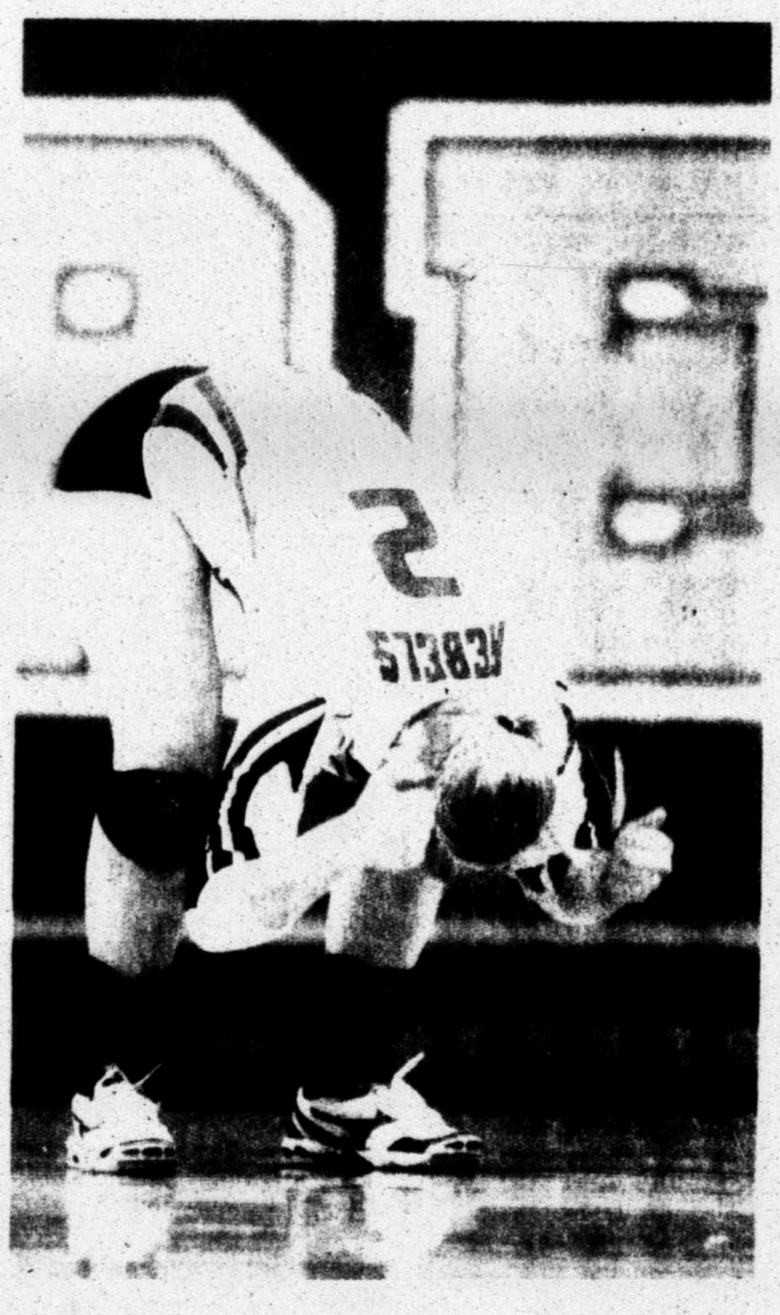
# YEAR IN PICTURES



## TOP PHOTOS OF 2013

*by James Durbin*





Dave Rossman/Houston Chronicle

Jack Blanton, left, and his wife, Virginia "Ginger" Nelson Blanton, pose at the Opportunity Ball at the Hilton Americas Hotel on Jan. 6,2012. Jack S. Blanton, a Houston oil magnate known for helping to transform one of the nation's largest philanthropic foundations into a billion-dollar operation, has died.

# Philanthropist, oil tycoon Jack S. Blanton dies at 86

*Associated Press*

HOUSTON — Jack S. Blanton, a Houston oil magnate known for helping to transform one of the nation's largest philanthropic foundations into a billion-dollar operation, has died. He was 86.

Blanton, who also served on several hospital and university boards in the Houston area, died of natural causes on Saturday at his vacation home in Galveston, according to his son-in-law, Peter Wareing.

"He was the absolute best, most loving person. He was generous," Wareing told The Associated Press.

Blanton may be best known for his role as chairman of the board of the Houston Endowment Inc. He was elected in 1990, and along with H. Joe Nelson III, Blanton led the modernization of what at the time was Texas' largest philanthropic foundation.

During his tenure, the size of the endowment nearly doubled — to about $1 billion. When Blanton stepped down in 2003, the endowment funded more than $75 million in grants for the arts, community enhancement, health, education and medicine.

"Texas lost a monumental figure with the passing of Jack Blanton. Jack's vision, passion and philanthropic giving helped reshape the landscape for education and art in Texas," Attorney General Greg Abbott said in a statement.

Born in Shreveport, La., Blanton received his undergraduate and law degrees at the University of Texas. He then started working at the Scurlock Oil Co. in Houston, where he served as chairman from 1983, when the company was sold to Ashland Oil, until his retirement in 1988. He was also president of Eddy Refining Co.

Blanton was a big supporter of his alma mater: The university's Blanton Museum of Art was named after him following a $12 million gift that the Houston Endowment made in his honor. Blanton also served on the Board of Regents from 1985 and 1991, chairing the panel between 1987 and 1989.

Blanton was "a tremendous leader and dedicated supporter of the University of Texas System," said Francisco Cigarroa, the system's chancellor.

He had also served as chairman of the Greater Houston Chamber of Commerce and served on the boards of the Houston Methodist Hospital, the Texas Medical Center, the Houston Zoo and the Jesse H. Jones School of Management at Rice University.

Blanton is survived by his three children, Elizabeth Blanton Wareing, Jack S. Blanton and Eddy S. Blanton, with whom he had with his first wife, Laura Lee Scurlock, who died in 1999. Blanton was also preceded in death by his second wife, Lucinda Bailey Blanton.

He is also survived by his wife, Virginia "Ginger" Nelson Blanton.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday in Houston.

# Notable gadgets in 2013 include camera phones

**By Anick Jesdanun**
*Associated Press*

■ REVIEW

NEW YORK — As I look back at the more than 100 tech products we reviewed in 2013, a handful of gadgets and services deserve a second look.

It's become clear that one brand rarely stands out any more in whatever product category you look at. Competition is more intense than ever, which means consumers have more choices than ever. That's why coming up with a "best of" list for 2013 proved difficult.

So instead of a comprehensive list, I'm highlighting five big trends. These are also areas where further innovations are likely in 2014, so stay tuned.

**BETTER CAMERA PHONES**

This was the first year I didn't mind leaving my point-and-shoot and full-bodied, SLR cameras at home. Camera phones have gotten good enough to stand in for those stand-alone cameras in many situations.

Of the ones I tried, Apple's iPhone 5S proved to be the best as an all-around camera. It's good at getting the auto-focus right, even for moving objects. A larger sensor and an improved flash compared with previous models mean better shots in low light.

An honorable mention goes to Nokia's Lumia 1020. It's consistently good at night and indoor shots. It combines the small amount of light from multiple pixels into one, resulting in better lighting. It also has manual controls typically absent from camera phones.

**PERSONALIZED TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

It used to be when you couldn't figure out how a product worked, you called your tech-savvy children. With Mayday on Amazon's new Kindle Fire HDX tablets, you no longer need to do that. Instead, just tap the Mayday button, and you'll be connected to a live customer service representative within seconds, even at 4 a.m. on a weekend.

Amazon's representatives can help you install apps, connect to Facebook or tackle anything else confounding you. You see them on the screen, but they can only hear you. They have a virtual orange marker to point you to buttons and menus on the screen. They also can take over your machine remotely and do it for you.

**SHACKLE-FREE PHONE PLANS**

The traditional way of buying phones: Pay $100 or $200 for a phone, and stay locked to your wireless carrier for two more years.

The new way: Buy or bring your own phone. Leave any time.

T-Mobile introduced that concept in March when it split the monthly phone bill into two parts — one for the device, and the other for the voice, text and data services. If you already have a device or have finished paying for it, your overall bill goes down. If you need a phone, you pay its full retail price, spread out into monthly installments. You're no longer getting a subsidy for signing a contract, but you're also not paying for it through a higher phone bill.

A few months later, T-Mobile introduced a program that lets you upgrade your phone up to twice a year, rather than every other year. The other national carriers followed with their own contract-free, frequent-upgrade plans. AT&T also lowered its service fees for voice, text and data for those who pay for phones separately. Sprint reduced those fees as well, but only temporarily.

**LAPTOPS WITH LONG-LASTING BATTERIES**

Most laptop owners no doubt have found themselves out of juice at the most inopportune times, whether in the middle of an important business meeting or the start of a super-long flight to Asia or Australia.

A new generation of processing chips from Intel makes that far less likely to happen. These chips, known as Haswell, are more efficient at using power. It's now possible to go a full waking day on a single charge, with some reasonable breaks for meals and exercise.

Expect to pay at least $1,000 for a Haswell laptop, though prices may start coming down in the new year.

**INTERNET TELEVISION**

A few friends and I dropped cable TV service this year. I saved more than $100 a month and used some of that to buy a new TV. You might be wondering: Huh?

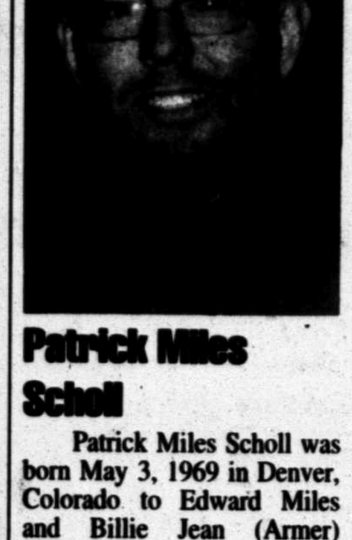
Several options are now available for watching television over the Internet. Watching on a computer or a tablet seems unsatisfactory.

With a streaming device such as Roku, Apple TV or Chromecast or a game console such as the PlayStation 4 or the Xbox One, you can project Internet video to the big screen. You'll need to subscribe to a handful of services such as Netflix or Hulu Plus.

The downside is you often need to wait at least a day for shows to become available online. That means avoiding spoilers on social networks. It's also a poor option for live sports. Major League Baseball has a great online service, but typically blocks hometown teams.

But it's money saved to buy the hot gadgets of 2014 — or tickets to a ballgame, plus beer and hot dogs.

# Obituaries



## Patrick Miles Scholl

Patrick Miles Scholl was born May 3, 1969 in Denver, Colorado to Edward Miles and Billie Jean (Armer) Scholl. He died Friday, December 27, 2013 in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 44 years.

Patrick was reared and educated in Houston, Texas and was a graduate of Cypress Creek High School Class of 1987. He continued his education attending Midland College (Texas).

He was married July 22, 1992 in Midland, Texas to Christine Watson. They had made their home in Owasso, Oklahoma since 1997.

Patrick spent most of his working life as a retail sales representative. He was a faithful member of Freedom Church in Owasso, where he was active in missions and service work. He enjoyed a variety of pastimes, especially bowling and had played in several bowling leagues. He also was very caring toward animals and was involved in animal rescue.

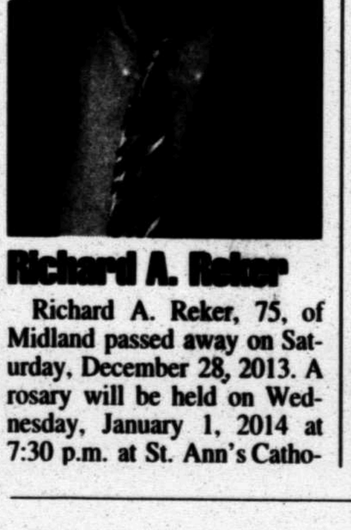
Loving family members include: his wife; Chris, of the home; father, Edward Scholl of San Antonio, Texas; brother, Michael Scholl and his wife Judy of San Antonio, Texas; three sisters; Janet Arnold and her husband Steve of San Antonio, Texas, Nancy Butler, of Midland, Texas, and Sherri Rotan and her husband Jonny of Midland, Texas; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Ronnie and Barbara Watson of Midland, Texas; brother-in-law, Matthew Watson and his wife Jamie of Rockwall, Texas; and many numerous nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Billie Jean Scholl, and brother-in-law, John Butler.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, December 30, 2013 at Mowery Funeral Service in Owasso. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31, 2013, at Freedom Church in Owasso with Pastor Brian Price officiating.

The family requests memorial contributions be made in Patrick's name to the Freedom Church Mission Fund, 9602 North 177th East Avenue, Owasso, Oklahoma, 74055.

Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso. www.moweryfs.com



## Richard A. Reker

Richard A. Reker, 75, of Midland passed away on Saturday, December 28, 2013. A rosary will be held on Wednesday, January 1, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church. Memorial services will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church with Monsignor Larry Droll officiating.

Richard was born on April 27, 1938 to Caroline and Charles Reker in Jasper, Indiana. Richard grew up in Jasper and graduated from Jasper High School in 1956 and then Lockyear Business College. Richard married the love of his life, Suzanna Orth, on September 5, 1959 in Indiana. He worked at RK Petroleum as an accountant in Illinois and then transferred to Midland, Texas in 1978.

Richard was a very patient man. He provided the best life for his family, not only financially but spiritually as well. Richard taught his family about having faith, as well as how to walk by faith and not by sight. The most important thing in life for Richard was spending time with his family, and most of all his grandchildren. Richard was their biggest supporter. He never missed any of their extracurricular activities.

Richard was in the Knights of Columbus 3071 Midland Council, the Share & Care Group at St. Ann's Catholic Church for over 20 years, and he served on the St. Ann's Parish Educational Endowment Board.

Survivors include his wife, Suzanna Reker; son, Keith and wife Donna Reker; son, Karl and wife Wendy Reker; daughter-in-law, Kelli Reker; seven grandchildren, Charles Reker (Jennifer), Steven Reker, Emily Edwards (Kelton), Adam Reker, Braxton Reker, Delaney Reker, Preston Reker; and by one great-grandchild, Jack Reker.

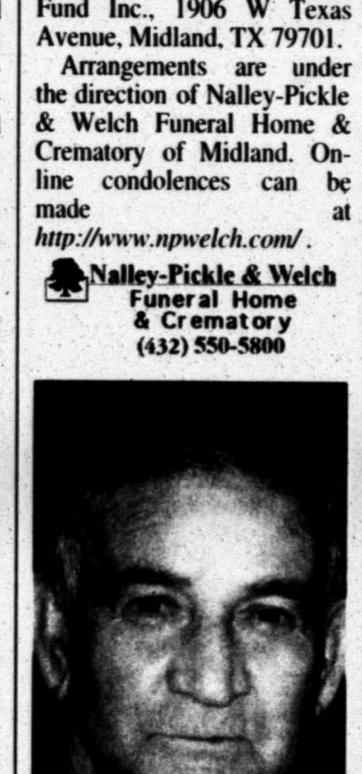
He was preceded in death by his son, Kevin Reker.

The family would like to thank all of the CCU Nurses and Respiratory Therapists at Midland Memorial Hospital for all of their services.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be donated to St. Ann's Parish Educational Endowment Fund Inc., 1906 W Texas Avenue, Midland, TX 79701.

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

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



## W.C. "Dub" Carlton

W.C. "Dub" Carlton passed away on December 27, 2013 in Chandler, Arizona. He was born in Post, Texas on May 7, 1929 to Lonnie and Della Brooks Carlton.

W.C. joined the Armed Forces in 1950 and was stationed in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In 1952, he moved to Midland, Texas and joined the local electrical union. In 1978, he started Carlton Electric in Midland. After a move to Chandler, Arizona in 1994, he continued in the electrical trade with two of his sons..

W.C. enjoyed family activities, especially hunting and fishing with his sons. He took great pride in all of his grandchildren and loved his church and numerous friends. "Dub" was a loving, caring man and the world will not be the same without him.

He is survived by his children; Nick Carlton (Deb Pierce) of Midland, Texas, Greg Carlton (Jeanie) of Tempe, Arizona, Robby Carlton (Deanna) of Tempe, Arizona and Tammy Cullumber (Jeff) of Chandler, Arizona; grandchildren, Jason, Patrick, Cody and Kelsey; four great-grandchildren, Morgan, Gavin, Grant and Tanner and six great-great-grandchildren. W.C. was preceded in death by his dear wife of 48 years, Laquetta Carlton.

A visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 2, 2014 at Bueler Chandler Mortuary, 14 W. Hulet Dr., Chandler, Arizona 85225.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, January 3, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at Chandler First Church of the Nazarene, 310 N. Hartford St., Chandler, Arizona 85225.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions in "Dub's" name to Hospice of the Valley or Chandler First Church of the Nazarene Building Fund.

# Death Notices

## Vincent James Pashilk

Vincent James Pashilk, 58, died on December 27, 2013.

He is survived by four children, Courtney Leigh Pashilk, Kate Marie Butterfield, Julia Rose Pashilk, and Thomas Emerson Pashilk.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, January 3, 2014 at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Midland, Texas at 10:00 a.m.

## Gerald R. McCann

Gerald R. McCann, 76, of Midland, passed away on December 30, 2013 at a local hospital. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland.

## Jeanie Brashers

Jeanie Brashers, 74, of Odessa passed away December 28, 2013 at her residence under the care of Compass Hospice. She was born in Merkel, Texas to James William and Desta Josephine (Davis) Gregory on May 22, 1939.

She is survived by her son, Gregory Joe Brashers, of Nashville, TN; daughters, Judy Hurst, Sharla Hicks, Beverly Hendricks and Dana Bates, all of Odessa; sisters, Charlene Vinson of Hawley TX, Janice Farnes of Abilene, TX; eleven grandchildren; thirteen great grandchildren.

Funeral service will be Tuesday, December 31, 2013, 2:00 p.m. at American Heritage Cemetery and Funeral Home with Owen Sharp officiating.

## Pete Garvi

Pete Garvi, 88, died at Hospice House on December 28, 2013.

He is survived by his wife, Bette; and two daughters, Joellen Ball and Trina Roper.

Funeral service will be held at American Heritage Cemetery and Funeral Home on December 31, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. with burial immediately following.

mywesttexas.com

*Questions about death notices or online Guest Books? Email to obits@mrt.com*

# Country legend Ray Price remembered

*Associated Press*

RICHARDSON — Country music legend Ray Price has been memorialized in North Texas following his death.

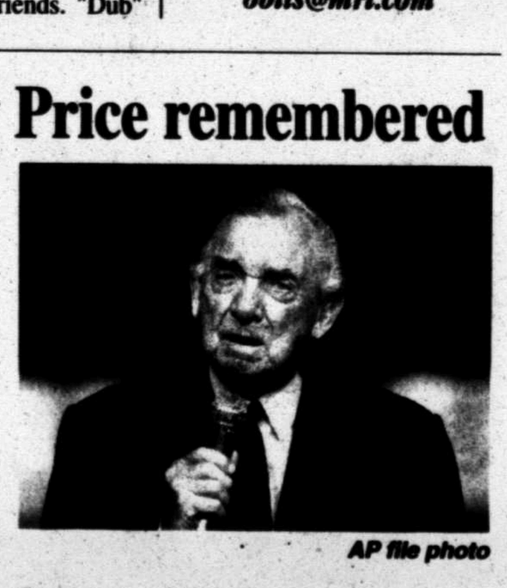
Hundreds of his fans and friends gathered Saturday in the Dallas suburb of Richardson for a public memorial service.

Price died Dec. 16 at his home in Mount Pleasant after battling pancreatic cancer. He was 87.

The Country Music Hall of Famer inspired and worked with the genre's biggest stars and had more than 100 hits himself.

One fan, Janie Fricke, told WFAA-TV that she considered Price's voice to be "magical," and that no singer was as unique as he was.

Fort Worth DJ Bill Mack told attendees that Price had finished a record just before his death — and that he had never sounded better.



AP file photo

Country Music Hall of Fame member and Grammy Award winner Ray Price celebrates his 86th birthday Jan. 11, 2011, by performing in Bullard. Price was one of country music's most popular and influential singers and bandleaders. He had more than 100 hits and was one of the last living connections to Hank Williams. He died Dec. 16 at age 87.

# The most memorable characters of 2013

*From Newsday (MCT)*

## MOVIES

Some of the year's best movies took us to places we probably never thought we'd go, and our guides often were figures from real life. In each case, they offered new ways to bring us into stories that, initially, seemed all too familiar.

**Ron Woodroof, "Dallas Buyers Club":** In this movie, set against the AIDS crisis of the mid-1980s, our hero is — surprisingly — not a gay man but a virulent homophobe. His diagnosis with the "gay disease" is a bitter irony, but Woodroof (a ferociously good Matthew McConaughey, 40 pounds lighter and twice the actor he's ever been) eventually becomes a champion of the local AIDS community.

**Richard Phillips and Muse, "Captain Phillips":** Paul Greengrass' movie about a cargo vessel attacked by Somali pirates in 2009 upended a few stereotypes, as well. Richard Phillips isn't a square-jawed action figure but a working-class merchant marine played by a vulnerable and deeply empathetic Tom Hanks. Likewise, his captors aren't fanatical anti-Americans — they're desperately poor fishermen (led by Barkhad Abdi as Muse) ruled by corrupt warlords. There is no ideology here, no us versus them. This is a battle between two lower classes, the have-somes and the have-nothings, and its backdrop is a troublingly skewed global economy.

**Solomon Northup, "12 Years a Slave":** We see the insanity of the pre-Civil War South through the eyes of Northup, who was not born into slavery but kidnapped into it. That's an important distinction. This movie doesn't just ask us to empathize with its enslaved hero; it allows us to truly identify with him.

*Rafer Guzman*

## POP MUSIC

**Miley Cyrus:** She used the oldest tricks in the pop star playbook to grab attention for her new album, "Bangerz" — shock and awe — and America fell for it all hook, line and twerker. Sex sells records! Who knew?

The overblown reaction to her sexed-up performance at the MTV Video Music Awards surprised even Cyrus, who thought the whole thing was hilarious. "How many times have we seen this play out in pop music?" she told MTV later. "It's a strategic hot mess. ... If I wanted to do an actual sex show, I wouldn't have been dressed as a damn bear."

**Kanye West: Praise Yeezus.** Though nearly everything with West (and fiancée Kim Kardashian) makes news now, he really does remain focused on creating things — music, fashion, performance art, controversy.

West's take-no-prisoners approach to life works well in music. His boasting, his complaining, his personal revelations — it's all captivating when done in his rhymes, especially when accompanied by the first-rate sound collages of his album "Yeezus" and in his first-rate live show. I

All of his pronouncements are not quite as effective, or entertaining, when they come in real life. But maybe he'll get to a point where that won't need to happen anymore.

**Justin Timberlake:** For his first album in seven years, "The 20/20 Experience," Timberlake didn't leave anything to chance. Everything about it was meticulously planned, from the collaborations with Jay Z that resulted in a pair of hits and a sold-out stadium tour to strategic partnerships with Target and Bud Light that helped maximize his exposure, along with a much-ballyhooed, though short, reunion with 'N Sync. He augmented his plans with movie roles in "Runner, Runner" and "Inside Llewyn Davis."

It was, with apologies to Jay Z, the blueprint for how future superstars are going to roll out their projects. And he was rewarded with the biggest opening week of the year, with 968,000 copies sold and nearly 3 million in sales of both parts of "Experience."

*Glenn Gamboa*

## TV

**Walter White, "Breaking Bad":** Even though it has become a TV classic for the ages, Bryan Cranston's portrayal of a Walter Mitty-turned-Public Enemy No. 1 didn't really turn into a cultural phenomenon until the final season. But what new fans discovered was what veteran Walter White watchers had known all along: Their man wasn't so easy to pin down. Good, bad? ... hero, anti-hero? He seemed to pivot around some core value, but locating that core was the hard part, even if Walter liked to say that he did it "all" for his family.

**Bob Benson, "Mad Men":** Speaking of mysteries, "Who is Bob Benson?" became one of the favorite guessing games of "Mad Men's" sixth season. The sexual orientation of James Wolk's character was one matter, but he otherwise seemed to be anyone you wanted him to be — a spy, a journalist, perhaps an assassin. Who knew? He was good at small talk in the corridors of Sterling Cooper Draper Pryce, good at blending in, good at offering a helping hand — or coffee.

**Sarah Manning, "Orphan Black":** Sarah Manning is waiting for a train, when a dead ringer for Sarah, also on the train platform, commits suicide right in front of her. Shocked at first, then the thought occurs to Sarah — why not steal the dead woman's pocketbook? A grifter and small-time con, she grabs the bag and off she goes into a brand-new life, for Sarah decides to go one step further and steal the dead woman's identity, too. There are other Sarah clones out there — 10 or so at last count — and Tatiana Maslany, in a tour de force, plays them all.

*Verne Gay*

## BOOKS

**Jonny, from "The Love Song of Jonny Valentine," by Teddy Wayne:** Told from the perspective of an 11-year-old triple-platinum pop star modeled on Justin Bieber (right down to the haircut), "The Love Song of Jonny Valentine" is a canny satire of the entertainment industry, as well as a convincing, haunting look inside child stardom.

**Boris, from "The Goldfinch," by Donna Tartt:** The greatest fun in "The Goldfinch" is provided by an unsupervised 15-year-old baddie named Boris Pavlikovsky, Russian by way of Australia, who befriends the narrator in the surreal, sunstruck Las Vegas suburbs where they have landed in mid-adolescence. Boris will take "Potter," as he calls the bespectacled narrator, under his wing and initiate him into alcohol, drugs and the truest of friendships, founded on endless afternoons of pizza, petty crime and philosophical speculation. Boris understands Theo as no one else does, and saves him when no one else can, chattering nonstop in a hilarious patois of Russian-flavored English.

**John Brown, from "The Good Lord Bird," by James McBride:** James McBride's portrait of the fanatical 19th-century abolitionist John Brown is an inspired literary rehabilitation, taking a man who was very likely a dour, chilling vigilante and turning him into a crazy roisterer for Jesus, a charismatic maniac who might have stepped out of a Mark Twain novel or a Coen brothers film. The key to the portrayal is that we see Brown through the eyes of an 11-year-old slave freed in one of Brown's raids through no fault or wish of his own. "Onion," as Brown nicknames him, tells us things about Brown that history just cannot. "The Old Man was always broke and delayed in everything ... I sometimes reckon that Old John Brown wouldn't have started no trouble at all if he didn't have to feed so many people all the time." See — he's just like us!

*Marion Winik*

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## TUESDAY PRIME TIME — DECEMBER 31, 2013

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

| | | | | | | 6 PM | 6:30 | 7 PM | 7:30 | 8 PM | 8:30 | 9 PM | 9:30 | 10 PM | 10:30 | 11 PM | 11:30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| KMID ABC | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | Jeopardy! | Wheel of Fortune | New Year's Eve The top 30 female artists in music. (N) | | | | Rock New Year's Eve (N) | | Paid Program | New Year's Eve The countdown to midnight continues. (N) | | |
| KOSA CBS | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 News | Ent. Tonight | NCIS "Hit and Run" | | NCIS: Los Angeles "Parley" | | Person of Interest "Prisoner's Dilemma" | | CBS 7 News | (:35) David Letterman Connie Britton | | (:35) Late Late |
| KWWT CW | 5 | 14 | | 5 | 14 | Seinfeld | Rules "Cupcake" | iHeartRadio Concert extravaganza with the industry's biggest names. Pt. 2 of 2 from Dec 30 | | | | Rules of Engage. | Seinfeld "The Visa" | Commu-nity | Commu-nity | That '70s Show | '70s "Pilot" |
| KPEJ FOX | 8 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 3 | Big Bang Theory | Big Bang Theory | Dads | Brooklyn 99 | New Girl | Mindy Project | Modern Family | Modern Family | The Arsenio Hall Show | | Fox New Year's Eve Special | |
| KMLM IND | 11 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 11 | Doorways to Wisdom | | Update News | BAS Presents | Light of the Southwest | | | | Exploring With the Scholars | | Ministerios Nueva Vida | |
| KWES NBC | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | NewsWest 9 at 6 p.m. | | NBC Special "Year End News in Review" (N) | | | | New Year's Eve With Carson Daly (N) | | News-West 9 | (:35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno | | (:35) LateNight |
| KPBT PBS | 13 | 13 | | 13 | 8 | PBS NewsHour | | Lincoln "New York Philharmonic Gala With Yo-Yo Ma" (N) | | | Downt-onAbbey | Frontline "From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians" | | | | BBC News | Tavis Smiley |
| KUPB UNI | 4 | 4 | | 4 | 16 | (:55) Premios Juventud | | | | | | (:55) ¡Feliz 2014! | | | | | |
| KOSA MNT | 16 | 16 | | 16 | | Fam.Feud | Million.. | Bones | | Bones | | My News | Million.. | 30 Rock | Sunny | Access H. | OMG! |
| FLIX | 340 | 65 | | 165 | | (5:15) Heathers | | ★★★ The Frighteners Michael J. Fox. | | | | ★ Halloween: Resurrection | | | ★★ Phantoms Peter O'Toole. | | |
| HBO | 300 | 68 | 14 | 14 | | (5:00) Jack the Gi... | | ★★★★ Warm Bodies | | | 1stLook | 24/7 | | Treme | | (:15) Ja'mie | (:45) Girls |
| HBO2 | 302 | 69 | 15 | 101 | 23 | (5:00) Dark Shado... | | True Blood | | True Blood "The Sun" | | True Blood | | True Blood "At Last" | | True Blood | |
| HBOS | 304 | 70 | 16 | 102 | | (5:45) Treme | | The Newsroom | | The Newsroom | | The Newsroom | | The Newsroom | | The Newsroom | |
| MAX | 380 | 71 | 17 | 120 | 24 | (5:00) Safe House | | ★★★★ Argo ('12, Thril) Ben Affleck. | | | | ★★ New Year's Eve Sarah Jessica Parker. | | | | Guide | Lingerie |
| MAX2 | 382 | 72 | 18 | 122 | | (5:00) Gangster S... | | Banshee "Pilot" | | Banshee "The Rave" | | Banshee | (:50) Banshee | | (:50) Banshee | | Banshee |
| PLEX | | | 96 | | | Movie | American Bandits: Frank & J... | | | ★★ Fools Rush In | | | (:50) ★★ Three Can Play That Game | | | | Movie |
| SHOW | 320 | 66 | 19 | 140 | 25 | Movie | (:25) The Rolling Stones | | | Richard Pryor: Omit the L... | | F#ck Nick Cannon | | | | (:05) Katt Williams | |
| TMC | 336 | 67 | 22 | 155 | 26 | (5:10) John Dies at... | | The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Pa... | | | | Storage 24 Noel Clarke. | | | The Ward Amber Heard. | | |
| A&E | 27 | 32 | 28 | 35 | 47 | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars | Storage Wars |
| AMC | 40 | 21 | 23 | 42 | 51 | Dead "Cherokee Rose" | | Dead "Chupacabra" | | Dead "Secrets" | | The Walking Dead | | Dead "Nebraska" | | Dead "Triggerfinger" | |
| BET | 58 | 26 | | 40 | | Top 100 Videos of 2013 | | | | Top 100 Videos of 2013 | | | | New Year's Eve 2013 | | | |
| BRAVO | 65 | 63 | | 41 | | (5:00) To Be Announced | | | | | | | | | | To Be Announced | |
| CNBC | 46 | 45 | | 39 | 72 | The Kudlow Report | | Marijuana Inc | | Marijuana USA | | Mexico's Drug War | | Mad Money | | Porn: Business | |
| CNN | 43 | 24 | 51 | 30 | 56 | OutFront | | A. Cooper 360 | | Piers Morgan Live | | AC360 Later | | OutFront | | Piers Morgan Live | |
| DISC | 50 | 20 | 31 | 24 | 42 | Moonshiners | | Moonshiners | | Moonshiners (N) | | After the Gush (N) | | Moonshiners | | Backyard Oil: After | |
| DISNEY | 56 | 27 | 36 | 25 | 36 | A.N.T. | Jessie | Austin | ★★★★ Up Edward Asner. | | | (:15) ★★★★ WALL-E ('08, Ani) Ben Burtt. | | | | GoodLuck | GoodLuck |
| ESPN | 32 | 29 | 48 | 31 | 30 | Football | C. Football | NCAA Football Chick-Fil-A Bowl Duke vs. Texas A&M Site: Georgia Dome (L) | | | | | | | SportsCenter | | |
| ESPN2 | 34 | 28 | 49 | 32 | 31 | NCAA Basketball Memphis vs. South Florida (L) | | | | NCAA Basketball Connecticut vs. Houston (L) | | | | SportsC. | SportsNation | | SportNat |
| FAMILY | 53 | 54 | 34 | 42 | 33 | (5:00) Charlie & the Chocola... | | | ★★ Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory | | | | | The 700 Club | | Fresh P. | Fresh P. |
| FNC | 45 | 58 | 53 | 23 | 55 | On the Record | | The O'Reilly Factor | | The Kelly File | | Hannity | | The O'Reilly Factor | | The Kelly File | |
| FOOD | 64 | 59 | 27 | 68 | 54 | Chopped: All Stars | | Chopped: All Stars | | Chopped: All Stars | | Chopped: All Stars | | Diners... | Diners... | Chopped: All Stars | |
| FSSW | 37 | 43 | 50 | 45 | 29 | (4:30) Basketb. | Stars Pre-game (L) | NHL Hockey Los Angeles Kings vs. Dallas Stars Site: American Airlines Center -- Dallas, Texas (L) | | | | | Stars Live (L) | Stars Inside (N) | SportsD-ay OnAir | Inside Baylor Sports "Fiesta Bowl Preview" | |
| FX | 31 | 31 | 59 | 64 | 69 | 2½Men | Two 1/2... | ★★★ Avatar (2009, Fantasy) Sam Worthington, Giovanni Ribisi, Zoe Saldana. | | | | | | | ★★★ Battle Los Angeles | | |
| HALLMARK | 54 | 49 | 58 | | 34 | (5:00) The Most ... | | Let It Snow Candace Cameron Bure. | | | | Debbie Macomber's Trading Christmas | | | | The Christmas P... | |
| HGTV | 63 | 50 | 26 | 48 | 44 | House | House | HouseH | HouseH | HouseH | HouseH | HouseH | HouseH | HouseH | HouseH | HouseH | HouseH |
| HISTORY | 71 | 62 | 29 | 50 | 43 | Counting | CountCars | Counting | Counting | Counting | Counting | Counting | Counting | Restore | Restore | Counting | Counting |
| LIFETIME | 28 | 25 | 25 | 28 | 48 | (5:00) ★★★ Hope Floats Sandra Bullock. | | ★★ Georgia Rule (2007, Comedy) Jane Fonda, Lindsay Lohan, Felicity Huffman. | | | | ★★★ A Walk to Remember ('02, Rom) Shane West, Daryl Hannah, Mandy Moore. | | | | ★★ Georgia Rule Felicity Huffman. | |
| MSNBC | 47 | 51 | | 49 | 73 | Hardball | | All in With C. Hayes | | Rachel Maddow | | The Last Word | | All in With C. Hayes | | Rachel Maddow | |
| NBCSN | 38 | 39 | | | | NHLLive | To Be Announced | | | | | NHL Live! | Rivals | NHLTop10 | To Be Announced | | |
| NICK | 55 | 34 | 39 | 34 | 37 | Ninja | RabbidsInv | SanjayCr | Sam, Cat | Hathaway | Thunder. | See Dad | Inst.Mom | TeenNick Top 10 | | Friends | Friends |
| SPIKE | 30 | 22 | 55 | 53 | 58 | Cops | Cops | Cops | Cops | Cops | Cops | Cops | Cops | Cops | Cops | Cops | Jail |
| SYFY | 66 | 64 | 41 | 57 | 67 | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight | Twilight |
| TBS | 25 | 11 | 44 | 66 | 41 | Seinfeld | Family Guy | Family Guy | Family Guy | Big Bang Theory | Big Bang Theory | Big Bang Theory | Big Bang Theory | Conan Deepak Chopra, Aziz Ansari | | Office "Niagara" | Conan |
| TCM | 41 | 61 | 24 | 63 | 66 | (5:30) Viva Las V... | | ★★★ That's Entertainment! Frank Sinatra. | | | | ★★★★ That's Entertainment! II | | | | | Movie |
| TELE | 20 | 8 | 10 | 20 | | ★★★ El señor doctor Mario Moreno. | | | | ★★ El Patrullero 777 Cantinflas. | | | | Al rojo | (:35) Titular. | Decisiones | |
| TLC | 51 | 33 | 32 | 38 | 52 | Honey B. "Safety!" | Honey Boo Boo | Honey Boo Boo | Honey Boo Boo | Honey Boo Boo | Honey Boo Boo | Here Comes Honey "Happily Ever After?" | | Honey Boo Boo | Honey Boo Boo | Here Comes Honey "Happily Ever After?" | |
| TNT | 24 | 23 | 40 | 26 | 50 | (5:15) ★★★ Transformers (2007, Action) Megan Fox, Josh Duhamel, Shia LeBoeuf. | | | | Boston's Finest "No More Bullets" | | Marshal Law: Texas "The Hunt Begins" | | B. Finest "Fighting for the Truth" | | Marshal Law: Texas "Home Invaders" | |
| TVLAND | 49 | 48 | 35 | 54 | 35 | Griffith | A. Griffith | Griffith | Griffith | Loves Ray | Loves Ray | Loves Ray | Loves Ray | Kirstie | The Exes | Queens | Queens |
| USA | 26 | 30 | 42 | 27 | 49 | Law & Order: S.V.U. "Undercover Blue" | | Modern Family | Modern Family | Modern "Hawaii" | Modern Family | Modern Family | Modern Family | Modern Family | Modern Family | Modern "The Kiss" | Modern "Benched" |
| WGN | 19 | 18 | | | | America's Funniest Home Videos | | Met Your Mother | Met Your Mother | Met Your Mother | Met Your Mother | WGN News | | Met Your Mother | Rules of Engage. | Rules of Engage. | Parks and Rec |

# Bruce Dern, Garth Brooks among biggest comebacks of 2013

*From Newsday (MCT)*

## MOVIES

**Bruce Dern:** After 50 years of supporting roles, this familiar character actor is suddenly an A-list star. For his performance as an aging father in Alexander Payne's "Nebraska," Dern won best actor at Cannes and has been strolling various red carpets ever since."

**Jared Leto:** The actor-rocker has recently turned down roles to focus on his band, Thirty Seconds to Mars. This year, however, he returned to the screen in a big way with "Dallas Buyers Club." Leto's portrayal of Rayon, a transgender woman living with AIDS during the mid-1980s, is rightly being hailed as one of the year's best performances.

**Robert Redford:** The 77-year-old didn't just carry a movie this year, he did so single-handedly: He's the only actor in "All Is Lost," a drama about a sailor stranded in the Indian Ocean. The result has been glowing reviews and strong Oscar buzz.

*Rafer Guzmán*

## MUSIC

**David Bowie:** Everything about Bowie's impressive year was done in secret. His album "The Next Day," his first in a decade, was recorded in private, hush-hush sessions and released with little warning and no fanfare.

**Garth Brooks:** He is certainly a man of his word. Brooks announced in 2001 that he was going to put music on hold to raise his daughters after he divorced their mom. With his youngest daughter set to graduate from high school, Brooks is ready to return to music. He unveiled his well-crafted one-man show, "Blame It All on My Roots," in Las Vegas and in a CBS special, as well as a new boxed set.

*Glenn Gamboas*

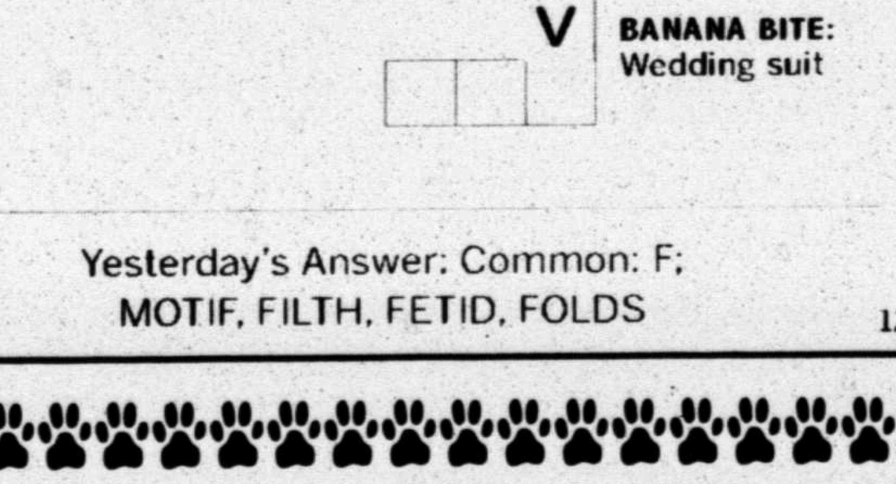
## BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL ____

Use the 15 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. To get you started, a few tiles from the bunch have been placed. The BANANA BITES provide hints. Reuse the tiles for each grid.

A E D T U V E
C F O A E X U Z

**BANANA BITE:** Long-standing fight




**BANANA BITE:** Wedding suit

Yesterday's Answer: Common: F;
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The Midland Humane Coalition would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Aubrey is an energetic and beautiful 1 year old Boxer mix. She would benefit from a family who would love on her and spend lots of time playing with her.

Solo [illegible]

A Big Thank You To Brown's Permian Electric For All Of Their Generosity.

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# Associated Press critics pick the year's best video games

**By Lou Keston and Derrik J. Lang**
*Associated Press*

The top 10 video games of 2013, according to Lou Kesten:

1. "BioShock Infinite" (Irrational Games, for the PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC): The latest adventure from provocateur Ken Levine asks tough questions about the bloody path of American history. And it doesn't provide easy answers — indeed, the more you learn about its setting, the flying city of Columbia, the loopier it gets. No other game this year bent my brain as much.

2. "Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag" (Ubisoft Montreal, for the PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Wii U, Xbox 360, Xbox One, PC): Stealth and sword-play have always been at the core of this series, but "Black Flag" adds a stirring new element: engrossing sea battles, as you and the crew of your pirate ship romp across the Caribbean of the 1730s.

3. "Ni no Kuni: Wrath of the White Witch" (Studio Ghibli and Level-5, for the PlayStation 3): The Japanese studios behind movies like "Spirited Away" and games like "Dragon Quest" collaborated on this sprawling epic about a kid transported to an alternate universe. It provides all the pleasures of a deep role-playing game with the charm and humor of great anime.

4. "Tomb Raider" (Crystal Dynamics, for the PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC): Video-game icon Lara Croft gets an origin story, as the ship-wrecked heroine fights for survival on an island full of goons. As teenage Lara evolves from helpless to deadly, you can't help but think this kid's got a bright future.

5. "The Last of Us" (Naughty Dog, for the PlayStation 3): This journey across a post-apocalyptic United States presents one nerve-racking confrontation after another — but it will be best remembered for the smartly written, subtly acted relationship between its protagonists, a bitter survivor and the lively young girl he's sworn to protect.

6. "Gone Home" (The Fullbright Company, for PC): Remember that feeling of returning to your childhood home only to realize you don't really know anyone who lives there? That's the mood captured by this sweet, sad yet hopeful mystery, told entirely through the things a family has left behind.

7. "Device 6" (Simogo, for iOS): This witty mystery reminded me of the classic text adventures of the 1980s — except now, you have to rotate your iPad to follow along. The elegant design, with just a smattering of pictures and music, makes the creepy story all the more effective.

8. "The Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds" (Nintendo, for the Nintendo 3DS): Nintendo opens up the magical land of Hyrule — and its darker twin, Lorule — with a looser storyline that invites more exploration. It's the most challenging "Zelda" in years, and the most rewarding.

9. "Peggle 2" (PopCap Games, for Xbox One): The killer app for Microsoft's new Xbox One turns out to be ... a juiced-up pachinko game. But fans of the original will get exactly what they were hoping for: a game so addictive that, even after bouncing through 120 new levels, you want more.

10. "Final Fantasy XIV: A Realm Reborn" (Square Enix, for PlayStation 3, PC): This massively multiplayer online game was so poorly received in 2010 that its publisher pulled the plug and rebuilt it from the ground up. The result is nearly a miracle: a lush online world so compelling that even anti-social gamers can enjoy it.

The top 10 video games of 2013, according to AP Entertainment Writer Derrik J. Lang:

1. "BioShock Infinite" (Irrational Games, for the PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC): A breathtaking journey to a kingdom in the clouds, "Infinite" is equally as wondrous as it is thought-provoking. A first-person shooter that philosophizes about such topics as racism, nationalism, religion and fate shouldn't work, but this imaginative piece of fiction does on every level.

2. "Grand Theft Auto V" (Rockstar Games, for the PlayStation 3, Xbox 360): Los Santos, the cheeky rendition of Los Angeles, depicted in "GTA V" is a crowning achievement in virtual world construction — an explosive, fully realized, sin-filled, self-loathing playground for the game's trio of despicable anti-heroes to do their bidding. The heists are really, really fun, too.

3. "The Last of Us" (Naughty Dog, for the PlayStation 3): Who knew the end of the world could look so good? This sweeping survival epic's visually stunning rendition of post-apocalyptic America and its completely unique take on zombies is enhanced even further by intricate performances from Troy Baker and Ashley Johnson as unlikely travel companions.

4. "Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag" (Ubisoft Montreal, for the PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Wii U, Xbox 360, Xbox One, PC): After last year's sleepy Colonial America-set installment, "Assassin's Creed" refreshingly plunged into pirate politics with this entry, proving the aging historical stealth series still has new tricks up its sleeves, besides just a pair of hidden blades.

5. "Tomb Raider" (Crystal Dynamics, for the PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC): Lara Croft, shipwrecked and stripped of everything, transcends her status as merely a busty video-game vixen in this intense origin story. Her harrowing expedition across the lethal Yamatai island is grueling, desperate and exactly what the character — and gamers — needed.

6. "The Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds" (Nintendo, for the Nintendo 3DS): A few daring innovations on the long-running "Legend of Zelda" formula resulted in one of the most captivating adventures starring everyone's favorite elfy hero, Link. His ability to pop on and off walls added a new depth to the puzzles, and made a serious case for playing in 3D.

7. "Gone Home" (The Fullbright Company, for PC): There just aren't enough games as emotionally gripping — or as beautifully ordinary — as this voyeuristic coming-of-age story that casts players as a college student who's returned to her family's empty house after traveling abroad. "Gone Home" is more than just a mystery set in the 1990s. It's interactive poetry.

8. "Animal Crossing: New Leaf" (Nintendo, for the Nintendo 3DS): Realistic. Thoughtful. Edgy. Stressful. Those words do not at all describe "New Leaf," an unabashedly silly town simulator that turned out to be a relaxing, fantastical treat — and a digital reminder of how simple acts like catching up with neighbors and plucking apples from trees can be oh-so-rewarding.

9. "Papers, Please" (3909 LLC, for PC): It sounds like the worst idea for a game ever: play as a paper-pushing immigration inspector tasked with approving or denying folks entry into an oppressive country. Yet indie designer Lucas Pope crafted a provocative, pixelated tour de force with his "dystopian document thriller" where morality and gameplay collide.

10. "Disney Infinity" (Avalanche Software, for the PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, Wii, Wii U, Nintendo 3DS): Taking a cue from "Skylanders" and "Minecraft," Mickey Mouse and his cartoon militia daringly marched onto the toys-meets-games battlefield and triumphed by inspiring the imaginations of young and old with a deft combination of physical and virtual playthings.

*What were your favorite games of 2013? Share them on Twitter with Lou Kesten: http://twitter.com/lkesten and Derrik J. Lang: http://twitter.com/derrikjlang*


IMPROV AT THE YUCCA

Thursday, January 9th, 2014 at 8 PM

Join us January 9th at the Historic Yucca Theatre for our inaugural "Thirsty Thursday" event when we make lowbrow comedy and cheap booze a monthly part of your life.

(Due to the adult nature, Improv at the Yucca is recommended for mature audiences only)!

The Yucca is located in Downtown Midland 208 Colorado Ave.
Doors opens on Thursday at 7PM and the show starts at 8 PM

Ticket go on sale January 1st. Don't miss this ridiculously entertaining event!
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TODAY: Sunny High: 58 Low: 35

WEDNESDAY: Mostly sunny High: 65 Low: 32

THURSDAY: Sunny High: 61 Low: 31

## Local forecast

Expect sunny skies today with a high around 58 and light and variable winds becoming southwest between 10 and 15 mph in the afternoon. Tonight's forecast calls for mostly clear conditions with a low around 35 and south winds around 10 mph.

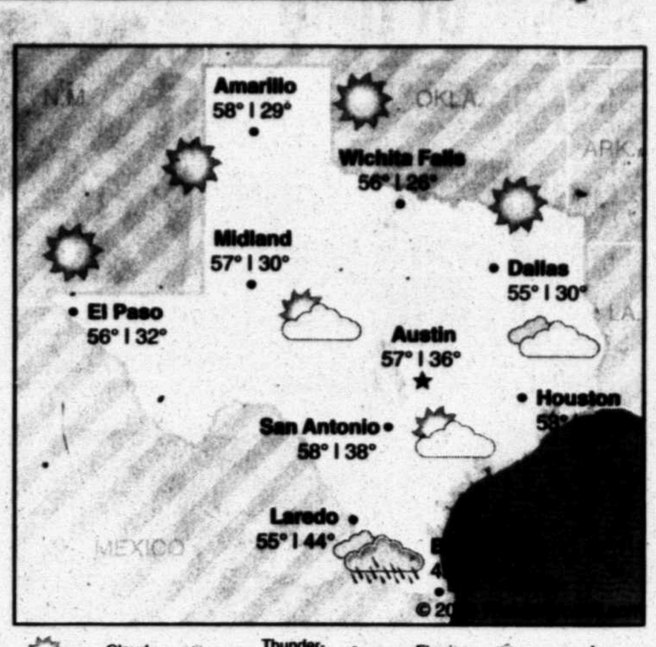
Wednesday, look for mostly sunny skies with a high around 65 and southwest winds between 5 and 10 mph becoming north in the afternoon. Expect partly cloudy conditions at night, with a low around 32 and northeast winds between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday, the forecast calls for sunny skies during the day, partly cloudy skies at night, with a high around 51 and a low around 31.

The high on Monday reached 60, while the low dropped to 25. The record high for Dec. 30 is 82 set in 1951. The record low is 12 set in 1983.

## National forecast

Frigid air will continue to hold in much of the North Central states today. A series of arctic high-pressure areas is forecast to continue to slide south from Canada and brush the northern tier of the nation into the weekend.




**Precipitation**

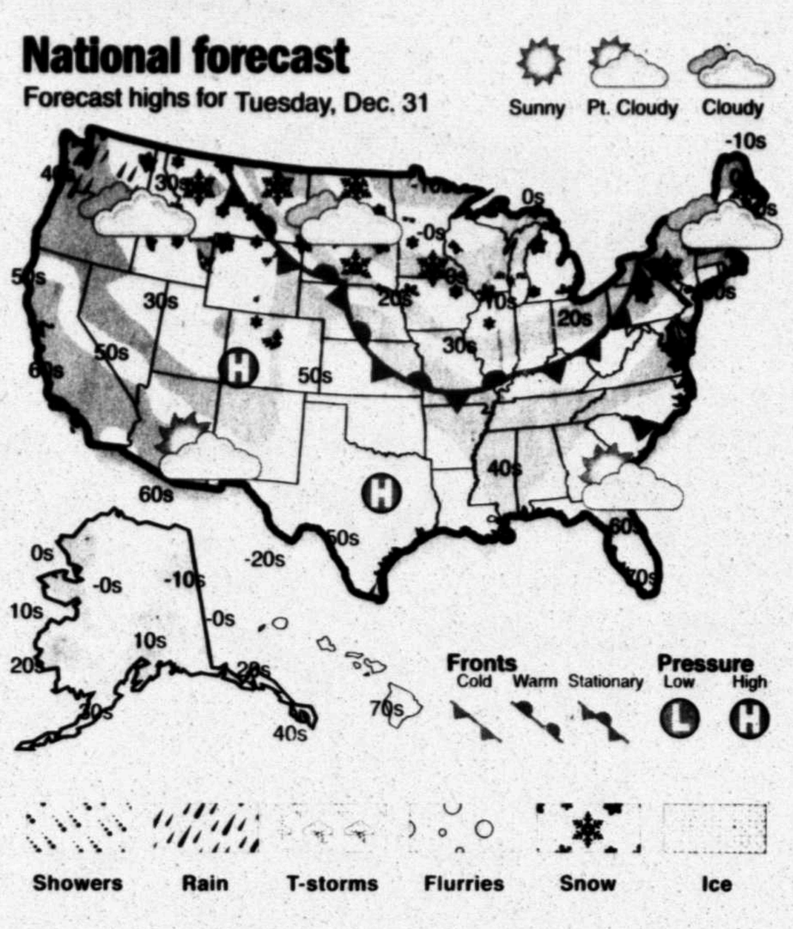
| | |
|---|---|
| Sunday | 0.00 in. |
| Monday | 0.00 in. |
| Month total | 1.44 in. |
| Year total | 8.51 in. |
| Normal total (year to date) | 14.58 in. |

**Monday's temperatures**

| | |
|---|---|
| High | 60 |
| Low | 25 |
| Normal high | 57 |
| Normal low | 30 |
| Sunrise | 7:49 a.m. |
| Sunset | 5:55 p.m. |

## National forecast

Forecast highs for Tuesday, Dec. 31




# *Commuting, email traffic bring out woman's worst*

## 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:** Have you any advice for how a person can handle mornings better? No matter what I do, I start off every work day irritated and grumpy.

I love the mornings, and even get up early so I can enjoy sitting with my coffee and relax before heading out the door. But as soon as I get out into traffic, I'm immediately in a bad mood. Then, sitting down at work and facing all the emails that come in from my global associates — usually about some emergency that is plopped in my lap — puts me in more of a foul mood.

I actually like my job, despite what it sounds like. I just hate starting off every day like this. Telecommuting is not an option for me. What can I do? — MS. GRUMP IN DENVER

DEAR MS. GRUMP: OK, so you're fine until you leave the house. Many people who find morning rush hour to be nerve-wracking find it calming to listen to audio books or music during their commute. If that doesn't help you, and it is feasible, consider using another form of transportation that's less stressful.

And when you arrive at work, take a little time to decompress before turning on your computer, whether it is with meditation or deep-breathing exercises for the first 10 or 15 minutes. Both can do wonders for a person's outlook.

**DEAR ABBY:** A cute little girl lives up the street from my husband and me and attends the same church we do. A few years ago we taught her in a Sunday school class. At the time, she developed a crush on my husband. We both laughed about it then and thought it was sweet.

Fast-forward three years, and it's not so sweet anymore. It's downright awkward. She runs up to my husband multiple times while we're at church, while ignoring me. Last Sunday, she turned to me as she did it and announced, "He's mine!" I stood there thinking, "Uh, no — he's MINE."

I know this jealous reaction may seem silly and I'm trying hard not to feel this way, but it felt like I was fighting over my husband with an 8-year-old. He is aware of her crush and how I feel about it, but he doesn't want to hurt her feelings. Her mother knows about the crush, and we shared a laugh early on.

What can I do? Would speaking to the girl's mother help? What should I say? Or would it make things more awkward? — NO LONGER AMUSED IN OGDEN, UTAH

DEAR NO LONGER AMUSED: The cute little neighbor girl is no longer 5. Three years is a long time for a child to hang onto a crush. Because her behavior bothers you, tell her mother you find it excessive at this point and ask her to tell her daughter she's getting too old to act that way. It's the truth, and your husband should back you up.

**DEAR ABBY:** I thought I'd share my own New Year's resolution with you. For the past 25 years I have made the following resolution: Each day I will ask myself, "What is the kindest, most loving thing I can say or do at this particular moment?" I invite your readers to consider this. — WAYNE IN PUYALLUP, WASH.

DEAR WAYNE: I consider it a refreshingly positive way to start a day, and I'm sure others will agree and add it to their list of New Year's resolutions. Thank you for sharing it.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY READERS: A word to the wise: If you plan to toast the New Year tonight, please appoint a designated driver. And on this night especially, designated drivers should remember to drive defensively. To one and all, a happy, healthy New Year!

# 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, Dec. 31, 2013:

This year you demand depth in your self-expression and values. Demand this high-caliber communication from yourself before you request the same from others. Otherwise, you could get a lot of negative feedback. Whether you like it or not, you are entering a new phase in relating. If you are single, the people you choose to date could be very different from your present "type." If you are attached, you might throw your sweetie for quite a loop, as you seem to transform right in front of his or her eyes. Be understanding. A fellow CAPRICORN might be overly intense.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ You might not want your priorities to change, but a situation will force you to adjust them. Anger could dress up as sarcasm. Be aware of that fact, whether you are on the receiving or giving end. Follow your instincts. Tonight: Others depend on you leading the celebrations.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ You'll relax as you take a look at the big picture. You could be overserious and not realize it. A quarrel could ensue if someone tries to lighten you up. In any case, avoid angry moments, and curb sarcasm. Tonight: Surround the New Year with great music.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) ★★★ You could be very social, but a loved one will manage to rein you in. You might be quite angry at this person's actions, but try not to show your distaste. Trust that you are communicating your feelings nonverbally. Tonight: A problem could ensue around plans.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You finally will relax enough to enjoy others, especially a close friend or loved one. This person's tone might be hard to hear, but behind his or her words and attitude are feelings. Remember to think before you speak. Tonight: Unexpected developments.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ You might want to understand where someone is coming from. Your ability to look past the obvious will emerge. You might be angry at someone without this person knowing why. He or she might not be on the same level as you. Tonight: Live for the moment.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Your creativity emerges with someone's sarcasm. You might decide to play dumb in order to defuse the moment. Be careful, as you put this person on a pedestal. Unexpected developments could encourage you to hit the "pause" button. Tonight: In the moment.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★ Be more anchored than usual, if possible. You could fly off the handle out of the blue and cause quite a scene with someone. When you want to make peace, the other person might be too offended to forgive you. Give him or her some time to cool down. Tonight: At home.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ If you have been suppressing hurt, which has evolved to anger, you might be more surprised than others at the rage in your voice. Seize the moment for an important discussion. Make expressing yourself one of your resolutions. Tonight: Make peace, not war.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You might want to treat a friend or loved one to lunch, only to get attitude from out of the blue. It is possible that you could be the recipient of someone else's anger or sarcasm, too. Give others the space to be moody. Meanwhile, go on your merry way. Tonight: Where the action is.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Deep thinking might be appropriate for the new year. Avoid getting into a tit-for-tat situation at all costs. You neither need nor really want the pettiness. Expect the unexpected, especially around your home and family. Tonight: Christen the new year in style.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ Take your time thinking through a decision. You might not appreciate some of the opinions that are being offered. Keep seeking out the right solution, yet try to detach and take in a bigger view. Tonight: Make it a private celebration.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Focus on the long term and on your desires. Making appropriate resolutions fits the moment. An angry partner could offend one of your close friends or family members. Tonight: Wherever you are, there is a great party going on.

***

BORN TODAY

Singer/songwriter John Denver (1943), actor Anthony Hopkins (1937), artist Henri Matisse (1869)

# GOREN BRIDGE

*With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch*

### A fine mess

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A 9 7 6
♥ 10 2
♦ K J 9 6
♣ J 10 7

WEST
♠ J 3 2
♥ 6
♦ 4 3
♣ A Q 9 8 6 5 3

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

SOUTH
♠ K Q 10 8
♥ A 5 4 3
♦ A 7 2
♣ K 2

The bidding:

| SOUTH | WEST | NORTH | EAST |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NT | Pass | 2♣ | 2 |
| 2♠ | Pass | 4♠ | Pass |
| Pass | Pass | | |

Opening lead: Six of ♦

East-West had a conventional agreement about a two-club overcall, accounting for West's silence. A two-club bid would not have shown clubs. He wasn't willing to risk a three-club bid. East chimed in with his excellent suit, but North-South still reached game easily. South won the opening heart lead and cashed his king and queen of trumps. Next came a trump to dummy's ace. East discarding a heart. Declarer ran the jack of clubs, losing to the queen, and West shifted to a diamond — nine, 10, ace. South now led the king of clubs, losing to the ace as East shed another heart. West played a second diamond. South knew East started with two spades, six hearts, and one club, therefore four diamonds. The diamond queen had to be with East. South went up with dummy's king.

NORTH
♠ 9
♥ 10
♦ J 6
♣ 10

WEST
♠ Void
♥ Void
♦ 9 8 6 5 3
♣ Void

EAST
♠ Void
♥ K Q 9
♦ Q 8
♣ Void

SOUTH
♠ 10
♥ 5 4 3
♦ 7
♣ Void

South cashed dummy's 10 of clubs, discarding a diamond from hand and East was cooked. A diamond discard would allow South to ruff out his queen, so he discarded another heart. South next led dummy's remaining heart, and East conceded the contract.

# DAILY CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

1 Run-down area
5 French message-carrying boat
10 Castle trench
14 __ Cod
15 Toy blocks
16 "Bus Stop" dramatist
17 Military assistant
18 Many, many centuries
19 In a little while
20 Hopes that weren't meant to be
23 Jacob's twin
24 Dethrones
28 One of Scrooge's four visitors
31 Concern before changing lanes
35 Predatory bird
37 College URL ending
38 Nautical opening?
39 Bird: Pref.
40 Locker room motivator
43 Be in the wrong
44 __ de soie: silk cloth
46 PBS underwriter
47 Lassie chaser
49 Kids' game with a quickly passed object
52 Goads
53 PGA great Sam
54 "__ Grit": John Wayne classic
56 Jackie Gleason catchphrase, and a hint to the ends of 20-, 31-, 40- and 49-Across
63 Service station job
66 Dressy footwear
67 Partner of Roy or Chip
68 Swedish furniture giant
69 Lift up
70 Ultimatum ending
71 Property document
72 Greenhorns
73 In fighting trim

**DOWN**

1 Union underminer
2 Hibernation site
3 Fancy hairstyle
4 Most submissive
5 Ex of Rod Stewart
6 Beetle with four wheels, slangily
7 Movie lab helper
8 Sound measure
9 Mount near Olympus
10 Pageant title since 1952
11 Singer Yoko
12 Gone by
13 Low card in a royal flush
21 Prevent legally
22 Trendy, '60s-style
25 Muscle beach swimwear
26 Steaming hot
27 Retail outlets
28 Board meeting displays
29 Be dressed in
30 Sleep-inducing drug
32 Put on the attack
33 Actress Lupino
34 Void partner
36 Apartment payment
41 Veggie on a vine
42 Shot, as an engine
45 In front
48 Hanukkah spinning toy
50 "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" constable
51 Verdi opera based on a Shakespeare play
55 Enjoys a siesta
57 Sharpen
58 Like centerfolds
59 Be dressed in
60 Story
61 Ingrid's "Casablanca" role
62 Espied
63 Hinged cover
64 Don Ho's strings
65 Bonnet-dwelling insect?

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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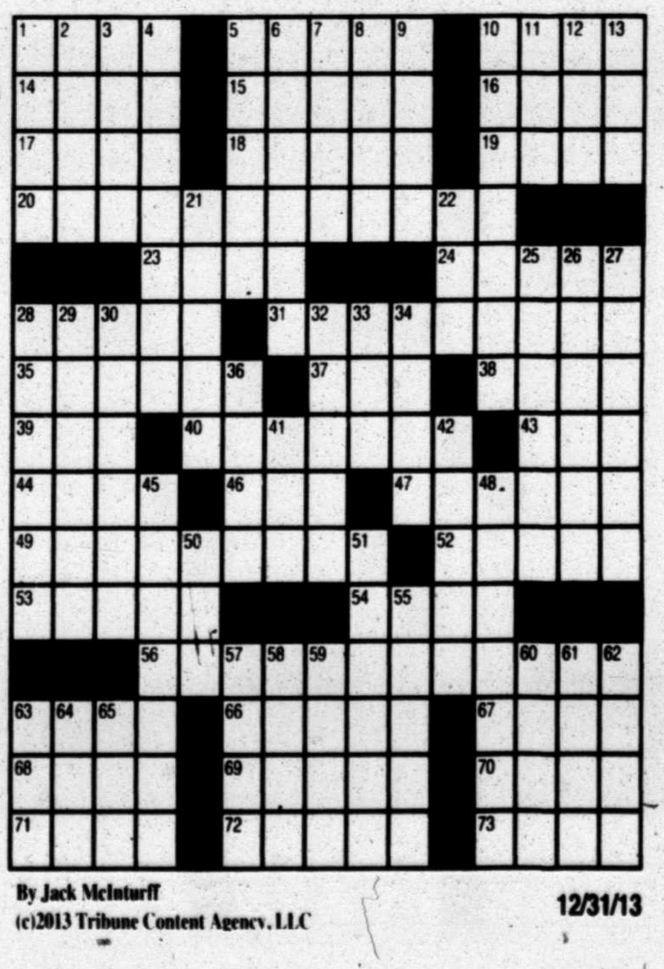
| T | A | T | S | | G | O | A | T | S | | S | W | E | E |

xwordeditor@aol.com 12/31/13



By Jack McInturff
(c)2013 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 12/31/13

# In 2013, big issues came at us from all sides

**By Rob Hotakainen**
*McClatchy Washington Bureau (MCT)*

WASHINGTON — The world got a new pope. Gay marriage prevailed. The Arab Spring faded. Guns and terrorism brought more heartache.

It all happened in 2013, a year that featured big headlines and big issues that hit President Barack Obama from all sides.

At home, the president's popularity fell to record lows, thanks to a failed launch of his health care plan and public disgust with the shutdown of the federal government.

Internationally, Obama didn't fare much better: He vacillated on how to react to brutality in Syria and angered foreign leaders by eavesdropping on them.

Here's a rundown of some key events from the year:

## Shaking the sands of time

*The year 2013 was a blend of events many viewed with optimism – a new pope from South America, civil rights advances – and many doubts, such as worry over national security surveillance programs, chemical weapons in Syria, severe weather, gun violence, Obamacare struggles and government impasses. Some of the year's biggest stories:*

### White smoke for Pope Francis

On Feb. 11, Pope Benedict XVI, then 85, told the Roman Catholic Church he was leaving because "my strengths, due to an advanced age, are no longer suited to an adequate exercise of the Petrine ministry." Later, he said the decision was the result of a "mystical experience" and that God had shown him the way.

It marked the first time a pope had stepped down from his post since Gregory XII in 1415.

Benedict's historic announcement was quickly followed by another: the ascension of the first pope from Latin America, and the first to be known as Pope Francis. Many welcomed the 76-year-old former Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio as a breath of fresh air.

His style — an aversion to opulence, a devotion to the poor and a less authoritative approach — already has established him as a media darling, and led to suggestions that in less than a year he'd changed the face of the world's largest Christian church.

### Failed rollout for Obamacare

Health care exploded with the tortured rollout of the HealthCare.gov website. By the time the federal health insurance marketplace portal was working, public support for the Affordable Care Act had plummeted, along with Obama's credibility.

The president's repeated claims that "people who liked their current health coverage will be able to keep it" quickly became his "no new taxes" moment. Millions of policy cancellations later, he was forced to eat his words and offer a so-called "fix" to folks whose insurance was terminated because it didn't meet the health law's tough new standards.

In 2014, the Affordable Care Act will cast a large political shadow. Squeamish Democrats are fearful that the law will weigh against them in the midterm elections. Republicans are pouring millions of dollars into making sure that happens.

### Chemical weapons in Syria

In the early hours of Aug. 21, a number of rockets with sarin gas warheads fell on the Damascus suburbs.

The immediate result was that hundreds of Syrians died in the first confirmed chemical-weapons attack of the civil war, which began in 2011. The longer-term result was that the attack got the United States and Russia to meet in Geneva and agree on exactly how completely and swiftly the Syrian government would have to get rid of its chemical weapons.

The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons had inspectors back in Syria by October and by November had destroyed much of the nation's ability to use chemical weapons. Syria's entire chemical arsenal is slated for destruction by June 30, 2014.

### 16-day government shutdown

Fiscal cliffs, shutdown showdowns and debt ceiling debates produced ominous countdown clocks on cable news networks but yielded very few lasting results.

In the end, the battles over budgets and deficit reduction consumed the political oxygen and kept lawmakers from dealing with key issues. They left town in December without passing a farm bill, revamping immigration and gun control laws or offering any long-term solutions on tax and entitlement issues.

Last-minute deals became the modus operandi.

But that approach caught up with lawmakers in October, when an impasse over funding resulted in a 16-day partial shutdown of government agencies and services.

### Leaks from Snowden

From the moment former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden first leaked details of how broadly and frequently the United States spies on the citizens of its allies, there was angry talk.

Brazil, Bolivia, Mexico, France, Italy and, of course, Germany and many other nations were enraged. A state visit by Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff was canceled after revelations that the NSA had been snooping through her texts and emails.

But the anger cranked up several notches when it was discovered that the cellphone used by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, had been tapped since 2002. Germans were flabbergasted. The insult was intensely personal: Merkel's cellphone has been seen as an extension of her personality since she arrived in office in November 2005.

Snowden — who sought and received temporary asylum in Russia — now is viewed as a hero by 6 out of 10 Germans.

### Bombs in Boston

Three people died, more than a dozen lost limbs and hundreds were wounded when two bombs fashioned out of pressure cookers went off April 15 near the finish line of the venerable Boston Marathon.

The explosions sparked a massive manhunt and, after the release of photographs and surveillance video of two suspects, a citywide shutdown.

The two suspected bombers, later identified as Tamerlan Tsarnaev and his younger brother, Dzhokhar, allegedly killed a police officer and carjacked an SUV before engaging in a burst of gunfire with police in Watertown, just outside Boston.

Tamerlan was hit by a car driven by his brother and died during the shootout; Dzhokhar was captured hours later, hiding in a boat behind a home.

Dzhokhar faces murder and weapons of mass destruction charges. U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder has until Jan. 31 to decide whether to seek the death penalty.

### Big surprise in Iran

Iran delivered a big surprise in June with the landslide victory of moderate Islamic cleric Hassan Rouhani as president, and the surprises keep on coming.

Gone is the firebrand rhetoric of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who, as Rouhani put it in his final rally, "turned every opportunity into a threat." In place of his predecessor's "extremism," Rouhani and his foreign minister, Javad Zarif, stride the world stage as statesmen, offering big cutbacks in Iran's nuclear-fuel enrichment program if the U.S. and other major powers dial back the economic sanctions that have impoverished the country and helped foment widespread discontent.

The interim deal announced in Geneva in November was a breakthrough, but transforming it into a comprehensive accord in just six months may prove an enormous task.

If a deal can be struck, and Iran's tension with Saudi Arabia and Israel can be reduced, there's the possibility for eventual cooperation between Washington and Tehran on other hotspots, such as Syria and Afghanistan.

### Banner year for gay rights

In his inauguration speech last January, Obama referenced the 1969 riot at New York's Stonewall Inn, the event that most consider the beginning of the gay rights movement.

More than four decades later, the push for equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans achieved more victories than ever in 2013. Hundreds cheered outside the U.S. Supreme Court in July when the justices overturned a federal prohibition on gay marriage and restored the right of same-sex couples to marry in California.

Gay marriage became legal in six other states, either through legislatures or the courts, bringing the total to 16, plus the District of Columbia. Several states initially resisted extending same-sex spousal benefits to their National Guard members, but all eventually fell in line.

Meanwhile, the Boy Scouts of America lifted its long-standing prohibition on gay members, though the ban still applies to adult leaders.

In November, on a bipartisan vote of 64-32, the Senate approved the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, a long-stalled bill banning job discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Americans.

### Meltdown of the Arab Spring

Mohammed Morsi's victory in Eygpt's first democratic presidential election started out as the promise of a revolution dream fulfilled.

But by Jan. 25, the two-year anniversary of the uprising that led to the fall of former President Hosni Mubarak, Morsi's six-month tenure was already in trouble. Many saw Morsi, a former leading member of the secretive Muslim Brotherhood, as a divisive leader.

The streets were festering with anger, and public calls began for a national protest of his presidency on June 30, the one-year anniversary of his inauguration. The day would be called Egypt's second revolution, as millions took to the streets to oppose Morsi. Four days later, Egypt's last revered force, its military, stepped in. Flanked by top political and religious leaders, Minister of Defense Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi announced that Morsi was no longer the president, replaced by a military-named civilian government.

The election results had been usurped by a popular uprising, and Egypt hasn't been the same since.

### Momentum for marijuana

A month after being re-elected, Obama said he had "bigger fish to fry" than to worry about pot smokers in Washington and Colorado, two states that had just voted to legalize marijuana.

It helped set the stage for a big year for marijuana. And many pot enthusiasts said there's now so much momentum behind the drive to legalize the drug that it will be impossible to turn back the clock.

In December, Uruguay became the first nation to legalize marijuana.

In August, the Justice Department said it wouldn't block Colorado and Washington state from selling pot for recreational use, beginning in 2014.

Perhaps the biggest news came when two public opinion polls showed that, for the first time in history, a majority of Americans support legalization.

### Move toward energy dominance

The year saw an acceleration of America's energy revolution, as the U.S. started producing more oil than it imports for the first time since 1995 and moved toward becoming the world's energy king.

The International Energy Agency advanced its projected timeline for the U.S. to overtake Saudi Arabia as the top oil producer on the globe, saying the milestone is likely to happen within the next two years.

America's production surge is a result of advances in horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing. Environmental groups argue fracturing poses a threat to air and water.

Cheap natural gas continued to push coal out of the U.S. marketplace. Coal took another hit in September, when the Obama administration set limits for the first time on how much greenhouse gas pollution can come from power plants yet to be built.

### No end for terrorism

The Obama administration began the year by declaring that al-Qaida had been weakened. But events in Libya, Mali and Kenya suggested that terrorism and Islamic militancy remained very much alive.

In Libya, where U.S. and other NATO forces had helped bring about the end of former leader Moammar Gadhafi just two years ago, disorder prevailed. Militias that once fought Gadhafi's forces sought to create an Islamic state and usurp Libya's democratically elected government. Ansar al-Shariah, an extremist group whose members are suspected in the 2012 attack in Benghazi that killed U.S. Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens and three other Americans, expanded its grip on eastern Libya.

In northern Mali, where government forces had lost control, a coalition of French and African forces intervened, wresting control from militants. But a truce with Tuareg separatists in the north remains fragile as peace talks collapsed in September.

In Kenya, militants carried out an attack Sept. 21 on the Westgate shopping mall in Nairobi, killing 72 people and wounding 200. Al-Shabab, an Islamic militant group, claimed responsibility.

### Mixed bag for the Tea Party

The tea party movement stayed in the spotlight, but that wasn't always to its benefit.

The grassroots conservative effort got much of the public's blame for Washington's budget inertia, and it ended the year with only 22 percent of people surveyed saying they were supporters, according to a December Gallup poll.

The tea party was seen as the main culprit behind congressional Republicans' reluctance through much of the year to negotiate on budget issues, a stance that led to the government shutdown.

But the movement also showed some muscle, spawning new stars who could dominate news coverage of such issues. Sen. Ted Cruzm, of Texas, who took office last January, was being seriously mentioned as a 2016 Republican presidential candidate. So were Sens. Marco Rubio, of Florida and Rand Paul, of Kentucky.

### No movement on gun control

On the morning of Sept. 16, 34-year-old Aaron Alexis entered Building 197 of the Washington Navy Yard, shooting and killing a dozen people in a matter of minutes.

The second-deadliest mass murder on a U.S. military base failed to prompt new restrictions on guns in America.

It was the same after Newtown. After Virginia Tech. After Tucson.

After Newtown, Obama proposed the nation's most aggressive gun-control plan in generations. But the Senate fell short of having the votes needed to approve the proposals — expanding background checks, renewing a ban on assault weapons and limiting the size of ammunition clips — after most Republicans and a handful of Democrats rejected them.

Advocates say they were disappointed, but they remain invigorated by the first serious gun-control debate in two decades.

### Resistance to school standards

In education, conservative critics ramped up opposition to the Common Core State Standards, arguing that they symbolize federal control of education, though the states developed the standards and adopted them voluntarily beginning in 2010. Forty-five states and the District of Columbia adopted the English and math standards.

The Common Core is an outline for what students should know and be able to do. The standards aim to match what children learn in other countries that are admired for their smarts. Decisions about what curriculum and books to use are left up to schools and teachers.

Two groups of states have been developing new tests that should start in 2014-15. But American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten, a Common Core supporter, said there should be a moratorium on using the tests in high-stakes evaluations of teachers and students.

Some parents worry about their kids getting lower marks on harder tests.

Common Core supporter Arne Duncan, the education secretary, took heat when he said at an education meeting that some of the pushback was from "white suburban moms" who were worried that "their child isn't as brilliant as they thought."

### Guilty verdict for Manning

In a military venue, a two-month trial ended with Army Pfc. Bradley Manning being found guilty of 20 violations relating to the theft and distribution of some 700,000 digital government documents. Manning had provided the materials to WikiLeaks, which publishes material from U.S. foreign corporations and governments.

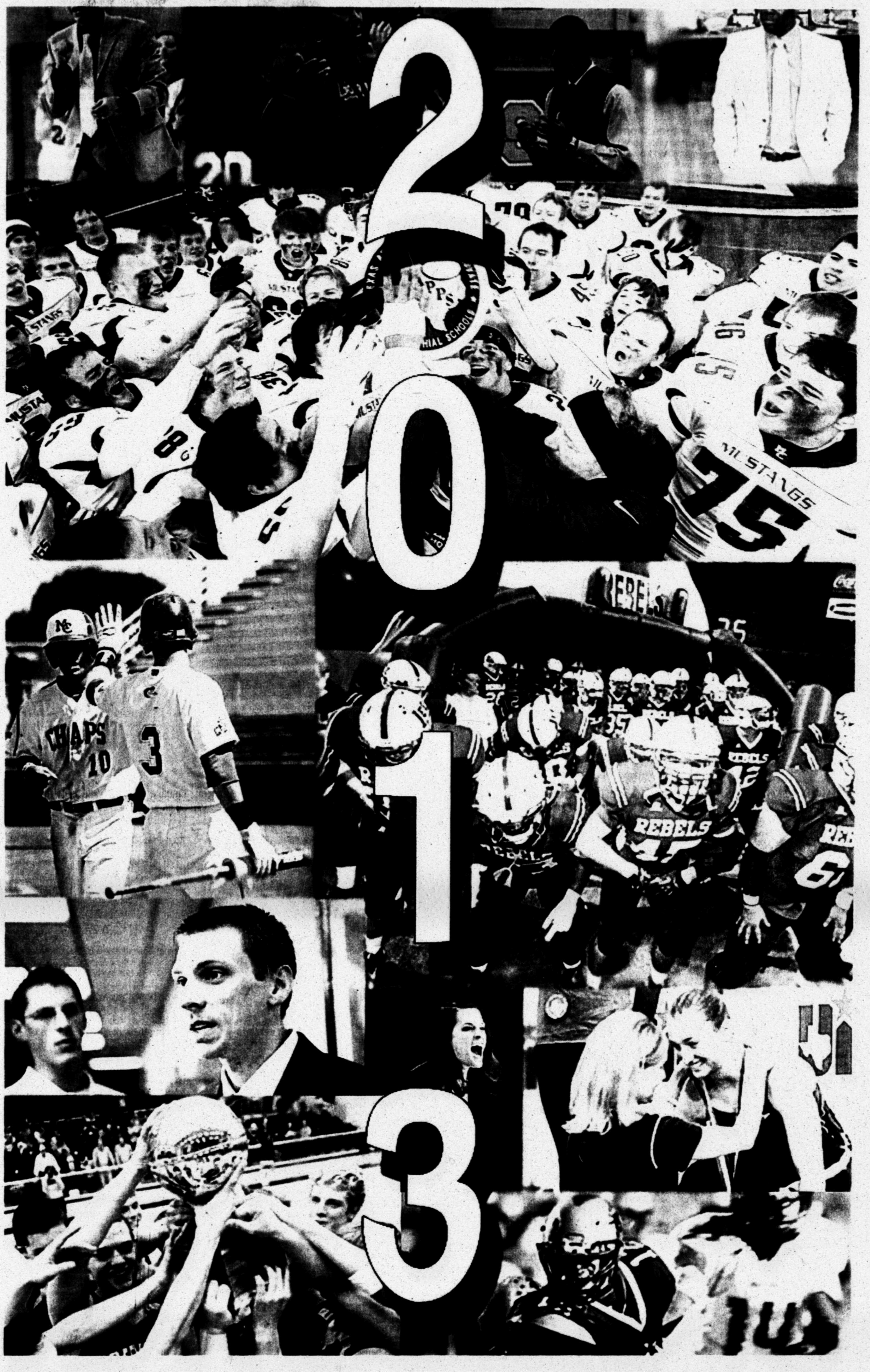
In November, The Washington Post reported that the Justice Department is unlikely to bring charges against WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange because government lawyers say they couldn't do so without also trying to prosecute U.S. news organizations and journalists.

# SPORTS

**INSIDE:** Texas struggled in the Alamo Bowl. **Page 8C**



## THE YEAR IN SPORTS




***This past year in local sports might be remembered more for what happened off the field than on it. From all four Midland ISD basketball coaches resigning to a former Midland College coach resigning and then staying in the news for a number of weeks afterward to the UIL releasing the conference cutoff numbers early that sparked a debate that raged across West Texas, it was a year where lots of news was made. On the field, though, there were plenty of accomplishments as well, including a resurgence of the Lee football program, Midland Christian winning another state championship and Midland College earning its first trip to the JUCO World Series.***

***Go to Page 4C to see what the Top 10 Sports Stories were for 2013 as voted on by the Reporter-Telegram Sports Department.***

# DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

## ON THE AIR

**WHAT'S ON TV**

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

AdvoCare V100 Bowl, Arizona vs. Boston College, 11:30 a.m., ESPN

Sun Bowl, Virginia Tech vs. UCLA, 1 p.m., CBS

Liberty Bowl, Rice vs. Mississippi St., 3 p.m., ESPN

Chick-fil-A Bowl, Duke vs. Texas A&M, 7 p.m., ESPN

**COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

St. John's at Xavier, 11 a.m., Fox Sports 1

Ohio St. at Purdue, Noon, ESPN2

Seton Hall at Providence, 1:30 p.m., Fox Sports 1

Indiana at Illinois, 2 p.m., ESPN2

George Washington at Kansas St., 2 p.m., Fox Sports Southwest

Louisville at UCF, 4 p.m., ESPN2

DePaul at Georgetown, 4 p.m., Fox Sports 1

North Texas at Texas A&M, 4:30 p.m., Fox Sports Southwest

Memphis at South Florida, 6 p.m., ESPN2

Villanova at Butler, 6:30 p.m., Fox Sports 1

UConn at Houston, 8 p.m., ESPN2

Marquette at Creighton, 9 p.m., Fox Sports 1

**NHL**

Los Angeles at Dallas, 7 p.m., Fox Sports Southwest

**WINTER SPORTS**

Olympic trials, speed skating: men's and women's 1500 long track, 5 p.m., NBC Sports Network

**WHAT'S ON RADIO**

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

Chick-fil-A Bowl, Duke vs Texas A&M, 7 p.m., KBST (1490 AM)

## WHAT'S ON DECK

**HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL**

Monahans at Midland Christian, 12:30 p.m.

Seagraves at Grady, 6 p.m.

**HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Big Spring at San Angelo Lake View, 1 p.m.

Seagraves at Grady, 4:30 p.m.

**RODEO**

Tall City New Year's Roping Blowout, 9 a.m., Horshoe Arena

## LOCAL SPORTS

**JACKS GAME RESCHEDULED**

ODESSA — The Odessa Jackalopes announced on Monday that a postponed game between Odessa and Amarillo has been rescheduled.

The game was originally scheduled for Dec. 8, but was postponed because of wintry weather. The game is set for 6:05 p.m. Jan. 7 at the Amarillo Civic Center.

Odessa is 10-24-1 this season in the North American Hockey League's South Division this season.

## TRANSACTIONS

**BASEBALL**

**American League**

TEXAS RANGERS — Acquired RHP Miles Mikolas from Pittsburgh for 1B Chris McGuiness. Designated OF Rafael Ortega for assignment. American Association

FARGO-MOORHEAD REDHAWKS — Traded RHP Alex Caldera, LHP Nick Capito and RHP Nate Kilcrease to Laredo for the rights to OF Sawyer Carroll. Frontier League

FLORENCE FREEDOM — Traded OF Byron Wiley to Kansas City (AA) for INF Justin Bass. Exercised the 2014 contract options on RHP Andrew Strenge, INF Bobby Joe Tannehill, RHP Brandon Mathes, LHP Brent Choban, C Brian Sheahan, RHP Casey Henn, RHP Chuck Weaver, OF Cole Miles, RHP Daniel DeSimone, OF David Harris, INF Jacob Tanis, C Jim Jacquot, RHP Jorge Marban, INF Junior Arrojo, OF Kyle Bluestein, RHP Michael Oros, OF Nick Stein. OF Pablo Bermudez, RHP Patrick Robinson and RHP Steve Matre. CYCLING

USADA — Announced American cyclist David LaDuc tested positive for prohibited substances and accepted a two-year suspension.

**FOOTBALL**

**National Football League**

BUFFALO BILLS — Fired receivers coach Ike Hilliard. Signed to DB Mario Butler, OT Edawn Coughman, QB Dennis Dixon, DE Ikponmwosa Ighinosun, OT Jamaal Johnson-Webb, WR Brandon Kaufman and LB Jacques Smith to reserve/future contracts.

CHICAGO BEARS — Signed LS Brandon Hartson, CB C.J. Wilson, CB Demontre Hurst, TE Fendi Onobun, QB Jerrod Johnson, LB Lawrence Wilson, OT Rogers Gaines, S Sean Cattouse, WR Terrence Toliver, DT Tracy Robertson and TE Zach Miller to reserve/future contracts.

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Placed TE Alex Smith and DT Devon Still on injured reserve. Signed DT Ogemdi Nwagbuo. Signed CB Brandon Burton and DT Zach Minter on injured reserve.

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed DBs Jamoris Slaughter and T.J. Heath. DE Cam Henderson. LB Justin Staples, WRs Conner Vernon and Toni Gurley and OL Jeremiah Warren to reserve/future contracts.

DALLAS COWBOYS — Signed WR Tim Benford. G Ray Dominguez. WR Lance Lewis. DE Caesar Rayford. LB Jonathan Stewart and OT John Wetzel to reserve/future contracts.

DETROIT LIONS — Fired coach Jim Schwartz.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Fired coach Leslie Frazier. Signed S Brandan Bishop. CB Kip Edwards. OT Kevin Murphy. DE Spencer Nealy. RB Bradley Randle and WR Adam Thielen.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Signed OL R.J. Mattes and LB Taylor Reed to the practice squad. Released OL R.J. Dill from the practice squad.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Signed DE Kendrick Adams, T Steven Baker, RB Kendall Gaskins, WR Marcus Harris and DBs Travis Howard, Junior Mertile. Chaz Powell and Ross Weaver to reserve/future contracts.

OAKLAND RAIDERS — Signed CB Johnny Adams. OL Jack Cornell. WR Jared Green. LB Eric Harper, TE Brian Leonhardt and DE Chris McCoy to reserve/future contracts.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Signed CB Perrish Cox to a one-year contract.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Fired coach Greg Schiano and general manager Mark Dominik.

TENNESSEE TITANS — Signed T Jeff Adams. DT Chigbo Anunoby. CB George Baker. LBs Brandon Copeland and Jonathan Willard. C Tyler Horn. DE Adewale Ojomo and TE Adam Schiltz to reserve/future contracts.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Fired coach Mike Shanahan. special teams coordinator Keith Burns, advance scout Larry Coyer, coaching assistant Richmond Flowers, quarterbacks coach Matt LaFleur, receivers coach Mike McDaniel, offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan, linebackers coach Bob Slowik and defensive assistant Bobby Slowik.

**HOCKEY**

**National Hockey League**

CAROLINA HURRICANES — Acquired F Greg Nemisz from Calgary for F Kevin Westgarth and assigned Nemisz to Charlotte (AHL).

PHOENIX COYOTES — Recalled F Chris Brown from Portland (AHL).

WINNIPEG JETS — Agreed to terms with F Nic Petan on a three-year entry level contract. Reassigned D Julian Melchiori to St. John's (AHL).

**American Hockey League**

NORFOLK ADMIRALS — Reassigned D Mike Little to Florida (ECHL).

OKLAHOMA CITY BARONS — Recalled D Erik Burgdoerfer from Bakersfield (ECHL).

SAN ANTONIO RAMPAGE — Recalled F Logan Shaw from Cincinnati (ECHL). Loaned D Zach Miskovic to Cincinnati.

**ECHL**

READING ROYALS — Announced F Dustin Gazley and G Riley Gill were recalled by Hershey (AHL). Announced D Brett Flemming was reassigned to the team from Hershey. Announced F Doug Clarkson was recalled by Adirondack (AHL).

**Southern Professional Hockey League**

PEORIA RIVERMAN — Announced F Parker Stanfield was signed by Florida (ECHL). Loaned F Garrett Vermeersch to Fort Wayne (ECHL). Activated C Dean Yakura from injured reserve.

**COLLEGE**

ALABAMA A&M — Named James Michael Spady football coach.

INDIANA — Announced freshman men's basketball C Luke Fischer has withdrawn from school and is expected to transfer.

LOUISVILLE — Dismissed junior F Chane Behanan from the men's basketball team for another violation of university policy.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA — Named Justin Wilcox defensive coordinator. Marques Tuiasosopo tight ends coach and Tim Drevno offensive line coach. Announced Clay Helton will remain as offensive coordinator.

WASHINGTON — Named Pete Kwiatkowski defensive coordinator, Bob Gregory linebackers coach/assistant head coach, Jimmy Lake defensive backs coach, Jeff Choate special teams coordinator and defensive line coach. Jonathan Smith offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach, Brent Pease wide receivers coach, Keith Bhonapha running backs coach and recruiting coordinator, Chris Strausser offensive line coach, Tim Socha strength and conditioning coach, Rich Rasmussen director of player personnel and Mike McHugh director of football operations.

## NFL PLAYOFF GLANCE

**Wild-card Playoffs**

**Saturday**

Kansas City at Indianapolis, 3:35 p.m. (NBC)

New Orleans at Philadelphia, 7:10 p.m. (NBC)

**Sunday**

San Diego at Cincinnati, 12:05 p.m. (CBS)

San Francisco at Green Bay, 3:40 p.m. (FOX)

**Divisional Playoffs**

**Saturday, Jan. 11**

Green Bay, San Francisco or New Orleans at Seattle, 3:35 p.m. (FOX)

Cincinnati, Indianpolis or Kansas City at New England, 7:15 p.m. (CBS) Sunday, Jan. 12

Philadelphia, Green Bay or San Francisco at Carolina, 12:05 p.m. (FOX)

Indianapolis, Kansas City or San Diego at Denver, 3:40 p.m. (CBS) Conference Championships

**Sunday, Jan. 19**

AFC, 2 p.m. (CBS)

NFC, 5:30 p.m. (FOX) Pro Bowl

**Sunday, Jan. 26**

**At Honolulu**

TBD, 6:30 p.m. (NBC)

**Super Bowl**

**Sunday, Feb. 2**

**At East Rutherford, N.J.**

AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 5:30 p.m. (FOX)

## NHL STANDINGS

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 39 | 26 | 11 | 2 | 54 | 114 | 81 |
| Tampa Bay | 39 | 23 | 12 | 4 | 50 | 110 | 93 |
| Montreal | 40 | 23 | 14 | 3 | 49 | 99 | 89 |
| Detroit | 41 | 18 | 14 | 9 | 45 | 107 | 117 |
| Toronto | 41 | 20 | 16 | 5 | 45 | 115 | 118 |
| Ottawa | 42 | 17 | 18 | 7 | 41 | 118 | 135 |
| Florida | 40 | 15 | 20 | 5 | 35 | 95 | 128 |
| Buffalo | 39 | 11 | 24 | 4 | 26 | 71 | 110 |

**Metropolitan Division**

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pittsburgh | 41 | 29 | 11 | 1 | 59 | 130 | 94 |
| Washington | 40 | 29 | 15 | 5 | 45 | 122 | 119 |
| Philadelphia | 38 | 18 | 16 | 4 | 40 | 97 | 107 |
| N.Y Rangers | 40 | 19 | 19 | 2 | 40 | 94 | 108 |
| New Jersey | 40 | 16 | 18 | 6 | 40 | 95 | 102 |
| Columbus | 39 | 17 | 18 | 4 | 38 | 106 | 112 |
| Carolina | 39 | 14 | 16 | 9 | 37 | 91 | 114 |
| N.Y Islanders | 40 | 12 | 21 | 7 | 31 | 102 | 135 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Central Division**

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chicago | 42 | 28 | 7 | 7 | 63 | 158 | 115 |
| St. Louis | 38 | 26 | 7 | 5 | 57 | 137 | 92 |
| Colorado | 38 | 23 | 11 | 4 | 50 | 109 | 97 |
| Dallas | 38 | 19 | 12 | 7 | 45 | 112 | 111 |
| Minnesota | 41 | 20 | 16 | 5 | 45 | 96 | 107 |
| Winnipeg | 41 | 18 | 18 | 5 | 41 | 111 | 121 |
| Nashville | 40 | 18 | 18 | 4 | 40 | 95 | 119 |

**Pacific Division**

| | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Anaheim | 41 | 28 | 8 | 5 | 61 | 131 | 103 |
| San Jose | 39 | 25 | 8 | 6 | 56 | 128 | 98 |
| Los Angeles | 40 | 25 | 11 | 4 | 54 | 108 | 80 |
| Vancouver | 40 | 23 | 11 | 6 | 52 | 108 | 93 |
| Phoenix | 38 | 19 | 10 | 9 | 47 | 116 | 117 |
| Calgary | 39 | 14 | 19 | 6 | 34 | 95 | 122 |
| Edmonton | 41 | 13 | 24 | 4 | 30 | 106 | 139 |

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

**Monday's Scores**

Ottawa 3, Washington 1

Chicago 1, Los Angeles 0

Nashville 6, Detroit 4

Philadelphia at Vancouver, late

**Today's Games**

Pittsburgh at New Jersey, Noon

N.Y Rangers at Florida, 4 p.m.

St. Louis at Minnesota, 5 p.m.

N.Y Islanders at Boston, 6 p.m.

Montreal at Carolina, 6 p.m.

Buffalo at Winnipeg, 6 p.m.

San Jose at Anaheim, 7 p.m.

Los Angeles at Dallas, 7 p.m.

Columbus at Colorado, 7 p.m.

Philadelphia at Calgary, 8 p.m.

Edmonton at Phoenix, 8 p.m.

## GLANTZ-CULVER LINE

| FAVORITE | OPEN | TODAY | O/U | UNDERDOG |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **AdvoCare V100 Bowl At Shreveport, La.** | | |
| Arizona | 7 | 7 1/2 | (57 1/2) | Boston College |
| | | **Sun Bowl At El Paso** | | |
| UCLA | 7 1/2 | 7 1/2 | (47 1/2) | Virginia Tech |
| | | **Liberty Bowl At Memphis, Tenn.** | | |
| Mississippi St | 7 | 7 | (50 1/2) | Rice |
| | | **Chick-fil-A Bowl At Atlanta** | | |
| Texas A&M | 11 1/2 | 12 1/2 | (75) | Duke |

# Doctors give no prognosis for Schumacher

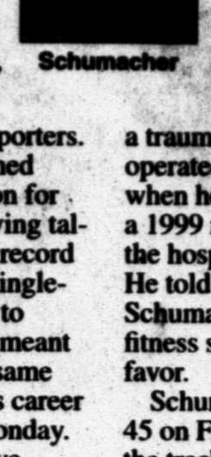
**By Sarah DiLorenzo and Graham Dunbar**
*Associated Press*

GRENOBLE, France — Doctors offered a grim assessment of Michael Schumacher's head injuries Monday, providing no prognosis for the Formula One driving great after his skiing accident in the French Alps.

Schumacher has been placed in a medically induced coma to relieve pressure on his brain, which suffered bruising and bleeding when the retired seven-time world champion fell and struck a rock Sunday while skiing during a family vacation.

"We cannot predict the future for Michael Schumacher," Dr. Jean-Francois Payen, the doctor in charge of Grenoble University Hospital's intensive care unit, said at a news conference.

"He is in a critical state in terms of cerebral resuscitation," said Payen, the chief anesthesiologist treating the 44-year-old German driver. "We are working hour by hour."


Schumacher

Schumacher's wife, Corinna, daughter Gina Maria and son Mick were at his bedside.

"The family is not doing very well, obviously. They are shocked," his manager, Sabine Kehm, told reporters.

Schumacher earned universal admiration for his uncommon driving talent, which led to a record 91 race wins. His single-minded dedication to victory sometimes meant he was denied the same affection during his career that he received Monday.

Schumacher "gave the image of someone indestructible, powerful," France's four-time F1 champion Alain Prost said on iTele TV channel. "It's a banal accident compared to what he's done in the past . It's just a dumb thing that ended badly."

Schumacher and his 14-year-old son were skiing Sunday morning in the French Alpine resort of Meribel, where the family has a chalet. He fell and hit the right side of his head on a rock.

By wearing a helmet, Schumacher had given himself a chance of survival, Payen said, though the protection was not enough to prevent serious injury.

Gerard Saillant, a trauma surgeon who operated on Schumacher when he broke his leg in a 1999 race crash, was at the hospital as a visitor. He told reporters that Schumacher's age and fitness should work in his favor.

Schumacher, who turns 45 on Friday, retired from the track for the second time only last year, after a three-season comeback.

Still, the hospital's neurology team, which is recognized as among the best in France, was cautious about Schumacher's prospects.

Doctors lowered his body temperature to between 34 and 35 degrees Celsius (93.2 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit) as part of the coma, which essentially rests the brain, slowing its metabolism to help reduce inflammation after an injury.

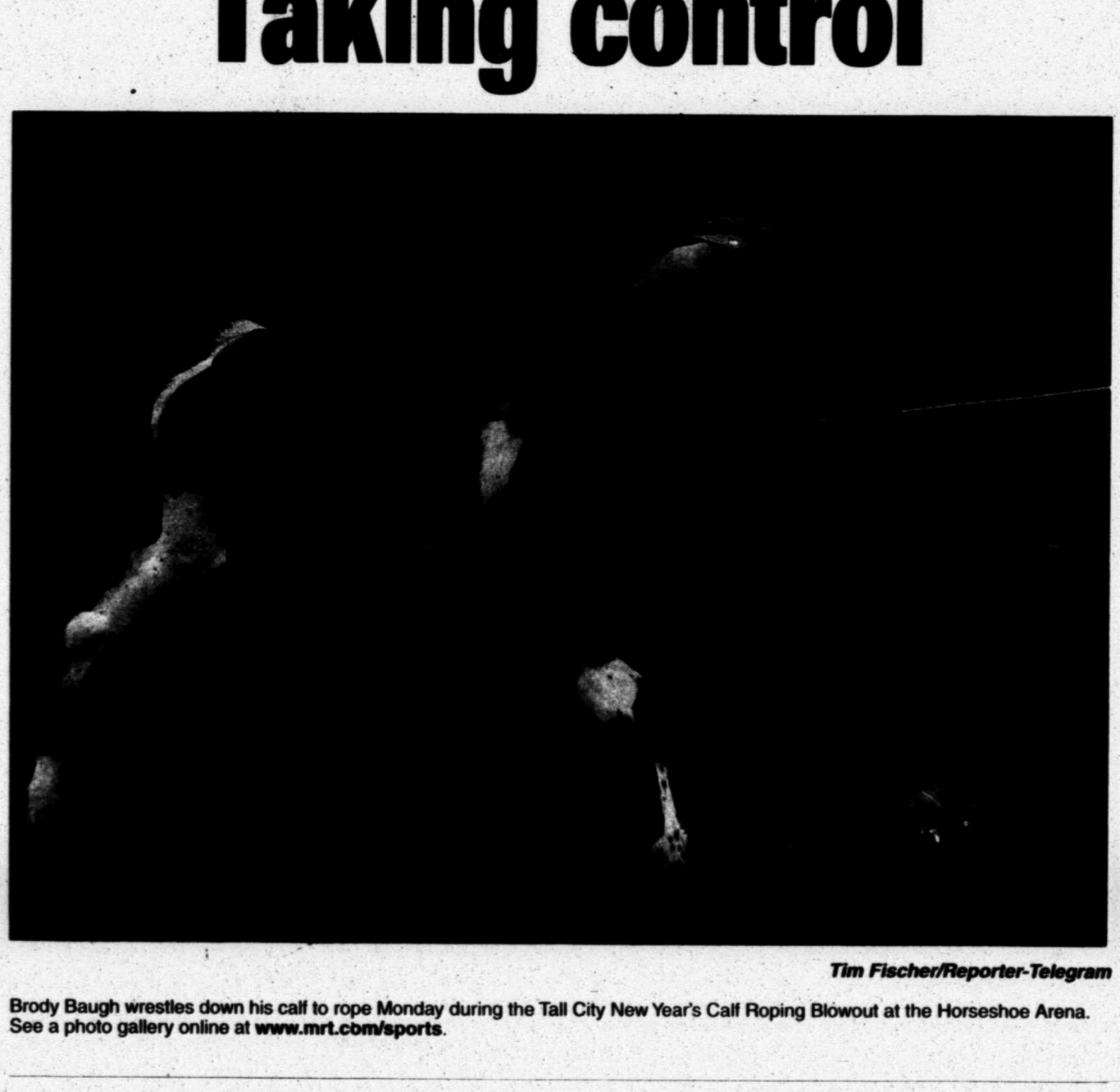
The hospital, in a city that is the gateway to the French Alps, sees a large number of skiing accidents every year.

Schumacher has been seriously hurt before. In addition to the broken leg in a crash at the 1999 British Grand Prix, he also suffered neck and spine injuries after a motorcycle accident in 2009 in Spain.

An expert skier, Schumacher fell in a section of trails that slice down through a vast and, in parts, very steep snowfield. Although challenging, the snowfield is not extreme skiing. The runs are broad and neatly tended, and the ungroomed area in between — where the resort said Schumacher was found — is free of trees.

"He was in the deep snow. But it was not an off-piste track," Kehm said, suggesting Schumacher had not taken undue risks. "They were skiing on pistes, but in the moment that it (the accident) happened, it was not on the piste."

# Taking control


*Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram*

Brody Baugh wrestles down his calf to rope Monday during the Tall City New Year's Calf Roping Blowout at the Horseshoe Arena. See a photo gallery online at **www.mrt.com/sports**.

# COLLEGE BASKETBALL

FROM WIRE REPORTS

## Men

**AP TOP 25**

| | Record | Pts | Prv |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Arizona (67) | 13-0 | 1,620 | 1 |
| 2. Syracuse (5) | 12-0 | 1,550 | 2 |
| 3. Ohio St. | 13-0 | 1,462 | 3 |
| 4. Wisconsin | 13-0 | 1,408 | 4 |
| 5. Michigan St. | 11-1 | 1,364 | 5 |
| 6. Oklahoma St. | 11-1 | 1,278 | 7 |
| 7. Duke | 10-2 | 1,144 | 9 |
| 8. Wichita St. | 13-0 | 1,067 | 10 |
| **9. Baylor** | **10-1** | **1,013** | **11** |
| 10. Oregon | 12-0 | 967 | 12 |
| 11. Villanova | 11-1 | 943 | 6 |
| 12. Florida | 10-2 | 915 | 13 |
| 13. Iowa St. | 11-0 | 869 | 14 |
| 14. Louisville | 11-2 | 812 | 8 |
| 15. Kentucky | 10-3 | 753 | 18 |
| 16. Kansas | 8-3 | 666 | 16 |
| 17. UConn | 11-1 | 647 | 15 |
| 18. Memphis | 9-2 | 625 | 17 |
| 19. North Carolina | 9-3 | 413 | 19 |
| 20. Colorado | 11-2 | 373 | 21 |
| 21. San Diego St. | 10-1 | 371 | 20 |
| 22. Iowa | 11-2 | 258 | 22 |
| 23. UMass | 11-1 | 160 | 23 |
| 24. Gonzaga | 11-2 | 78 | 24 |
| 25. Missouri | 11-1 | 76 | 25 |

**Others receiving votes:** Illinois 57, Texas 40, George Washington 37, Oklahoma 36, Toledo 32, Florida St. 24, UCLA 19, Harvard 10, Michigan 7, Creighton 5, Kansas St. 3, Pittsburgh 2, LSU 1.

**USA TODAY TOP 25**

| | Record | Pts | Prv |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Arizona (30) | 13-0 | 798 | 1 |
| 2. Syracuse (1) | 12-0 | 762 | 2 |
| 3. Ohio State (1) | 13-0 | 741 | 3 |
| 4. Michigan State | 11-1 | 682 | 5 |
| 5. Wisconsin | 13-0 | 677 | 6 |
| 6. Oklahoma State | 11-1 | 605 | 7 |
| 7. Wichita State | 13-0 | 588 | 8 |
| 8. Duke | 10-2 | 568 | 9 |
| 9. Oregon | 12-0 | 530 | 10 |
| 10. Louisville | 11-2 | 515 | 4 |
| **11. Baylor** | **10-1** | **429** | **12** |
| 12. Iowa State | 11-0 | 420 | 13 |
| 13. Florida | 10-2 | 413 | 14 |
| 14. Villanova | 11-1 | 392 | 11 |
| 15. UConn | 11-1 | 340 | 15 |
| 16. Kentucky | 10-3 | 319 | 18 |
| 17. Kansas | 8-3 | 314 | 16 |
| 18. Memphis | 9-2 | 268 | 17 |
| 19. North Carolina | 9-3 | 184 | 19 |
| 19. San Diego State | 10-1 | 184 | 20 |
| 21. Gonzaga | 11-2 | 145 | 21 |
| 22. UMass | 11-1 | 137 | 22 |
| 23. Iowa | 11-2 | 113 | 23 |
| 24. Colorado | 11-2 | 92 | 24 |
| 25. Missouri | 11-1 | 51 | 25 |

**Others receiving votes:** Creighton 29, Pittsburgh 22, UCLA 20, George Washington 17, Oklahoma 16, **Texas 9**, Toledo 8, Florida State 4, Michigan 4, Illinois 2, New Mexico 1, Saint Louis 1.

**MONDAY'S TOP 25 FARED**

1. Arizona (13-0) did not play. Next: vs. Washington State, Thursday.

2. Syracuse (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Eastern Michigan, Tuesday.

3. Ohio State (13-0) did not play. Next: at Purdue, Tuesday.

4. Wisconsin (13-0) did not play. Next: at Northwestern, Thursday.

5. Michigan State (11-1) did not play. Next: at Penn State, Tuesday.

6. Oklahoma State (12-1) def Robert Morris 92-66. Next: at Kansas State, Saturday.

7. Duke (10-2) did not play. Next: at Elon, Tuesday.

8. Wichita State (13-0) did not play. Next: at Southern Illinois, Thursday.

**9. Baylor (11-1) beat Oral Roberts 81-55. Next: vs. Savannah State, Friday.**

10. Oregon (12-0) did not play. Next: at Utah, Thursday.

11. Villanova (11-1) did not play. Next: at Butler, Tuesday.

12. Florida (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Richmond, Saturday.

13. Iowa State (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Northern Illinois, Tuesday.

14. Louisville (11-2) did not play. Next: at UCF, Tuesday.

15. Kentucky (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. Mississippi State, Wednesday, Jan. 8.

16. Kansas (9-3) beat Toledo 93-83. Next: vs. No. 21 San Diego State, Sunday.

17. UConn (11-1) did not play. Next: at Houston, Tuesday.

18. Memphis (9-2) did not play. Next: at South Florida, Tuesday.

19. North Carolina (9-3) did not play. Next: vs. UNC Wilmington, Tuesday.

20. Colorado (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon State, Thursday.

21. San Diego State (10-1) did not play. Next: at Colorado State, Wednesday.

22. Iowa (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. Nebraska, Tuesday.

23. UMass (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Miami (Ohio), Saturday.

24. Gonzaga (12-2) beat San Francisco 69-41. Next: vs. Saint Mary's (Cal), Thursday.

25. Missouri (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Long Beach State, Saturday.

**MONDAY'S SCORES**

**SOUTHWEST**

Arkansas St. 91, S. Arkansas 66

Baylor 81, Oral Roberts 55

Cent. Arkansas 121, Ecclesa 77

Incarnate Word 102, Huston-Tillotson 73

LIU Brooklyn 73, Texas St. 64

Louisiana Tech 102, Oklahoma 98, OT

Oklahoma St. 92, Robert Morris 66

Texas 66, Rice 44

Texas Tech 100, Mount St. Mary's 69

UALR 88, Grambling St. 68

**SOUTH**

Appalachian St. 97, Bluefield 70

Austin Peay 93, Dalton 57

Campbell 69, Georgia Southern 63

Clemson 80, VMI 50

Florida Gulf Coast 60, N. Kentucky 56

Florida St. 67, Charleston Southern 59

Jacksonville St. 78, UTMartin 65

James Madison 73, Ball St. 68

Louisiana-Lafayette 90, Central Methodist 58

Mercer 86, Jacksonville 49

Miami 71, Loyola (Md.) 48

Mississippi 79, W. Kentucky 74

Morehead St. 102, Asbury 68

NC State 68, UNC Greensboro 64

North Florida 85, Kennesaw St. 60

Radford 80, Houghton 51

SC State 68, Coastal Carolina 58

SE Louisiana 75, Spring Hill 65

Samford 71, Presbyterian 59

South Carolina 92, Marshall 65

Southern U. 116, Champion Baptist 12

St. Francis (NY) 60, Delaware St. 57

Stetson 65, Lipscomb 63

Tennessee 87, Virginia 52

W. Carolina 106, Milligan 72

Wofford 81, High Point 53

**MIDWEST**

Detroit 73, Bethune-Cookman 53

Kansas 93, Toledo 83

Ohio 78, Longwood 43

**FAR WEST**

Santa Clara 76, Portland 68

**EAST**

Army 68, Coast Guard 48

Bryant 70, Lehigh 68

Columbia 76, Colgate 70, 2OT

Hofstra 75, NJIT 64

Siena 79, Fordham 69

St. Bonaventure 80, Delaware 73

Towson 72, New Hampshire 64

UMBC 63, Navy 48

Vermont 88, Lyndon St. 48

Wagner 59, Monmouth (NJ) 52

## Women

**AP TOP 25**

| | Record | Pts | Prv |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. UConn (36) | 13-0 | 900 | 1 |
| 2. Notre Dame | 11-0 | 841 | 2 |
| 3. Duke | 12-1 | 822 | 3 |
| 4. Stanford | 11-1 | 808 | 4 |
| 5. Tennessee | 11-1 | 736 | 5 |
| 6. Kentucky | 12-1 | 717 | 6 |
| 7. Louisville | 13-1 | 695 | 7 |
| 8. Maryland | 12-1 | 648 | 8 |
| **9. Baylor** | **10-1** | **626** | **9** |
| 10. North Carolina | 11-2 | 515 | 10 |
| 11. Oklahoma St. | 11-0 | 511 | 11 |
| 12. Colorado | 10-1 | 472 | 12 |
| 13. South Carolina | 12-1 | 462 | 13 |
| 14. Iowa St. | 11-0 | 447 | 14 |
| 15. Penn St. | 9-3 | 341 | 15 |
| 16. LSU | 9-2 | 308 | 16 |
| 17. Purdue | 9-2 | 299 | 17 |
| 18. Nebraska | 10-2 | 278 | 18 |
| 19. Georgia | 12-1 | 228 | 19 |
| 20. Syracuse | 11-1 | 213 | 20 |
| 21. Florida St. | 12-1 | 187 | 22 |
| 22. Iowa | 12-2 | 180 | 21 |
| 23. California | 8-3 | 116 | 23 |
| 24. Arizona St. | 10-1 | 91 | 25 |
| 25. Oklahoma | 9-4 | 65 | 25 |

**Others receiving votes:** Arkansas 49, San Diego 33, NC State 27, Indiana 23, Georgia Tech 8, Rutgers 8, West Virginia 8, Gonzaga 7, Saint Joseph's 7, **Texas 7**, Middle Tennessee 6, Saint Mary's (Cal) 5, **UTEP 4**, DePaul 2.

**MONDAY'S TOP 25 FARED**

1. UConn (13-0) did not play. Next: at UCF, Wednesday.

2. Notre Dame (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. South Dakota State, Thursday.

3. Duke (12-1) did not play. Next: vs. Old Dominion, Thursday.

4. Stanford (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon, Friday.

5. Tennessee (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 LSU, Thursday.

6. Kentucky (12-1) did not play. Next: at Alabama, Thursday.

7. Louisville (13-1) did not play. Next: at Temple, Wednesday.

8. Maryland (12-1) did not play. Next: at No. 10 North Carolina, Sunday.

**9. Baylor (10-1) did not play. Next: at Kansas State, Thursday.**

10. North Carolina (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. James Madison, Thursday.

11. Oklahoma State (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Texas, Thursday.

12. Colorado (10-1) did not play. Next: at Southern Cal, Friday.

13. South Carolina (12-1) did not play. Next: at Arkansas, Thursday.

14. Iowa State (11-0) did not play. Next: at TCU, Thursday.

15. Penn State (9-3) did not play. Next: at No. 22 Iowa, Sunday.

16. LSU (10-2) beat Jackson State 72-45. Next: at No. 5 Tennessee, Thursday.

17. Purdue (9-2) did not play. Next: at Ohio State, Thursday.

18. Nebraska (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Northwestern, Thursday.

19. Georgia (12-1) did not play. Next: at Vanderbilt, Thursday.

20. Syracuse (11-2) lost to No. 24 Arizona State 63-60. Next: at N.C. State, Sunday.

21. Florida State (12-1) did not play. Next: at Pittsburgh, Thursday.

22. Iowa (12-2) did not play. Next: at Indiana, Thursday.

23. California (8-3) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon State, Friday.

24. Arizona State (11-1) beat No. 20 Syracuse 63-60. Next: at Washington State, Friday.

25. Oklahoma (9-4) did not play. Next: at Texas Tech, Thursday.

**MONDAY'S SCORES**

**SOUTHWEST**

Cent. Arkansas 85, Philander Smith 57

Texas A&M 80, Arkansas St. 62

Texas A&M-CC 84, Huston-Tillotson 64

Texas Lutheran 69, Concordia-Austin 63

**SOUTH**

Berry 89, Wesleyan (Ga.) 44

Campbell 74, Longwood 55

Coastal Carolina 67, Radford 66

E. Kentucky 86, Murray St. 72

Fernum 79, Rhodes 77, 2OT

George Mason 85, Georgia Southern 64

High Point 75, Liberty 70

LSU-Shreveport 75, Faulkner 65

Loyola NO 89, Dillard 40

Mississippi 99, Austin Peay 69

Mississippi St. 98, MVSU 58

Pikeville 72, Va. Intermont 68

SC State 63, Md.-Eastern Shore 50

Thomas More 73, Centre 38

UNC Asheville 54, Presbyterian 47

UTMartin 88, Jacksonville St. 75

VCU 81, Old Dominion 68

Vanderbilt 87, UAB 76

Westminster (Mo.) 82, Birmingham-Southern 76

Winthrop 69, Charleston Southern 49

Xavier (NO) 72, Mobile 60

**MIDWEST**

Dayton 102, Cent. Michigan 89

Denver 67, Illinois St. 60

Evansville 90, Toledo 80

IUPUI 92, Indiana-Southeast 63

Kalamazoo 69, Defiance 66

Luther 63, Wis.-River Falls 61

Macalester 88, Detroit 76

Morehead St. 59, S. Illinois 50

Wis.-Superior 71, Northland 45

Wisconsin 65, Green Bay 61, OT

**FAR WEST**

Arizona St. 63, Syracuse 60

BYU 65, Pepperdine 50

Gonzaga 83, Pacific 68

LIU Brooklyn 78, N. Arizona 72

Saint Mary's (Cal.) 80, Portland 65

San Diego 86, Loyola Marymount 63

Utah 66, UC Santa Barbara 57

**EAST**

Binghamton 57, La Salle 56

Bryant 68, Columbia 47

CCSU 64, Hofstra 62

Dartmouth 76, UMass 72

Drexel 69, Cornell 44

NJIT 58, Wagner 52

NYU 92, Mass. College 59

St. John's 61, Delaware 58

# More officiating gaffes hurt NFL

**BARRY WILNER**
*Associated Press*

When fans and media are talking more about the officiating than what Aaron Rodgers, Randall Cobb, LeSean McCoy and Brandon Boykin do to get their teams in the playoffs, there's a problem the NFL would rather not be confronted with.

The regular season closed with some wild playoff chases, and even more uproar over officiating. It has not been a great year for the zebras, with fans in Pittsburgh now screaming about being robbed of a playoff berth because of a rules gaffe.

As the playoffs begin, the highest-rated officials at each position will earn assignments. The very best, according to the evaluations of league officiating chief Dean Blandino and his staff, will wind up in the Super Bowl.

But when highlight shows concentrate as much on the men with whistles as the heroics by the Packers and Eagles to win their divisions, it's no wonder viewers wonder whether there are enough efficient officials to go around.

On Monday, the NFL acknowledged that referees should have penalized the Chargers for an illegal formation on a missed 41-yard field goal by Kansas City's Ryan Succop with 4 seconds left Sunday.

Had the proper call been made, Succop would have had another chance. If he hit the next kick — well within his range — San Diego would have been eliminated and the Steelers would own the final wild-card spot.

"I think the one thing you need to do when there are critical mistakes is be transparent and admit it," former NFL officiating director Mike Pereira told The Associated Press. "You can't hide behind the shield.

"In Dean Blandino, the league has a guy capable of explaining it, and he understands the need to do so, and he is media savvy and explains it clearly."

The problem is Blandino has had to explain far too much this season. Such as:

■ Steelers coach Mike Tomlin doesn't get penalized for impeding an opponent's kick return. The next week, the NFL fines him $100,000 and admits a flag should have been thrown.

■ The down markers and chains are moved when they shouldn't be in the final moments of Washington's home game against the Giants. The NFL says the next day that play should have been stopped to correct the error, which was confusing and somewhat costly to the Redskins.

■ Late in Sunday night's play-in game between the Eagles and Cowboys, Dallas loses 15 seconds on the play clock because of an inaccurate reset. Instead of giving the Cowboys 40 seconds to get off a play, they are given 25. No on-field official notices, and Dallas is handed a 5-yard penalty.

Although the Cowboys wind up scoring a touchdown on the drive, it's yet another example of inefficient officiating.

With the airwaves scorched by Steelers fans shouting "no fair" about the non-call in San Diego, at least the players and Tomlin were more level-headed. If they were angry or appalled, they hid it well.

"Shoulda, woulda, coulda, but that's not going to change the outcome," defensive end Cam Heyward said. "We've got to learn from this as a team. And like I've said before, we can't rely on other teams to do it for us. We've got to win our games."

Added Tomlin:

"What transpired yesterday was unfortunate for our hopes moving forward. We'll have to find a way to accept that and move forward. I'm not going to lose any sleep over something that happened in a stadium that we weren't even in."

There will be top officials in the stadiums during the playoffs — at least the ones who top the league's tiered ratings. Pereira calls NFL officials "the very best in the business" and has faith in their abilities.

But he's also troubled when they mess up on such things as dead-ball fouls, offsetting penalties and relatively simple rulings.

His solution — one the NFL has considered on a very limited basis — is to have many more full-time officials.

"My personal belief is the 17 referees all ought to be full time," says Pereira, now a commentator for Fox Sports. "They need to explore that notion because having only one full-time referee and umpire and line judge and the others makes no sense. It would not achieve to me what having all 17 full-time refs would, because they should be involved with everything. Be involved in proposals of rules changes and teaching their crews and working with the teams in the offseason."

For this postseason, scrutiny will be very heavy on the men in stripes.

Shanahan

Schwartz

Frazier

Schiano

Chudzinski

# 5 NFL coaches already fired

**By Barry Wilner**
*Associated Press*

It didn't take long.

Barely 12 hours after the NFL's regular season ended, five head coaches were unemployed. Fired on Monday were Washington's Mike Shanahan, Detroit's Jim Schwartz, Minnesota's Leslie Frazier and Tampa Bay's Greg Schiano.

The Cleveland Browns didn't even wait that long, dismissing Rob Chudzinski on Sunday night after just one season on the job.

Shanahan, who won two Super Bowls in Denver in the 1990s, spent four seasons with the Redskins and was 24-40. Frazier had a little more than three seasons with the Vikings to compile an 18-33-1 mark, and Schwartz coached the Lions for five seasons, finishing 29-52.

Schiano only got two years with the Buccaneers, going 11-21. He had three years and $9 million left on his contract.

Tampa Bay also fired general manager Mark Dominik.

"It's tough for the players to see your coaches go. You never want to see anybody get fired," Pro Bowl defensive tackle Gerald McCoy said. "Me personally, I haven't had any, consistently, in my career. Third head coach, going on my fifth year and three head coaches. Add up everybody, it'll be six D-line coaches."

The Buccaneers, who also have fired the likes of Tony Dungy and Jon Gruden, hired Schiano out of Rutgers in 2012 and went 6-4 before losing five of their last six games. They dropped their first eight games this season and finished 4-12.

One coach allegedly on the hot seat was retained: Rex Ryan, who has one more year on his contract, is staying with the New York Jets after a surprising 8-8 record in his fifth season at the helm.

While some of the fired coaches might have seen it coming, Chudzinski certainly didn't despite going 4-12 and losing his final seven games and 10 of 11.

"I was shocked and disappointed to hear the news that I was fired," said Chudzinski, who grew up a Browns fan. "I am a Cleveland Brown to the core, and always will be. It was an honor to lead our players and coaches, and I appreciate their dedication and sacrifice. I was more excited than ever for this team, as I know we were building a great foundation for future success."

As the coaching searches begin, agents will float the names of their clients — Penn State's Bill O'Brien seems to be the hottest candidate and has interviewed for Houston's vacancy. The Texans (2-14), who own the top choice in May's draft after losing their final 14 games, released coach Gary Kubiak late in the season.

Whoever gets hired in each place will face mammoth rebuilding projects. Overall, the six teams seeking new coaches went 24-71-1.

Shanahan had one season remaining on a five-year contract worth about $7 million a season. He blamed salary cap restraints for part of the Redskins' collapse from NFC East champion in 2012 to 3-13 and eight consecutive losses.

Washington was hit with a $36 million salary cap penalty over two seasons for dumping salaries into the 2010 uncapped season, and Shanahan said it prevented the team from pursuing free agents it had targeted.

But his real undoing, along with the poor records in three of his four seasons, was a contentious relationship with star quarterback Robert Griffin III. RG3 did not speak with the media on Monday.

Frazier took over for Brad Childress in Minnesota for the final six games of 2010. He got the Vikings to the playoffs as a wild card last season, riding an MVP year from running back Adrian Peterson. But he never solved the Vikings' quarterback situation — three QBs started in 2013 — and the defense, Frazier's specialty, ranked 31st overall and against the pass.

"It's a harsh business," safety Harrison Smith said. "As a player, we all love coach Frazier, as a coach, as a man. You can't meet a better guy. And also as a player, we didn't make enough plays on the field. So you just feel like you let him down a little bit."

The Lions were considered an underachieving team the last two years under Schwartz. After a 6-3 start this year in a division where the Packers and Bears lost their starting quarterbacks for lengthy periods, Detroit fell apart down the stretch. It lost six of its last seven.

# Garrett grateful for chance to 'keep banging away'

**By Tom Orsborn**
*San Antonio Express-News*

IRVING — On a day when five of his NFL coaching brethren lost their jobs, Jason Garrett remained in charge at Valley Ranch.

And it wasn't lost on him that Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones' show of patience flies in the face of his disappointing 24-24 record over the past three seasons.

"I am certainly grateful for the opportunity," Garrett said Monday, "and the way we show that gratitude is to give everything we got and put it all out there every single day to try to bring home a winner for the Dallas Cowboys.

"We've worked very hard this year to put ourselves in position to do that. We didn't get it done. We're going to go back and we're going to try to do it again with everything we've got."

While Garrett is staying, he didn't rule out changes to his staff a day after the Cowboys lost 24-22 to Philadelphia in a do-or-die season finale to finish 8-8 a third straight season and extended their playoff drought to four seasons, the longest of the Jerry Jones' era.

Although Garrett told the media not to hold its breath waiting for announcements of staff or scheme changes because those evaluations have yet to take place, there's already talk of the club brokering a retirement deal with defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin, 73.

Cowboys executive vice president Stephen Jones said on his radio show the report is false. For his part, Kiffin told reporters late Sunday night he has no plans to retire.

"I'd like to keep on coaching," he said. "I'm proud to be a Cowboy."

In Kiffin's first season with Dallas, his bottom-of-the-NFL defense allowed a franchise-record 6,645 yards, which also ranks third-worst in league.

"We did some good things on defense over the course of the season, primarily taking the ball away, better than we ever have around here (actually since 2010)," Garrett said. "But having said that, we have to play better run defense, we have to play better pass defense, we have to play better situational defense."

Two vets applauded Jerry Jones' decision to retain Garrett.

"He's a great leader, motivating us each and every week no matter what the circumstance is," defensive end DeMarcus Ware said after the players cleaned out their lockers and had their final team meeting with Garrett and Jerry Jones.

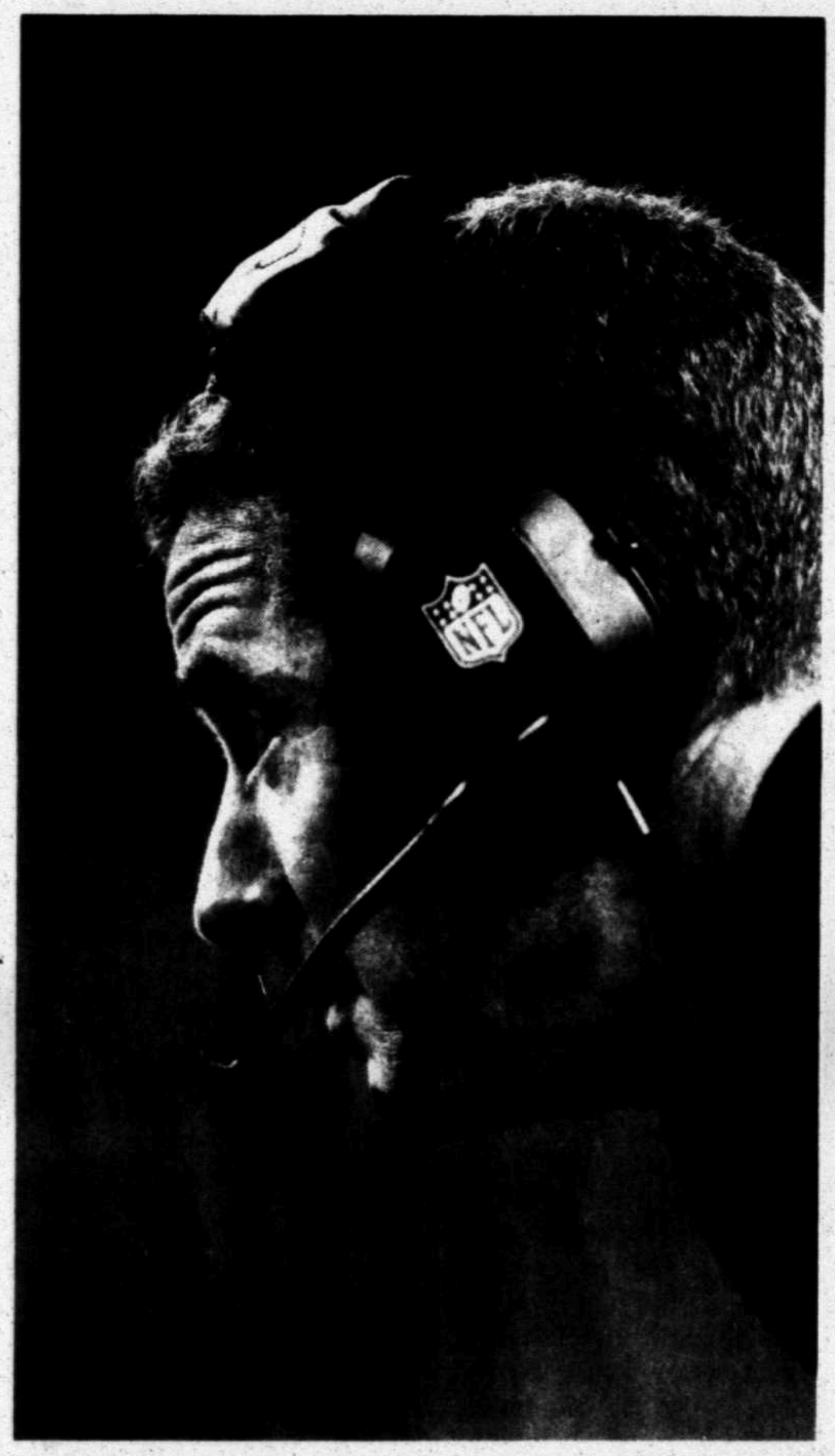
"He's a great coach. I'm behind him 100 percent."

Tight end Jason Witten said it's "very reassuring" that Jerry Jones isn't ready to give up on Garrett, who is 29-27 overall since replacing Wade Phillips midway through the 2010 season.

"The guys in this locker room would do anything for coach Garrett," Witten said. "We're so fortunate to have him. You want to win for each other, but you also want to win for a guy that pours everything into your team and gives you every opportunity."

Still, Ware admitted it isn't easy to get up off the mat after yet another 8-8 finish.

"I mean, you get tired of it," Ware said. "After a while, each year, you feel like you lose something.


Tim Sharp/AP

Dallas Cowboys head coach Jason Garrett watches from the sidelines during the first half of Sunday's game against the Philadelphia Eagles in Arlington.

So, it's like, 'How do you come back from that? What do you do in the offseason to make sure that doesn't happen (again)?'

"I know we are going to do everything we can to do that. But are you for sure you are doing the right things?"

Garrett is confident they are.

"Oh, I think you see a lot of evidence of progress for us," he said. "You'll say, 'Hey, you were 8-8 three straight years. I don't really see it.' It's a bottom-line business, a bottom-line world. We get that, but we also understand it takes time to put a program in place. We work very hard to do things the right way with the right people.

"...We're going to get back to work and keep banging away."

# MONDAYINTHENBA

**FROM WIRE REPORTS**

**STANDINGS**

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

| Atlantic Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Toronto | 13 | 15 | .464 | — |
| Boston | 13 | 17 | .433 | 1 |
| Brooklyn | 10 | 20 | .333 | 4 |
| Philadelphia | 9 | 21 | .300 | 5 |
| New York | 9 | 21 | .300 | 5 |

| Southeast Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Miami | 24 | 7 | .774 | — |
| Atlanta | 17 | 14 | .548 | 7 |
| Washington | 14 | 14 | .500 | 8 1/2 |
| Charlotte | 14 | 18 | .438 | 10 1/2 |
| Orlando | 10 | 20 | .333 | 13 1/2 |

| Central Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indiana | 24 | 5 | .828 | — |
| Detroit | 14 | 19 | .424 | 12 |
| Chicago | 12 | 17 | .414 | 12 |
| Cleveland | 10 | 20 | .333 | 14 1/2 |
| Milwaukee | 6 | 24 | .200 | 18 1/2 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

| Southwest Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| San Antonio | 24 | 7 | .774 | — |
| Houston | 21 | 12 | .636 | 4 |
| Dallas | 18 | 13 | .581 | 6 |
| New Orleans | 14 | 15 | .483 | 9 |
| Memphis | 13 | 17 | .433 | 10 1/2 |

| Northwest Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Oklahoma City | 25 | 5 | .833 | — |
| Portland | 24 | 7 | .774 | 1 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 15 | 16 | .484 | 10 1/2 |
| Denver | 14 | 16 | .467 | 11 |
| Utah | 10 | 24 | .294 | 17 |

| Pacific Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L.A. Clippers | 21 | 11 | .656 | — |
| Phoenix | 18 | 11 | .621 | 1 1/2 |
| Golden State | 19 | 13 | .594 | 2 |
| L.A. Lakers | 13 | 18 | .419 | 7 1/2 |
| Sacramento | 9 | 20 | .310 | 10 1/2 |

Monday's Scores
Washington 106, Detroit 99
Dallas 100, Minnesota 98
Chicago 95, Memphis 91
New Orleans 110, Portland 108
Miami 97, Denver 94
Utah 83, Charlotte 80
Phoenix at L.A. Clippers, late

**Today's Games**
Atlanta at Boston, Noon
Cleveland at Indiana, 2 p.m.
Golden State at Orlando, 4 p.m.
Sacramento at Houston, 6 p.m.
Brooklyn at San Antonio, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Portland at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

**MONDAY'S BOXES**

**MAVERICKS 100, TIMBERWOLVES 98**

**DALLAS (100):** Marion 14-19 0-0 32, Nowitzki 7-17 2-3 16, Dalembert 3-3 3-4 9, Calderon 3-7 0-0 8, Ellis 3-14 3-3 9, Carter 2-9 2-2 6, Wright 6-8 2-2 14, Crowder 0-4 0-0 0, Blair 3-3 0-0 6, Larkin 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 41-86 12-14 100.

**MINNESOTA (98):** Brewer 7-12 0-0 16, Love 14-24 6-8 36, Pekovic 6-13 6-6 18, Rubio 1-3 2-2 4, Martin 6-15 6-7 19, Shved 0-3 0-0 0, Mbah a Moute 0-1 0-0 0, Cunningham 0-2 0-0 0, Barea 2-4 0-0 5, Hummel 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 36-79 20-23 98.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dallas** | 29 | 33 | 19 | 19 | — | 100 |
| **Minnesota** | 23 | 20 | 38 | 17 | — | 98 |

3-Point Goals—Dallas 6-24 (Marion 4-6, Calderon 2-4, Larkin 0-1, Crowder 0-2, Ellis 0-3, Carter 0-4, Nowitzki 0-4), Minnesota 6-23 (Brewer 2-5, Love 2-7, Barea 1-3, Martin 1-3, Shved 0-1, Mbah a Moute 0-1, Rubio 0-1, Hummel 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Dallas 42 (Dalembert 7), Minnesota 51 (Love 11). Assists—Dallas 33 (Ellis 10), Minnesota 22 (Rubio 13). Total Fouls—Dallas 20, Minnesota 15. Technicals—Ellis, Minnesota defensive three second. A—16,111 (19,356).

**WIZARDS 106, PISTONS 99**

**WASHINGTON (106):** Ariza 5-11 2-2 15, Booker 2-6 2-3 6, Gortat 4-8 0-0 8, Wall 7-15 14-15 29, Beal 6-13 0-0 13, Webster 4-7 0-0 10, Nene 5-9 1-2 11, Vesely 0-0 0-0 0, Temple 0-1 1-2 1, Porter Jr. 3-4 1-3 7, Seraphin 3-4 0-0 6. Totals 39-78 21-27 106.

**DETROIT (99):** Smith 6-19 4-6 16, Monroe 7-17 8-12 22, Drummond 7-10 2-4 16, Jennings 5-16 3-4 15, Caldwell-Pope 7-11 0-1 17, Singler 4-5 2-4 11, Billups 0-2 0-0 0, Harrellson 0-1 0-0 0, Bynum 0-0 2-2 2, Datome 0-1 0-2 0. Totals 36-82 21-35 99.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Washington** | 33 | 20 | 25 | 28 | — | 106 |
| **Detroit** | 32 | 31 | 24 | 12 | — | 99 |

3-Point Goals—Washington 7-19 (Ariza 3-7, Webster 2-4, Wall 1-4, Beal 1-4), Detroit 6-20 (Caldwell-Pope 3-6, Jennings 2-8, Singler 1-2, Billups 0-2, Smith 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Washington 50 (Ariza 11), Detroit 55 (Drummond 16). Assists—Washington 25 (Wall 7), Detroit 26 (Jennings 14). Total Fouls—Washington 27, Detroit 24. Technicals—Gortat, Washington defensive three second, Detroit defensive three second. A—15,050 (22,076).

**PELICANS 110, TRAIL BLAZERS 108**

**PORTLAND (108):** Batum 3-9 1-2 8, Aldridge 13-25 2-3 28, Lopez 1-3 5-6 7, Lillard 10-18 4-5 29, Matthews 6-13 3-4 18, Williams 3-9 0-0 8, Freeland 2-5 0-0 4, Wright 1-5 3-4 6, Leonard 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 39-88 18-24 108.

**NEW ORLEANS (110):** Aminu 4-8 1-1 9, Anderson 5-11 2-2 13, Davis 13-19 1-4 27, Holiday 14-28 2-2 31, Morrow 1-3 0-0 2, Evans 9-15 2-2 20, Roberts 1-4 2-2 4, Ajinca 0-0 0-0 0, Rivers 1-1 2-2 4, Stiemsma 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 48-89 12-15 110.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Portland** | 21 | 28 | 33 | 26 | — | 108 |
| **New Orleans** | 26 | 30 | 33 | 21 | — | 110 |

3-Point Goals—Portland 12-32 (Lillard 5-8, Matthews 3-8, Williams 2-5, Wright 1-4, Batum 1-7), New Orleans 2-11 (Holiday 1-2, Anderson 1-5, Evans 0-1, Roberts 0-1, Aminu 0-1, Morrow 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Portland 47 (Aldridge 8), New Orleans 52 (Aminu 15). Assists—Portland 25 (Batum 6), New Orleans 19 (Holiday 13). Total Fouls—Portland 13, New Orleans 19. Technicals—New Orleans defensive three second. A—17,035 (17,188).

**BULLS 95, GRIZZLIES 91**

**CHICAGO (95):** Dunleavy 2-5 3-3 7, Boozer 9-16 3-4 21, Noah 2-9 4-5 8, Hinrich 1-3 3-6 6, Butler 6-10 12-14 26, Gibson 3-7 3-4 9, Snell 3-5 1-2 8, Augustin 2-8 4-4 10, Mohammed 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 28-65 33-42 95.

**MEMPHIS (91):** Prince 1-2 1-2 3, Randolph 4-15 2-2 10, Koufos 6-8 0-0 12, Conley 9-19 8-10 26, Allen 5-7 3-4 13, Davis 3-4 2-4 8, Johnson 4-13 5-6 13, Bayless 2-5 0-0 4, Miller 1-2 0-0 2, Leuer 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 35-78 21-28 91.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Chicago** | 17 | 29 | 25 | 24 | — | 95 |
| **Memphis** | 22 | 22 | 20 | 27 | — | 91 |

3-Point Goals—Chicago 6-15 (Butler 2-3, Augustin 2-7, Hinrich 1-1, Snell 1-2, Dunleavy 0-2), Memphis 0-5 (Miller 0-1, Johnson 0-2, Conley 0-2). Fouled Out—Johnson. Rebounds—Chicago 49 (Noah, Boozer 10), Memphis 47 (Randolph, Johnson 10). Assists—Chicago 16 (Augustin 9), Memphis 19 (Conley 9). Total Fouls—Chicago 21, Memphis 27. Technicals—Chicago Coach Thibodeau. A—17,688 (18,119).

**JAZZ 83, BOBCATS**

**CHARLOTTE (80):** Tolliver 1-6 0-0 3, McRoberts 2-6 0-0 5, A.Jefferson 8-23 1-2 18, Walker 6-17 5-5 18, Henderson 6-13 5-8 19, Zeller 1-1 0-0 2, Douglas-Roberts 2-4 0-0 5, Sessions 4-13 0-0 8, Biyombo 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 31-84 11-15 80.

**UTAH (83):** R.Jefferson 3-10 1-2 9, Williams 6-8 0-0 13, Favors 6-10 1-2 13, Burke 8-17 2-2 21, Hayward 3-10 2-2 9, Burks 6-12 1-1 14, Evans 0-3 0-0 0, Kanter 2-8 0-0 4, Garrett 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 34-80 7-9 83.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Charlotte** | 21 | 13 | 19 | 27 | — | 80 |
| **Utah** | 21 | 21 | 21 | 20 | — | 83 |

3-Point Goals—Charlotte 7-14 (Henderson 2-2, Walker 1-1, Tolliver 1-2, A.Jefferson 1-2, McRoberts 1-3, Douglas-Roberts 1-3, Sessions 0-1), Utah 8-21 (Burke 3-6, R.Jefferson 2-6, Williams 1-1, Hayward 1-3, Burks 1-3, Garrett 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Charlotte 53 (A.Jefferson 10), Utah 52 (Williams 10). Assists—Charlotte 13 (Walker 4), Utah 17 (Hayward, Burke 5). Total Fouls—Charlotte 12, Utah 17. Technicals—Utah defensive three second. A—19,125 (19,911).

**HEAT 97, NUGGETS 94**

**MIAMI (97):** James 8-15 5-8 26, Battier 2-3 0-0 6, Bosh 8-12 1-4 17, Chalmers 1-5 7-10 10, Wade 6-9 0-0 12, Allen 4-7 3-4 13, Haslem 0-4 0-0 0, Cole 0-3 0-0 0, Lewis 1-2 0-0 2, Beasley 4-6 0-0 9, Anthony 0-0 2-2 2, Mason Jr. 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 34-67 18-28 97.

**DENVER (94):** Chandler 6-17 0-0 13, Faried 4-8 0-0 8, Hickson 5-11 2-2 12, Lawson 8-15 5-6 26, Hamilton 1-3 0-0 3, Foye 4-6 3-3 11, Arthur 6-14 0-0 13, Mozgov 3-4 0-0 6, A.Miller 1-2 0-0 2, Robinson 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 38-81 10-11 94.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Miami** | 29 | 17 | 26 | 25 | — | 97 |
| **Denver** | 30 | 25 | 22 | 17 | — | 94 |

3-Point Goals—Miami 11-23 (James 5-9, Battier 2-3, Allen 2-4, Beasley 1-1, Chalmers 1-3, Mason Jr. 0-1, Lewis 0-1, Wade 0-1), Denver 8-20 (Lawson 5-8, Arthur 1-1, Hamilton 1-2, Chandler 1-6, Robinson 0-1, Hickson 0-1, Foye 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Miami 41 (Allen 7), Denver 46 (Hickson 11). Assists—Miami 23 (James 10), Denver 23 (Foye, Lawson 7). Total Fouls—Miami 13, Denver 21. Technicals—Miami defensive three second. A—19,155 (19,155).

# REPORTER-TELEGRAM SPORTS TOP 10 STORIES OF 2013

## Midland Christian football team wins its 3rd straight TAPPS title

**No. 1**

Expectations are always high at Midland Christian, but this year they were higher than normal.

The Mustangs won two straight state titles and the core group of those two teams were returning this year, and the senior class had a goal of being the most successful in the history of the private school's storied program.

This year's senior class may have cemented itself as the one that other classes look to for success in the future. The Mustangs finished undefeated for the first time in school history in 11-man football at 14-0 and beat Katy Pope John XXIII for the TAPPS Division II state title, 28-20, in Corsicana.

The victory completed a year where the Mustangs blew out nearly every opponent and Mason McClendon set passing records that may not be surpassed.

McClendon ended the season throwing for a school-record 4,053 yards with another school record 59 toichdowns. McClendon will also leave the school with career marks in passing yards, passing touchdowns and completions.

McClendon keyed an offense that averaged 48.3 points a game and 484 yards a game.

But what also helped make this team one that will be remembered for a while is a tenacious defense that suffocated its opponents. Over the span of 14 games, the squad allowed a total of 62 points and held opponents to less than 1,000 yards rushing for the entire season.

Overall, Midland Christian's defense allowed 167 yards a game.

"It's the best team in the state of Texas in TAPPS, and the best team ever in TAPPS is what (the latest state championship) says," coach Greg McClendon said after the state championship in early December. "It means it's awfully special. In a couple of days, we will go to work for another one."

The Mustangs will take their three state titles to the ultra-competitive TAPPS Division I next season, but it may take a while for this season to be forgotten.

*— Len Hayward*

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

MRT File Photo

## The saga of former MC coach Chris Craig

**No. 2**

It was a bizarre six months for former Midland College men's basketball coach Chris Craig from the time he resigned to the time he was arrested for an outstanding warrant for misdemeanor drug possession after officers found marijuana and a pipe in his car in Price, Utah, in August.

After two seasons at MC in which he compiled an overall record of 37-18, including a 19-8 mark during the 2012-13 season with the Chaparrals, Craig, 32, abruptly resigned on March 21 for personal reasons.

That resignation capped off a day in which it appears Craig wrote about end-of-the-world prophecies on his Twitter account and personal blog, which contained 31 handwritten pages. In that blog he mentioned the 50-year anniversary of the John F. Kennedy assassination, called President Barack Obama a "false prophet," and said that former Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney was an "anti-christ" and a "false messiah."

After his resignation, Craig was reportedly detained by Secret Service agents when he traveled to Israel during Obama's trip to the Middle East.

Then on July 10, Craig was accused of entering a classroom at Eastern Arizona College, raising a Bible in the air and offering obscenities after asking the instructor whether he was Mormon. Craig also claimed he was an "Islamist jihadist," and later police in Colorado issued a warning to church leaders after Craig had been saying Mormons and Catholics would be destroyed in the coming weeks.

Since his arrest on Aug. 8, there has been no word on Craig's precise whereabouts or activities.

*— Oscar LeRoy*

## All four Midland ISD basketball coaches are new this season.

**No. 3**

There was plenty of turnover in the Midland ISD athletic department in 2012, but no sport had the mass exodus of coaches like basketball.

All four Midland ISD head basketball coaches decided to move on this past spring for a variety of reasons, and not all of the exits were pretty.

The first to leave was longtime Lee boys coach Mark Coffman, who announced his resignation on Feb. 19 after 13 seasons with the Rebels. Coffman was rumored to be considering retirement at the time but was later told by the MISD administration they were going in a different direction.

Coffman retired only from coaching at public schools and is now the head coach at Oakridge School in Arlington. He left Midland ISD saying he was disappointed with the approach of the athletic department in recent years.

Coffman was replaced by his assistant Chris Packer, a Lee grad.

Midland High girls coach Ron Berry was next to resign, opting to take a job at Class 2A Lipan in order to be closer to his daughter Rayna Willis, who was diagnosed with cervical and thyroid cancer.

Berry's successor was Wes Torres, who came from Amarillo Caprock. Torres was actually offered the job before Berry took it before the 2011 season.

Midland High boys coach Justin Hardin surprisingly resigned on April 25 after leading the Bulldogs to back-to-back seven-win seasons. Hardin left the coaching profession altogether and moved to Houston with his family.

He was replaced by former MHS standout Charles Tatum, a star player on the Bulldogs' 1998 state championship team. Tatum had spent the previous two seasons coaching Trinity and won a TCAF state title while at the helm of the program in 2011.

The circle was completed on May 21 when Lee girls coach Morgan Fowler tendered her resignation. Fowler said the decision was made for personal reasons, but her resignation turned out to be more controversial than that with disgruntled parents becoming involved in the situation.

Fowler was replaced by Monica Ramriez, a 1989 Lee graduate. Ramirez played and coached at UTEP before spending two years at El Paso El Dorado.

It was a basketball offseason filled with a lot of turnover, and it kept MISD athletic director Todd Howey busy taking applications and interviewing candidates.

"I don't think anybody has ever seen this before," Howey said of having all four head basketball coaches leaving in a season. "It's an unusual situation. The entire face of basketball has changed for Midland, Texas. Fortunately, I think all four programs are in good shape."

*— Jonathan Hull*

MRT File Photos

Clockwise from top left, new Midland High boys basketball coach Charles Tatum; Midland High girls basketball coach Wes Torres; Lee girls basketball coach Monica Ramriez; and Lee boys basketball coach Chris Packer.

## Lee football team wins first district title since 2000

**No. 4**

The Lee football team hadn't played a postseason game in three years, and the questions surrounding the program were numerous.

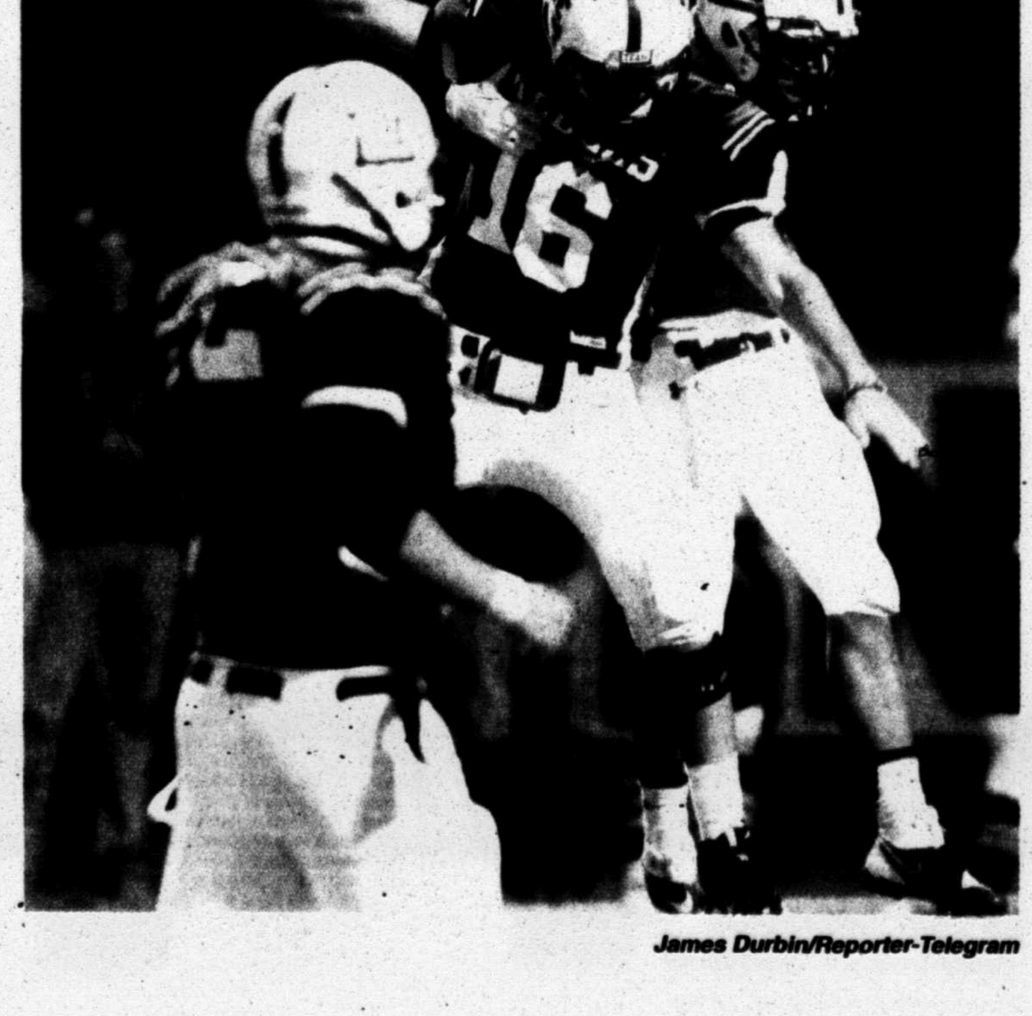
But when the 2013 season ended, the Rebels had not only returned to the playoffs but shared its first district title since 2000, and quarterback Caden Coots broke nearly every passing record in the record book.

The Rebels finished the season at 9-3, with two losses coming to Southlake Carroll and San Angelo Central, who shared the District 2-5A title with the Rebels.

Meanwhile, Coots started one year at quarterback but will hold nearly every major passing record at Lee as the Rebels used new offensive coordinator's Cliff Watkins spread offense this season.

Coots set passing records for yards in a seaso and yards in a game and will leave as the school's career leader in passing yards with his 3,398 this season. Coots also threw 34 touchdown passes this season, which was also a record.

*— Len Hayward*



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

## UIL announces cutoff numbers before realignment for first time

**No. 5**

In an unprecedented move, the University Interscholastic League announced the classification cutoff numbers as the league will begin with a new Class 6A next season. Class 6A is not an entirely new class as it will basically be the old Class 5A, but the announcement of the cutoff numbers created plenty of buzz in West Texas about what realignment would look like.

The lowest number for the new Class 6A was 2,100, which meant that there will be 11 Class 6A schools in West Texas, including Lee and Midland High. Now the school district officials in West Texas will be waiting and watching to see how the UIL divides up the teams.

*— Len Hayward*

# REPORTER-TELEGRAM SPORTS TOP 10 STORIES OF 2013

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

## Controversial departure of former Lee girls basketball coach Morgan Fowler

**No. 6**

From January 2012 to May 2013, 10 head coaches in Midland ISD resigned from their respective posts. But none of the 10 were as controversial as the departure of Morgan Fowler.

Fowler took over the Lee girls basketball program as a first-time head coach on June 25, 2012. During what turned out to be her only season with the program, she guided the Lady Rebels to their first winning season since 2007-08, finishing 15-14 after falling to El Paso Franklin in the bi-district round of the playoffs.

But less than four months after that season-ending loss to Franklin, Fowler unexpectedly tendered her resignation to MISD athletic director Todd Howey on May 21.

Upon publishing the story on Fowler's resignation on www.mrt.com, it received 32 comments within a 48-hour period with some readers condemning Fowler while others defended her.

Two days after Fowler's resignation, MRT sports writer Jonathan Hull posted a column online addressing some of the rumors stemming from Fowler's dismissal, including whether some parents took steps to call for her removal. The column only added more heat to a controversy that ended up being the most commented on sports story of the year on www.mrt.com with 60 comments.

Many of the rumors stemmed from Fowler's high-intensity style with some parents taking exception with the way the enigmatic coach screamed at her players during games and practices.

Fowler was replaced by 1989 Lee grad Monica Ramirez, who previously coached at El Paso El Dorado for two seasons before returning to coach her alma mater on June 6.

Fowler has at least temporarily left the coaching profession and moved to the Houston area with her husband, Matt.

*— Jonathan Hull*

## Midland College baseball team earns its first berth in the JUCO World Series

**No. 7**

The Midland College baseball team enjoyed its best season in the 13-year history of the program as the Chaparrals won the Western Junior College Athletic Conference title and made their first-ever appearance in the JUCO World Series in Grand Junction, Colo., by winning their first Region V Tournament title.

The Chaps finished the season 48-15 after going 1-2 in the World Series. The 48 wins is the most in school history, surpassing the 47 wins of the 2003 squad.

The Chaparrals also produced one of the top offenses in NJCAA Division I baseball. They led the nation in runs scored (533, almost 20 more than Connors State, Okla.), they were eighth in the nation in batting average (.345), led the nation in doubles (149) and were fourth in the nation in triples (33).

Individually, sophomore outfielder Jeremie Fagnan was the NJCAA Division I Player of the Year and WJCAC MVP after leading the team with a .414 batting average — good for 28th in the nation — and was 14th in the nation with 64 RBI.

Sophomore outfielder and Midland High grad Blair Beck was fifth in the nation with 68 RBI, and freshman first baseman Chris Shaw was 16th in the NJCAA with 60 RBI to go with a team-leading 11 home runs (including two in the postseason).

*— Oscar LeRoy*

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

## Big Spring has turnaround football season, goes 3 rounds deep in playoffs

**No. 8**

It was quite a turnaround story for the Big Spring football team as the Steers went from 0-10 in 2011 and 5-5 in 2012 to a 9-4 playoff team in 2013.

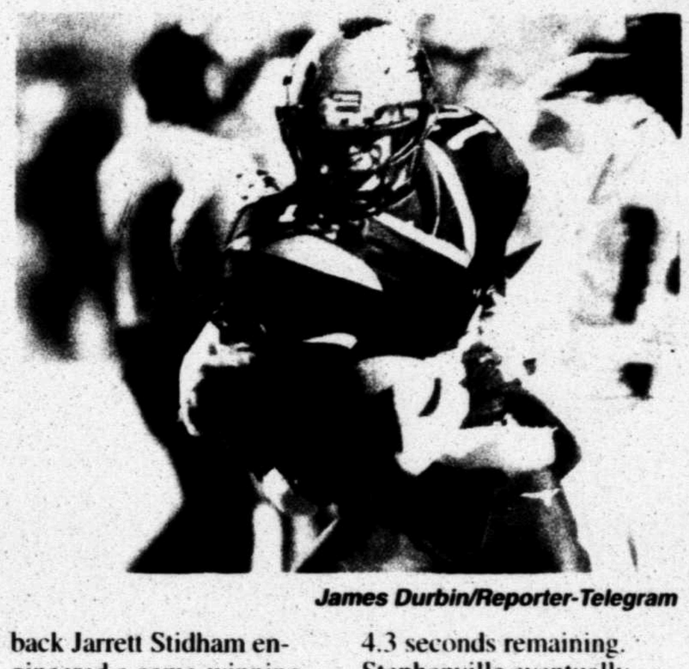
The Steers came into the season with a lot of promise but knew they had to navigate through a tough District 4-3A in order to make the playoffs. After suffering a close loss at district power Abilene Wylie, Big Spring reeled off three straight district wins to qualify for the playoffs for the first time since the 2009 season. It was also the first time in the playoffs for Big Spring since its move to Class 3A.

The Steers were in position to win the district title at the end of the regular season but they suffered a loss to Monahans.

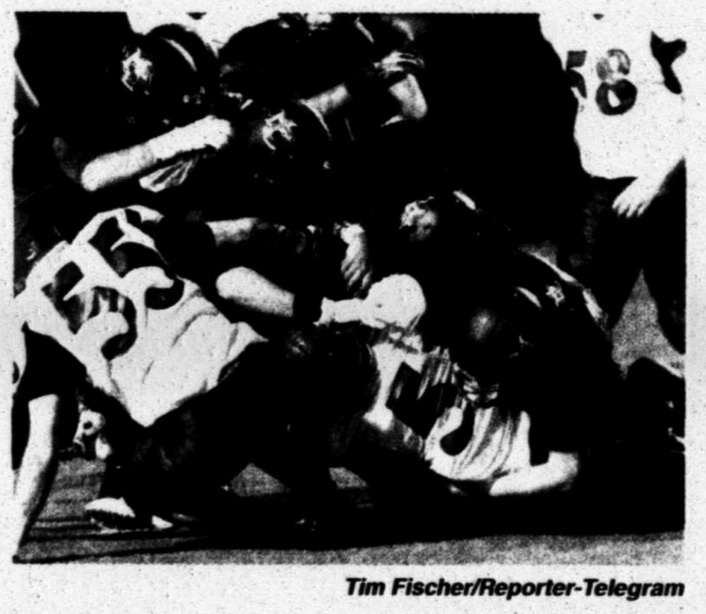
Big Spring then rolled by Fabens 61-21 in the bi-district round of the Division I playoffs and took care of rival Andrews, 56-7, in the area round, before meeting up with defending state champion and No. 5 ranked Stephenville in the regional round.

The Steers and Yellow Jackets went back and forth through most of the game before Big Spring took a 36-34 lead with 35 seconds left in the game. But Stephenville had the final answer as blue-chip recruit, and junior quarterback Jarrett Stidham engineered a game-winning drive that culminated with a touchdown pass with 4.3 seconds remaining. Stephenville eventually won 47-36.

*— Oscar LeRoy*



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

## Anna James wins Class 5A state diving title

**No. 10**

Anna James added to her already impressive diving resume in February of this year with her first Class 5A state diving championship. James rallied from being down by a few points to winning in the final day. She became the first Midland ISD diver to win a state title in nearly four decades.

Then in the fall, James signed a letter of intent to dive at Purdue for the next four years.

*— Len Hayward*

MRT file photo

## MCS moves to TAPPS Division I in realignment

**No. 9**

In September as Midland Christian was beginning its run to another state title, the Mustangs were greeted with some interesting news. Midland Christian will make the move to TAPPS Division I for football, beginning in 2014.

It was a move that was not totally unexpected, but it will be one that will certainly give the Mustangs a test. Midland Christian will be in a district with Fort Worth Nolan Catholic, Trinity Christian-Addison, Argyle Liberty Christian, Dallas Bishop Lynch, Dallas Bishop Dunne, Plano John Paul and Plano Prestonwood.

To get an idea of the kind of competition the Mustangs will be facing in 2014, Fort Worth Nolan, Plano Prestonwood, Argyle Liberty and Trinity-Christian Addison were the final four for this year's TAPPS Division I bracket. Nolan Catholic won the state championship.

*— Len Hayward*

## Greenwood boys basketball team advances to the Region I-3A tournament for the first time since 2004

**No. 10**

It wasn't the kind of start the Rangers were hoping for when entering the 2012-13 basketball season, but the finish was certainly memorable.

Greenwood had a 10-11 record heading into district play in the highly competitive District 4-3A, but that's exactly when it all started to click. Thanks to a strong senior class, the Rangers rode a wave of momentum that carried them to a second-place finish in 4-3A and to their first Region I-3A Tournament since 2004.

Greenwood knocked off Clint, 68-52, in the bi-district round, thanks to 24 points and 12 rebounds by senior post Jody Lively.

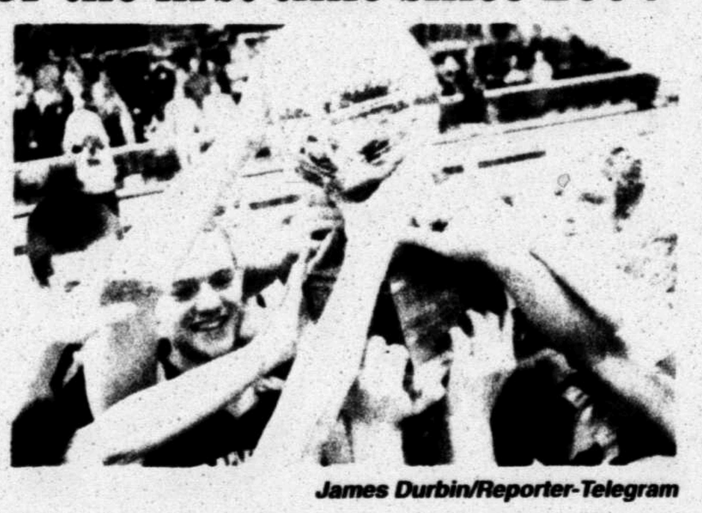
The Rangers stayed hot with a 45-42 victory against No. 18 Perryton in the area round.

Senior Kam Williams scored 20 points to help the Rangers hold off Fabens in the regional quarterfinals, 72-69, punching the Rangers' ticket to the Region I-3A Tournament in Lubbock.

The Rangers' season finally ran out, though, as No. 8 Wichita Falls Hirschi bested them, 59-38, in the regional semifinals. Hirschi knocked down 11 3-pointers in the win.

The season turned out to be the only one for coach Zach Boxell, who resigned to take over the Brock program on May 15. Boxell was replaced by Big Spring boys coach Cliff Thompson, who is trying to replicate last season's success despite the loss of a large and talented senior class.

*— Jonathan Hull*



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

## OTHER NOMINATED STORIES

- The Midland College women's basketball team earns a berth in the NJCAA National Tournament after winning the Region V championship.
- Jordan Dreiling is hired as the new men's basketball coach at Midland College.
- Midland College golf team qualifies for the NJCAA National Tournament in Lubbock, but struggles on the final two days of competition.
- The Midland Christian baseball team falls to Fort Bend Christian in the TAPPS 4A state baseball championship.
- The Midland Christian track teams win both boys and girls TAPPS 4A championships.
- Grady boys track team wins the Class A boys track and field team championship in Austin.

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

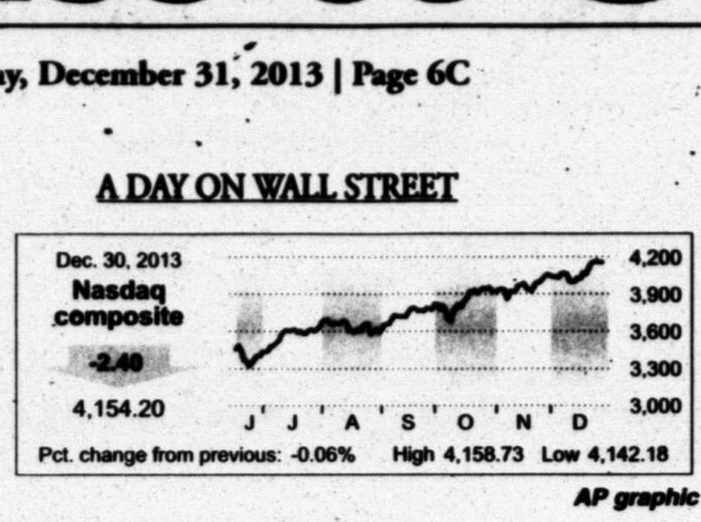
- 2013 Midland ISD Hall of Legends class inducts 1998 Midland High boys basketball team, along with former MHS boys basketball coach Jack Stephenson, former Lee boys basketball coach Paul Stueckler and former Lee football player Larry Molinare.
- Three Midland Little League teams qualify for the Texas West State Tournament in San Angelo this summer.
- The Midland High football team misses the postseason for the second straight year, which was the first time in coach Craig Yenzer's tenure at the school.
- Midland High grad Mike Timlin is named on the Baseball Hall of Fame ballot.
- Midland Christian grad Chris Withrow is called up to the Los Angeles Dodgers for the first time this summer.
- Chris Jauz resigns as football coach at Trinity to take a job as a baseball assistant coach at Lee High School; Chargers hire former Lee star Antwan Alexander as new head football coach.
- Midland High volleyball team earns a playoff berth in District 2-5A with a fourth-place finish.
- Lee golfer Ali Cowan qualifies for the state tournament, while the Lee girls golf team earns a spot at the regional tournament for the first time in five years.
- Midland Christian girls golf team wins TAPPS 4A state title as Christian Curnutte wins medalist title.
- Midland High baseball team returns to the playoffs, falls to Southlake Carroll in the third round.

# BUSINESS & OIL



## A DAY ON WALL STREET

AP graphic

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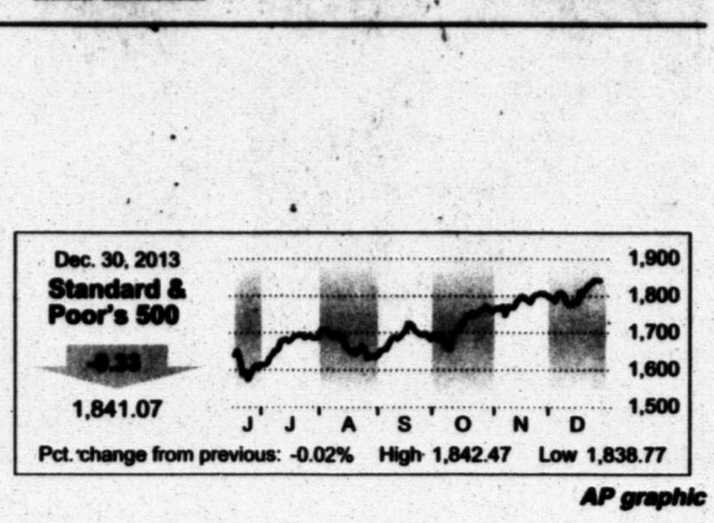


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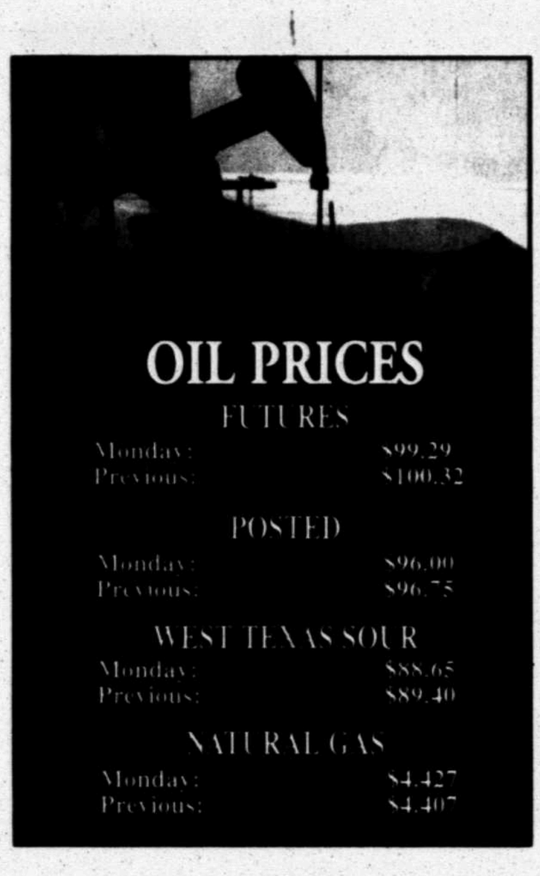

AP file photo

A 100-watt incandescent light bulb at Royal Lighting in Los Angeles is shown on Jan. 21. LEDs use 70 percent to 80 percent less power than incandescent light bulbs. According to the Energy Department, widespread use of LED bulbs could save the output of the equivalent of 44 large power plants by 2027.

### NYSE

**MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)**

| Name | Vol (00) | Last | Chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| Twitter n | 534875 | 60.51 | -3.24 |
| BkofAm | 508970 | 15.54 | -.13 |
| S&P500ETF | 482321 | 183.82 | -.03 |
| iShEMkts | 384013 | 41.48 | +.18 |
| MktVGold | 363708 | 20.64 | -.61 |

**GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)**

| Name | Last | Chg | %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| Navistr pfD | 15.55 | +3.40 | +28.0 |
| ChiNBorun | 2.80 | +.60 | +27.3 |
| MauiLand | 6.57 | +1.08 | +19.7 |
| NQ Mobile | 13.90 | +2.05 | +17.3 |
| SemGrp wt | 43.51 | +4.69 | +12.1 |

**LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)**

| Name | Last | Chg | %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| NoahHldgs | 16.63 | -2.79 | -14.4 |
| Hyperdy rs | 4.03 | -.35 | -8.0 |
| DrGldBR rs | 25.82 | -2.18 | -7.8 |
| PrisaB | 2.79 | -.23 | -7.6 |
| Lentuo | 2.93 | -.20 | -6.4 |

**DIARY**

| | |
|---|---|
| Advanced | 1,524 |
| Declined | 1,571 |
| Unchanged | 94 |
| Total issues | 3,189 |
| New Highs | 188 |
| New Lows | 54 |
| Volume | 2,237,370,814 |

### AMEX

**MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)**

| Name | Vol (00) | Last | Chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| ChenereEn | 92530 | 43.10 | -.65 |
| InovioPhm | 57963 | 2.84 | +.01 |
| AltiNevG | 40442 | 3.40 | -.19 |
| Organovo | 33322 | 9.81 | +.53 |
| AbdAsPac | 27434 | 5.79 | -.03 |

**GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)**

| Name | Last | Chg | %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| Electrmed | 2.09 | +1.08 | +106.9 |
| LGL Grp | 5.80 | +.54 | +10.3 |
| Neuralstem | 2.94 | +.26 | +9.7 |
| PrGpYEq bt | 46.32 | +3.69 | +8.7 |
| Versar | 4.95 | +.35 | +7.6 |

**LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)**

| Name | Last | Chg | %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| Can-Fite | 5.54 | -2.66 | -32.4 |
| LiberMed | 4.05 | -.31 | -7.1 |
| ImpacMtg | 5.94 | -.40 | -6.3 |
| B2gold g | 2.02 | -.12 | -5.6 |
| SwGA Fn | 10.95 | -.64 | -5.6 |

**DIARY**

| | |
|---|---|
| Advanced | 185 |
| Declined | 227 |
| Unchanged | 29 |
| Total issues | 441 |
| New Highs | 12 |
| New Lows | 5 |
| Volume | 122,102,393 |

### NASDAQ

**MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)**

| Name | Vol (00) | Last | Chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| Facebook | 668083 | 53.71 | -1.73 |
| SiriusXM | 275915 | 3.51 | -.01 |
| DryShips | 272068 | 4.38 | -.30 |
| Cisco | 220027 | 22.25 | +.23 |
| AriadP | 205092 | 6.55 | -.09 |

**GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)**

| Name | Last | Chg | %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| NV5 wt | 3.75 | +1.25 | +50.0 |
| BostPrv wt | 6.99 | +1.70 | +32.1 |
| Sevcon | 6.70 | +1.43 | +27.1 |
| ChinaSun h | 6.32 | +1.18 | +23.0 |
| SyngyP un | 13.03 | +2.28 | +21.2 |

**LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)**

| Name | Last | Chg | %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|
| VisnChina | 23.80 | -7.40 | -23.7 |
| MyriadG | 20.79 | -3.35 | -13.9 |
| FrSeas rs | 2.18 | -.35 | -13.8 |
| TSR Inc | 3.43 | -.41 | -10.7 |
| IntrntGold | 8.67 | -.97 | -9.5 |

**DIARY**

| | |
|---|---|
| Advanced | 1,222 |
| Declined | 1,345 |
| Unchanged | 146 |
| Total issues | 2,713 |
| New Highs | 157 |
| New Lows | 13 |
| Volume | 1,316,574,346 |

# Home electricity use in US falls to 2001 levels

*Associated Press*

NEW YORK — The average amount of electricity consumed in U.S. homes has fallen to levels last seen more than a decade ago, back when the smartest device in people's pockets was a Palm pilot and anyone talking about a tablet was probably an archaeologist or a preacher.

Because of more energy-efficient housing, appliances and gadgets, power usage is on track to decline in 2013 for the third year in a row, to 10,819 kilowatt-hours per household, according to the Energy Information Administration.

That's the lowest level since 2001, when households averaged 10,535 kwh. And the drop has occurred even though people's lives are more electrified.

Here's a look at what has changed since the last time consumption was so low.

In the early 2000s, as energy prices rose, more states adopted or toughened building codes to force builders to better seal homes so heat or air-conditioned air doesn't seep out so fast. That means newer homes waste less energy.

Also, insulated windows and other building technologies have dropped in price, making retrofits of existing homes more affordable. In the wake of the financial crisis, billions of dollars in Recovery Act funding was directed toward home-efficiency programs.

Big appliances such as refrigerators and air conditioners have gotten more efficient thanks to federal energy standards that get stricter ever few years as technology evolves.

A typical room air conditioner — one of the biggest power hogs in the home — uses 20 percent less electricity per hour of full operation than it did in 2001, according to the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers.

Central air conditioners, refrigerators, dishwashers, water heaters, washing machines and dryers also have gotten more efficient.

Other devices are using less juice, too. Some 40-inch LED televisions bought today use 80 percent less power than the cathode ray tube televisions of the past. Some use just $8 worth of electricity over a year when used five hours a day — less than a 60-watt incandescent bulb would use.

Those incandescent light bulbs are being replaced with compact fluorescent bulbs and LEDs that use 70 to 80 percent less power. According to the Energy Department, widespread use of LED bulbs could save output equivalent to that of 44 large power plants by 2027.

The move to mobile also is helping. Desktop computers with big CRT monitors are being replaced with laptops, tablet computers and smart phones, and these mobile devices are specifically designed to sip power to prolong battery life.

It costs $1.36 to power an iPad for a year, compared with $28.21 for a desktop computer, according to the Electric Power Research Institute.

People are using more devices, and that is offsetting what would otherwise be a more dramatic reduction in power consumption.

DVRs spin at all hours of the day, often under more than one television in a home. Game consoles are getting more sophisticated to process better graphics and connect with other players, and therefore use more power.

More homes have central air conditioners instead of window units. They are more efficient, but people use them more often.

Still, Jennifer Amman, the buildings program director at the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, said she is encouraged.

"It's great to see this movement, to see the shift in the national numbers," she said.

## Cracker Barrel says no sale

LEBANON, Tenn. — Cracker Barrel says it won't consider selling itself, rejecting a push from its biggest shareholder.

The company said Monday that it will continue pursuing its own business strategies.

Last week shareholder Sardar Biglari said he was willing to make a bid for the company and urged it to consider a sale.

## Crude oil stays near $100

The price of oil retreated slightly in thin trading Monday to close below $100.

Benchmark U.S. crude for February delivery ended the day down $1.03, closing at $99.29 on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

On Friday, oil had closed above $100 for the first time since Oct. 18 on prospects of a U.S. economic recovery. The U.S. Energy Information Administration said Friday that U.S. crude stockpiles fell 4.7 million barrels the week ending Dec. 20. It was the fourth straight week of draws in crude stocks.

While signs of an improving economy in the U.S. have supported prices, analysts noted that oil consumption in other parts of the world could be held back by a strengthening dollar, which makes oil more expensive for other countries.

At the gas pump, the average price of a gallon of gasoline is $3.31. That's up 6 cents from a week ago, and up 2 cents from the same time last year.

## Gold falls

Gold for February delivery lost $10.20, or 0.8 percent, to $1,203.80 an ounce.

## MIDLAND STOCKS

**Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies**

**Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)**
Closing Price $82.53 Down 0.34

**Concho Resources (CXO)**
Closing Price $106.46 Down 1.80

**Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)**
Closing Price $33.68 Down 0.37

**Diamondback Energy (FANG)**
Closing Price $51.93 Down 1.41

**Legacy Reserves (LGCY)**
Closing Price $28.19 Up 0.46

**Mexco Energy (MXC)**
Closing Price $6.40 Down 0.15

**Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)**
Closing Price $27.95 Down 0.78

**Ring Energy (REI)**
Closing Price $12.06 Up 0.18

## HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

| Name | Div | PE | Last | Chg | YTD %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AT&T Inc | 1.84f | 26 | 35.20 | +.02 | +4.4 |
| Abraxas | ... | 37 | 3.29 | -.10 | +50.2 |
| AdamsEx | .84e | ... | 13.06 | -.04 | +23.3 |
| AMD | ... | ... | 3.85 | +.07 | +60.4 |
| Alcoa | .12 | 30 | 10.53 | -.16 | +21.3 |
| AlonUSA | 24a | 19 | 16.14 | -.01 | -10.8 |
| AlphaNRs | ... | ... | 7.10 | -.11 | -27.1 |
| AmAirl n | ... | ... | 24.78 | -.16 | +.7 |
| Amgen | 2.44f | 18 | 115.49 | +.37 | +34.0 |
| Anadarko | .72 | 23 | 79.09 | -.31 | +6.4 |
| Annaly | 1.50e | 3 | 9.77 | -.06 | -30.4 |
| Apache | .80 | 13 | 86.16 | -.52 | +9.8 |
| Apple Inc | 12.20 | 14 | 554.52 | -5.57 | +4.2 |
| ApldMatl | .40 | 83 | 17.49 | +.06 | +52.9 |
| ArchCoal | .12 | ... | 4.46 | -.13 | -39.1 |
| AriadP | ... | ... | 6.55 | -.09 | -65.8 |
| ATMOS | 1.48f | 17 | 45.20 | +.03 | +28.7 |
| AutoData | 1.92f | 28 | 81.08 | +.36 | +42.4 |
| BP PLC | 2.28f | 11 | 48.20 | -.07 | +15.8 |
| BabsCCInv | 1.20 | ... | 15.13 | +.11 | -1.0 |
| BakrHu | .60 | 22 | 54.45 | -.32 | +33.3 |
| BkofAm | .04 | 21 | 15.54 | -.13 | +33.9 |
| B iPVix rs | ... | ... | 42.57 | +.57 | -66.5 |
| BarrickG | .20 | ... | 17.11 | -.35 | -51.1 |
| BasicEnSv | ... | ... | 15.48 | -.44 | +35.7 |
| BerkHa A | ... | 17177069.00 | | -91.00 | +32.1 |
| BlkHillsCp | 1.52 | 21 | 52.41 | +.06 | +44.2 |
| BlackBerry | ... | ... | 7.26 | -.04 | -38.8 |
| BrMySq | 1.44f | 32 | 53.42 | +.27 | +65.7 |
| BrownFA | 1.16f | 27 | 73.70 | ... | +19.8 |
| BrownFB | 1.16f | 26 | 75.55 | +.14 | +19.4 |
| CVS Care | 1.10f | 20 | 71.58 | +.02 | +48.0 |
| Cameron | ... | 20 | 59.21 | -.29 | +4.9 |
| Caterpillar | 2.40 | 18 | 90.87 | ... | +1.4 |
| Celestic g | ... | 22 | 10.38 | +.13 | +27.4 |
| CntryLink | 2.16 | ... | 31.96 | -.05 | -18.3 |
| ChenereEn | ... | ... | 43.10 | -.65 | +129.5 |
| ChesEng | .35 | 21 | 27.05 | -.44 | +62.8 |
| Chevron | 4.00 | 10 | 124.23 | -1.00 | +14.9 |
| Chicos | .30f | 19 | 18.83 | +.14 | +2.0 |
| Cimarex | .56 | 22 | 102.11 | -2.02 | +76.9 |
| Cisco | .68 | 12 | 22.25 | +.23 | +13.2 |
| Citigroup | .04 | 13 | 51.92 | -.34 | +31.2 |
| ClayEng | ... | ... | 82.53 | -.34 | +106.3 |

| Name | Div | PE | Last | Chg | YTD %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CliffsNRs | .60 | ... | 26.60 | +.07 | -31.0 |
| CocaCola | 1.12 | 22 | 41.09 | +.43 | +13.4 |
| ColgPalm s | 1.36 | 27 | 65.43 | +.06 | +25.2 |
| ConAgra | 1.00 | 18 | 33.68 | +.13 | +14.2 |
| ConchoRes | ... | 50 | 106.46 | -1.80 | +32.1 |
| ConocoPhil | 2.76 | 11 | 69.91 | -.48 | +20.6 |
| CrackerB | 3.00 | 22 | 110.20 | -1.06 | +71.5 |
| Crocs | ... | 19 | 16.14 | +2.81 | +12.2 |
| CrosTim | 2.32e | 13 | 29.10 | +.30 | +8.1 |
| CytRx | ... | ... | 5.79 | +.53 | +209.6 |
| DCP Mid | 2.88f | 22 | 49.77 | +.92 | +19.2 |
| DTE | 2.62 | 19 | 66.32 | -.04 | +10.4 |
| Dataram rs | ... | ... | 2.78 | -.02 | +40.4 |
| Dawson | ... | 17 | 33.68 | -.27 | +27.7 |
| DevonE | .88 | ... | 61.80 | +.11 | +18.8 |
| Disney | .96f | 22 | 76.23 | +1.88 | +53.1 |
| DowChm | 1.28 | 46 | 44.60 | ... | +38.0 |
| DryShips | ... | ... | 4.38 | -.30 | +173.8 |
| EMC Cp | .40 | 20 | 25.06 | +.06 | -.9 |
| EOG Res | .75 | 41 | 167.35 | -1.81 | +38.5 |
| EmpDist | 1.02f | 17 | 22.73 | -.94 | +11.5 |
| Energen | .58 | 26 | 70.05 | -.69 | +55.4 |
| EngyTslr | 3.62f | 11 | 56.40 | +1.02 | +31.4 |
| EnPro | ... | 37 | 57.74 | +.09 | +41.2 |
| EntPrPt | 2.76f | 24 | 65.95 | +.76 | +31.7 |
| Ericsson | .43e | ... | 12.10 | -.07 | +19.8 |
| ExterranH | ... | 24 | 34.06 | -.14 | +55.4 |
| ExxonMbl | 2.52 | 11 | 100.31 | -1.20 | +15.9 |
| Facebook | ... | ... | 53.71 | -1.73 | +101.8 |
| FordM | .40 | 12 | 15.28 | -.02 | +18.0 |
| ForestOil | ... | 12 | 3.61 | -.11 | -46.0 |
| FMCG | 1.25a | 13 | 37.67 | +.17 | +10.1 |
| GATX | 1.24 | 17 | 52.67 | +.18 | +21.6 |
| GabMultT | .80 | ... | 12.28 | -.14 | +58.4 |
| GAInv | 2.70e | ... | 35.25 | +.14 | +28.7 |
| GenElec | .88f | 21 | 27.89 | +.06 | +32.9 |
| GenMotors | ... | 17 | 40.69 | -.25 | +41.1 |
| GtPlainEn | .92f | 16 | 24.24 | +.05 | +19.4 |
| Groupon | ... | ... | 11.33 | -.38 | +133.1 |
| HalconRes | ... | 20 | 3.87 | +.10 | -44.1 |
| Halliprtn | .60f | 17 | 50.40 | -.68 | +45.3 |
| Hertz | ... | 38 | 25.91 | +.16 | +59.3 |
| HimaxTch | .25e | 94 | 14.17 | +.72 | +490.4 |
| iShGold | ... | ... | 11.60 | -.18 | -28.7 |

| Name | Div | PE | Last | Chg | YTD %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| iShBrazil | 1.57e | ... | 44.37 | -.32 | -20.7 |
| iShJapan | .13e | ... | 12.12 | +.11 | +24.3 |
| iShChinaLC | 1.02e | ... | 37.97 | -.23 | -6.1 |
| iShEMkts | .87e | ... | 41.48 | +.18 | -6.5 |
| iS Eafe | 1.70e | ... | 66.85 | +.28 | +17.6 |
| iShR2K | 1.41e | ... | 115.09 | -.07 | +36.5 |
| IntegrysE | 2.72 | 15 | 54.38 | -.04 | +4.1 |
| Intel | .90 | 14 | 25.85 | +.25 | +25.4 |
| InterDig | .40 | 32 | 29.81 | +.76 | -27.5 |
| ItauUnibH | .38r | ... | 13.40 | -.12 | -10.4 |
| JPMorgCh | 1.52 | 13 | 57.95 | -.19 | +32.7 |
| JohnJn | 2.64 | 21 | 92.30 | -.05 | +31.7 |
| KandiTech | ... | ... | 11.95 | +1.61 | +199.5 |
| KlmbClk | 3.24 | 22 | 105.93 | +.83 | +25.5 |
| KindME | 5.40f | 30 | 80.62 | +.37 | +1.0 |
| KindMM | 5.40f | 48 | 75.53 | +.54 | +.1 |
| Kinross g | ... | ... | 4.28 | -.12 | -56.0 |
| LSI Corp | .12 | 85 | 11.02 | +.01 | +55.9 |
| LegacyRes | 2.34f | ... | 28.19 | +.46 | +18.4 |
| Lubys | ... | 53 | 7.48 | +.16 | +11.8 |
| MktVGold | .19e | ... | 20.64 | -.61 | -55.5 |
| McDnlds | 3.24f | 18 | 97.01 | +.10 | +10.0 |
| Merck | 1.76f | 30 | 49.94 | +.15 | +22.0 |
| MeritMed | ... | 62 | 15.61 | -.04 | +12.3 |
| MexcoEn | ... | ... | 6.40 | -.15 | -.6 |
| MicronT | ... | 21 | 21.30 | -.22 | +236.0 |
| Microsoft | 1.12 | 14 | 37.29 | ... | +39.6 |
| Molycorp | ... | ... | 5.38 | -.15 | -43.0 |
| MyriadG | ... | 10 | 20.79 | -3.35 | -23.7 |
| NQ Mobile | ... | ... | 13.90 | +2.05 | +130.1 |
| Nabors | .16 | 39 | 16.87 | +.03 | +16.7 |
| NatGrid | 3.17e | ... | 64.80 | -.19 | +12.8 |
| NOilVarco | 1.04 | 14 | 78.68 | -.76 | +15.1 |
| NokiaCp | ... | ... | 7.99 | -.07 | +102.3 |
| NvidiaCd | .80a | ... | 12.23 | -.02 | -19.6 |
| NvPall | .80 | ... | 12.41 | +.01 | -16.8 |
| NuvPI | .86 | ... | 12.38 | +.01 | -17.3 |
| NSTFI3 | .63a | ... | 12.86 | +.01 | -12.0 |
| NTXQI | .70a | ... | 12.90 | +.01 | -18.6 |
| OcciPet | 2.56 | 17 | 94.55 | -.30 | +23.4 |
| Oracle | .48 | 16 | 37.99 | +.01 | +14.0 |
| ParTech | ... | ... | 5.48 | +.08 | +11.8 |
| ParkDri | ... | ... | 7.86 | -.26 | +73.8 |
| PattUTI | .20 | 16 | 25.47 | -.46 | +38.7 |
| Penney | ... | ... | 9.00 | -.01 | -54.3 |

| Name | Div | PE | Last | Chg | YTD %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PennaRE | .80f | ... | 19.02 | +.04 | +7.8 |
| Prmian | .87e | 16 | 13.02 | -.18 | +6.2 |
| Petrobras | .27e | ... | 13.66 | -.01 | -29.8 |
| Pfizer | 1.04f | 16 | 30.89 | +.05 | +22.4 |
| PioNtrl | .08 | 45 | 181.70 | -5.88 | +70.5 |
| PlainsAAP | 2.40f | 19 | 51.97 | +.53 | +14.9 |
| PwShs QQQ | .88e | ... | 87.39 | -.13 | +34.2 |
| Praxair | 2.40 | 23 | 130.01 | ... | +18.8 |
| PrmEgy | ... | 19 | 50.50 | ... | +119.6 |
| PrecotDam | 2.41 | 21 | 82.80 | +.01 | +20.8 |
| RangeRs | .16 | 98 | 83.63 | +.07 | +33.1 |
| RiteAid | ... | ... | 5.05 | -.04 | +271.3 |
| Rowan | ... | 18 | 34.61 | -.18 | +10.7 |
| RoyDShllA | 3.60 | 9 | 70.79 | -.28 | +2.7 |
| SpdrDJIA | 3.53e | ... | 164.59 | +.12 | +26.0 |
| S&P500ETF | 3.35e | ... | 183.82 | -.03 | +29.1 |
| SabnR | 3.90e | 13 | 49.75 | -.40 | +25.0 |
| SanderFm | .80f | 13 | 72.44 | +.11 | +82.3 |
| SandRidge | ... | ... | 5.93 | +.01 | -8.6 |
| Sanofi rt | ... | ... | .32 | -.50 | -81.3 |
| Saplent | ... | 32 | 17.39 | ... | +64.7 |
| Schlmbg | 1.25 | 17 | 89.17 | -.73 | +28.7 |
| SigmaAld | .86 | 24 | 84.80 | +.19 | +27.8 |
| SiriusXM | .05e | 50 | 3.51 | -.01 | +21.5 |
| Smucker | 2.32 | 20 | 103.65 | +.47 | +20.2 |
| Sprint n | ... | ... | 10.58 | -.21 | +80.6 |

| Name | Div | PE | Last | Chg | YTD %Chg |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SPDR Fncl | .32e | ... | 21.75 | -.04 | +32.7 |
| SunocoLog | 2.52f | 20 | 75.12 | +1.09 | +51.1 |
| TeleNEsp | .47e | ... | 16.29 | +.03 | +29.8 |
| Tesoro | 1.00 | 17 | 56.55 | -.82 | +28.4 |
| 3M Co | 3.42f | 21 | 139.42 | +.07 | +50.2 |
| Torchmark | .60 | 14 | 78.28 | +.04 | +51.9 |
| TriContl | .70e | ... | 19.95 | -.20 | +24.3 |
| TurqHillRs | ... | ... | 3.25 | ... | -44.5 |
| Twitter n | ... | ... | 60.51 | -3.24 | +34.8 |
| TylerTech | ... | 92 | 101.95 | -2.17 | +110.5 |
| UBWV | 1.28f | 18 | 31.62 | -.57 | +29.9 |
| Vale SA | .78e | ... | 15.22 | -.01 | -27.4 |
| ValeroE | .90 | 17 | 48.64 | -.03 | +42.6 |
| VangEmg | 1.15e | ... | 40.82 | +.15 | -8.3 |
| Vulcanlll | .94 | ... | 59.49 | +.85 | +14.3 |
| Walgrn | 1.26 | 20 | 57.84 | +.41 | +68.3 |
| WalterEn | .04 | ... | 16.78 | +.06 | -53.2 |
| WellsFargo | 1.20 | 12 | 45.50 | ... | +33.1 |
| WstnRefin | .88f | 9 | 41.14 | -.02 | +45.9 |
| WhitingPet | ... | 14 | 60.54 | -1.23 | +39.6 |
| WmsCos | 1.52f | 43 | 38.41 | +.11 | +17.3 |
| XcelEngy | 1.12 | 15 | 27.92 | +.08 | +4.5 |
| Xerox | .23 | 13 | 12.15 | -.05 | +75.2 |
| Yahoo | ... | 35 | 40.20 | -.29 | +102.0 |
| Zynga | ... | ... | 3.88 | -.07 | +64.4 |

**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 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16,529.01 | 12,883.89 | Dow Jones Industrials | 16,504.29 | +25.88 | +.16 | +25.95 | +25.95 |
| 7,373.57 | 5,210.30 | Dow Jones Transportation | 7,351.20 | -.88 | -.01 | +38.52 | +38.52 |
| 537.86 | 443.69 | Dow Jones Utilities | 489.28 | +1.34 | +.27 | +7.99 | +7.99 |
| 10,360.85 | 8,298.36 | NYSE Composite | 10,357.84 | +4.61 | +.04 | +22.67 | +22.67 |
| 2,471.19 | 2,186.97 | Amex Index | 2,405.74 | -13.79 | -.57 | +2.13 | +2.13 |
| 4,175.36 | 2,951.04 | Nasdaq Composite | 4,154.20 | -2.39 | -.06 | +37.58 | +37.58 |
| 1,844.89 | 1,398.11 | S&P 500 | 1,841.07 | -.33 | -.02 | +29.09 | +29.09 |
| 19,987.72 | 14,700.70 | Wilshire 5000 | 19,923.46 | -.16 | ... | +30.87 | +30.87 |
| 1,167.97 | 827.72 | Russell 2000 | 1,160.59 | -.39 | -.04 | +36.64 | +36.64 |

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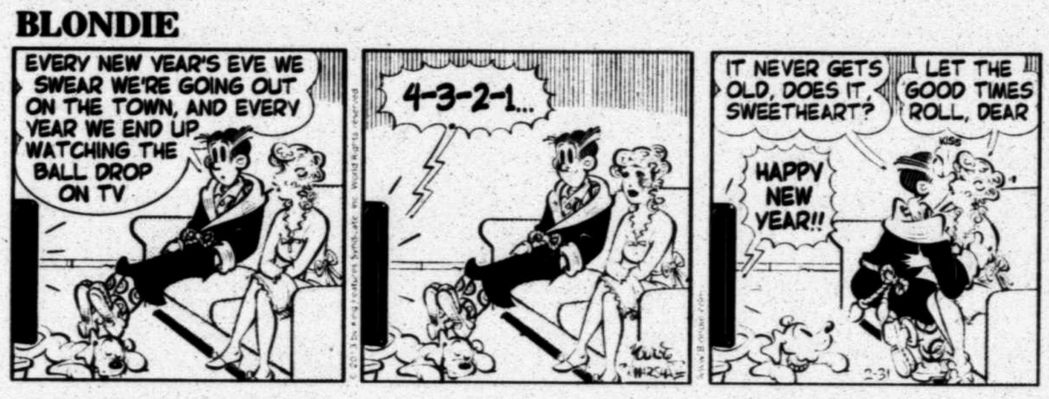
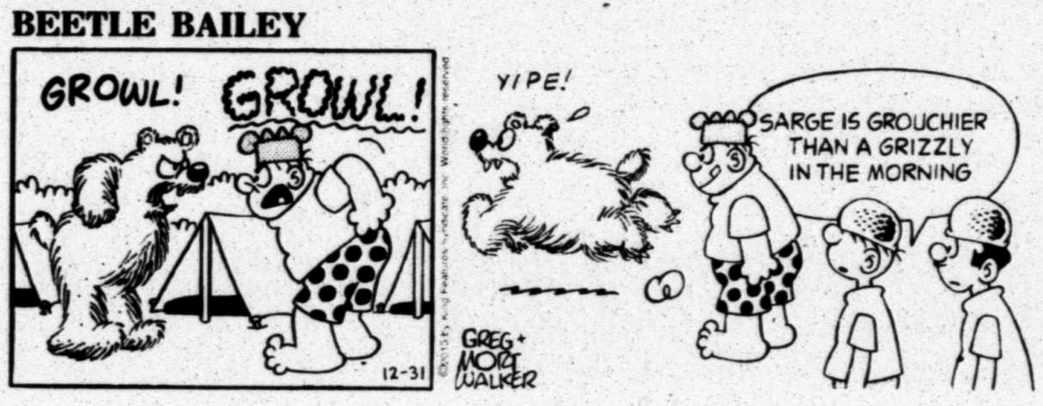
## FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

## FUNKY WINKERBEAN

## BLONDIE

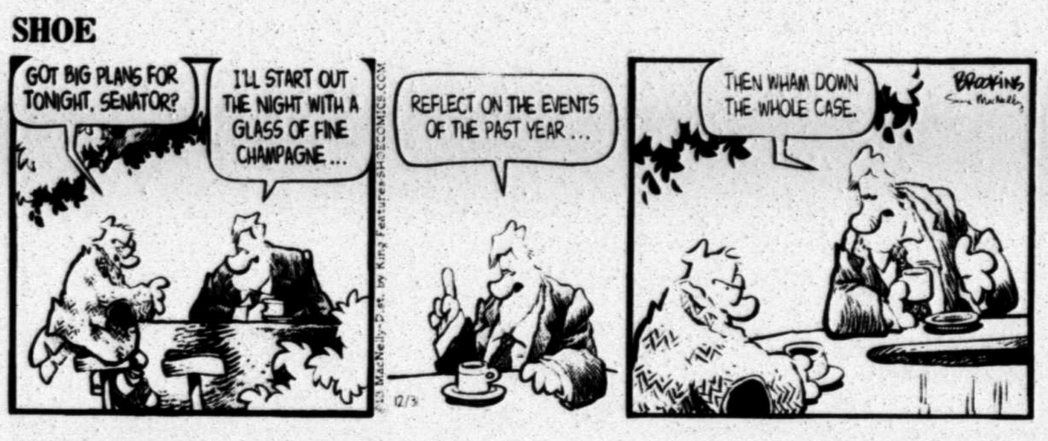



## BEETLE BAILEY

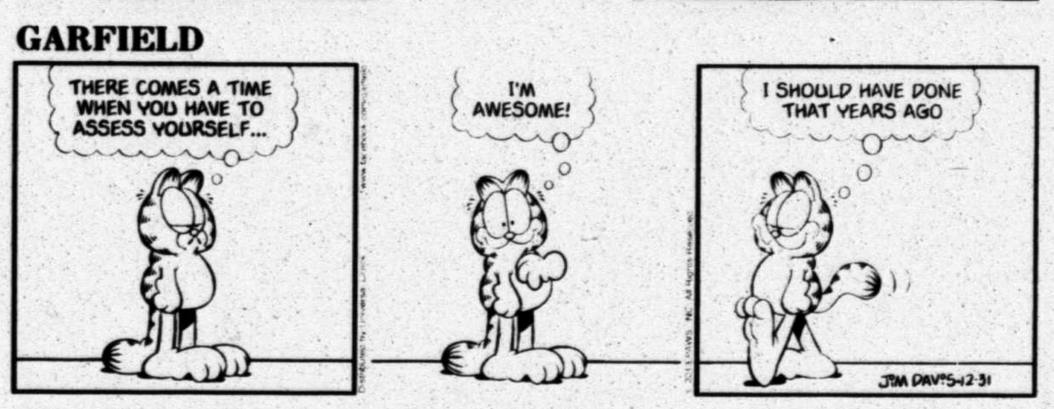



## CLASSIC PEANUTS

## SHOE




## GARFIELD




## DUSTIN

## WIZARD OF ID

## DILBERT

## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

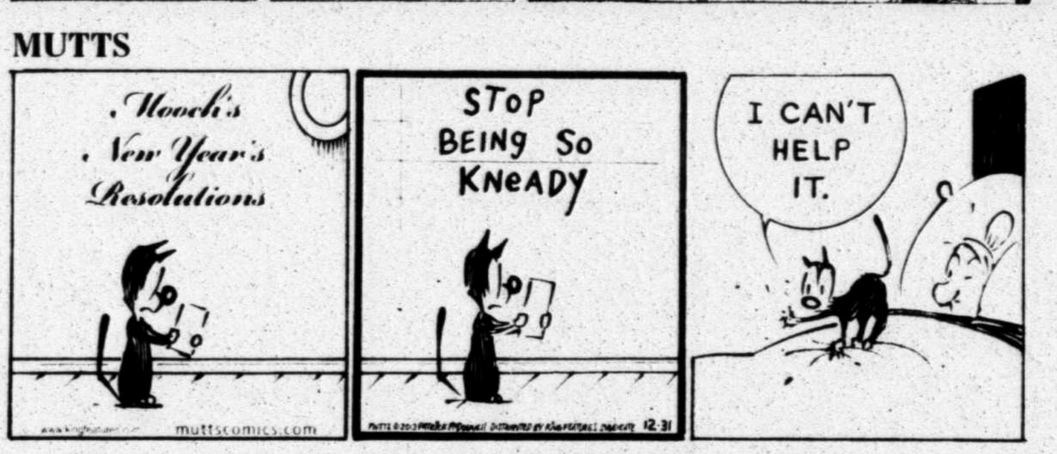
## LUANN

## MARY WORTH

## ZITS

## BABY BLUES

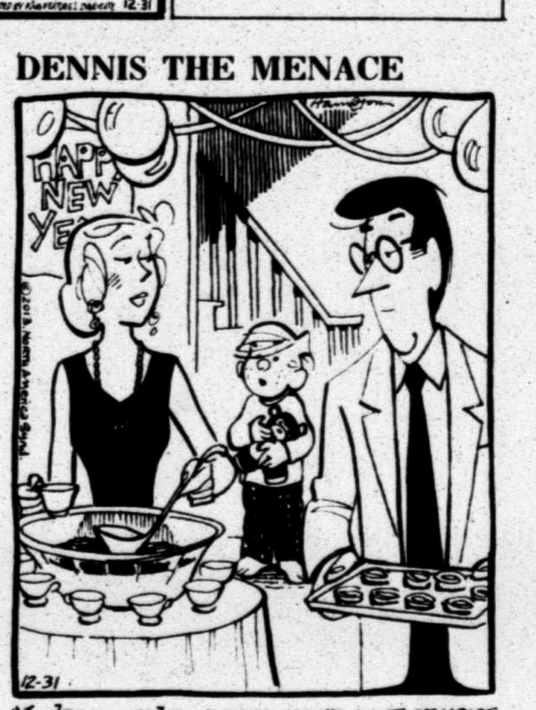
## MUTTS




## CLOSE TO HOME

Strapped for cash, Todd hit the slopes on his mom's ironing board.

## DENNIS THE MENACE

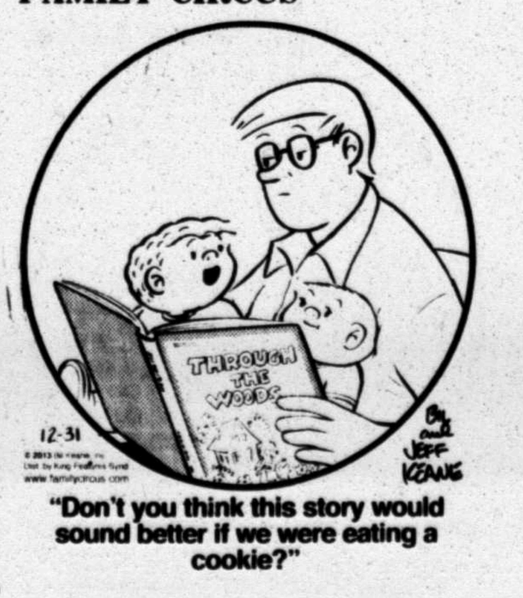



"I S'POSE YOU'RE GONNA MAKE A LOT OF NOISE TONIGHT, AND THEN WANT ME TO BE REAL QUIET TOMORROW, RIGHT?"

## LOCKHORNS

"THERE, BUT FOR YOUR SALARY, GO I."

## FAMILY CIRCUS




"Don't you think this story would sound better if we were eating a cookie?"

# Defense true key to Aggies' success moving forward

**By Brent Zwerneman**
*San Antonio Express-News*

ATLANTA — Duke coach David Cutcliffe said all the right things concerning Texas A&M's defense during Monday's Chick-fil-A Bowl press conference.

"They have size, quickness and they use their hands really well," Cutcliffe offered of the Aggies' otherwise maligned defensive line. "Their linebackers make a lot of plays, they've got safeties who are big and will hit you, and cornerbacks who can run. I mean, they've got the right ingredients."

All the while, perched next to Cutcliffe, A&M coach Kevin Sumlin kept a straight face. While the Aggies' prolific offense, led by flamboyant quarterback Johnny Manziel and fiery receiver Mike Evans, has long grabbed the headlines in Aggieland and beyond, their defense has long cost A&M a chance at a championship.

While previous coach Mike Sherman (2008-11) recruited superbly on offense, his defensive hauls left much to be desired — and Sumlin's regime has paid the price over the first two seasons with a lack of overall talent and depth. But coordinator Mark Snyder's unit, which features two seniors in its entire two deep for tonight's bowl game, showed signs of life late in the season — a necessity moving forward if this program is truly to compete for a Southeastern Conference title.

"This game is the start of next year for us, and we want to start well," said safety Toney Hurd Jr., who will be playing his final game as an Aggie. "Coach Snyder has been through a lot this year with our fair share of ups and downs, but we want to show with our younger guys that they've matured and overcome the odds."

**The game**

**CHICK-FIL-A BOWL**
**NO. 20 TEXAS A&M VS. NO. 22 DUKE**

**When:** 7 p.m. today
**Location:** Georgia Dome, Atlanta
**TV:** ESPN
**Radio:** KBST (1490 AM)

While Snyder, a former Marshall head coach, has had the excuse of mostly inheriting Sherman's recruits, a troubling aspect in the past year has been off-field tribulations for his already thin defense. Linebacker Steven Jenkins, defensive linemen Kirby Ennis and Gavin Stansbury and defensive backs De'Vante Harris, Floyd Raven and Deshazor Everett all were suspended for all or part of the season opener against Rice, for violating athletic department rules and regulations.

Then on Dec. 23, budding freshman linebacker Darian Claiborne was arrested in College Station on charges of drug possession. A&M promptly suspended Claiborne, and fellow freshman Jordan Mastrogiovanni will take his place in the starting lineup against Duke.

"This is a learning process," Snyder said of his defense's multiple off-field mishaps this season. "We're dealing with 18-, 19- and 20-year old kids, and you go through a maturation process. As kids go through that maturation process, they're going to learn some tough lessons, and you have to give them some tough love.

"It's kind of like raising your children, and that's the way we approach it."

While the 8-4 Aggies lost their last two regular season games to LSU (34-10) and Missouri (28-21), their setbacks were primarily due to a suddenly slowed offense, which had scored plenty in earlier losses this season to Alabama (49-42) and Auburn (45-41).

Meanwhile Rivals.com currently ranks Sumlin's 2014 recruiting class sixth nationally, and 10 of his 19 verbal pledges play defense, including five-star prospect Myles Garrett, a defensive end from Arlington Martin. Help appears on the way in the offseason, although A&M would enjoy nothing more than continuing to show defensive improvement heading into another rugged swing through the SEC in 2014.

"They play in a league where they're challenged every week in a huge way," Cutcliffe continued in praising A&M's defense, which ranks 105th nationally (out of 123 teams) in total defense. "These are tested, experienced football players."

All the while, Sumlin never cracked so much as a smile.

# TODAY'S BOWLS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

**CHICK-FIL-A BOWL**
**NO. 20 TEXAS A&M (8-4) VS. NO. 22 DUKE (10-3), 7 P.M. (ESPN)**

**Line:** Texas A&M by 12 1/2
**Series Record:** First meeting.

**WHAT'S AT STAKE**

Texas A&M is playing to win bowl games in three straight years for the first time in school history. The Aggies' past two bowl wins came against Oklahoma in the Cotton Bowl following the 2012 season and Northwestern in the 2011 Texas Bowl. Duke, playing in bowl games in back-to-back seasons for the first time, is looking for its first bowl win since 1961.

**KEY MATCHUP**

Duke defensive ends Justin Foxx and Kenny Anunike against Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel. Duke's defense is concerned about two "plays" on each snap — the play that is called and then what Manziel can create with his ability to run and extend the play. Anunike, who led Duke with 13 1/2 tackles for loss and six sacks, and Foxx will try to put pressure on Manziel without allowing him to break containment and create big gains with his scrambles.

**PLAYERS TO WATCH**

**Texas A&M:** QB Johnny Manziel. After winning the Heisman Trophy as a freshman and finishing fifth this season, Manziel could be playing his final college game if he decides to enter the NFL draft. Manziel threw for 311 yards per game while completing 69.1 percent of his passes, leading the Southeastern Conference in each category. He has the top two total offense season totals in SEC history, including 4,481 this year.

**Duke:** WR/PR Jamison Crowder. Coaches voted Crowder a first-team all-Atlantic Coast Conference player as a receiver and punt returner. He returned two punts for touchdowns this season and ranks second in the ACC with 1,197 yards receiving.

**FACTS & FIGURES**

The Blue Devils had an eight-game winning streak end with their 45-7 loss to No. 1 Florida State in the ACC championship game. ... Duke is 0-3 in bowl games since beating Arkansas 7-6 in the 1961 Cotton Bowl. ... Texas A&M sophomore Mike Evans leads the SEC with 12 touchdown catches. ... Duke QB Anthony Boone missed three games early in the season with a broken collarbone and still passed for 1,833 yards. ... Texas A&M is making its 35th bowl appearance but hasn't played in a bowl game as far east as Atlanta since facing Tennessee in the 1956 Gator Bowl in Jacksonville. ... The Aggies rank sixth in the nation with their average of 43.6 points per game and 88th with their average of 30.9 points allowed.

**LIBERTY BOWL**
**MISSISSIPPI STATE (6-6) VS. RICE (10-3), 3 P.M. (ESPN)**

**Line:** Mississippi State by 7.
**Series Record:** Rice leads 1-0. Mississippi State beat Rice, 28-14, on Oct. 11, 1975, but later forfeited the game.

**WHAT'S AT STAKE**

Rice is seeking its first 11-win season in school history and is attempting to win bowl games in back-to-back years for the first time. The Owls beat Air Force 33-14 in last year's Armed Forces Bowl. Mississippi State is attempting to clinch a fourth straight winning season.

**KEY MATCHUP**

Rice running game vs. Mississippi State run defense: Rice leads Conference USA with 240.2 yards rushing per game, an average that ranks 16th among all Football Bowl Subdivision teams. Mississippi State has allowed 4.4 yards per carry this season, but the Bulldogs limited Ole Miss to 3.3 yards per rush in their regular-season finale. Rice showed it could run the ball against an SEC defense by rushing for 306 yards and averaging 6 yards per carry in a season-opening 52-31 loss to Texas A&M.

**PLAYERS TO WATCH**

**Mississippi State:** After sharing quarterback duties with Tyler Russell during the regular season, Dak Prescott will be the one leading Mississippi State's offense Tuesday now that Russell has undergone surgery to repair a torn labrum in his throwing shoulder. Prescott has thrown for 1,657 yards with seven touchdowns and seven interceptions this season, and he also has rushed for 751 yards and 11 touchdowns. He's done all that while dealing with personal issues. His mother, Peggy, died of cancer in November.

**Rice:** RB Charles Ross has rushed for 1,252 yards and 14 touchdowns this season while averaging 6.2 yards per carry. He leads Conference USA in yards rushing per game (113.8) and points per game (8.2). Ross' big season includes a 107-yard, two-touchdown performance against Texas A&M.

**FACTS & FIGURES**

Mississippi State WR Jameon Lewis is the only FBS player with at least five touchdown catches, three touchdown runs and three touchdown passes this season. All three of his passes have produced touchdowns. Lewis also has 55 catches for 703 yards to lead the Bulldogs in both categories. ... This marks only the second time in school history that Rice has reached bowl games in back-to-back seasons. Rice capped the 1960 season with a 14-6 Sugar Bowl loss to Ole Miss and fell 33-7 to Kansas in the 1961 Bluebonnet Bowl. ... Rice's Conference USA championship is the Owls' first outright league title of any kind since winning the Southwest Conference in 1957. ... Mississippi State is averaging 426.2 total yards per game this year, which puts the Bulldogs on pace for a school record. Mississippi State gained 422 yards per game in 1982. ... Rice's Chris Boswell has made 13 career field goals from at least 50 yards away. No other FBS kicker has more than five career field goals of that distance.

**ADVOCARE V100 BOWL**
**ARIZONA (7-5) VS. BOSTON COLLEGE (7-5), 11:30 A.M. (ESPN)**

**Line:** Arizona by 7.
**Series Record:** First meeting. .

**WHAT'S AT STAKE**

Arizona is trying to end coach Rich Rodriguez's second season on a positive note. The Wildcats started with a 6-2 record, but lost three of four to end the regular season. Boston College hopes to put an exclamation point on a remarkable turnaround. First-year coach Steve Addazio is trying to lead the Eagles to an eighth win after a 2-10 season in 2012.

**KEY MATCHUP**

The game features two of the premier running backs in the country — Arizona's Ka'Deem Carey and Boston College's Andre Williams. Both were named first-team AP All-Americans while Williams edged Carey for the Doak Walker Award. Williams has rushed for 2,102 yards this season while Carey has 1,716.

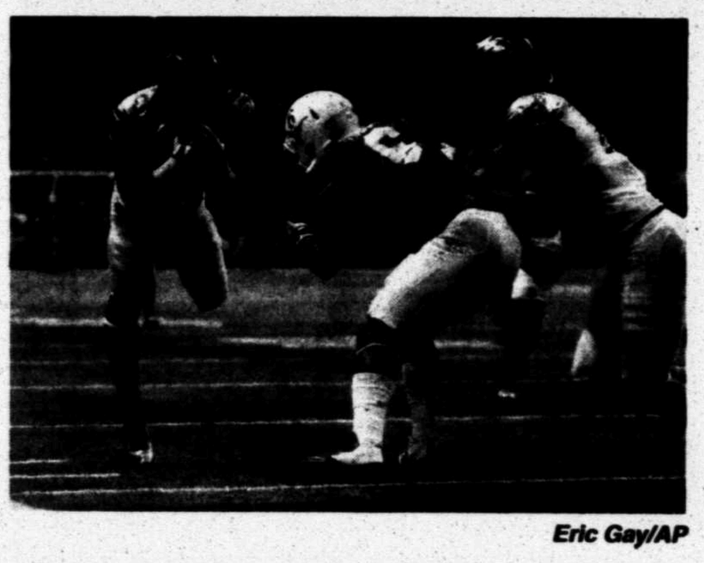
**PLAYERS TO WATCH**

**Arizona:** QB B.J. Denker. The senior has had a breakout season for the Wildcats, with 2,241 yards passing, 14 touchdowns and seven interceptions. He's also been a force on the ground, with 898 rushing yards and 12 touchdowns.

**Boston College:** WR Alex Amidon. Boston College is certainly a run-first offense, but when the Eagles do pass, Amidon is a dangerous playmaker. The 6-foot, 182-pound senior has caught 67 passes for 895 yards and five touchdowns.

**FACTS & FIGURES**

Boston College's Amidon is first in school history with 2,663 receiving yards. He needs nine catches on Tuesday to tie Pete Mitchell for the school record in receptions. ... BC's Williams has rushed for at least 100 yards nine times this season and topped the 200-yard mark five times. His best game was a 339-yard, two touchdown effort against NC State that helped the Eagles clinch bowl eligibility. ... Boston College QB Chase Rettig will be making his 45th



*Eric Gay/AP*

Oregon's Josh Huff, left, dives for a touchdown against Texas during the second quarter of the Valero Alamo Bowl on Monday in San Antonio. Texas' Quandre Diggs (6) looks to make the stop.

# Oregon crushes Texas in Mack Brown's finale

**By Paul J. Webber**
*Associated Press*

SAN ANTONIO — No. 10 Oregon first felt overlooked by the BCS, and then came to the Alamo Bowl overshadowed by Mack Brown's final game at Texas.

But the Ducks are flying home with an attention-getting blowout.

Quarterback Marcus Mariota had 386 total yards and Oregon returned two interceptions for touchdowns, spoiling Brown's emotional farewell after 16 seasons at Texas with a runaway 30-7 victory Monday night.

The BCS-snubbed Ducks (11-2) dominated throughout — even though their famously high-powered offense scored just one touchdown and repeatedly settled for field goals. Yet the rout didn't seem to completely balm the sting of not playing in a BCS bowl for the first time in five years, with Oregon players after the game still reflecting on their championship hopes derailed by November losses.

Oregon coach Mark Helfrich declined to answer whether this season was a success.

"That's for you to decide," Helfrich said. "I don't think in those terms. I think of how well we can prepare and what's next."

Brown received warm goodbyes from a sellout crowd in what was practically a home game for Texas (8-5). Even the school marching band spelled his name at halftime.

But the blowout was a final reminder of why Brown is resigning after a rocky and tense season at Texas, which he led to a national championship in 2005 but couldn't reverse a sharp decline in recent years.

Leaving the field for the last time with Texas, Brown flashed the "Hook 'em Horns" hand signal to the scattered remaining Longhorns fans who stuck around to the end of another humbling loss this season. His players didn't say a word while surrounding Brown and his wife, who walked side by side into the tunnel and toward the locker room.

Brown said he had no regrets about making this his exit.

"I think it's best for Texas. It's best for me, it's best for the players," he said. "We need to win more than eight games. Last year was nine. I really thought we had a chance to win all the games this year. It didn't work. It's my job to make that work. I told them tonight, the only regret I had is we didn't win enough games this year."

**No. 10 Ducks.....30**
**Longhorns.....7**

| No. 10 OREGON 30, TEXAS 7 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Oregon | 10 | 10 | 3 | 7 | —30 |
| Texas | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | —7 |

**First Quarter**
Ore—Patterson 37 interception return (Wogan kick), 13:52.
Ore—FG Wogan 25, 8:36.
Tex—McCoy 1 run (Fera kick), 1:24.
**Second Quarter**
Ore—FG Wogan 32, 12:30.
Ore—Huff 16 pass from Mariota (Wogan kick), :44.
**Third Quarter**
Ore—FG Wogan 39, 13:06.
**Fourth Quarter**
Ore—Malone 38 interception return (Wogan kick), 8:55.
A—65,918.

| | Ore | Tex |
|---|---|---|
| First downs | 24 | 13 |
| Rushes-yards | 42-216 | 44-180 |
| Passing | 253 | 56 |
| Comp-Att-Int | 18-26-0 | 9-23-2 |
| Return Yards | 71 | 0 |
| Punts-Avg. | 4-38.3 | 7-42.1 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 3-0 | 0-0 |
| Penalties-Yards | 11-67 | 4-35 |
| Time of Possession | 28:16 | 31:44 |

**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

RUSHING—Oregon, Mariota 15-133, Marshall 13-43, Tyner 6-22, D.Thomas 3-13, Forde 3-10, Huff 1-1, Locker 1-(minus 6). Texas, Malcol Brown 26-139, Swoopes 8-38, Bergeron 8-21, McCoy 2-(minus 9).

PASSING—Oregon, Mariota 18-26-0-253. Texas, McCoy 8-17-2-48, Swoopes 1-6-0-8.

RECEIVING—Oregon, Huff 5-104, Addison 5-48, Tyner 2-25, D.Thomas 2-24, Marshall 2-5, Bayles 1-27, Mundt 1-20. Texas, Bergeron 2-16, M.Davis 2-12, Sanders 2-10, Daniels 1-8, Shipley 1-8, Swaim 1-2.

# Rice chasing history, Miss. State in Liberty Bowl

**By Steve Magargee**
*Associated Press*

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Mississippi State and Rice both have plenty at stake today in the Liberty Bowl.

Rice (10-3) has a chance to clinch the first 11-win season in school history. Mississippi State (6-6) wants to produce its fourth straight winning season.

"Our guys know how important this is, to go win this game," Mississippi State coach Dan Mullen said. "We don't play again now until Aug. 30. You have eight full months until we get to play again. ... You want to have that positive feeling going into the offseason."

Rice's Liberty Bowl berth caps a remarkable rise for a school better known for its academic prowess. Rice now is returning to the site where the program began its turnaround.

**The game**

**LIBERTY BOWL**
**RICE VS. MISSISSIPPI STATE**

**When:** 3 p.m. today
**Location:** Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium Memphis, Tenn.
**TV:** ESPN

After a 14-10 loss to Memphis at Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium last year dropped the Owls' record to 1-5, cornerback Phillip Gaines gave an emotional speech. Rice has won 16 of 20 games since.

"Something had to be said," Gaines said. "We had to realize that we can't keep doing the same stuff every week and expect a different result. I just challenged everybody to kind of man up and take responsibility of our team. That's what we did."

# BOWL GLANCE

**Saturday, Dec. 21**
**New Mexico Bowl**
**At Albuquerque**
Colorado State 48, Washington State 45
**Las Vegas Bowl**
Southern Cal 45, Fresno State 20
**Famous Idaho Potato Bowl**
**At Boise, Idaho**
San Diego State 49, Buffalo 24
**New Orleans Bowl**
Louisiana-Lafayette 24, Tulane 21

**Monday, Dec. 23**
**Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl**
**At St. Petersburg, Fla.**
East Carolina 37, Ohio 20

**Tuesday, Dec. 24**
**Hawaii Bowl**
**At Honolulu**
Oregon State 38, Boise State 23

**Thursday, Dec. 26**
**Little Caesars Pizza Bowl**
**At Detroit**
Pittsburgh 30, Bowling Green 27
**Poinsettia Bowl**
**At San Diego**
Utah State 21, Northern Illinois 14

**Friday, Dec. 27**
**Military Bowl**
**At Annapolis, Md.**
Marshall 31, Maryland 20
**Texas Bowl**
**At Houston**
Syracuse 21, Minnesota 17
**Fight Hunger Bowl**
**At San Francisco**
Washington 31, BYU 16

**Saturday, Dec. 28**
**Pinstripe Bowl**
**At New York**
Notre Dame 29, Rutgers 16
**Belk Bowl**
**At Charlotte, N.C.**
North Carolina 39, Cincinnati 17
**Russell Athletic Bowl**
**At Orlando, Fla.**
Louisville 36, Miami 9
**Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl**
**At Tempe, Ariz.**
Kansas State 31, Michigan 14

**Monday,**
**Armed Forces Bowl**
**At Fort Worth**
Navy 24, Middle Tennessee 6
**Music City Bowl**
**At Nashville, Tenn.**
Mississippi 25, Georgia Tech 17
**Alamo Bowl**
**At San Antonio**
Oregon 30, Texas 7
**Holiday Bowl**
**At San Diego**
Arizona State (10-3) vs. Texas Tech (7-5), late

**Today**
**AdvoCare V100 Bowl**
**At Shreveport, La.**
Arizona (7-5) vs. Boston College (7-5), 11:30 a.m. (ESPN)

**Sun Bowl**
**At El Paso**
Virginia Tech (8-4) vs. UCLA (9-3), 1 p.m. (CBS)

**Liberty Bowl**
**At Memphis, Tenn.**
Rice (9-3) vs. Mississippi State (6-6), 3 p.m. (ESPN)

**Chick-fil-A Bowl**
**At Atlanta**
Texas A&M (8-4) vs. Duke (10-3), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

**Wednesday**
**Heart of Dallas Bowl**
**At Dallas**
UNLV (7-5) vs. North Texas (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPNU)

**Gator Bowl**
**At Jacksonville, Fla.**
Nebraska (8-4) vs. Georgia (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN2)

**Capital One Bowl**
**At Orlando, Fla.**
Wisconsin (9-3) vs. South Carolina (10-2), Noon (ABC)

**Outback Bowl**
**At Tampa, Fla.**
Iowa (8-4) vs. LSU (9-3), Noon (ESPN)

**Rose Bowl**
**At Pasadena, Calif.**
Stanford (11-2) vs. Michigan State (12-1), 4 p.m. (ESPN)

**Fiesta Bowl**
**At Glendale, Ariz.**
Baylor (11-1) vs. UCF (11-1), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**Thursday**
**Sugar Bowl**
**At New Orleans**
Alabama (11-1) vs. Oklahoma (10-2), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

**Friday**
**Orange Bowl**
**At Miami**
Ohio State (12-1) vs. Clemson (10-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

**Cotton Bowl**
**At Arlington**
Missouri (11-2) vs. Oklahoma State (10-2), 7:30 p.m. (FOX)

**Saturday**
**BBVA Compass Bowl**
**At Birmingham, Ala.**
Vanderbilt (8-4) vs. Houston (8-4), Noon (ESPN)

**Sunday, Jan. 5**
**GoDaddy.com Bowl**
**At Mobile, Ala.**
Arkansas State (7-5) vs. Ball State (10-2), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

**Monday, Jan. 6**
**BCS National Championship**
**At Pasadena, Calif.**
Florida State (13-0) vs. Auburn (12-1), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

# BOWL ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

**ARMED FORCES BOWL**
**NAVY 24**
**MIDDLE TENNESSEE ST. 6**

FORT WORTH — Keenan Reynolds ran for two more touchdowns and Navy won for only the second time its last seven bowl games, beating Middle Tennessee State 24-6 in the Armed Forces Bowl on Monday.

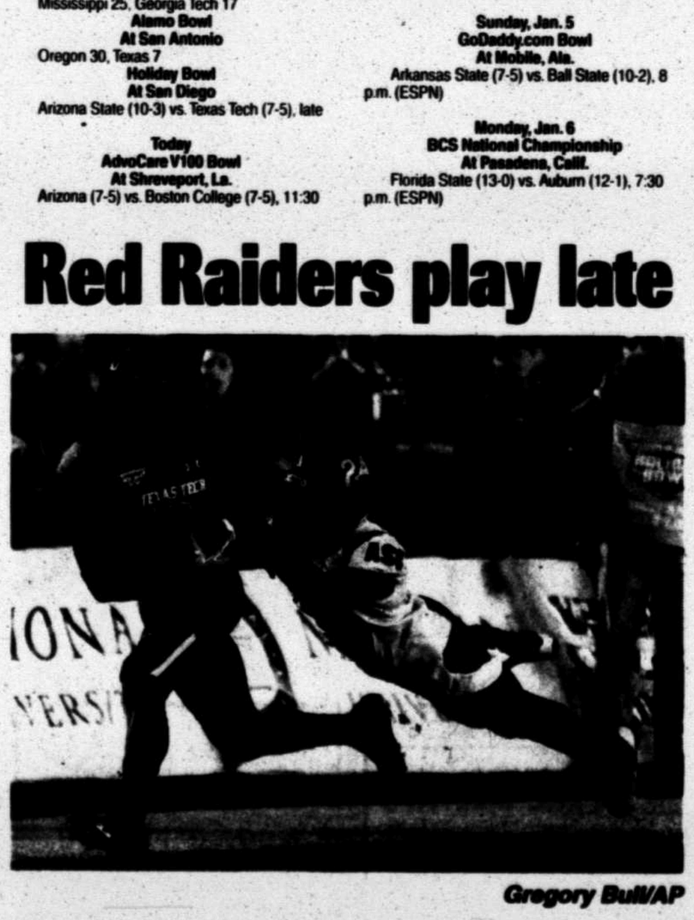
Reynolds had a 3-yard score to cap the opening drive for Navy (9-4), and added a 1-yarder in the fourth quarter. Already with the NCAA record for touchdowns rushing by a quarterback, Reynolds upped his total to 31 to match Colorado State running back Kapri Bibbs, also a sophomore, for the national lead this season.

**MUSIC CITY BOWL**
**MISSISSIPPI 25**
**GEORGIA TECH 17**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Bo Wallace ran for two touchdowns and threw for another score as Mississippi beat Georgia Tech 25-17 Monday in the Music City Bowl for the Rebels' second straight bowl victory under coach Hugh Freeze.

The junior quarterback and Tennessee native made up for his three turnovers in the Egg Bowl overtime loss by throwing for 256 yards and running for 86 more, giving him the school record for total yards in a season and most completions in a season, topping Eli Manning for both.

# Red Raiders play late



*Gregory Bull/AP*

Texas Tech wide receiver Reginald Davis, left, beats Arizona State cornerback Osahon Irabor for a 38-yard pass completion during the first half of the Holiday Bowl on Monday in San Diego. The game ended after press deadline. See who won at www.mrt.com/sports.

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Please check your ad the first day it appears, and, if you find a mistake, please call our office at 682-6222 so we can correct the error immediately. This will ensure that your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. If an error does occur, you can choose to rerun your ad once for free, or we'll gladly refund the cost of the portion of the ad affected by the error. If an ad is inadvertently omitted, we will assume liability up to the cost of the ad itself – consequently, we will publish your ad in our next available edition or refund the price you have paid.

Rate charges are determined at the time of placement. All ads accepted are subject to credit approval. Some classifications require payment in advance. Credit applications are required for business accounts.

We welcome suggestions or comments. Please call: Jeri Houston, Advertising Sales Manager, 687-8894.

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| Saturday | 12p.m. Friday |
| Sunday | 5p.m. Friday |
| Monday | 5p.m. Friday |

**DISPLAY ADS:**

| PUBLISHES ON: | DEADLINE IS: |
|---|---|
| Wednesday | 3p.m. Monday |
| Thursday | 3p.m. Tuesday |
| Friday, Saturday | 3p.m. Wednesday |
| Sunday, Monday | 3p.m. Thursday |
| Tuesday | 3p.m. Friday |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

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12/31/13

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## Attention Readers

In observance of

## New Year's Day

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed

Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014

### Advertising Deadlines

**Classified Word Ads**

| Publishing On: | Deadline is: |
|---|---|
| Wed., Jan. 1st | Tues., Dec. 31st, NOON |
| Thurs., Jan. 2nd | Tues., Dec. 31st, 2 PM |

**Classified Display Ads**

| Publishing On: | Deadline is: |
|---|---|
| Wed., Jan. 1st | Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM |
| Thurs., Jan. 2nd | Mon., Dec. 30th,, 5 PM |
| Fri., Jan. 3rd | Tues., Dec. 31st, NOON |

**Retail Display Ads**

| Publishing On: | Deadline is: |
|---|---|
| Wed., Jan 1st | Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM |
| Thurs., Jan 2nd | Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM |
| Sun., Jan 5th (Oil Report/West Texas Living, Arts & Ent.) | Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM |
| Fri., Jan 3rd | Tues., Dec. 31st, Noon |

Midland Reporter-Telegram

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[The CX-5] simply stood above the competition.
~ Motor Trend

2014 Mazda6 Named 'CAR OF THE YEAR'
~ Popular Mechanics

Mazda has the lowest 5-Year Cost to Own as an overall brand
~ Kelly Blue Book

# HUGE INVENTORY SALE

## OVER 120 USED VEHICLES AVAILABLE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2079YA | 2014 MAZD MAZDA6 4DR SDN AUTO I SPORT | $23,991 |
| U12675 | 2013 TOYO TUNDRA 4WD CREWMAX 5.7L | $35,981 |
| U12704 | 2013 NISS JUKE 5DR WGN CVT S FWD | $19,881 |
| U12680 | 2013 MERC C-CLASS 4DR SDN C250 | $29,981 |
| M12593 | 2013 MAZD CX-5 AWD 4DR AUTO SPORT | $23,881 |
| U12653 | 2013 JEEP WRANGLER 4WD 2DR RUBICON | $35,781 |
| S10497 | 2013 JEEP GRAND CHER RWD 4DR LIMITED | $34,441 |
| U12672 | 2013 INFI FX37 AWD 4DR BLACK | $38,881 |
| U12651 | 2013 FORD F-150 4WD SUPERCREW 145" | $37,881 |
| M12609 | 2013 CHRY 300 4DR SDN 300C RWD | $28,750 |
| U12688 | 2013 CHEV SILVERADO 2WD CREW CAB | $27,581 |
| S10485 | 2012 VOLK JETTA SEDA 4DR AUTO SE | $15,225 |
| U12659 | 2012 MITS LANCER 4DR SDN CVT GT FWD | $16,881 |
| S10482 | 2012 JEEP WRANGLER U 4WD 4DR SAHARA | $34,900 |
| U12693 | 2012 GMC SIERRA 150 4WD CREW CAB | $34,581 |
| U12687 | 2012 FORD F-150 4WD SUPERCREW 145" | $35,781 |
| S10490 | 2012 DODG GRAND CARA 4DR WGN SXT | $19,025 |
| M12544 | 2012 BMW X5 AWD 4DR 35I PREMIUM | $38,789 |
| S10459 | 2012 BMW X3 AWD 4DR 28I | $35,750 |
| U12673 | 2011 LEXU ES 350 4DR SDN | $27,881 |
| S10496 | 2011 JEEP PATRIOT FWD 4DR SPORT | $12,221 |
| U12677 | 2011 HOND PILOT 2WD 4DR EX-L | $25,741 |
| U12682 | 2011 GMC YUKON XL AWD 4DR 1500 DENALI | $39,891 |
| U12696 | 2011 FORD F-150 2WD SUPERCREW 145" | $29,881 |
| U12681 | 2011 DODG DURANGO 2WD 4DR EXPRESS | $20,741 |
| S10471 | 2011 CHEV TAHOE 2WD 4DR 1500 LTZ | $43,125 |
| U12644 | 2010 LEXU IS 350C 2DR CONV | $33,864 |
| U12697 | 2009 LEXU ES 350 4DR SDN | $25,881 |
| U12668 | 2008 INFI FX35 RWD 4DR | $20,781 |
| S10513 | 2007 PORS BOXSTER 2DR ROADSTER | $23,881 |

Visit us online for more great deals!

mazda of Midland
5115 W LOOP 250 NORTH
MIDLAND, TX 79707
432-617-2273
MAZDAOF MIDLAND.COM

SKY Mazda of Odessa
6101 E HWY 80
ODESSA, TX 79762
432-617-8040
SKYMAZDA.COM

Ends January 8, 2014. All Units Subject to Prior Sale. Tax, Title & License Extra. Financing With Approved Credit.

# mywesttexas jobs

http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

## ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

### EXPERIENCED TAX ACCOUNTANT

**Johnson, Miller & Co., CPAs** FT

Immediate openings for experienced tax accountants in our Odessa and Midland tax offices. Competitive salary and benefits. Come join our team of professionals at Johnson, Miller & Co., CPAs. Submit your resume to jobs@jmcotexas.com.

## AUTOMOTIVE

### Applicants for various positions

**Stanley Ford - Andrews** FT

Stanley Ford- Andrews is currently seeking applicants for the following positions:
Service Advisors
Cetified Diesel Techs
Experienced Techs
Sales Associate
State Inspectors
Parts Manager
We are willing to offer top pay depending on experience. Benefits include: vacation and medical benefits.
Qualified individuals may send resumes by fax to: 432-524-9112 or via email at: pplunkett@stanleyautogroup.com

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

### Financial Literacy Specialist

Tax experience preferred. Please apply M-F, 9am-5pm at Casa de Amigos. 1101 Garden Ln. Midland. For more info. Contact HR at 432-682-9701

## ENERGY & UTILITIES

### DIRECTIONAL DRILLER

Directional drilling company seeking experienced drillers in West Texas. Must have at least 2 yrs experience. Send resume to resumes@aimdir.com.

### Plant Operator

**West Texas Gas** FT

PLANT OPERATOR NEEDED IMMEDIATELY: Experience preferred but not required. Location near Stanton, TX. Fax resume to: (432) 458-3423 or mail to: Sale Ranch, 2873 FM 829, Stanton, TX 79782. Can Email resume to dsatterfield@wtgbenedum.com.

## HEALTHCARE

### Medical Assistant

Medical Assistant needed for busy physicians practice. Great Beneifit Package.
Please fax resumes to 682-2284 or mail to Premier Physicians, Attn: Arita Routh, PO Box 5291, Midland, Texas 79704. No phone calls please
PP-7233

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
SEMINOLE HOSPITAL DISTRICT

**Positions Available:**

**Full-Time**
Registered Nurses
Certified Nurse Aides
Licensed Vocational Nurse
Division Director of Extended Care Services

**Part-Time**
Medical Record Clerk
Dietary Aide
Housekeeping
Respiratory Therapist

**APPLY ONLINE TODAY**
**www.seminolehospitaldistrict.com**

## HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

### Hiring all Positions

**Hampton Inn** FT/PT
**5011 North Loop 250 W.**
**Midland, TX 79707**
Now hiring all positions for Full/Part time. Apply in person

### Immediate Openings

**Plaza Inn Midland has immediate openings for:**
**• Front Desk Agents (PT) • Night Auditors (PT)**
**Please apply in person to Midland Plaza Inn**
**4108 N. Big Spring St., Midland, TX. 79705**

## OTHER JOBS

### All Positions

**Firehouse Subs** FT
**Midland, TX 79701**
Now hiring Slice, Prep, Cashiers, Catering & Kitchen help for AM/PM positions. Apply in person: 2900 W. Loop 250 North, Ste 162.

### Housekeeper

**Villa Chateau Apartments** FT
Full time Housekeeper needed. Physical/Drug screen & Background check done. Apply in person at: Villa Chateau Apts., 1603 N. Midkiff Rd, Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

### Janitorial Help

Part-time Janitorial work in the evening. Apply at: 2311 Elizabeth Ave or call 432-570-9903.

The Midland Reporter-Telegram has an opening in its Production Department for the position of:

**Pressman/Pressman Trainee**

for our Harris N-1650 Printing presses. This 5- 6 day per week, fast paced, deadline oriented position, requires night shift weekend work, with a strong emphasis on safety. The Midland Reporter-Telegram offers a full package of company benefits, including 401K program. Salary/DOE.

Send resume and salary requirements to:
John Maddox, Production Director
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois St., Midland, TX 79701
E-mail: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
or
come by 201 E. Illinois Street to fill out an application.

HEARST corporation

*Midland Reporter-Telegram is a part of Hearst Corp.*

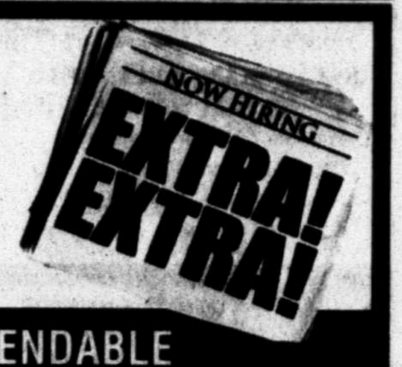
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

### Pump Down Supervisors and Operators

**O-Tex** FT/PT
**Midland, TX**
O-Tex Pumping is currently hiring experienced pump down supervisors and pump down operators. We offer competitive pay, job bonuses, matching 401K, full medical benefits, and life insurance. Please come by 2611 E. I-20 or go to www.otexpumping.com and fill out an application. Must be able to pass a MVR and drug screen. O-Tex Pumping is an EOE.

## 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 occasionally. We will train the right person

Pay $10.00 per hour paid every 2 weeks

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

### 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

Pay $10.00 per hour paid every 2 weeks

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

### PURCHASING / WAREHOUSE CLERK

Purchasing from vendors, maintaining stock, inventory count. Requires Microsoft Excel, communication skills and Team player. FT, Benefits. Send Resume to info@blazinsafety.com

**Wyndham Garden Hotel & Wall Street After 5 Sports Lounge**
**Positions needed: Front Desk agents, Admin Assistant, Housekeepers**
**Food & Beverage Director & Supervisor, Cooks, Servers/Hostesses, Breakfast Attendants, Bar Managers, Bartenders**
**Pay based on experience. Please email resume wyndhammidlandgm@gmail.com or hand deliver at 3100 W. Wall Street, Midland, TX.**

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### Oilfield Construction Manager

**Minimum 5 years experience with bidding, invoicing and job cost tracking. Oversee building locations, roads, and containment pads. Please send resume to M-31 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, Tx. 79701**

## RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

### DOMINO'S PIZZA NOW HIRING!

**•Drivers:** Make cash everyday. Great part time & full time shifts. Starting wage of $7.50 an hour (no split tip/wage here) plus delivery reimbursement, plus tips. **•CSRs:** Great part time & full time shifts. Starting wage of $8.25 an hour. Bright & Friendly people only! **•Shift Leaders:** Great part time & full time shifts. Starting wage of $10 an hour. Flexible Schedules. Apply at any **Domino's Pizza** Midland or Odessa or send resume:**dominos@clearwire.net**. Senior citizens & stay at home moms always welcome. EOE

### Now Hiring

**Lori's Cafe hiring dishwashers & cooks. Experience required. Apply on site 2201 W. Wall**

## SALES JOBS

### Salesperson

**Salesperson needed for mattress store in Midland. Are you tired of working furniture store hours from dawn to dark? Personable, energetic individual needed for full time position. Should be good with people and have a professional appearance. Job description includes both sales and clerical/administrative duties. Compensation includes full commission (no tiers, minimums or holdbacks), plus spiffs, vacation, and 401k. No late hours or Sundays. Mail resume to Sleep Shop, 3303 W. Illinois, Midland, TX. 79703**

### STORE MANAGERS and CASHIERS

**Smoker's Outlet** is looking for **Store Managers** and **Cashiers** in the Midland area. We offer competitive wages and a good work environment. Paid weekly. Go by your nearest **Smoker's Outlet** to apply.

## SKILLED LABOR

### 2 Backhoe Operators

**FirstShot Production Services, LLC** FT
2 Backhoe Operators with CDL needed, 3 yrs exp required, contact Harvey at 432-853-4932 or apply in person at 1601 Idlewide Dr.

### Apprentice/Journeyman Electricians

Apprentice/Journeyman Electricians needed. Fort Worth Electrical Contractor needs Apprentice and Journeyman Electricians for work in Andrews, TX area. Please fax resume, list of experience & salary requirements to: 817-355-5355, Attn: H.R. Dept.

### Document Preppers

**Kelly Services now hiring Document Preppers, Drug & background screen required. $11.75/hour. Must be flexible and willing to work occasional Saturdays. Both Full Time and Part Time positions available. Apply in person at 4600 E. 42nd, Suite 205, Odessa. Or call 432-363-0123 for more information. Equal Opportunity Employer; Never an applicant fee.**

### Electrician

**Apple Electrical Contractors** FT
**Odessa, TX**
**Apple Electrical Contractors, Inc. has immediate openings for experienced and/or licensed Journeyman and Apprentice Electricians. Pre-employment drug test required. Fill out an application at 7540 Andrews Hwy, Odessa, TX 79765 or fax a resume to 432-363-0192 or email alan@appleelectric.com. No phone calls please.**

### Electricians

**Confidential** FT
**Midland, TX 79701**
Experienced Electricians needed. Please call 432-413-9344.

### I&E Tech : IMMEDIATELY NEEDED.

**West Texas Gas** FT
I&E Tech for natural gas processing plant and gathering system near Rankin, Texas. Must have experience with electronic and pneumatic instumentation and be able to troubleshoot 480V 3 phase electrical service. Experienced with generators and plant automation a plus. Must be willing to take night and weekend call outs. Fax resume to (432)639-2132 or mail to Benedum Gas Plant, HC 34 Box 63, Midkiff, Texas, 79755.

## SKILLED LABOR

**Long time respected drilling fluids company needs Experienced Drilling Mud Technician in the Permian Basin. Applicant needs to have 2+ years experience in the Permian or equivalent area and be versed in water based and oil based systems. Company offers insurance, 401K, scheduled days off, vacations and FRC clothing reimbursement and other incentives. Please send resume to c/o MRT Box M34 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX, 79701**

### Multiple Positions

**Confidential** FT/
**Midland, TX** **0-1 Years Exp.**
Wood production facility has immediate openings for production laborers, forklift operators and CDL holders in Midland. Please call 806-773-2520 to schedule an interview.

### Multiple Positions

**Nolan H. Brunson** is looking for experienced **Tandem Operators, Haul Truck Drivers, Swampers,** and **Pumping Unit Inspectors** for its Midland yard. **Nolan H. Brunson** has been serving the Permian Basin for over 65 yrs, we offer top competitive wages, health/vision/dental insurance, 401 K plan and paid holidays and vacations. **Nolan H. Brunson** is the premiere Pumping Unit Service company in the Permian Basin, with yards in Midland-Hobbs-Andrews, please call Yard Mgr. **Trey Aguilar @ (432)-557-4636** or come by in person @ **2306 N. FM 1788.**

### Now Hiring

**Mattlock Drilling** FT
Are you needing a change? Want to work close to home?
Have at least 6 months experience working as a actual hand on a drilling rig and have never worked for us. Then Mattlock Drilling is the place for you. We offer insurance after 90 days and vacation after a year.The schedule is 12 days on and 4 off. NO CAMP JOBS.
Hiring for
• Drillers
Top Wages. If interested come in and apply at 12505 WCR 124, Odessa Texas, 79765. Off of business 20 and the coors road. NO PHONE CALLS. Drug and Alcohol Testing. EOE

### Rocker A Cementers

Rocker A Cementers is currently hiring Pump Operators, Bulk Equipment Operators, P&A Supervisors, and Wireline Operators. All positions are in the Lubbock area. Must have a Class A CDL, and be able to pass regular DOT drug testing. Fax resumes and contact information to 806-495-0066, or email to mtmccalli@gmail.com

### Shop/Field Mechanics

**Basin Engine and Pump** FT
Shop and Field Mechanics needed for Industrial Oilfield Shop. Uniforms provided. Benefits package. Pay DOE. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email to felicia@basinengine.com. Office 432-570-1114. Applications may be filled out at: 1914 South County Rd 1083, Midland, TX.

## TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

### CDL and Non CDL Drivers

**B & B Wrecker Service** is looking to hire **CDL** and **Non CDL Drivers**. Must be 21 years or older. Good driving record. Paid every Friday. Health Insurance provided. Please come by **2823 S. Rankin Hwy.**

### Class A CDL Truck Drivers

Prefer drivers with Pneumatic Tanker experience. Benefits include: driver $2,000 sign-on bonus, medical, life and dental insurance, and paid vacation. Applicants having experience hauling sand and/or dry cement helpful. Good driving record, DOT, drug & alcohol testing required. Apply in person, call **432-563-1894** for interview or online @ **www.rockwaterenergy.com**

### DRIVERS WANTED!

**B-Dun Trucking** FT
Local Trucking Company with competitive pay needing:Swampers, Hotshot Drivers, Flat Bed Drivers & Winch Truck Drivers. Paula, 432-218-6843.

### Experienced Driver

**G & K Trucking, Inc.** FT
Local trucking company seeks an experienced **Class A CDL HOTSHOT driver** in the Midland area for local, regional and out of state deliveries. Benefits include bonuses, scheduled days off, medical insurance and paid vacation. Hazmat preferred. Please call **432-413-2472** Mon-Fri.

### TTI TRUCKING IS NOW HIRING!

**We now have immediate openings for the following positions: KILL TRUCK DRIVERS, VAC TRUCK DRIVERS, TRUCK PUSHERS, & MECHANICALLY INCLINED SHOP HANDS. We offer weekly pay and benefits after 90 days. All drivers and pushers must have at least 2 yrs. experience and all applicants must be able to pass a drug test. Apply in person at 3404 W. Illinois Ste. 204 Midland, TX 79703.**

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

mywesttexas jobs
http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs
Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

SALES

## Multi-Media Sales Consultant

The Midland Reporter-Telegram and mywesttexas.com advertising department is looking for a Multi-Media Sales Consultant. The ideal candidate will have a proven track record of personal sales successes, preferably in a newspaper/media environment. Some knowledge of the advertising industry would be helpful, but not required.

Duties for this position will include, but are not limited to selling advertising in all print publications of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and all online products, including mywesttexas.com.

**Qualifications & Skills:**

- *Ability to work in a fast-paced, deadline oriented environment*
- *Excellent customer service and time management skills*
- *Highly organized with the ability to work independently with minimal supervision*
- *Detail-oriented with good communication, spelling and math skills*

The Hearst Corporation is one of the largest diversified communications companies. Its major interests include magazine, newspaper and business publishing, cable networks, television and radio broadcasting, Internet businesses and more. As an associate of the Midland Reporter-Telegram, you join more than 20,000 in the Hearst family. The Multi-Media Sales Consultant is a full-time, outside sales position. We offer a competitive compensation plan and benefits package, comprehensive training, mileage allowance, and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive, and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you are the one we are looking for, please send current resume to:

**Jeri Houston, Advertising Sales Manager**
Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Avenue, Midland, TX 79701
or email to: jhouston@mrt.com

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER / NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

General

**Selling Newspapers On The Street Corners**
**(avg. income $50.00 - $100.00/day)**

**MUST BE AT LEAST 14 YEARS OLD**
**SUNDAYS ONLY**
**IF INTERESTED CALL**
**TOMMY 967-2267**

# 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.**

**Contact: Linda 687-8807**

SKILLED LABOR

## Forklift Operator

**The Midland Reporter-Telegram has an opening in its Production Department for the Position of "Fork Lift Operator" and other duties as assigned.**

**JOB REQUIREMENTS:**

- Ability to read and write
- Ability to lift up to 50 lbs.
- Ability to bend and reach overhead
- Ability to count accurately and do simple math
- Able to operate a forklift and willing to be certified
- Be reliable, responsible and able to follow instructions
- Capable of standing and walking for extended period of time
- Able to work in various environments that include winter and summer conditions.
- Must be able to work weekends when necessary

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Accurate loading and unloading of printed materials in a safe and efficient manner
- Ensure material are efficiently/properly stacked and stored in appropriate and designated areas
- Perform other non-forklift duties when assigned

The Hearst Corporation is one of the largest diversified communications companies. Its major interests include magazines, newspapers and business publishing, cable networks, television and radio broadcasting, Internet businesses and more. As an associate of the Midland Reporter-Telegram, you join more than 20,000 in the Hearst family.

Send resume and salary requirements to: **John Maddox, Director of Production/Facilities**
**c/o Midland Reporter Telegram - 201 E. Illinois St - Midland, TX 79701**
**Email to: jmaddox@hearstnp.com**
**NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE**

HEARST media services

Midland Reporter-Telegram
Delivering life...every day.

**Fax Your Ad 682-6999**

## Legal & Public Notices

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**
**OIL AND GAS DIVISION**

DISTRICT 08
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Dec 16, 2013
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jan 21, 2014
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

Rule 37/38 Case No. 0285490
Status/Permit No. 772170

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., [RRC Operator No. 665748] has made application for a spacing and density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 and 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37 and 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the DISTANCE BETWEEN WELLS requirement of Rule 37, and the DENSITY requirement of Rule 38, for the RECOMPLETION permit in Sec. 48, Blk. 39, T&P RR CO Survey, A-<N/A>, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) and BRADFORD RANCH (STRAWN) Fields, MIDLAND County, being 8.5 miles SE direction from MIDLAND, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at **(512) 463-6848.**

**IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jan 21, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.**

**THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION**

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lease/Unit Name : | TEXAS TEN 'V' | |
| Lease/Unit Well No. : | 18 | |
| Lease/Unit Acres : | 653.3 | |
| Nearest Lease Line (ft) : | 1320.0 | |
| Nearest Well on Lease (ft) : | 933.0 | |
| Lease Lines : | 1320.0 F SOUTH L, | 1369.0 F EAST L |
| Survey Lines : | 1320.0 F SOUTH L, | 1320.0 F WEST L |

FIELD: BRADFORD RANCH (STRAWN)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lease/Unit Name : | TEXAS TEN 'V' | |
| Lease/Unit Well No. : | 18 | |
| Lease/Unit Acres : | 653.3 | |
| Nearest Lease Line (ft) : | 1320.0 | |
| Nearest Well on Lease (ft) : | 933.0 | |
| Lease Lines : | 1320.0 F SOUTH L, | 1369.0 F EAST L |
| Survey Lines : | 1320.0 F SOUTH L, | 1320.0 F WEST L |

As part of this application, applicant also seeks permit authority in 1 additional field: (1) AZALEA (BEND). No rule exception is necessary pursuant to the field rules for this field.

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 467/0, 80.0 acres.

BRADFORD RANCH (STRAWN) : OIL Statewide rules 467/1200, 40.0 acres.

AZALEA (BEND) : OIL Statewide rules 467/1200, 40.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 12000 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, NORMA DONOVAN, at (972) 969-3643.

## Legal & Public Notices

Contruction Manager at Risk Solicitation
The Glasscock County Independent School District solicits credentials and pricing from qualified firms to provide Construction Manager at Risk services associated with proposed improvements to the school's facilities.
Interested firms should contact the school at 432-354-2230 or Tom Weeaks at 432-270-1312 to request a copy of the Request for Proposal. You may also go to our website: www.gckats.net and download the inforamtion packet and RFP.
All submissions must be elievered to the school office in Garden City, Texas, no later than 3:00pm CST on January 7, 2014.
Glasscock County ISD reserves the right to overlook any irregularities, and wave any and all formalities.

## General Announcements

ABRAXAS BOOKKEEPING is closing permanently on January 6, 2014. If you have any records that you would like to pick up, the office, located at 4500 W. Illinois suite 201-A, will be open from January 1-January 3--9:00am-12 noon ,and 1:30pm-5:30pm.

BETTER READ
Mark Berryhill.com
Ministering for Christ

**Fax Your Classified Ad In Today! 682-6999**

## Lost & Found

FOUND MALE German Shepard near Country Club & Garfield. No collar. 432-684-7976 or 432-349-4484

FOUND PUPPY near the Museum of the Southwest. Call 432-770-6337 to identify & claim.

LOST DOG - Blonde Chihuahua mix. 9 mos old on Cimmaron - Garfield 432-557-3982

LOST DOGS two Schnauzers, males, one silver, one salt & pepper. 1300 block of East Jax. Reward 432-661-2712

**Classified CAN 682-6222**

## Lost & Found

**FOUND AN ITEM?**

***If you are trying to return an item to its rightful owner, let us help you. Call 432-682-6222 For Your Complimentary Ad!***

## Lost & Found

LOST DOG she is a female Schnauzer. She is salt and pepper color and shaggy. Answers to the name Pinball. She has a red collar with no tags. Last seen on Edgewood and Storey. Owner-Dana McBride. Address 311 Edgewood. 432-770-0710 or 432-770-6798. REWARD

## Schools & Instruction

## Schools & Instruction

ART LESSONS for Children. Basic Art Instruction. For more information contact Margaret Hover at 432-934-4989 or 432-262-1206

**Call Today! 432-682-6222**

## Legal & Public Notices

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**
**OIL AND GAS DIVISION**

DISTRICT 08
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Dec 9, 2013
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jan 13, 2014
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
& ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit,
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

Rule 38 Case No. 080286020
Status/Permit No. 774067

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., [RRC Operator No. 665748] has made application for a density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the DENSITY requirement of the field rules for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 26, Blk. 35 T2S, T&P RR CO / FUQUA, W S Survey, A-1283, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, GLASSCOCK COounty, being 13.4 miles NW direction from GARDEN CITY, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at **(512) 463-6848.**

**IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAL IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jan 13, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY.**

**THIS NOTICE OF APPLCIATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION**

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lease/Unit Name : | BOATWRIGHT '26' | |
| Lease/Unit Well No. : | 2 | |
| Lease/Unit Acres : | 80.3 | |
| Nearest Lease Line (ft) : | 660.0 | |
| Nearest Well on Lease (ft) : | 1322.0 | |
| Lease Lines : | 662.1 F SOUTH L, | 660.0 F WEST L |
| Survey Lines : | 1980.0 F NORTH L, | 660.0 F WEST L |

As part of this application, applicant also seeks permit authority in 2 additional fields: (1) DEWEY LAKE (ATOKA), (2) BERRYHILL (STRAWN). No rule exception is necessary pursuant to the field rules for these fields.

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 467/0, 80.0 acres.

DEWEY LAKE (ATOKA): Special Rules 467/660, 40.0 acres

BERRYHILL (STRAWN): OIL Statewide ruls: 467/1200, 40.0 acres

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10600 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, NORMA DONOVAN, at (972) 969-3643.

## Legal & Public Notices

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO DISPOSE BY INJECTION PERMIT**

RSP Permian, LLC., 125 W. Missouri Suite 450, Midland, Texas 79701 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation not productive of oil and gas. The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the Ellenburger Formation, Spanish Trail #200SW.

The proposed disposal well listed above is located at 1950' FNL & 2100' FWL of Section 2, Block 40 T2S, T&P RR Co. Survey. Approximately 6 miles southwest from Midland in Midland County, Texas Spraberry (Trend Area) Field. The waste water will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 8500' to 13600'.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or request for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Underground Injection Control Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, PO Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 Telephone 512-463-6792

# Marty's Marketplace

... leading you to the best bargains in the Permian Basin

## Merchandise

### Appliances

1- AAA Appliance Free pickup. Call 556-0104 / 528-3046.

FREE 30 minute pick-up appliances & metal. Call 432-352-7988.

REFRIGERATOR $225, Washer $150, Dryer $150, Electric stove $150, small Freezer $75, Organ $200. 432- 352-7988.

**Classified CAN 682-6222**

### Appliances

We buy broken appliances w/ free removal. Also we repair appliances. 432-570-8278

### Free Stuff

**FREE WOODEN PALLETS!**
**Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)**

### Furniture

Secretary row top desk $150. 432-262-2685

### Miscellaneous for Sale

RESTHAVEN GARDEN Of Hope. Lot 43, space 1 & 2. $2,000 each. Call 432-634-4733.

Wood burning stove $300, Camper Shell $350, 55 gl plastic barrels $15 Call 352-8419

### Miscellaneous for Sale

SEASONED OAK firewood, $350 for 1 cord, $190 for 1/2 cord. Delivered & stacked. 325-648-2818 or 512-913-7406.

### Sporting Goods

BOWFLEX CLASSIC home gym, $400. Call 432-238-7079

BOW FLEX XLT, exercise equipment. $300. 432-894-8234

### Tools & Hardware

32 FT. LOUISVILLE Heavy Duty Fiberglass Extension Ladder $250. 432-238-7079

FIREWOOD FOR sale $85 per truck load. Call 432-296-9040

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today! 682-6999

### Free Stuff

**If You Have Items You Are Giving Away For FREE, Your Ad Is On Us! CALL 432-682-6222 TODAY!**

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon, 432-209-0416, 325-762-4262.

## Animals & Pets

### Pets

BLUE AKC GREAT DANE puppies 6 weeks old, 4 strong males asking $1,000. 325-933-0235

CKC REGISTERED German Shepard puppies, Mom is CKC & Dad is AKC. 432-664-9627 or 432-269-2960. mabel_aranda19@yahoo.com

FREE TO good home Lab Rotweiler mixed puppy 6 to 7 month old, very gentle with kids. Call 432-230-2763.

### Pets

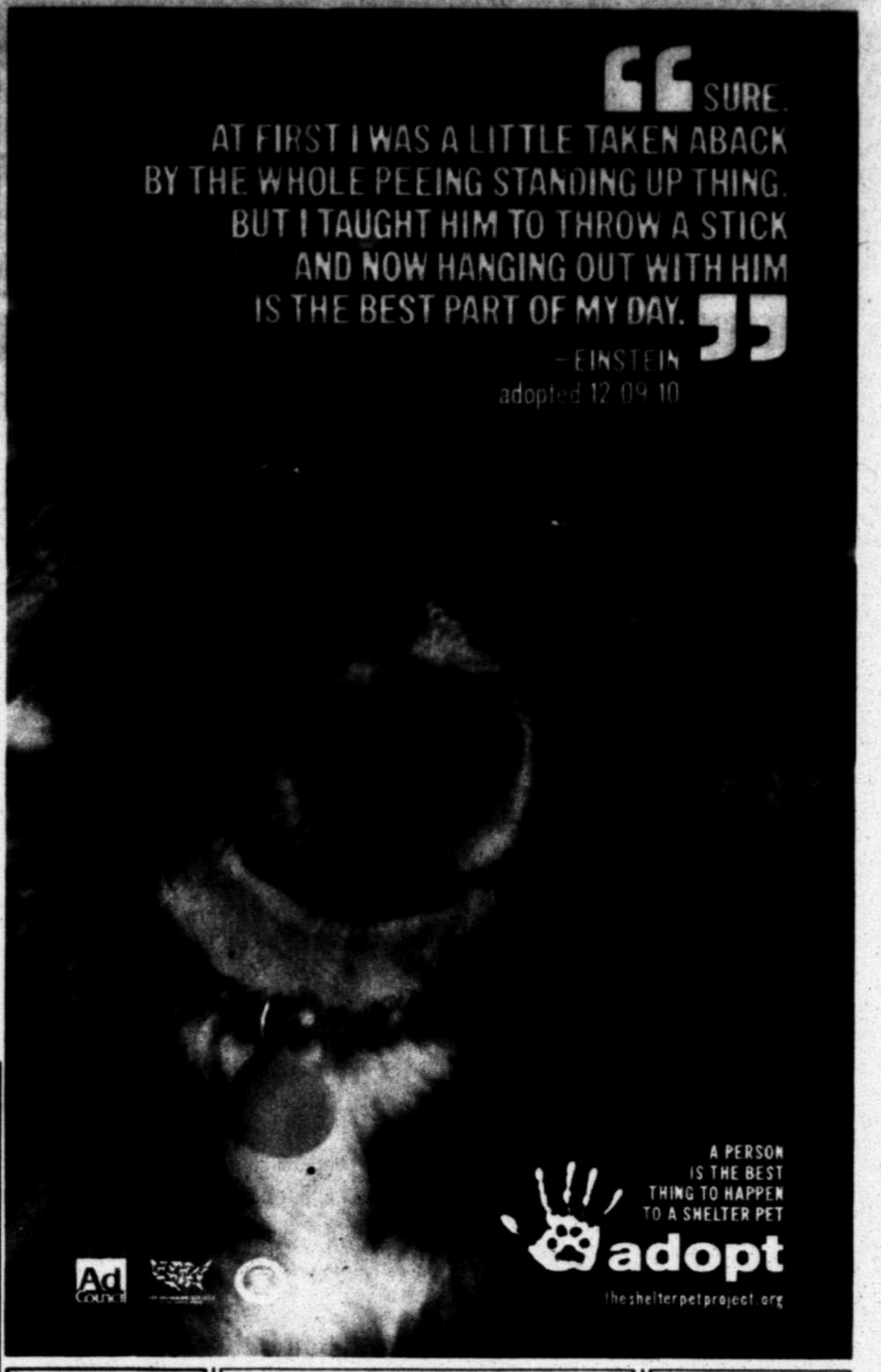
SCHNAUZER AKC register 2 males left. $350 Please call 432-889-4044.

SCOTTISH TERRIER puppies. Adorable AKC register. Black beauties. Born 10/04/13. Current on shots . Call 325-207-0042.

**YORKIE PUPPIES, Teacup. CKC Registered. First Shots, Ready Now! $900 432-213-2138 or 432-816-4216.**

YORKIPOO AND Malshi pups. can text 432-258-5034

**Classified CAN 682-6222**




## Business Center

### Business Opportunity

EARN 10% Interest on your money-secured by 1st lien on a home serious inquiries only. Please write: PO Box 4101 Midland, Tx 79704

TRUCKING COMPANY for sale with end dumps & vacuum trailers, one winch truck. With Texas Waste Hauler Permit to transport waste. Established business in operation for 18 years 337-652-6325.

**Classified CAN 682-6222**

### Passenger Cars

**BMW of the Permian Basin**
5715 Andrews Hwy · Midland
432-522-5900

**2009 BMW 528i**
Alpine/ Cream Beige
Prem , Xenon, Assist & Bluetooth, 98k miles

**2011 BMW X5 50i**
Jet Black / Blk
Sport Activity, Cold, Tech, Spare saver, Head up Active seats
13k miles, CPO

**2013 BMW 335i Convertible**
Jet Blk/Blk
Conv, Prem, Nav, SaT, Though Loading System heated seats
4k miles, DEMO

**2013 BMW 535i**
Dark Graphite / Blk
M sport , Tech, Prem , heated , head up display
6k miles, Service loaner

**2013 BMW 528xi**
Space Gray/Oyster
Prem, Heated seats, rear view camera , Nav,
4k miles, Demo

**2007 GMC Yukon**
Gray/Blk
Sat, Rear Seat Ent, 3rd row, 125k
Super Clean

**2012 BMW 535i**
Space Gray/Oyster
Prem sound, Sport , Prem.
11k miles, CPO

**2012 Mercedes CLS550**
Blk/Blk
Harman Kardon, Nav., 20k miles

**2012 BMW 328i Coupe**
Mineral Wht/Oyster
M sport , Prem., hi- fi, nav.,12k miles

**2013 BMW 328i**
Wht/Blk-Red
Blk racing Stripe
Sport line, Sport Trans, Nav, Heated seats, 3k miles, Unique

bmwpermianbasin.com

## Autos For Sale or Lease

### Passenger Cars

2010 MUSTANG Runs Great! $15K. (432) 631-7202

NEW TODAY!
NICE & clean 2005 Lexus 430, 81.500. $18,500 OBO can be seen at Jorge's Cafe on Big Spring St. Midland, Texas or call 432-528-1905.

NISSAN 1987 Mitsubishi 300ZX red sport car low mileage automatic $2,000 OBO. 432-262-2685

NEW TODAY!
NISSAN 2004 MAXIMA 60,000 miles 1 owner black leather warming seats and steering wheel bose sound sunroof $8,500. Call 432-682-7896 between 4pm and 6pm.

PONTIAC 2009 G8 GT White 95,800 Miles, new tires. Great Car. Loaded. $19,500 OBO 432-288-8018

NEW TODAY!
SELLING WIFE'S work car. 2003 Chevy Tracker. 2.0 liter engine, 4 door, asking $2,500. 432-894-8234

**WANTED!**
Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. FREE pick-up. 432-685-4078

### Pickup Trucks

NEW TODAY!
DODGE 2001 Ram 1500, white in color vin#:3B7HC13Y91G772379, 114,571 mileage $3,500. If interested call (432)661-1809

DODGE 2002 Ram 1500. 4X4. Large Mud Tires. Dark Blue. 172000 miles. Newer Engine. $5750 OBO. 432-528-8994

FORD 1990 F250, propane and gasoline. $1000 OBO. 432-212-0346

**FAX YOUR AD 24/7 682-6999**

### Pickup Trucks

FORD 2006 F150 Crew Cab Lariat only 51,000 miles keyless entry 5.4 liter V8 all leather dual power seats, heated seats, multi disk cd player with premium sound running boards and tow package , runs and drive like new 19,000 OBO. Call 432-661-2808

FORD '97 F150 3 door step side white exterior with burgandy interior . $2000. 432-559-5936

### 4WD & SUV

NEW TODAY!
2007 CHEVY Tahoe, 95K miles, impeccably clean & maintained. $15,000. Call 432-312-0401.

NEW TODAY!
**2007 LINCOLN Navigator, Ultimate, fully loaded, very good condition. 80K $19,999. 432-553-2135.**

NEW TODAY!
GMC 2003 Envoy XL SLE Great buy, always garaged, wife's car, very good mechanical condition $5500. 432-638-1747

NEW TODAY!
GMC 2004 Envoy Red Come see at 3930 Farwood CT. Good condition. Asking $6,250.00. 432-553-3248

JEEP 2006 BLACK Wrangler X 2 door, 26700 m, $18,000, garage kept, great condition. Call 432-556-7724

### Commercial Vehicles

### Heavy Equipment

INTERNATIONAL 2004 4300. Bucket truck with chip box. Great condition. With 68,390 milles. $72,400. Call 432-553-2155.

### Motorcycles

2002 GOLDWING, GL1800, beautiful black, perfect condition with lots of extras. 10,200 miles. 432-520-3177 or 432-559-1674 L/M

**In A Hurry? E-Mail Your Ad Today! It's Quick & Easy**
mrtclassified@mrt.com

### 4WD & SUV

**2007 ESCALADE PEARL White 132,800 miles New Tires $23,900 432-557-5557**

### 4WD & SUV

**Auto Sure Sell**

30 days
Midland Reporter-Telegram
30 days
Mywesttexas.com
New Today Banner 1st day only
Up to 10 lines of text
$40

### Motorcycles

2003 HARLEY Davidson Centennial Edition Duece. Fuel injected with 10,000 garaged miles. 1 year only Gun Metal Peal paint. all the chrome and whistles you could want. $9500.00 OBO or trade. Please call 432-557-1228.

HARLEY Davidson 2012, 1200 Sportster 72. stage 1 upgrade, Open air Willie G breather, Basanni pipes, Burly lowering kit. Leather side saddle bag. Only 3,600 miles. Garage kept. $9,500 or best offer 432-559-2508.

### RVs

2011 TRAIL Runner for sale $10,000. Clean, and roomy travel trailer, has plenty of storage both inside and outside. Two 30 gallon propane bottles located on the front of the trailer. Fully equipped kitchen. Travel trailer sleeps six comfortably, fold out couch, kitchen table folds down to make a bed, Furnace and A/C work perfectly. Call 832-579-6484

## Recreational Vehicles

1994 FLEETWOOD Flair 34ft Turbo Diesel 6.5. 69K miles, dual air, super clean. Suitable for full time living. $10,000. Call Terry 325-725-9633.

2012 WILDWOOD X-Lite Series, power awning & tongue jack, easy lube axles, radio w/ CD player, & 18" TV, pass through storage on front, stabilizer jacks. Refrigerator & 3 burner cook top. Like new, used twice. $25,000 Call Robert 432-934-5194

FLEETWOOD 2006 Discovery 39L Diesel 4 slides 17k miles $94,000. Call 432-631-9868

FOR SALE
2012 Lexion S-Lite. 31' with 1 slide. Loaded! Pulled 1 time. Used retail $30,310. Asking $27,300 or best offer. 432-687-2621 after 5pm

KEYSTONE 2007 Montana Montaineer, 5th wheel, 33ft., 3 slides, awning. Excellent condition! $22,500. OBO 432-653-7824.

## Auto Services and Parts

**BUYING/Hauling Off Junk Or Unwanted Vehicles. Dependable Junk Removal. 432-352-5031**

### Estate Sales

**Online Only Coin & Collectible Auction**
**Auctions and Services Unlimited**
**Auction ends Jan 2 2014**
**Bidding online until then**
**Preview New Year's Day 10-12**
**1009 W Industrial Midland, Tx**
Auction Highlights:
We have over 100 lots of collectible coins, 2 Leica Cameras, 2 Early Elvis Sun Records, Vintage Projection & Sound equipment, Movado Travel Watch, Costume Jewelry, Records, Large collection of vintage prints and ephemera, Books- Antique and Vintage, including Jefferson Davis 1st ed "Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government, Prints and Etchings, Assortment of collectible items, File Cabinets, Chuck E. Cheese Basketball games. Its an interesting mix of mostly small items. This is an Auction zip timed auction. Go to www.auctionzip.com. Auctioneer number 1114 can be entered in upper right. This will take you to the auction. We will have a computer set up at the preview to help you bid. Tim Watkins Tx Lic 13861. 432-349-6890 All items As is, 15% Buyers Premium for the online auction.

## Real Estate Rentals & Sales

### Residential Rentals

### Apartments for Rent Furnished

REMODELED SMALL efficiency, washer, dryer, cable, RO water, ice. $1650 monthly, $1000 deposit. 432-631-8100.

### Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

1 BEDROOM/1 Bath Apartment, all bills paid $1500 monthly, $1000 Deposit. Call 432/894-3460

LOFT APARTMENT, will be ready 1st week of January. $1200mo. $500dep.1bdrm, 1 1/2 bath. Must have references. 432-425-4871

NEW MANAGEMENT Spacious 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments. Call 432-687-4514.

### Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Unfurnished

2 BD, 2 ba, upstairs over looking pool. $1295. 432-699-7720.

4404 BROOKDALE, Midland. 3 bedroom, 2 bath 1 car garage. 432-934-4938 or 432-685-1711

SPACIOUS REMODELED 1600 +/- sf., 2/2 w/garage & fenced patio. 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

VERY NICE Townhome for rent in Midland. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Call or text 325-207-0173

### Houses for Rent Furnished

2 BEDROOM 3 miles out of town. Includes all utilities, Direct TV/DVR, High speed internet, Washer and dryer, fridge & stove, microwave and dishwasher, and jacuzzi tub, $1400 month. 1st and last month due at signing. $500 damage deposit. Available 1/01/14. Call Bob for application. 432-352-4509

4005 ST. Andrews, custom built 3 bd, 2 ba $2,500. 432-699-7720.

NICE NEW totally furnished 1 bedroom, 1 bath. washer, dryer, cable, ice, RO water, $1950/mo. $1,000 deposit. 432-631-8100

### Houses for Rent Unfurnished

2 BEDROOM, 1 bath, 2 living areas, $1525 per mo. & $1250 deposit, 432-413-3489.

502 HOLMSLEY 3bd, 2ba, sunroom, $1,595. Call 432-699-7720.

### Residential Rentals

### Houses for Rent Unfurnished

3603 HUMBLE. LARGE 4/3/3/2, new carpet, Rusk/Alamo/Lee. $2950/mo. UP Group 889-2934.

3 BEDROOM 1 1/2 bath. $1,400/mo and $1,400 deposit. No Pets, Non Smoking. 4704 Seminole. Call 432-699-7316 or 432-553-8712.

**4705 A Harvard. 2 Bedroom 2 Bath, 2 carport,fenced yard. No pets. $1550 monthly. 432-620-9222 432-694-2074**

TOWNHOUSE - Nice, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, water paid, 2 car garage. No pets /smoking. $2,700/month, $2,000 deposit. 2202 Neely. 432-682-0602.

### Rooms for Rent

ATTENTION SENIOR citizen room & board for independant female. Newly built furnished apartment on nice home, quiet neighborhood. $1.300 month $600 deposit/ All bills paid cable included. Call 719-425-1646 or 432-312-3171

### Residential Sales

### Homes for Sale

**2203 HOLLOWAY Ave, Midland $133,000. 3BR/2BA home plus one extra room. Lots of charm, spacious rooms & closet. New stove & refrigerator, large back yard, one car garage, fresh paint. Quick access to downtown; shopping & food areas. Ideal for large family. 432-634-0090.**

3608 SINCLAIR, 4bedroom 3 bath 2900 + sq. ft. Owner finance. 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

3611 BAUMANN Ave. Well Maintained 3/2/2 Large living with lava rock fireplace with gas logs. Nice kitchen, dining with breakfast bar, dbl closets, walk in closet in master. large back yard with storage $195K 432-218-8869

**3BD, 2BA, 313 S. Bentwood $139,000 will assist with closing costs. OPEN HOUSE 2pm-4pm every Sunday until sold. Call 432-683-2243**

**3BR/2BA NORTHSIDE completely remodeled in 2009. $189,000. 432-238-1777.**

FOR SALE by owner-4508 Lanham St.; 2BR/2BA; 1400 sqft. patio home. $165,000; Call 940-597-6743 to make appointment to see

FSBO EXECUTIVE home 4/5/3+. Gourmet kitchen, green house. Artist/dance studio, office/hobby room, wood floors, waterwell, 5000+ sq ft. $575,000. 1704 West Missouri. Call 432-254-2744.

HOME TO BE MOVED! Pier & beam, 3 bed/ 3 bath, 2273 sq. ft., metal roof, large master, his/her closet, remodeled kitchen open to living, office. Appraisal value $188,205 asking $155,000 located 40 miles SE of Midland. 432-268-5897.

IN MIDLAND home 3 bedroom 1 bath. Ready to move in $95,000. No owner finance 4715 Comanche Dr Call 432-262-3841

### Residential Sales

### Homes for Sale

**OWNER FINANCED**
3 bed 2 bath, nice neighborhood. 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

OWNER FINANCED 4403 Trevino, 3 /2, Small down. 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

**REDUCED** $25K: 2201 W. Golf Course, 2,871 sqft., indoor pool, 4 car garage, $299k. Check zillow.com 432-530-8844.

**WE BUY HOMES!** Fair prices, quick cash! Call 432-266-1212, 432-631-8100.

### Lots & Land

### Acreage

1.1 Acre lots 22K., 1.1 Acre lots with water well 28K., 1.5 Acre lot 30K., Greenwood area, new roads, electricity, mobile or modular OK. Britt 512-573-5479

**40 ACRES I-20**
Odessa location, $25,000 per acre Ask for Don 432-352-2067.

**Fax Your Classified Ad In Today! 682-6999**

### Lots & Land

### Acreage

4.17 ACRES in Stanton City Limits. Has elcctricity and water, but will need septic. $50,000. Call 432-894-6015

HOUSE AND 50 acres for sale, 1 mile south of Interstate off Cotton Flat. Will Divide. $13,500 per acre. 432-661-5742

**I-20 MIDLAND**
location, 27 acres. $60,000 per acre Ask for Don 432-352-2067.

Owner finance 5 acres water, Site built homes only, off Hwy 349, 20 mins. south of Midland. $59,500 432-631-8100/266-1212

### Ranches

562 ACRES for sale south of Abilene in Runnels County. Lots of trees, wildlife & water. Two homes / lodges; main lodge 4,600sf. with large open floor plan. 2nd lodge 750sf. Awesome getaway, home or business. $1.6 mil. 325-668-9299

### Ranches

**RANCH FOR SALE**
4,212 Acres near Snyder, Tx. Water, 3 houses, great hunting. Owner Financing $795/ Acre (432) 664-7764

**4 CEMETERY PLOTS in Resthaven, Garden of Love. 432-682-3974**

### Commercial

**FOR LEASE /Build to Suit**
Commercial shop with 5 acre yard East of Midland. 432-664-7764 432-934-7777

**"MAN CAVE"**
New storage on 1788. 1500-4500 square ft starting at $650 RV's/cars/industrial ask for Don 352-2067.

**NOW LEASING Office/Warehouses Small Office Suites and Fenced Yards**
Various locations. Call 432-661-4057.

RED WAREHOUSE Yard for sale or lease 1015 West Industrial, 432-553-4596.

REGENCY CENTER, available for lease commercial spaces. 2203 A & B, Big Spring Street and 1700 W. Texas Street. Call 817-583-9736

**AIRPORT HANGER**
located at MAF Airport. New construction. 80'x80'x35'. $750,000. Ask for Don 432-352-2067.

### Commercial

**NEW CONSTRUCTION**
5/10/20/50 acres +/- yard with 5,000 or 10,000 sq. ft. building with Bridge Cranes/ wash bays. Ask for Don. 570-9155 or 352-2067.

OFFICE, 1800 to 2000 sq excellent location. Parking and other ammenities. 432 697-6268

## Modular & Mobile Homes

### Mobile Homes for Rent

3 BD 2 bath, Greenwood school , no pets. $1,100 month $1,000 deposit. 432-528-1609

### Mobile Homes for Sale

1976 SOLITAIRE 3/2, Enclosed porch, covered patio and deck. Nice! On 2 lots, privacy and landscaped. Space 457, Airline MH Park. 7100 Airline Rd. 79706. $39,500 OBO. Owner may finance. WAC. Call 432-631-9882.

**Classified CAN 682-6222**

### Residential Rentals

### Apartments for Rent - Unfurnished

**★ NEW YEAR SPECIALS ★**
**★ GARDEN ★COURT APARTMENTS**
Spacious 1 & 2 Bdrms w/ patios
★ Ceramic Tile
★ W/D Connections
★ Fireplaces
2301 N. Pecos
★
**432-614-1710**

### Residential Sales

**By Owner - 2807 Sentinel Drive**
$229,000 - 2300 sq ft
Wonderful family home in Old Midland has lots of flexible space inside and out with 2 large living areas, 3 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths, galley kitchen, laundry room, 2 car garage, 2 workshops, storage building and 20 feet behind the back fence for parking boats, trailers or cars. The home is well maintained with new carpet, fresh paint and many other amenities.
See pictures and more information on Zillow.com
Please call **(432) 770-3003** to see.

### Homes for Sale

Real Estate Sure Sell
Call 682-6222 Today!
(Private Parties Only)
- **30 days - Midland Reporter-Telegram**
- **30 days - mywesttexas.com**
- **New Today Banner on 1st Day Only**
- **Up to 10 lines of text**

**$55**
(each additional line $5)

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 ot 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 1-800-669-9777

### Lots & Land

### Hunting Leases

UNDERCOVER WHITETAIL Ranch is offering $500 off of all deer hunts that are booked before 12/31/2013. We are located just north of San Angelo, TX on Hwy 277 North. We have all inclusive hunting packages starting at $5250 ea. Deer range from 150"-250" and weigh from 165-200+ lbs. Visit our website: www.undercoverwhitetail.com

### Condos/Townhouses

***Real Estate Quick Sale***
*(Private Parties Only)*
- 14 days in the Midland Reporter-Telegram
- 14 days on mywesttexas.com
- Up to 10 lines of text
- New Today Banner-1st Day Only
- (1) Homes Gallery listing with photo

**$75**
(each additional line $5)

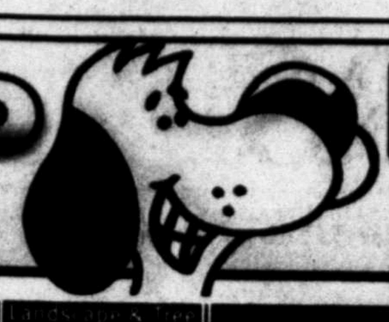
Call 682-6222 today!

### Commercial

**READY-RANCH**
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, Maverick 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/ac
- **Nolan County**
*646 ac, over 1 mile SOLD creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oaks, minerals............$2,295/ac
*565 ac, Pecan Creek, approx 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill, minerals............$2,095/ac
- **Howard County**
*842 ac, canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some oilfield traffic............$750/ac
*150 ac, big canyon SOLD tanks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, javi............$895/ac
- **Martin County**
*135 ac, Sulphur Springs Draw, mule deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal storage building............$1,150/ac

**(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777**
**No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!**
Deal with Landowners that know the Country!!!
***Owner Financing Available***

# Who's Who For Service



What a GREAT place to advertise your business!

Call 682-6222 for details.

## Services & Professionals

### Cleaning Services

#### Home Cleaning

**DEPENDABLE HOME CLEANING.** Have References. Call 432-260-1429.

**DJANIE'S** Housekeeping Services. Monday-Friday. Free Estimates. 10 years experience. 432-425-0232

### Computer Services

#### Repair & Replacement

**A+ COMPUTER** Tutor! Overcome Your Fear of Computers! ✔Your PLACE at Your PACE. ★Call Karen 432-553-2468 (leave msg).

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AP Photo

This handout photo provided by The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) shows Arctic sea ice earlier this year. Scientists spent three weeks in the region analyzing conditions, as recent reductions in sea ice in the autumn months affect weather patterns regionally and perhaps farther afield. The Arctic took a bit of a break from its rapid melting this year. But a federal Arctic report card said global warming is still massively altering the top of the world.

# CATCHING A BREAK

## Mild 2013 cuts Arctic a break, but warming woes remain

**By Seth Borenstein**
*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON —

The rapid melting in the Arctic eased up this year. But the government said global warming is still dramatically altering the top of the world, reducing the number of reindeer and shrinking snow and ice, while increasing certain fish and extending the growing season.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration issued its report card for the Arctic on Dec. 12, portraying 2013 as moderate compared with the roasting of 2012.

Overall Arctic temperatures didn't soar quite as high, and Greenland ice sheets and summer sea ice didn't melt as much.

"The Arctic caught a break, if you will, in 2013, but one year doesn't change the long-term trend toward a warmer Arctic," said report card editor Martin Jeffries, a University of Alaska geophysicist who is the science adviser to the U.S. Arctic Research Commission.

"The Arctic has shifted to a new normal," Jeffries said at the American Geophysical Union scientific conference in San Francisco, where the 136-page report card was released.

While 2013 looks a tad cool compared with the last six years, it is unusually warm compared with the 20th century, he said.

Central Alaska's summer was one of the warmest on record, coming months after its coldest April since 1924, NOAA said. Fairbanks experienced a record 36 days of more than 80 degrees. And snow cover in May and June was near record low levels in North America and broke a record for the least snow in Eurasia.

But one of the biggest climate change indicators, summer sea ice, wasn't as bad as expected. Sea ice in 2013 reached its sixth-lowest level in the three decades that NOAA has been keeping track. That's up from the lowest ever in 2012.

But the seven lowest levels have all occurred in the last seven years.

The 2013 figure "is simply natural variability," said National Snow and Ice Data Center director Mark Serreze, who wasn't part of the NOAA report but praised it. "There is nothing about the year 2013 that provides any evidence that the Arctic is starting a path toward recovery."

He added: "Looking back 20 years from now, the world will be warmer and we'll have much less sea ice than today. We'll see that 2013 was just a temporary respite."

More ominous are long-term trends, NOAA's report card said.

Average Arctic temperatures have increased 3.6 degrees since the 1960s, rising twice as fast as the rest of the world. The growing season has lengthened by nearly a month since 1982.

Fish species are moving north, permafrost is melting, and shrubs are greening in ways that weren't seen before.

While some fish and muskox are doing better, other animals associated with Arctic, like polar bears and walruses, are not. The report cited severe declines in the size of reindeer herds.

"Many of the herds at the overall level are at all-time lows," said study co-author Michael Svoboda of the Canadian Wildlife Service.

Jeffries and University of Virginia environmental scientist Howard Epstein, another study co-author, warned that changes in the Arctic reverberate around the globe.

White ice reflects solar energy, but because it is melting away, the oceans and the land are warming up more, Jeffries said.

He also cited a relatively new and evolving theory that is still dividing meteorologists. It said the loss of sea ice makes the jet stream meander and kink more, triggering more extreme weather in the Northern Hemisphere.

"The Arctic is not like Vegas," Epstein said. "What happens in the Arctic doesn't stay in the Arctic."

**Online:**
NOAA report card: http://www.arctic.noaa.gov/reportcard

## *Make the most of your new cellphone*

**Dear PropellerHeads: Can you hear me now? Excellent. I just upgraded my phone and need help making the most of my new toy.**

A: Congratulations! If you're like the rest of us here at PropellerHead HQ, getting any new tech gizmo is cause for a shopping spree for apps and accessories. With the huge advancements in cellphone technology, these devices can take the place of your land line, laptop, camera, tablet and gaming consoles.

It's kind of scary, actually. Hopefully you made your request for a new phone from a safe number. "What are you doing, Dave? I really think I'm entitled to an answer to that question…"

First, let's talk practical accessories. Chances are you will use your new phone in your car for calls, GPS, time-sensitive Candy Crush games, etc. With the increase in "hands free" laws around the country, a reliable mount is a necessity. Most have poorly designed suction cups that don't hold or are "friction" mounts without enough friction.

Enter the Mountek nGroove Snap. It uses your CD slot or a space between the panels on your dashboard to keep your phone firmly in place. It uses a magnet and faceplate that fits underneath most cases and back phone covers, so no more constantly adjusting the mount to keep the phone in place. It's slick, and it works.

You'll probably also use your phone for reading articles online, capturing life's precious moments on video, and the all-important "selfie." But eating breakfast with one hand while trying to read is a pain, and taking pictures and video by hand can cause blurry/shaky final products.

Check out the Glif by Studio Neat. It works as a stand for reading and viewing pictures, and can be attached to standard tripods for videos. It's also small enough to fit in your pocket.

A big concern with smartphones is drain on the battery. To avoid hauling around a bunch of charger cords and bricks everywhere, try the Thing Charger. It's a stackable (up to three) wall charger with interchangeable tips that allow it to work for virtually all phones and tablets, as well as traditional outlets on the face so you don't have to lose a lamp or microwave to do so.

If you're a bit more active, look into the Hammerhead Bike Navigator. It attaches to the handlebars of your bike and, using your phone's GPS, helps you navigate to your destination via simple light indicators that prompt you to go straight, turn left, or turn right. Simple yet ingenious. A great option for students or people in cities who bike to work.

While not available yet, your phone can also help you get rid of that Costanza-esque wallet that's busting at the seams. Coin (onlycoin.com) ships in the summer of 2014 and allows you to replace credit, debit, and some loyalty cards with one physical card controlled by a mobile app.

There's a ton of hot apps out there, but you can really have some fun with Keezy. It's a simple beatbox app for Apple devices that's a lot of fun and much easier to use than most other music synthesizers. If you don't like it, your kids will.

I have a dream that someday we will not need to upgrade phones every two years to avoid obsolescence, and Phonebloks shares that dream. It's conceptual right now, but the idea is to make your phone modular, so it can be upgraded and last for years, cutting down on the waste of millions of phones discarded every year, and saving you a little cash in the process.

Well, hopefully this helps you give your phone a little swag so you can show all your friends how sweet your life is with the new toy. Now, I have to go figure out how to actually call someone to tell them…

*Send questions on business or consumer technology to questions@asktheppellerheads.com; or Data Directions Inc., 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, Va. 23116. For more information visit www.asktheppellerheads.com.*

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