MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2016 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

FIGHT FOR NO. 1

The Cowboys will battle the Buccaneers to hold NFC East in Sunday's game.

Page 1C

COMMUNITY GALLERIES

Head online to revisit this weekend's Rockin' Christmas parade, 3rd annual Midland Cyclocross Race, and members of the Texas State Guard visiting the pediatric unit of Midland Memorial Hospital.

mrt.com

Pioneer set to enter into $110M-plus deal with city

Company wants to enter into treated-wastewater deal

From staff reports

The city of Midland might have an upgraded water pollution control plant up and running by 2020, and the residents of Midland will have Pioneer Natural Resources to thank for it.

On the Midland City Council agenda for today is a resolution approving an agreement relating to improvements to the water pollution control plant and the sale of reclaimed water with Pioneer Water Management, which Pioneer Natural Resources formed in 2014 to supply and manage its water operations in the Permian Basin.

Pioneer, according to agenda documents, is committed to funding $115 million of the plant's Secondary Treatment Plant Upgrades Project.

The latest guaranteed maximum price is between $128 million and $129 million, according to city documents. Any project amount above $120 million will be allocated upon future discussion between the city and Pioneer.

Robert Patrick, assistant city manager with the city of Midland, said the need to improve its water treatment operations was certain to happen because Midland's current water treatment facility is aging and because Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regulations have become more stringent. He said the city hoped for a public-private partnership.

In 2014, a request for proposal was sent out, and Pioneer responded, eventually entering in discussions with the city of Midland about a similar deal, which would have called for the exclusive sale of effluent water — 10 million gallons per day — to Pioneer Water Management.

The renovations at the time were estimated to cost between $89 million to $100 million, according to previous Reporter-Telegram reports.

The up-to-date agreement shows revenue from Pioneer will be 91 cents for every 1,000 gallons for the first 84 billion gallons or about 28 years of water. Revenue after the primary term, according to the city, will be $8.33 for every 1,000 gallons for the next 10 years and $9.52 for every 1,000 gallons the 10 years after that.

Anticipated revenue the first year of operation is $2.5 million, minus any credit due back to Pioneer for initial project funding, according to the city.

The deal appears to be similar to the one in place with the city Odessa.

Pioneer Natural Resources began filling its pipeline with city of Odessa effluent water in January, marking the completion of the infrastructure for a deal expected to net the city more than $117 million through the next decade plus, according to a report in the Odessa American.

At that time, Pioneer Chief Operating Officer Tim Dove said, "We are still in discussions with city of Midland, as well, as you might guess. And I think both of these sources are going to be needed through time."

Patrick said there will be a delivery point on city property, where Pioneer can then pipeline its purchased water to areas outside Midland.

"They will have a pipeline running, so we will not have trucks running all over town," Patrick said.

HAVE YOU ANY WOOL?

Photos by Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Elle Blaze, left, talks about her Shetland sheep she raises in Fort Davis and spins the wool for yarn during a meet and greet Dec. 3 at the Stitching Post in Midland.

Texas sheep farmer sells yarn locally

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

When crafty Midlanders search for yarn this season, they might be surprised to find the source: a sheep farmer living near Fort Davis.

The Stitching Post, a shop that sells supplies for knitting and other hobbies, introduced yarn from shepherdess Ellen Baize this month. Customers appreciate the yarn's regional origin, according to store owner Sheree Levens.

"People like the colors, love the feel," Levens said. "We know who it came from — the sheep's name. It's personal."

Baize formed her personal connection with sheep after she took responsibility of her family's flock in 2008.

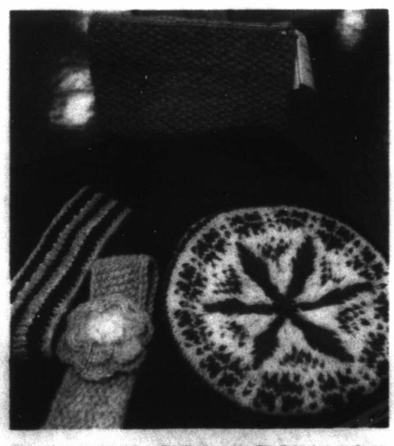
"I stand in awe," Baize said. "At the time I got the sheep, there was only one (m and three ewes) left in the flock. I had no way of seeing ahead. Now I have 40 sheep."

Baize's family was the first to bring Shetland sheep to Texas in 1991. Baize now raises her flock in a pasture 18 miles west of Fort Davis.

"What you don't find in Texas very often is Shetland wool," Baize said. "When I was learning to spin in the '90s, I thought it was easier to work with Shetland wool."

Though Baize often spins her own yarn, she sent wool for The Stitching Post to mills in Texas and Illinois.

She came to the store on Dec. 3 to introduce her yarn for weaving and knitting. Employee Jeannie Campbell said customers thought the yarn's quality was better than others made from Shetland wool.



Some of the items knit from Shetland wool by Elle Baize has made are displayed Dec. 3 at The Stitching Post.

"It's softer," Campbell said. "It makes you want to work with it. A lot of people realized that when they were here and talked to her."

About half of Baize's yarn has already sold, and The Stitching Post is expecting

Please see YARN/2A

AP: Will oil producers' cut have lasting impact?

■ ANALYSIS

By George Jahn
Associated Press

VIENNA — It seems like a big deal. But the joint production cut from OPEC and non-OPEC countries — the first in 15 years — might push up the price of oil less than the nations involved are banking on.

At over $50 a barrel, oil prices remained buoyant and well above recent norms on Monday, reflecting the cutbacks to production agreed to this weekend — and with reason.

Less than two weeks after members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting countries agreed to pare 1.2 million barrels a day of their production, they were joined by nearly a dozen outsiders Saturday who pledged an addition daily 558,000-barrel cut.

On Monday, the price of U.S. benchmark crude rose $1.33, or 2.6 percent, to settle at $52.83 per barrel in New York. The price of Brent crude, the international standard, rose $1.36, or 2.5 percent, to finish at $55.69 a barrel in London.

The OPEC cutback alone would have been noteworthy as the first time in eight years the cartel was able to agree on such a move. That, the additional reduction by other 11 nations, and Saudi Arabia's pledge to cut its production even further if needed, is leaving even hardnosed analysts impressed.

Jason Schenker of Prestige Economics calls Saturday's decision "a historic deal," and there is little doubt that in the short term the combined cut will result in somewhat more pricey oil — and, by extension, car fuel, heating and electricity.

But the upward trend might soon peter out, leaving prices well short of the highs of around $100 a barrel last seen two years ago.

President-elect Donald Trump has promised to free up more oil drilling in the U.S., which would increase global supply. More U.S. shale oil, which was unprofitable to produce at the price lows around $35 a barrel touched earlier this year, could become viable again, further increasing supply.

And demand is not expected to rise

Please see IMPACT/3A

Weather
Sunny
63/38
Get your complete forecast on 5B

Energy prices

WTI Futures	$52.83	▲ $1.33
WTI Posted	$49.25	▲ $1.25
WTS Posted	$45.35	▲ $1.25
Natural Gas	$3.507	▼ $0.039
Gasoline	$1.597	▲ $0.002

The big number
Rep. Chaka Fattah, D-Pa. was sentenced to
10 years in prison
after he was convicted in June of a slew of bribery & federal corruption charges. Page 7A

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

Brought to you daily by Jim Burrito

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Daily $2, Sunday $3

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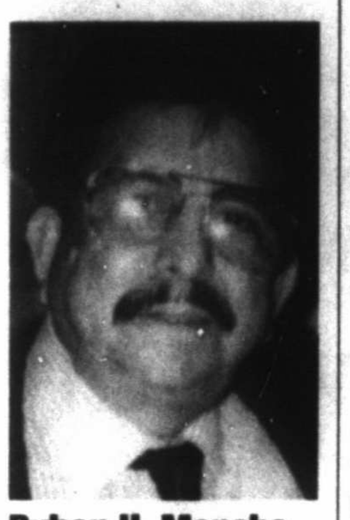
Obituaries

Alice Rounsaville

Alice Rounsaville, formerly of Midland, Texas died November 8, 2016 in Tucson, Arizona while visiting her sister.

Survivors include her husband, Cecil Rounsaville; daughters, Judy Bryan and Ruth Rounsaville; sons Kenneth and Royce Rounsaville; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Ruben H. Mancha

Ruben H. Mancha was born September 25, 1935, in Big Spring, Texas. He departed this life on December 9, 2016 in Midland, Texas.

Ruben was a diehard Washington Redskins fan. He loved playing cards, pool, dancing, taking trips to Las Vegas, and spending time with his family and friends, and playing with his grandkids.

Ruben met his beloved wife when he was 18 years old and she was 14 years old. They just celebrated their 27th wedding anniversary on November 4th of this year.

Ruben started to work for Midland Map when he was 18 years old and worked there for several years, then for Reynolds Brothers for 25 years and he retired. He later went back to work for Midland Map for another 11 years. He also worked at Helping Hands and the Horseshoe and Walmart.

Preceding Ruben in death were his parents, Gregorio Mancha and Juliana Hinojos Mancha; son, Ruben Mancha, Jr; and by four brothers and a sister.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his loving wife Ofelia Carrasco Mancha; daughters, Delma Iglesias (Joe) and Carol Martinez (Eladio); grandchildren, Chris Iglesia,, Jose (Cruz) Iglesia, Crystel Iglesia, Joey Martinez, Erica Martinez, and Erica Gonzales; and 16 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Chris Iglesia, Jose (Cruz) Iglesia, Joe Iglesia, Sr., Mark Villa, Joel Edward Navarro, and Frank Carrasco, Jr.

A Rosary Prayer Vigil will be Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Thomas Chapel.

Funeral Mass will be Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery, under the direction of Thomas Funeral Home.

Thomas FUNERAL HOME
FUNERALS / CREMATIONS
Midland, Texas

Death Notices

Dr. Dewey Dwayne Blevins, Jr.

Reverend Dr. Dewey Dwayne Blevins, Jr., 66, of Midland, passed away Sunday, December 11, 2016.

A Celebration of Life Service will be at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 17, 2016 at Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 1415 N. Grandview, Odessa, TX.

Dewey is survived by his wife, Carol Jean Blevins; four sons, Dewey Blevins, III, James Blevins, Joshua Blevins, and Larry Smith; daughters, Nikki Smalling, Whitney Farley, and Debi Smith; and by one sister.

William John Schwartz

William John Schwartz, 57, of Midland, passed away on December 11, 2016.

Services are pending through Ellis Funeral Home.

Marion Arthur Custer, Jr.

Marion Arthur Custer, Jr., 90, of Midland, passed away on Monday, December 12, 2016.

Services will be held on Thursday, December 15, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at Christ Church Anglican in Midland.

He is survived by his wife, Caryl Custer; and children, Susan Wallar, David Custer, Andrew Custer, and Carrie Griffith.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

mrt.com

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

Blues concert serves as benefit for Rays of Hope

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

A concert ticket will go a long way at Wednesday's Blues Roots Rock Revue at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. Presented by Dallas- and Midland-based company Endurance Resources, the concert will serve as a benefit for area agency Rays of Hope and national nonprofit Blue Star Connection. Concert-goers can even extend their giving while at the show.

"We'll also have an angel tree at the show and a silent auction," Endurance Resources CEO Don Ritter said.

Ritter is also the founder of Blue Star Connection, a nonprofit that works with hospitals to provide musical instruments to children in care. The instruments are used with children who have responded to music therapy. BSC's outreach has spread to 450 children at 53 hospitals throughout the country.

Without a hospital connection in the Permian Basin, BSC teamed up with Rays of Hope.

"We wanted to partner locally, and working with Rays of Hope is great on many levels," Ritter said. "Music is one of the tools they use to help in the grieving process."

An outreach of Hospice Midland, Rays of Hope Children's Grief Centre works with youth from ages 4 to 18 that have experienced a loss due to death, divorce or other live event.

Endurance and Blue Star will donate musical instruments to Rays of Hope's music room.

"We're so appreciative and would like to thank Blue Star," director Jessi Morgan-Froman said. "We pretty much use any instrument you can think of, so their proceeds will benefit and revamp our music room."

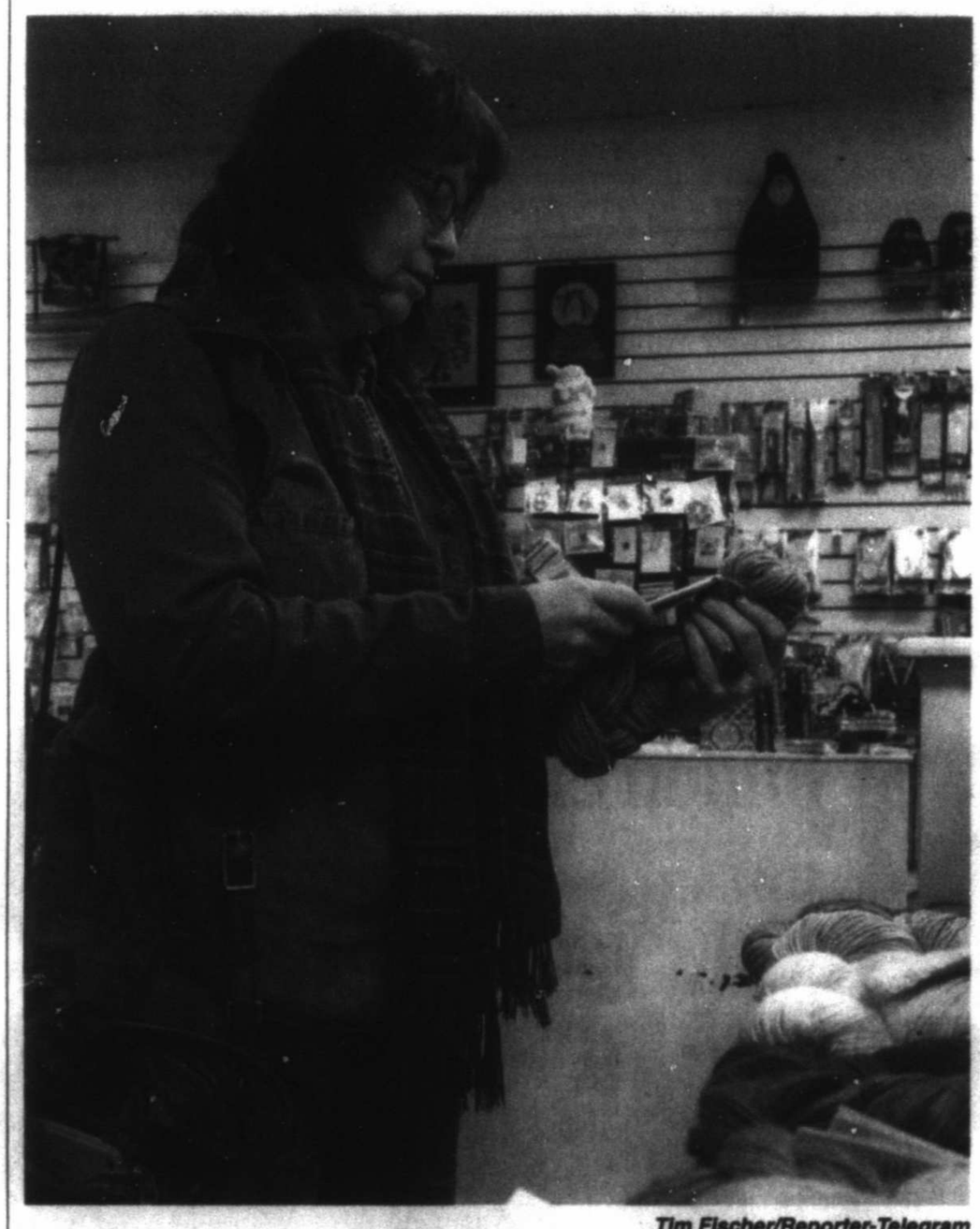
The center's music curriculum often helps their children and youth to talk and act out out their feelings.

The concert will feature Samantha Fish, Mike Zito, Tommy Castro, Deanna Bogart and Luther Dickinson, who received his first individual Grammy nomination last week. His "Blues & Ballads (A Folksinger's Songbook: Volumes I & II)" was nominated for Best Traditional Blues Album.

Ritter added that audiences can expect a great night of music and a silent auction that includes a week in Telluride, artwork and autographed guitars all while helping out children in need.

"We're inclined to make this an annual event," he said. "The music is the main attraction but people can come out and do something really good as well."

The Blue Star Blues Roots Rock Revue will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Tickets are $20-$50 and can be purchased online at wagnernoel.com or at the box office. For more information about the organizations, visit raysofhopemidland.org and bluestarconnection.org.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram
Molly Henson looks at some of the Shetland yarn for sale Dec. 3 at The Stitching Post as Elle Baize, from Fort Davis, is in town to answer questions about the Shetland sheep she raises and spins yarn from.

YARN

From 1A

to receive more of it in January.

Knitting during the winter has grown in popularity recently, according to Campbell's daughter, Courtney.

"With knitting, there's pride because it's handmade," Courtney Campbell said. "If somebody asks you if you made that, you feel better than if you bought it."

The store had yarnd in about 20 colors available for purchase Friday. Baize uses the colors of the sheep and three natural dyes to produce all shades.

"I think with the motivation to do natural things — the dyes and coloring are rustic and earthy — her yarn is the perfect example," Jeannie Campbell said.

Each purchase of yarn includes a card, which describes Baize's sheep and introduces a pattern for creating an item. Campbell, who was using the headband pattern, said people can also make scarves, hats and other seasonal items from the yarn.

Baize said creating patterns to match the qualities of the yarn is rewarding.

"I really enjoy that — looking at fleeces and thinking what I could make that wool into," she said.

County judge: More constables are doing things right

■ Bradford said Legislature is likely to at least discuss changes to constable offices

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

With a third constable in the past five years facing the possibility of losing a law enforcement license, Midland County Judge Mike Bradford said there are concerns on the Commissioners' Court.

Bradford told the Reporter-Telegram after the court's meeting on Monday that the record will show there are more constables inside Midland County performing admirably, going over and above what is expected and doing things right, but that the county is receiving attention for the wrong reasons based on the actions of the minority.

Precinct 2 Constable Mark Wohleking turned himself in to the Gaines County Jail on Thursday as a response to a warrant for a misdemeanor driving while intoxicated incident that took place in November, according to jail officials. Wohleking had rolled his vehicle while traveling on U.S. Highway 62. Department of Public Safety reported toxicology results showed he had blood alcohol concentration of 0.262; 0.08 is the legal limit.

Wohleking is the third constable in five years to run into legal issues and face the possibility of losing his law enforcement license.

Theodore Macklin, who at the time was the constable of Precinct 3, was arrested in August on a Class A misdemeanor charge of family violence - assault causes bodily injury, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article. Macklin later pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor offense of "official oppression," related to a 2014 arrest. He surrendered his license and was defeated in the November general election.

In 2011, then-Precinct 2 Constable Charles "Choc" Harris pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of interference with the public duties of a peace officer, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article. As part of the plea, Harris agreed to permanently relinquish his peace officer's license.

Bradford said Midland County is not alone in having issues with constables. He said the state Legislature has talked about "molding" the constable office into another and making it a division. He expects more discussions will take place the during legislative session that begins in January.

He said that the constable is a constitutional officer of the state of Texas, so doing away with the office or making other changes would require a change in the state Constitution and a vote of the public.

He did say the court has modified constable salaries "substantially" based on the lack of performance or to reward good performance. Changes, if required, could not happen until the next budget year.

What does a constable do?

■ Serves as a licensed peace officer and performs various law enforcement functions, including issuing traffic citations.

■ Serves warrants and civil papers such as subpoenas and temporary restraining orders.

■ Serves as bailiff for Justice of the Peace court.

Source: Texas Association of Counties.

Lawsuit challenges new Texas rules over fetal remains

By Will Weissert
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Advocacy groups filed a lawsuit Monday seeking to prevent Texas from requiring hospitals and abortion clinics to bury or cremate fetal remains rather than disposing of them in a sanitary landfill, as they most often currently do with such remains and other biological medical waste.

The lawsuit filed in a federal court in Austin by the Center for Reproductive Rights and other groups contends that the rules set to take effect next Monday serve no medical purpose and are meant to shame women who seek abortions and make it harder for doctors to provide them.

"Texas has failed to provide any credible evidence of what health benefit this might serve because there aren't any," Nancy Northup, the Center for Reproductive Right's president, said on a conference call. "Women do not want these laws. Doctors do not want these laws. And the Constitution does not allow them."

Carrie Williams, a spokeswoman for Texas' Health and Human Services Commission, said the agency is reviewing the lawsuit and will respond "at the appropriate time." Louisiana and Indiana have similar requirements, but they are on hold due to court challenges.

Texas officials have denied that their new requirements are meant to shame women who get abortions or make things harder on abortion providers. In response to the more than 35,000 public comments it received about the proposed rule changes, the health department wrote it "believes the methods allowed by the rules will protect the public by preventing the spread of disease while also preserving the dignity of the unborn in a manner consistent with Texas laws."

The new rules were proposed to the health commission at the behest of Republican Gov. Greg Abbott in July, just days after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down anti-abortion laws that would have left Texas with 10 abortion clinics, down from more than 40 in 2012.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ABILENE

Man shot to death in his home

Abilene police are investigating the death of a man who was shot multiple times in his home.

Police spokesman Rick Tomlin tells the Abilene Reporter-News that 54-year-old Thomas Niblo's death early Monday morning is being investigated as a homicide.

Tomlin said that Niblo's wife called police to say she'd heard an intruder in the home and then heard gunshots. She left the home through the back door and then called police.

AUSTIN

Texas wins $5 million federal grant to combat Zika virus

Gov. Greg Abbott says Texas has won a $5 million Centers for Disease Control grant to combat the Zika virus.

In a statement Monday, Abbott said the money was awarded as part of supplemental Zika funding approved by Congress to increase preparedness and response efforts.

Word of the grant comes three days after state health officials confirmed four more cases of Zika in Texas that were likely transmitted by mosquito bites.

Florida is the only other state with locally spread Zika.

Abbott said, "This money will be crucial in our efforts to contain and combat further transmission."

He said the Texas Health Department has dedicated $18 million to combatting Zika and implementing a state preparedness plan — though counties are being required to cover many Zika-related costs themselves.

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JimBurrito
paronomasia
1. *Rhetoric.* punning; the use of a word in differentsenses or the use of words similar in sound toachieve a specific effect, as humor or a dualmeaning.
2. *Rhetoric.* a pun.

Ronald Zak/Associated Press

Persons stand in front of the headquarters of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, on Saturday in Vienna, Austria. OPEC member states are meeting with Russia and other non-OPEC countries in Vienna for talks about a reduction in oil production. Secretary General Mohammed Barkindo said the discussions began Saturday in a "positive atmosphere" at the headquarters of the oil producers' cartel.

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IMPACT

From 1A

strongly, as the world economy struggles. China's economy, with its massive, energy-hungry manufacturing sector, is slowing.

And Europe's economy, a net importer of oil and gas, is stagnant. Compliance is also an issue.

Past OPEC attempts to reduce output and push prices upward have failed due to members pumping above their quotas. That contributed to the worldwide glut that combined with feeble economies of consuming countries to bring down prices to as low as $35 early this year.

And outside OPEC, some of the cutbacks will be difficult to verify, leaving no choice but to take the word of the country involved that it is fulfilling its pledge.

Noting such big ifs, analysts at German bank Commerzbank, in a research note said "we remain skeptical ... despite talk of this being a 'historic demonstration of unity.'"

"This is because we are convinced that the expectations relating to voluntary production cuts, which have been driven to excessively high levels in recent weeks by oil producers, cannot be fulfilled."

The pacing of the cuts also could dent producers' hopes that enough crude will be withdrawn in real time to push prices significantly higher in the long run.

Russia has said it will cut daily output by 300,000 barrels.

But it plans to dribble out its share of the reduction over the coming months and JBC Energy said in a research note that the strategy will translate into a drop of only 80,000 Russian barrels for the first half of next year.

So, while prices are up, hopes may soon be down for the 22 nations involved that their deal will result in a return to sustained high prices — and some analysts are hedging their bets.

"Historic agreement or historic bluff?" asked Commerzbank in its note Monday.

Titans of new industry spring $1 billion clean energy fund

By David Koenig
Associated Press

DALLAS — Some big names with big money say they plan to put more than $1 billion into developing technologies that will reduce greenhouse-gas emissions and lower the price of energy.

Bill Gates said the fund plans to make its first investments next year and run for 20 years. A year ago, the co-founder of Microsoft Corp. started the Breakthrough Energy Coalition, whose members include Mark Zuckerberg, George Soros and Richard Branson, with a commitment to invest in new types of energy.

Monday's announcement comes less than a week after President-elect Donald Trump announced he will nominate the attorney general of Oklahoma, a climate-change skeptic, to lead the Environmental Protection Agency.

The fund, however, was in the works long before the election. It is the investing venture of a coalition formed in November 2015.

Gates is the chairman of a group of 20 investors who call their fund Breakthrough Energy Ventures. They want to speed innovation in the $6 trillion energy market. At the top of the investors' list of criteria: nurture technologies with the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least a half gigaton.

Gates said the fund plans to hire staff and make initial investments next year. The fund identified several areas for investment, and Gates highlighted an even more-targeted approach aimed at helping startups that can reduce emissions from electricity generation, transportation, and industrial processes in steel-making, cement production and agriculture.

"This fund is to get things at an early stage, so we're willing to take high risk," Gates said in an interview.

Given the net worth of the individuals involved. Gates acknowledged that $1 billion might not seem like an overwhelming commitment.

"When you meet these guys, they won't have sold one of their cars. There is no deep sacrifice involved here," Gates said. He left open the possibility that the pool of money could grow, either from his investors or partners such as corporations and universities.

The initial $1 billion sum, he said, is still much bigger than any previous clean-energy fund and is enough to signal the investors' seriousness.

Gates has said that the investments he makes won't matter as much as the choices that governments make. He believes there is broad support in Washington for energy research and development. But, he added, "it's hard to say" whether clean energy continues to get government incentives or what energy policies a Trump administration might pursue.

"I had a phone call with Trump" a couple weeks ago, Gates said. "It wasn't some super-long call. I talked a little bit about the innovation in various spaces that got me excited. He seemed to think innovation might be a fruitful area and said that we should talk more. At some point we'll get into some depth."

Gates said he is absolutely convinced that goals for reducing carbon emissions will be met.

"If you told me there was no innovation and not the kind of private, risk-taking capital we've got here, then I would be very pessimistic because year after year the problem would get worse," he said. "I see the work going on ... we are going to surprise people with the kind of innovation that will come out of the Breakthrough Energy Ventures investment pool."

Trump selects Tillerson for State, dismissing Russia ties

By Julie Pace
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President-elect Donald Trump has selected Exxon Mobil CEO Rex Tillerson to lead the State Department, dismissing concerns about the businessman's close ties with Russia, two people close to Trump's transition said Monday night.

Trump's decision caps a lengthy process that often played out in public and exposed rifts within his transition team. It also sets Trump up for a potential fight with Congress over confirming Tillerson, who has connections with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Trump was set to announce Tillerson's nomination Tuesday morning. The people close to his transition team insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose the decision ahead of that announcement.

The president-elect had moved toward choosing Tillerson after a meeting Saturday, their second discussion in a week. Trump was said to be drawn to the prospect of having an international businessman serve as the nation's top diplomat.

But the prospect of Tillerson's nomination sparked immediate concern on Capitol Hill. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., wrote on Twitter that "being a 'friend of Vladimir'" was not an attribute he was seeking in a secretary of state.

In a weekend interview with "Fox News Sunday," Trump pointed to Tillerson's deep relations with Moscow as a selling point. As Exxon Mobil's head, he maintained close ties with Russia and was awarded by Putin with the Order of Friendship in 2013, an honor for a foreign citizen

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The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closing at 2:30pm on Wednesday, December 14th for our Annual Christmas Party.
Merry Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
MRT Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

■ Bingo, 6 p.m., Tall City VFW Post 7206, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.

■ Indie Lens: "Meet the Patels" screening by Basin PBS, 6:30 p.m., Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. The screening will be followed by a humorous panel featuring the Colorado Players. Free. basinpbs.org.

■ The Twelve Night Flights of Christmas, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Fly in vintage aircraft while seeing the Christmas lights of Midland and Odessa from the sky. To book your flight, email rides@highskywing.org or call 432-703-3142. High Sky Wing, 9600 Wright Drive. $75-$145. Highskywing.org.

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

■ "George Takei's Allegiance," the Broadway musical on the big screen. 7:30 p.m., at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250 N. $20.84. fathomevents.com.

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

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

Meeting

City Council
10 a.m.
Council Chambers City Hall
300 N. Loraine Ave.

Book drive

The Midland County Public library is conducting a children's book drive for the benefit of Casa de Amigos and High Sky Children's Ranch.The goal is to collect 5,000 books through Saturday.

New or gently used books may be dropped of at the children's department of either branch 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The downtown branch is at 301 W. Missouri Ave.; the Centennial branch is at 2503 W Loop 250 S.

Know a member of the military coming home?

Military families can call 352-0785 or email Vickie Gomez (zemogv@cableone.net) when they know their member of the military is flying into Midland International Airport so the Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee can be there to greet them.

Honor those who served

There are many organizations in operation right here in the Permian Basin that are at the task of serving all kinds of needs for present and former members of our military. Some of them are:

■ Show of Support (687-2167)
■ Honor Our Troops (889-0177)
■ Reel Thanx (528-6633)
■ Centers for Children and Families (570-1084)
■ Midland College Veterans Affairs Office (685-4511)
■ Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee (366-3458)
■ Soldiers of Today and Yesterday (631-3429)

Contact your representative

President
Barack Obama (D)
Address: The President, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500
Phone: 202-456-1414
Fax: 202-456-2461
Web site: www.whitehouse.gov/president

Senators
John Cornyn (R)
Address: 517 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC. 20510
Phone: 202-224-2934; West Texas office: 806-472-7533
Fax 202-228-2856
Web site: cornyn.senate.gov
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Sen.JohnCornyn/
Twitter: twitter.com/JohnCornyn

Ted Cruz (R)
Address: Russell Senate Office Bldg 404. Washington, DC. 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922
Web site: www.cruz.senate.gov
Facebook: www.facebook.com/tedcruzpage
Twitter: twitter.com/tedcruz

U.S. Representative
K. Michael Conaway (R)
Address: 2430 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC. 20515
Phone: 202-225-3605
Fax: 202-225-1783
Local office address: 6 Desta Drive, Suite 2000, Midland, 79705
Phone: 687-2390
Fax: 687-0277
Web site: www.conaway.house.gov
Facebook: www.facebook.com/mike.conaway
Twitter: twitter.com/ConawayTX11

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 6-0-1
Pick 3 day: 2-4-4
Pick 3 evening: 3-8-9
Pick 3 night: 1-2-7
Daily 4 morning: 2-8-3-6
Daily 4 day: 9-7-1-7
Daily 4 evening: 2-7-5-6
Daily 4 night: 4-5-1-7
Cash Five: 6-13-20-25-27
Texas Two Step: 14-18-27-34 BB: 1
All or Nothing morning: 5-9-10-11-12-13-15-16-17-21-22-23
All or Nothing day: 1-4-5-6-9-11-13-14-15-19-21-24
All or Nothing evening: 2-3-6-8-11-13-15-16-17-21-22-24
All or Nothing night: 3-6-8-9-13-14-15-16-18-21-22-24
Triple Chance: 2-5-7-10-32-41-46-47-52-56

Mixed reaction to winter

Associated Press

Steven Washington, 9, dives faces first into a fresh pile of snow, taking a break from shoveling his grandmother's driveway after school was called off for a snow day Monday on Flint, Mich.'s north side. "I like to see when the snow falls," he said. "I love to play in it and make snow angels. It was so cool to get out of school today so I could just be outside around so much snow."

Snow makes for frowns on roads, smiles on slopes

By Kathy McCormack
Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. — Snow and freezing rain made for messy commutes and closed hundreds of schools Monday as a snowstorm pushed into the Northeast.

The storm left nearly a foot of snow on the ground in some spots in the Great Lakes and upper Midwest before dumping up to about a half-foot across New York and northern New England. Boston, New York City and Philadelphia were spared.

Speeds were reduced on snow-packed roads and there were many school delays and closures from Michigan to Maine. Authorities said there were numerous crashes on the Maine Turnpike, and crashes on local roads in Gorham and New Portland, Maine, resulted in two fatalities.

Portland, Maine, got about 4 inches of snow, but that wasn't enough to close down the Portland Fish Exchange, an auction house that was preparing for the arrival of day boat scallops later Monday.

"We've got a crew in here doing snow removal and repairs and whatnot," said auction house general manager Bert Jongerden. "It's pretty rare that we happen to close here. This is just a little bit of nuisance snow, really."

Pats Peak Ski Area in Henniker, New Hampshire, had received 6 to 8 inches by midmorning. Spokeswoman Lori Rowell said the ski area that opened Saturday with about half its trails saw more children Monday, thanks to school closures.

"We love it," Rowell said. "There are lots kids there that took advantage of that opportunity."

But it wasn't all fun and games.

Brian Audet, of Epsom, said he saw one car off the road as he drove into Concord early Monday. "It was slow going, but they stayed ahead of it, and it was pretty decent," he said.

David Holden, owner of Hair Biz Salon in Concord, was among those spending the morning shoveling the city's newly expanded sidewalks.

"The roads are really slippery this morning. It's a first bigger snow for us in New Hampshire, we probably have 6 or 7 inches, and so they were a little slippery and people were moving slow," he said.

The National Weather Service said that 3 to 6 inches fell in Maine and New Hampshire while Vermont saw 8 inches in West Brattleboro and 2 to 4 inches in most other places.

Hundreds of Michigan schools closed Monday as the state dug out from more than 10 inches of snow that fell over the weekend. In southeastern Michigan, schools were closed Monday in Detroit and surrounding Wayne County. Wayne State University in Detroit also was closed.

Snow generally cleared out of the Chicago area on Sunday night, though there was snow falling on Monday morning in some other parts of Illinois. The storms left Chicago-area freeways with patches of snow and ice, making travel more difficult. The area received more than 6 inches of snow as of Sunday night.

Temperatures 15 to 30 degrees below average will follow the cold rain and snow in the coming days through much of the Midwest and East.

Preventing not-so-happy holidays fraud

By Sarah Skidmore-Sell
Associated Press

More spending, more donations, more travel and more distractions — there's no time like the holidays for fraud.

"Scammers are opportunists and, unfortunately, at the holidays we give them plenty of opportunities," said Katherine Hutt, a spokeswoman for the Better Business Bureau. She says the most important thing people can do is be aware of possible scams and to be extra cautious at this time of year.

Here are a few common types of holiday frauds and tips on how to avoid them:

When shopping

Online shopping is convenient and popular — for shoppers and scammers alike.

The most common ways criminals can access your personal and financial information, according to the U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team, which is part of the Department of Homeland Security, are creating fraudulent sites and email messages, intercepting insecure transactions and targeting vulnerable computers.

Use the same good sense you would at other times. Restrict your purchases to reputable vendors, and be wary of lookalike websites, where the name of a well-known brand is slightly off. Don't click on emails and links from unfamiliar senders, and make payments only on secure sites indicated by a lock symbol or "https" in the web address.

At the holidays, the impulse to snap up a great deal can be strong. A common complaint to the National Consumers League is from shoppers who found amazing deals online — often for in-demand products like electronics or fashion — but their orders never materialized.

Also be wary of any business that asks you to pay for holiday purchases using prepaid debit cards, gift cards, wire transfers or other payment forms that cannot be traced or undone, the Better Business Bureau says. Use a credit card for more protection against fraud and for refunds.

When giving to charity

The holidays are a busy time for making donations. The desire to be generous is best accompanied by solid knowledge.

The FTC suggests researching an organization to verify its authenticity, using sources such as the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance or online tools such as Charity Navigator, Charity Watch and GuideStar. Avoid any charity or fundraiser that refuses to provide detailed information about its identity, mission, costs and how the donation will be used. Be wary of a charity that uses a name that closely resembles but is not that of a better-known organization.

Apply the same precautions as when you're shopping, as donating involves sharing much of the same personal and financial information. Always pay with a check made out to the charity or by credit card, never send cash or wire money.

When traveling

The holidays can be a great time for trips and new experiences, but the National Consumers League says sometimes these memories turn into nightmares.

It suggests avoiding suspicious online hotel booking sites in favor of well-known brokers or making your reservation directly with the hotel; sticking with licensed taxis or using a known ride-hailing service when out of town; and protecting details about your airline miles and loyalty points as you would your finances.

Travelers should also avoid "free Wi-Fi" hotspots while at the airport or relaxing elsewhere, the group says, since that's an easy way to expose the personal information on your phone, computer or other device.

E-scams

New technology means new kinds of scams. While several trusted companies offer charming and personalized letters from Santa, the Better Business Bureau warns that some scammers mimic them to get personal information from parents.

Be careful as well with electronic greeting cards that appear to be from a charity or loved one. John Breyault of the National Consumers League said they can be from imposters seeking personal information or trying to spread malware or a virus. Two signs: the sender's name is not apparent, or you're required to share additional information to get the card.

Some social media posts appear to offer vouchers or gift cards as part of holiday promotions or contests that requires taking a survey. That can be a means to steal personal information. The BBB also warns against taking part in gift exchanges online. While it sounds great to buy one gift and get 36 in return, it's a variation on a pyramid scheme and is illegal.

No matter what form a fraud takes, report any suspected scam to the local police, state attorney general's office, the FTC, the FBI, the BBB or the National Consumers League.

NATIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

TENNESSEE

Terminally ill 5-year-old boy dies in Santa's arms

KNOXVILLE — A Tennessee Santa Claus says a terminally ill 5-year-old boy died in his arms after he gave the child a present in the hospital.

The Knoxville News-Sentinel reports Eric Schmitt-Matzen, who does about 80 events a year as Santa, was asked a few weeks ago to visit the dying boy.

Schmitt-Matzen says he gave the child a toy. He says the boy gave him a big hug, asked "Santa, can you help me?" and died in his arms.

Schmitt-Matzen says it took him days to recover, but he's continuing to play Santa.

The News-Sentinel report didn't include details on the boy or the hospital. Schmitt-Matzen didn't immediately respond to requests for comment from The Associated Press.

OHIO

John Glenn's casket to be escorted through capital city

COLUMBUS — The remembrance of astronaut-hero John Glenn in his native state has been expanded to include a processional through the heart of the capital city and a longer period in repose at the Ohio Statehouse than President Abraham Lincoln and others.

A U.S. Marine guard is set to remain with Glenn's casket throughout a series of events Friday and Saturday.

The first American to orbit Earth died Thursday at 95. His body is scheduled to lie in state in the Ohio Statehouse Rotunda from noon to 8 p.m. Friday, to remain there overnight and then to be carried up High Street to Ohio State University on Saturday for a 2 p.m. memorial service.

All events are open to the public. Tickets, available starting Thursday, are required for the memorial service at Mershon Auditorium.

Glenn, of New Concord, became a national hero after orbiting Earth in 1962. He returned to space in 1998. Glenn, a Democrat, also served more than two decades representing Ohio in the U.S. Senate and founded a public affairs college at Ohio State.

The Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board unanimously gave permission Monday for Glenn to lay in repose during Friday's event and overnight, in order to accommodate the funeral procession, which begins at 12:30 p.m. Saturday.

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger, who heads the board, said that means the doors to the Statehouse may remain open later if people are still waiting.

In Ohio, dignitaries typically lay in state for eight hours. After Lincoln was assassinated in 1865, his body was transported across the country by funeral train. He lay in state at the Ohio Statehouse for nine hours on April 29, 1865.

The John Glenn College of Public Affairs has posted information on memorial activities for Glenn on its website. Memorabilia from Glenn's life remains on display in Page Hall, which houses the college.

The university's main library will open an exhibit remembering Glenn on Thursday. Running through March, it will include photographs, documents and artifacts from the John Glenn Archives.

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.

Get twice the Christmas for your money from now till December 24 at Flowerland

Starting this week, you can make your home look twice as good for the money this Christmas—because Flowerland has put all Christmas decorations on sale at 50 percent off!

There is no need to choose just one smiling elf—now you can have two! Want to add an extra wreath, lollipop or snowflake decoration to brighten the tree? Let it go and bring them all home!

This is great because once you've seen all the holiday cheer and beauty Flowerland's Chief Designer, Chris Collum, AIFD, TMF, has gathered from around the world, you'll want some of everything.

Sure, there's still plenty of time to visit the winter wonderland Flowerland has become, and make your holiday decorating say "Wow" to everyone who stops by.

If your holiday cheer extends to the more traditional, see fur-wrapped Father Christmas standing watch over the woodland creatures. Or if the bright holiday colors are your cup of tea, you'll see them right as you step inside. The elves, the Jolly Old Elf himself, the reindeer, the festive treats, they're all yours for the asking.

Ever mindful of the reason for the season, Flowerland has included the Baby Jesus, Joseph and Mary and the faithful barnyard animals in their offerings. There's no better centerpiece for your home's seasonal focus.

And like life itself, Christmas is new every year, so you may step over to the golds, reds, greens and whites of 2016's favorite colors. Chris has arrayed Flowerland with every holiday vision you can imagine.

With all this and so much more coming to your home, how can you NOT be festive this year? You and your guests will find yourselves swept away in the joy of the season.

As Christmas itself approaches, the selection will start to thin out. That means your best day to go by Flowerland is today—as in right now.

Don't let Father Christmas, the elves and the woodland creatures miss out on celebrating Christmas in your home. Go to Flowerland and rescue them this week and save 50 percent on every Christmas item!

Flowerland is located at 413 Andrews Highway in Midland. The phone number is 682-1634. Flowerland is an FTD and Teleflora florist. Their web address is www.flowerlandmidland.com.

Waiting for you to bring them home for the holidays are Father Christmas, woodland creatures and more of your favorite Christmas decorations. Save 50 percent on everything Christmas at Flowerland now through December 24!

Can replacing rotting bricks save you money? Yes, by reducing your energy loss

It's almost like letting dollar bills escape through the gaps where bricks in your home are rotting and crumbling away, say George Rood and Jose Martinez of George Rood Masonry.

"Bricks crumble slowly, almost unnoticeably over many years," George points out. "You may not even notice it's happening until there are big gaps in your brickwork."

As the west Texas winds blow through those gaps they leak heat in or out, depending on the season, which makes your HVAC unit work harder to keep up. And there goes that money on your utility bills.

Too many times homeowners don't notice the problem until they try to sell their home, and the inspection shows issues that need repairs. Many area Realtors recommend that their clients call George or Jose when that time comes. But, they say, don't wait until then to take care of things.

"Really, a brief walk around your home can show you the problem areas," Jose says. "If you let us fix them now you can start saving money on heating or cooling right away." Usually the repairs are surprisingly affordable and can be done quickly. There's really no reason to put this job off!

Let George Rood or Jose Martinez put their experience to work replacing rotting bricks, building a new fence or taking care of other brick work for you. Call George at 432-664-1341 or Jose at 432-770-4920. Estimates are free.

Maybe you need a new fence or a brick patio or walkway around a swimming pool. For that, George or Jose will come to your home and listen to all your plans. They'll help you get the layout that gets you just what you need. Before they start, they will tell you exactly what is needed, what work will be done and what the cost will be, so you can relax knowing there will be no surprises at the end. Estimates, by the way, are free.

This is a hands-on project for George and Jose. One or both of them will be on site, working alongside the crew. Many times, Jorge will be the only bricklayer at the job. Jorge has 25 years' experience in bricklaying, the last 15 of which have been while working with George Rood Masonry. George himself has been a bricklayer for 49 years and has been in the Permian Basin since 1979. Both have lots of experience in brick repair and fence building, and they have deep roots in west Texas.

In fact, if you've seen a fence with columns built in it, spaced about 20 feet apart, that's a concept George introduced to the area. Those columns ensure that fences are strong and sturdy. "Before I came here and started doing that, no one had really used columns before," George says.

So call George Rood Masonry today for brick repair or for a brick fence, walkway or patio.

For quality, affordable work on brick repair or on new projects, call George Rood at 432-664-1341 or Jose Martinez at 432-770-4920.

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Want more customers? Here's how to get them

If you're a business owner or manager I'm assuming your answer is "Yes." And the fact that you're reading the FYI page means you're already in touch with a powerful way to reach those customers.

This page and its cousins, Healthy Living (Mondays) and Around the Oil Patch (in Sunday's Oil Report) consistently deliver new business to businesses who advertise there.

Want proof? City Wide Electric' Joe Fussell says: *"My articles on FYI in the Midland Reporter-Telegram make my phone ring the day they run and for several weeks afterwards. Articles for exterior home lights and for computer service have done especially well for us.*

"We've advertised here for many years because FYI in the MRT pays for itself over and over."

FYI is about local business stories—readers love both local business and stories. In a story we can help readers dream of how your product or service can make their lives better—which leads to them calling you or stopping by and spending money with you.

You may believe your business will pick up automatically because the economy is improving. Well, people may have more money to spend, how will they know to spend it with YOU? That's where FYI comes in for people like Joe Fussell.

To learn more about how to drive more business your way, call me, Paul Wiseman, at 432-697-7468 or your Midland Reporter-Telegram representative today!

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Evil drives the actions of the Charleston shooter

■ Dylann Roof's trial is a demonstration of the actions of a man who racism in his blood and evil in his heart

KATHLEEN PARKER
Washington Post Writers Group

CHARLESTON, S.C. —

A deep stillness settled over the federal courtroom as graphic photos were shown of the nine people murdered last year at Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Church.

The defendant, 22-year-old Dylann Roof, sat motionless throughout, as he has since his death penalty trial began last Wednesday. Behind him sat his paternal grandparents, media and members of the general public. Although Roof has pleaded not guilty, his attorney David Bruck, a renowned anti-death penalty advocate, told jurors that he didn't expect them to find his client not guilty. At stake is whether Roof deserves to die or spend the rest of his life in prison.

Roof, who posed in online pictures with the Confederate battle flag, allegedly told his victims he had to kill them because blacks were taking over and were "raping our women."

In a serendipitous display of unwanted irony, the South's racial divisions that Charleston, especially, has worked so hard to bridge were refashioned by happenstance and logistics in the courtroom itself. Reserved seating placed the victims' family and friends, primarily black, on one side of the room and the defendant's family and the mostly white media on the other. This imposed segregation was purely circumstantial but painful, nonetheless.

Before the photo display, U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel repeatedly warned family members that the pictures were graphic, saying there was no shame in sitting out this portion of the trial. The quiet was profound and leaden as each person in the room tried within his or her own space to convey respect for the dead and the bereaved. The pin-drop silence was interrupted only once when a young black man, upon seeing the body of 70-year-old Ethel Lance, bolted from the courtroom.

Most striking of the photographs was that of the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, who seemed to have been running toward the altar when he was felled by three bullets, according to the autopsy report. He had pitched headfirst toward the raised lectern in a prone position reminiscent of reverential prostration. A wide ribbon of blood streamed away from his head for several feet before disappearing from the frame.

Those who have followed the events of June 17, 2015, and thereafter are familiar with Pinckney and the eight black parishioners who died. Over time, we've learned their names and faces, and feel as though they were friends or people we'd like to have known. Seeing their photos in the courtroom, their bodies labeled with a number as the only way to identify them initially, refreshed a sense of the killer's anonymous presence among them that night and the deft, dispassionate brutality with which he dispatched them.

From the evidence, it was easy to discern how the shooter went about his business. Shell casings and empty magazines were found around the perimeter of the room, indicating that the killer was moving around while shooting. One magazine was left on one of three round tables in the center of the room where the Bible study group was meeting and where most of the victims were found. This particular table was draped with a bright yellow-and-green-patterned cloth. Next to the dark, empty magazine was a large, opened Bible and a piece of paper.

Bullet holes in another of the tablecloths and an indentation in the metal frame underneath suggested that the shooter deliberately aimed under the tables to kill those crouched below. The precision of his execution, at once heartbreaking and unconscionable, would deliver a staggering psychic blow to any decent human being.

For almost an hour, according to previous reports, Roof sat among these welcoming people, pretending to share their spiritual purpose, and then opened fire in a blaze of resigned fury. When a wounded Tywanza Sanders begged him to stop, Roof kept firing until four bullets riddled Sanders' body. How could he? How could anyone?

By anyone's definition, Roof is a racist, but surely this is too facile an explanation. The rational mind wants more. Insanity? Not according to a psychiatrist who examined him. What then?

The "what" will be the focus of defense attorneys who will try to persuade jurors to spare Roof's life. If they do, he still faces another death penalty state trial next year. Whatever is decided here — and again later — it may be difficult to get beyond the way survivor Felicia Sanders described the assailant as the prosecution's first witness. Looking directly at Roof, she said, "Evil, evil, evil."

OUR VIEW

Region came through for its neighbor Iraan in its time of need

There are times when life's occurrences, specifically tragedies, put sports in perspective.

This past weekend, sports helped a community deal with tragedy.

Around West Texas, newspapers will post their top stories from 2016 in their year-end editions. In each case, those top stories will have helped define the year in that community.

If there was a regional story of the year, it played out on the gridiron in Abilene's Shotwell Stadium as the Iraan Braves played with a heavy heart and an entire region in support of the team and their community.

By now, most are familiar with the tragedy that happened a week ago as an Iraan cheer sponsor died in bus crash. In storybook fashion, the community rallied around its football team. In what was the Permian Basin at its best, the region rallied around the community.

As Reporter-Telegram Sports Editor Oscar LeRoy reported this weekend, "around 800 cheerleaders from all points in between, including Midland and Odessa, went to support the Iraan cheerleaders."

"They came to support a small community in the middle of nowhere West Texas and help them heal," he wrote. "It didn't matter if they were rivals and it didn't matter if they didn't know those involved in the accident. They came because it was the right thing to do and because those kind of tragedies could happen to anyone."

We are happy for Iraan's football team. The Braves are putting the Permian Basin back in the football spotlight as they advanced to the state title game. Our region's state championship football seasons have become few and far between.

We are happy for the community of Iraan. They showed their Permian Basin neighbors what it means to come together, lean on each other and show off a strength they called "Braves strong."

We are even happier for the residents in the basin. They saw someone in need and asked how can we help, how can we be there for you. We like that. Because this past weekend, it was for Iraan. The next time it may be closer to home.

And to know the rest of the basin will be there for your community means everything.

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

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Website: midland.edu
Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidlandCollege
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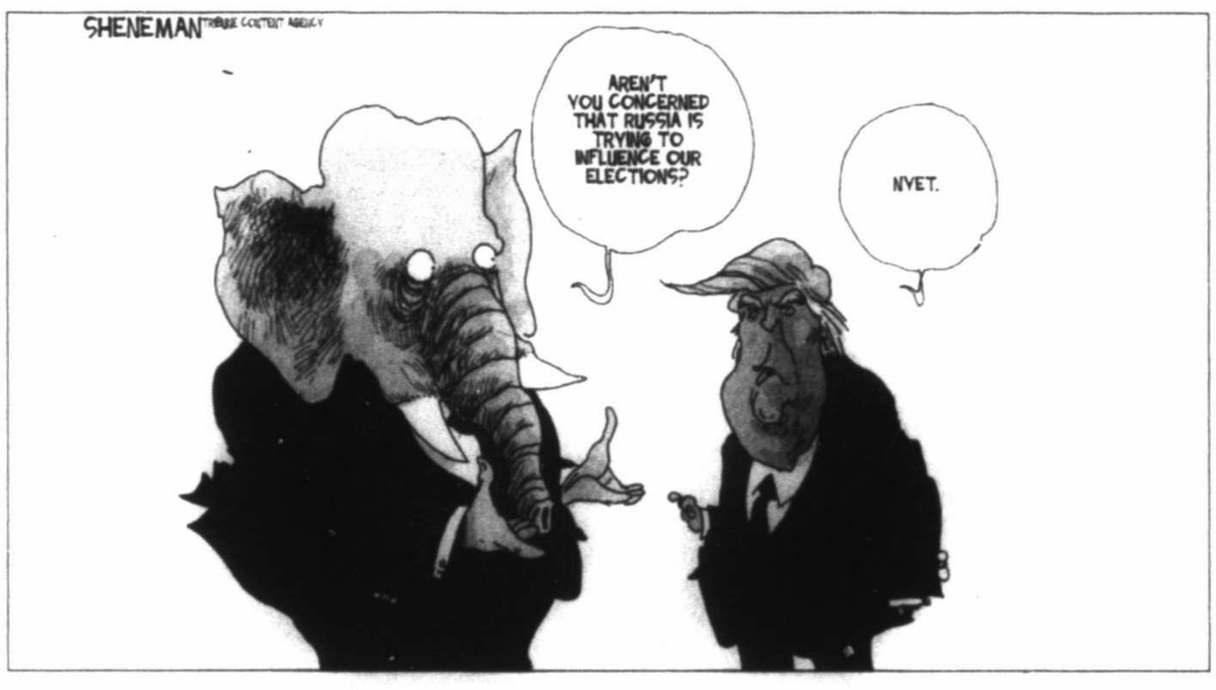

Democrats are preparing to fight

■ Their party's leaders need to reclaim the populism Trump stole in 2016

DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

As of Jan. 20, Chuck Schumer will be the most important Democrat in the land. But spend a few minutes with the incoming Senate minority leader and it's clear where the real power lies.

I was interviewing the New York Democrat last week when he paused to take a call. It was about an event scheduled for the next day to highlight a new initiative tallying jobs "outsourced" overseas during the Trump presidency.

Schumer had one question: "Is Bernie coming?"

"He told me he'd come," Schumer continued. "Hold on, I'll call him right now." The party leader had his aides track down Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, the populist insurgent who nearly beat Hillary Clinton in the Democratic primaries. "Hey, Bernie, so can you come?" Schumer asked. "We'll do it at a time that's good for you, OK? ... Try to clear it. It's a good event. ... It's right up your alley and you can help us by coming. ... It complements what you're doing. ... We need you."

Schumer hung up. "OK, he'll come."

Sanders didn't come.

But the interruption said much about how Schumer will lead Democrats in the age of Donald Trump. Schumer, though close to Wall Street for much of his career, is wholeheartedly embracing the party's Sanders-Elizabeth Warren populism. This means Schumer, and the Democrats, are ready to fight.

Conventional wisdom says Schumer will be pulled in a moderate and conciliatory posture by the 10 Senate Democrats up for re-election in 2018 in states that Trump won (two of them, West Virginia's Joe Manchin and North Dakota's Heidi Heitkamp, have been wooed by Trump as possible Cabinet secretaries). He'll be pulled the other way by Warren and Sanders, who represent the party's energy.

But Schumer correctly views this as a false choice: The best way to protect endangered incumbents is to let the Warren wing lead.

Schumer's predecessor, outgoing Democratic leader Harry Reid, did his best both in the majority and the minority to protect vulnerable incumbents such as Mary Landrieu and Mark Begich, using parliamentary tactics to avoid tough votes. But a byproduct of this was that Democrats didn't articulate a clear agenda — and Landrieu and Begich lost anyway.

If Democrats are to have any hope in 2018, they'll need to reclaim the populism Trump stole in 2016. Schumer embraces this. "If you want to appeal to the manufacturing worker in Scranton, the college student in Los Angeles and the single mom making minimum wage in Harlem, one economic message will work," he said. "We just didn't have it" this year.

Schumer pledges to keep his focus almost entirely on the economy. When Republicans hold votes on energy and social issues that divide Democrats, he figures he'll have enough votes to filibuster even if endangered incumbents split off. "We're going to have five, six sharp-edged [policies] that can be described in five words," Schumer said. "That economic message" — college affordability, infrastructure spending, taxing the rich — "unites our caucus."

This reflects a broader post-election debate among Democrats. Clinton ally David Brock last week blamed the loss on the party, saying it "faces a crisis of competence at all levels" and calling for a commission to investigate.

Nonsense, reply those in the Warren wing. They say Clinton's economic agenda was a muddled, build-on-success theme when people wanted change. They say Trump got to Democrats' left with working people, and the answer now is to unite behind specific legislation such as expanding Social Security, protecting Medicare from privatization, and raising taxes on the wealthy to pay for infrastructure spending.

If the new president comes Democrats' way, things will get done. If he takes a traditional Republican approach to the economy, Democrats will fight, and Trump's working-class backers will know they were had.

This doesn't mean a Mitch McConnell-style effort to oppose Trump reflexively — something Schumer told Trump when the president-elect called him recently to discuss infrastructure. "I said to him it's got to be robust, it can't be just tax credits because nothing much will get built ... and it can't cut traditional programs" such as education and Medicare. "He didn't argue with me," Schumer recounted.

Conversely, when Trump contradicts his campaign themes — a Wall Street banker as treasury secretary, a billionaire private-school devotee as education secretary and a health and human services secretary who wants to privatize Medicare — he can expect a populist pushback from Democrats.

This, and not incumbent protection, is what will work for Democrats in 2018 and beyond.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Chaka Fattah just got one of the longest prison sentences for any member of Congress, ever

By Amber Phillips
The Washington Post

It may not surprise you to hear there are literally dozens of members of Congress who have been convicted of crimes.

Some have paid fines, or served probation, or resigned from their jobs. But among those who have gone to prison, most have been sentenced to two or three years.

Very few have received a sentence as long as the one Rep. Chaka Fattah, D-Pa., just got received: A Pennsylvania judge sentenced him Monday to 10 years in prison after he was convicted in June of a slew of bribery and federal corruption charges related to an illegal $1 million loan he took out for a failed 2007 mayoral run.

(Fattah defiantly fought the charges but subsequently became the first 2016 incumbent member of Congress to lose his primary and resigned days before jurors convicted him.)

It's the second-longest prison sentence for a member of Congress, at least that we're aware of. Here are some other notable lengthy prison sentences for members of Congress — and, bonus!: the longest prison sentences for any U.S. politician.

Congress

Members of Congress with the longest prison sentences:

■ **13 years:** We believe the only other member of Congress to be sentenced to more time in prison than Fattah is former Congressman William Jefferson.

The Louisiana Democrat was sentenced to 13 years in 2009 for accepting hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes — you might recall prosecutors claiming officials found $90,000 of bribe money stuffed in his freezer. Jefferson engaged in "the most extensive and pervasive pattern of corruption in the history of Congress," federal prosecutors said at the time.

■ **8 years:** In 2005, former Republican Rep. Duke Cunningham, California, was sentenced to more than eight years in prison on charges related to the Cunningham Scandal, where little-known defense contractors paid bribes (both in the form of cash and even prostitutes) to members of Congress and administration officials to secure federal contracts with tens and even hundreds of millions of dollars.

Cunningham pleaded guilty to taking over $2 million in bribes.

■ **8 years:** In 2002, former Democratic Rep. Jim Traficant, Ohio, was sentenced to eight years in prison after he was found guilty of accepting bribes and kickbacks from staff members for political favors. A colorful character insisting on doing things his own way, he defended himself in trial. He ended up being convicted on 10 counts of felony charges, including bribery and racketeering. (He was released in 2009, at the age of 68, after serving seven years. He died in 2014 in a tractor accident at his farm.)

Even though being convicted of a crime robs you of your main job as a member of Congress — to vote — Traficant refused to step down and became only the second lawmaker since the Civil War to be expelled by his colleagues. "Am I scared to death? No," a defiant Traficant said at the time. "I will go to jail before I resign and admit to something I did not do."

That ended up happening: He ran as an independent candidate from prison, another anomaly for members of Congress.

Traficant lost, and his former aide, Tim Ryan, won the election to replace him — yes, the Ryan who just challenged House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., for the top Democratic leadership spot.

All Politicians

Members of Congress have nothing on the list of mayors, governors and state lawmakers that make up some of the longest prison sentences of any politician. I put together this list in May when the former speaker of New York's General Assembly, Sheldon Silverson, D, was sentenced to 12 years in prison on charges of money laundering, fraud and graft. Here are some other notable lengthy sentences:

■ **28 years:** Former Detroit mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, D, is currently serving a 28-year prison sentence after he was convicted in 2013 for a dizzying array of corruption-related crimes, including racketeering, extortion and bribery. Prosecutors said he robbed Detroit of millions when it was at its most desperate. In 2015 he tried — and failed — to get the conviction overturned. At the time of his sentencing, U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade said it was "equal to the longest sentence" for corruption ever handed down for an elected official.

■ **28 years:** Mark Ciavarella, D, was one of two northeastern Pennsylvania county judges convicted of taking millions from a juvenile detention center to put children in their center, even for petty crimes like stealing a CD from Walmart. The scandal broke open in 2009 and was dubbed "Kids for Cash" and there's a documentary about it.

Ciavarella originally agreed to a prison sentence of seven years, but according to Scranton, Pa.'s ABC affiliate, WNEP, he then did a TV interview where he denied all of it. "I would never do anything to hurt a child," he said. The day afterward, a federal judge rejected Ciavarella's guilty plea, saying he didn't sound like he was admitting guilt at all. Ciavarella went to trial and ended up with 28 years in prison.

■ **19 years:** Rita Crundwell had been a small-town official in Dixon, Ill., for 29 years when in 2012, prosecutors accused her of what they said was the largest municipal fraud in American history. They said she stole some $53.7 million from the city to support her championship horse-breeding habit. She got 19 and a half years in prison for the scheme, and as of 2015, according to the Los Angeles Times, federal officials are still auctioning off the horse-breeding empire — including very valuable frozen horse semen — that she built up with taxpayer money.

■ **17 years:** The other Pennsylvania county judge in the Kids for Cash case, Michael Conahan, D, got 17 and a half years.

■ **15 years:** In 2009, former Birmingham mayor Larry Langford, D, had to answer for crimes past when a federal jury convicted him of 60 counts of fraud, money laundering and bribery when he was head of the Jefferson County Commission. He was accused of accepting cash and high-end jewelry and clothes from an investment banker to steer public business the banker's way. In 2010, he was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

■ **14 years:** The former Democratic governor of Illinois, Rod Blagojevich, is one of the highest-ranking politicians on this list. In 2011, he was sentenced to 14 years on corruption-related charges including trying to sell President Obama's open Senate seat for cash or political favors.

■ **14 years:** William Boyland, a former New York Democratic assemblyman from a political Brooklyn family, was sentenced to 14 years in prison in 2015 for asking for bribes from undercover agents — days after being acquitted of separate bribery charges — and for filing fake expenses that cost taxpayers an extra $71,000.

Associated Press

President-elect Donald Trump speaks to supporters during a rally Friday in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Trump's criticism of Russia hacking claim could haunt him

By Eric Tucker
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump held firm Monday to his skepticism of the huge intelligence apparatus he's about to inherit, doubting anew the CIA conclusion that Russia tried to hack its way into tipping the U.S. election his way.

Trump emphasized that he does not accept the conclusion that the Kremlin tried to disrupt the election in his favor, an idea he dismissed as "ridiculous" over the weekend. He also demanded to know why the subject hadn't been raised before Election Day — which it was, repeatedly.

The focus of reporting by leading news organizations, the issue has been in the headlines since at least June — after hackers broke into computers at the Democratic National Committee, after WikiLeaks began publishing Hillary Clinton's campaign chairman's hacked emails in October and after the Obama administration publicly blamed Russia's government, also in October.

"Unless you catch 'hackers' in the act, it is very hard to determine who was doing the hacking," Trump tweeted Monday. "Why wasn't this brought up before election?"

Trump himself had raised questions during a presidential debate in September about whose hackers were responsible, after Clinton blamed Russia. "She keeps saying 'Russia, Russia, Russia,' and maybe it was. It could be Russia, but it could be China, could also be lots of other people," Trump said then. "It could be someone sitting on their bed that weighs 400 pounds."

Attempting to deflect blame from Russia, Trump has embraced one of the truisms about cybersecurity. After a hacking, it remains a lingering challenge to identify whose hands were on the keyboard: foreign spies, cybercriminals, disgruntled insiders or bored teenagers. Skilled hackers can cover their tracks, use software tools traceable to others and feign their locations across borders or continents.

In the hacks against the Democrats, two U.S. cybersecurity firms found detailed evidence that the intrusions were linked to Russian hackers. The internet domains and registrants traced back to a hacking group, "Fancy Bear," linked to Russia's intelligence services. It's unclear whether there is other, classified evidence uncovered by the administration. The Defense Department is widely known to monitor international internet traffic that might be used in such attacks.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said Monday that he had "the highest confidence in the intelligence community and especially the Central Intelligence Agency," signaling that he disagreed with Trump. "Obviously, any foreign breach of our cybersecurity measures is disturbing. And I strongly condemn any such efforts."

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said Monday it was the "consensus view" of the intelligence community that the Russians sought to meddle in the election.

"You didn't need a security clearance to figure out who benefited from malicious Russian cyber activity," Earnest said.

Trump's skepticism might be boxing him in as president. Openly questioning the U.S. intelligence assessment about what could be a historically important hacking will make it harder for him to persuade the public the next time the government looks to place blame for a cyberattack. Such official accusations effectively require the public to trust the government's findings since the blamed nation invariably denies involvement and intelligence officials are loath to reveal much about how they reached their conclusion.

Such a high-level accusation "only works if the president has credibility," said Rep. Adam Schiff of California, the ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee. "That only works if the country is going to believe and our friends and allies are going to believe and indeed our adversaries are going to believe that the president means what he says."

It's not yet clear how aggressive a President Trump will be in pointing fingers at foreign governments for hacking. Trump, who is rarely seen using a computer and has said he never personally uses email, has proposed a buildup of U.S. military offensive and defensive cyber capabilities that he said will deter foreign hackers.

Over time, the Obama administration embraced a "name and shame" strategy to respond to serious hacking. It openly blamed North Korea for the 2014 hack of Sony Pictures Entertainment. It also brought indictments against Chinese military officials for stealing business secrets from American corporations and against Iranian hackers for digital breaches at banks and a New York dam.

Blame is meant to put foreign governments on notice that their hackers are being watched and deter them from future attacks. When the government chooses to go public, credibility is its most important asset, said John Bambenek, manager of threat systems at Fidelis Cybersecurity.

It's not uncommon for skeptics, particularly within the hacking community, to second-guess the government's conclusion. Even after the FBI fingered North Korea as the culprit for the Sony hack, some computer scientists challenged the assessment. The FBI subsequently disclosed even more information to be more convincing.

Ideally, a president concludes that the need to protect sensitive sources and methods outweighs the need to silence skeptics, said James Lewis, a senior vice president and program director at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

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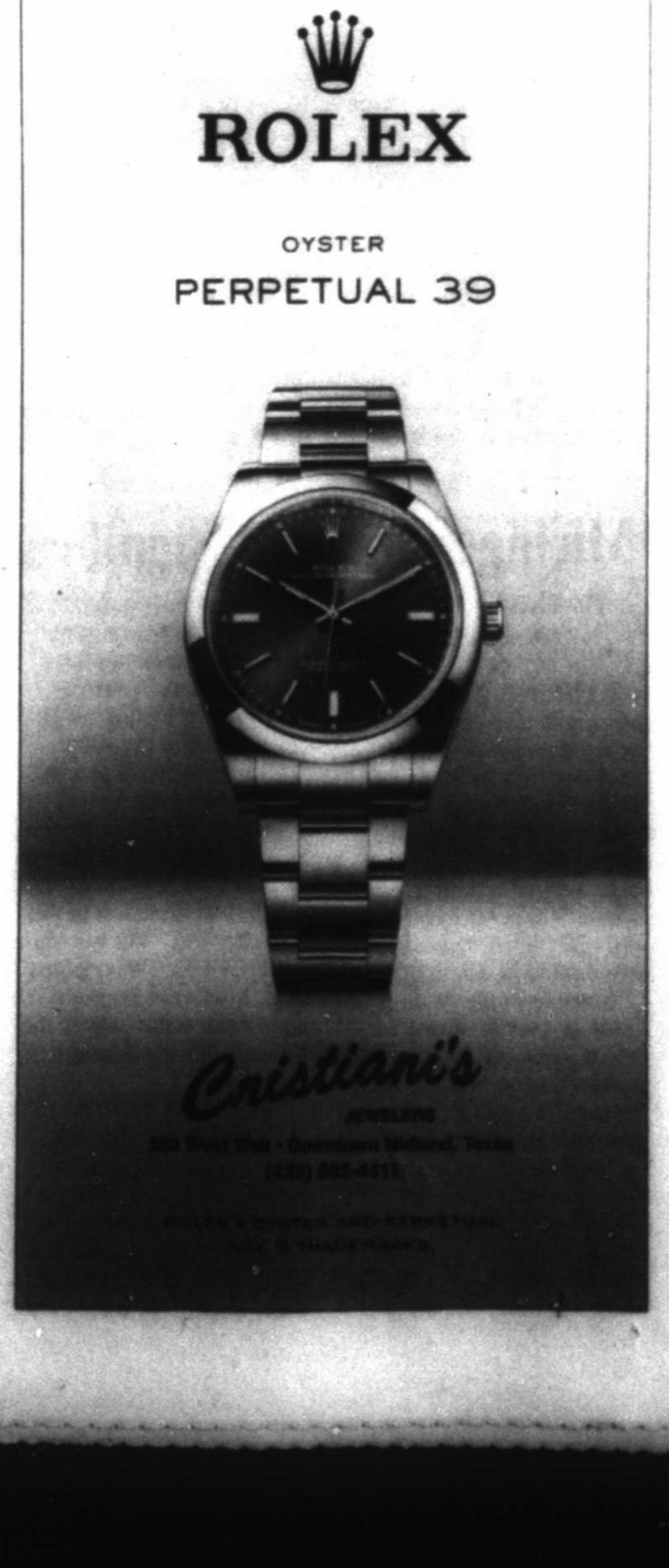
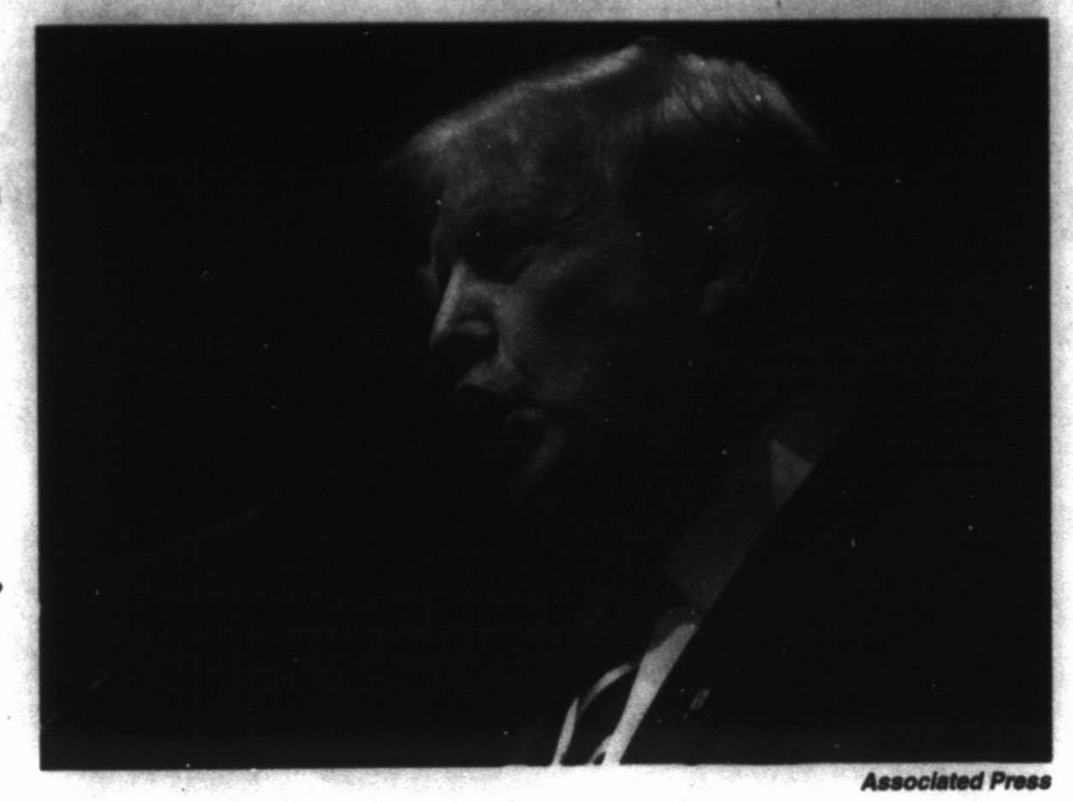


Top GOP leaders back congressional probes of Russia hacking

By Alan Fram
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress' top Republicans on Monday endorsed investigations into the CIA's belief that Russia meddled in last month's election to help Donald Trump win, suggesting potential battles ahead with the incoming commander in chief over Moscow and U.S. intelligence.



Associated Press

President-elect Donald Trump speaks Friday in Grand Rapids, Mich.

"The Russians are not our friends," declared Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell as GOP leaders steered toward a path contrasting starkly with the president-elect's belittling dismissal of the spy agency's assessment and his past praise for Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The Senate's intelligence panel, led by Richard Burr, R-N.C., will conduct a bipartisan inquiry, according to McConnell, who also expressed support for a related probe by the Armed Services Committee, chaired by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. Though declining to say whether he believes Russia tried tilting the election toward Trump, McConnell said, "I hope that those who are going to be in positions of responsibility in the new administration share my view" about Moscow.

Shortly afterward, House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., released a statement backing an investigation the House Intelligence Committee has already started on cyber threats posed by foreign countries and extremist groups. He called any Russian intervention "especially problematic because under President Putin, Russia has been an aggressor that consistently undermines American interests."

Underscoring the possible collisions ahead between Trump and the men leading his party in Congress, McConnell and Ryan struck tones markedly more confrontational toward Russia than he has.

Trump on Sunday called the CIA's contention "ridiculous" and blamed the disclosures concerning its assessment on Democrats who he said were embarrassed over losing last month's election.

The chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., released a letter Monday to National Intelligence Director James Clapper complaining that recent reports of the CIA's conclusion clashed with Clapper's prior statement that he lacked "good insight" about the connection between Russian hacking of Democratic campaign documents and their release by WikiLeaks. Nunes requested a briefing on the subject for this week.

The GOP leaders expressed their views after a weekend in which Trump also said he would not need daily intelligence briefings, a staple of presidents' days for decades and a flouting of a convention common for presidential transitions.

Meanwhile, Trump wrote on Twitter that he would announce his choice for secretary of state today. Exxon Mobil CEO Rex Tillerson, who has met twice with Trump during the past week, has emerged as the leading candidate.

The president-elect continued his cavalcade of meetings in his Trump Tower offices in New York on Monday with potential appointees for his new administration and other leading GOP, congressional and corporate figures. Among them was Carly Fiorina, who unsuccessfully vied with Trump this year for their party's nomination.

Fiorina, the former Hewlett-Packard CEO, was there to discuss national security issues and is seen by some Trump advisers as a candidate to be director of national intelligence, overseeing the government's 17 intelligence agencies. She chaired an external CIA advisory board under President George W. Bush but has not worked for the federal government.

Fiorina said her conversation with Trump included "hacking, whether it's Chinese hacking or purported Russian hacking."

Others meeting with Trump included moderate Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, No. 3 House GOP leader Steve Scalise of Louisiana and former Gov. Rick Perry, another GOP presidential contender whom Trump defeated.

The campaign chairman for defeated Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton urged the Obama administration Monday to reveal what it knows about any Russian efforts to help Trump win. John Podesta, whose emails were stolen and posted online, said the administration "owes it to the American people" to release details of the intrusions, which included the hacking of Democratic Party files.

Podesta said the Clinton campaigns also supports a call by 10 of the 538 members of the Electoral College for Clapper to provide information that intelligence agencies have gathered on the subject.

All 10 are unlikely to vote for Trump when the Electoral College meets next Monday. Nine are Democrats, and Texas Republican Chris Suprun has said he won't vote for Trump.

Other Democrats calling for congressional investigations of Russia's role in the elections include House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of California.

"There must be no equivocation or ignoring the seriousness of the intelligence community's conclusion about Russia's actions," she said.

McConnell said he has "the highest confidence" in U.S. intelligence agencies and said it "defies belief" that Senate Republicans would be reluctant to scrutinize Russian tactics. He recounted Russia's annexation of Crimea from Ukraine in 2014, said Baltic nation leaders are nervous about Moscow and pointedly praised NATO, the alliance that Trump criticized repeatedly during his campaign.

"I think we ought to approach all of these issues on the assumption that the Russians do not wish us well," McConnell said.

In a nod to the Trump assertion about Democrats' motives, Ryan said the congressional inquiries "should not cast doubt on the clear and decisive outcome of this election."

As expected, Trump's transition team formally announced he would name Goldman Sachs president Gary Cohn, 56, to head the White House National Economic Council. The council provides policy advice to the president.

Trump's team also said he'd picked Gen. John Kelly to head the Department of Homeland Security. Kelly is a former commander of U.S. Southern Command.

Recount efforts end: Trump wins in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania

By Marc Levy and Scott Bauer
Associated Press

Presidential election recount efforts came to an end Monday in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, with both states certifying Republican Donald Trump as the winner in contests that helped put him over the top in the Electoral College stakes.

Trump's victory in Wisconsin was reaffirmed following a statewide vote recount that showed him defeating Democrat Hillary Clinton by nearly 23,000 votes. Meanwhile, a federal judge issued a stinging rejection of a Green Party-backed request to recount paper ballots in Pennsylvania's presidential election and scan some counties' election systems for signs of hacking.

Green Party candidate Jill Stein successfully requested and paid for the Wisconsin recount while her attempts for similar statewide recounts in Pennsylvania and Michigan were blocked by the courts.

Stein got only about 1 percent of the vote in each of the three states, which Trump narrowly won over Clinton. Stein argued, without evidence, that voting machines in all three states were susceptible to hacking. All three states were crucial to Trump's victory, having last voted for a Republican for president in the 1980s.

The numbers barely budged in Wisconsin after nearly 3 million votes were recounted. Trump, a billionaire New York real estate mogul, picked up 131 votes and won by 22,748 votes. The final results changed just 0.06 percent.

Trump took to Twitter to celebrate the recount result.

"The final Wisconsin vote is in and guess what - we just picked up an additional 131 votes," he tweeted. "The Dems and Green Party can now rest. Scam!"

Stein said she was disappointed not all Wisconsin counties did hand recounts, although most did. She said the goal of the recount was never to change the outcome but to validate the vote and restore confidence in the system.

"The recount in Wisconsin raised a number of important election integrity issues that bear further assessment and serious action to ensure we have integrity and confidence in our electoral system," she said, without naming what they were.

Wisconsin Elections Commission Chairman Mark Thomsen said before certifying the recount results there was no evidence of a hack.

In Pennsylvania, state officials certified the results of the election in the hours following the decision by U.S. District Judge Paul S. Diamond.

Trump beat Clinton in the state by about 44,000 votes out of 6 million cast, or less than 1 percent, according to the final tally after weeks of counting provisional and overseas ballots. Green Party voters had petitioned some counties to do partial recounts affecting few votes, county officials said.

Diamond said there were at least six grounds that required him to reject the Green Party's lawsuit, which had been opposed by Trump, the Pennsylvania Republican Party and the Pennsylvania attorney general's office.

Suspicion of a hacked Pennsylvania election "borders on the irrational" while granting the Green Party's recount bid could "ensure that no Pennsylvania vote counts" given Tuesday's federal deadline to certify the vote for the Electoral College, wrote Diamond, an appointee of Republican former President George W. Bush.

"Most importantly, there is no credible evidence that any 'hack' occurred, and compelling evidence that Pennsylvania's voting system was not in any way compromised," Diamond wrote.

He said the lawsuit suffered from a lack of standing, potentially the lack of federal jurisdiction and an "unexplained, highly prejudicial" wait before filing last week's lawsuit, four weeks after the Nov. 8 election.

The decision was the Green Party's latest roadblock in Pennsylvania after hitting numerous walls in county and state courts. Green Party-backed lawyers argue it was possible that computer hackers changed the election outcome and that Pennsylvania's heavy use of paperless machines makes it a prime target. Stein also contended Pennsylvania has erected unconstitutional barriers to voters seeking a recount.

A lawyer for the Green Party members said Monday they were disappointed and unable to immediately say whether they would appeal.

"But one thing is clear," said the lawyer, Ilann Maazel. "The Pennsylvania election system is not fair to voters and voters don't know if their votes counted, and that's a very large problem."

A federal judge halted Michigan's recount last week after three days. Trump won Michigan by fewer than 11,000 votes out of nearly 4.8 million votes cast.

Donald Trump's avoidance of formal news conference continues

By Catherine Lucey and Julie Bykowicz
Associated Press

NEW YORK — President-elect Donald Trump on Monday canceled the only news conference he has scheduled since his election, continuing to communicate with the public via Twitter and carefully curated, one-on-one interviews.

Trump aides said Monday that an announcement planned for Thursday on the future of Trump's business empire had been rescheduled. Spokesman Sean Spicer said in an email that moving the announcement "ensures the legal team has ample time to ensure the proper protocols are put in place so his sole focus will remain on the country and achieving his ambitious agenda with the help of the world-class cabinet he has built."

Trump has kept up an active Twitter profile and has done a handful of television interviews, including a lengthy sit-down that aired Sunday on Fox News. But for decades most presidents-elect have held a news conference within days of the election. Those events differ from one-on-one interviews, because the president-elect must field questions from a broader range of journalists.

Trump has also lagged his predecessors in setting up a pool of journalists to provide the public with information about his whereabouts. Last month, he left Trump Tower and went out for dinner without notifying journalists stationed in the lobby. But since then his team has started traveling more regularly with a pool, though the journalists still do not fly on the same plane as Trump.

Every president and president-elect in recent memory has traveled with a pool of journalists when leaving the White House grounds. News organizations take turns serving in the small group, paying their way and sharing the material collected in the pool with the larger press corps. The White House depends on having journalists nearby at all times to relay the president's first comments on breaking news.

Michigan to audit 'significant' mismatches in Detroit vote

By David Eggert
Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. — Michigan's elections bureau ordered an investigation Monday into substantial ballot discrepancies in a small portion of Detroit's voting precincts, after the discovery of a polling place where 300 people voted but only 50 ballots were properly sealed in a container.

Since learning of the issue last week during Michigan's presidential recount, state officials have learned of similar "significant mismatch" problems at roughly 20 of Detroit's 490 precincts, said Fred Woodhams, a spokesman for Republican Secretary of State Ruth Johnson. He said there is no reason to think votes were not counted and the differences would not have affected Republican Donald Trump's narrow victory over Democrat Hillary Clinton in the state.

Clinton won 95 percent of Detroit's vote.

Detroit elections officials told the state that in the one precinct, the 250 missing ballots were left in the tabulator bin, "but we want to verify this," Woodhams said. It was not immediately clear what caused the inconsistencies in other precincts.

Clinton cut into Trump's 10,704-vote win by only 102 votes during Michigan's election recount, which was requested by Green Party candidate Jill Stein and which covered more than 40 percent of the statewide vote before courts stopped it.

Many precincts could not be recounted, however — in Detroit and elsewhere — because the number of ballots in a sealed container did not match the number of voter names recorded in the poll book. In such cases, the election night totals stood.

It is not uncommon for there to be slight inconsistencies, typically due to human error.

"But when there's a significant mismatch, that's especially concerning," Woodhams said.

The ballots in question will be taken to the state capital, Lansing, for review. The investigation will take about three weeks.

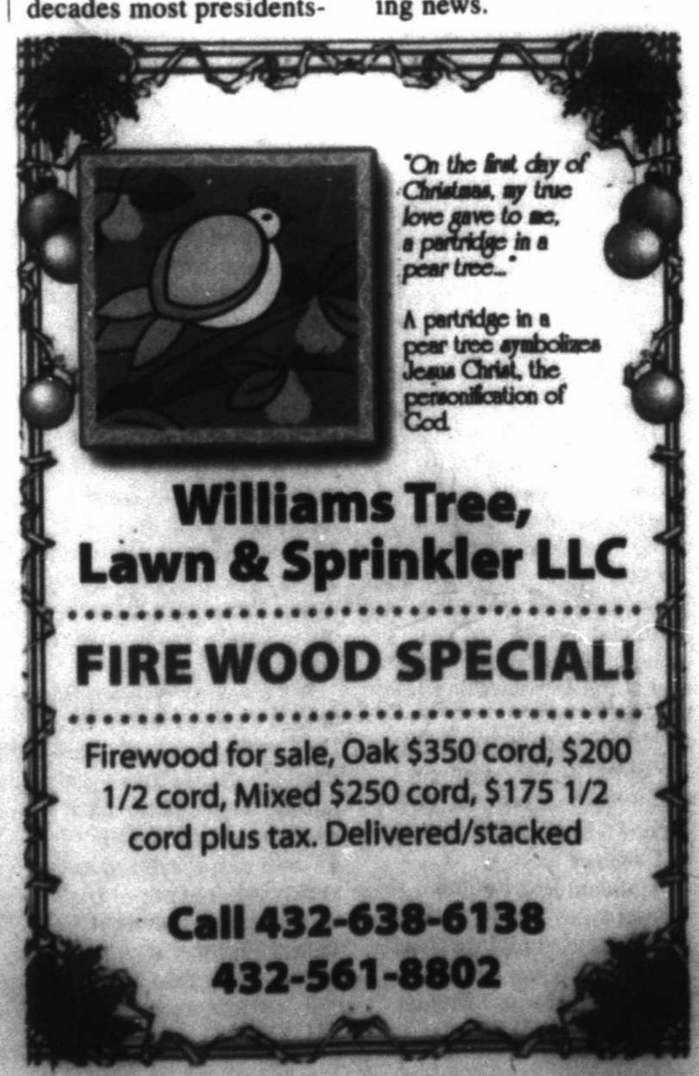
Roughly 2 million of Michigan's 4.8 million ballots were recounted by hand, including about two-thirds of those in the suburban Detroit suburb of Oakland County and one-third of Wayne County, which includes Detroit.

"We do have a very accurate system that people should have confidence in," Woodhams said.

Clinton picked up 833 votes while Trump gained 731 more.

"It just simply would not have changed the result," Woodhams said of the recount.

A message seeking comment was left with Detroit elections director Daniel Baxter. He has blamed discrepancies on optical scanners that tally paper ballots.



Teacher-training programs have room to improve

ESTHER J. CEPEDA
Washington Post Writers Group

As sure as Earth rotates around the sun, college professors condemn high schools for freshmen who can't write decent papers, high school teachers blame middle schools for passing barely literate students along, and middle school teachers tsk-tsk elementary school teachers for kids who aren't comfortable with the basics of writing and arithmetic.

Elementary school teachers would be forgiven for blaming their teacher preparation programs for not adequately equipping them to lay the foundations of academic achievement for their young charges.

According to the latest National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) rating of 875 of the nation's undergraduate programs that prepare elementary school teachers, only 5 percent require teacher candidates to take sufficient courses in literature, science and history/social studies.

The subject of math is an apt example: Only 13 percent of programs require coverage of topics deemed critical by mathematicians.

"Elementary school education is foundational, and if you want to understand how important elementary math is, look no further than today's PISA scores," said Kate Walsh, NCTQ's president, referring to new figures from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Program for International Student Assessment.

They found that 15-year-old U.S. students score below the global average on math.

"If we're trying to figure out why kids are performing so badly in mathematics," Walsh added, "there's no subject more reliant on foundational skills from kindergarten on up. Yet we're looking at what programs do in math and they're all over the map; they do not expect elementary school teachers to master topics found in the elementary curriculum. And if you have a weak grasp, it may be that you are able to solve a fraction but not able to teach it."

The same can be said about science, history and literature. Though 83 percent of surveyed teacher preparation programs require a course in composition, only half require at least two courses in literature and composition, a paltry amount for such wide-ranging subjects.

Just three in five require a course in early or modern American history and only 12 percent require courses in at least two science topics.

It's hard to imagine why anyone would want the people with the least amount of subject-area knowledge tasked with giving students a foundation in core content areas, but it's actually rational.

In order to have the expertise needed to pass certification tests in the core subjects, one has to have studied them extensively.

But there is little incentive to do so when so few teacher programs require them and state certification exams for elementary school teachers don't test for

Please see CEPEDA/2B

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Photos by Tim Fischer/ Reporter-Telegram

TOP: Chris Turman and Bianca Rendon work on folding T-shirts Monday in the newly reopened MHS Spirit Store. **BELOW:** Some of the items for sale are shown.

Midland High expands spirit store offerings

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

Students at Midland High School have a new space to gain retail experience. The Life Skills program for special-needs students held a soft opening of an expanded spirit store on Monday.

At the store, Life Skills students stock shelves, operate cash registers and interact with customers. This year, the store — called The Dawg House — moved into a bigger space within the school.

"We have a vision to integrate them into society," said Stephen Darst, lead teacher of Life Skills. "With these skills, they can go work in a larger area."

In the new space, students also now take custom T-shirt orders for school organizations and other groups. They then use machines to print, embroider and embellish the shirts.

Darst said the program added the machines to provide more learning opportunities to students.

"We needed the next level of production," Darst said. "We can take the shop and add to the retail."

Life Skills students have worked at The Dawg House since 2011. Darst said the program was outgrowing the former store when it considered moving to an unused space at the school. This semester, Darst transported apparel and other school merchandise to the new spirit store.

Dena Reno, assistant at the recovery program at Midland High, said she's impressed with the progress of the Life Skills program.

"Years ago when I taught special ed, we kept away from the general public," Reno said. "We were told our kids didn't have the opportunity. This class is out in the public and also learning life skills. If they're not using machinery to make T-shirts, it can be to make something else."

The spirit store also has areas for students and faculty to charge electronic devices during breaks from classes. The space will fully open in January.

You are never too old to learn something new

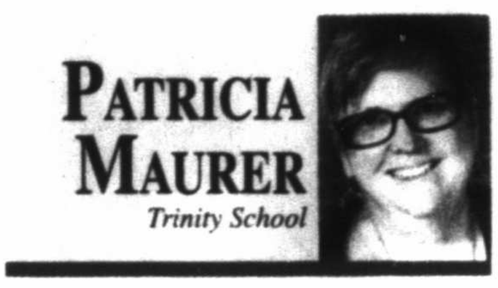
TINA BRILEY
Pease Communications and Technology Academy

How many times have you heard in college classes, professional development sessions or educational in-services that we should teach children the value of being a life-long learner? Most teachers would consider themselves to be in the category of life-long learners. After all, we are constantly attending various trainings for that purpose and are even surrounded by opportunities to "learn something new every day."

Recently, I attended a seminar on English Language Learners (ELLs). As part of the presentation, they showed a video clip of an interview with a 17-year-old boy who had become proficient in English in about seven months. At one point, he looked intently into the camera and challenged his peers to work hard and learn English. His words penetrated my thoughts and stirred my heart to action.

The day after the seminar I walked into every one of our bilingual classrooms on campus. In each room, from kindergarten through fifth grade, I was

Please see BRILEY/4B



PATRICIA MAURER
Trinity School

Values are grounded by stories of those from the past

I was born in October 1946. I spent my first Christmas on the farm in Hamilton, where Papa Louis, my grandfather, lived with his sister. Post-World War II, Christmas decorations could not be purchased because the labor and materials needed to make them had been dedicated for years to the war effort.

My tree that year was adorned with strands of cranberries and popcorn. Lovingly, Papa Louis crafted the one shiny bit, a six-pointed star cut from a scrap of cardboard and covered with tin foil that once lined a cookie package. All these years later, the star — now battered and fragile — still graces the top of my Christmas tree.

I've been giving Papa's star a lot of thought lately, especially because it continues to remind me of the values this simple man held dear — values I hope to share with every child I know. The things Papa thought to be important became for him a moral compass, directing his every priority and every choice. He was unwavering when it came to his beliefs, singular of mind and action, a man of true character.

Related content

To see a photo of Papa's star, visit **mrt.com**

The child of German immigrants, Papa believed passionately in individual freedom. He also recognized that freedom comes with a cost. Papa knew being free meant being self-reliant. He worked hard every day of his life, never asked for a handout, never expected anything he had not earned and, in terms of monetary value, never had much to call his own. He did, however, have a reputation for being honest, loyal and humble.

The scrap of shiny foil covering Papa's star may be somewhat tarnished, but it reminds me of how important it is to rely on your own ingenuity, to use and to appreciate what you have been given, and to be satisfied with the "shiny bits" in your life, however small they might be.

Papa was a carpenter by trade. You can see the quality of his craft in the even cuts of the six-pointed star. Papa believed you created your own opportunity by working hard, doing your part and always doing your best. In truth, the day-to-day toils and struggles of Papa's life did not earn his name a place in any history book, or on any marquee or on the board of any company.

I like to think Papa earned his slice of the American Dream in the lives of his children, as they and their children have enjoyed a better life and a higher standard of living because they took his lessons to heart. I know he would have thought his sacrifices a fair price to pay.

For me, Papa's values reflect traditional American values, those from which the wellspring of our strength as a nation has come and will come if, and only if, we do our part. We must first acknowledge that all values are learned values. If our children don't know what we value, they will not be likely to share in or to be directed by the ideals we hold dear.

The values of personal freedom, self-reliance, hard work, ingenuity, honesty,

Please see MAURER/3B

Courtesy photos

TOP: Midland High School students recently were inducted into National Technical Honor Society. **BOTTOM:** Lee High School students recently were inducted into National Technical Honor Society.

LHS, MHS induct students into honor society

From staff reports

Lee High School and Midland High School recently hosted induction ceremonies for the National Technical Honor Society, which recognizes student achievement in career and technical education courses. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in career and technical courses, have at least a 3.25 GPA and be recommended by at least two teachers.

The following students were inducted for the 2016-17 school year:

Lee High School: Zen Chila, Ian Crowl, Tatum Dotson, Andiel Garcia, Audrey Hall, Vicente Hernandez, Hilea Johnston, Lizbeth Lucario, Haley Mourik, Alexis Parada, Mackenzie Ross, Nayeli Villa, Jesuly Villarreal and Laura Wilson.

Midland High School: Dorina Alfon, Alannah Blank, Mia Carrasco, Valeria De La Garza, Andrew Derington, Landree Dietrich, Torey Jean Fikes, Jaci Frazier, Kaden Geiger, Bailey Goodrum, Lanie McQuien, Rael Omondi, Karla Orozco Reveles, Andrew Sanchez, Alexander Snyder, Magdalyn Staples, Madeline Stevens, Maria Suarez, Tiffany Vandergriff and Allison Warren.

MAKINGTHEGRADE

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Midland High School senior Luke Speer has been honored by Midland Downtown Lions Club. He is the son of Sara and Anthony Speer.

Speer

He is a member of the National Honor Society, is band captain, is president of the Spanish Honor Society and robotics and is vice president of the Spanish Club. He is a National Merit Commended Scholar, AP Scholar, recipient of the Colorado School of Mines Medal for Math and Science and is a member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council for U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway. He is a qualifier for All-Region and All-Area bands.

Speer plans to attend Texas A& M University or Colorado School of Mines and major in mechanical engineering.

* * *

Lee High School senior Rylee Maguire has been honored by Midland Downtown Lions Club. He is the son of Kristie and Chris Maguire.

Maguire

He is a member of the National Honor Society, is an AP Scholar and attended the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar.

He is a member at the Jubilee Center Food Pantry and participates in St. Ann's Catholic Church youth programs.

Maguire plans to attend the University of Texas and major in psychology.

* * *

Midland Classical Academy senior Amber Struble has been honored by Midland Downtown Lions Club. She is the daughter of James and Michelle Struble.

Struble

She is a member of the Art & Academic and Assembly teams. She received the Staff Commendation Award and School Community Service Award.

She is a member of Midland Community Theatre's Pickwick Players. She attends Calvary Christian Fellowship.

Struble plans to study animation.

* * *

Midland Classical Academy senior Daniella Anastasio has been honored by Midland Downtown Lions Club. She is the daughter of Doug and Angie Bramley.

Anastasio

She is treasurer of the Student Council and captain of the basketball team. She is a basketball letterman.

She volunteers at Safe Place of the Permian Basin, Midland-Odessa Symphony & Chorale, Midland Community Theatre and is a Symphony Belle. She attends Stonegate Fellowship.

Anastasio plans to attend Angelo State University and major in kinesiology.

* * *

Lee High School senior Jay Patton has been honored by the Midland West Rotary Club. He is the son of Jimmy and Becky Patton.

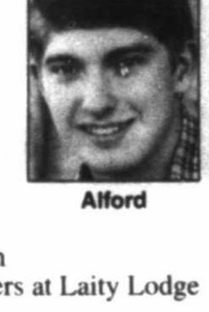
He is a member of the football team and National Honor Society and is an academic letterman.

He is an altar server at St. Stephen's Catholic Church and volunteers at Rusk Elementary School.

Patton plans to attend Texas A&M University.

* * *

Lee High School senior Braden Alford has been honored by the Midland West Rotary Club. He is the son of Danny and Shea Alford.



Alford

He is a member of the debate team, National Honor Society, Interact and Guide clubs and is a Youth and Government delegate. He is an AP Scholar.

He is involved in Crestview Baptist Church youth group and volunteers at Laity Lodge Youth Camp.

Patton plans to attend Texas A&M University and major in mechanical engineering and minor in petroleum engineering.

Lee High orchestra to hold annual concert

From staff reports

The Lee High School orchestra will host its holiday concert this week. The free event is 7 p.m. Thursday in the school auditorium.

This year's concert will include performances from the alumni orchestra, choir members and elementary school students. Read more about Lee High School's orchestra in a future Reporter-Telegram article.

EDUCATIONBRIEF

FROM STAFF REPORTS

6 local schools receive $1,000 from United Family

Three Midland schools are among 100 statewide to receive $1,000 from United Family as part of the grocery chain's 100th anniversary celebration.

Bynum School, Greathouse Elementary and Midland Academy Charter School were chosen in United's Shop to Support Schools program. Shoppers could earn points on behalf of a school by using their store rewards account. Winning schools were selected based on the percentage of each school's points and shopping activity, according to a press release from United.

Also winning $1,000 were Crockett Middle School in Odessa, Odessa Christian School and Odessa High School.

Teamwork leads to school's turnaround

By Silvia Foster-Frau
San Antonio Express-News

All 40 teachers were told to report to the Wright Elementary library one October afternoon. On every table were little tied scrolls next to fruit cups and champagne glasses brimming with juice. Vice Principal Victoria Treviño and Garnell Harris, a counselor, were standing on a desk.

When the teachers entered, fluorescent lights blinked on. Principal Martha Gonzalez and her staff blew noisemakers and Kool and The Gang's "Celebration" blasted from a speaker. Gonzalez told the teachers to open the "papelitos" all together.

The scrolls were reports that the Texas Education Agency had sent back to the school about its performance. Wright Elementary had not only met standards, it had received all six possible distinction designations. It's currently one of the highest-performing elementary schools in the district and the only one to receive more than three distinctions.

"I think even they were shocked at the six stars. I said, 'That's what you guys have done,'" Gonzalez said, smiling at the memory of the celebration.

Just two years ago, reports from TEA didn't bring out noisemakers and champagne glasses. The school was marked "improvement required" and had failed to meet standards on three of four of TEA's performance indexes (student achievement, closing performance gaps and postsecondary readiness). It was a school with no distinctions and little prospects.

"They must have had amazing turnaround programs," said DeEtta Culbertson, spokeswoman for the TEA.

According to school staff, it was the programs that did it, but those came from something else: a new administration.

"Teachers communicate now that they feel proud they're part of our team. Before it didn't feel good to be part of a school known for failing," said Harris, who has worked at Wright for more than 40 years.

Gonzalez, a Laredo native, joined Wright Elementary as principal in January 2015, halfway through the year. Before that, she was vice principal at several high school and middle schools for about 20 years in Harlan-dale Independent School District.

She's no nonsense and all business with a crackly laugh and an upbeat disposition. Her hair is close-shaven and sometimes she pauses to search for words, but when she does speak, it's direct and intense.

There's a picture outside her office of a day when the staff all created posters with Gonzalez's choice expressions. "Dale chine," "Where your kids," "Fair enough" and "Suck it up" were just a few. For her last birthday, all the staff pitched in to pay for her to go see her favorite artist, Adele, in concert.

Gonzalez and her sidekick Treviño are constantly roving the hallways, popping into classrooms and checking up on kids in the cafeteria. Sometimes they'll hand out little candies, other times they'll give teachers or students their 2 cents' worth. Always they're reminding them about the push to succeed and the importance of success.

"We're always visible to the teachers and we need to be aware of what's going on in the classroom, we need to know what's happening," said Treviño. "And if we see something that's not up to par, then we need to address it, we need to say 'You know I saw this when I was in the classroom today, I saw you had trouble with classroom management, what can we do to solve the problem?' "

Gonzalez also said that as principal, she sometimes has to be the bad guy. She's strict with the teachers and students; she "doesn't sugarcoat it," as Harris said.

"Are we the most popular team? Well, Ms. Treviño is, but I'm not," Gonzalez said matter-of-factly. "And you know what? I'm OK with it. I don't take it personal. It is about taking care of business and as long as the adult knows it's nothing personal, it's about taking care of the children, then you know what? I'm a happy camper."

She and the teachers are very transparent with their students — they know all about STAAR testing and student achievement efforts. Hanging on a wall in each classroom is a chart of the class' average score from its most recent set of tests, and projected goals for the next one. Each child has a binder with a graph tracking their individual scores.

"We know that's why the principal is so strict because she wants us to learn, learn and learn. So we can

Please see TEAM/3B

CEPEDA

From 1B

deep content area knowledge at all.

And then there's the cultural aspect: The prevailing sentiment in education circles seems to be that the most important aspects of teaching are how much you can love your students and how committed to social justice your educational philosophy is, rather than how academically accomplished or pedagogically prepared you are.

NCTQ's report did uncover one bright spot — reading instruction. Today, 39 percent of undergraduate programs for aspiring elementary school teachers (up from 29 percent in 2014) incorporate content from all five components of early reading instruction — comprehension, vocabulary, phonics, fluency and phonemic awareness — that research has determined are essential.

"It's still awful, but it's a full 10 percentage points higher than it was two years ago," said Walsh, "and I'm very heartened by the fact that more programs are paying attention to evidence-based research in reading instruction."

There is much work to be done, however, with obvious upgrades necessary in the crucial areas of providing highly qualified mentors for student teachers (93 percent of programs accept mentors chosen by a district without much vetting) and offering more in-school observation and feedback to gauge effectiveness in teaching and classroom management.

Still, this latest batch of research on teacher preparation programs validates the sometimes-feared adage in education that what is measured improves.

"We went into this with a lot of people saying 'You'll never get higher ed to pay attention to these findings,' but the improvements we observed show they are willing to make changes," said Walsh. "It's not as fast as anyone would like, but there are clear signs of progress."

If teacher training programs can be as eager to better themselves as most of the teachers I know, we should see the quality of preparation improve fairly quickly.

Esther Cepeda's email address is estherjcepeda@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter, @estherjcepeda.

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TUESDAY PRIME TIME — DECEMBER 13, 2016

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	C	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
BROADCAST	KMID	ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Middle (N)	Am.Housewife (N)	Fresh Off-Boat (N)	O'Neals (N)	Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.		Local 2 News/ 10	(:05) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) News Nightline
	KOSA	CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "The Tie That Binds" (N)		Bull "Light My Fire" (N)		NCIS: New Orleans "Overdrive" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert	(:35) J.Corden
	KWWT	CW	5	14			5	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H "C.A.V.E"	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Happy Days	Gilligan's Island	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Angry Dead Man"	Twilight Zone
	KPEJ	FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Brooklyn 99 (N)	New Girl (N)	Scream Queens "Lovin the D" (N)		Fox 24 News	TMZ	Modern Family	Two and a Half	Hot in Cleveland	Met Your Mother
	KMLM	IND	11	12	12	11	11	Rocks/Manuscripts	Housecall	Update News	Behind the Veil	Light of the Southwest "Part 1"		Light of the Southwest "Part 2"		Aleph Course	Mission: M25	Ministerios Nueva Vida	
	KWES	NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	NewsWest 9 Now	The Voice (N)		The Voice "Live Finale" the winner. (SF) (N)		Carson Daily reveals		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show	(:35) Seth Meyers	
	KPBT	PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		The Central Park Five were wrongly convicted of rape.		Black and Latino teens		Frontline "From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians"			Newsline	Tavis Smiley	
	KUPB	UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		Despertar contigo		Vino el amor		El color de la pasion		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
	KOSA	MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	Bones		Bones				Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0.	Access H.
PREMIUM	FLIX		340	575		165		(5:00) ★★★ American H...		★★★★ The Virgin Suicides		(:45) ★★★ Punch-Drunk Love				★★★ Open Your Eyes			
	HBO		300	550	14	14		Movie	Vice News	Play		Westworld "The Bicameral Mind"				★★ My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2		(:35) ★★★ Bride Wars	
	HBO2		302	551	15	101	23	(3:15) ★★ Coyote Ugly		The Trans List (N)		★★★★ I Love You, Man		Making		Pete Holmes		Boxing	
	HBO5		304	552	16	102		(:25) ★★ In the Heart of the Sea				★★★ Cast Away ('00, Dra) Helen Hunt, Tom Hanks.						★★★ Ocean's Thirteen	
	MAX		380	557	17	120	24	(3:00) ★★ Scream 3		(:05) ★★ Victor Frankenstein Daniel Radcliffe.				★★ The Wrestler			(:50) ★★ Shaft		
	MAX2		382	558	18	122		(:10) ★★ Me and Earl and the Dying Girl				★★ Magnolia ('99, Dra) Jeremy Blackman, Tom Cruise.						(:10) ★★ True Story	
	PLEX				96			(5:40) ★★ An America...		★★ An American Ta...		(:15) ★★★ Harriet the Spy				★★ Ghost Squad Will Spencer.		Movie	
	SHOW		320	565	19	140	25	★★ Tears of the Sun Bruce Willis.				Inside the NFL (N)		Shameless		Inside the NFL		★★ The Original Kin...	
	TMC		336	573	22	155	26	★★★ F/X ('86, Act) Bryan Brown.				★★ F/X 2 ('91, Act) Bryan Brown.				★★ Rambo Sylvester Stallone.		Movie	
CABLE	A&E		27	58	28	35	47	Intervention "Tiffany"		Intervention "Jordan" (N)		Intervention "Kristie" (N)		L. Remini "The Bridge to Total Freedom" (N)		(:05) L. Remini "Fair Game"		(:05) Intervention "Jordan"	
	AMC		40	74	23	42	51	★★ Sweet Home Alabama Reese Witherspoon.				★★★ Enchanted ('07, Adv) Julie Andrews.						The Walking Dead	
	BET		58	-		40		(5:00) ★★ Madea's Family Reunion				Husbands	Husbands	GaryOwen	GaryOwen	Husbands	Husbands	GaryOwen	GaryOwen
	BRAVO		65	76		41		Beverly Hills		Bev Hills Social (N)		Beverly Hills (N)		Ladies of London (N)		Watch (N)	Beverly Hills		LadiesL
	CNBC		46	52		39	72	Billion Dollar Buyer		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Billion Buyer (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
	CNN		43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		CNN Report (N)		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight		CNN Special Report	
	DISC		50	60	31	24	42	Mnshiner "Hard Start"		Moonshiners (N)		Moonshiners (N)		Homicide Hueter (N)		Moonshiners		(:05) Moonshiners	
	DISNEY		56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Underc.	Cali Style	Bizaard.	MECH-X4	Friends	Friends	Girl M.	Jessie	Bunk'd	Girl M.	Austin
	ESPN		32	35	48	31	30	NBA Countdown (L)		NBA Basketball Minnesota vs Chicago (L)					NBA Basketball	Oklahoma vs Portland (L)			
	ESPN2		34	36	49	32	31	SportsCenter		Drone Racing		Drone Racing		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
	FNC		45	48	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
	FOOD		64	70	27	68	54	Chopped: All Stars		Chopped Junior (N)		Chopped "Hot Stuff"		Chopped (N)		Chopped		Chopped "Hot Stuff"	
	FREEFORM		53	63	34	42	33	★★★★ Elf ('03, Com) Will Ferrell.				★★ National Lampoon's Christmas Vacati...				The 700 Club		★★★ Three Days	
	FSSW		37	38	50	45	29	Under the Lights (N)	Stars Insider	Stars Pre-game (L)	NHL Hockey Anaheim Ducks at Dallas Stars Site: American Airlines Center -- Dallas, Texas (L)					Stars Live (L)	SportsDay OnAir	WPT Poker	
	FX		31	56	59	64	69	(4:00) ★★ Real Steel		★★ Transformers: Age of Extinction ('14, Act) Nicola Peltz, Mark Wahlberg.								★★ Transformers: Age of Exti...	
	HALLMARK		54	71	58		34	(5:00) ★★ A Wish for...		★★ Christmas List ('16, Rom) Alicia Witt.				★★ A Christmas Detour				★★ Once Upon a H...	
	HGTV		63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper (N)		Fixer Upper		Restored	H.Hunt	Fixer Upper	
	HISTORY		71	59	29	50	43	Curse of Oak Island		Oak Island (N)		Curse/Oak Island (N)		(:05) Hunting Hitler		(:05) Oak Island		(:05) Oak Island	
	LIFETIME		28	30	25	28	48	Dance Moms "Fight for Your Life"		Dance Chat "Abby's Worst Nightmare" (N)		Dance Moms (N)		Knocked Up "Katie" (N)		Dance Moms "Return of the Rotten Apples"		Dance Chat "Abby's Worst Nightmare"	
	MSNBC		47	53		49	73	Hardball		Ali in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		11thHour	Hardball	Rachel Maddow	
	NBCSN		38	43				NHL Hockey Chicago Blackhawks at New York Rangers (L)				(:45) NHL Overtime (L)		NHLTop10		Poker After Dark		Poker After Dark	
	NICK		55	-	39	34	37	H.Danger	Thunder	Thunder	GShakers	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
	SPIKE		30	-	55	53	58	(5:00) ★★★ Fast Five ('11, Act) Vin Diesel.				Rock the Troops (N)				Rock the Troops			
	SYFY		66	82	41	57	67	★★★★ Skyfall ('12, Act) Helen McCrory, Daniel Craig.						Aftermath (N)		★★ Volcano ('97, Act) Tommy Lee Jones.			
	TBS		25	33	44	66	41	Seinfeld	Seinf. "The Money"	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan (N)		2 Broke Girls	Conan
	TCM		41	75	24	63	66	(5:30) ★★ Patterns		★★★ Umberto D.		(:45) ★★★★ Wild Strawberries						★★★★ Ikiru	
	TELE		20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		Silvana Sin Lana		La Doña		El Chema		Al rojo	(:35) Titular.	La Doña	
	TLC		51	61	32	38	52	Little People "Embrace the Booty" (N)		Little People "What's a Lamping?" (N)		OutDaughtered (N)		Kate Eight "Puppies and Poconos"		OutDaughtered		Kate Eight "Puppies and Poconos"	
	TNT		24	34	40	26	50	(5:00) ★★ The Hunger Games ('12, Act) Josh Hutcherson, Jennifer Lawrence.				Behavi. "We Pretend We're Stuck" (N)		Good Behavior "We Pretend We're Stuck"		Castle "Still"		Castle "The Human Factor"	
	TVLAND		49	-	35	54	35	Griffith	A. Griffith	Griffith	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
	USA		26	55	42	27	49	Modern Family	Modern Family	WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries. (L)				Shooter "Recon by Fire" (N)		Incorporated "Downsizing"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Resilience"	
	WGN		19	85				Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops "Liar Liar #5"

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TEAM

From 2B

be stronger and smarter every day," said Jazmine Villegas, 8, a third-grader.

Once a day, classrooms break into a "response to intervention" period, where students are grouped by their strengths and weaknesses and learn in that small setting. In Carilu Hernandez's third grade classroom, for example, Jazmine taught a few students math in a student-tutoring session. Meanwhile, in another corner of the room, Hernandez taught a different group of students. The remaining students were outside in the hallway, receiving remedial support from an outside tutor.

"They give us everything we need, their expectations are clear, we know we can go to them for everything. I think that's what it is," Hernandez said, articulating what makes her school tick. "And … they provide structure for our kids. You really see the kids grow because of that."

Gonzalez and Treviño also found ways to let teachers help teachers. When fourth-graders take the STAAR writing exam — a test that takes longer to grade than others — all the teachers help grade the essays.

Gonzalez said when she arrived at the school almost two years ago, the first thing she realized that needed to change was campus morale.

"We started by saying we're not going to be on the bottom anymore. We're going to move up and this is how we're going to do it," she said, so they developed a plan based on positivity.

She and Treviño started by analyzing student data. They brought all the teachers together and discussed student outcome goals. They even had teachers bring in samples of how they graded student work, to standardize grading across the classes.

"I think what you're seeing is that the district and the campus itself took it upon themselves to immediately address the issues … They put whatever plan they had into action and achieved great results," Culbertson said.

MAURER

From 1B

loyalty, equality, humility, service and courage are among those called to mind for me by Papa's life. He was not unique; in fact, he was ordinary for his day in time. He stepped up and met those common expectations reflective of the American character so important to me and, I believe, so important to our children's future.

I have a favorite children's book, "I Love Old Things," written by Harold Darling (Blue Lantern Books, 1998). In it you find these words, "I love the old way of doing things, customs that sustain us by their constancy, and connect us with all those men and women who have gone before."

Enduring values are grounded by the stories of those who came before us, stories of family members whose lives were well-lived, stories of patriots whose sacrifices secured our freedom, stories of men and women who contributed by their intellect, their spirit, or their moral example to the ideal of who we, individually or as a nation, aspire to be.

At a time when the fabric of the American ideal, like Papa's star, seems battered and even fragile, parents and teachers can make a difference. By finding and telling the best stories to our children, stories that instruct, uplift and direct attention to what's truly important, we can build connections between the best of the American story to the infinite possibilities in our children's future.

Finally, to tell a story well, to tell a story honestly, for it to be believable, we must intentionally reflect on our own beliefs. We must ask ourselves the hard question, "Do I live out or model what I say I believe?" Our children are watching, and they are taking their cues from what we do, far more than from what we say.

Patricia Maurer is head of preschool and lower school at Trinity School

NASA

From 4B

bundles of money. The cost of the table, for instance, would have been about $1.5 million. But through the HUNCH partnership, it cost about $30,000.

The same cost-saving looks to be at work with Clear Creek's next project — building 150 mid-deck storage units.

Normally costing $50,000 apiece, Gibbs estimates NASA will save about $7 million by using the HUNCH partnership to build the units.

Gibbs' class has already delivered 15 of the lockers to NASA and is at work on the second group.

The project is scheduled to last five years, but might be done sooner. The end result is a winning situation for all involved, he said.

NASA gets cost-efficient hardware produced, while the students under the steady guidance of Gibbs learn crafts that might propel them into a lifelong career.

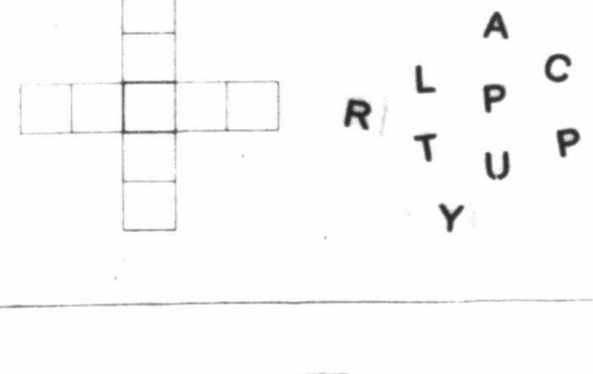
"I've been looking to get a degree in mechanical engineering, and that might lead into that," Trout said.

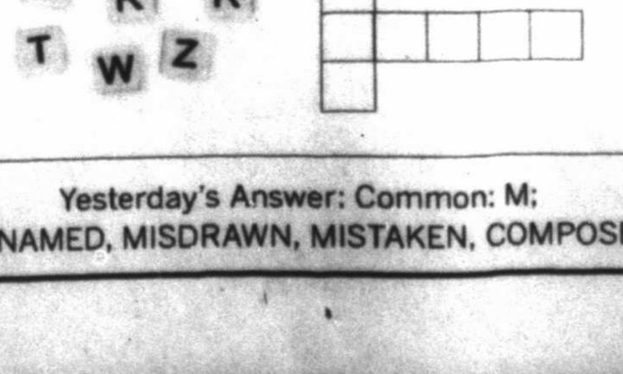
Distributed by the Associated Press

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

For each bunch below, rearrange the letters to form two intersecting words that fit into the corresponding grid.





Yesterday's Answer: Common: M; MISNAMED, MISDRAWN, MISTAKEN, COMPOSER 12.13

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Photos by Jennifer Reynolds/The Galveston County Daily News via AP

Kaeden Trout, a junior at Clear Creek High School in League City tack welds part of a sculpture for the school campus Dec. 5 during William Gibbs' machining and metal manufacturing class. Trout is part of the High school students United with NASA to Create Hardware, or HUNCH program, where students design and create hardware for NASA's Johnson Space Center.

League City students help NASA with projects

Bt Matt DeGrood
The Galveston County Daily News

LEAGUE CITY — Stepping into William Gibbs' metal shop class at Clear Creek High School is like being inside of a well-oiled machine.

Students proceed at their individual tasks with little instruction and Gibbs wanders from room-to-room of the rather large shop, ensuring things are going according to plan.

This particular class is building equipment for NASA as part of a program called High Schools United with NASA to Create Hardware — or HUNCH, for short.

"I pick the best in each class," Gibbs said of his group. "There are less than 10 this year. They have to be able to work independently and be good thinkers — able to start and finish projects."

As strange as it might sound for a group of high schoolers, perfection is the name of the game for the equipment being designed.

"You have to get those exact measurements and be that precise," junior Kaeden Trout, 16, said. "If you don't get it exactly right, you have to restart. It's a lot of pressure, but it really helps teach you to be precise."

Clear Creek High School launched the program about 15 years ago; it was among the first schools to do so, Gibbs said.

The purpose was to help design mission training hardware for astronauts and staff at Johnson Space Center.

The program has expanded to more than 85 schools in 26 states and Canada, Gibbs said.

Other Galveston County schools in the program now include Clear Springs High School and Clear Lake High School.

Students at Clear Creek High School have gone from building training hardware to making spacecraft hardware.

"It's really cool getting to build stuff for NASA," senior Nathan Buchanon, 17, said.

Clear Creek also holds the designation of having about four NASA employees who use the metal shop as a base for building things themselves, Gibbs said.

The various schools in the program work in tandem to create the different components of the NASA projects.

Recently completed projects have included a table that is now in use at the International Space Station.

"Six astronauts actually gathered around the table to eat at Thanksgiving," Gibbs said. "It was amazing to get to be a part of that. It made me think of the first Thanksgiving, with all the different groups getting together and sharing."

Gibbs' class helped put together the prototype of the table now aboard the space station.

"The table onboard the space station is totally designed by the students," Gibbs said.

Not only are the students helping to build equipment for NASA, but they are also helping to save

Please see NASA/3B

Students band together to compete in NASA contest

By Mike Anderson
Rapid City (S.D.) Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D.— With their imaginations fixed on the stars, students at South Dakota School of Mines & Technology are building a robot that may someday rove across the sands of Mars for NASA.

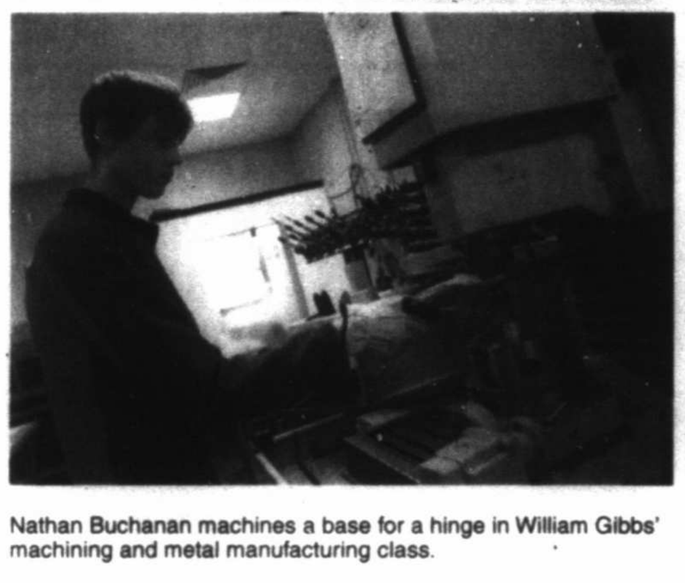
The "Moonrockers" rover is the product of two years of labor by an interdisciplinary team of more than 20 engineering students, all cooperating in hopes of winning NASA's eighth annual Robotic Mining Competition. Last year, the School of Mines team placed second among about 50 entries for its creation of a bot capable of piloting itself. Now, team members Dakotah Rusley, 21, and Chas Hartman, 24, are setting their sights on improving their past success.

"That's what we're looking forward to this year, is spring-boarding off that," said Rusley, a computer engineering student at Mines. "If we did it last year, how can we make it better?"

Space travelers of the future will need a cheap and abundant source of water, oxygen and fuel to power their ships through the solar system. Based on findings by the Curiosity rover, scientists have come to believe that "icy regolith" found in the ancient clay of Mars is a plentiful source for all three.

"The water can be used for human consumption, hygiene, (to) make rocket propellant for the journey home, grow plants, provide radiation shielding and for use in various manufacturing processes," reads a description of the competition on NASA's website.

To get at and efficiently stockpile that icy regolith will require a fleet of sturdy, reliable, and autonomous robots sent to the red planet in advance of any manned spacecraft.



Nathan Buchanan machines a base for a hinge in William Gibbs' machining and metal manufacturing class.

College disaster prep officials: Expect the unexpected

By Carolyn Thompson
Associated Press

When Jefferson Community College was making plans to build its first residence hall, there was one must-have for President Carole McCoy: generators for backup if the power went out.

With her campus in Watertown, New York in the bulls-eye of more than 100 inches of snow each year, she knew students might get stuck. They wouldn't be cold and hungry.

"That was a non-negotiable," McCoy said.

For college administrators, extreme weather is yet another hazard to prepare and practice for on a list that includes infectious disease outbreaks, active shooters and technological outages. They know it's just a matter of time before a hurricane, earthquake, tornado, wildfire or winter storm could put them in harm's way.

"We know that it can be very devastating and certainly have the potential to kill or injure as many people as the worst active shooter situation you could imagine," North Carolina State University Police Chief Jack Moorman said, "so making sure that we're prepared for it is essential."

With more than 20 million students enrolled at 7,200 U.S. colleges and universities, higher education leaders say they rely on experience and expertise to think beyond the basics of food and shelter to the special challenges of academia, including keeping students and parents informed, accounting for students, both international and from this country, not easily evacuated, and continuing instruction and research.

Riding out Hurricane Matthew in her off-campus apartment in October, East Carolina University student Bobbie Jordan Thomas worried that her final semester plans were washing away with the floodwater that, before her eyes, was swallowing and destroying her beloved Toyota Corolla.

"Turned my world upside down," Thomas said. She headed to a recovery center the university opened in the wake of the storm with her questions about the internship she'd begun and her plans to attend nursing school.

East Carolina developed the recovery center model during Hurricane Floyd in 1999, said Bill Koch, associate vice chancellor of environmental health and campus safety. While the campus suffered mostly minor damage from Matthew, leaders found positioning representatives from the dean's office, student store, health services and other departments in one place was helpful for students, faculty and staff.

Officials monitor weather reports around the clock. Gyms and other large spaces become designated shelters with stockpiles of food, water and cots. Generators are in place to power critical services. Alerts and information are tweeted, emailed, broadcast, posted online and texted directly to cell phones through campus communication systems.

"We're able to communicate to 65,000 different devices literally within a few minutes in the event of an emergency," said Tony Callisto, Syracuse University's senior vice president for safety and chief law enforcement officer.

"Expect the unexpected, basically .... Don't think that things can't happen," said Donald Keith, emergency preparedness director at the University of Alabama, where a 2011 tornado just missed a direct hit but laid bare, among other details, the need for a system to accept and distribute donations of money and supplies offered by well-wishers.

Schools prepare both for quick bursts of destruction, like a tornado, or the prolonged stress caused by flooding or winter storms.

"What's particularly concerning about weather-related events," Moorman said, "is although you can in some ways be prepared for it, and although you can in some ways minimize the impact, there is no way that you can prevent it."

In California, campuses work to shore up 40-year-old buildings where even hanging ceiling fixtures could pose a threat in an earthquake — modern buildings are more seismically sound — while on upstate New York campuses in Syracuse and Buffalo, committees plan year-round for winter.

Down South, Katrina's path through the Gulf Coast in 2005 damaged more than 30 colleges in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi and displaced 100,000 students, leading to matriculation agreements with other schools for the fall semester, according to the American Council on Education.

BRILEY

From 1B

greeted in English. Most of the kids could at least have a rudimentary conversation with me in English. I am ashamed to admit that I cannot converse with them in Spanish, even after taking four years of Spanish in high school. I did well in class, but there is no evidence today that I truly learned Spanish. And my heart hurt because I expect so much more from these children than from myself.

I walked away with the realization that I had been fooling myself about being a life-long learner. There's a big difference between learning some random fact or a new way to do something every now and then and truly being a life-long learner. I decided it was time for the charade to end.

I began my trek as a Spanish language learner by borrowing a picture book, "Un Bolsillo para Corduroy" ("A Pocket for Corduroy"). The first day, I sat alone in my living room without any distractions and began reading. I found myself using the same strategies I've taught kids to use through the years — look at the pictures, think about the words you already know, etc. — in order to decipher the meaning of the sentences. When my strategies didn't help me understand a particular word, I turned to a Spanish/English dictionary.

Things were going pretty well until I came to a sentence that translated, "How rays this bear get into my sack?" What?!? I was stumped, so I did what any self-respecting, college-educated adult would do. I asked my friends on Facebook. I was told that "como rayos" (how rays) is an expression people use when they are shocked or surprised by something. And my heart hurt because I understood the confusion of our ELLs when they are trying to figure out the literal meaning when we have actually used slang or an idiom.

When I finished the book, I sat back feeling well-pleased with myself until I looked at the time and realized it had taken more than an hour to read that short picture book. Of course, if I had just been reading the words, I could have finished the book in eight to 10 minutes just as if it had been in English. However, in order to understand the story, it took time and serious effort.

My next thought was for all of the junior high ELLs I had throughout my career. How many times did I tell a student, "It doesn't take that long to read a paragraph"?

And my heart hurt again because it does take a long time when you're reading for understanding in a language other than your native tongue.

The next adventure for me was a first-grade bilingual reading class. As a reading specialist, you might think this would be a breeze for me, but you would be mistaken. In actuality, there was no bilingual to it. It was a Spanish language arts class, and remember, my Spanish language skills are considerably lacking. The teacher began by asking what they had learned the day before. Just as soon as the giddiness hit because I understood her question, the children peppered her so quickly with responses that I couldn't even begin to follow them.

When the teacher gave a directive, I watched the kids to know what she expected. Honestly, the things that helped me the most was that the teacher used multiple hand signals when talking, modeled what she wanted the class to do and provided sentence stems on the board. I left her room feeling like I got the gist of the lesson. And my heart hurt when I thought about kids who have an idea of what happened in class but can in no way discuss the lesson.

As difficult as first-grade language arts was, third-grade math nearly ate my lunch! With two college degrees and 20 years as an educator, I felt pretty confident going in. After all, math is math in English and in Spanish. The teacher was great. She drew diagrams as she explained concepts. On one problem she drew a plus sign and a minus sign as she talked. When the kids said, "restar," she circled the minus sign, and I learned that "restar" means to subtract. I was rocking right along until she slapped a word problem up on the board. Then it was a whole different ballgame.

Again, I started using strategies. I skipped reading the long word problem and tried to decipher the question only. OK, it may not be a smart strategy, but as someone overwhelmed by all of the Spanish words, it's the one I used. I didn't know for sure what the question was asking, but I knew it had something to do with an estimate. With that tiny bit of information, I jumped to the answer choices. The first answer said, "36,450 es aproximadente 36,500." I thought, "Yep. 36,450 is approximately 36,500." I was stunned when the teacher crossed that out as a wrong answer. The next answer said, "36,450 está mas cerca de 36,000 que de 37,000." Again, I thought I had the right answer because 36,450 is closer to 36,000 than 37,000 — but no. At that point, the teacher boxed the words "decena de millar." There was some class discussion which I did not understand at all, and then the teacher underlined the 6, and kids began thrusting their fingers upward. That's when my math skills surpassed my language skills, and I figured out we were rounding to the nearest 10,000. And my heart hurt for all of the kids who feel dumb because the language barrier prevents them from performing at their true capacity.

Finally, but by no means the end of this journey, I interviewed a fifth-grader using another fifth-grader as an interpreter. When I asked what helps her understand when instruction is in English, she said, "I understand better if the teacher does signs with her hands when she talks, and if she draws pictures or uses diagrams. I also watch the other kids. If she says something and they all take out their books, I take out mine too. Oh! And they have to slow down. When she talks fast, I can't think about all the words she said."

Wow! Not much difference in what a 10-year-old student and a 51-year-old professional educator need when it comes to second language acquisition. I thanked her for her honesty and said, "Maybe you could help me learn Spanish." She smiled and said, "And you can help me learn English because we are the same."

And my heart smiled because I saw the excitement in a child who has a desire to learn and a great eagerness to help me learn. I have told many of our students that I need their help and they are happy to give it. My teachers are 11 years old and younger, but they are patient and smart and delightful. We are now learning together. Last week I sat down in a Spanish-speaking classroom. A student scooted closer to me and whispered, "Let me know if you need help understanding." And my heart rejoiced because I have succeeded in teaching a very important lesson: You really should learn something new every day.

Tina Briley is assistant principal at Pease Communications and Technology Academy.

TODAY: Sunny High: 63 Low: 38

WEDNESDAY: Sunny High: 65 Low: 38

THURSDAY: Partly sunny High: 67 Low: 47

FRIDAY: Sunny High: 75 Low: 48

SATURDAY: Sunny High: 66 Low: 27

SUNDAY: Mostly sunny High: 39 Low: 25

Local forecast

Another colder spell in on the way, according to the National Weather Service. High temperatures more than 15 degrees below average are in the forecast for Sunday and Monday. That will follow warmer temperatures including a high temperature Friday more than 15 degrees above average.

There is no rain the seven-day forecast, according to the NWS.

Environment brief

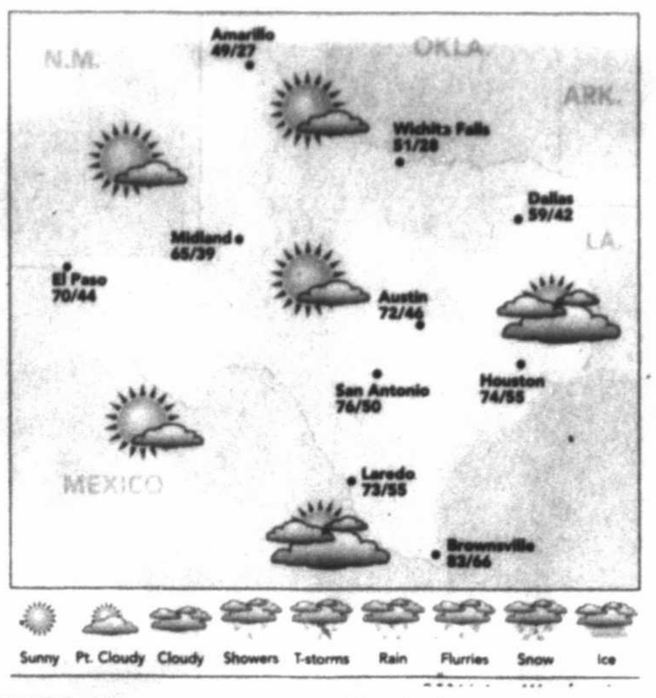
Scientists say reindeer may be shrinking because of warming

STOCKHOLM — Reindeer living on the Arctic island of Svalbard are getting smaller — and scientists say climate change may be the cause.

Scientists from Britain and Norway have found that adult Svalbard reindeer born in 2010 weigh 12 percent less on average than those born in 1994.

Ecologist Steve Albon of Scotland's James Hutton Institute says rising temperatures in the Arctic mean Svalbard is getting more rain, creating a hard ice sheet the island's reindeer can't easily break through to reach food.

Reindeer populations are also increasing due



Precipitation

Sunday	0.00 in.
Monday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.35 in.
Year total	15.12 in.
Normal total (year to date)	14.24 in.

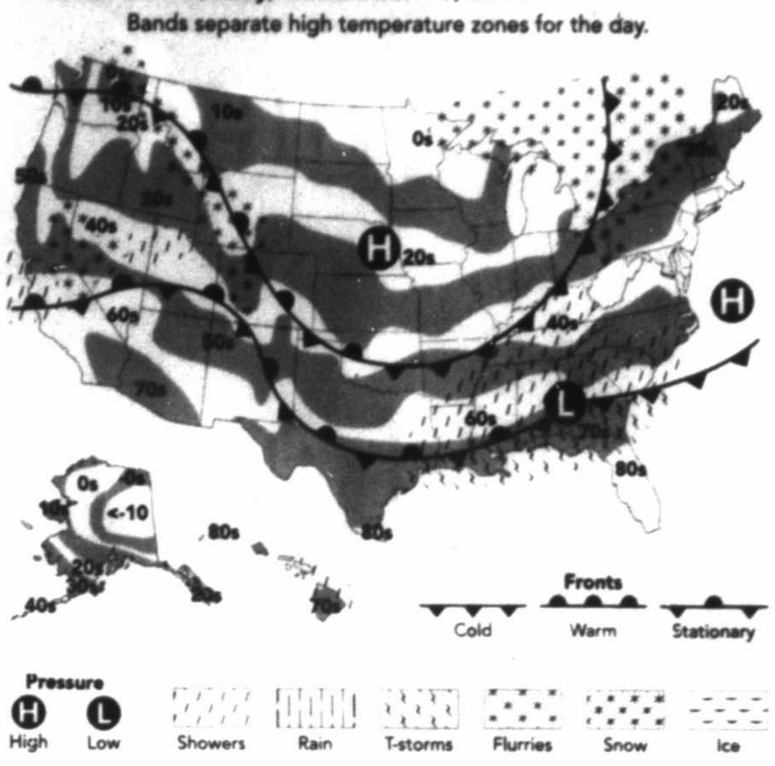
Monday's temperatures

High	66
Low	33
Normal high	58
Normal low	31
Sunrise	7:41 a.m.
Sunset	5:46 p.m.

National weather AccuWeather.com

Forecast for Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



Daughter who values privacy keeps gabby mom at distance

DEAR ABBY

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

DEAR ABBY: My mother has a tight circle of friends she socializes with often. They are all retired with grown children and grandchildren and eager to share every bit of news of their lives. Mom talks nonstop about her friends' children's parenting challenges, marital squabbles and medical issues. The challenge for me is that anything I tell her becomes fodder for their cocktail-hour discussion, which then gets around our community.

After hearing that the daughter of one of my mom's neighbors knew the results of my breast biopsy, I stopped sharing anything personal. This has damaged our relationship. She doesn't think mothers and daughters should keep secrets from each other, and I agree, but she also said she won't keep secrets from her friends.

I miss being able to turn to her for support, but do not want the world to know my business. I understand that her friends are like family to her, but they are not MY family, and I think she has chosen gossip over our relationship. Is keeping her at arm's length my only choice here, or is there another path that I can't see? — **NONE OF THEIR BUSINESS**

DEAR NONE OF THEIR BUSINESS: Your mother's judgment is terrible. Her friends may be "like family" to her, but they are not FAMILY. If you prefer not to have your personal business be fodder for lunchtime conversation, then your only choice is to carefully edit what you tell her.

DEAR ABBY: I have an issue with my daughter marrying a man who has no job. She has been supporting him financially. He has had a few jobs, but he gets fired or quits within a few weeks or months.

My daughter is 30 and never married. She's an assistant professor at a good university and a leader in her field of education. Her intended has no career and no prospects. He asked her to marry him without consulting me. Maybe I'm old-fashioned, but I would have expressed my concern about his lack of career.

I can't alienate my daughter by saying the wrong thing. But what if she can't work someday and he can't support a household? He has a million excuses. I don't think he's the man she thinks he is. My life lessons tell me he may never be the man she thinks he could be. I have come to the conclusion that marrying him would bring her only misery. What should I do? — **VERY WORRIED DAD**

DEAR VERY WORRIED DAD: It would not be wrong if, without putting her fiance down, you expressed to your daughter your concern about his employment record (or lack of one) and the impact it may have on their future. And when you do, raise the question of what she thinks might happen if for some reason she becomes unable to work, because it's a good one, and something she should carefully consider before tying the knot.

After that, accept that at 30, your daughter is an adult who has the right to go forward with the marriage if she chooses, and keep your fingers crossed.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Guaranteed

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ K 9 3
♥ K Q 4 3
♦ Q 5
♣ K 7 4 2

WEST
♠ Q 8 7 6 5 2
♥ 6 2
♦ 8 4
♣ J 9 3

EAST
♠ 10
♥ 10 5
♦ A K 10 9 7 6
♣ A 10 8 6

SOUTH
♠ A J 4
♥ A J 9 8 7
♦ J 3 2
♣ Q 5

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♣	1	1	Pass
2	Pass	4	All pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♥

Declarer should always form an idea about his best line of play and then pursue that line. He must continue to pay attention because something might develop that will cause him to change his line of play to something else entirely, sometimes accompanied by a guarantee from the bank! The defense started with three rounds of diamonds, ruffed by West and overruffed in dummy. South did not want to stake everything on the spade finesse, so he led a low club from dummy at trick four. He reasoned that East was more likely to hold the ace of clubs, and he could take advantage of this as long as East started with no more than three clubs. He was hoping to develop dummy's king of clubs for a spade discard.

After his queen of clubs held the trick, South led another club and played low from dummy. West's nine of clubs won this trick and he shifted to a trump. Declarer won this in his hand and led a trump to dummy's king. A third club was led from dummy and ruffed by declarer.

This seemed like horrible luck when the ace of clubs still hadn't appeared, but there was a glorious silver lining. East had shown up with six diamonds, four clubs, and two hearts. He could only hold one spade. South cashed the ace of spades and was delighted to see the 10 fall from East. South led a spade to dummy's nine for a finesse that was guaranteed to win!

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. 13, 2016:

This year you open doors to new opportunities. Just when you think an issue has been resolved, the unexpected occurs, and you might find yourself back at square one. You can count on being energized by spontaneous events. If you are single, you could find that you fall madly in love with one person after another. Let a relationship build to a time period of a year before even considering making a serious commitment. If you are attached, the two of you experience an unusual intensity.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ What drops on your lap early on gets you going today. You might be surprised and delighted by another person's gesture of goodwill. Your spontaneous reaction will please him or her. You'll want to assess your current direction. Tonight: Hang out with a favorite friend.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ Be aware of the impact that a money decision will have on you. Somehow, you feel more in control if you say little. A partner or associate would be delighted to receive your feedback. You'll gain insight through a sudden event. Tonight: Try not to spend. Keep your wallet closed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Your smile goes far in opening up a close friend who has been closed down. Others seem to act in ways you can't predict. You might be tenser than you realize, especially as this Full Moon hits you harder than most people. Work with the moment. Tonight: Do your thing.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★ Know when to vanish and not get involved with others. The Full Moon hits you in a spot where you are very vulnerable. Know what works for you and do just that, despite an older relative's demands. Do your best. Tonight: If you're tired, make it an early night.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Zero in on your priorities and know when you have had enough of someone's flak. You might want to detach. As a result, you'll come to a better understanding of the dynamic of a situation around you. There might not be any need to do anything about it. Tonight: Lie low.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Stay on top of calls and meetings. You might have a lot on your mind and a lot to digest. You could hear contrary opinions about a situation; only you can decide what they mean to you. A partner or associate might act in a most unpredictable manner. Tonight: In the limelight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance whose opinion matters a lot to you. Know what is happening with yourself as well as with an associate. You'll find that a loved one or partner acts in a most unexpected manner. Fatigue could play into the day. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ Deal with a partner or loved one directly. You initially might feel uptight and not want to share what is on your mind. By later in the afternoon, you will open up to someone else's ideas. This person might have a deeper perspective than you. Tonight: Go along with the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You could be dealing with more emotions than you had anticipated. It might seem as if you are wading through feelings that are not necessarily yours. Try to find the answer while still maintaining your distance. Tonight: Listen to different opinions before making a decision.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ You could be at your wits' end when trying to deal with others. Try to get to the bottom of an issue that seems to be bothering you. Be more in touch with your day-to-day needs. You might need a break from the present tiring pace. Tonight: Put your feet up and relax.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Allow your creativity to flourish. Be more in touch with others' expectations, especially if you don't want to experience a problem. Friends play an important role in determining what is going to happen. Unexpected news might force you to regroup. Tonight: Let your hair down.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ Stay anchored. You might opt to stay close to home. You could discover how attached you are to a situation at home, and you are likely to take an unconventional approach. Be conservative when dealing with a financial matter. Tonight: Join friends at a favorite spot.

BORN TODAY

Singer/songwriter Taylor Swift (1989), actor Dick Van Dyke (1925), economist Ben Bernanke (1953)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 "And another thing ..."
5 Up on the latest info
10 Not yet paid
14 California wine valley
15 Gathered, as autumn leaves
16 Tree fruit
17 Of the poorest quality
19 The "I" in MIT: Abbr.
20 Long stretch
21 Communication syst. for the hearing-impaired
22 Jury __
23 Southern speech quality
25 Heart exam: Abbr.
28 One of the five basic tastes
30 Inventor Howe
32 River through southern Russia
34 Armed conflict
35 Novel or short story, say
38 "If I may cut in ..."
41 Typically reddish-brown ape
42 Varieties
43 Fashionable dude
46 "The A-Team" muscleman
47 Pet food brand
48 Bottle parts
51 "Waiting for Lefty" playwright Clifford
53 Capote nickname
55 Calendar periods
57 Canadian tribe
58 Sgt., e.g.
60 Zero
61 Dog treat
62 Well-hit line drive, in baseball jargon
66 Choice on the fairway
67 Ruined
68 Big Apple stage award
69 Like morning grass
70 Well-practiced
71 Politician Romney

DOWN

1 Fed the pot
2 Pakistani city
3 Kind of column or cord
4 Dinghy blade
5 Fly ball paths
6 2008 Pixar robot
7 Letters before an alias
8 Hi-__ graphics
9 Magazine VIPs
10 Poppy narcotic
11 Left the 44-Down sans permission
12 Patsy
13 Richard Gere title role
18 __ Lama
22 Fittingly
24 The name Fred yells at the end of "The Flintstones" closing theme song
26 Museum manager
27 Research funding
29 Bugs
31 Happy hour perch
33 Noble gas
36 Blow up
37 Pained reaction
38 Rifle range rounds
39 Dyed-in-the-wool
40 Words to click on at a sweepstakes website
44 Army outpost
45 Cry of victory
49 Jedi Master Obi-Wan __
50 "Never mind" ... or what one might do with the last word of 17- 35- 43- and 62-Across
52 Itsy-bitsy
54 Open, as a parka
56 Icy precipitation
59 Small change
61 eBay action
62 Big Pharma watchdog: Abbr.
63 Cleared (of)
64 Poem of praise
65 CD-__

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

F	R	I	T	Z		C	L	A	D		F	O	W	L
M	A	C	R	O		U	R	G	E		I	B	E	T
S	P	E	E	D		B	O	O	M		V	O	I	D
	T	R	A	I	N	E	N	G	I	N	E	E	R	S
		T	A	O				G	O	P				
P	O	L	I	C	E	I	N	F	O	R	M	A	N	T
I	R	I	S		S	C	A	L	D	S		T	A	I
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A	N	G		A	S	L	E	E	P		E	A	R	L
F	O	O	T	B	A	L	L	R	E	F	E	R	E	E
			U	A	W			S	E	R				
W	H	I	S	T	L	E	B	L	O	W	E	R	S	
F	A	C	K		O	D	I	E		E	D	E	N	S
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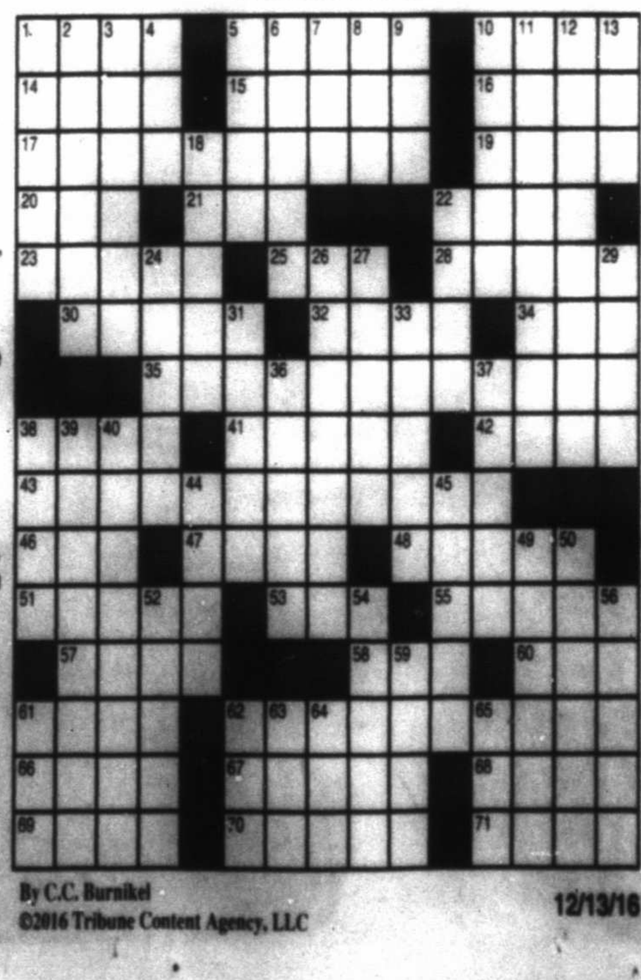
xwordeditor@aol.com 12/13/16



By C.C. Burnikel
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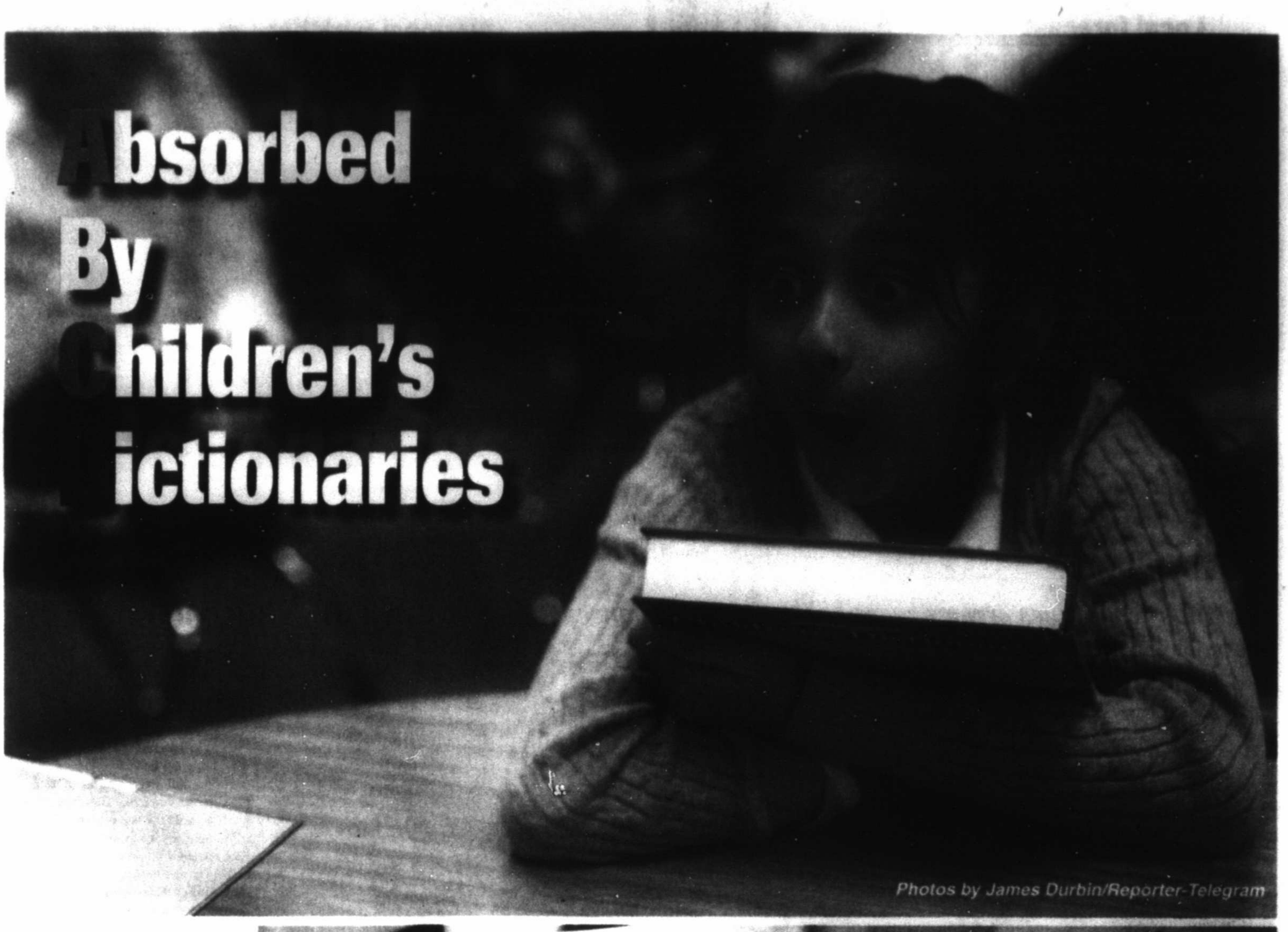
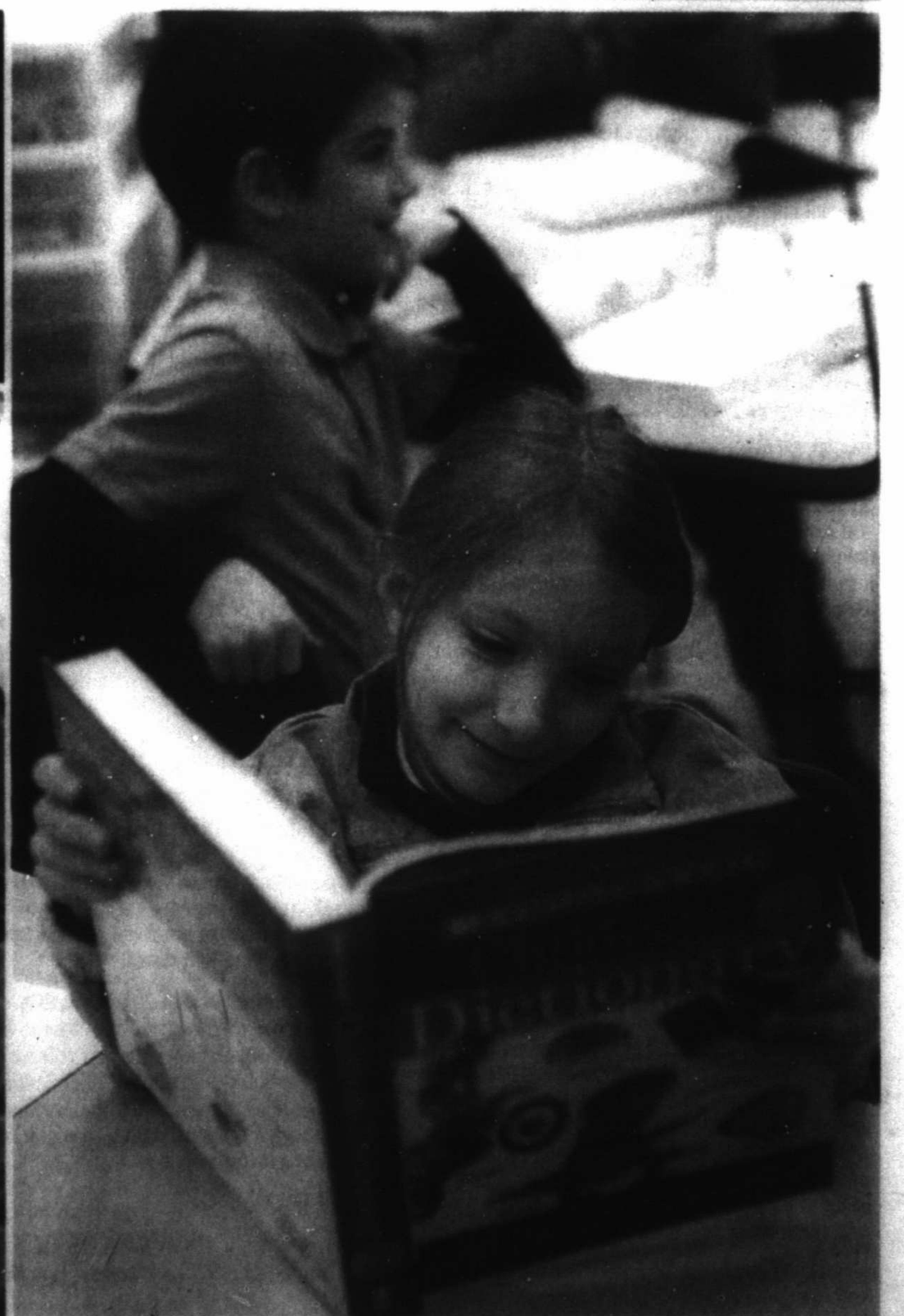
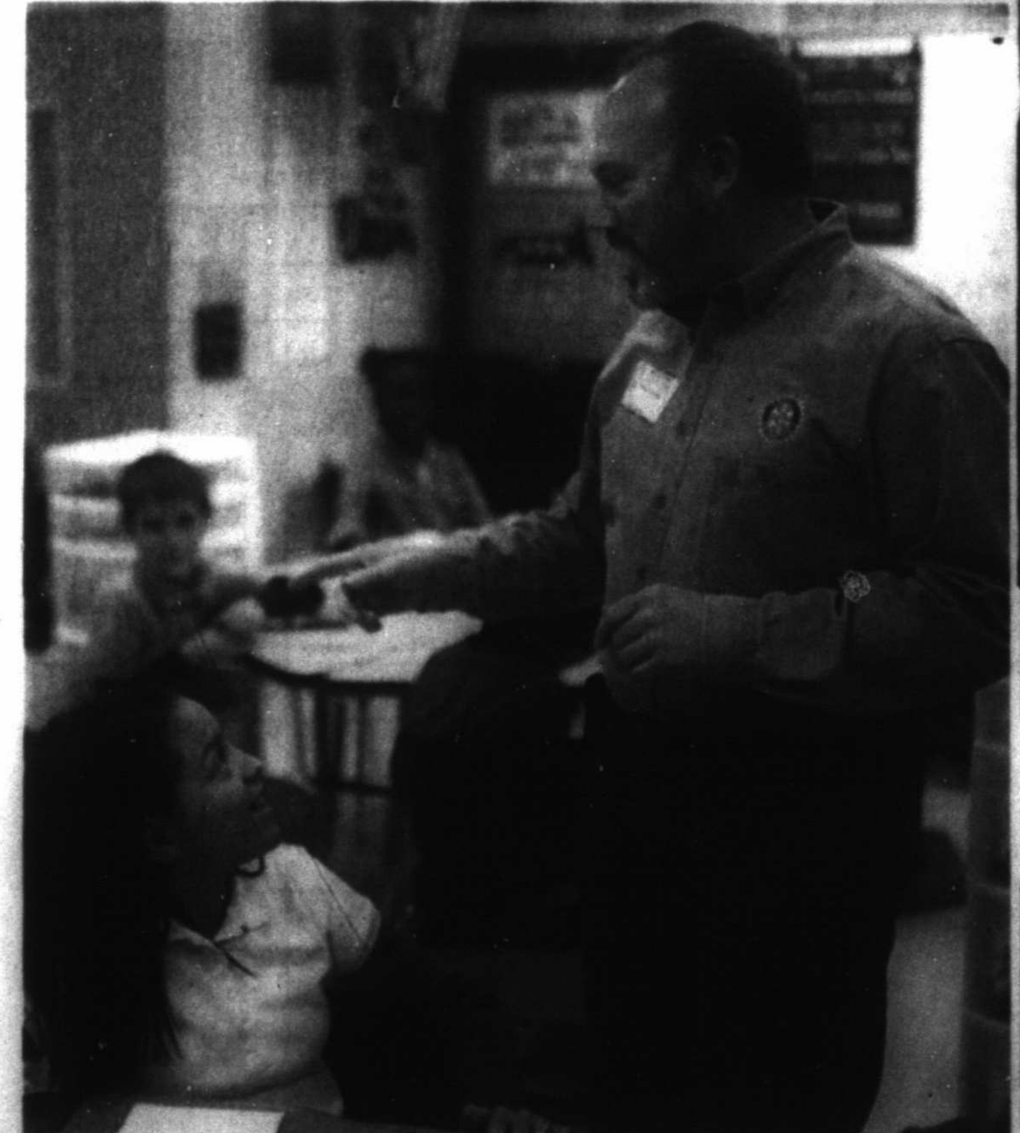
Absorbed By Children's Dictionaries



Photos by James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

CLOCKWISE: Third grader Priya Patel reacts after receiving a dictionary from the Midland West Rotary Club on Thursday at Carver Center. Third-grade students react after receiving their dictionaries. Third grader Emily Stephens looks through her dictionary. Mark Kimball, with the Midland West Rotary Club, talks with students after handing out dictionaries. A third-grade student writes her name in her dictionary.





Applewhite vows he'll be at Houston long-term

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — In recent years, Houston has been a stepping stone, a quick stop for up-and-coming coaches on their way to jobs seen as bigger and better.

Applewhite

Art Briles was at Houston before leaving for Baylor. Kevin Sumlin started with the Cougars before moving on to Texas A&M, and last month, Tom Herman left for Texas after just two seasons with the Cougars.

On Monday, Houston introduced Major Applewhite as its latest hire and the 38-year-old first-time head coach insisted he's different than those who simply used the job as a springboard.

"I want to be here long-term," Applewhite said. "I want to be here for the guys. I want to be here for the city and for the university ... I think at this point in time in the history of this football program I think it is important to develop continuity."

The introduction of Applewhite was less a news conference than it was a pep rally. There were cheerleaders waving white and red pom poms, a band and scores of fans and dignitaries, which included Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and state lawmaker Sheila Jackson Lee. But the pomp and circumstance of the day couldn't hide the fact that the Cougars weren't expecting to be introducing another new coach so soon.

"Seems like we just did this ... the players look a lot happier this time though," board of regents chairman Tilman Fertitta said with a laugh.

Applewhite spent the last two seasons as Herman's offensive coordinator and takes over a program that went 22-4 in that time. The Cougars (9-3) wrap up the season on Saturday when they meet San Diego State in the Las Vegas Bowl.

Houston got wins over Oklahoma and Louisville this season, but took a step back by losing to SMU, Navy and Memphis, and failing to qualify for the American Athletic Conference title game a year after winning the league championship. Applewhite said he expects better than winning nine games and he'll work to get the team back to where it was last season when the Cougars finished 13-1.

"Nobody in this room will set a higher expectation for this football team than me. That is the facts," he said. "I've always been a winner, I will always be a winner and I will always set those expectations for our football team."

He directed his first practice as head coach on Monday morning and though he's waited for the opportunity to be in charge of a program for years, he downplayed the significance of the moment.

"It really hasn't sunk in," he said. "It's very similar to when I was playing and I was in a backup role and then I was put in the game. It's just: Go do your job."

Quarterback Greg Ward was chosen to introduce Applewhite to the group and it seemed to catch him a bit off guard.

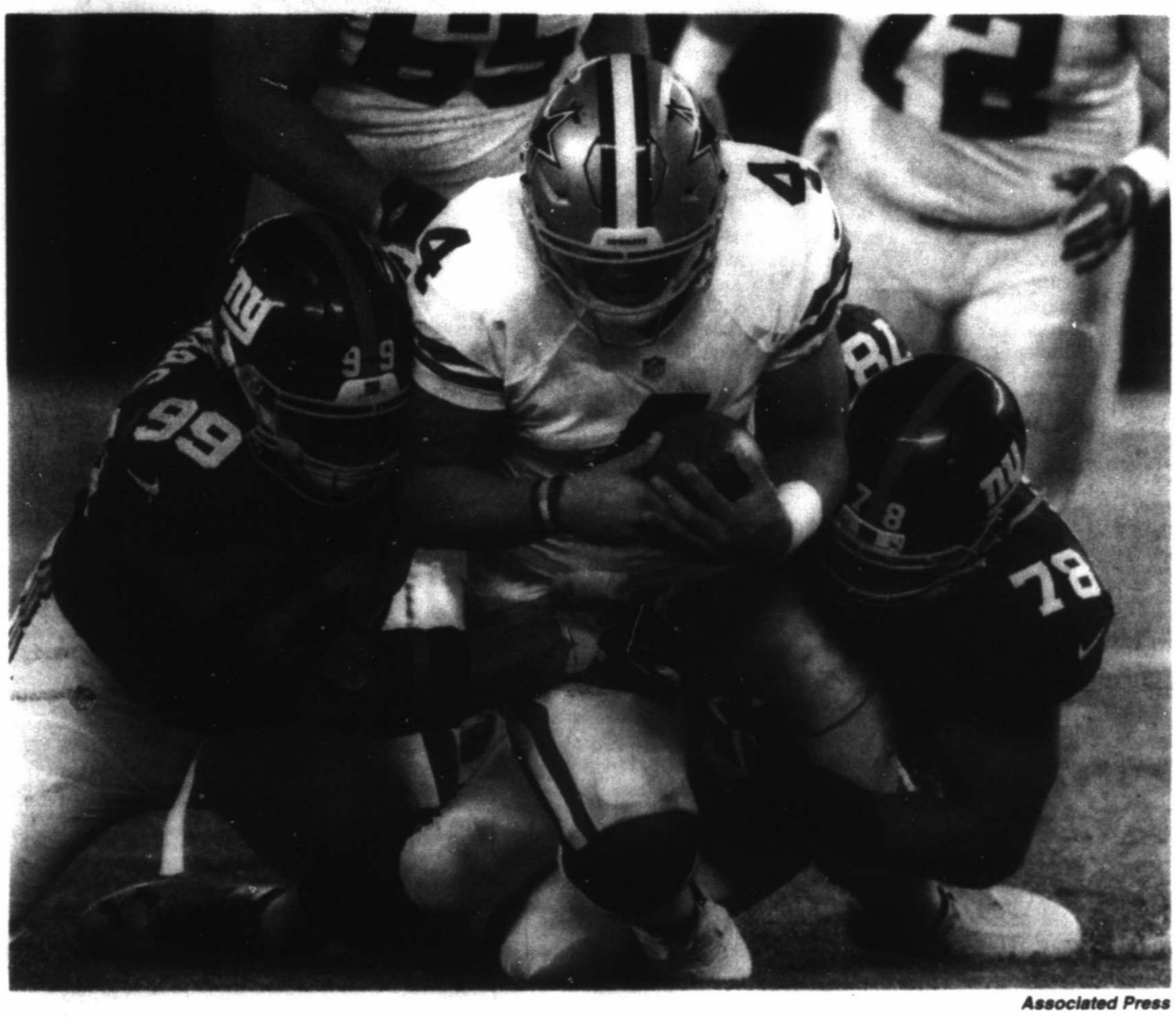
"I appreciate that," Applewhite said. "That was pretty solid."

Ward, who worked closely with Applewhite over the past two seasons, raved about his coach.

"Regardless of any circumstance, he's going to be honest with you," Ward said. "He's also going to be more competitive than you if you let him and he's going to bring his 'A' game every single day."

Please see **APPLEWHITE**/4C

Loss has a big impact



Associated Press

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott (4) is sacked by New York Giants' Robert Thomas (99) and Romeo Okwara (78) during the first half of a game Sunday in East Rutherford, N.J.

Cowboys in need of win, or historic 11-game streak becomes distant memory

By Schulyer Dixon
Associated Press

FRISCO — By the time rookie quarterback Dak Prescott and the Dallas Cowboys take the field for another Sunday night game, they'll be facing a serious challenge either for the NFC East lead or the conference's No. 1 seed.

Lose at home to Tampa Bay, and that franchise-record 11-game winning streak will be little more than a distant memory. That's how quickly the script changed on a rough night for Prescott at the New York Giants, and another loss to the only team that has beaten Dallas this season.

The Giants hold the tiebreaker thanks to their sweep of the Cowboys (11-2) and can get within a game in the division if they beat Detroit and Dallas loses to the Buccaneers (8-5). If the Lions win, they'll be a game back for the best record in the NFC with a visit to the Cowboys coming next.

"I think I'm anxious to see our team get back in there," tight end Jason Witten said after a 10-7 loss to the Giants. "I know we are all jumping at the bit to bounce back, answer the bell, so to speak. I think the message is simple. It's December, we're 11-2, and we've got ourselves in a good position."

Prescott is coming off the worst game of a mostly spectacular debut season, and one of the NFL's best offenses on third downs has suddenly turned into one of the worst. The Cowboys are a combined 2 of 24 on third downs the past two games after converting just once in 15 tries at New York.

Dallas escaped with a 17-15 win despite the third-down struggles at Minnesota, when Prescott threw for a season-low 139 yards. The 23-year-old hasn't hit the 200-yard mark in three games after getting there in each of the first 10.

The biggest concern is that Prescott doubled his season total in interceptions with two, including a forced throw into double coverage on a deep ball to Dez Bryant. Coach Jason Garrett's answer didn't change overnight when the topic turned to 10-year starter Tony Romo, now the backup because of Prescott's scintillating start.

Please see **COWBOYS**/3C

Alabama, Ohio State and Heisman winner lead AP All-Americans

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press

No. 1 Alabama placed four players on The Associated Press All-America team, most of any school, and Louisville quarterback Lamar Jackson and fellow Heisman Trophy finalists Jabrill Peppers of Michigan and Dede Westbrook of Oklahoma were also first-team selections.

The Crimson Tide and No. 2 Ohio State tied for the most players on the three All-America teams released Monday with six. No. 3 Clemson had five players on the three teams, but none on the first team. Washington, which has a spot in the College Football Playoff team along with Alabama, Ohio State and Clemson, had two players on the second team.

Jackson won the Heisman Saturday, finishing well ahead of Clemson's Deshaun Watson and Oklahoma's Baker Mayfield. The three quarterbacks lined up similarly on the All-America teams with Watson second-team and Mayfield third-team.

All-America points

■ The Crimson Tide's top-ranked defense placed three players on the first team, one at each level: Defensive lineman Jonathan Allen; linebacker Reuben Foster; defensive back Minkah Fitzpatrick. Offensive tackle Cam Robinson was the fourth Tide All-American. Outside linebacker Tim Williams was a second-team selection and tight end O.J. Howard made the third team.

■ Ohio State put center Pat Elflein on the first team with safety Malik Hooker and H-back Curtis Samuel, who was selected as an all-purpose player. Guard Billy Price and linebacker Raekwon McMillan made the second team.

■ Clemson defensive tackle Carlos Watkins joined Watson on the second team and the Tigers had defensive tackle Christian Wilkins, cornerback Cordrea Tankersley and linebacker Ben Boulware on the third team.

■ Washington's two second-teamers were safety Budda Baker and receiver John Ross.

Fabulous freshman

Houston defensive tackle Ed Oliver is the first freshman to be selected to the first-team since 2011 when Clemson's Sammy Watkins made it as an all-purpose player and LSU punter Brad Wing also was picked.

Oliver had 19 tackles for loss to help

Please see **TEAM**/4C

Texans currently in control of AFC South with 3 games left

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Texans are in control of the AFC South at the moment.

But they know they can't let up with Tennessee and Indianapolis still in the hunt with three regular-season games remaining.

The Texans and the Titans are both 7-6, but Houston holds the tiebreaker with a perfect 4-0 mark in division play.

The Texans completed a season sweep of the Colts for the first time in franchise history on Sunday to leave Indianapolis one game back.

With everything on the line down the stretch, coach Bill O'Brien wants to make sure that his team is focused on just one thing this week.

"Jacksonville," he said. "That's it. Jacksonville. Everything that we're doing when they come into the meeting on Wednesday will be about the Jacksonville Jaguars."

O'Brien also knows that his team can't take the Jaguars lightly despite their 2-11 record and eight-game skid.

"Jacksonville is not easy. I don't care what their record is," O'Brien said. "I just got done watching a few hours of tape. They've got a lot of good players, guys that can run. It's going to be a very tough game."

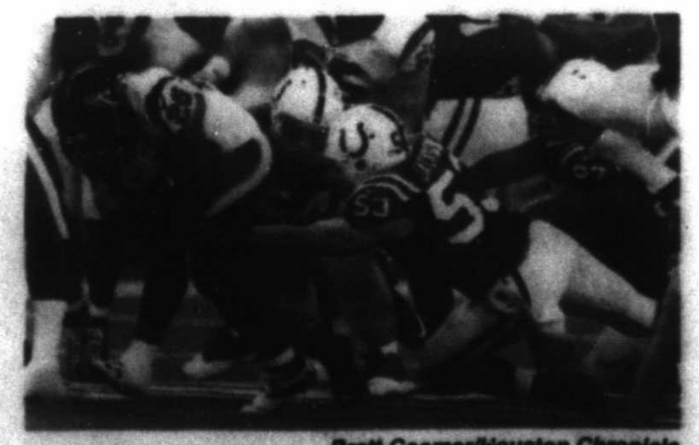
Two of Houston's three remaining games are within the division, which could be a good thing for the Texans who look to win the AFC South for the second straight season.

They've won nine straight in the AFC South, which is the second-longest division winning streak in the NFL. They'll host the Bengals on Christmas Eve before wrapping up the season at Tennessee.

"These divisional games are very difficult," O'Brien said. "Give our players a lot of credit, they've played well in the division lately, but it needs to continue on Sunday."

Houston beat the Colts on Sunday with a big day by running back Lamar Miller and strong defensive play. Miller ran for 107 yards and a

Please see **TEXANS**/3C



Brett Coomer/Houston Chronicle

Houston Texans running back Lamar Miller (26) runs through the line past Indianapolis Colts nose tackle David Parry (54) and inside linebacker Edwin Jackson (53) during the second quarter of a game at Lucas Oil Stadium on Sunday in Indianapolis.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV

CHAMPIONS HOCKEY LEAGUE

Quarterfinal, Leg 2: Sparta Prague vs. SC Bern, 11:30 a.m., OWSPN

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

South Carolina State at Clemson, 6 p.m., ESPNU

Temple at Villanova, 6 p.m., FS1

Tennessee Tech at Tennessee, 6 p.m., SEC

Texas Southern at Cincinnati, 6 p.m., ESPN3

UNC Central at LSU, 8 p.m., SEC

Central Arkansas at Michigan, 8 p.m., BTN

MEN'S SOCCER

Friendly: Al Ahli vs. Barcelona, 9:50 a.m., ESPNDEP

FA Cup: Stourbridge FC vs. Northampton FC, 12:40 p.m., FSP

PL: Everton vs. Arsenal, 1:45 p.m., NBCSN

PL: Bournemouth vs. Leicester City, 1:45 p.m., NBCET

Club World Cup 5th Place: Jeonbuk Hyundai vs. Mamelodi Sunadows, 1:20 a.m., FS1, FXDEP

Club World Cup Semifinal: Atletico Nacional vs. Kashima Antlers, 4:20 a.m., FS1, FXDEP

NBA

Minnesota at Chicago, 7 p.m., ESPN, ESPNDEP

Oklahoma City at Portland, 9:30 p.m., ESPN, ESPNDEP

NHL

Chicago at NY Rangers, 6 p.m., NBCSN

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

WHAT'S ON DECK

High school

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Wink at Trinity, 5 p.m.

Andrews at Kermit, 6 p.m.

MHS at Lubbock Monterey, 6:30 p.m.

Big Spring at Greenwood, 6:30 p.m.

Pecos at Midland Christian, 6:30 p.m.

MCA at Grady, 6:30 p.m.

Fort Stockton at Stanton, 6:30 p.m.

Coahoma at Hermleigh, 6:30 p.m.

Christoval at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Wink at Trinity, 6:30 p.m.

Kermit at Andrews, 7:30 p.m.

Big Spring at Greenwood, 8 p.m.

Midland Christian at Seminole, 8 p.m.

MCA at Grady, 8 p.m.

Stanton at Forsan, 8 p.m.

Coahoma at Hermleigh, 8 p.m.

SWIMMING RESULTS

Seminole Christmas Swimming and Diving Invitational

Friday-Saturday

Team standings

Boys

1. Pecos 556. 2. Andrews 384. 3. Fort Stockton 294. 4. Monahans 268. 5. Pampa 203. 6. Carlsbad, N.M. 155. 7. Abilene Wylie 109. 8. (tie) Big Spring 77, Artesia, N.M. 77. 10. Seminole 40

Girls

1. Andrews 663. 2. Pecos 340. 3. Monahans 236. 4. Seminole 226. 5. Pampa 173. 6. Carlsbad, N.M. 164. 7. Artesia, N.M. 144. 8. Fort Stockton 98. 9. Big Spring 38. 10. Lubbock Christian 32. 11. Abilene Wylie 9

Individual results (top 3 only listed)

Boys

50 freestyle — 1. Matthew Greiner, Andrews 26.96; 2. Christian Soto, Fort Stockton, 27.44; 3. Chris Samaniego, Pecos, 28.16; 100 freestyle — 1. Greiner, Andrews, 1:00.71; 2. Jonah Munsell, Pampa, 1:02.88; 3. Brennan Bennett, Andrews, 1:03.48; 100 backstroke — 1. Jonathan Darnell, Artesia, N.M., 1:01.87; 2. Ethan Wall, Monahans, 1:09.11; 3. Donovan Loya, Pecos, 1:11.10; 100 breaststroke — 1. Brycen White, Andrews, 1:21.03; 2. Fernando Esquivel, Fort Stockton, 1:21.23; 3. Alejandro Lazcano, Pecos, 1:21.31; 100 butterfly — 1. Jeremiah Hung, Pecos, 1:06.77; 2. Samaniego, Pecos, 1:08.67; 3. Wall, Monahans, 1:08.95; 200 freestyle — 1. Zachariah Hung, Pecos, 2:11.44; 2. Justin Calamlam, Abilene Wylie, 2:23.75; 3. Christopher Almanza, Monahans, 2:23.75; 200 IM — 1. Darnell, Artesia, N.M., 2:17.68; 2. J. Hung, Pecos, 2:23.35; 3. Justin Rivas, Pecos, 2:30.06; 200 medley relay — 1. Pecos (P.J. Hernandez, J. Hung, Z. Hung, Diego Flores) 2:07.15; 2. Fort Stockton 2:08.09; 3. Andrews 2:08.27; 200 freestyle relay — 1. Pecos (Loya, Anakin Rayos, J. Hung, Rivas) 1:52.01; 2. Fort Stockton 1:52.40; 3. Monahans 1:54.31; 400 freestyle — 1. Z. Hung, Pecos, 4:37.90; 2. White, Andrews, 4:56.01; 3. Dustin Book, Andrews, 5:03.16; 400 freestyle relay — 1. Pecos (Loya, Flores, Z. Hung, Rivas) 4:07.91; 2. Andrews 4:13.42; 3. Monahans 4:16.00; 1-mtr diving — 1. Isaiah Garcia 207.90; 2. Esquivel, Fort Stockton, 189.95; 3. Rayos, Pecos, 169.25

Girls

50 freestyle — 1. Avery Joiner, Andrews, 30.05; 2. Mackenzie Ortiz, Andrews, 32.02; 3. Jolea Pogue, Monahans, 32.43; 100 freestyle — 1. Madisson Trammell, Pecos, 1:07.45; 2. Isabella Corder, Carlsbad, N.M., 1:10.48; 3. Ortiz, Andrews, 1:12.54; 100 backstroke — 1. Hannah Hackett, Andrews, 1:24.27; 2. Allison Haverdink, Lubbock Christian, 1:25.85; 3. Alejandra Mendoza, Pecos, 1:26.74; 100 breaststroke — 1. Trammell, Pecos, 1:29.34; 2. Calie Woods, Andrews, 1:34.10; 3. Mallory Davis, Monahans, 1:37.52; 100 butterfly — 1. Verenice Campos, Pecos, 1:19.18; 2. Sirai Olivas, Andrews, 1:23.19; 3. Pogue, Monahans, 1:24.15; 200 freestyle — 1. Corder, Carlsbad, N.M., 2:28.61; 2. Graca Driver, Andrews, 2:34.02; 3. Timmerie Smith, Pecos, 2:44.40; 200 IM — 1. Campos, Pecos, 2:55.90; 2. Hackett, Andrews, 3:03.42; 3. Hannah Shannon, Artesia, N.M., 3:11.35; 200 medley relay — 1. Andrews (Hackett, Maranda Farmer, Joiner, Ortiz) 2:34.23; 2. Monahans 2:36.88; 3. Andrews 2:37.60; 200 freestyle relay — 1. Pecos (Campos, Smith, Iriana Hidalgo, Trammell) 2:13.29; 2. Andrews 2:16.44; 3. Carlsbad, N.M. 2:18.69; 400 freestyle — 1. Driver, Andrews, 5:23.94; 2. Timmerie Smith, Pecos, 5:38.72; 3. Arianna Webb, Andrews, 5:48.74; 400 freestyle relay — 1. Pecos (Mendoza, Hidalgo, Campos, Trammell) 4:45.03; 2. Andrews 4:45.31; 3. Monahans 5:02.52; 1-mtr diving — 1. Kyera Walker, Andrews, 115.55; 2. Akira Prentice, Andrews, 97.35

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

CLEVELAND INDIANS — Promoted Eric Binder to director of baseball operations. Paul Gillispie to senior director of international scouting and Victor Wang to director of pro scouting. Named James Harris director of player development.

TAMPA BAY RAYS — Designated C Justin O'Conner for assignment. Agreed to terms with C Wilson Ramos on a two-year contract.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Named Derek Shelton quality control coach.

National League

ATLANTA BRAVES — Named Damon Berryhill manager and Reid Cornelius pitching coach of Gwinnett (IL); Derrick Lewis pitching coach and Ivan Cruz hitting coach of Mississippi (SL); Paul Runge manager, Dennis Lewallyn pitching coach and Dave Momeau trainer of Florida (FSL); Nick Jensen trainer of Rome (SAL); Nestor Perez manager, Kanekoa Texeira pitching coach, Barbaro Garbey hitting coach and Vic Scarpone trainer of Danville (Appalachian); and Barrett Kleinknect manager, Larry McCall pitching coach and Drew Garner trainer of the GCL Braves.

MIAMI MARLINS — Agreed to terms with C A.J. Ellis, LHP Jeff Locke and RHP Dustin McGowan on one-year contracts.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Agreed to terms with LHP Sean Burnett, OF Daniel Nava and INFs Hector Gomez and Pedro Florimon on minor league contracts.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Named Andrew Lorraine and Gary Varsho professional scouts.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Agreed to terms with LHP/OF Jordan Schafer, LHP Daniel Schlereth, INF Dickie Joe Thon, RHPs Josh Lucas and Robby Rowland and Cs Eric Fryer, Gabriel Lino and Alberto Rosario on minor league contracts.

WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Sent RHP Mario Sanchez to Philadelphia to complete an earlier trade.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

NFL — Suspended San Diego NT Tenny Palepoi four games for violating the league's policy on performance-enhancing substances.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Placed S Clayton Geathers, LB Curt Maggitt and G Jack Mewhort on injured reserve. Signed S Duke Williams and CB Charles James. Signed WR Devin Street from the practice squad.

LOS ANGELES RAMS — Fired coach Jeff Fisher. Named special teams coordinator John Fassel interim coach.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Placed DT Sharrif Floyd on injured reserve. Signed DT Toby Johnson.

NEW YORK JETS — Placed S Antonio Allen on injured reserve after he cleared waivers. Signed DL Kenny Anunike to the practice squad.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Placed TE Vance McDonald on injured reserve. Claimed OL Josh Allen off waivers from Tampa Bay.

TENNESSEE TITANS — Waived RB David Fluellen. Signed DE Mehdi Abdesmad from the practice squad.

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

ATLANTA UNITED — Traded a 2017 second-round draft pick to Colorado for 2017 and 2018 international roster spots.

COLORADO RAPIDS — Traded D Joseph Greenspan to Minnesota for a 2017 third-round draft pick.

COLUMBUS CREW — Traded D Michael Parkhurst to Atlanta for general allocation money.

D.C. UNITED — Traded the rights to M Miguel Aguilar and a 2019 fourth-round draft pick to LA for a 2018 fourth-round draft pick. Traded the rights to F Kennedy Igboananike and an international roster slot to Portland for a 2017 second-round draft pick.

LA GALAXY — Exercised 2017 contract options on Ds Ashley Cole, Daniel Steres and Dave Romney; Ms Rafael Garcia, Baggio Husidic and Raul Mendiola; G Clement Diop; and Fs Bradford Jamieson IV, Ariel Lassiter, Jose Villarreal and Jack McBean. Declined the option on D Leonardo.

NEW YORK CITY FC — Signed G Sean Johnson.

NEW YORK RED BULLS — Re-signed G Ryan Meara to a multi-year contract.

PHILADELPHIA UNION — Traded M Kevin Kratz to Atlanta for a 2020 fourth-round draft pick.

PORTLAND TIMBERS — Exercised 2017 contract options on D Zarek Valentin and M Ben Zemanski. Declined options on Nick Besler, Neco Brett, Wade Hamilton, Chris Klute, Chris Konopka, Ben Polk, Jermaine Taylor and Andy Thoma and Jack Barmby.

SEATTLE SOUNDERS — Exercised 2017 contract options on G Tyler Miller, Ms Brad Evans and Aaron Kovar, F Victor Mansaray and Ds Tony Alfaro, Oniel Fisher, Joevin Jones and Roman Torres.

SPORTING KANSAS CITY — Announced the retirement of M Paulo Magamura.

COLLEGE

ARIZONA STATE — Announced freshman basketball G Sam Cunliffe will transfer.

GEORGETOWN — Announced junior F Isaac Copeland will transfer at the end of the semester.

KANSAS — Signed football coach David Beaty to a two-year contract extension.

MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY — Dismissed senior basketball G Martez Harrison for "failing to meet the expectations for student-athletes in our program."

NOTRE DAME — Announced QB DeShone Kizer will enter the NFL draft.

NHL STANDINGS

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	29	19	6	4	42	92	64
Ottawa	29	16	11	2	34	70	78
Boston	30	16	12	2	34	71	71
Tampa Bay	29	14	13	2	30	81	81
Florida	29	13	12	4	30	70	77
Detroit	29	13	12	4	30	70	77
Toronto	27	11	11	5	27	79	84
Buffalo	27	10	11	6	26	56	72

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	29	19	7	3	41	104	84
N.Y. Rangers	30	20	9	1	41	105	70
Philadelphia	31	18	10	3	39	101	94
Columbus	26	17	5	4	38	87	56
Washington	27	17	7	3	37	72	59
New Jersey	28	12	10	6	30	69	82
Carolina	28	11	11	6	28	69	76
N.Y. Islanders	27	11	11	5	27	71	81

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	30	18	8	4	40	81	70
St. Louis	29	16	9	4	36	79	79
Minnesota	27	15	8	4	34	75	56
Winnipeg	32	13	16	3	29	82	96
Nashville	27	12	11	4	28	78	78
Dallas	30	11	13	6	28	75	96
Colorado	27	11	15	1	23	60	86

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	29	15	9	5	35	81	75
Edmonton	31	15	11	5	35	93	85
Calgary	31	16	13	2	34	81	86
San Jose	28	16	11	1	33	68	61
Los Angeles	27	14	11	2	30	71	70
Vancouver	29	12	15	2	26	67	88
Arizona	28	9	14	5	23	62	90

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

Scores and schedule

Monday's Scores

Pittsburgh 7, Arizona 0

Boston 2, Montreal 1, OT

Today's Games

Los Angeles at Buffalo, 6 p.m.

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

Vancouver at Carolina, 6 p.m.

Chicago at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.

Arizona at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.

San Jose at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.

St. Louis at Nashville, 7 p.m.

Florida at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Anaheim at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

Columbus at Edmonton, 8 p.m.

Get the best energy news every week in the OIL REPORT

Look for it in Sunday's edition of the Reporter-Telegram

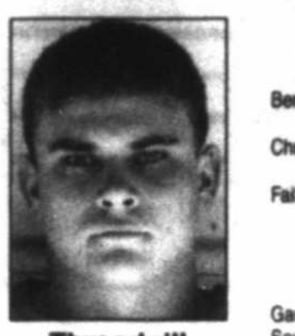
Watson leads MCS postseason honors

From staff reports

Midland Christian senior wide receiver Luke Watson was a first-team honoree on the TAPPS Division II All-State team that was recently released.

Watson

Powell



Threadgill

Watson had 43 receptions for 651 yards and six touchdowns during the 2016 campaign for the 8-5 Mustangs, who reached the state semifinals.

MCS was also well recognized in the superlatives for TAPPS Division II, District 1, as sophomore quarterback Peyton Powell earned Offensive MVP honors and junior linebacker David Threadgill was lauded as co-Defensive MVP.

Powell was a dual-threat quarterback for the Mustangs, throwing for 1,918 yards and 15 touchdown passes through the air and adding 1,594 rushing yards and 26 TDs scored on the ground.

Threadgill accounted for 177 total tackles and 103 solo stops.

Powell, Threadgill, defensive end Noah Hooper and safety Cody Wolfe were second-team all-state selections for MCS.

Powell, Watson, wide receiver Blake Ray, offensive tackle Luke Fisher, Hooper, defensive tackle Andrew Mowles, linebacker Garrett Eddison, Wolfe and cornerback Silas Crews all made the first team for Division II, District 1.

TAPPS DIVISION II ALL-STATE HONOREES

Midland Christian players only listed

First team offense

Receiver — Luke Watson, Sr.

Second team offense

Quarterback — Peyton Powell, So.

Second team defense

Defensive lineman — Noah Hooper, Sr.

Linebacker — David Threadgill, Jr.

Secondary — Cody Wolfe, Sr.

Honorable mention defense

Defensive lineman — Andrew Mowles, Sr.

Linebacker — Garrett Eddison, Sr.

Secondary — Silas Crews, Jr.

ALL-DISTRICT TAPPS DIVISION II, DISTRICT 1 FOOTBALL TEAM

Superlatives

MVP — Keyshawn Wyatt, Sr., Grapevine Faith

Offensive MVP — Peyton Powell, So., Midland Christian

Co-Defensive MVPs — David Threadgill, Jr., Midland Christian; Ben McClendon, So., Grapevine Faith

Offensive Newcomer of the Year — Tyler Knoop, So., Fort Worth Christian

Defensive Newcomer of the Year — Malik Caper, So., Grapevine Faith

Coaching staff of the year — Fort Worth Southwest Christian

First team offense

Quarterback — Peyton Powell, So., Midland Christian

Running backs — Keyshawn Wyatt, Sr., Grapevine Faith; Cade Garcia, Jr., Fort Worth Christian; Stephen Willis, Sr., Fort Worth Southwest; Chase Eisenmann, Sr., Frisco Legacy Christian

Receivers — Luke Watson, Sr., Midland Christian; Jake Mitchell, Sr., Grapevine Faith; Ryan Snyder, Jr., Fort Worth Christian; Blake Ray, Sr., Midland Christian

Tight end — Hunter Gieser, Sr., Fort Worth Southwest

Offensive linemen — Cooper McCaw, Sr., Grapevine Faith; Morgan Fortner, Sr. Fort Worth Christian; Braeden Barrett, Sr., Grapevine Faith; Luke Fisher, Jr., Midland Christian; Lucas McCleery, Sr., Grapevine Faith

Kicker — Cole Lewis, Sr., Grapevine Faith

First team defense

Defensive linemen — Robert "R.J." Reynolds, Sr., Grapevine Faith; Jay Marshall, Jr., Fort Worth Christian; Noah Hooper, Sr., Midland Christian; Hunter Gieser, Sr., Fort Worth Southwest; Andrew Mowles, Sr., Midland Christian

Linebackers — Armando Fitz, Sr., Fort Worth Christian; David Threadgill, Jr., Midland Christian; Ben McClendon, So., Grapevine Faith; Preston Roberts, Sr., Fort Worth Southwest; Garrett Eddison, Sr., Midland Christian

Secondary — Cade Cruzen, Sr., Fort Worth Christian; Casey Wasserman, Sr., Grapevine Faith; Cody Wolfe, Sr., Midland Christian; Silas Crews, Jr., Midland Christian; Matthew McElwain, Sr., Fort Worth Southwest Christian

Punter — Ethan McKasson, Jr., Frisco Legacy

Second team offense

Quarterback — Tyler Knoop, So., Fort Worth Christian

Running backs — Bryson Harper, Jr., Midland Christian; Noah Williams, Sr., Grapevine Faith; John "Preston" Steele, Jr., Grapevine Faith; Daniel Williams, Jr., Fort Worth Southwest

Receivers — Casey Wasserman, Sr., Grapevine Faith; Anderson Needham, Jr., Midland Christian; Cade Cruzen, Sr., Fort Worth Christian; Jacob Newman, Sr., Fort Worth Southwest

Tight end — Ethan Fleming, Sr., Grapevine Faith

Offensive linemen — Cade Holliday, Sr., Fort Worth Christian; Jeremy Hellcamp, Jr., Midland Christian; Logan Holley, Sr., Fort Worth Southwest; Sawyer Alexander, Jr., Fort Worth Christian; John "Jack" Leonhard, Sr., Grapevine Faith

Kicker — Tyler Pryor, Jr., Fort Worth Christian

Second team defense

Defensive linemen — Cooper Baumgardner, Sr., Frisco Legacy; Grant Cobb, So., Grapevine Faith; Caleb Hatchet, Sr., Fort Worth Christian; Malik Mashek, Sr., Fort Worth Christian; Ty Russell, Sr., Midland Christian

Linebackers — Ethan Fleming, Sr., Grapevine Faith; Max Norris, Jr., Grapevine Faith; Jordan Estimon, Sr., Fort Worth Southwest; Rhett Fleming, So., Fort Worth Christian; Colton Eager, Sr., Fort Worth Christian

Secondary — Blake Ray, Sr., Midland Christian; Jake Mitchell, Sr., Grapevine Faith; Kallan Walters, Sr. Fort Worth Christian; Major Dykes, Jr., Grapevine Faith; Luke Johnson, Jr., Fort Worth Southwest

Punter — Anderson Needham, Jr., Midland Christian

TAPPS DIVISION II ACADEMIC ALL-STATE

Midland Christian players listed only

Anderson Needham, Jr.; Cody Wolfe, Sr.; Garrett Eddison, Sr.; Jeremy Hellcamp, Jr.; Luke Fisher, Jr.; Luke Watson, Sr.

Chargers rack up all-state, all-district honors

From staff reports

The Trinity football team was represented by offensive lineman/linebacker Christopher Picciano, special teams player Jackson Pinnow, defensive lineman Wyatt Evans and defensive back Daniel Webb on the second team of the TAPPS Six-Man Division I all-state team that was recently released.

Picciano

Picciano, a senior, was selected as both an offensive lineman and linebacker.

The Chargers also landed quarterback/defensive back Webb, running back/special teams player Pinnow, utility back Logan Ramsey, wide receiver John Stevens, offensive lineman/linebacker Picciano, kicker Chesley McDonald, Evans and defensive lineman Cade Lawson on the first team of the All-District TAPPS Six-Man Division I, District 1 team.

TAPPS SIX-MAN DIVISION I ALL-STATE TEAM

Only Trinity players listed

Second team offense

Offensive lineman — Christopher Picciano, Sr.

Special teams player — Jackson Pinnow, Sr.

Second team defense

Defensive lineman — Wyatt Evans, Sr.

Linebacker — Christopher Picciano, Sr.

Defensive back — Daniel Webb, Jr.

Honorable mention offense

Running back — Jackson Pinnow, Sr.

Utility back — Logan Ramsey, Jr.

Receiver — John Stevens, Sr.

Honorable mention defense

Defensive lineman — Cade Lawson, Jr.

ALL-DISTRICT TAPPS SIX-MAN DIVISION I, DISTRICT 1 TEAM

First team offense

Quarterback — Daniel Webb, Jr., Trinity

Running backs — Jackson Pinnow, Sr., Trinity; Luke Veoukas, Jr., Watauga Harvest

Spread back — Cade Griffin, Jr., Watauga Harvest

Utility back — Logan Ramsey, Jr., Trinity

Receivers — John Stevens, Sr., Trinity; John "Ryan" Ruiz, Sr., Watauga Harvest; Noah Hampton, So., Abilene Christian

Tight end — Nehemiah Clements, Jr., Watauga Harvest

Offensive center — Caydon Wright, Sr., Watauga Harvest

Offensive lineman — Christopher Picciano, Sr., Trinity

Kicker — Chesley McDonald, So., Trinity

Special teams player — Jackson Pinnow, Sr., Trinity

First team defense

Defensive linemen — Wyatt Evans, Sr., Trinity; Cade Lawson, Jr., Trinity; Luke Veoukas, Jr., Watauga Harvest

Linebackers — Caydon Wright, Sr., Watauga Harvest; Christopher Picciano, Sr., Trinity

Defensive backs — Daniel Webb, Jr., Trinity; Cade Griffin, Jr., Watauga Harvest; Chesley McDonald, So., Trinity; P.J. Orr, So., Denton Calvary

Second team offense

Quarterback — Luke Young, So., Watauga Harvest

Running backs — Jeremiah Presley, Fr., Abilene Christian; Joseph Isbell, So., Watauga Harvest

Spread back — Jace Usrey, Jr., Abilene Christian

Utility back — Grant Wade, Jr. Abilene Christian

Receivers — Isaiah Avila, So., Abilene Christian; P.J. Orr, So., Denton Calvary; Blake Mikeal, Jr., Denton Calvary

Tight end — Wilson White, So., Denton Calvary

Center — Lewis Ohlman, Sr., Trinity

Kicker — John Stevens, Sr., Trinity

Special teams player — Josh Hunter, So., Denton Calvary

Honorable mention

Trinity players only

Offensive utility back — Diego Tejada, So.

Defensive back — Mark Fanous, Jr.

CLASS 3A ALL-STATE FOOTBALL TEAM

The 2016 Texas Associated Press Sports Editors Class 3A all-state high school football team, released Monday. Voting based on regular-season performance. Players are listed in alphabetical order at each position.

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

Linemen:

MATTHEW ARCE, Littlefield, Jr. — 98 percent grade, 76 pancakes

JORDAN HIGGINS, Lexington, Jr. — 53 pancakes, no sacks allowed, blocked for 2,000-yard rusher

CADE KRIEG, Wall, Sr. — 98 percent grade, 23 knockdowns, 34 cut blocks

WAYMON LAY, Big Sandy Harmony, Sr. — 95 percent grade, 33 pancakes on team that averaged 460 rush yds/gm

TIM RILEY, Crockett, Sr. — 98 percent grade, 51 pancakes, 63 knockdowns, allowed 1 sack

Receivers/ends:

JASON FLOREZ, Muleshoe, Sr. — 76-1,409, 21 TDs

SICORY SMITH, Cameron Yoe, Sr. — 51-1,007, 16 TDs; 2 KO returns for TDs

Quarterback:

MICHAEL EVERETT, Odem, Sr. — 250-369-3,406, 47 TDs passing; 5 TDs rushing

Running backs:

NIC DILLON, Lexington, Sr. — 170-2,001, 34 TDs

TYLER GRAY, Brock, Sr. — 159-1,697, 26 TDs

TREY STERLING, Sunnyvale, Sr. — 180-1,781, 28 TDs

Kicker:

BRYCE NYE, Brock, Sr. — 69-72 PATs, 6-6 FGs, long of 37, 29 touchbacks, 87 points

Offensive Player of the Year: Michael Everett, Odem, Sr

FIRST-TEAM DEFENSE

Linemen:

TYLER CULLEY, Lone Oak, Soph. — 93 tackles, 25 TFL, 12 sacks

TAYLOR SMITH, Jefferson, Jr. — 127 tackles, 7 sacks, 18 TFL, 4 FF, 3 FR, 4 PBUs, 3 blocked kicks

ELIJAH TREST, White Oak, Jr. — 90 tackles, 11 sacks, 23 TFL, 6 FF

ZACK VAUGHN, Brady, Sr. — 127 tackles, 80 solo, 47 assist, 23 TFL, 9 sacks, 2 FF, 2 FR

Linebackers:

ZACH COLLINS, Beckville, Sr. — 144 tackles, 4 INTs, 9 TFL, 7 sacks, 3 FF, 4 FR

ISAIAS GONZALEZ, Banquete, Sr. — 128 solo tackles, 26 TFL, 8 sacks, 9 FF, 4 PBUs

HYLKE TALSMA, Mount Vernon, Sr. — 127 tackles, 35 TFL, 4 sacks, 3 FR, 2 INTs

Defensive backs:

ABEL CASAS, San Diego, Jr. — 31 solo tackles, 8 INTs, 14 PBUs

BRAIDEN CLOPTON, Gunter, Soph. — 29 tackles, 8 INTs, 2 INT returns for TDs, 9 PBUs

BRANDON COOK, White Oak, Sr. — 123 tackles, 4 TFL, 3 FF, 3 INTs, 2 INT returns for TDs, 3 PBUs, 2 punt returns for TDs

KONRAD EICHELMAN, Big Sandy Harmony, Jr. — 105 tackles, 2 INTs, 2 FR, 7 FF, 12 PBUs, 4 TFL

Punter:

TANNER COULLIETTE, Coldspring-Oakhurst, Sr. — 42.7 avg.

Defensive Player of the Year: Zach Collins, Beckville, Sr.

SECOND-TEAM OFFENSE

Linemen:

Tanner Broadfoot, Clyde, Sr.; Rhett Buckley, Childress, Sr.; Casey Phillips, Franklin, Jr.; Cameron Richmond, New London West Rusk, Sr.; Brady Watson, Mount Vernon, Sr.

Receivers/ends:

Cameron Copley, Canadian, Sr.; Tyshun Mitchell, Omaha Pewitt, Sr

Quarterback:

Kaden Cordell, Sonora, Jr.

Running backs:

Jason Faulkner, Comfort, Sr.; Chris Martinez, Eastland, Sr., Caleb Twyford, Farmersville, Sr.

Kicker:

Cayden Cobb, Whitesboro, Sr.

SECOND-TEAM DEFENSE

Linemen:

Skylar Collier, Brock, Jr.; Henry Enoch, Yoakum, Sr.; Robert Muniz, Hallettsville, Sr.; Austin Vallejo, Elysian Fields, Sr.

Linebackers:

Eddie Luna, Cameron Yoe, Sr.; Dazmen Wright, Luling, Sr.; Zane Young, Brock, Sr.

Defensive backs:

Dustin Chopelas, Alpine, Sr.; Tyshun Mitchell, Omaha Pewitt, Sr.; Jordan Moore, Yoakum, Jr.; Walker T. Sine, Sonora, Soph.

Punter:

Preston Johnson, Whitesboro, Sr.

HONORABLE MENTION OFFENSE

LINEMEN: Jade Ashalintubbi, Elysian Fields; Clayton Cavanaugh, Troy; Larry Coker, Malakoff; Jermaine Coleman, Kingsville Academy; Jeremy Dawson, Big Sandy Harmony; J.D. Esquivel, Big Lake Reagan County; Mac Harrah, Brock; Dominik Hasley, Muleshoe; Malik Johnson, Elysian Fields; Payton Lowrie, Malakoff; Lane Morgan, Franklin; Wyatt Neuman, Edna; Nellon Reitz, Goliad; Tyler Richardson, Canadian; Silas Robinson, Yoakum; Bryndon Robles, Sonora; Rudy Salazar, George West; Cayden Steffey, Coleman; Alkeem Titus, Leonard; Toby Trevino, Goliad; Jovani Zavala, Omaha Pewitt.

RECEIVERS/ENDS: Brandon Berry, Clyde; Brandon Cook, White Oak; Cash Crane, Leon; Cash Goodhart, Sunnyvale; Tyler Russell, Malakoff; Michael Solis, Sonora.

QUARTERBACKS: Zack Andress, Cameron Yoe; Beto Diaz, Muleshoe; Jeremiah Crawford, Mineola; Trent Easley, Grand Saline; Heath Hood, White Oak; Caleb McDill, Sunnyvale; Judd Miller, Malakoff.

RUNNING BACKS: Mark Caballero, Idalou; Marcuc Cooper, Rice Consolidated; Earnest Crownover, Grandview; Michael Edmonson, Big Sandy Harmony; Davion Ford, Rockdale; Thomas Halfmann, Wall; Jarrett Jackson, Sonora; Levi Jones, Van Alstyne; Don Taylor, Coldspring-Oakhurst; DJ Williams, Elkhart.

KICKER: Jacob Walters, Elkhart.

HONORABLE MENTION DEFENSE

LINEMEN: Walt Arnold, Coleman; Weston Bauer, Brady; Chris Castle, Woodville; Dalton Cunningham, Leon; Dagen Dunham, Muleshoe; Cody Gary, Jacksboro; Mikey Golden, Brock; Dennis Jones, George West; Larry Krushall, Boling; Danyal Littleton, Malakoff; Alijuan Rice, Jefferson; Carlos Rodriguez, Gunter; Garrett Sanford, Wall; Michael Sims, East Bernard; Jesse Valdez, Cameron; Liam Yourgalite, Sonora.

LINEBACKERS: Ahmad Brown, Crockett; Chase Boyd, Winona; Chase Busch, Malakoff; Tanner Cable, Nocona; Cutter Callan, Florence; Dylan David, Rockdale; Will Fannin, Franklin; Mario Flores, Muleshoe; Justin Gibson, Cooper; Riley Harris, Coleman; Holton Hufstedler, Canadian; Cameron Johnson, Pattonville Prairiland; Cody Lehmann, East Bernard; Isaiah Lira, Sonora; Jerrid Long, Merkel; Ethan Owens, Yoakum; Damion Rogers, Lone Oak; Jack Patton, Malakoff; Isaac Salinas, Mathis; Dillon Swaim, Bowie; Caleb Tucker, Childress; Brandon Wilkins, Cameron Yoe; Zakk Young, Brock.

DEFENSIVE BACKS: Scooter Adams, Hallettsville; Avery Archibald, Franklin; QT Barker, Malakoff; Kandon Bennett, Henrietta; Colton Brewer, Bangs; JaQuayln Crawford, Rockdale; Lucky Daniels, Crockett; Ryan Garrison, Lexington; Bryce Hammonds, Coleman; Levi May, Cameron Yoe; Dee Mitchell, Jefferson; Cade Orsak, Edna; Tyler Russell, Malakoff; Trey Schmidt, East Bernard; Trey Sterling, Sunnyvale; Ryan Walling, Wall.

Lee boys come back to beat Lamesa

From staff reports

LAMESA — Behind a 20-9 fourth-quarter run, Lee came back to defeat No. 17 Lamesa, 62-58, during Monday's non-district game at Lamesa Middle School.

Avery Chambers led the Rebels (5-10) with 15 points. Lee's Taye Britt contributed with 13 points, while teammate Cervante Eaden scored 11 points.

The Rebels overcame a 34-25 deficit at halftime, and they trailed 49-42 through three quarters.

Lamesa's Jaleel Edwards scored a game-high 19 points and Dre Smiley added 15 for the Golden Tors (12-2).

Lee, which is currently on a three-game winning streak, resumes play in the Byron Johnston Holiday Classic on Dec. 28.

LEE 62, LAMESA 58

Lee (5-10) — Taye Britt 13, Semaj'J Davis 8, Eron Pena 9, Avery Chambers 15, Cervante Eaden 11, Patrick Okimi 2, Juwon Packer 4

Lamesa (12-2) — Dre Smiley 15, Buddy Williams 7, Jordan Derington 2, Jaleel Edwards 19, TyQuail Maxwell 9, Keshawn Hunter 6

Lee	18	7	17	20	—62
Lamesa	20	14	15	9	—58

Free throws — Lee 7-15, Lamesa 8-16. 3-point goals — Lee 11 (Britt 3, Pena, Chambers 4, Eaden 3), Lamesa 3 (Smiley, Williams, Edwards). Total fouls — Lamesa 16, Lee 14. Fouled out — None.

Next: Lee in Byron Johnston Holiday Classic, Dec. 28; Colorado City at Lamesa, 6:30 p.m. Friday

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Jackson is a 10 month old Basset-Heeler mix. He has a lot of energy & loves to play with other dogs of similar size & energy. He had some housebreaking & crate training while in foster.

Ryan Tannehill's knee injury less serious than first feared

By Steven Wine
Associated Press

Associated Press

Miami Dolphins quarterback Ryan Tannehill (17) waves to fans as he is escorted off the field after he was injured, during the second half of a game against the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday in Miami Gardens, Fla.

DAVIE, Fla. — Big Spring High graduate Ryan Tannehill was back at the Miami Dolphins' complex Monday, his left knee injury less serious than first feared.

The injury was diagnosed as a sprained ACL and MCL, coach Adam Gase said, meaning Tannehill will avoid surgery.

It remains unlikely he'll play again this season, and Matt Moore will make his first start since 2011 on Saturday against the New York Jets.

When Tannehill was hurt Sunday against Arizona, the Dolphins (8-5) feared a torn ACL that would require surgery and a long, arduous rehabilitation. The Dolphins learned the final diagnosis late Sunday.

"Better than what we thought," Gase said. "I was happy for him. That's a hard injury to come back from and rehab. It's a long, long process."

ACL surgery generally requires at least a nine-month recovery. Gase said the Dolphins don't know how long Tannehill will be sidelined by the sprained knee, but it's questionable whether he would be available even deep into the postseason.

"It's not going to be one game," Gase said. "It will be longer than that."

Tannehill should be available to take part in the Dolphins' offseason program, however.

While he was at the team complex Monday, Moore was absent — his wife was having their third child. But he'll soon be cramming as the new No. 1 quarterback.

"Matt is going to go hard," teammate Byron Maxwell said. "He's going to go down fighting. He's not afraid of the moment. He's ready for it."

Tannehill limped out of Sunday's win in the third quarter after being hit by defensive tackle Calais Campbell as he released a completion. Miami led 21-9 when Tannehill was hurt and won 26-23 on a last-second field goal.

Rams fire coach Jeff Fisher after 42-14 loss to Falcons

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Jeff Fisher's tenure in Los Angeles didn't last one full season.

The Rams fired their coach on Monday. Special teams coordinator John Fassel will serve as interim coach. The Rams are at Seattle on Thursday night.

Fisher

Fisher was the team's coach since 2012, and compiled a 31-45-1 record with the Rams. He oversaw the move from St. Louis to Los Angeles this past offseason.

The lack of success on the field, capped by a 42-14 home rout at the hands of Atlanta on Sunday, spelled the end for Fisher, who tied Dan Reeves with 165 career regular-season defeats. That's the most in league history, and Fisher has the lowest winning percentage (.512) among coaches with 130-plus losses.

Los Angeles is 4-9 this season and has scored a league-low 194 points.

"Making a decision such as this, especially during the season, is one of the most difficult in sports," Rams owner Stan Kroenke said.

"I have great respect for Jeff as a coach, person, father and friend. He has worked tirelessly despite some challenging circumstances. He played an integral role in helping this team make history in returning the NFL to Los Angeles, and we always will be grateful for his commitment and dedication to our organization."

Fisher, 58, went 147-126 as coach of the Houston Oilers/Tennessee Titans and helped that franchise in its relocation. He led the Titans to the 1999 AFC championship.

Long respected in league circles for his work on the NFL's competition committee, Fisher never found success — or a franchise quarterback — with the Rams, who went 7-8-1, 7-9, 6-10 and 7-9 in his four full seasons.

They traded up for the first selection in this year's draft and took Cal's Jared Goff, but he rode the bench for much of the season behind journeyman Case Keenum as LA started the schedule 3-1.

Kroenke said in his statement that "this is the right time to make a change as our performance has not lived up to my or our fans' expectations. We all are focused on improving as an organization and building a team that makes Los Angeles proud. Our mission is to celebrate a Super Bowl title with our fans in Los Angeles. Today is the first step to bringing us closer to that goal."

Supreme Court leaves $1B NFL concussion settlement in place

By Jimmy Golen
Associated Press

The Supreme Court on Monday rejected the final two challenges to the estimated $1 billion settlement between the NFL and thousands of its former players who have been diagnosed with brain injuries linked to repeated concussions. Players who already have been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's or dementia could begin receiving payments in 90 to 120 days.

"The benefits process will finally move forward," said attorney Christopher Seeger, who represented the class of more than 20,000 retired NFL players now eligible for payments for the next 65 years.

The league has estimated that 6,000 former players — or nearly three in 10 — could develop Alzheimer's disease or moderate dementia. Payments could be as high as $5 million for those with Lou Gehrig's disease, also called amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS; the average payout is expected to be closer to $190,000.

"These courageous men and their families, who in the face of great adversity took on the NFL, have made history," Seeger said. "Despite the difficult health situations retired players face today, and that many more will unfortunately face in the future, they can take comfort in the fact that this settlement's significant and immediate benefits will finally become available to them and last for decades to come."

The class-action lawsuit filed in Philadelphia accused the NFL of hiding what it knew about the link between concussions and chronic traumatic encephalopathy, the degenerative brain disease that has been found in dozens of former players after their deaths. Senior U.S. District Judge Anita B. Brody approved the deal last year after twice sending it back to lawyers over concerns the fund might run out.

It was upheld by the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in April.

"This settlement will provide significant and immediate relief to retired players living with the lasting scars of a NFL career," Judge Thomas L. Ambro wrote for the unanimous three-judge panel that affirmed the settlement. "We must hesitate before rejecting that bargain based on an unsupported hope that sending the parties back to the negotiating table would lead to a better deal."

But two separate petitions — one from the family of late Buffalo Bills fullback Cookie Gilchrist, and the other from a group of 31 players that included including 1996 Super Bowl MVP Larry Brown and Hall of Famer Charles Haley — asked the nation's highest court to stop the settlement. Their requests for a Supreme Court hearing were rejected without comment from the justices on Monday.

As part of the settlement, the NFL admitted no fault, though a league official did acknowledge during congressional testimony that there is a link between football and CTE. The deal avoids the need for a trial and means the NFL may never have to disclose what it knew and when about the risks and treatment of repeated concussions.

Late Brady TD pass helps Patriots hold off Ravens 30-23

By Kyle Hightower
Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Tom Brady connected with Chris Hogan for a 79-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter to help the New England Patriots overcome a sloppy second half and claim a 30-23 win over the Baltimore Ravens on Monday night.

Brady threw for 406 yards and three touchdowns, becoming the fourth NFL quarterback with at least 450 career touchdown passes. He also threw just his second interception of the season.

LeGarrette Blount rushes for 72 yards on 18 carries, passing 1,000 yards for the first time since his rookie season with Tampa Bay in 2010.

The Patriots (11-2) have won four straight games and eight of their last nine as they continue to inch toward their eighth straight AFC East title.

The loss ends a two-game win streak for the Ravens (7-6), who now face a challenging route to the playoffs with two of their last three on the road.

Joe Flacco did his best to keep Baltimore in the game, finishing 37 of 52 for 324 yards, two touchdowns and an interception. The 37 completions set a franchise record.

The Patriots led 23-3 before the Ravens turned back-to-back New England fumbles on special teams into touchdowns.

NFL GLANCE

Standings

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East						
New England	11	2	0	.846	349	230
Miami	8	5	0	.615	281	301
Buffalo	6	7	0	.462	325	301
N.Y. Jets	4	9	0	.308	229	324
South						
Houston	7	6	0	.538	229	274
Tennessee	7	6	0	.538	321	306
Indianapolis	6	7	0	.462	328	333
Jacksonville	2	11	0	.154	240	338
North						
Pittsburgh	8	5	0	.615	317	256
Baltimore	7	6	0	.538	279	237
Cincinnati	5	7	1	.423	268	269
Cleveland	0	13	0	.000	207	375
West						
Kansas City	10	3	0	.769	302	255
Oakland	10	3	0	.769	358	320
Denver	8	5	0	.615	296	242
San Diego	5	8	0	.385	350	347
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
x-Dallas	11	2	0	.846	340	238
N.Y. Giants	9	4	0	.692	255	244
Washington	7	5	1	.577	330	317
Philadelphia	5	8	0	.385	290	272
South						
Atlanta	8	5	0	.615	428	345
Tampa Bay	8	5	0	.615	293	296
New Orleans	5	8	0	.385	358	351
Carolina	5	8	0	.385	311	337
North						
Detroit	9	4	0	.692	295	268
Green Bay	7	6	0	.538	333	312
Minnesota	7	6	0	.538	258	225
Chicago	3	10	0	.231	221	290
West						
Seattle	8	4	1	.654	274	232
Arizona	5	7	1	.423	299	277
Los Angeles	4	9	0	.308	194	304
San Francisco	1	12	0	.077	251	393

x-clinched playoff spot

Scores and schedules

Monday's Score
New England 30, Baltimore 23

Thursday's Game
Los Angeles at Seattle, 7:25 p.m.

Saturday's Game
Miami at N.Y. Jets, 7:25 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Philadelphia at Baltimore, noon
Cleveland at Buffalo, noon
Detroit at N.Y. Giants, noon
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, noon
Tennessee at Kansas City, noon
Green Bay at Chicago, noon
Indianapolis at Minnesota, noon
Jacksonville at Houston, noon
New Orleans at Arizona, 3:05 p.m.
San Francisco at Atlanta, 3:05 p.m.
New England at Denver, 3:25 p.m.
Oakland at San Diego, 3:25 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

Monday's Box

PATRIOTS 30, RAVENS 23

Baltimore	0	3	14	6	—23
New England	9	7	7	7	—30

First Quarter
NE—safety, 10:47.
NE—Blount 1 run (Gostkowski kick), 1:04.

Second Quarter
NE—Mitchell 6 pass from Brady (Gostkowski kick), 9:28.
Bal—FG Tucker 50, :11.

Third Quarter
NE—Bennett 19 pass from Brady (Gostkowski kick), 8:45.
Bal—Waller 3 pass from Flacco (Tucker kick), 6:50.
Bal—Dixon 8 pass from Flacco (Tucker kick), 5:24.

Fourth Quarter
Bal—FG Tucker 38, 6:35.
NE—Hogan 79 pass from Brady (Gostkowski kick), 6:18.
Bal—FG Tucker 37, 2:03.
A—66,829.

	Bal	NE
First downs	17	20
Total Net Yards	348	496
Rushes-yards	14-42	26-95
Passing	306	401
Punt Returns	1-12	2-7
Kickoff Returns	2-40	3-56
Interceptions Ret.	1-14	1-0
Comp-Att-Int	37-52-1	25-38-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-18	1-5
Punts	6-48.2	6-49.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-2
Penalties-Yards	8-47	5-48
Time of Possession	30:46	29:14

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Baltimore, Dixon 11-39, West 2-2, Flacco 1-1. New England, Blount 18-72, D.Lewis 3-14, Hogan 2-7, White 2-3, Brady 1-(minus 1).

PASSING—Baltimore, Flacco 37-52-1-324. New England, Brady 25-38-1-406.

RECEIVING—Baltimore, Dixon 8-42, Wallace 5-52, S.Smith 4-57, West 4-24, Pitta 4-18, Perriman 3-52, Juszczyk 3-46, Boyle 3-15, Aiken 1-10, Moore 1-5, Waller 1-3. New England, Edelman 7-73, Hogan 5-129, Bennett 4-70, Mitchell 4-41, White 3-61, Blount 1-7, D.Lewis 1-5.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

HS FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP PAIRINGS

CLASS 6A DIVISION I
State Championship
The Woodlands (15-0) vs. Lake Travis (14-1), 8 p.m. Saturday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 6A DIVISION II
State Championship
DeSoto (15-0) vs. Cibolo Steele (14-1), 4 p.m. Saturday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 5A DIVISION I
State Championship
Dallas Highland Park (13-2) vs. Temple (12-3), noon Saturday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 5A DIVISION II
State Championship
Aledo (15-0) vs. CC Calallen (14-1), 8 p.m. Friday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 4A DIVISION I
State Championship
Abilene Wylie (13-1) vs. Carthage (12-2), 4 p.m. Friday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 4A DIVISION II
State Championship
Sweetwater (13-1) vs. West Orange-Stark (15-0), noon Friday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 3A DIVISION I
State Championship
Mineola (13-2) vs. Yoakum (11-4), 8 p.m. Thursday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 3A DIVISION II
State Championship
Gunter (15-0) vs. Boling (13-2), 5 p.m. Thursday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 2A DIVISION I
State Championship
Crawford (14-1) vs. Refugio (14-1), 1 p.m. Thursday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 2A DIVISION II
State Championship
Iraan (15-0) vs. Bremond (15-0), 10 a.m. Thursday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 1A SIX-MAN DIVISION I
State Championship
Borden County (13-1) vs. Jonesboro (14-0), 7 p.m. Wednesday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

CLASS 1A SIX-MAN DIVISION II
State Championship
Balmorhea (14-0) vs. Richland Springs (14-0), 4 p.m. Wednesday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

TEXANS

From 1C

touchdown to reach 1,000 yards for the second time in his career and the defense forced three turnovers.

But the game wasn't without problems. The Texans came away with just one touchdown in five trips into the red zone, settling for field goals four other times.

"There's just some things as a team and as an offense that we need to do better, and everybody's involved, it's 11 guys and the coaching staff," O'Brien said.

"Whether it's a scheme or the execution or whatever it is we've all got to do a better job. We've got to improve in that area if we really want to be where we want to end up being. We can't be 1 for 5 in the red area. I think everybody understands that."

Perhaps the biggest bright spot of Sunday's win was the play of Jadeveon Clowney , who returned after sitting out last week with wrist and elbow injuries.

The top overall pick in the 2014 draft had a strip-sack of Andrew Luck late in the third quarter and helped cause an interception earlier in the quarter when Luck threw under heavy pressure from the defensive end.

"He plays very hard. He's been disruptive," O'Brien said. "I know a lot of people talk about that that was the best game and the most important play — and it was a great play that he made on the strip-sack, but there were so many other plays that he made in the game that were good, too."

The Texans have finished 9-7 in each of O'Brien's first two seasons and he believes that the experience of being in the playoff race in the past will help his team this season.

He also wants his players to know that he's there to help them improve each week.

"My role is to make sure that these guys know that ... we're all in it together and we're all working very hard for the same common goal," he said.

COWBOYS

From 1C

"You can make it as simple or complex as you want to make it," Garrett said Monday. "It's pretty simple for us. Dak's going to play quarterback as we go forward."

While Prescott failed his first December road test on a division rival's cold field, he gets two chances in his climate-controlled stadium to keep the Cowboys in control of their path to home-field advantage throughout the playoffs. Beat Tampa Bay and Detroit, and another potentially bone-chilling trip, the regular-season finale at Philadelphia, won't matter.

"He's a tough guy, he's a pro," fellow rookie Ezekiel Elliott, the NFL's leading rusher, said of Prescott. "He is going to get in that film room, take notes. He is going to listen to what coach tells him to do and take it the field next week and be prepared next Sunday."

Bryant had just one catch in each game against the Giants, and a fumble after the one at the Meadowlands ended Dallas' last realistic chance to come back. The 2014 All-Pro had a wistful look after his critical mistake, not the scowl he showed so often on the sideline earlier in his career.

"When things don't work, we still have the same mindset," Bryant said. "We just keep on pushing and keep on pushing. We don't think too big, and we don't think too small. We just play our game."

The Cowboys are playing with a smaller margin for error — for now.

NOTES: Garrett said the Cowboys planned to active RB Darren McFadden from the non-football injury list this week. The coach wouldn't say what role his leading rusher from last season would have. ... LB Jaylon Smith, the second-round pick taken after a serious knee injury in a bowl game at Notre Dame, will be placed on season-ending injured reserve, Garrett said. On the night he was drafted, it was considered unlikely Smith would play during his rookie season.

Who will be AP's college football Player of the Year?

Associated Press

The Associated Press has been handing out a college football player of the year award since 1998. Five times the AP's award has gone to a player other than the Heisman Trophy winner, including last year when Stanford's Christian McCaffrey beat out Alabama's Derrick Henry.

In the past the AP has asked its college football poll voters to cast a vote for one player it determines to be the best in college football. This season the AP used a Heisman-style system, asking voters to cast a ballot with a top three in order. First-place votes receive three points, two points for second and one for third. The winner is the player who receives the most points.

The AP player of the year will be announced today. Here are the top three vote-getters in alphabetical order:

Jonathan Allen, DL, Alabama: Allen has 56 tackles, 8.5 sacks, 15 quarterback hurries and returned two fumbles for touchdowns. He won the Bronco Nagurski Award given to the nation's top defensive player. The 293-pound junior has been a dominant player on the nation's best defense for the No. 1 team in the country. Alabama leads the country in total defense, scoring defense and rush defense. The defending national champions will play No. 4 Washington in College Football Playoff semifinal at the Peach Bowl.

Lamar Jackson, QB, Louisville: The Heisman Trophy winner has run for 21 touchdowns, thrown 30 TD passes and is averaging 410 total yards per game. He threw for 3,390 yards, and ran for 1,538 yards and 6.6 per carry. Jackson led the 15th-ranked Cardinals to a 9-3 season and an invitation to the Citrus Bowl to play No. 19 LSU.

Deshaun Watson, QB, Clemson: The Heisman runner-up and Davey O'Brien Award winner as the nation's top quarterback led the Tigers to the College Football Playoff for the second straight season. The junior passed for 3,914 yards and 37 touchdowns and run for 529 and six touchdowns. No. 3 Clemson will face No. 2 Ohio State in the College Football Playoff semifinal at the Fiesta Bowl.

APPLEWHITE

From 1C

Under Applewhite's direction, the Cougars gained more than 500 yards 11 times and passed the 600-yard mark four times. The offense piled up 40 points 12 times and scored at least 50 points five other occasions in the past two seasons.

Applewhite spent seven seasons as an assistant at Texas before joining Herman's staff. He was the co-offensive coordinator in his last four seasons with the Longhorns after working as assistant head coach for the first three seasons. In his time with the Longhorns he focused on working with quarterbacks and running backs.

Before joining the Longhorns, Applewhite spent the 2007 season as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Alabama, a season where he was the youngest coordinator in the FBS. It was there that he found his most important mentor among many who have influenced him as a coach.

"Working a year with Nick Saban. I just think he's in the major leagues and a lot of people are playing farm-A ball," he said. "He is ahead of the game. Just his organization, that hand he has in everything, the way he distributes roles and gives everybody a sense of purpose and a sense of motivation when they walk in the office."

TEAM

From 1C

lead a defense that ranks second in the nation in rushing defense at 2.83 yards per carry.

Promotions

Elflein was one of three players who made the second team last season to make the first team this season. Florida State running back Dalvin Cook and Michigan cornerback Jourdan Lewis also earned promotions.

There were no players who repeated as first-team All-Americans.

Demotions

Watson went from first-team All-America last season as a sophomore to second this year and Stanford running back Christian McCaffrey did the same. McCaffrey was first-team as an all-purpose player last year and a second-team pick at running back this season.

First-Timer

Western Michigan receiver Corey Davis is the first player in school history to be an AP first-team All-American.

Conference Call

Players on first team broken down by conference

SEC — 8
Big Ten — 7
Pac-12 — 4
ACC — 2
Big 12 — 2
American — 1
MAC — 1

THE TEAMS
FIRST TEAM
OFFENSE

Quarterback — Lamar Jackson, sophomore, 6-foot-3, 205 pounds, Louisville
Running backs — D'Onta Foreman, junior, 6-2, 240, Texas; Dalvin Cook, junior, 5-11, 213, Florida State
Tackles — Cam Robinson, junior, 6-6, 310, Alabama; Ryan Ramczyk, junior, 6-6, 314, Wisconsin
Guards — Cody O'Connell, junior, 6-8, 354, Washington State; Dan Feeney, senior, 6-4, 305, Indiana
Center — Pat Elflein, senior, 6-3, 300, Ohio State
Tight end — Evan Engram, senior, 6-3, 235, Mississippi
Wide receivers — Dede Westbrook, senior, 6-0, 176, Oklahoma; Corey Davis, senior, 6-3, 213, Western Michigan
All-purpose player — Curtis Samuel, junior, 5-11, 197, Ohio State
Kicker — Zane Gonzalez, senior, 6-1, 195, Arizona State

DEFENSE

Ends — Myles Garrett, junior, 6-5, 270, Texas A&M; Derek Barnett, junior, 6-3, 265, Tennessee
Tackles — Jonathan Allen, junior, 6-3, 291, Alabama; Ed Oliver, freshman, 6-2, 290, Houston
Linebackers — Reuben Foster, senior, 6-1, 228, Alabama; Zach Cunningham, junior, 6-2, 230, Vanderbilt; Jabrill Peppers, junior, 6-1, 205, Michigan
Cornerbacks — Jourdan Lewis, senior, 5-11, 186, Michigan; Adoree' Jackson, junior, 5-11, 185, Southern California
Safeties — Malik Hooker, sophomore, 6-2, 205, Ohio State; Minkah Fitzpatrick, sophomore, 6-1, 200, Alabama
Punter — Mitch Wishnpwsky, sophomore, 6-2, 220, Utah

SECOND TEAM
OFFENSE

Quarterback — Deshaun Watson, junior, Clemson
Running backs — Donnel Pumphrey, senior, San Diego State; Christian McCaffrey, junior, Stanford
Tackles — Connor Williams, sophomore, Texas; Orlando Brown, sophomore, Oklahoma
Guards — Billy Price, junior, Ohio State; Will Hernandez, junior, UTEP
Center — Tyler Orlosky, senior, West Virginia
Tight end — Jake Butt, senior, Michigan
Wide receivers — Zay Jones, senior, East Carolina; John Ross, junior, Washington
All-purpose player — Quadree Henderson, sophomore, Pitt
Kicker — Daniel Carlson, junior, Auburn

DEFENSE

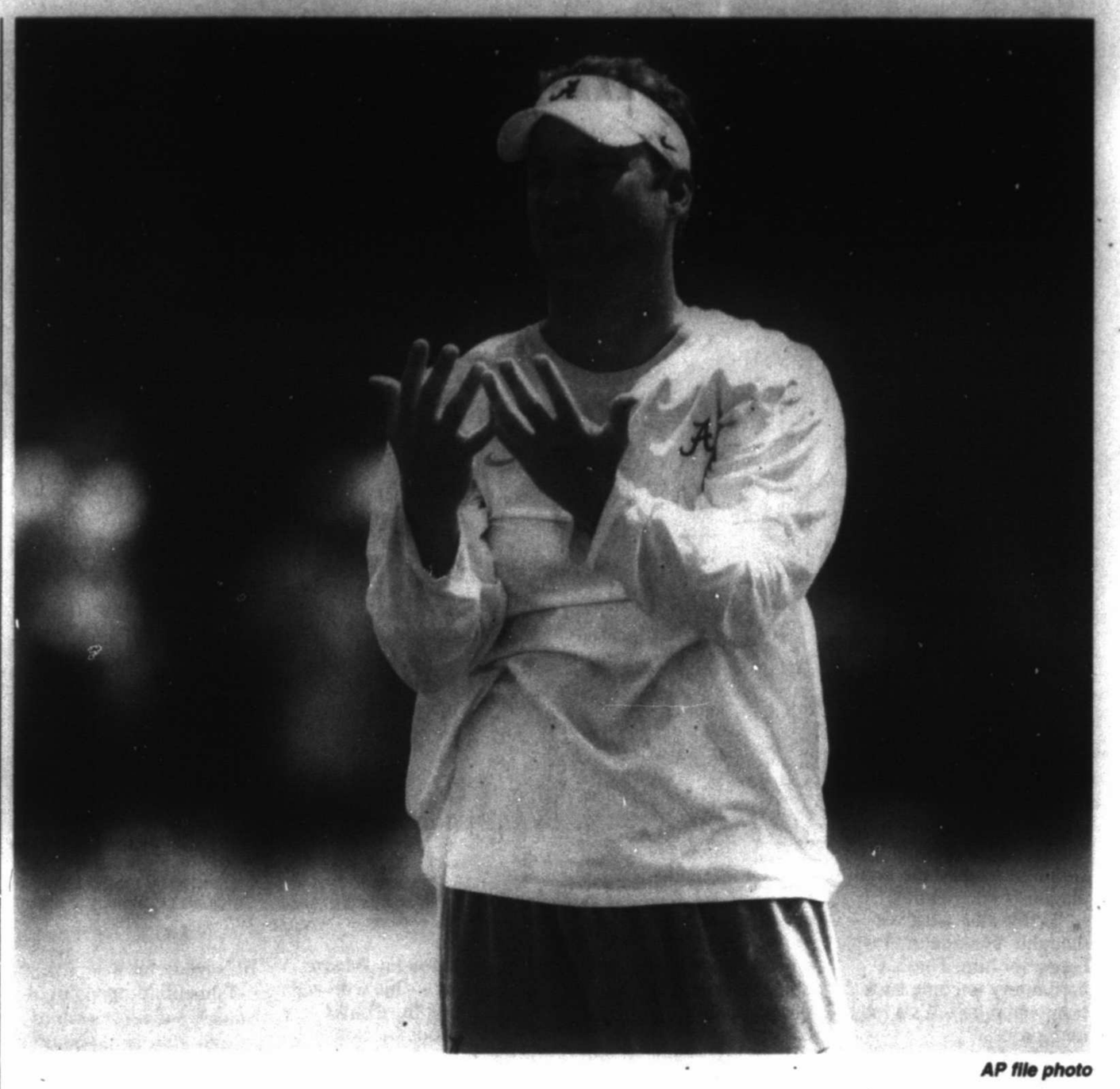
Ends — DeMarcus Walker, senior, Florida State; Harold Landry, junior, Boston College
Tackles — Carlos Watkins, senior, Clemson; Montrevius Adams, senior, Auburn
Linebackers — Raekwon McMillan, junior, Ohio State; T.J. Watt, junior, Wisconsin; Tim Williams, senior, Alabama
Cornerbacks — Rasul Douglas, senior, West Virginia; Desmond King, senior, Iowa
Safeties — Budda Baker, junior, Washington; Jamal Adams, junior, LSU
Punter — Cameron Johnston, senior, Ohio State

THIRD TEAM
OFFENSE

Quarterback — Baker Mayfield, junior, Oklahoma
Running backs — Saquon Barkley, sophomore, Penn State; Aaron Jones, junior, UTEP
Tackles — Mike McGlinchey, senior, Notre Dame; Forrest Lamp, senior, Western Kentucky
Guards — Nico Siragusa, senior, San Diego State; Quenton Nelson, junior, Notre Dame
Center — Ethan Pocic, senior, LSU
Tight end — O.J. Howard, senior, Alabama
Wide receivers — Amba Etta-Tawo, senior, Syracuse; Austin Carr, senior, Northwestern
All-purpose player — Christian Kirk, sophomore, Texas A&M
Kicker — Gary Wunderlich, junior, Mississippi

DEFENSE

Ends — Hunter Dimick, senior, Utah; Jordan Willis, senior, Kansas State
Tackles — Christian Wilkins, sophomore, Clemson; Solomon Thomas, junior, Stanford
Linebackers — Kendell Beckwith, senior, LSU; Jimmie Gilbert, senior, Colorado; Ben Boulware, senior, Clemson
Cornerbacks — Tez Tabor, junior, Florida; Cordrea Tankersley, senior, Clemson
Safeties — Nathan Gerry, senior, Nebraska; Weston Steelhammer, senior, Air Force
Punter — Michael Dickson, sophomore, Texas



AP file photo

Alabama offensive coordinator Lane Kiffin works with his players during practice in Tuscaloosa, Ala., on Aug. 6. A person with direct knowledge of the situation tells The Associated Press that Alabama offensive coordinator Lane Kiffin has agreed in principle to become the next coach at Florida Atlantic.

Nick Saban: Lane Kiffin leaving Alabama, going to FAU

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

BOCA RATON, Fla. — Lane Kiffin has a chance to help Alabama get to 15 wins this season. And then he's going to take over the reins of a program that has won 15 games in the last four years.

Florida Atlantic and Kiffin have agreed in principle on a deal that will make him the school's next head coach. Alabama coach Nick Saban — Kiffin's soon-to-be-former boss — lauded the Owls' move, and said Kiffin will remain with the undefeated and top-ranked Crimson Tide as their offensive coordinator through the College Football Playoff.

"FAU has selected someone that's going to do a great job for them," Saban said in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, at a news conference to promote the upcoming Peach Bowl.

Saban was the first person to publicly announce the move; FAU and Kiffin remained silent Monday, even after the news broke. A person with direct knowledge of the talks between Kiffin and the Owls told The Associated Press that he agreed to a five-year contract, and that the school was in the process of making things official. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because neither side had discussed the hiring.

"I'm ready to start next season already," FAU offensive lineman Matt Murphy tweeted after word of Kiffin's hiring.

A message left for Kiffin was not immediately returned.

Kiffin has been the offensive coordinator at Alabama for the last three seasons, helping the Crimson Tide win last season's national championship and get back to the CFP field with a 13-0 record so far this year. FAU will be his third collegiate head coaching job, and the first since USC fired him five games into the 2013 season.

"Lane's done a phenomenal job for us for the last three years," Saban said. "We appreciate the impact that he's made on this program. We think this is a wonderful opportunity for him to be a head coach again."

Saban said in recent days that he wanted to help Kiffin get another opportunity to be a head coach. It wasn't clear if Kiffin would have been back at Alabama next season otherwise.

"They've made a great hire," Saban said of FAU.

So begins the next chapter for Kiffin, who has been an annual fixture on lists of potential candidates for high-profile coaching jobs. Earlier this fall, he interviewed for the Houston job and was also believed to be a candidate at places such as Oregon and South Florida.

Kiffin interviewed with Houston twice, the school's board of regents chairman told KILT-AM radio in Houston.

"Sure, he's been a head coach and he's been an OK head coach," Houston board of regents chairman Tilman Fertitta told KILT-AM in an interview last week, when he called in to discuss how he personally interviewed Kiffin for the Cougars' opening. "But I can tell you this — it was not a safe hire."

FAU, which hasn't been to a bowl game since 2008, came to a different conclusion.

FAU and Kiffin had their dialogue intensify late last week, although the pairing seemed somewhat unexpected. Kiffin made $1.4 million this season at Alabama; FAU was paying Charlie Partridge a bit over $500,000 annually when he was fired after his third consecutive 3-9 season.

FAU President John Kelly has wanted to continue raising the school's profile, including on the athletic fronts. And hiring Kiffin is the sort of splashy move that will certainly get the Owls plenty of attention.

"Owl Nation is Soaring High!" Kelly tweeted on Monday. "Unbridled Ambition."

Kiffin lasted 20 games as coach of the Oakland Raiders in 2007 and 2008, going 5-15.

He returned to college ball and was 7-6 in 2009, his lone season at Tennessee. And he went 28-15 in parts of four seasons at USC.

Kiffin becomes the third marquee head-coaching hire in the state of Florida in recent weeks. FIU hired former Miami and North Carolina coach Butch Davis in November, and former Louisville and Texas coach Charlie Strong was hired Sunday at South Florida.

They'll all face in-state recruiting battles against Miami coach Mark Richt, Florida State coach Jimbo Fisher, Florida coach Jim McElwain and Central Florida coach Scott Frost.

Kansas rewards Beaty with contract extension

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

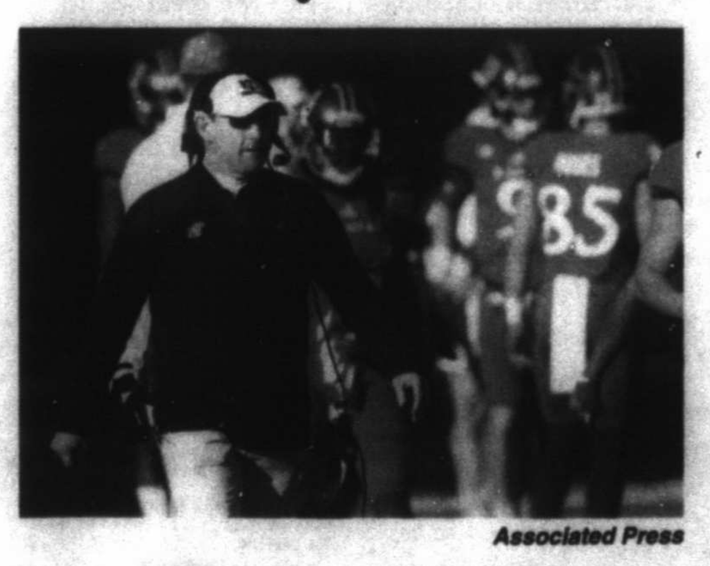
LAWRENCE, Kan. — Two wins earned David Beaty at least two more years at Kansas.

Earned him a hefty raise, too.

The school rewarded the second-year coach for modest but tangible signs of progress Monday with a two-year contract extension that could keep him at the Big 12 school through the 2021 season. The deal also takes his salary to $1.6 million in the first year with an additional $100,000 each succeeding year.

Beaty had been among the worst-paid coaches in power-five conferences, making $800,000 last season.

"This shows our appreciation for Coach Beaty, his staff and our players," Kansas athletic director Sheahon Zenger said. "I have enjoyed watching their progress during this season. We want to capitalize on the momentum we all saw as the season came to a close. This reflects our belief in Coach Beaty's leadership, and the energy and enthusiasm that we see every day from him and his players."



Associated Press

Kansas head coach David Beaty walks during the first half of a game against Texas in Lawrence, Kan., on Nov. 19.

Beaty's contract extension includes additional incentive payments for achievements including conference championships, bowl victories and coach-of-the-year honors.

"I am appreciative of Dr. Zenger and our administration's show of support," said Beaty, who is expected to speak with reporters Wednesday. "He and his staff have gone above and beyond to give us everything we need to build our program."

The program was a wreck when Beaty arrived two years ago.

Turner Gill had failed to reach the same heights that Mark Mangino reached before his firing, and all Charlie Weis managed to accomplish over parts of three campaigns was to win six games and leave the program lacking talent when he was let go midway through the 2014 season.

Weis gambled with Division I and junior college transfers that not only didn't pan out, but also left Beaty and his coaching staff with scholarship numbers well off the national average.

Beaty, who arrived from Texas A&M and has deep ties to Texas high schools, hit the recruiting trail. Selling only his vision and the promise of future success, he has managed to increase the talent level and build enough depth that the Jayhawks were finally competitive in Big 12 play.

The Jayhawks nearly beat TCU, falling 24-23, and went toe-to-toe with Iowa State before a breakthrough win over Texas. It was their first over the Longhorns since 1938 and snapped a 19-game Big 12 skid.

Texas coach Charlie Strong was fired soon after the defeat. Beaty ultimately got an extension soon after the win.

"Our staff and players have worked diligently to lay a strong foundation for the years to come," Beaty said. "While we have certainly made some progress, we still have work to do to get to where we ultimately want to be and we look forward to continuing to take on that challenge. I am excited about the future of this program and am very honored to be the man leading it."

Associated Press

John Fuller, attorney for Cardell Hayes, leaves Orleans Parish Criminal District Court after the verdict Hayes' murder trial in New Orleans on Sunday.

Prosecutor wants 60-year sentence for ex-Saint's killer

By Kevin McGill
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — New Orleans' district attorney said he'll seek 60 years in prison for the man who killed New Orleans Saints star Will Smith — the maximum 40 years for manslaughter, plus another 20 years for attempted manslaughter in the wounding of Smith's wife.

"We will do our gut-level best to get the judge to impose the maximum sentence of 60 years," Leon Cannizzaro told reporters Monday.

Cardell Hayes was found guilty Sunday night after insisting that he only fired because the retired NFL player was drunk and violent and had grabbed a gun following their collision in traffic last April.

No one else testified Smith ever held a gun. A loaded .9-mm semi-automatic handgun was found loaded but unused inside Smith's car.

Smith, a 34-year-old father of three, was a defensive leader on the Saints team that lifted spirits in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005. He helped carry the team to a winning season in 2006 and a Super Bowl victory four years later.

His death in a dispute over traffic was shocking, even for a city with a high rate of homicides.

Hayes, 29, will be sentenced on Feb. 17. State Judge Camille Buras will have the option of imposing less than the maximum sentences, and could order them served concurrently. But the D.A. said the crime warrants maximum sentences, served one after the other.

Hayes would have faced a mandatory life sentence had he been found guilty as charged of second-degree murder, and Raquel Smith will press for a harsh sentence when she gives her victim impact statement before the sentencing, according to a statement from the family.

"It's very unfortunate that another child will grow up without a father," said Raquel Smith's lawyer, Peter Thomson, referring to Hayes' 6-year-old son. "But Mr. Hayes, regardless of that, must face the consequences of his actions under our system of laws."

Friends and relatives of Hayes, a former semi-pro football player who owns a towing company, left court without commenting Sunday night.

Hayes' defense said Smith's popularity led to a rush to judgment by police and prosecutors. Assistant District Attorney Laura Rodrigue countered that the defense was trying to smear Smith.

A pathologist report showed Smith was legally drunk that night, after spending time at the city's annual French Quarter Festival, a bar and two restaurants. He was driving with his wife and another couple, who were traveling with a group of friends in several cars — when his Mercedes SUV may have lightly bumped Hayes' Hummer.

Smith then drove off, with Hayes in pursuit. Hayes vehemently denied intentionally ramming the SUV moments later — he said he was trying to dial 911 to report a hit-and-run and didn't realize how close their cars were.

The jury appeared to agree with Hayes on this point, finding him not guilty of aggravated criminal damage to property.

Cannizzaro said Monday that Smith's apparent anger and his high blood-alcohol level were likely factors in the jury's decision to hand up a lesser verdict than murder. But, he said he was satisfied with the two convictions, each reached on a 10-2 vote of the 12-member jury.

Hayes said he armed himself only after he and his own passenger were accosted by Smith and Richard Hernandez, a passenger in Smith's Mercedes.

NCAA not anticipating any big changes to NCAA Tournament

By John Marshall
Associated Press

PHOENIX — The NCAA Tournament has gone through some massive changes in recent years, the biggest being an expansion to 68 teams.

Don't expect any more big changes anytime soon.

Though there are annual quibbles about which teams should make the field, the format for one of the biggest spectacles in sports works and the NCAA has no interest in messing with it.

"Over the past many, many decades, the core is really solid, so it's what can we do to enhance it without taking away from that core," Mark Hollis, chair of the NCAA's Division I men's basketball committee, said Monday.

"Because of the intricacies of the NCAA Tournament, I would challenge that's something you wouldn't want to touch. We live in a society where we want to change, improve everything, but the core of it is pretty good."

The NCAA Tournament field expanded from 53 to 64 teams in 1985, a format that remained in place until a play-in game was added in 2001 and expanded the bracket to 65 teams.

A big change came in 2011, when the NCAA Tournament expanded the field to 68 teams, with the last four to get into the tournament playing in the First Four.

The larger field has helped increase the chances for upsets, which have come fast and furious over the past several seasons.

The audience has expanded with the field; the 2015 NCAA Tournament was the most-watched in 22 years, averaging 11.3 million viewers.

"Is it (expansion) possible in the future? Sure, anything's possible, but I don't see that in the short term," said Dan Gavitt, NCAA vice president of men's basketball championships. "The core of it and the thing that makes it so incredibly popular is what's protected by this committee, so by and large the traditions that make March Madness the way it is will stay."

The NCAA has discussed moving the First Four from Dayton, Ohio, or at least expanding it to two sites, but has had a hard time justifying it.

Since becoming the First Four site in 2011, Dayton has been a perfect host. The teams are selected on Sunday and the games are Tuesday night, but the city is always ready and the games usually sell out despite the short turnaround.

Playing games at a second site would make it easier for teams in the West travel-wise, but it may come under the category of why fix what's not broken.

"That's the X factor: If we you move it, consider another location, can they deliver that incredible college basketball feel and experience?" Gavitt said. "It's a risk because you don't know. Some of the other places where we have first and second rounds somewhat depend on what teams are playing there. That's always going to be the trick when it comes to First Four."

The NCAA is looking at changes to the regional rounds of the NCAA Tournament.

The tournament's first weekend is exciting, the games spread across the country and upsets coming at every turn. The Final Four has its own vibe with a national championship on the line and so many other activities surrounding the games.

The regional rounds determine which teams will play in the Final Four, but often don't get the hype of the tournament's first and third weekends.

To enhance the regionals, the NCAA is looking at making those games more of a stand-alone event like the Final Four by adding concerts and fan experiences to go along with the games.

"It'll never approach the size and scope of the Final Four, but for those fans, those four teams in those three days are arguably as good as the Final Four the following weekend, depending on who the teams are," Gavitt said. "So to make it a bigger and more exciting event for that locality would make it special."

NBA ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

MAVERICKS 112
NUGGETS 92

DALLAS — Wesley Matthews scored 25 points and the last-place Dallas Mavericks enjoyed a rare blowout, beating the listless Denver Nuggets 112-92 on Monday night.

Harrison Barnes had 18 points for the Mavericks, who led 65-43 at the break. They expanded the margin to their biggest of the season at 28 points in the third quarter and won consecutive home games for the first time in an injury-plagued season.

The NBA's worst-shooting team coming in at 41.5 percent, Dallas shot 65 percent in the first half and a season-high 58 percent for the game. The Mavericks were 12 of 26 from 3-point range after missing six of their first seven.

The Nuggets were finishing a season-long six-game road trip and played like it, shooting 42 percent and their starters were outscored 80-37. Backup center Nikola Jokic led Denver with a season-high 27 points and 12 rebounds.

ROCKETS 122
NETS 118

HOUSTON — James Harden had 36 points, 11 assists and eight rebounds to lead the Houston Rockets to their seventh straight win, 122-118 over the Brooklyn Nets on Monday night.

Eric Gordon scored 24 points on 6-for-10 shooting on 3-pointers, and Ryan Anderson added 19 for the Rockets. Houston shot 17 for 43 on 3s, making at least 10 for an NBA-record 24th straight game.

Brook Lopez scored 26 points and Sean Kilpatrick added 17 for the Nets.

Jeremy Lin returned to action for Brooklyn for the first time since Nov. 2 when he suffered a strained left hamstring. Although Lin did not start, he played 20 minutes off the bench, scoring 10 points.

Brooklyn trailed for much of the game until Joe Harris tied it at 118 with a layup with less than 40 seconds remaining.

HEAT 112
WIZARDS 101

MIAMI — Goran Dragic sat out almost the entire third quarter after picking up his fourth foul, and that's when the Miami Heat saw control of yet another game start to slip away.

Dragic made sure that was a temporary problem.

He scored 13 of his season-high 34 points in the fourth quarter, and Miami beat the Washington Wizards 112-101 to snap a five-game losing streak.

"We want him to make a lot of plays for our team," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "We have great confidence in him. I think he's really comfortable right now and we want to keep him in this place. He's driving so much of what we're doing right now offensively."

RAPTORS 122
BUCKS 100

TORONTO — DeMar DeRozan scored 30 points, Terrence Ross added 25 and the Toronto Raptors beat the Milwaukee Bucks for the sixth straight time, 122-100 on Monday night.

Jonas Valanciunas had 13 rebounds and 11 points for his team-leading seventh double-double of the season as the Raptors won for the 12th time in the last 13 meetings with the Bucks.

Giannis Antetokounmpo had a team-high 30 points and Jabari Parker chipped in with 27 as Milwaukee lost its third straight.

DeRozan's free throw put the Raptors ahead for good with 2:52 left in the first quarter and they extended the lead to 26 in the second quarter.

The Bucks pulled within eight in the final minute of the third on two free throws by Malcolm Brogdon.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES AND POLLS

Scores

MEN

SOUTHWEST

Texas Rio Grande Valley 98, North Florida 84

SOUTH

Catawba 80, Johnson C. Smith 77
George Mason 97, Longwood 60
Louisiana-Monroe 72, Blue Mountain 41
Maryland 92, Jacksonville St. 66
Penn 58, UCF 49
Pfeiffer 117, St. Andrews 109
SE Louisiana 108, Florida A&M 69
South Florida 79, Bethune-Cookman 73
Trevecca Nazarene 64, Ala.-Huntsville 63

MIDWEST

Clarke 94, Emmaus Bible 60
IUPUI 109, Urbana 67

EAST

Boston College 72, Auburn 71
Canisius 77, Albany (NY) 64
Lehigh 100, St. Francis (Pa.) 67
Shepherd 78, Chestnut Hill 57
Stonehill 83, St. Rose 71
West Chester 91, Wilmington (Del.) 78

WOMEN

SOUTHWEST

Cent. Arkansas 94, Central Baptist 47

SOUTH

Ala.-Huntsville 71, Trevecca Nazarene 55
Charleston Southern 55, Georgia Southern 54
Kentucky Wesleyan 70, Fisk 45
MVSU 66, Blue Mountain 40
Murray St. 93, MacMurray 37
New Orleans 100, Trinity Baptist 35
Oregon 87, Clemson 59
SC-Upstate 73, SC State 67
South Alabama 55, Southern U. 48
Spring Hill 56, William Carey 46
St. Francis (Pa.) 70, Coastal Carolina 59

FAR WEST

UNLV 82, UC Irvine 46

MIDWEST

Milwaukee Engineering 60, Maranatha Baptist 34
Monmouth (NJ) 75, E. Michigan 66
N. Dakota St. 93, Mayville St. 44
St. Thomas (Minn.) 81, Wis.-LaCrosse 45
William Penn 81, Lindenwood (Ill.) 68
Wis.-River Falls 67, Hamilton 60

EAST

Albany (NY) 85, LIU Post 61
Columbia 66, LIU Brooklyn 57
Maryland 79, Loyola (Md.) 60
Sacred Heart 62, Siena 58
Stockton 70, Gwynedd Mercy 67

Polls

AP Top 25 Men

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 11, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Villanova (56)	10-0	1613	1
2. UCLA (3)	10-0	1505	2
3. Kansas	9-1	1455	3
4. Baylor (6)	8-0	1439	4
5. Duke	10-1	1391	5
6. Kentucky	9-1	1277	6
7. North Carolina	10-1	1222	7
8. Gonzaga	10-0	1195	8
9. Indiana	8-1	1124	9
10. Creighton	10-0	1043	10
11. Louisville	9-1	981	11
12. West Virginia	8-1	864	15
13. Virginia	8-1	848	14
14. Wisconsin	9-2	779	17
15. Purdue	8-2	652	18
16. South Carolina	8-0	598	19
17. Xavier	8-2	526	13
18. Butler	9-1	492	16
19. Arizona	8-2	436	20
20. Saint Mary's (Cal)	7-1	391	12
21. Notre Dame	9-1	310	23
22. Oregon	8-2	251	24
23. Florida St.	10-1	227	-
24. Southern Cal	9-0	158	-
25. Cincinnati	7-2	155	22

Others receiving votes: Florida 44, Wichita St. 33, Virginia Tech 32, Maryland 31, Valparaiso 9, TCU 8, Middle Tennessee 7, Minnesota 6, Miami 6, Kansas St 4, UCF 2, Michigan St. 2, Syracuse 2, Ohio St. 2, Pittsburgh 2, Clemson 1, Loyola of Chicago 1, Iowa St. 1.

USA Today Top 25 Men

The top 25 teams in the USA Today men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 11, points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Villanova (28)	10-0	798	1
2. UCLA (2)	10-0	750	2
3. Kansas (1)	9-1	712	3
4. Duke (1)	10-1	690	4
5. Baylor	8-0	657	6
6. North Carolina	10-1	634	5
7. Kentucky	9-1	628	7
8. Gonzaga	10-0	602	8
9. Indiana	8-1	534	9
10. Creighton	10-0	526	10
11. Louisville	9-1	449	13
12. Virginia	8-1	432	12
13. West Virginia	8-1	423	16
14. Wisconsin	9-2	346	17
15. South Carolina	8-0	320	18
16. Purdue	8-2	305	19
17. Xavier	8-2	258	14
18. Butler	9-1	257	15
19. Arizona	8-2	220	20
20. Saint Mary's	7-1	192	11
21. Notre Dame	9-1	180	22
22. Oregon	8-2	122	24
23. Cincinnati	7-2	61	23
23. Florida State	10-1	61	—
25. Southern Cal	9-0	51	—

Others receiving votes: Florida 48, Wichita State 29, Maryland 23, Syracuse 16, Virginia Tech 14, Miami 13, Michigan tate 9, Arkansas 7, California 7, Oklahoma State 7, Colorado 5, Iowa State 4, Michigan 3, Middle Tennessee 3, TCU 2, Texas A&M 2, Minnesota 1, Texas-Arlington 1.

AP Top 25 Women

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 11, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. UConn (33)	9-0	825	1
2. Notre Dame	9-1	784	2
3. Baylor	10-1	781	3
4. Maryland	10-0	742	4
5. Mississippi St.	9-0	676	5
6. South Carolina	7-1	657	6
7. Florida St.	10-1	625	7
8. Louisville	8-2	574	8
9. UCLA	7-1	565	9
10. Stanford	8-1	520	10
11. Washington	10-1	490	11
12. Ohio St.	8-3	424	12
13. Miami	8-1	415	14
14. West Virginia	10-0	406	13
15. Colorado	9-0	286	18
16. Texas	3-4	268	17
17. DePaul	6-3	225	16
18. Duke	10-1	217	21
19. Kentucky	7-3	189	15
20. Oklahoma	7-2	187	19
21. Syracuse	8-3	162	20
22. South Florida	7-0	153	22
23. Arizona St.	6-2	137	—
24. Virginia Tech	10-0	112	25
25. Oregon	8-1	75	—

Others receiving votes: Oregon St. 68, Green Bay 49, Kansas St 44, California 29, Florida 23, Oklahoma St. 15, Northwestern 10, Texas A&M 9, Southern Cal 9, Auburn 7, Gonzaga 4, Vanderbilt 1, UNLV 1, Michigan St. 1.

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	17	7	.708	—
New York	14	10	.583	3
Boston	13	11	.542	4
Brooklyn	6	17	.261	10½
Philadelphia	6	18	.250	11

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Charlotte	14	11	.560	—
Atlanta	12	12	.500	1½
Orlando	10	15	.400	4
Washington	9	14	.391	4
Miami	8	17	.320	6

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	19	5	.792	—
Houston	18	7	.720	1½
Memphis	17	8	.680	2½
New Orleans	8	17	.320	11½
Dallas	6	18	.250	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	19	5	.792	—
Houston	17	7	.708	2
Memphis	17	8	.680	2½
New Orleans	8	17	.320	11½
Dallas	5	18	.217	13½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	15	9	.625	—
Utah	15	10	.600	½
Portland	12	13	.480	3½
Denver	9	16	.360	6½
Minnesota	6	18	.250	9

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	21	4	.840	—
L.A. Clippers	17	7	.708	3½
L.A. Lakers	10	16	.385	11½
Sacramento	8	15	.348	12
Phoenix	7	17	.292	13½

Scores and schedule

Monday's Scores

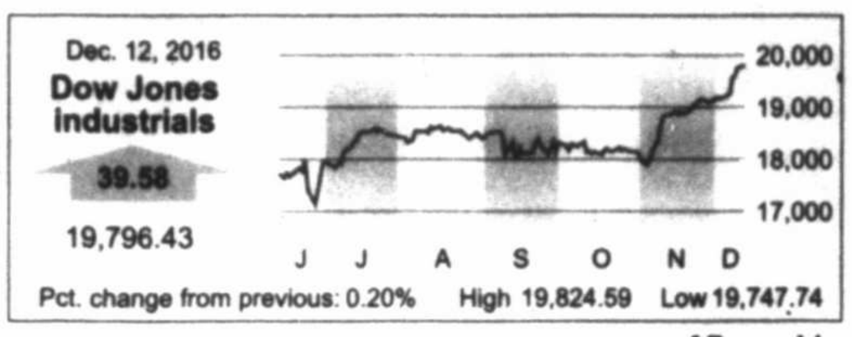
Indiana 110, Charlotte 94
Miami 112, Washington 101
Toronto 122, Milwaukee 100
Houston 122, Brooklyn 118
Dallas 112, Denver 92
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, late
Portland at L.A. Clippers, late

Today's Games

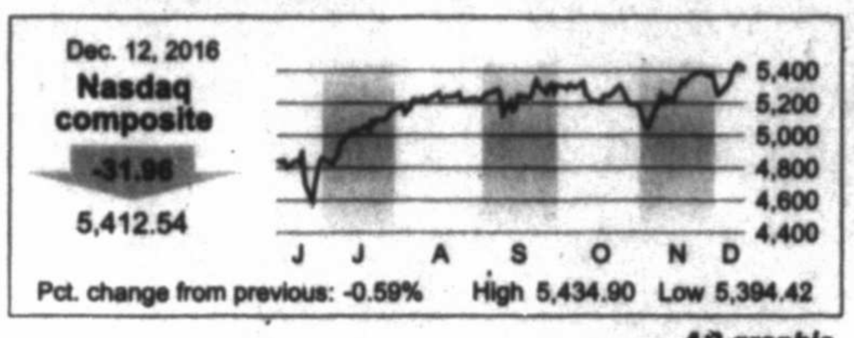
Memphis at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
Orlando at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Golden State at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago, 7 p.m.
New York at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Portland, 9:30 p.m.

BUSINESS & OIL

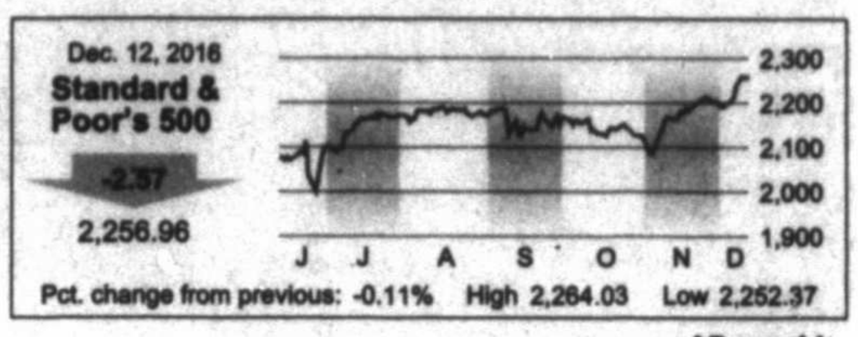
A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



AP graphic



AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Monday:	$52.83
Previous:	$51.50

POSTED

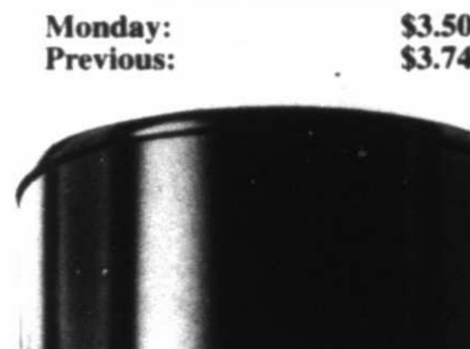
Monday:	$49.25
Previous:	$48.00

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Monday:	$45.35
Previous:	$44.10

NATURAL GAS

Monday:	$3.507
Previous:	$3.746



Oil cuts in world's top market didn't need OPEC deal

Bloomberg

Malaysia and Brunei are doing their bit for the global pact to rebalance oil markets, but the biggest production cuts in Asia are coming from a country that didn't sign up.

China, the world's fifth-biggest producer last year, has reduced output by about 300,000 barrels a day this year, more than the combined cuts announced Saturday by non-OPEC countries, excluding Russia, as part of a deal coordinated with the producer group. The decline is expected to continue next year, with Chinese production shrinking as much as 200,000 barrels a day, according to consultant Energy Aspects Ltd.

"We're seeing a natural decline in China oil production as fields are very mature and depletion rates are high," said Virendra Chauhan, a Singapore-based oil analyst at industry consultant Energy Aspects Ltd. "The price level we had in last 12 to 18 months has incentivized imports over spending on domestic production."

China's output slumped as state-owned firms shut wells at mature fields that are too expensive to operate amid last year's price crash. Production during the first 10 months of the year averaged about 4 million barrels a day, down about 7 percent from the same period last year, according to Bloomberg calculations based on National Bureau of Statistics data.

Malaysia and Brunei were the only Asian nations in the group of producers outside the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries that agreed to cut output by a combined 558,000 barrels a day starting Jan. 1. The region will use 32.88 million barrels a day of oil this year, accounting for more than a third of global consumption, according to data from the International Energy Agency. Daily demand is forecast to expand to 33.7 million barrels in 2017.

The deal, hammered out over the weekend in Vienna, is the first pact between the group and non-members in 15 years. While all individual country cuts are unclear, the non-OPEC reduction excluding Russia's 300,000 barrels a day, as well as announced figures from Mexico, Oman and Azerbaijan, totals 83,000 barrels a day.

Morgan Stanley estimates Malaysia will reduce output by 20,000 barrels a day, while Brunei will lose 4,000 barrels a day. Both countries were celebrating holidays Monday and nobody responded to e-mails seeking comment sent to Brunei's Energy and Industry Department, as well as Malaysia's Ministry of Energy and state-run oil and gas company, Petroliam Nasional Bhd.

Oil prices surged as trading resumed Monday, rising as much as 6.6 percent in London to the highest intraday level since July 2015. Brent crude has climbed more than 20 percent since OPEC announced on Nov. 30 that it would cut production for the first time in eight years.

"If all of these cuts are realized in the market, we could see prices potentially rise beyond $65 by May when the next OPEC meeting is convened," said Sushant Gupta, director of Asia Pacific refining at Wood Mackenzie Ltd. in Singapore.

Oil drives Dow to record

Stocks mostly fell on Monday, but a spurt in oil prices helped push the energy sector higher and the Dow Jones industrial average to another record.

The Dow rose 39.58 points, or 0.2 percent, to extend its record set on Friday. The Standard & Poor's 500 index, which is the benchmark for many more investors than the Dow, pulled back from its own record, also set on Friday, and dipped 2.57 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,256.96. The Nasdaq composite fell 31.96, or 0.6 percent, to 5,412.54.

The Dow was able to make the lone gain among the big three indexes partly thanks to Exxon Mobil and Chevron. They rose with oil, which touched its highest price since the summer of 2015 after OPEC persuaded Russia and 10 other oil-producing nations to announce production cuts over the weekend.

Energy stocks in the S&P 500 rose 0.7 percent, and they were among the six sectors to rise of the 11 that make up the index.

Still, nine stocks fell on the New York Stock Exchange for every five that rose, and the day's loss marked the end of a six-day winning streak for the S&P 500, its longest such run since June 2014.

Metal prices drop

Gold rose $3.90, or 0.3 percent, to $1,165.80 per ounce. Silver rose 22 cents to $17.19 an ounce and copper fell 3 cents to $2.62 per pound.

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BkofAm	1351346	22.61	-.48
ChesEng	840936	7.35	-.37
SPDR Fncl	833428	23.52	-.23
S&P500ETF	781896	226.25	-.26
US OilFd	502729	11.62	+.18

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Mechel rs	6.09	+.95	+18.5
W&T Off	2.23	+.26	+13.2
BaytexE g	5.35	+.49	+10.1
Drdgold	4.43	+.37	+9.1
GlbMed n	9.16	+.67	+7.9

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
PatriotN n	5.03	-1.27	-20.2
Acornint rs	6.26	-1.43	-18.6
IntPotash	2.17	-.48	-18.1
CSVLgNG rs	39.60	-8.69	-18.0
BioAmber	4.05	-.75	-15.6

DIARY

Advanced	1,085
Declined	1,920
Unchanged	92
Total issues	3,097
New Highs	267
New Lows	82
Volume	3,929,060,546

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
GtPanSilv g	59691	1.50	+.07
BarcGSOil	58339	6.27	+.10
SynergyRs	49604	9.67	-.15
B2gold g	42731	2.37	-.03
ChenierEn	36824	43.00	-.01

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
MexcoEn	4.89	+.44	+10.0
UnvSecInst	4.05	+.30	+8.0
NthnO&G	3.40	+.25	+7.9
GSE Sy	3.50	+.25	+7.7
ChiRivet	38.12	+2.45	+6.9

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
ImunoCll rs	2.38	-.19	-7.4
Skyline	15.19	-1.22	-7.4
VirnetX	2.55	-.20	-7.3
AvalonHld	2.87	-.21	-6.8
LadThalFn	2.64	-.16	-5.7

DIARY

Advanced	149
Declined	212
Unchanged	15
Total issues	376
New Highs	11
New Lows	3
Volume	151,627,477

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Achaogen	520639	13.03	+7.78
Ophthotech	402565	5.29	-33.48
MicronT	284991	20.02	-.48
FrontierCm	283512	3.49	-.18
Apple Inc	257654	113.30	-.65

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Achaogen	13.03	+7.78	+148.2
Neonode	2.19	+.39	+21.7
OceanRig	2.66	+.44	+19.8
MarPet	5.31	+.85	+19.1
SabanCap n	11.95	+1.65	+16.0

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Ophthotech	5.29	-33.48	-86.4
Performnt	2.20	-1.66	-43.0
JohnsnOut	35.10	-9.76	-21.8
WinsFin	110.62	-27.38	-19.8
HeliMAn h	4.32	-.89	-17.1

DIARY

Advanced	876
Declined	1,953
Unchanged	196
Total issues	3,025
New Highs	261
New Lows	39
Volume	1,858,799,013

1st US offshore wind farm opens off Rhode Island's coast

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — The nation's first offshore wind farm has opened off the coast of Rhode Island, ushering in a new era in the U.S. for the industry.

Deepwater Wind built five turbines 3 miles off Block Island to power about 17,000 homes, a project costing about $300 million. It announced Monday that the wind farm has begun producing energy for the grid.

Deepwater Wind CEO Jeffrey Grybowski calls the opening a momentous occasion that unlocks the code of how to do offshore wind in the U.S. at a crucial time when states are trying to figure out how to replace aging power plants.

"We're more confident than ever that this is just the start of a new U.S. renewable energy industry that will put thousands of Americans to work and power communities up and down the East Coast for decades to come," he said in a statement Monday.

Abigail Ross Hopper, director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, said the wind farm proves that offshore wind can happen safely and efficiently.

"We've gone from the theoretical to the actual and you can't replace that with any model," she told The Associated Press in a recent interview.

Deepwater Wind installed the wind farm over two years, with the five turbines installed in August. National Grid is buying the output.

It had planned to open the wind farm in November, but it took more time to get final approvals from regulators. The company said this month that a turbine wasn't turning because its generator was damaged by a drill bit left inside but that the issue wouldn't delay the startup. Deepwater Wind was selected as the state's offshore wind developer in 2008.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $95.11 Up 0.68

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $140.84 Down 1.52

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $7.90 Down 0.14

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $104.99 Down 1.05

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $2.36 Unchanged

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $4.89 Up 0.44

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $33.90 Up 0.95

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $43.38 Down 0.08

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $11.81 Down 0.06

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $16.50 Up 0.66

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel		29	9.86	-.27	+340.2
AT&T Inc	1.96f	16	41.12	+.74	+19.5
Abraxas	...	...	2.40	+.11	+126.4
Achaogen			13.03	+7.78	+127.0
AdaDvsEq	.92e	...	12.70	+.01	-1.0
AMD			10.68	+.34	+272.1
AlonUSA	.60		11.52	-.01	-22.4
Ambev	.06e	...	4.82	-.07	+8.1
Amgen	4.00	13	145.76	+2.31	-10.2
Anadarko	.20	...	70.79	+.37	+45.7
Apache	1.00	...	66.79	+.23	+50.2
Apple Inc	2.28	14	113.30	-.65	+7.6
ApldMatl	.40	19	32.00	-.35	+71.4
ArcelorMit		29	8.13	+.06	+152.9
Archrock	.48f	...	13.85	-.30	+84.2
ATMOS	1.68	22	73.97	+.74	+17.3
AutoData	2.28f	27	98.06	-.16	+15.7
BP PLC	2.40a	...	36.51	+.50	+16.8
BakrHu	.68	...	66.34	+.02	+43.7
BcoBrad s	.54e	...	8.20	-.33	+87.5
BkofAm	.30f	18	22.61	-.48	+34.3
B iPVxST rs	...	...	26.17	+.20	...
BaringsCp s	1.20	...	15.99	-.02	-7.3
BarrickG	.08	35	15.31	-.14	+107.5
BasicEnSv	...	...	.45	+.03	-83.4
BerkHa A	...		16248888.70	+1698.69	+25.8
BlkHillsCp	1.68	22	61.47	+.47	+32.4
BrMySq	1.56f	40	56.55	-.49	-17.8
BrownFA s	...	30	47.70	-.53	...
BrownFB s	...	...	45.41	-.46	-9.9
CBS B	.72	17	62.18	-.38	+31.9
CVS Health	1.70f	14	79.73	-.40	-18.5
Caterpillar	3.08	26	95.08	-.45	+39.9
Celestic g	...	10	12.20	-.07	+10.6
CntryLink	2.16	10	23.93	-.19	-4.9
ChesEng	...	...	7.35	-.37	+63.3
Chevron	4.28	...	117.15	+1.34	+30.2
Chicos	.32	36	16.46	-.24	+54.3
Cimarex	.32	...	140.87	-.72	+57.6
Cisco	1.04	14	30.17	+.11	+12.0
Citigroup	.64	16	59.55	-.49	+15.1
ClayEng	...	...	95.11	+.68	+221.6
CliffsNRs	...	22	9.75	-.18	+517.1
CocaCola	1.40	25	41.90	-.10	-2.5

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
ColgPalm	1.56	24	66.75	+.46	+.2
ConAgra	.80m	22	38.62	+.18	+17.7
ConchoRes	...	...	140.84	-1.52	+51.7
ConocoPhil	1.00	...	51.38	+.61	+10.0
CrackerB	4.60	22	170.95	-.29	+34.8
CSVInvNG	...	...	3.99	+.59	-68.1
CrosTim	1.09e	14	18.98	+.26	+45.9
DCP Mid	3.12	16	35.25	+.10	+42.9
DTE	2.92	22	98.42	+.97	+22.7
Dataram rs	...	...	1.26	-.08	-36.4
DenburyR	...	...	3.98	+.04	+97.0
DevonE	.24	...	48.12	+.05	+50.4
DrGMBll s	...	...	6.51	+.01	...
DxGBull s	...	...	7.76	+.07	...
Disney	1.56f	18	104.06	-.80	-1.0
DowChm	1.84	19	58.27	+.56	+13.2
eBay s	...	17	30.21	+.24	+9.9
EOG Rescs	.67	...	105.83	-.62	+49.5
EmpDist	1.04	23	34.25	...	+22.0
Energen	.08	...	60.12	-.27	+46.7
EngyTsfr	4.22	...	34.39	-.49	+2.0
EnPro	.84	51	66.96	-.03	+52.7
ENSCO	.04	...	10.99	-.01	-28.6
EntProdPt	1.62f	20	25.64	+.02	+.2
Ericsson	.46e	...	5.63	+.04	-41.4
ExxonMbl	3.00	36	90.98	+1.98	+16.7
Facebook	...	33	117.77	-1.91	+12.5
FiatChrys	...	...	8.48	+.07	-7.7
FordM	.60a	6	12.82	-.35	-9.0
FrptMcM	...	...	15.36	-.39	+126.9
FrontierCm	.42	...	3.49	-.18	-25.3
GATX	1.60	9	61.77	-.09	+45.2
GabMultT	.94e	...	7.25	-.07	-3.3
GAInv	1.15e	...	31.36	-.09	+9.3
GenElec	.96f	28	31.86	+.08	+2.3
GenMotors	1.52	6	37.10	-.56	+9.1
GtPlainEn	1.10f	16	27.35	+.20	+.1
Group...	...	...	3.78	-.09	+23.1
Hallibrtn	.72	...	54.49	+.29	+60.1
HuntBncsh	.32f	18	13.30	-.21	+20.3
iShBrazil	1.03e	...	32.43	-.39	+56.8
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	36.61	-.86	+3.7
iShEMkts	.84e	...	35.93	-.24	+11.6
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	58.46	-.26	-.4

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
iShR2K	1.77e	...	136.85	-1.46	+21.5
Intel	1.04	16	35.97	+.21	+4.4
InterDig	1.20	15	85.10	+.25	+73.5
ItauUnibH	.32e	...	9.66	-.41	+48.6
JPMorgCh	1.92	14	84.73	-.76	+29.2
JohnJn	3.20	18	115.36	+3.10	+12.3
Keycorp	.34	17	18.20	-.26	+38.0
KimbClk	3.68	19	114.78	+.17	-9.8
KindMorg	.50	48	21.28	+.19	+42.6
LegacyRes	.60m	...	2.36	...	+34.9
Lubys	...	...	4.35	-.03	-2.7
MarathnO	.20	...	18.49	+.24	+46.9
McDnlds	3.76f	23	121.74	+.48	+3.0
Merck	1.88f	16	61.72	+.49	+16.8
MeritMed	...	35	26.45	-.15	+42.3
MexcoEn	...	...	4.89	+.44	+51.3
MicronT	...	...	20.02	-.48	+41.4
Microsoft	1.56f	26	62.17	+.20	+12.1
Nabors	.24	...	16.70	+.14	+96.2
NatGrid	3.35e	...	58.84	+.13	-15.4
NOilVarco	.20	22	40.02	+.24	+19.5
NobleCorp	.08	...	7.23	-.41	-31.5
NokiaCp	.30e	...	4.63	+.01	-34.0
NSTF13	.55e	...	14.03	-.01	-3.5
NTXQI	.65	...	13.73	-.05	-4.9
Nvidia	.56f	54	89.59	-2.23	+171.8
OcciPet	3.04f	...	71.39	+.81	+5.6
Ophthotech	...	...	5.29	-33.48	-93.3
ParTech	...	16	5.18	-.13	-23.0
ParkDrl	...	...	2.75	+.10	+51.1
PattUTI	.08	9	28.67	+.50	+90.1
Penney	...	...	9.80	-.41	+47.1
PennaRE	.84	83	19.85	-.14	-9.2
Prmian	.38e	20	7.28	+.12	+43.9
Petrobras	...	...	10.93	+.09	+154.2
Pfizer	1.20	13	32.40	+.70	+.4
PioNtrl	.08	...	188.96	+1.90	+50.7
PlainsAAP	2.20m	29	32.43	+.12	+40.4
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	118.96	-.54	+6.3
Praxair	3.00	24	123.48	-.44	+20.6
PrmEgy	...	...	50.95	-.55	-3.9
PUVixST rs	...	...	9.25	+.11	...
PrUCrude rs	...	...	11.49	+.36	-8.4
ProctGam	2.68	23	85.13	+.76	+7.2
RangeRs	.08	...	35.97	-2.81	+46.2

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
RegionsFn	.26f	18	14.36	-.24	+49.6
RiteAid	...	55	8.28	-.16	+5.6
Rowan	.40	7	20.81	+.44	+22.8
RoyDShllA	3.76	81	53.41	+.60	+16.6
SpdrDJIA	3.98e	...	198.08	+.39	+13.8
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	226.25	-.26	+11.0
SpdrOGEx	.73e	...	42.90	-.28	+42.0
SabnR	1.93e	17	37.00	+.40	+40.9
SanderFm	.96f	14	89.99	+.69	+16.1
Schlmbrg	2.00	56	85.01	+.23	+21.9
SeadrillLtd	...	2	3.93	+.12	+15.9
SiriusXM	.01p	37	4.45	-.09	+9.3
Smucker	3.00f	16	130.19	-.30	+5.6
SwstnEngy	...	...	11.50	-1.11	+61.7
Sprint	...	...	8.20	-.28	+126.5
SP HlthC	1.01e	...	69.18	+.33	-4.0
SP Engy	2.04e	...	76.96	+.36	+27.6
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	23.52	-.23	+21.5
SP Util	1.55e	...	48.46	+.50	+12.0
StillwtrM	...	...	17.19	-.13	+100.6
SunocoLog	2.04f	49	23.13	-.26	-10.0
TelefEsp	1.03e	...	8.80	+.06	-20.4
Tesoro	2.20	11	90.36	+.18	-14.2
3M Co	4.44	22	179.64	+1.15	+19.3
Torchmark	.56	17	73.03	-.66	+28.1
Transocn	...	...	15.54	+.12	+25.5

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
TriContl	.82e	...	22.09	-.04	+10.3
21stCFoxA	.36f	17	26.34	-1.87	-3.0
Twitter	...	...	18.93	-.72	-18.2
TylerTech	...	52	145.27	+1.55	-16.7
UBSI	1.32	25	48.10	-1.10	+30.0
US NGas	...	...	8.84	-.58	+2.0
US OilFd	...	...	11.62	+.18	+5.6
USSteel	.20	...	34.78	-1.28	+335.8
Vale SA	.29e	...	8.80	+.02	+167.5
ValeantPh	...	16	14.68	-.78	-85.6
ValeroE	2.40	14	66.82	-1.18	-5.5
VanEGold	.12e	...	20.75	+.08	+51.2
VnEkRus	.64e	...	21.43	+.40	+46.3
VerizonCm	2.31f	15	51.76	+.27	+12.0
ViacomB	.80	10	34.99	-3.63	-15.0
VulcanM	.80	43	125.05	-3.46	+31.7
WEC Engy	2.08f	20	57.94	+.78	+12.9
WalgBoots	1.50	20	86.64	+.25	+1.7
Weathfintl	...	...	5.46	...	-34.9
WellsFargo	1.52	14	55.78	-1.36	+2.6
WstnRefin	1.52	27	38.97	+.02	+9.4
WhitingPet	...	...	12.10	-.04	+28.2
WmsCos	.80	70	29.93	-.27	+16.5
XcelEngy	1.36	19	40.47	+.82	+12.7
Xerox	.31	12	9.30	-.16	-12.5

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
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We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
19,757.74	15,450.56	Dow Jones Industrials	19,796.43	+39.58	+.20	+13.61	+13.98
9,490.29	6,403.31	Dow Jones Transportation	9,322.64	-84.55	-.90	+24.16	+24.47
723.83	547.22	Dow Jones Utilities	652.07	+6.21	+.96	+12.85	+17.73
11,194.23	8,937.99	NYSE Composite	11,177.27	-14.52	-.13	+10.19	+11.92
5,450.16	4,209.76	Nasdaq Composite	5,412.54	-31.96	-.59	+8.09	+9.30
2,259.80	1,810.10	S&P 500	2,256.96	-2.57	-.11	+10.42	+11.62
1,698.70	1,215.14	S&P Midcap	1,682.51	-10.47	-.62	+20.30	+21.75
23,679.65	18,462.43	Wilshire 5000	23,619.34	-59.42	-.25	+11.58	+13.17
1,392.71	943.09	Russell 2000	1,373.14	-14.93	-1.08	+20.89	+23.06

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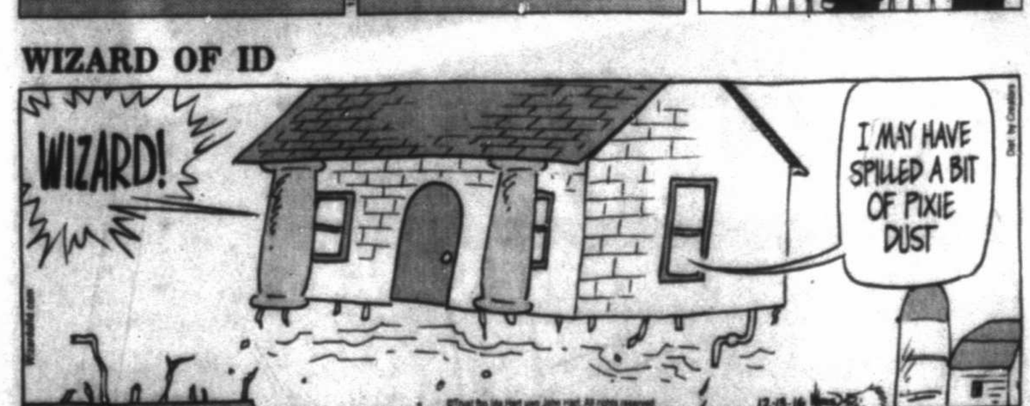


DILBERT

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

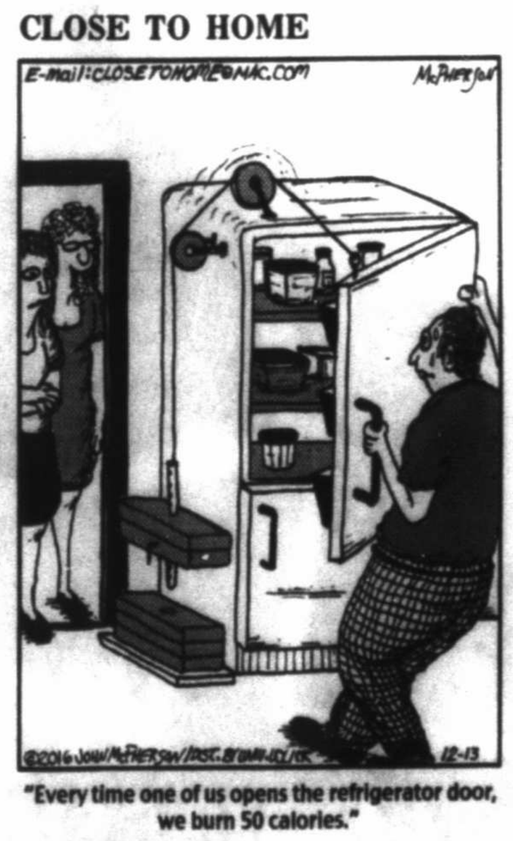
MARY WORTH

BABY BLUES

ZITS

MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME



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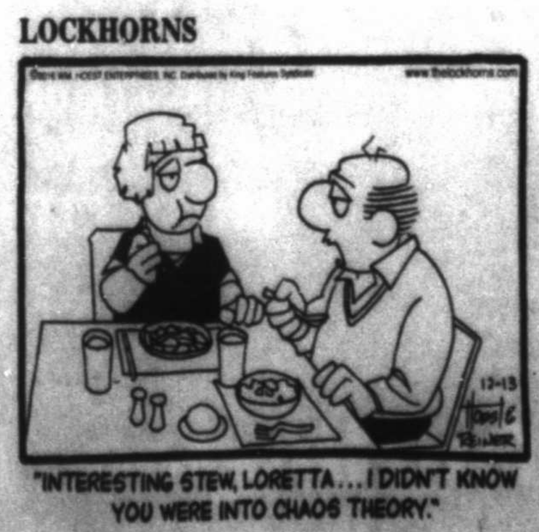
DENNIS THE MENACE

"MR. WILSON IS *PROUD* OF HIS DOOR. HE'S ALWAYS TELLIN' MRS. WILSON TO SHOW ME THE DOOR!"

LOCKHORNS



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ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Frac Hands

Peroxychem, LLC is NOW Hiring Frac Hands. Non CDL Frac hand with experience pumping chemicals and operating equipment on a frac location. Midland residents only. $14/hour. If interested, please email your resume to bradley.lokey@peroxychem.com or greg.conrad@peroxychem.com or fax to 918-626-8027.

Slickline Operators & Helpers

Established company in Midland looking for slickline operators and helpers. Valid driver's license required. Must be willing to relocate to Midland area. Pay will be determined based on oilfield experience. This company offers excellent pay, medical insurance and retirement benefits. Send resumes and salary requirements to Diamond D Slickline Service Co., P. O. Box 216, Snyder, Texas 79550

HEALTHCARE

Dental Assistant

Opening for Certified Dental Assistant. Two years experience and Nitrous Certified. Monday through Thursday, 401K and vacation available. Send resume to 4305 N. Garfield, Suite 221, Midland, TX. 79705

LCDC/LPC/Intern

LCDC/LPC/Intern needed for Addiction medical clinic part time Monday-Friday, 6am-10:30am. Tx planning, case mgmt and therapy. Paid holidays, paid sick days, no health benefits. Midland positions. Please fax resume to 800-671-8364.

Male Specimen Collector

Now hiring Male Specimen Collector. Please come by to apply at 711 W. Indiana Ave, Midland.

Medical Assistant

Must be bilingual, available to work M-F & some Saturdays. Please send resume to: basin.care2016@yahoo.com.

Ophthalmic Technician

Full Time Ophthalmic Technician needed: Duties include screening patients, vision and diagnostic testing, assisting physician with minor surgical procedures. Serious inquires please send resume, via fax 432-694-7414 or 2706 W Cuthbert, BLDG A Midland, TX 79701.

SKILLED LABOR

Commercial Construction Project Expeditor

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring a commercial construction project expeditor. Competitive pay plus excellent benefits. Experience in commercial construction a must. Please send resumes to 5206 West Wadley, Midland, Texas 79707 or you may fax your resume to (432) 694-9627. Attention to Alan White.

SKILLED LABOR

Trackhoe & Loader Operators

Hiring experienced trackhoe and loader operators for oilfield dirt work/construction. 1-2 years operator experience required. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid! Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX, or call 432-394-4604 for more information.

SALES JOBS

Delivery Driver

Delivery driver with some warehouse and light maintenance duties needed. Benefits available. Clean driving record required. Apply in person at Basin Engine & Pump, 1914 S. County Rd., Midland, TX.

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, a cell phone 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 want to join a **GREAT TEAM** and are ready to **SUCCEED**, please send a resume to:

Adrianne Hrebicek, Senior Advertising Manager
201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or **acramirez@hearstnp.com**
No phone calls please.

SALES JOBS

SALES ASSOCIATE

Wood's Boots is currently hiring part time sales associates. If you are interested in wearing boots and jeans to work, and working with great customers come see us at 812 W. I-20 in Midland. No phone calls!

Salesperson

Basin Engine and Pump

Experienced pump salesperson needed. Excellent compensation and benefit plans provided. Email resume to Jeff@basinengine.com

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

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TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

CDL Class A Driver

Pro Oilfield Services LLC, Midland, TX. area needing CDL Class A Driver with Tanker & Hazmat endorsement. Must be able to operate heavy haul winch truck. Must pass background, DOT physical & drug test. Clean driving record. Minimum 5 years experience required. Send resumes to mmuller@prooslic.com

Class A CDL Drivers

Minimum of 2-3 years experience. Hazmat endorsement preferred but not necessary. Vacuum truck experience. Call 361-387-9400 or 432 934 3829

Hot Shot Driver

Local company seeking class A CDL drivers. Must have two years experience and be willing to travel all over. This is a full-time position and we offer a competitive pay. Please send your resume to sdservices@pvtn.net

OTHER JOBS

Delivery Driver

Delivery Driver needed full-time. Heavy lifting required. Must be able to pass a drug test. Apply in person at 2101 W. Wadley, Midland, TX 79705

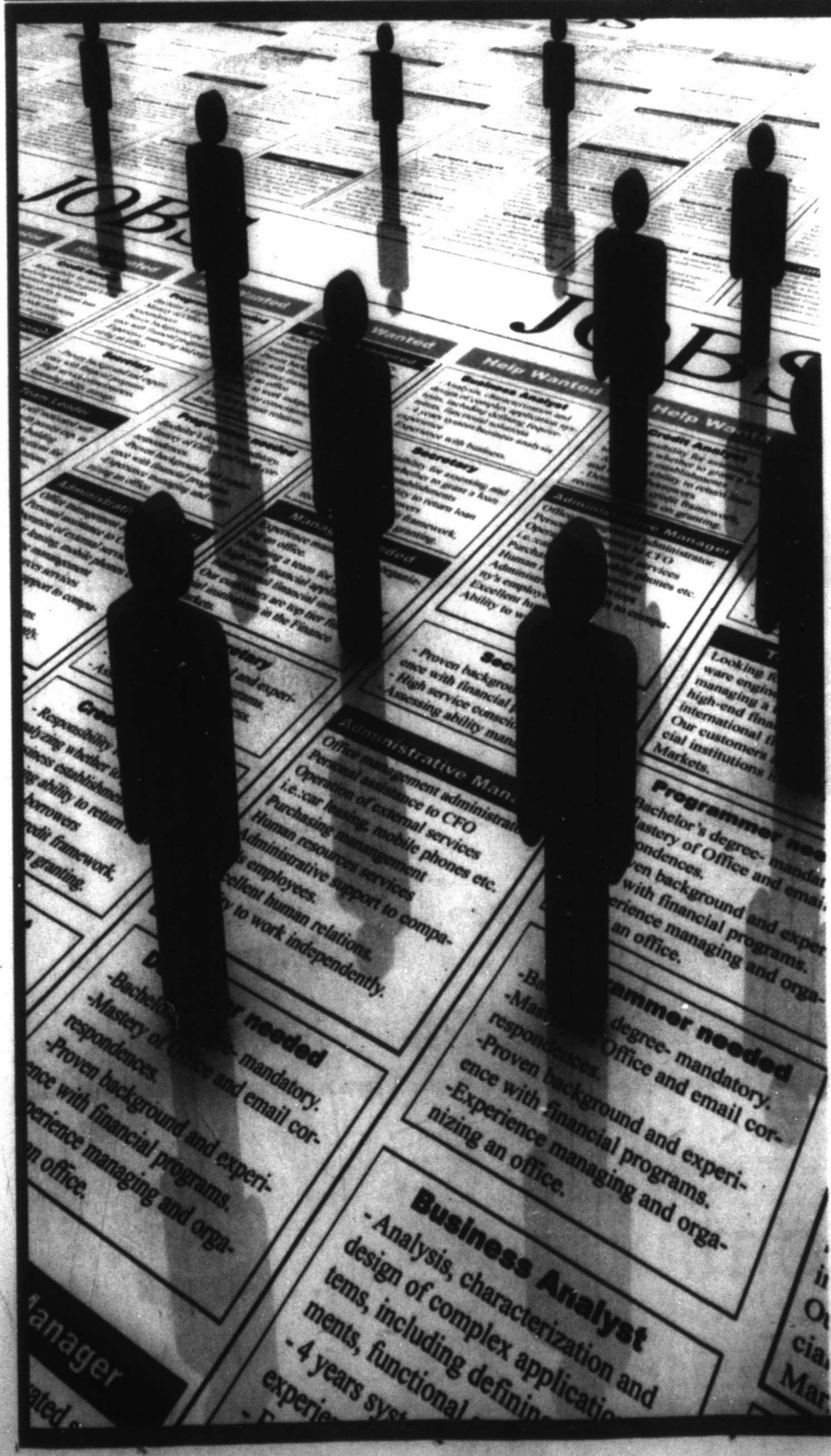
CARTER'S

Downhole Tool Service Techs

National Oilwell Varco now hiring downhole tool service technicians. Competitive pay and benefits. Apply in person or submit resume online at nov.com/careers or 8301 Groening Road, Odessa, TX 79765. (near the H & P Yard). 432-563-1173

DOZER OPERATORS NEEDED

Experience, References & TDL Required Call Brent @ (830)221-8666 M-F 8 to 5 ONLY Acme Bridge Co., is EOE & A DRUG FREE WORK ZONE



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General Announcement

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Lost and Found

FOUND MALE SHEPHERD MIX wearing blue and black harness. Please call/text 432-269-5076.

LOST LADIES RING at Michaels Grill. Reward. 432-934-5062

Autos For Sale-Lease

Passenger Cars

2003 SATURN 4 door, new tires. 94K miles. $3,000 OBO. 432-934-8961

NICE CLEAN BMW 2003 model 325, must see. New tune up, clutch & fuel pump. Asking $5,000. 432-349-0041

Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. 432-685-4078

FAX YOUR AD 24/7 682-6999

Pickup Trucks

2011 CHEVROLET 2500, extended cab, 6 liter, automatic, 4x4, 148K miles. $12,500. 432-557-2130

FORD 350, 1999, 7.3 Diesel Hotshot Welder; 220,000 miles refurbished; good condition. Asking $10,000.00, make an offer. Come see at 1209 W. Illinois, Midland, TX.

4WD and SUV

CHEVROLET 2000 Suburban 227K miles $2,900. 432-634-0950 Text or leave message.

LIKE NEW 2008 Yamaha Raptor ATV. Garage kepted, only ridden 4 times. $5,000 432-349-0041.

FAX YOUR AD 24/7 682-6999

Recreation Vehicles

2014 PARK Model 40', 2 queen beds, full size washer & dryer, fridge, 2 baths. Sleeps 8, good rubber. CLEAN $25,000. 405-609-7070

31' RV/ Motor home for sale. Great condition - less than 50K miles. 2001 Fleetwood Jamboree/ Ford 10 cylinder $20,000. See & drive by appointment. Henry K Herrmann - 432-684-8813

REDUCED HARLEY DAVIDSON 2005 Road King. 13K miles. $8,000 OBO. MUST SEE! 432-697-9727 leave message

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Electronics

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Furniture

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Miscellaneous 4-Sale

BURIAL LOT for sale in the Midland Memorial Cemetery, located in Garden of Hope. 432-697-1606.

Musical Instruments

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OAK, PECAN, hickory, mesq.,ite, pinon. 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262

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Dogs

BENTLEE BOY just neutered & shots, 2 yrs. old in Oct. inside pet & snuggler. Poodle, Maltese mix 8 1/2 lbs. $500. 638-5644

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

FREON 12 WANTED R12 collecting dust in your garage? We pay CASH FOR refrigerant 12. EPA cert. (312)291-9169, sell@refrigerantfinders.com

Real Estate Rental-Sale

Residential Rentals

Apartment Rent Unfurn

Duplex for rent: 2 Bedroom duplex, 1 bath. 1,200 sq. ft. $900/mo. plus deposit. No smokers. 432-528-7810.

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Residential Rentals

Condo Thome Rent Unfurn

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Need some cash? Call CLASSIFIED 682-6222

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	3	5		7		6	4	
		1		6	4		9	
					9			
			3		2		1	
1								4
	3		6					
			2					
	6		9	5		3		
	8	7		3		1	5	

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

1	5	2	4	8	9	7	6	3
8	4	3	6	5	7	2	1	9
9	7	6	2	1	3	8	4	5
2	3	7	1	4	5	9	8	6
6	1	8	7	9	2	3	5	4
5	9	4	8	3	6	1	7	2
7	2	9	5	6	1	4	3	8
3	8	5	9	7	4	6	2	1
4	6	1	3	2	8	5	9	7

12/13/16

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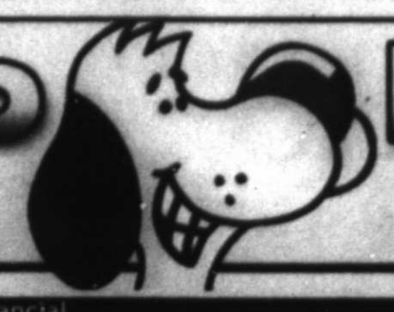

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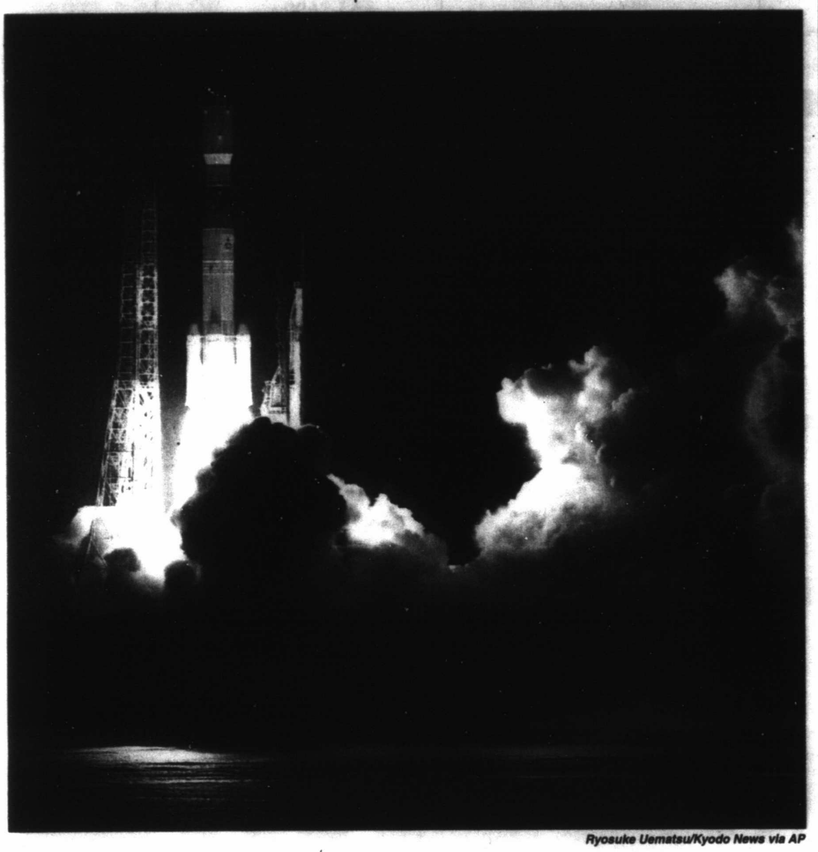

Ryosuke Uematsu/Kyodo News via AP

Japan's H-IIB rocket with a capsule called Kounotori, or stork, lifts off at the Tanegashima Space Center in Tanegashima, southern Japan, on Friday evening. The Japanese capsule contains nearly 5 tons of food, water and other supplies, including new lithium-ion batteries for the International Space Station's solar power system.

Japan launches much-needed supplies to space station

By Ula Ilnytzky
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — A Japanese capsule blasted off with much-needed supplies for the International Space Station on Friday, a week after a Russian shipment was destroyed shortly after liftoff.

The Russian rocket accident and the grounding of one of NASA's commercial suppliers make this delivery all the more urgent. The spacecraft should arrive at the station Tuesday.

"Have a safe flight," French astronaut Thomas Pesquet said in a tweet from the space station. "Looking forward to your arrival!"

The capsule — called Kounotori, or white stork — contains nearly 5 tons of food, water and other supplies, including six new lithium-ion batteries for the station's solar power system. Astronauts will conduct spacewalks next month to replace the old nickel-hydrogen batteries that store energy generated by the station's big solar panels.

This is Japan's sixth shipment to the 250-mile-high outpost, currently home to Pesquet, two Americans and three Russians. It launched from Tanegashima Space Center in southern Japan.

Launches by SpaceX, meanwhile, have been on hold since a September rocket explosion on the pad in Cape Canaveral, Florida. The helium pressurization system in the rocket's upper stage was breached, resulting in a massive fireball.

The company hopes to resume flights next month from Southern California. Iridium Communications satellites will be aboard that initial launch. A space station supply run is supposed to follow a few weeks later from Cape Canaveral.

In a televised interview from the space station following Friday's launch, NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson said there are already enough supplies to last until spring. The Japanese shipment will stretch that out even further. The Russians lost a spacesuit in the Dec. 1 launch accident, among many other items, she noted.

"Spaceflight's not an easy thing," Whitson said. "We just have to keep pressing ourselves to do the right thing, make sure we're doing all the right tests ... so that we don't have these problems."

Research analyzes close-up of massive moon crater

By Scott Dance
Baltimore Sun

BALTIMORE — About 3.8 billion years ago, something massive slammed into the face of the moon, leaving behind a crater some 560 miles wide.

On most any other object in the inner solar system, the crater would have vanished long ago. Plate tectonics on Earth slowly yet continuously wipe away most record of asteroid impacts such as the one that killed the dinosaurs. But a dramatic feature at the edge of the near side of the moon, known as the Orientale basin, remains a well-preserved artifact of the early solar system.

A new analysis by University of Maryland, Baltimore County scientists reveals that the basin is more than just a big hole. Data captured from a 2012 NASA mission show minuscule changes in the pull of the moon's gravity at varying points across the crater, suggesting a complex structure with varying density beneath the surface.

Scientists understand relatively little about what happens when such massive collisions occur in space because there is so little evidence of them on Earth. But the moon provides a window into a time when that sort of cosmic violence was much more common, and shaped the solar system as we know it today.

The research was published in the Oct. 28 issue of Science — with an image of the close-up view of the Orientale basin featured on the journal's cover.

The data the researchers analyzed came from two spacecraft sent to the moon on a mission called the Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory, or GRAIL. In 2012 and 2013, the mission made news for its unprecedented look at the nearest celestial body to Earth.

The two spacecraft scanned the lunar surface in tandem, and when they passed over mountains, valleys or underground features that caused tiny variations in the moon's gravity field, they would move slightly closer together or farther apart. Scientists measured those minute shifts to chart the moon's entire gravity field.

The resulting gravity field map is the clearest ever created using satellite data, NASA officials said. They expected to see variations in gravity down to areas about 18 miles across, but ended up flying so close to the surface — less than two miles up — the resolution was almost 10 times sharper, Goossens said.

Some of the richest data was captured at the Orientale basin, he said.

The feature long has fascinated scientists, who first captured images in the 1960s revealing its ringed bull's-eye structure, evidence of an impact crater.

But they know relatively little about what happens when such craters form, and how they change over time. For example, scientists have theorized that the concentric rings that radiate from the center of Orientale and other craters form as the initial crater collapses over time.

"Nobody understands what forms these rings," said Gregory Neumann, a research scientist at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center who worked with Goossens on the research. "Nobody agrees completely on how they're formed."

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Your Yahoo email address is likely to be around for a while

Dear PropellerHeads: I read something about Yahoo going out of business — am I about to lose my InternetSurfer@yahoo.com email address?

A: Don't worry, Old Timer — all those yahoo.com email addresses are likely to stay around for years to come. But you might consider firing up your Netscape browser, logging into an AOL chat room, and asking if anyone there has heard of this new-fangled Gmail service from something called "Google." It's a popular alternative for those of us who finally ditched our dot matrix printers.

Kidding aside (but not all kidding aside), Verizon paid $4.8 billion for most of Yahoo's brands and services back in July. That's a far cry from the $125 billion the company was valued at in 2000 or even the $44 billion Microsoft offered for it just eight years ago (http://bbc.in/2gWttsf). But despite being the fifth most-visited site in the world as recently as September, Yahoo never found the right formula for turning all that traffic into profits (bit.ly/2gWmtf9).

Yahoo's demise marks the end of an era, although it will probably live on as a shell of its former self, much like AOL (also snapped up by Verizon for over $4 billion in May 2015). The company was started in 1994 by two Stanford grad students, Jerry Yang and David Filo. Just to give you an idea of how different the Internet was at the time, the first version of Yahoo was a directory of websites, manually curated and ranked by human editors (bit.ly/2gWtP23).

If you wanted your site included, you could email Yahoo and ask them to add your site to their list — no fancy crawler software or ranking algorithms like Google and others use today. In fact, yours truly had a diet analysis website awarded their coveted "Cool Site of the Day" award back in 1997. For a PropellerHead in the late '90s, nothing beat seeing that little red sunglasses icon next to the link to your website.

But the web grew too fast to be indexed by hand, and Yahoo's second iteration was in the form of a search engine. That move forced them into competition with Lycos, Alta Vista, and eventually Google, whose method of ranking sites proved far superior and gave them a lead in the search engine market that they still enjoy.

Yahoo once again reinvented themselves, becoming a web portal — "the homepage of the Internet." The idea was that everyone would start their day on Yahoo's site, where they would be greeted with customized news feeds, weather widgets, sports scores, and stock tickers. Far from just aggregating content from other sources, Yahoo provided its own financial news, videos, and fantasy football content. There was Yahoo Mail and Yahoo Games, and web properties that they bought, like Flickr and Tumblr.

But Facebook made it hard for Yahoo to retain the title of "everyone's homepage," while investors were left wondering if Yahoo was trying to be a tech company or a media company. Even under current CEO Marissa Mayer, who left Google for Yahoo in 2012 to try to turn the company around, the lack of focus has been confusing (http://nyti.ms/2gWh2N4).

No one expects a content company like HBO to offer an email product, or a tech company like Facebook to distribute original video content (like Community), but that weird mix is the sort of thing Yahoo has been doing for years. They even published a paper magazine in the '90s called Yahoo! Internet Life. Imagine a tech company doing that today.

So, Verizon will now get Yahoo's roughly 1 billion monthly users, 60 percent of whom visit the site from mobile devices. They'll combine Yahoo's content and advertising technology with similar products they acquired from the AOL buyout last year, and try to use them to make money through mobile ads.

Since Verizon bought Yahoo partly for the brand recognition and all their loyal users, our guess is that your email address will be safe for years to come (http://on.mash.to/2gWo9oJ).

Meanwhile, if we've left you feeling nostalgic for The Internet That Was, find us on Myspace (just search for our Hotmail account) and we can reminisce about that hilarious sock puppet from the old Pets.com commercials. I bet we can even find those ads on Google Video somewhere.

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