

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018

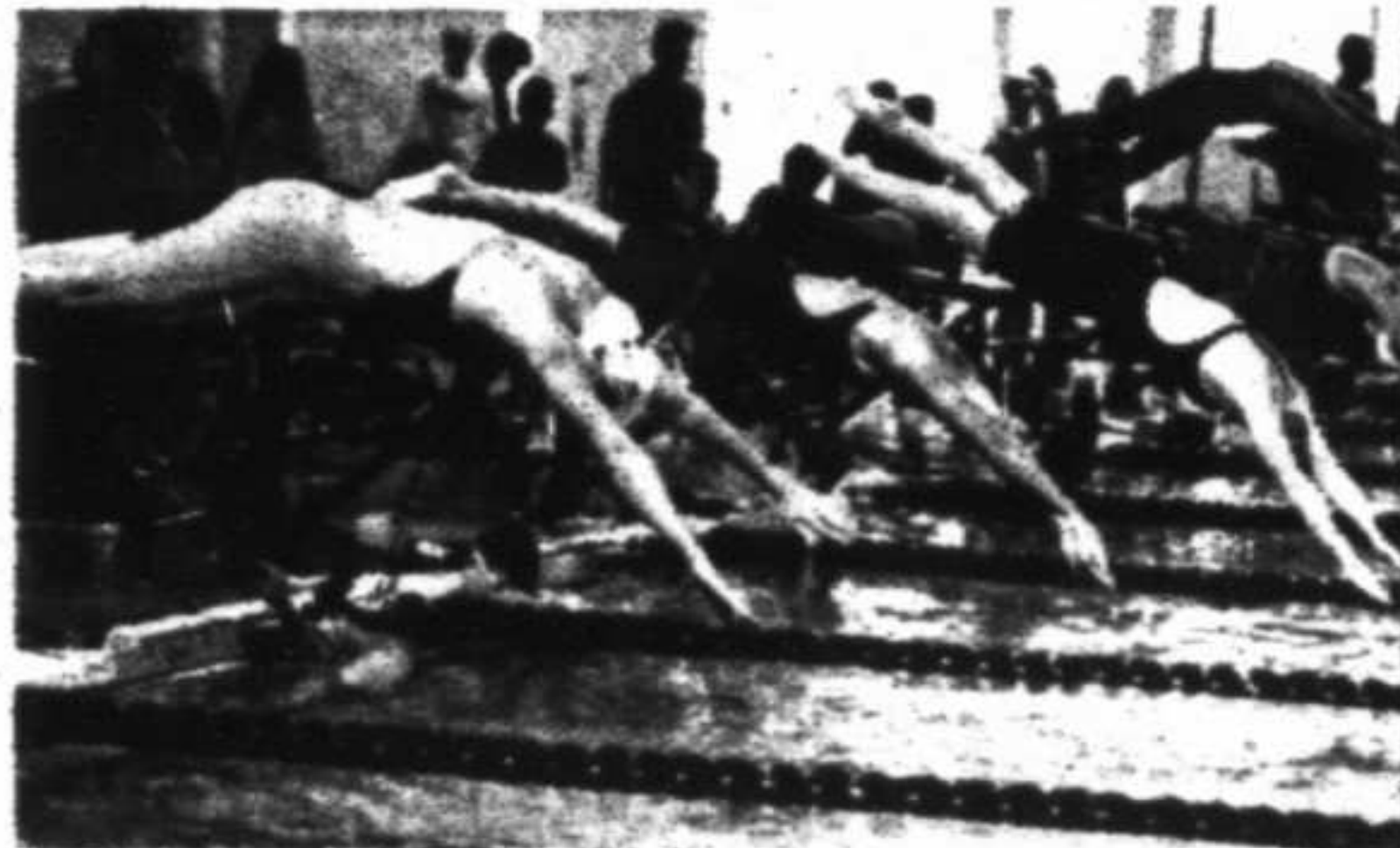
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SHARK RUSTLERS

Two men were caught on camera stealing a shark from aquarium.

Page 2A



OFF THE BLOCKS

Tuesday was a landmark occasion for City of Midland Aquatics. The five-day USA Swimming Southern Zone Age Group Championships kicked off Tuesday afternoon.

Page 1C

City begins search for new police chief

Officials hope head of Midland Police Dept. is in place by November

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

The city of Midland has begun its search for a new police chief.

Springsted Waters Executive Recruitment will begin marketing today for the position that city officials hope will be filled by mid-to-late November.

Seth Herman has served as interim chief since the termination of Steve Henry in April. It was not known Tuesday if Herman or any other Midland Police Department officials will apply for the position.

Springsted Waters, a firm based in the Metroplex city of Addison, was one of

four companies to respond to an invitation to send a proposal to handle the search. Springsted Waters' selection was based on its location in Texas, the value to the taxpayer, the timeliness of the response and its focus on diversity in recruitment, according to information from the city. Its bid includes a fee of \$24,500, which was tied for the second among the four bids.

The city reports that marketing for the position begins today. The company will review applications, screen potential candidates and recommend semifinalists. Finalists selected by the city will be invited to an interview with multiple stakeholders before a selection is made, according to the city.

Marketing material for the position includes a starting salary of \$130,000 to \$150,000, depending on background and qualifications of a successful candidate; use of a city vehicle; and a "highly competitive benefits program."

"The new police chief will be an experienced executive with extensive and progressive experience in an environment similar to that of the city of Midland," the marketing material state, "having a high level of community interaction and high service demands and have a minimum of 10 years of law enforcement experience, with at least five years in a command level position."

Marketing materials indicate that current

issues include:

■ Growth and development — Midland is a growing community and is home to the oil and gas industry.

■ Department culture — the new chief will examine the culture and operational practices of the district and ensure that a healthy and team-oriented internal culture is in place.

■ Affordable housing — recruiting is affected by the high costs and scarcity of real estate.

■ Traffic control and congestion — traffic flow and management are a continuing

Please see SEARCH/2A

Training spreads awareness about opioid overdoses

■ Odessa has 15th-highest abuse rate nationally, according to study

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

While educating about opioid abuse, Mark Kinzly shares data with people statewide. But one figure he recently presented to a local group hit close to home. He showed the results of a report that found Odessa had the 15th-highest opioid abuse rate nationally.

"I think it comes as a surprise to some of the people," said Charles Thibodeaux, referencing findings from Castlight Health that ranked several Texas cities among the top 25 for opioid abuse.

Thibodeaux and Kinzly, co-founders of the Texas Overdose Naloxone Initiative (TONI), addressed the scale of the opioid epidemic during Thursday's training session at the Midland County

Health + Wellness

Study: ER doctors prescribe opioids for sprained ankles.

Page 3B

Public Library Centennial branch. Thibodeaux also demonstrated the steps for administering naloxone — a medication that is often sold under the brand name Narcan — that counteracts the effects of opioid overdoses. He explained that people can get the medication at pharmacies and use it on others.

"This is one of the hot spots for a high rate of opioid abuse, and I think that anyone here that thinks that they need a fire extinguisher ... should probably have Narcan as well," he said. "It's better to have it and not ever need it than need it and not ever have it."

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) reported one to

Please see TRAINING/2A

FUN AT THE FAB LAB



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Emmy Callen, 6, plays on the body-powered "mouse pad" Tuesday at the Boys & Girls Club. The Odessa College mobile Fab Lab was in town to show computer techniques as part of bringing STEM curriculum to students.

Oil set for biggest monthly loss since March 2017

■ Crude falls about 6 percent amid fears of supply crunch

By Grant Smith
Bloomberg

Oil retreated in New York, heading for its biggest monthly loss since March 2017, as some of the supply risks facing the market abated.

West Texas Intermediate futures slipped 1.2 percent, after climbing 2.1 percent to surpass \$70 a barrel on Monday. Russia's oil production reached 11.22 million barrels a day this month as the caps imposed in a

Commentary

Pioneer casts shadow over Permian earnings.

Page 4A

fact with OPEC eased, Interfax reported, while data from Kazakhstan's government showed that its output recovered. Meanwhile, President Donald Trump said he's open to talks with Iran just as U.S. sanctions on the country's oil trade take hold.

Crude has declined about 6 percent

Please see LOSS/2A

Visit us on social media



Price of oil

\$68.76 ▼ \$1.37

The big number

3D gun blueprints have prompted eight states to the suit against Austin firm and Trump administration. More on Page 2A.

Word of the Day:

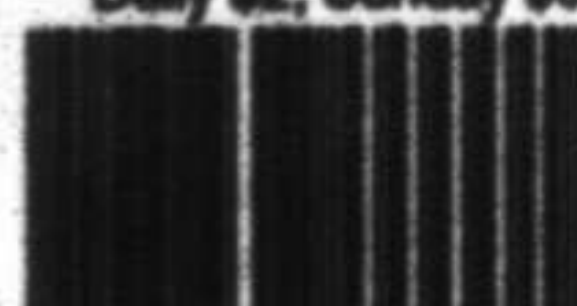
musket

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

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Valuation increases could result in lower local tax rate

■ City officials propose property rate of 39.2249 cents per \$100 valuation

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

The growth happening in Midland will allow the city to lower its upcoming tax rate.

City officials expected to propose a rate of 40.7633 cents per \$100 valuation when budget season opened earlier this summer. However, on Tuesday, city officials reported the expected assessed valuation across the city will increase to \$13.5 billion — up from \$12.241 billion last year and higher than the \$12.9 billion estimated earlier this year.

That means city leaders will be able to offer a property tax rate of 39.2249 cents per \$100 valuation. Taxpayers, therefore, will pay less in the property tax compared to the rate proposed earlier. For a home valued at \$200,000, the difference in the tax bill (between proposed rates this year) will be around \$30, according to information provided by the city.

Home values across the city will increase at different rates. The city, though, offered in an information packet Tuesday that the average home value for 2019 will be \$235,679 (up from \$211,059 in 2018). The tax bill for that average home in 2019 will be \$924.45 (up from \$861.94 in 2018).

"We heard Midland is one of the fastest-growing cities in the nation, and on paper today it shows (that growth can have an impact)," Midland Mayor Jerry Morales said after Tuesday's meeting to establish a proposed ad valorem tax rate for the upcoming fiscal year. "Tax rates will be reduced, and we will have more revenue to work with and more opportunities to keep up with this growing city."

Morales said the increased assessed valuations makes sense considering Midland's growth. He said city officials have been reporting "commercial permits coming through at a record pace." Officially, the budget is the effective rate plus 3 percent (for growth and inflation). The city reported Tuesday that the budget will raise more

revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$2.7 million. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property is \$1.2 million.

"Today, this financial report justifies all the hard work," Morales said.

City statistics show increases in the average home value (11.66 percent), new property (5.65 percent), real estate (9.88 percent), minerals (10.21 percent) and business property (26.57 percent).

The city previously reported property taxes and sales taxes combined to make up more than \$95 million of the \$128.1 million general fund budget. The city also reported that police, fire and engineering departments make up 62 percent of the general fund budget.

The city also reported next year's budget includes about \$10 million for street maintenance and capital improvements for the first time in history, revenue for 22 new city positions (including six firefighters and three police officers) and a 4 percent cost-of-living adjustment for city employees.

Morales said the budget will allow the city to accomplish the things needed to help Midland become "that world-class city."

Tax rate information

Proposed rate: 39.2249 cents.

Last year's rate: 40.8389 cents.

Tax bill for an average home value in 2019 (that value being \$235,679): \$924.45.

Tax bill for average home value in 2018 (that value being \$211,059): \$861.94.

Future meetings dealing with tax rates and budgets

Aug. 14, public hearing about the tax rate, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Aug. 21, second public hearing for the tax rate.

Aug. 28, public hearing on the budget, first reading on the tax rate and budget.

Sept. 4, second reading and vote to adopt the budget and tax rate.

Loss

From 1A

this month as simmering trade tensions between the U.S. and China push prices lower at a time when American shale output continues to surge. Still, falling production in Venezuela, a civil war in Libya and impending American sanctions on Iranian oil have raised fears over a global supply crunch. Barclays has warned of "significant upside risk" for prices as sanctions begin to bite Iranian exports.

"Prices shed some of yesterday's gains overnight," said Carsten Fritsch, an analyst at Commerzbank AG in Frankfurt. "One factor in this is likely to have been President Trump, who unexpectedly signaled his willingness to meet unconditionally with Iranian President Rouhani."

WTI crude for September delivery traded at \$69.27 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, down 86 cents, at 2:11 p.m. London time. If the contract declines by 6 percent this month, it would be the biggest such drop since March 2017. Total volume traded was about 47 percent below the 100-day average.

Brent for September settlement, which expires Tuesday, fell 35 cents to \$74.62 a barrel on the London-based ICE Futures Europe exchange. The contract is down almost 6 percent this month. The more actively traded October contract lost 47 cents to \$75.08. Global benchmark Brent traded at a \$5.40 premium to September WTI.

Trump said Monday he'd meet his Iranian counterpart without preconditions following a war of words earlier this month. The White House appeared to quickly

walk back his comments and signaled the U.S. will end sanctions on Iran only if the Islamic Republic's behavior changes. Secretary of State Michael Pompeo laid out terms for a meeting between the U.S. and Iranian leaders.

Other supply threats continue to support the market. A strike hit production at Total SA's three oil fields in the North Sea, and concerns remain over Saudi Arabia's suspension of crude shipments through a key sea-transit route following attacks by Yemeni rebels.

Saudi tankers altered course after the kingdom last week took the extraordinary measure of temporarily halting oil shipments via the Bab el-Mandeb Strait at the southern tip of the Red Sea.

Other oil-market news: ■ Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince will chair a new government committee for hydrocarbons, the country's Press Agency reports.

■ Kazakhstan's output rose to 1.91 million barrels a day in July from 1.897 million a day in June, according to Bloomberg calculations based on data from the Energy Ministry and Information-Analytical Centre of Oil and Gas.

■ U.S. inventories are forecast to have fallen by 3 million barrels last week.

States suing Austin company, Trump administration over guns

By Michael Rubinkam
Associated Press

Eight states are filing suit against the Trump administration over its decision to allow a Texas company to publish downloadable blueprints for a 3D-printed gun, contending the hard-to-trace plastic weapons are a boon to terrorists and criminals and threaten public safety.

The suit, filed Monday in Seattle, asks a judge to block the federal government's late-June settlement with Defense Distributed, which allowed the company to make the plans available online. Officials say that 1,000 people have already downloaded blueprints for AR-15 rifles.

"I have a question for the Trump Administration: Why are you allowing dangerous criminals easy access to weapons?" Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson, a Democrat, said in a statement Monday. "These downloadable guns are unregistered and very difficult to detect, even with metal detectors, and will be available to anyone regardless of age, mental health or criminal history."

Joining the suit were Democratic attorneys general in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Maryland, New York and the District of Columbia. Separately, attorneys general in 21 states urged Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Attorney General Jeff Sessions on Monday to withdraw from the settlement with De-



AP file photo

In this May 10, 2013, file photo, Cody Wilson, the founder of Defense Distributed, shows a plastic handgun made on a 3D printer at his home in Austin. Eight states filed suit Monday against the Trump administration over its decision to allow the Austin company to publish downloadable blueprints for a 3D-printed gun, contending the hard-to-trace plastic weapons are a boon to terrorists and criminals and threaten public safety.

fense Distributed, saying it "creates an imminent risk to public safety."

People can use the blueprints to manufacture a plastic gun using a 3D printer. But gun industry experts have expressed doubt that criminals would go to the trouble, since the printers needed to make the guns are very expensive, the guns themselves tend to disintegrate quickly and traditional firearms are easy to come by.

Cody Wilson, the founder of Defense Distributed, first published downloadable designs for a 3D-printed firearm in 2013. It was downloaded about 100,000 times until the State Department ordered him to cease, contending it violated federal export laws since some of the blueprints were downloaded by people outside the United States.

The State Department reversed course in late June,

agreeing to allow Wilson to resume posting the blueprints. The files were published on Friday.

The company filed its own suit in Texas on Sunday, asserting that it's the victim of an "ideologically-fueled program of intimidation and harassment" that violates the company's First Amendment rights.

The company's attorney, Josh Blackman, called it an "easy case."

States are free to enact gun control measures, but "what they can't do is censor the speech of another citizen in another state, and they can't regulate the commerce of another citizen in another state when that commerce is authorized by a federal government license," Blackman said in an interview Monday. "It's a violation of the First Amendment, it's unconscionable and we're going to fight it to the very end."

TRAINING

From 1A

nine accidental opioid-related deaths in Midland County in 2015, the most recent year for which information is available. The department masks total numbers to protect people's identities when cases involve confidential data.

Last year, the Texas Poison Center Network reported 36 opioid-related exposure cases in Midland County — the highest number in the 30-county region, according to DSHS.

"That relays a message to us that this is a huge problem — people are actually calling the Texas Poison Center because they're worried about overdosing," said Kayla Fishbeck, regional evaluator for the Region 9 Prevention Resource Center (PRC), which brought Thursday's training to Midland.

Fishbeck said one positive change was a regional drop from 2016 to 2017 in the dispensations of Schedule II drugs — which include many opioids. The PRC, a program of the Permian Basin Regional Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, is evaluating local information at a time when more than 100 people die each day from opioid overdoses in the United States.

"We know that the Permian Basin is a drug hub," Fishbeck said. "Especially with the oil boom going on, there's a lot more people coming into the area."

Locally, the PRC employs strategies for prevention. Fishbeck said Midland and Odessa have medication take-back programs for prescriptions people no longer use. She also said the center is gathering data in hopes of starting curriculum to address local needs.

In its efforts to combat the opioid crisis, the Midland Police Department announced in May that officers would begin carrying Narcan. The patrol division was the first to be trained on identifying

characteristics of overdoses and using the medication's nasal spray.

Jason Cooper, a physician assistant with the Texas Tech Special Medical Operations division, has collaborated with the department. He said officers on patrol are the most likely to come in contact with opioids and that they may experience overdose effects if they do.

"The law enforcement use of Narcan, the opioid antidote, has been gaining popularity over the last four or five years," Cooper told the Reporter-Telegram in June. "It's a two-edged proposition — one, to protect the officer. Secondly, to rescue victims suffering from an opioid overdose."

The use of potent, synthetic opioids hasn't been as prevalent in this region as it has in other areas of the country, according to Cooper. Instead, he said prescriptions and heroin present more of a problem locally.

Narcan isn't a cure for addiction but rather a tool to restore normal breathing after opioid overdoses, according to Cooper. He said abuse of the drugs has potential to impact people of all ages and backgrounds.

"They can get addicted from legitimate use of prescription painkillers — maybe they're recovering from surgery, recovering from injury," he said.

Thursday's event was intended to reach first responders as well as health care professionals, counselors and other community members. Thibodeaux said the training was a chance to spread information about the signs of opioid overdoses and ways to respond in those situations.

"We hope that everybody here takes away the ability to start being a little more open-minded in talking about this to others — making it like a household conversation," he said. "No one's immune to this."

SEARCH

From 1A

challenge;

■ Interlocal agreement — the city is "heavily invested" in interlocal agreements with neighboring entities, primarily the city of Odessa and Midland County;

■ Resource management — the new chief will be innovative in maximizing the utilization of resources.

A position profile also states the police chief will manage the efforts of 253 employees, with 200 of those being sworn officers.

It also states the operating budget for the police department is approximately \$27.1 million.

"The Police Department is aspect of the city's economic well-being, promoting a healthy business and residential climate and minimizing fear of crime and disorder," the profile states. "The chief will be an excellent collaborator and capable of building strong relationships within and across city departments and in the community."

STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

LEON VALLEY San Antonio Aquarium recovers shark stolen in baby stroller

Two men have confessed to snatching a small shark from a Texas aquarium's interactive touch tank, then whisking it away, wrapping it in a blanket and concealing it in a baby stroller, police say.

Miss Helen, the 16-inch-long gray horn shark, was returned to the San Antonio Aquarium on Monday night, two days after the heist was captured on surveillance video.

"Sharknapping: Unsuccessful!" the aquarium posted on Facebook afterward.

The surveillance footage shows a man plucking the shark from the tank and carrying it away, off camera, still dripping water. Another man is then seen depositing a blanket-wrapped item into a stroller and walking off, accompanied by the first man and a woman carrying a child.

Police said the men put the shark into a bucket before placing it into the stroller.

The shark was recovered Monday night from a home filled with fish tanks and other marine life, said Leon Valley Police Chief Joseph Salvaggio.

Salvaggio said the men confessed to the shark snatching, and investigators planned to talk with the woman Tuesday. Salvaggio told San Antonio TV station KSAT that one of the men was knowledgeable about marine life and likely went to the aquarium specifically for that shark.

"The individual obviously had some knowledge on how to deal with these types of animals, we said that from the very beginning, otherwise why take it? And when we got into the garage and into the house, it looked like almost a mock-up of (the aquarium)," he said.

Authorities are speaking with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to determine whether any federal charges can be filed, Salvaggio said.

NEW MEXICO Lea County, Hobbs continue subsidies for Houston flight

LOVINGTON — A southeastern New Mexico county and city are guaranteeing United Airlines a subsidy of \$2.3 million for the airline to maintain commercial flight service to Houston.

The Hobbs News-Sun reports Lea County approved last week a memo of understanding to provide regular jet service between the Lea County Regional Airport and Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport.

United Airlines flies twice-daily nonstop flights between Hobbs and Houston.

The agreement requires subsidy payments from the city and county to maintain the commercial airline service, with the city and county each agreeing to provide a subsidy of up to \$1.15 million.

DAILY PROMISE
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Psalm 147:3-5

He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds. He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them. Great is our Lord and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.

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Bert Simpson's voice is played by a woman.

Elephant polo is a popular sport in India, Nepal and Thailand.

WORD OF THE DAY
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musket

[MUSS-kuht]

noun

1: a heavy large-caliber muzzle-loading usually smoothbore shoulder firearm; broadly: a shoulder gun carried by infantry

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Wellness
Tour today

Health and Wellness with complimentary classes at COM Aquatics, 3003 N. "A" St. midlandwellness.com. Visit website for classes and times.

YMCA Community Garden Tour, 10 a.m., Midland YMCA, 800 N. Big Spring St. midlandwellness.com.

Free Pilates Reformer and Tower Class at Pilates Reformer Studio, 3303 N. Midland Road. midlandwellness.com. Reserve a spot by emailing dana2822@suddenlink.net.

Free yoga classes at Midland Yoga Works, 4610 N. Garfield St. midlandwellness.com. Sign up on midlandyogaworks.com to attend.

Midland YMCA, 5 a.m.-9 p.m., Midland YMCA, 800 N. Big Spring St. midlandwellness.com. A free guest pass is offered will include a variety of group fitness classes for the day.

Free CycleBar Class, 5:30 and 9 a.m., CycleBar Midland, 3415 N. Loop 250 N. midlandwellness.com. Sign up online for a select \$20 class at midland.cyclebar.com with the promo code MAMHWT18 to redeem a free session.

Women in Wellness offers free consultations and classes, 5:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3:30-6:30 p.m., Curves of Midland, 3001 W. Loop 250 N. midlandwellness.com.

Mommy and Me dance class for all ages, 10-10:45 a.m. Wednesday, 3211 W. Wadley Ave. midlandwellness.com.

Note: Check out the Health + Wellness section inside today's edition for more information on the Midland Wellness Tour.

Things to do

Nature Art day camp for children in kindergarten and first grades, 9 a.m.-noon, Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. sibleynaturecenter.org.

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

Wednesday Storytime with

crafts for preschool children, 11 a.m., Barnes and Noble, 2617 West Loop 250 N. barnesandnoble.com.

Ukulele Club teaches youth ages 10-15 basic chords and songs to prepare for a group performance at the library's end-of-summer pool party, 2-4 p.m., Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2511 W. Loop 250 N.

Party on the Patio with live music and food trucks, 5 p.m., Shack in the Back, 11610 W. Highway 80, Odessa.

Trivia Game Night, 7 p.m., True Texas BBQ, 5407 Andrews Highway, Free.

Live Trivia by Challenge

Entertainment, 8 p.m., Torino's, 3303 N. Midland Road. challengeentertainment.com.

Grant Gilbert, 9 p.m., Rolling 7's Ranch Event Center, 11700 W. County Road 122, Odessa. \$8. R7rec.com.

Karaoke Wednesdays with DJ Savage and host Anya Nevash, 9 p.m. Wednesdays at The Recovery Room, 2802 N. County Road West, Odessa. Facebook: @therecoveryroom432.

This date in Texas

On Aug. 1, 1966, Charles Joseph Whitman, 25, went on an armed

rampage at the University of Texas at Austin that killed 14 people, most of whom were shot by Whitman while he was perched in the clock tower of the main campus building. (Whitman, who had also slain his wife and mother hours earlier, was finally gunned down by police.)

Today in history

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 1, the 213th day of 2018. There are 152 days left in the year.

In 1907, the U.S. Army Signal Corps established an aeronautical division, the forerunner of the U.S.

Air Force.

In 1911, Harriet Quimby became the first woman to receive a U.S. pilot's certificate from the Aero Club of America. (Quimby's accomplishments included being the first woman to fly across the English Channel; she was killed in an accident in July 1912 at age 37.)

In 1961, the rock music video channel MTV made its debut.

In 1984, Michael Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley confirmed they'd been secretly married 11 weeks earlier. (Presley filed for divorce from Jackson in January 1996, citing irreconcilable differences.)

Source: Associated Press

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Midland County structure fire



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Members of the Midland Fire Department were assisted by the NE Volunteer Fire Department and Greenwood Fire Department on Tuesday afternoon fighting a structure fire in the 6500 block of South County Road 1270. The abandoned multi-story home caught fire Monday evening after a lightning strike. That fire was extinguished but the house caught fire again on Tuesday, according to the city's spokeswoman. No one was injured, she said.

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rampage at the University of Texas at Austin that killed 14 people, most of whom were shot by Whitman while he was perched in the clock tower of the main campus building. (Whitman, who had also slain his wife and mother hours earlier, was finally gunned down by police.)

Today in history

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 1, the 213th day of 2018. There are 152 days left in the year.

In 1907, the U.S. Army Signal Corps established an aeronautical division, the forerunner of the U.S.

Air Force.

In 1911, Harriet Quimby became the first woman to receive a U.S. pilot's certificate from the Aero Club of America. (Quimby's accomplishments included being the first woman to fly across the English Channel; she was killed in an accident in July 1912 at age 37.)

In 1961, the rock music video channel MTV made its debut.

In 1984, Michael Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley confirmed they'd been secretly married 11 weeks earlier. (Presley filed for divorce from Jackson in January 1996, citing irreconcilable differences.)

Source: Associated Press

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 1-3-4

Pick 3 day: 1-1-9

Pick 3 evening: 7-4-0

Pick 3 night: 3-2-5

Daily 4 morning: 6-9-2-5

Daily 4 day: 6-0-1-8

Daily 4 evening: 0-7-5-6

Daily 4 night: 7-3-5-8

Cash Five: 6-9-10-17-25

Mega Millions: 12-15-35-64-68

Mega Ball 9, Megaplier 2

All or Nothing morning: 1-5

6-11-12-14-16-17-18-21-22-24

All or Nothing day: 1-2-3-4-7

8-14-15-16-17-20-21

All or Nothing evening: 3-4-6

10-11-12-13-15-17-19-20-23

All or Nothing night: 1-2-3-4

5-7-9-12-14-17-22-23

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Weather

Tuesday's temperatures

High: 89

Low: 69

Normal high: 95

Normal low: 70

July 31 records

High: 105, set in 1944

Low: 60, set in 1971

Precipitation

Tuesday: 0.18 inch

Monday: 0.35 inch

Month total: 1.86 inches

Year total: 5.26 inches

Normal total (year to date): 7.88 inches

Winds

Wind speed: 15 mph

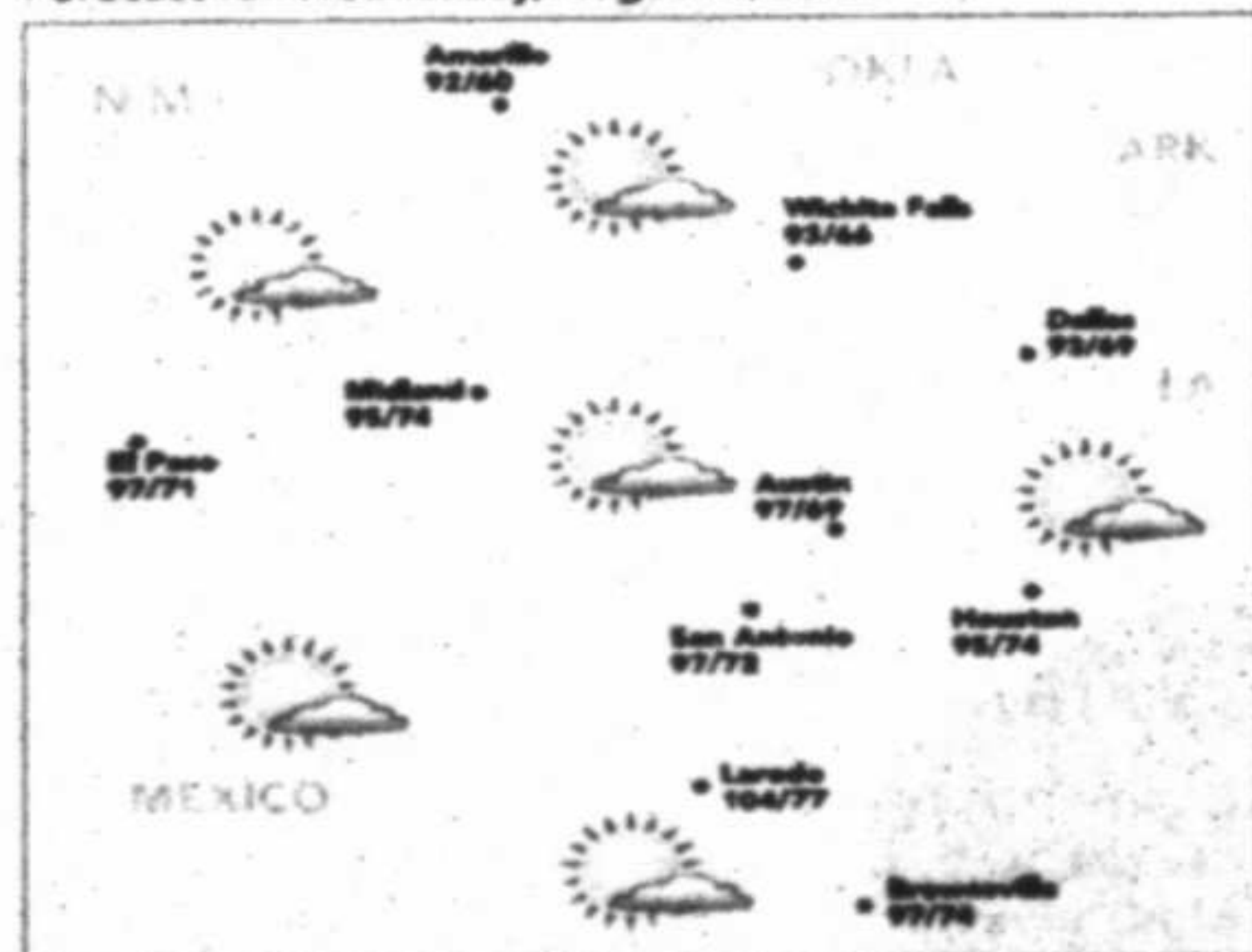
Gust speed: 21 mph

Today's forecast

High: 96

Low: 74

Forecast for Wednesday, August 1, 2018



Conditions: Sunny today/

cloudy tonight

Winds: South 5-10 mph

today; southeast 5-10 mph

tonight

Chance of rain: None

Sunrise: 7:04 a.m.

Sunset: 8:45 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

A baby born today has a Sun in Leo and a Moon in Pisces if born before 6:42 a.m. (ET). Afterward, the Moon will be in Aries.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2018:

This year you finally feel as if you can accomplish certain key goals. You might be surprised by a secret desire that could become a reality. From fall on, you will be unusually fortunate. Friends will play a significant role in your year. If you are single, you might be faced with too many admirers. Date all you want, but do not commit until you are sure. If you are attached, the two of you will become more closely intertwined. A change of residence or a remodeling of your present digs is likely. SAGITTARIUS often runs with your ideas.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Your got-up-and-go really cannot be stopped, except when a boss or older relative may hassle you or want more control. First come could be involved. Trust your own judgment. If taking a risk, make sure a loss will not cause a huge problem. Tonight: Beam in more of what you want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ For most of the daylight hours, you will enjoy greater ease and success. You do not need to push hard, though you should avoid someone you must respond to. This person could be very feisty right now. You do not always have to explain where you are going. Tonight: Vanish!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ You might feel pressured by everything you have to do. A boss or an older friend may need your help, and he or she can't stop demanding more of your time. Your mind seems to float into other realms, perhaps involving other people. Tonight: A friend extends a fun invitation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ You have the ability to read between the lines. You also are aware of someone's odd behavior. This person might be reticent to be as open as you probably would like. Know that you likely don't have the control you desire. Tonight: Enjoy a midweek break out on the town.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Your adventuresome spirit comes forward, leaving the more sedate and cautious facets of your personality behind. Enjoy greeting new ideas and people, yet be aware that what works for one person may not work for another. Tonight: Try out a new type of cuisine with a loved one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Just because no one agrees with you does not mean that you are wrong. Know that to take the stand that you feel works would require a lot of confidence. Follow your heart

and take the lead. A failure here and there is normal. Tonight: The Force is with you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ You really don't need to make any excuses. Your creativity soars. Add some imagination to your daily routine, and others are likely to relish

REBELMUSTER



Courtesy photos

Lee High's Rebel Muster, above, and Midland High's Dawg Day, below, were Tuesday. The events provide students and parents the opportunity to visit campus and prepare for the upcoming school year. They can register for classes, sign up for extracurricular activities and purchase parking passes and spirit items such as T-shirts. The first day of school at Midland ISD is Aug. 15. More photos from Rebel Muster and Dawg Days will appear in a future edition.

DAWG DAYS



Pioneer casts shadow over Permian earnings

■ Company exemplifies basin's problems, is better-positioned in terms of contracted pipeline capacity

If you want to see how the Permian Basin's pipeline problems are hitting producers, where better to start than Pioneer Natural Resources Co.? Not only is it one of the largest E&P companies operating there, it's also shedding other assets to make itself a Permian pure-play.

That's gone from being a badge of honor to a drawback in recent months, and Pioneer's second-quarter operating update, released Tuesday, showed why. Pioneer reported a realized price for its oil of \$61.20 a barrel, nearly \$7 lower than the average Nymex oil futures price for the quarter. A year before, that differential was just \$3.28, showing just how much of a bite Permian logistical constraints are taking out of Pioneer's revenue. Using the midpoint of Pioneer's guidance, the spread in the second quarter cost Pioneer about \$108 million of potential revenue. Compounding this was the effect

LIAM DENNING
Bloomberg



of hedging. Tim Dove, Pioneer's CEO, talked about this on the first-quarter earnings call in May, noting that a heavy hedging program would blunt the benefit of higher oil prices this year. Hedging effects took off almost \$4.50 a barrel in the first quarter, but that blew out to more than \$8 in the second.

The stock fell slightly on the news Tuesday, largely because it has fallen about 12 percent already since concerns about the Permian hit in mid-May.

And there are reasons for optimism looking ahead. Hedges aside, Pioneer is actually better-positioned than many of its peers in terms of contracted pipeline capacity from West Texas to the Gulf Coast, where

pricing is better. It also ships a lot of its associated natural gas production west toward California, which mitigates some of the local glut in that fuel, too.

And on hedging, the share of oil production covered by Pioneer's program drops significantly next year, with only around 7 percent locked in as of the end of March, versus almost 80 percent for 2018's output, according to data compiled by Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

Indeed, relief may come a little sooner than that. Paul Sankey, analyst at Mizuho Securities, notes Pioneer contracts for its sales to refineries and for exports about two months ahead of expected deliveries. Given the recent narrowing of the spread between domestic West Texas intermediate crude oil prices and the international Brent benchmark, that should mean stronger realizations coming through in the current quarter.

One thing Tuesday's figures hammer home, though, is the shadow the Permian will cast over the E&P earnings season just beginning.

Associated Press

Dallas-area bar linked to mass shooting gives up liquor license

DALLAS — A Dallas-area bar that served a man before he fatally shot eight people at a nearby home will give up its liquor license in a settlement with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

The Local Public House

in Plano will cancel its permit effective today as part of a settlement approved last week, the Dallas Morning News reported. Spencer Hight had been drinking at the bar on Sept. 10, 2017, before he traveled to his estranged wife's home and opened fire as she hosted a football watch

party. His estranged wife, Meredith Hight, and seven other people were killed. Spencer Hight was later killed by police responding to the shooting. Under the settlement, the bar's permit holder didn't admit to wrongdoing. Local Public House's attorney,

Facebook finds 'sophisticated' efforts to disrupt elections

By Barbara Ortutay
and Mary Clare Jalonick
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Facebook set off a firestorm Tuesday, announcing that it had uncovered "sophisticated" efforts, possibly linked to Russia, to manipulate U.S. politics and by extension the upcoming midterm elections.

The company was careful to hedge its announcement: it didn't connect the effort directly to Russia or to the midterms, now less than a hundred days away. And its findings were limited to 32 apparently fake accounts on Facebook and Instagram, which the company removed because they were involved in "coordinated" and "inauthentic" political behavior.

But official Washington went ballistic anyway, not least because the reported activity so closely mirrored Russian influence efforts during the 2016 presidential election. Nearly 300,000 people followed at least one of the newly banned accounts and thousands expressed interest in events they promoted.

"This is an absolute attack on our democracy," said Virginia Sen. Mark Warner, the top Democrat on the Senate intelligence committee and one of several lawmakers Facebook had briefed in advance. "I can say I think with pretty high confidence that I think this was Russian related."

A spokesman for Senate Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley said Facebook had informed his office that "that a limited group of Russian actors has attempted to spread disinformation using its platform and that the affected groups are affiliated with the political left."

The identified accounts sought to "promote divisions and set Americans against one another," wrote Ben Nimmo and Graham Brookie of the Atlantic Council's Digital Forensic Research Lab in a blog post Tuesday. The nonprofit is working with Facebook to find and analyze abuse on its service.

The perpetrators, Facebook noted, have been "more careful to cover their tracks" than in 2016, in part because of steps Facebook has taken to prevent abuse over the past year. For example, they used virtual private networks and internet phone services to mask their locations, and paid third parties to run ads on their behalf.

After it became clear that Russia-linked actors used social media to try to influence the 2016 U.S. election, Facebook has escalated countermeasures intended to prevent a repeat. It has cracked down on fake accounts and tried to slow the spread of fake news and misinformation through outside fact-checkers. The company has also announced new guidelines around political advertisements, requiring disclosure of who paid for them and keeping a database.

Facebook has ramped up spending on these and other measures, so much so that it finally spooked investors with a forecast of lower profitability last Wednesday. Facebook's shares promptly dropped almost 20 percent and haven't recovered.

While the company would not say who is behind the efforts, Facebook said it uncovered links between the accounts it just deleted and those created by Russia's Internet Research Agency in the 2016 influence effort.

For example, the Atlantic Council's researchers noted "language patterns that indicate non-native English and consistent mistranslation, as well as an overwhelming focus on polarizing issues." The accounts seemed focused on building up an online audience and moving it to offline events, such as protests.

The earliest page was created in March 2017. Facebook says more than 290,000 accounts followed at least one of the fake pages. The most followed Facebook pages had names such as "Aztlán Warriors," "Black Elevation," "Mindful Being," and "Resisters."

Facebook didn't provide detailed descriptions of those pages. But their names parallel those of 2016 groups established by Russian agents to manipulate Americans with particular ethnic, cultural or political identities. That effort targeted people with both liberal and conservative leanings.

This time, though, the pages Facebook found focused "exclusively at engaging and influencing the left end of the American political spectrum," according to the Atlantic Council researchers.

Facebook says the pages ran about 150 ads for \$11,000 on Facebook and Instagram, paid for in U.S. and Canadian dollars. The first ad was created in April 2017; the last was created in June 2018.

On a Tuesday conference call, Facebook executives declined to say much more, including whether the pages spanned a range of political opinion and whether the accounts mentioned specific candidates or politicians.

California Rep. Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the House intelligence committee, said more work needs to be done before the midterm elections.

"Foreign bad actors are using the exact same playbook they used in 2016," he said. They are "dividing us along political and ideological lines, to the detriment of our cherished democratic system."

The intelligence panel is planning to hold a hearing in early September with Facebook Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg, Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey and an executive from Google.

President Donald Trump has offered mixed messages on Russian interference, at times even calling it a "hoax." After appearing to question whether the Russians would try again to interfere earlier this month, he acknowledged last week in a tweet that the midterms were a likely target. But he said that Democrats, not his fellow Republicans, would be the ones supported by Russia.

Airliner crashes in northern Mexico; no deaths, 37 injured

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — An Aeromexico jetliner crashed after taking off in the northern state of Durango on Tuesday, but the state's governor said there were no deaths and another official said 37 people had minor injuries.

The civil defense office of Durango state said the plane came down in a field near the airport for the state capital, also named Durango.

Israel Solano Mejia, director of the city's civil defense agency, told Foro TV that the plane "made it off the ground, but fell nose-first" just a few hundred yards from the end of the runway.

"The nose took the hit.

The most seriously injured is the pilot," Solano Mejia said. However, he said, "the majority of passengers left (the plane) under their own power" and only 37 suffered slight injuries.

Earlier, Durango Gov. Jose Aispuro wrote in his Twitter account that "it is confirmed there were no fatalities in the accident."

Gerardo Ruiz Eparza, head of Mexico's Transport Department, said there were 97 passengers and four crew members aboard the Embraer 190. The plane has a capacity of 100 passengers.

Officials and witnesses differed on whether the plane either fell shortly after takeoff or ran off the runway without really gaining altitude.



AP file photo

In this Aug. 21, 2017, file photo, pedestrians walk past Faneuil Hall in Boston. In an open letter to Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, dated July 30, 2018, some black Bostonians are threatening a boycott because the building's 18th-century namesake was a slave owner.

Boycott looms for landmark named after slave owner

By Sarah Betancourt
Associated Press

BOSTON — Boston's Faneuil Hall has served as a home for civic rhetoric from the time colonists congregated to talk about freedom from the British. But the site known as the Cradle of Liberty is named after wealthy 18th century slave owner Peter Faneuil, much to the chagrin of activists who are planning a boycott.

Kevin Peterson is leading the boycott of the city-owned building this week, saying the hall was constructed from money derived from the sale of slaves, and that the city's African-American population doesn't feel a connection to the site.

Peterson said letters to Democratic Mayor Martin Walsh's office and the Boston City Council calling for a public hearing have gone unanswered.

As an alternative, Peterson and other members of the New Democracy Coalition are calling for the name to be changed to commemorate Crispus Attucks, a black man who was killed during the 1770 Boston Massacre, generally considered the first casualty of the American Revolution.

The mayor's office declined to comment and instead referred The Associated Press to a previous statement saying, "We can't erase history, but we can learn from it."

Peterson said he also dropped a letter off at City Council President Andrea Campbell's office in June. She did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

Across the U.S., parks, buildings and even a residential college at Yale University have been renamed to erase ties to slavery. Harvard Law School abandoned its shield in 2016 because it was based on the 18th century family crest of a benefactor who owned slaves.

History of the landmark

Merchant Peter Faneuil offered to build a public market house in 1740 as a gift to the city on the site where slaves had previously been auctioned.

Completed two years later, the hall served as a meeting spot for colonists planning to overthrow King George III's rule over the 13 colonies.

Abolitionists gave speeches opposing slavery from its pulpit. Women hosted a conference in 1915 to amend the U.S. Constitution in favor of universal suffrage. More recently, President Barack Obama gave a speech in defense of the Affordable Care Act there. These days, the hall also welcomes immigrants to its space for naturalization ceremonies.

Who is Peter Faneuil?

Faneuil was the son of French Huguenot parents who originally settled in New York. When they died, he moved to Boston to live with his uncle, Andrew Faneuil, according to the National Park Service, which oversees the city-owned building.

Peter Faneuil inherited the majority of his uncle's estate and business and became one of the richest men in the city, trading in fish, tobacco, rum, molasses — and humans. According to an inventory of his estate after his death in 1743, he owned five slaves.

He proposed the building as a marketplace in 1740 and offered to fund its construction.

The National Park Service mentions Faneuil's slavery ties in an online biography.

What would a boycott look like?

Peterson said the issue was first brought to the city's attention in early 2017.

He alleges that tour guides barely mention the history of African-Americans and slaves at the site.

In an open letter to Walsh, sent last week, Peterson said protesters "feel compelled to engage in non-violent civil disobedience for the cause of the right to be heard, the right to be respected as black citizens."

He calls Walsh's support for a memorial for victims of the slave trade at the site "a distraction." The city is currently looking at a proposal for a memorial designed by MassArt professor Steven Locke.

Peterson said the boycott would happen within the week and would be "four-pronged." He says a business boycott in Quincy Market Place and the hall would be first, along with a picket, sit-in with "potential civil disobedience" at the hall, and a sit-in that would call attention to the private businesses with business ties to the city of Boston that have voiced opinion on the name change.

GISD Accepting Applications for Free Meals

Greenwood ISD is accepting applications for free and reduced-price meals. The application is available at each campus office. Parents/guardians may submit the completed application to Sandra Smith or Cara Maddox at the Greenwood Elementary Campus, 432-253-6728.

Meal prices are:

Breakfast (PK-4) \$1.25, (5-12) \$1.50;

Lunch (PK-4) \$2.60, (5-12) \$3.10.

Reduced Breakfasts are \$.30, and

Reduced Lunches are \$.40.

Crews report progress in battle against 2 California wildfires

By Marcio Jose Sanchez and Sudhin Thanawala
Associated Press

LAKEPORT, Calif. — Firefighters reported progress Tuesday in their battle against the wildfires that have ravaged some of Northern California's most scenic areas, including twin blazes that were tearing through vineyards and brush-covered hills and threatening some 10,000 homes.

The two fires straddling Mendocino and Lake counties had burned 10 homes along 116 square miles of rural land. Fire crews were able to slow the spread of one of the blazes into populated areas and instead the flames pushed into the Mendocino National Forest.

"Just because you see a big column (of smoke) standing up every day does not mean we're not having some success in the fire line," Cal Fire Battalion Chief John Messina told a community meeting in Lake County.

He urged people to stay vigilant because fires can easily jump over containment lines.

Evacuation orders were in effect for the 4,700-resident town of Lakeport, along with some smaller communities and a section of the national forest. In all, some 19,000 people have been warned to flee,

fire officials said.

Lakeport, north of San Francisco, is the county seat and a popular destination for bass anglers and boaters on the shores of Clear Lake. But by Monday night it was a ghost town, the main streets deserted.

A few miles away, embers, ash and smoke swirled through vineyards where at least one home had gone up in flames. Firefighters set blazes at the bottom of hills to burn up the tinder-dry brush before flames cresting the ridge tops could feed on it and surge downhill. A fleet of aircraft made continuous water and fire retardant drops, filling the air with the roar of their engines.

But not everyone heeded the orders to evacuate.

Derick Hughes II remained behind at his property in Nice, California, where he ran sprinklers on his roof and removed yard plants that could catch fire.

The 32-year-old Marine Corps veteran sent his wife and two daughters to safety along with three carloads of belongings. But he said he had too much at stake to leave himself. He bought his three-bedroom house last year using a loan from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"This is everything I bled for, and I've worked really hard to get to where I am, and I'm just not willing to give it up so easily," he said over the phone.

"Some people may think that's selfish of me, and I have insurance. But the way things go, I'd rather not start over."

About 100 miles north, the Carr Fire has burned more than 880 homes and killed six people in and around Redding. The blaze has also destroyed another 348 outbuildings and damaged 165 homes.

It is now the seventh most destructive wildfire in California history, fire officials said.

Cal Fire incident commander Bret Gouvea said he was cautiously optimistic about progress made against the fire, the Record-Searchlight newspaper of Redding reported.

"We're turning the corner," he said, adding that he hates "saying those things (because) this thing has made me a liar so many times."

More than 27,000 people remained evacuated from their homes, although another 10,000 were allowed to return Monday as fire crews reinforced lines on the fire's western edge. The fire was 27 percent contained.

Those fires were among 15 large blazes burning across the state, where fire crews were stretched to the limit.

Firefighters from 10 other states are helping battle the blazes, with six more states expected to send firefighting resources to California this week.

Identical twin brothers to wed identical twin sisters

Associated Press

GRASS LAKE, Mich.

— Two sets of 24-year-old identical twins had their first date together, became engaged at the same time and are now preparing to tie the knot in Michigan this weekend.

Identical twins Krissie and Kassie Bevier will marry Zack and Nick Lewan in Grass Lake on Friday and Saturday, the Jackson Citizen Patriot reported. Krissie and Zack's wedding will be held on Friday, while Kassie and Nick will get hitched on Saturday. The four will share their reception Saturday night.

"I'm in disbelief sometimes of just how everything happened," Nick Lewan told WILX-TV.

Kassie Bevier and Nick Lewan met first at Grand Valley State University four years ago in a psychology class. The professor had asked if there were any twins in class, and Kassie and Nick both raised their hands.

"I was looking around and I looked behind and I was like, 'Oh, I'm in trouble now,'" Nick Lewan said.

Kassie and Nick invited their twins on their first date to church one Sunday morning, and Krissie and Zack started dating shortly after.

Nick and Zack Lewan proposed to the Beviers together on a trip last year to the Henry Ford Museum.

Town's entire police force quits, citing equipment, safety

Associated Press

BLANDFORD, Mass. — The entire four-member police department of a small western Massachusetts town has resigned, citing poor equipment and unsafe working conditions.

Interim Police Chief Roberta Sarnacki and three officers submitted their resignations in a letter to Blandford officials on Monday.

The officers said the town's police cruisers are in such bad shape they often have to answer calls in their personal vehicles. They said their police radios don't work in some parts of the town and their poorly fitting bulletproof vests are beyond

expiration dates.

State police said Tuesday all 911 calls from Blandford for police assistance are being routed to troopers in Russell.

The officers on the force said they regret leaving the town without coverage, but have no other choice because their own safety has been put at risk.

Dillard's

SALE STARTS
THURSDAY, AUGUST 2!

PREVIEW
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TODAY, AUGUST 1!

TAKE AN EXTRA
40%
OFF

ENTIRE STOCK
PERMANENTLY REDUCED
HANDBAGS • JEWELRY • WATCHES
LADIES ACCESSORIES • LINGERIE
MEN'S APPAREL • HOME

TAKE AN EXTRA
30%
OFF

ENTIRE STOCK
PERMANENTLY REDUCED
• LADIES APPAREL
• JUNIORS APPAREL
• KIDS APPAREL
• LADIES, MEN'S AND KIDS SHOES

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, August 1, 2018 | Page 6A

Farmers grow distrustful of simple solutions

■ The only reason the proposed farm subsidy is even on the table is because Trump fired the first shots of a global trade war with China, Canada, Mexico and Europe

Take it from this country boy, Mr. President. Farmers — including those in my native Central California — don't need your handout. They just want you to remove your boot from their neck so they can make a living.

The Trump administration is offering an estimated \$12 billion in farm aid, which is about the last thing farmers need.

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue calls the proposed assistance "a firm statement that other nations cannot bully our agricultural producers to force the United States to cave in."

The farmers I know aren't worrying about Uncle Sam caving in to foreign countries. They're worried about their entire industry caving in on them, their families and their futures.

Still, they don't want welfare; they only want to grow their crops and sell them at a fair price. Most of them accept they're not going to get rich tilling the soil, but they'd appreciate it if they didn't have to go broke in the process of providing nourishment to the nation.

Some respect would also be appreciat-

RUBEN NAVARRETTE

Washington Post Writers Group



ed. Farmers remain the neglected stepchildren of the American economy.

In California, the nation's agricultural capital, farmers have gotten so efficient at seeding, harvesting, packaging, selling and shipping fruits and vegetables that they can feed most of the country and part of the world. Meanwhile, blowhard politicians in both parties tout the hip commodities of technology and Hollywood films as driving the economy in the Golden State. But as an industry that generates nearly \$60 billion in annual net income, it's farming that fills our bellies.

Supposedly, Trump's farm handout would come in three forms: direct payments to farmers who grow soybeans, sorghum, wheat, cotton, dairy and hogs; government purchases of fruit, nuts, legumes and meats that go to food banks; and the development of new markets for exports.

Whether he is bashing the European Union or separating refugee families at the border, Trump's MO is to break things and

then quietly try to cover up the wreckage with a Band-Aid.

Besides, the proposed farm subsidy is guilt money. The only reason the assistance is even on the table is because Trump fired the first shots of a global trade war with China, Canada, Mexico and Europe by imposing tariffs on imported steel and aluminum, which invited the targeted nations to retaliate with tariffs on U.S. farm products.

Because Trump can't admit fault, he is spinning the retaliatory tariffs as an unprovoked attack on farmers by foreign powers.

Nonsense. The foreign tariffs are in self-defense. Trump started this shoving match.

To help convince farmers that his aid offer is on the level, the president has even gone to the trouble of printing up green baseball caps that read "Make Our Farmers Great Again!"

Get a load of this city slicker. He doesn't get it. Farmers don't need to be made great again. They already are great. It's their political leadership that often falls short.

Trump has promised farm groups that his tariffs will ultimately benefit their industry if they can "just be a little patient."

Too bad farmers can't use patience to pay the mortgage, buy feed, get a truck, fix the tractor or purchase groceries in hard times.

Actually, I think farmers — many of whom lean conservative and voted for Trump — have been mighty patient as

they wait for any evidence at all that their trust wasn't misplaced.

So far, the administration has been — on multiple fronts — about as friendly to farming as a plague of locusts.

Besides the chaos created by tariffs, its nativist-fueled crackdown on illegal immigrants has scared off foreign workers and made it nearly impossible for farmers to find field hands.

Wages are rising because the workers who remain have their choice of jobs. Why pick tomatoes — even for the unusually high wage of \$25 per hour — if you can build homes for twice that amount?

According to media reports, avocado growers on the California coast are paying pickers as much as \$400 per day, and they still can't find qualified and willing workers to bring in the crop.

Meanwhile, the Republican majority in Congress — which enables Trump by making excuses for his incompetence — seems to have no interest in passing legislation that would help farmers find workers to bring in the harvest. They won't legalize the undocumented, or import a new batch of temporary guest workers. They've spent years fleecing farmers, and now they offer nothing.

Subsidies are easy to promise. Solutions are harder to come by. Politicians are no help to farmers, many of whom would probably — right about now — prefer the locusts.

GUEST VIEW

Accountability system could reverse falling student achievement

No one likes to be held accountable for achievement, especially when the goal is so extremely hard to attain. But raising the performance of our public schools so that every child has a legitimate shot at a decent education is both a moral imperative and an economic necessity in our increasingly competitive world.

For those reasons, we are encouraged by recent changes to the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness or STAAR standards. Our sense is that STAAR is taking three broad steps forward.

First, STAAR is a standardized testing program and therefore comes with all of the normally attendant drawbacks to such exams. But testing is a necessity for anyone interested in improvement. And in this case, we like that STAAR exams have been made vastly more accessible to parents.

Simply put, parents will be able to log-on through a Texas Education Administration web site to see how their child performed and even test questions (hundreds of thousands already have). Parents can also see how their child's district, as well as school, performed. And rather than using confusing labels on results, scores for districts and schools will be assigned a letter grade from A through F.

If that seems less than revolutionary, consider this fact: There may be no better source to press a local school to improve than local parents. By arming parents with real information about their kids and their schools, Texas has just created a mechanism for continuous improvement (assuming that officials don't water down the tests to rob the entire process of its meaning).

The second reason STAAR took a step forward this year is this: The system is now designed to encourage improvement regardless of how a student scores. So even if a student turns in a B performance, the system now has built-in mechanisms to encourage schools to help that student master the subject. That new pressure will likely improve overall performance.

And finally, the third reason we are encouraged by the work being done through STAAR is that there has been some care taken to win buy-in throughout the system. The exam questions are being developed by teachers, and the teachers will also have access to key pieces of data. These facets of the system will help create quality exams and enable teachers to identify how best to help students raise their performance. This level of inclusion gives the system a better chance at success.

The first round of A through F district scores are due to be released on Aug. 15. Over time, each campus will get a letter grade, too. Our hope is that STAAR now enables parents and school officials to be better equipped as they make tough decisions.

Raising educational achievement isn't easy. But then the teachers we know show up every day because they are dedicated to one of the hardest challenges facing us today.

— Dallas Morning News

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Midland Reporter-Telegram

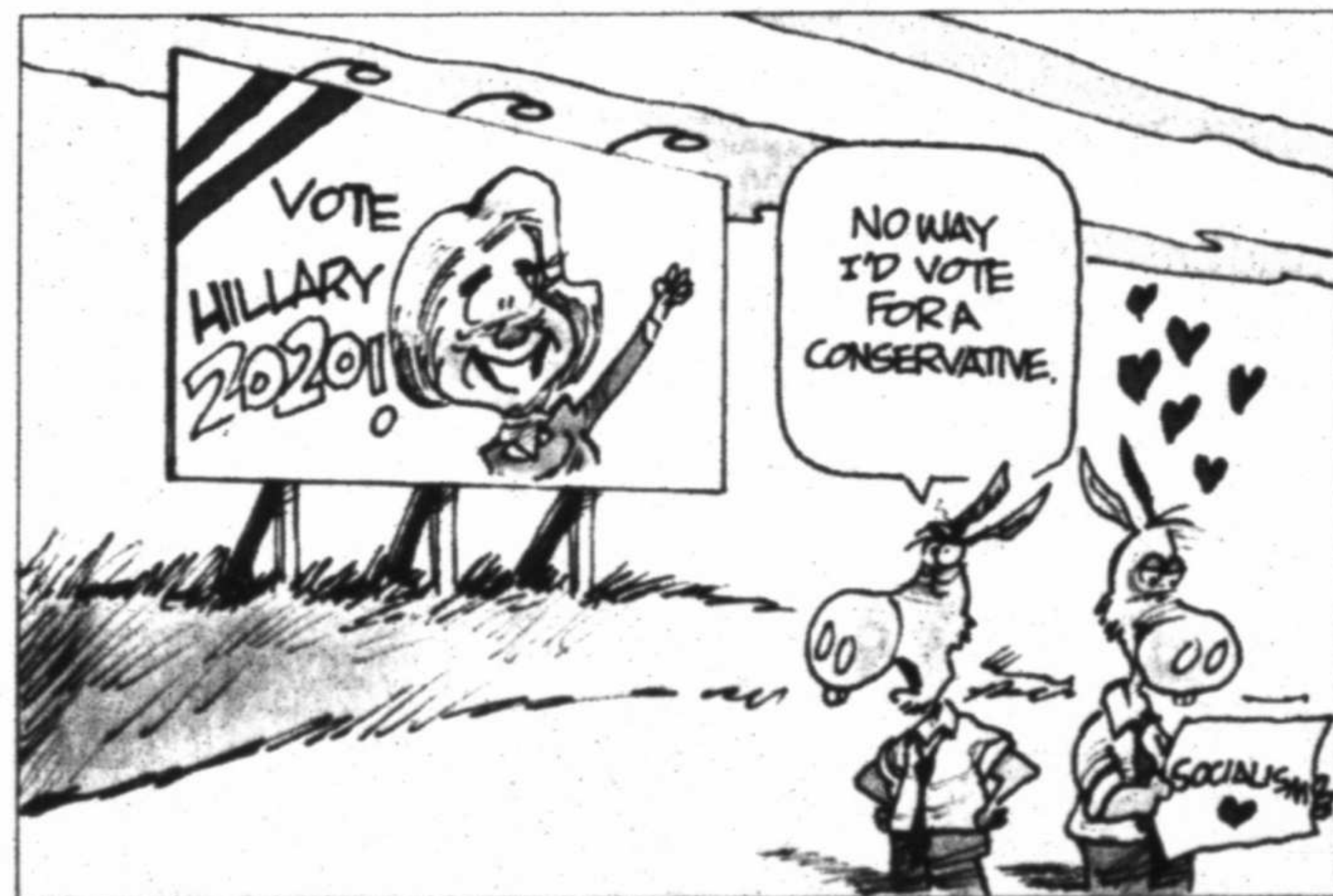
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Opinions, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the author's or artist's views and not necessarily the view of the Reporter-Telegram.



The battle over socialism is joined

■ The first step toward achieving any policy goal is creating a national debate over it and swinging one of the major political parties behind it

RICH LOWRY

King Features Syndicate



It's begun. We are having a debate over socialism.

Not over whether it's fair to call Democrats socialists. Not over whether socialism has been good for Venezuela or some other faraway, unfortunate country. But no-kidding socialist policies right here in the United States.

The press attention to a new study of the costs of "Medicare-for-all," or universal health coverage paid for by the government that goes much further than Obamacare, is a sign that it is a live issue.

Popularized by the socialist Bernie Sanders, Medicare-for-all is not just a fringy left-wing talking point anymore. It's a fringy plank of a growing element of the Democratic Party. A raft of prospective Democratic presidential candidates have endorsed the policy, while about a third of the Democratic members of the House have joined a caucus devoted to it.

The good news for Sanders and Co. is that, in the wake of the failure of an attempted GOP repeal of Obamacare, the health care debate is clearly moving left. The bad news is that Medicare-for-all is still a completely batty, politically unserious idea.

The new study of its costs, from the conservative Mercatus Center, concludes that Medicare-for-all would increase federal spending by almost \$33 trillion during the first 10 years. To put it in nontechnical terms: that's a lot. The study notes that "it would be less expensive to the federal government to triple all projected appropriations," and that "doubling all currently projected federal individual and corporate income tax collections would be insufficient to finance the added federal costs of the plan."

Supporters of the idea impeached the credibility of the findings based on their source, yet a study by the centrist Urban Institute in 2016 found exactly the same thing.

The costs aren't merely a theoretical matter. Vermont, the home of Bernie Sanders, abandoned a single-payer proposal after the Democratic governor concluded that it wasn't fiscally sustainable. Despite its Democratic supermajorities, California gave up on a single-payer proposal last year for

the same reason — the projected cost was twice as much as the state budget.

The upside is that Medicare-for-all purports to save on overall health care spending by ratcheting down payments to health care providers. Medicare does indeed pay less to hospitals than private insurers, but it's not clear that this would be sustainable if hospitals could only count on Medicare-level payments. Regardless, hospitals are politically powerful and well-positioned to resist threats to their bottom line.

Since Medicare-for-all would eliminate insurance premiums and provide health care free of charge, it would create an incentive for more usage, and more health care expenditures.

All of this is why the natural gravity in a single-payer system is toward brute-force price controls and rationing to control costs.

This wouldn't be popular, nor would the radical change that Medicare-for-all would entail. President Barack Obama had to promise that if you like your health care you can keep it because any change to private insurance is so toxic. Medicare-for-all would replace the employer-based system entirely for more than 150 million people. It wouldn't matter how much they liked their insurance — it would be gone as a matter of definition.

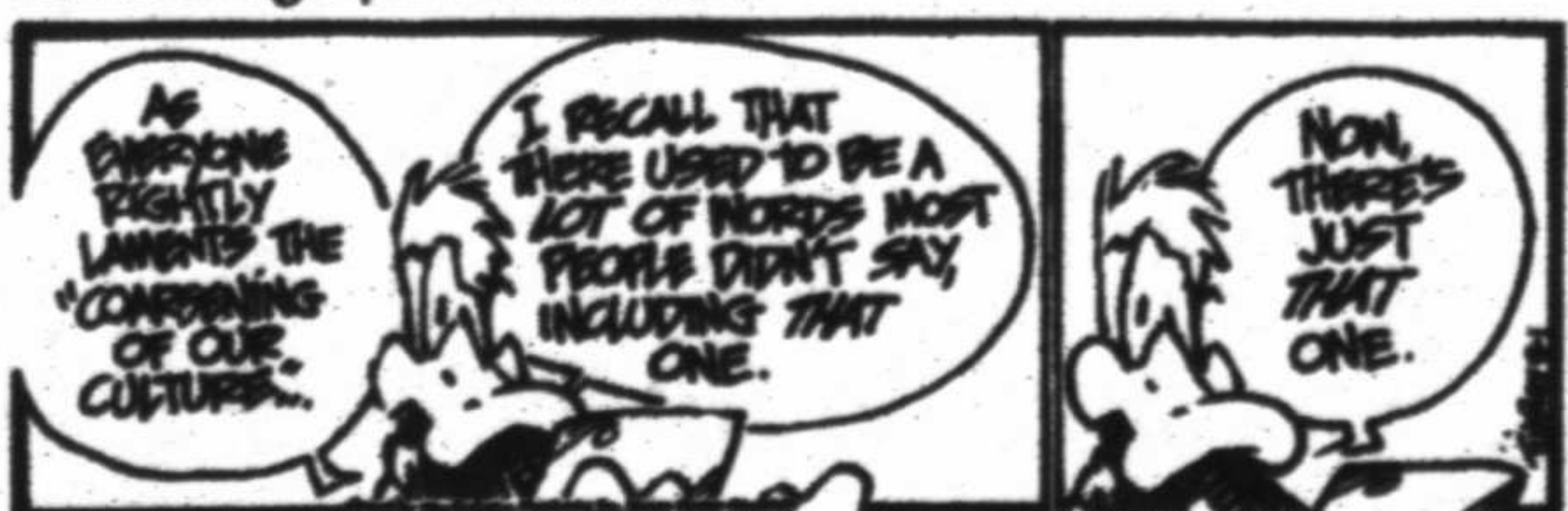
It's hard to see Medicare-for-all as a plausible health care agenda even if Democrats swept all elected branches of government in Washington in 2020. But the first step toward achieving any policy goal is creating a national debate over it and swinging one of the major political parties behind it. Bernie Sanders has had considerable success in that effort, and the allure of "free" health care — like free anything — can't be discounted.

Republicans need to continue to develop and push their own ideas to reduce health care costs, and adjust to the new reality where socialism doesn't simply represent a laugh line, but a battle that needs to be won.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Senators want investigation of immigrant abuse allegations

By Alan Fram
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The bipartisan leaders of the Senate Judiciary Committee asked federal investigators late Monday to examine allegations of sexual, physical and emotional abuse of immigrants held at government detention facilities, saying the mistreatment may have been occurring since 2014 or earlier.

With President Donald Trump already under fire for separating thousands of migrant children from their detained parents, the request for an investigation by Sens. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, and Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., elevated yet another issue to the administration's list of immigration problems.

"These allegations of abuse are extremely disturbing and must be addressed," Grassley and Feinstein wrote. "This is not a partisan issue as reporting suggests many have been occurring for years. Immigrant families and children kept in federal custody deserve to be treated with basic human dignity and respect and should never be subjected to these forms of abuse."

The letter, based on

articles by The Associated Press and other news organizations, says the allegations suggest "a long-term pattern" of mistreatment. Those reports describe claims of abuse over the last few years.

The Judiciary committee has scheduled a hearing for Tuesday on the Trump administration's separation of thousands of migrant children from parents detained entering the U.S. without authorization. Trump abandoned that policy after he came under intense bipartisan criticism, but hundreds of children remain apart from their families, including more than 400 whose parents have been deported without them.

The senators want the inspectors general for the departments of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services to investigate the abuse allegations immediately and to release any previous investigations into the charges. They also want the investigators to study "the adequacy of policies and procedures" used by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, a branch of Homeland Security, and by Health and Human Services to prevent abuse.

The AP reported last month that children held at an immigration detention facility in Virginia said they were beaten while handcuffed, locked in solitary confinement and left nude and cold in concrete cells.

A civil rights lawsuit has been filed alleging mistreatment at the Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center in Roanoke, Virginia, from 2015 to 2018. The alleged victims, Hispanic youths held there for months or years, have submitted sworn statements in the case.

Lawyers for the facility have denied the alleged abuse. Many of the children have been accused by immigration officials of belonging to MS-13 and other violent gangs, an activity Trump has used to justify his "zero tolerance" policy of prosecuting immigrants caught entering the country without permission.

The senators' letter also cited a New York Times report this month about two female migrants who described sexual abuse at detention facilities in Texas and Pennsylvania. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has reported 1,310 cases of sexual

abuse against detainees from 2013 to 2017, the report said.

A June report in The Dallas News described alleged sexual abuse at a detention center near Austin, Texas, in 2017, and The Arizona Republic reported alleged inappropriate contact involving a teenage boy in 2015 and a girl who accused a staffer of making suggestive comments in 2017 at facilities in Glendale and Tucson, Arizona. The lawmakers' letter cited those reports as well.

Last week, U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw commended the Trump administration for reuniting parents in its custody with their children while faulting it for leaving hundreds of families still apart and warning that a better system must be in place. Trump seized on the praise, tweeting Monday that "a highly

respected Federal judge" had said that the "Trump Administration gets great credit" for reuniting illegal families. Thank you, and please look at the previous administrations record — not good!"

Homeland Security spokeswoman Katie Waldman said agency officials perform their duties "professionally and humanely." She said the agency "is abiding by the intent and letter of law and maintains the highest standards care for individuals in our custody." She said its facilities "undergo constant unannounced inspections by outside groups, the Department's inspector general and court-ordered monitors."

Officials at Health and Human Services did not immediately respond to requests for comment emailed to their press office.

'M.A.S.H.' star Alda says he has Parkinson's

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Actor Alan Alda says he has Parkinson's disease.

Appearing Tuesday on "CBS This Morning," the former "M.A.S.H." star said he was diagnosed with the neurodegenerative disorder three and a half years ago. Alda says he expects a tabloid will soon publish a story about his diagnosis.

The 82-year-old says he's not angry and considers it a challenge. Alda says he has acted and given talks since then. He says he could see his thumb twitch in a recent podcast and thought someone would soon do a sad story.



The Ivy Cottage

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2018 Property Tax Rates in City of Midland

This notice concerns 2018 property tax rates for the City of Midland. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine the property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties used in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by law. The rates are given in per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:	
Last year's operating taxes	\$45,168,798
Last year's debt taxes	\$5,025,461
Last year's total taxes	\$50,194,259
Last year's tax base	\$12,250,475,582
Last year's total tax rate	\$0.408389 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$50,194,259
This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$18,180,376,611
This year's effective tax rate (Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings)	\$0.380826 /\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function) tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures.	\$45,168,798
This year's adjusted tax base	\$18,180,376,611
This year's effective operating rate	\$0.342822 /\$100
1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$0.370248 /\$100
This year's debt rate	\$0.044793 /\$100
This year's total rollback rate	\$0.415042 /\$100

A hospital district or city that collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, including one that collects the tax for the first time this year, must insert the following:	
- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$0.00000 /\$100
- Rollback tax rate	\$0.00000 /\$100

For a taxing unit with additional rollback rate for pollution control, insert the following lines:	
- Additional rollback rate for pollution control	\$0 /\$100
- Rollback tax rate	\$0 /\$100

CITY OF MIDLAND 2018

Statement of Increase / Decrease
If the CITY OF MIDLAND adopts a 2018 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of... \$0.380826
per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2017 taxes by... \$1,348,550

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances
The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS FUND - EST	\$293,872
INTEREST AND SINKING FUND-EST	\$0

Schedule B - 2018 Debt Service

2018 DEBT SERVICE
The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues.

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
2018 A 2007 Refunding Bond	\$240,000	\$242,484	\$750	\$483,234
2018 A Road Bond	\$0	\$1,582,598	\$750	\$1,584,348
2014 Refunding Bond	\$370,000	\$22,800	\$750	\$393,550
2014 Certificate of Obligation	\$912,414	\$1,012,174	\$750	\$1,925,338
2012 Certificate of Obligation	\$590,000	\$377,744	\$750	\$968,494
2009 Certificate of Obligation	\$475,000	\$237,666	\$750	\$713,416
Total Expenditures	\$2,587,414	\$3,495,466	\$4,500	\$6,047,380

Total required for 2018 debt service	\$6,047,380
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	\$0
- Amount (if any) paid from other sources	\$0
- Excess collections last year	\$0
- Total to be paid from taxes in 2018	\$6,047,380
- Amount added in anticipation that unit will collect only 98.50% of its taxes in 2018.	\$0
- Total Debt Levy	\$6,047,380

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 4631 Andrews Highway, Midland, Texas.

Name of person preparing this notice: Jerry M. Sundick
Title: Chief Appraiser
Date Prepared: July 27, 2018

2018 Property Tax Rates in Midland College District

This notice concerns 2018 property tax rates for the Midland College District. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine the property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties used in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by law. The rates are given in per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:	
Last year's operating taxes	\$25,114,454
Last year's debt taxes	\$2,859,439
Last year's total taxes	\$25,973,893
Last year's tax base	\$21,014,132,712
Last year's total tax rate	\$0.12360 /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$25,973,893
This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$25,212,171,823
This year's effective tax rate (Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings)	\$0.114722 /\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function) tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures	\$25,114,454
This year's adjusted tax base	\$25,212,171,823
This year's effective operating rate	\$0.103611 /\$100
1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$0.111600 /\$100
This year's debt rate	\$0.010350 /\$100
This year's total rollback rate	\$0.122258 /\$100

A hospital district or city that collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, including one that collects the tax for the first time this year, must insert the following:	
- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$0.00000 /\$100
- Rollback tax rate	\$0.00000 /\$100

For a taxing unit with additional rollback rate for pollution control, insert the following lines:	
- Additional rollback rate for pollution control	\$0 /\$100
- Rollback tax rate	\$0 /\$100

MIDLAND COLLEGE DISTRICT 2018

Statement of Increase / Decrease
If the MIDLAND COLLEGE DISTRICT adopts a 2018 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of... \$0.114722
per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2017 taxes by... \$1,103,476

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances
The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
UNRESTRICTED EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL FUND	\$9,000,000
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$0

Schedule B - 2018 Debt Service

2018 DEBT SERVICE
The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues.

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
General Obligation Bonds, Series 2012	\$2,230,000	\$786,480	\$4,000	\$3,020,480
Total Expenditures	\$2,230,000	\$786,480	\$4,000	\$3,020,480

Total required for 2018 debt service	\$3,020,480
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	\$0
- Amount (if any) paid from other sources	\$0
- Excess collections last year	\$0
- Total to be paid from taxes in 2018	\$3,020,480
- Amount added in anticipation that unit will collect only 98.50% of its taxes in 2018.	\$0
- Total Debt Levy	\$3,020,480

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 4631 Andrews Highway, Midland, Texas.

Name of person preparing this notice: Jerry M. Sundick
Title: Chief Appraiser
Date Prepared: July 26, 2018

HEALTH+ WELLNESS

midland memorial hospital

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, August 1, 2018 | Section B



WET 'N' WILD

Midlanders cool off with a game of firefighter water polo, ride an inflatable slide and make their way through an obstacle course during the 2018 Wellness Tour kick-off with the MFD Wet 'n' Wild fun at CJ Kelly Park. The fourth annual event sponsored by the city, Midland Health, Midland ISD and Midland College includes free classes, health screenings and workout passes; restaurant discounts; back-to-school vaccination clinic and a mental health symposium.

Photos by Tim Fischer | Reporter-Telegram



2018 Wellness Tour schedule

The fourth annual Wellness Tour kicked off Tuesday evening. The tour continues through Saturday and is produced in part by Midland Health, the city of Midland, Midland College and Midland ISD.

For more information, visit www.midlandwellnesstour.com. MidlandWellnessTour

Wednesday

Free one-day workout pass
Hanes Gym | 4400 Midland Drive
Stop by to work out or pick up your free one-day workout pass.

Wellness at Midland YMCA
Midland YMCA | 800 N. Big Spring St.
Enjoy a free guest pass and a variety of group fitness classes. 5 a.m.-9 p.m. Today's featured classes include BODYCOMBAT at 6:45 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. and yoga at noon and 7 p.m.

Free CycloRider Class
CycloRider Midland | 3415 N. Loop 250 W.
Try something new and take a free indoor cycling class at CycloRider. Choose the class time of your choice by signing up online at midlandcyclo.com. Select drop-in \$20 class and enter the promo code MHW18 to redeem the free class. 5 a.m., 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Women in Wellness
Curves of Midland | 3001 W. Loop 250 N., Suite C-117
Free consultation and styling classes. 5:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Classes will be held at 5:30 a.m., 6:30 a.m., 9 a.m., noon, 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Free Yoga Classes
Midland Yoga Works | 4610 N. Garland St., B-11
Enjoy free yoga classes at Midland Yoga Works. Choose a class from the schedule on midlandyogaworks.com and attend for free-no sign-up required. 5:45 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Free Indoor Cycling, Barre, Yoga or Transpire Class
Deline Body and Mind | 2101 W. Midway Ave., Suite 11
Try a rhythm-based cycling, barre, yoga or non-impact class at Deline Body and Mind. Today's featured classes include Rejuvenation Cycling at 5:45 a.m. or 9 a.m. and BodyBarre at 5:50 p.m. Sign up for the class of your choice and when prompted to purchase a class, choose the Wellness Tour Free Class option.

COM Aquatics: Health and Wellness
COM Aquatics | 3003 N. "W" St.
Stay active and get out of the summer heat with COM Aquatics. Try out independent Water Walking for free. 6:30-10 a.m.

Go Plant-Based and Organic!
Steadfast Farms Cafe | 2311 W. Midway Ave.
Try something new and take 20 percent off food and drink items during Wellness Tour. 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Free F1 Pass
Fresh F1 Music | 5210 W. Midway Ave., Suite 300
Enjoy 20 percent off all items when you mention Wellness Tour at check out. 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

Smoothies for Wellness
Smoothie King of Midland | 2200 W. Midway Ave., Suite 17
Enjoy a sweet and healthy treat with a sugar-free smoothie at Smoothie King. Buy 12 smoothies and get a 20 percent discount on the 12th. 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

Shower and Hair Salon Class
JK Dance Center | 3011 W. Midway Ave., Suite 40
Free dance classes for all ages. Stop by to learn anything from Ballet to Hip Hop. Featured Wellness Tour Class of the Day: Mommy and Me Creative Movement. 10-10:45 a.m.

YMCA Community Garden Tour
Midland YMCA | 800 N. Big Spring St.
Take a tour of the Midland YMCA Community Garden and learn how you can get involved in growing local produce in your neighborhood. 10 a.m.

COM Aquatics: Health and Wellness
COM Aquatics | 3003 N. "W" St.
Stay active and get out of the summer heat with COM Aquatics. Try out the Aquatic Activities class for free. 10 a.m. or 1 p.m.

Tour de Bus 22
Bus 22 | 312 N. Colorado St.
Come join us at the Bus for a fresh perspective on healthy eating and try our delicious Wellness Tour plant-based menu. 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

COM Aquatics: Health and Wellness
COM Aquatics | 3003 N. "W" St.
Stay active and get out of the summer heat with COM Aquatics. Try out independent Water Walking for free. 4:30-7 p.m.

Free Pilates Reformer and Toner Class
Pilates Reformer Studio | 3303 N. Midland Road, San Miguel Square #170
Join us for a complete mind and body workout that is different from the gym. Using Pilates equipment, our techniques will decompress your body while delivering results and releasing your mind. To reserve your spot, please email danielle202@outlook.com or text (432) 634-0864. 6:15-7 p.m.

Thursday

Free one-day workout pass
Hanes Gym | 4400 Midland Drive
Stop by to work out or pick up your free one-day workout pass.

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Lighting the Way for Health
Midland Memorial Hospital, Patient Lobby and Market Highway | 400
Rejuvenation Center Plaza
Discover fun and easy ways you and your family can be healthier and live longer. Free health screenings, with-through heart health and important health information and education will be provided by various hospital departments and local organizations. 9 a.m.-10 p.m.

Free Pilates Reformer and Toner Class
Pilates Reformer Studio | 3303 N. Midland Road, San Miguel Square #170
Join us for a complete mind and body workout that is different from the gym. Using Pilates equipment, our techniques will decompress your body while delivering results and releasing your mind. To reserve your spot, please email danielle202@outlook.com or text (432) 634-0864. 6:15-7 p.m.

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COM Aquatics | 3003 N. "W" St.
Stay active and get out of the summer heat with COM Aquatics. Try out independent Water Walking for free. 4:30-7 p.m.

Free Pilates Reformer and Toner Class
Pilates Reformer Studio | 3303 N. Midland Road, San Miguel Square #170
Join us for a complete mind and body workout that is different from the gym. Using Pilates equipment, our techniques will decompress your body while delivering results and releasing your mind. To reserve your spot, please email danielle202@outlook.com or text (432) 634-0864. 6:15-7 p.m.

YMCA Community Garden Tour
Midland YMCA | 800 N. Big Spring St.
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Friday

Free one-day workout pass
Hanes Gym | 4400 Midland Drive
Stop by to work out or pick up your free one-day workout pass.

Wellness at Midland YMCA
Midland YMCA | 800 N. Big Spring St.
Enjoy a free guest pass and a variety of group fitness classes. 5 a.m.-9 p.m. Today's featured classes include GRT Cardio at 5:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. and Sprint at 11:30 a.m.

Free CycloRider Class
CycloRider Midland | 3415 N. Loop 250 W.
Try something new and take a free indoor cycling class at CycloRider. Choose the class time of your choice by signing up online at midlandcyclo.com. Select drop-in \$20 class and enter the promo code MHW18 to redeem the free class. 5 a.m. or noon.

Women in Wellness
Curves of Midland | 3001 W. Loop 250 N., Suite C-117
Free consultation and styling classes. 5:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Classes will be held at 5:30 a.m., 6:30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

COM Aquatics: Health and Wellness
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Go Plant-Based and Organic!
Steadfast Farms Cafe | 2311 W. Midway Ave.
Try something new and take 20 percent off food and drink items during Wellness Tour. 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Free F1 Pass
Fresh F1 Music | 5210 W. Midway Ave., Suite 300
Enjoy 20 percent off all items when you mention Wellness Tour at check out. 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

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Pure Barre Midland | 3208 N. Loop 400 W., Suite 200
Get a total body workout that uses the ballet barre to perform small, controlled movements, which burn fat, sculpt muscles and create long, lean physiques. 7-8 p.m.

Dance Fusion Class
JK Dance Center | 3011 W. Midway Ave., Suite 40
Free dance classes for all ages. Stop by to learn anything from Ballet to Hip Hop. Featured Wellness Tour Class of the Day: Ladies Dance Fusion. 7-8 p.m.

Free one-day workout pass
Hanes Gym | 4400 Midland Drive
Stop by to work out or pick up your free one-day workout pass.

Midland College
Midland College | 2000 N. Garland St.
Come out and take a leisurely 10K walk with the Midland Walkabout. Walkabout Club: See the sights and enjoy a Saturday morning stroll with other community members. 7-9 a.m.

Wellness at Midland YMCA
Midland YMCA | 800 N. Big Spring St.
Enjoy a free guest pass and a variety of group fitness classes. 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Today's featured classes include Barre at 9:15 a.m. and Aquafitness at 10 a.m.

Go Plant-Based and Organic!
Steadfast Farms Cafe | 2311 W. Midway Ave.
Try something new and take 20 percent off food and drink items during Wellness Tour. 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

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Kansas City doctors donate \$11,000 to patient medical debt

Kansas City Star

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A group of Kansas City-area doctors have donated about \$11,000 to help pay off medical bills for hundreds of patients in Missouri and Kansas.

The Midwest Direct Primary Care Alliance's donation will buy \$1.47 million worth of medical debt on behalf of 784 patients in the two states. The alliance is comprised of 21 medical clinics where doctors don't take health insurance and instead charge patients a monthly membership fee.

About 19 doctors and nurse practitioners who work for alliance clinics donated the money to RIP Medical Debt, said Allison Edwards, owner of Kansas City Direct Primary Care in Kansas City, Kansas.

The New York-based nonprofit buys bundles of unpaid bills from collection agencies and medical providers for pennies on the dollar.

"In our society, we've decided that health care is a commodity and we're going to have to pay for it in some way or another, and

until that changes, we're going to have to figure out a way to help people," Edwards said.

She said the doctors don't know whose medical bills were covered by their donation, but RIP Medical Debt focuses its efforts on military members, veterans and low-income patients. To be eligible, patients must make less than twice the federal poverty limit, have medical debts that outstrip their assets or have medical debts that are more than 5 percent of their annual income.

The debt forgiveness is delivered in a letter that arrives inside a golden envelope.

"The amount of medical debt that exists within the metro is astounding," Edwards said. "So it's a small thing we did, relatively speaking. It sounds big, but there's millions of dollars in debt, hundreds of millions, within the Kansas City metro area alone that's just sitting there asking to be paid, and it's not going to (be paid)."

Distributed by the Associated Press

Device can provide relief from mosquito bites

By Ellie Rushing
Sun Sentinel

Newcomers to Florida often are struck by its sunny weather, mild winters — and the small, irritating menace of the pesky mosquito.

Kelley Higney, who arrived from California six years ago, couldn't stand the bites any longer and decided to do something about it. The result: The Bug Bite Thing, a small device that doesn't prevent the insects from biting you, but stops the bite from developing into an ugly welt.

Higney operates the business out of her Loxahatchee, Florida, home. The products are made in Denmark, then shipped to a warehouse in Jacksonville before making their way down to South Florida for shipping.

"It's really personal for me because I was the one suffering. There was nothing I could do for my child, and I was tired of it," Higney said.

It acts like a reverse syringe, sucking out the saliva of the mosquito or the poison of a wasp before the skin has a chance to react and become inflamed. The poison is stored in the top of the device, which can be removed, cleaned out and reused.

It was clinically tested by Dr. Lotte Søgaard-Andersen of University of Southern Denmark for wasps, bees and red ants, she said. The side handles can be flipped to be a stinger scraper, so it can remove stingers and splinters stuck in the skin, she said.

"It's completely reusable and never expires. It's small, so you can throw it in your purse or glove box, and it's not going to melt like creams do," she said.

Higney's device was originally created by a doctor in Europe 20 years ago, who transferred the product rights to Higney's distributor in Denmark, which has the molds and produces the devices before shipping them to the U.S.

It only has enough suction for a bug bite, compared to Sawyer's Extrac-

tor Pump, a similar device that works on snake bites.

The Bug Bite Thing cannot prevent any diseases such as the Zika virus spread by the pests, Higney said. "There is not any testing done as of now. We treat this as a first aid tool, to give relief from the symptoms of a bite or sting, not to cure anything."

The product launched a year ago and costs less than \$10. It's now being sold online by Walmart and Home Depot, which Higney arranged. She said she is setting up product placements in CVS stores for next season.

Higney said most sales are online and that Florida, Texas, North Carolina and New York are the top destinations for the product. Distribution is also beginning in Canada, the United Kingdom and South Korea.

Higney said that one problem is consumer skepticism. "U.S. residents only know topical relief. Now that we're introducing a new concept with suctioning out the irritant to avoiding the problem all together, there is skepticism."

This is why she offers a 100 percent money back guarantee. "There's no risk. I just want people to try it and realize the benefits."

The product has four-star reviews on Amazon, with one consumer writing: "I found this on a random ad and thought, 'there's no way this will work.' Boy was I wrong! How has no one thought of this before?"

Just this season, she said she's sold around 30,000 devices. Her largest customer is grandmas.

"I was expecting moms to be the largest customer, but grandparents actually are. They buy it and try it on their kids and grandkids, and then those families buy it after," she said.

"The feedback from customers is really great. It's awesome seeing people who have suffered for so long just like me are finally getting relief."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Obituaries



Donna Jean Alexander Templeton

Donna Jean Alexander Templeton graduated to Heaven at Midland Memorial Hospital on Monday, July 30. She waged a brave fight against cancer.

She was born on May 20, 1948 in Beaumont, Texas, to William Sherwood and Barbara Jean (Gaskin) Alexander. She married the love of her life, Charles (Charlie) Templeton, on March 14, 1970 in Aurora, CO.

A worship service in celebration of Donna's life is scheduled for 11:00 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 2, at the Latter Rain Worship Center, 305 E. 19th St. in Odessa. Burial will be in Beaumont, TX.

Donna was a dear child of Jesus Christ, in whom she believed as the savior of all mankind. Her faith was so strong that she never wavered from it despite life's turn of events. A lifelong church member and attendee, along with her husband Chuck, Donna always shared her belief with family and others around her.

She graduated from Pine Tree High School in Longview, TX, and earned her bachelor's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX, in 1976.

She lived in Kansas City with her parents while Chuck served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was stationed at Bergstrom Air Force base in Austin and in Thailand. She worked for the IRS in Austin and later for the FDIC. They lived in Dickinson, TX in a house they built with the help of Donna's father. She worked as a secretary for two churches in the Dickinson area while her husband worked as a probation officer and then as a college instructor and self-employed tutor. They enjoyed their rural acre size property by harvesting fruit from their trees and vegetables from their garden.

Donna and Charlie doted on their nephews and nieces. Donna was especially nurturing to her niece-by-marriage Candace during a difficult pregnancy in 2015. She was joined by Charlie who is a sandwich buddy to special-needs nephew Brian and coffee buddy to nephew Mark. They both especially enjoyed spending time with great-nephew Trevor.

Donna is preceded in death by her parents and brother-in-law John Templeton who passed away last month in Sugar Land, Texas. She is survived by her husband

Charles of Midland; her brother William Sherwood (Woody) Alexander and wife Sherry of Arp, TX, and their children Kesha, Traci, Theresa, William Bradley and Jacoby; her brother-in-law Bob Templeton, his wife Lois, their children, Mark and Brian and grandson Trevor; brother-in-law, Tom Templeton of Mt. Vernon, WA and his children Keith and Sharon.

The family thanks all caregivers at Midland Memorial Hospital and HospiceMidland for Donna's care. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to China Aid of Midland and/or Midland College Foundation.



Monica Christine Saucedo

Monica Christine Saucedo 54, of Midland, Texas passed away on Saturday July 28, 2018 surrounded by her family at home. Rosary services will be held on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, August 1, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel.

Monica was born on April 7, 1964 to Roman and Celia Velarde in Midland. Monica was a very charismatic, outgoing, loving, hilarious, and strong woman. She took pride in loving and helping others. She enjoyed music, dancing, cooking, and being the center of attention. Over the years she found peace and solitude in meditation, coloring, and gardening.

What she took pride in the most was being Memo not only to her grandkids but also to the people she came across. One of the most amazing traits and characteristics she possessed is her courage and strength she had throughout life. In October of 2014 she was diagnosed with Stage 4 ovarian cancer. Monica was never complacent when it came to her determination to fighting for her life and never allowed the cancer to dictate her life. Her battle has finally come into the hands of our heavenly father and the Lord has received her into his eternal kingdom.

We will have her forever in our hearts. She has left a remarkable image of what a courageous Cancer fighter is. We would like to thank The Cancer Center of America in Goodyear, Arizona for their outstanding medical care and staff. As well, we would like to thank Hospice of Midland for their support through the end stage of her life.

She is survived by her husband, Luis Saucedo; her

daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Michael Luna; sons, Gilbert Yorkman Jr. and Robert Yorkman; 2 stepsons, Juan Saucedo and Luis Saucedo; stepdaughter, Veronica Anderson; 12 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, and 13 step grandchildren; 3 brothers and 3 sisters.

She is preceded in death by her brother Eddie Velarde, Sammy Velarde, David Velarde, and her parents Roman and Celia Velarde.

Pallbearers will be her grandkids, Jayden and Vicenta Luna, Alexandria, Gilbert III, Isaiah, and Kaleb Yorkman, Yazlin Talamantes, Destiny, Raylin, Robert II, and Chanel Yorkman, and Abbie Herrera.

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

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



Phyllis Glover Elkins

Phyllis Glover Elkins, 68, of Weatherford, Texas, passed away July 28, 2018, after a short battle with cancer.

She was born in South Side, Chicago, Illinois on June 11, 1950, to Lucille Negri Glover and M.D. "Doc" Glover, and raised in Burk Burnett, Texas. She graduated from Burk Burnett High School and went on to attend Midwestern State and East Texas State in home economics.

She was married to Michael Burman Elkins of Snyder, Texas, in 1977; they celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary this past December. Phyllis and Michael owned their own stuck pipe recovery business, Elko Wireline Services, for nearly thirty years, operating out of Snyder. Phyllis ran the office, the phones, and hotshots while Michael ran the trucks and crews.

Phyl had a tremendous sense of humor and an explosive laugh; she was a gifted storyteller and keeper of memories and family history. Although she didn't feel she was creative, she nevertheless turned out intricately decorated cakes; painstakingly sewn purses, clothes, and costumes; homemade Christmas candy and front-door wreaths; and many other creations. She was a firm believer that if we didn't have it, we could make it, she could spin something out of nothing like no one else.

Phyllis is survived by her

devoted husband, Michael, and her daughter, Haley Elkins, and son-in-law Luke Brockmeier, as well as her sisters, Sun Penny Enge and Pam G. Hartman.

Her immense spirit, joy, and humor will be celebrated with a remembrance of life ceremony at 10:00 a.m. at The Brooks at Weatherford (1185 West Lake Dr., Weatherford, TX 76087) on August 5, 2018, immediately followed by a luncheon with family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, Phyl has asked that donations be made to either St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (stjude.org) or RefugeeConnect (refugeeconnect.org).

Death Notices

Blake Estevan Avila

Blake Estevan Avila, 23, of Midland, Texas passed away Saturday, July 28, 2018. A rosary will be held at 7:00 p.m., Friday, August 3, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland. Funeral mass will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, August 4, 2018 at St. Ann's Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

George Allen Thomas

George Allen Thomas, 78 of Midland, Texas passed away Monday, July 30, 2018 in Midland. Memorial Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, August 4, 2018 at First Presbyterian Church in Midland. Flowers can be delivered to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Jeanette Johnson

Funeral service for Jeanette Johnson, 61, of Midland, Texas are pending at Jackie Warren Funeral Home. Jeanette Johnson died July 29, 2018, at a local hospital.

Lillie Pearl Hollins

Lillie Pearl Hollins, 90, of Midland, Texas passed away Sunday, July 29, 2018. Her viewing will be Friday, August 3, 2018 from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, August 4, 2018 at Faith Temple of God. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Ronald Lillard

Funeral service for Ronald Lillard, 63, of Odessa, Texas are pending at Jackie Warren Funeral Home. Ronald Lillard died July 26, in Odessa, Texas.

Thomas "Tommy" Humphries

Thomas Wayne Humphries, 63 of Odessa, Texas died Sunday, July 29, 2018 in Odessa. Celebration of Life will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, August 4, 2018, at Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home. Burial to follow at Eastview Memorial Park. Clydell Chapman is Officiating. Arrangements are by Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home of Odessa.

Health care evolves to cover healthier lives

By Tom Murphy
Associated Press

That hot lunch delivered to your door? Your health insurer might pick up the tab.

The cleaning crew that fixed up your apartment while you recovered from a stroke? The hospital staff helped set that up.

Health care is shifting in a fundamental way for millions of Americans. Some insurers are paying for rides to fitness centers and checking in with customers to help ward off loneliness. Hospital networks are hiring more workers to visit people at home and learn about their lives, not just their illnesses.

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Lowering blood pressure more than usually recommended not only helps prevent heart problems, but it also cuts the risk of mental decline that often leads to Alzheimer's disease, a major study finds.

It's the first time a single step has been clearly shown to help prevent a dreaded condition that has had people trying crossword puzzles, diet supplements and a host of other things in hope of keeping their mind sharp.

In the study, people treated to a top blood pressure reading of 120 instead of 140 were 19 percent less likely to develop mild

cognitive impairment. They also had fewer signs of damage on brain scans, and there was a possible trend toward fewer cases of dementia.

"This is a big breakthrough," said Dr. Jeff Williamson of Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in North Carolina. "It's more important than ever to work with your physician to ensure that you have good blood pressure control."

He led the study and gave results July 25 at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference in Chicago. They're considered preliminary until published, expected later this year.

Independent experts cheered the news. "We have long known that high blood

pressure is bad for your heart. Now we're also learning it's bad for your brain," said James Hendrix, director of global science initiatives at the Alzheimer's Association.

About 50 million people worldwide have dementia, and Alzheimer's is the most common type. There is no cure — current medicines such as Aricept and Namenda just ease symptoms — so prevention is key.

Roughly half of adults in the United States have high blood pressure under guidelines adopted last year that define it as a top number of 130 or more, rather than 140. Normal is under 120.

High pressure can damage blood vessels and has long been linked to a higher risk for dementia.

Insurers and care providers also are stretching their approach to helping patients, especially those with low incomes or chronic conditions.

Study: Low blood pressure helps prevent mental decline

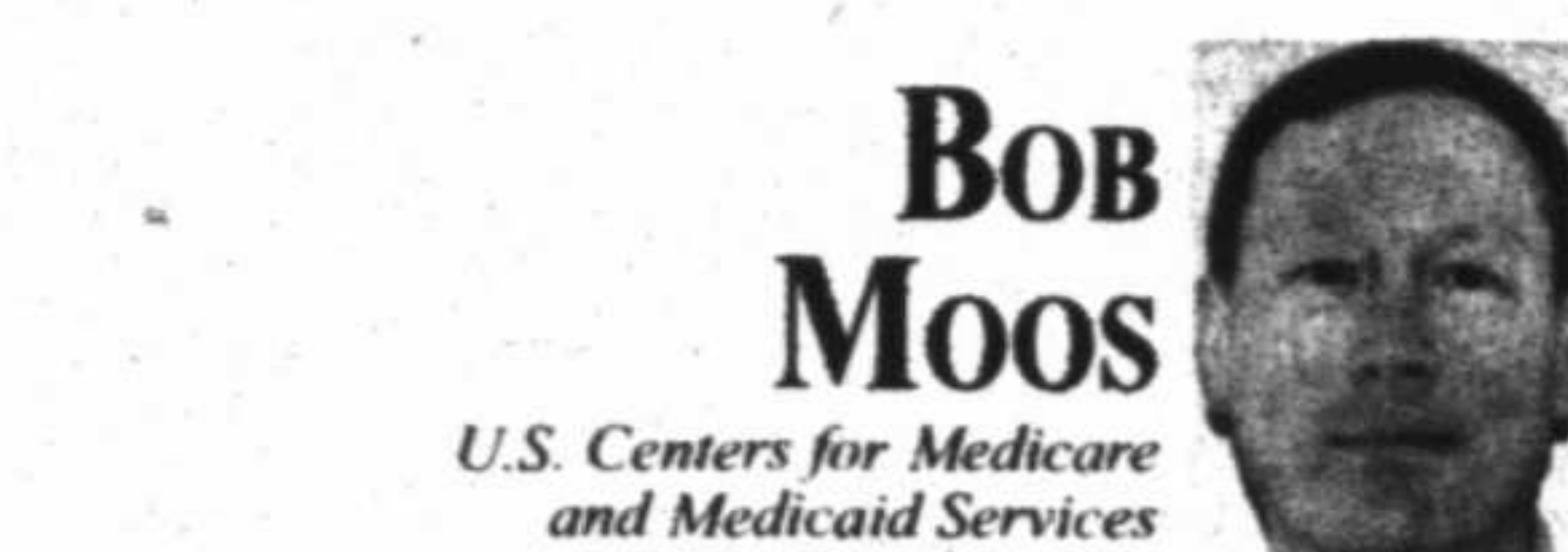
Medicare plays role in protecting nursing home patients

When you hear about Medicare, you probably think of the federal program that helps pay for older adults' health care. What you may not realize is, another of Medicare's major responsibilities is to inspect health care facilities to make sure that patients receive safe and high-quality care.

Among those facilities are the nation's more than 15,000 nursing homes.

Nursing facilities wanting to get reimbursed for treating Medicare patients must be certified as meeting certain health and safety requirements. The federal agency that oversees Medicare — the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services — works closely with the states to accomplish that.

Trained health professionals make unannounced visits to nursing homes to check whether the health and safety standards are being met and, if not met, to ensure the problems are



Bob Moos
U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

addressed. An inspection is often the result of a complaint lodged by a patient or family member.

Nursing homes that don't promptly correct their shortcomings may be subject to fines. If the health and safety violations persist and pose a serious enough threat to patients, the facilities may be terminated from the Medicare program and forbidden to bill the government for patient care.

Unless and until a nursing home actually loses its Medicare funding, this regulatory process often goes unnoticed by the general public. But you can see how the nursing homes in your community have fared in recent health and

safety inspections by visiting Medicare's Nursing Home Compare website — at www.medicare.gov/nhcompare.

Besides providing detailed information on inspections, the website reports on facilities' staffing and such quality measures as whether residents are in pain or losing weight. The site uses a five-star rating system to help you understand the differences in the quality of care between nursing homes.

Families must often search for a nursing home for a spouse or parent at a moment's notice, after some crisis or emergency. With little time to spare, many turn to Nursing Home Compare to begin

their research. The website receives more than 1 million visits every year.

The website enjoys a solid reputation among consumers, having been revised over the years to make it even more trustworthy and user-friendly. You can search for facilities by city, county, state or ZIP code.

As helpful as those online comparisons are, Nursing Home Compare isn't meant to be the final word on the subject. It's just one guide to use when looking for a nursing facility.

If you're the one who's been hospitalized, your physician, discharge planner or social worker can help identify an appropriate facility for your recovery.

If you're the one as-

sisting a spouse or parent about to enter a nursing facility, you also might:

■ Ask for recommendations from friends, family or neighbors who may have had a loved one in a nursing home.

■ Call your state's long-term care ombudsman to find out how many complaints have been filed against particular nursing homes, what kind of complaints they were and whether they were resolved.

In Texas, the ombudsman's number is 1-800-252-2412.

■ Visit the nursing homes that interest you.

Make an appointment and think of the questions that are important to you. Nursing Home Compare contains a helpful checklist of questions that covers

everything from care and safety to activities and food.

When you or a family member become a patient in a nursing home, you have a right to expect the facility will comply with Medicare's health and safety standards. The thousands of unannounced inspections done each year by federal and state surveyors put teeth in those standards and hold rule-breakers accountable.

This regulatory process aims to call out the poor performers and bring them back in compliance. It is a vital mission for Medicare.

Bob Moos is southwest regional public affairs officer for the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Study: ER doctors prescribe opioids for sprained ankles

By Lenny Bernstein
The Washington Post

A quarter of the adults who went to hospital emergency departments with sprained ankles were prescribed opioid painkillers, a new study shows, in another sign of how commonly physicians turn to narcotics even for minor injuries.

The state-by-state review revealed wide variation in the use of opioids for the sprains, from 40 percent in Arkansas to 2.8 percent in North Dakota. All but one of the nine states that recorded above-average opioid prescribing are in the South or Southwest. None are in the parts of Appalachia or New England that have been hit hardest by the opioid epidemic.

The analysis of 30,832 private insurance claims from 2011 to 2015 revealed that emergency department prescriptions can influence long-term opioid use. The median prescription was 15 tablets, or three

days' worth of hydrocodone, oxycodone, tramadol or other narcotics. Patients who received the largest amounts were five times as likely to continue with prolonged opioid use than those given 10 tablets or fewer, though their overall numbers were relatively small. The recipients were not known to have previously used opioids.

Opioid prescriptions, written by emergency room doctors are responsible for a small portion of the vast amount of narcotic painkillers consumed by patients each year. Most prescriptions come from primary-care physicians. There were about 215 million prescriptions for the drugs in 2016, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The new study looked at prescriber habits shortly before CDC issued guidelines that urged doctors to use opioids sparingly, and before many states and the federal government moved to limit the length of first-time opioid prescriptions.



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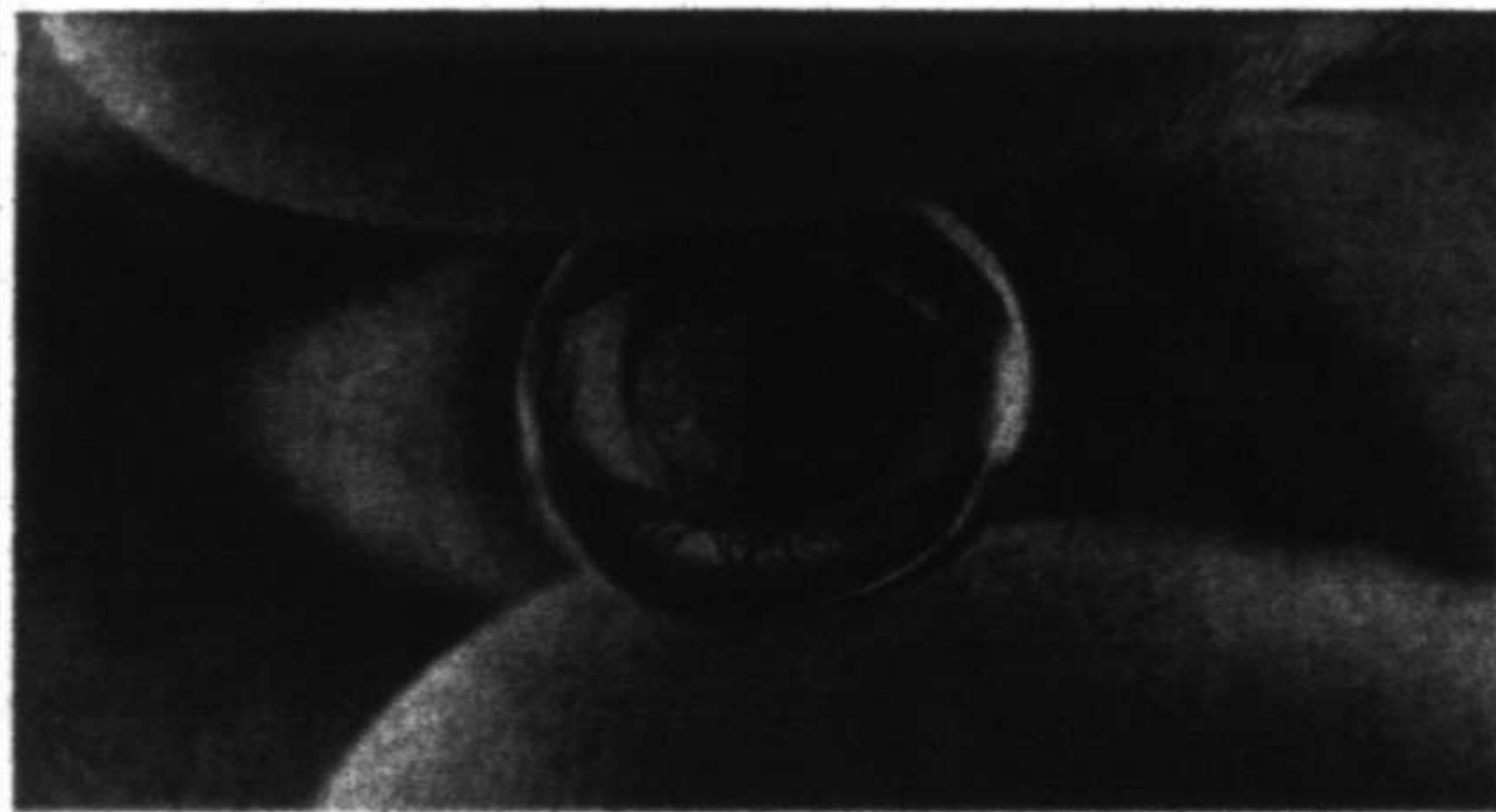
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Outside play is important to a child's development

When you are outside, and your parents are inside, out of sight, you're in situations where you're making your own decisions and taking chances," said Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in a 2012 interview with Take Me Outside Blog. "Real achievements, not virtual achievements of killing monsters or building levels were extremely defining for me and my sense of confidence and independence as a person."

Free outdoor play promotes children's mental health by teaching them how to regulate their emotions and use self-control. Mental health issues are often perceived as an issue for adults but most of these issues begin to develop during adolescence. Development during these years is very important to psychological and cognitive growth. Not playing outside could reduce a child's ability to control

FLORENCE PRIDE Centers



emotions and can contribute to anxiety and depression.

Growing up, I lived outside, playing from sunup to sundown with the neighborhood kids. That does not occur today — parents may fear for their children's safety because of traffic, crimes in their neighborhood or other safety concerns. The truth is, there is crime in all neighborhoods but attacks on children have not increased in large numbers and childhood

abductions are very rare.

There are many rewards that come from kids playing outside and enjoying their natural environment. Some important benefits from outdoor play are the benefits that affect a child's physical and mental health. Today's kids spend an average of four to seven minutes outside each day in unstructured play, but about seven hours a day in front of a screen playing video games, on a tablet or a computer, studies show. This inactivity can lead to a sedentary lifestyle, obesity and reduced bone structure. In some situations, kids may be occupied with schoolwork, after-school academic clubs and structured play, such as organized sports that may not be as enjoyable as free play.

Outdoor free play can reduce stress and anxiety in children. A child's stress level can decrease within minutes of playing outside. Outdoor play also teaches kids to

collaborate and solve problems independently from their parents. Outdoor play is not just about running around and being active; it is also about learning social skills, how to get along with others, constraining their impulse and regulating their emotions.

Benefits of playing outside:

■ Vitamin D from the sun can increase some neurotransmitters in the brain that regulate mood and emotions.

■ Increase in attention span, happiness and academic performance.

■ Prevents seasonal affective disorder, which develops from lack of sunlight.

In today's last fast-paced world, it is sometimes difficult for parents to find the time to allow their kids to run and play. Hopefully, parents will realize the major role that outdoor play can take in the development of emotionally healthy children and adults.

HEALTHBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

MHS graduate establishes medical practice

Dr. Ryan Rowland, an orthopedic surgeon, has returned home to practice his specialty.

Rowland is a graduate of Midland High School, Texas Tech University and the Texas Tech University School of Medicine. He completed his residency at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth.

After completing his residency, Rowland had a fellowship in orthopedic sports medicine at the Steadman Hawkins Clinic of the Carolinas in Greenville, South Carolina. During his fellowship, he served as a team physician for the Colorado Rockies during spring training in Scottsdale, Arizona, and several universities and high schools.

Source: Urgent Orthopedic Specialists

Clinic to offer back-to-school physicals

Premier Physicians Health & Wellness Clinic, 709 W. Louisiana Ave., will be offering student physicals.

Athlete physicals are scheduled through Friday. Physicals for other students are set for Aug. 13-17.

There is a \$10 fee. Appointments are

not required but can be made by calling 289-7230.

Walking club to meet

Midland Walkabout Volkssport Club will meet 6 p.m. Monday at Murray's Deli. The group's monthly walk will be Aug. 11 at Big Spring State Park. The club also will participate in the Midland Wellness Tour walk, which is Aug. 4 through Racquet Club.

Members who are walking for the Wellness Tour may meet at the Dollye Neal Chapel at Midland College at 7 a.m. To carpool to Big Spring on Aug. 11, meet at Jumburrito near Midland Park Mall at 6 a.m.

For more information, visit www.midlandwalkabout.org or call Alex Rose at 687-2588.

Midland Health events

■ Plant-based Grocery Store Tour, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, H-E-B, Andrews Highway and Loop 250; 800-856-4916, info@ourhealthcity.com; to register, visit midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

■ Find a Job Friday, 9 a.m. Friday, Midland Memorial Hospital, 221-4305.

■ Weigh to Success Support Group Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus; Sundae Adkins, 638-8081, sundae.adkins@midlandhealth.org; to register, visit midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

Weekly support groups & hotlines (subject to change)

■ TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Christian Church of Midland, 2609 Neely Ave. 694-8643.

■ Overeaters Anonymous; 3 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, St. Stephen's Catholic Church, 553-1031.

■ Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the consequences of sexual abuse meets Tuesdays. Child care available; House of Hope, 570-5935.

■ Peer to Peer support group for veterans, active duty, guard, reserves and their families, 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Permian Basin Community Center, 401 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 403; Wil Hoggard, 213-5342, wiliam.hoggard@wtcmhmr.org.

■ PDAP meetings: 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays: Parents group and younger group (12-17), 1208 W. Wall St.; college group (18-26), 2503 W. Ohio Ave.; older group (27 and over), First Presbyterian Church 11:30-1:30 p.m. Wednesdays: older group, 1208 W. Wall St., includes lunch.

■ Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.

■ Serenity Group, 8 p.m. daily, 3101 N. "A" St., Building C; 685-3100. 710 Group, 7 a.m., noon and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 710 Ohio Ave.; 682-8162.

■ Alpha Omega, 8 p.m. Tuesdays and 11 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays, 311 S. Pecos St.

■ 12-Step Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 553-7220.

■ Al-Anon (support group for family members of alcoholics), Serenity Group 3101 N. "A" St. Bldg. C, noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

■ Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2926.

■ Laundry Group, 8 p.m. daily and noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 104 N. Marshall St.

■ Xodus Group, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St., 634-7609.

■ CODA Group, 12-step program for relationships, 7 p.m. Fridays and Sundays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 599-4490.

■ La Hacienda Alumni, support group for former patients, 7 p.m. Thursdays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 553-7220.

COM Aquatics

COM Aquatics, 3003 N. "A" St., offers weekly paddle board classes.

The schedule is: Hit the Wave, 7:15 p.m. Monday, 5:15 a.m. Tuesday and Saturday, 6:45 p.m. Thursday and 10:15 a.m. Saturday; and Cardio Wave is 11:05 a.m. Thursday.

Members of COM Water Aerobics Program can reserve a board at any time; non-members can reserve a board two hours before class. (For early-morning classes, call the night before.) To reserve a board, call 684-7755, extension 101.

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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, August 1, 2018 | Section B

Cowboys tap several sources to fill Witten's leadership void

By Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press

OXNARD, Calif. — Sean Lee responded with strong words to criticism from former teammate Dez Bryant. Tyronne Crawford felt compelled to tell the team these Dallas Cowboys won't be in the business of dramas such as Bryant's Twitter-fed rant early in training camp over who he felt was responsible for his offseason release. With tight end Jason Witten's sudden retirement after 15 years for a TV job, the Cowboys can't defer to the franchise leader in games, starts and catches on any number of topics. Crawford, a defensive lineman, doesn't

think they can replace the 2012 NFL Man of the Year either. "If you're being real with yourself, Jason Witten's one of the best ever to do it," Crawford said. "And if you knew him as a man, one of the best men you'll ever get to meet. To me, there's never going to be another Jason Witten that's going to be around me." Still, the Cowboys have to figure out life without Witten's leadership. Ask around, the answers will vary. Quarterback Dak Prescott is a natural choice, both through leadership skills he demonstrated before replacing Tony Romo and the fact that the 25-year-old is already going into this third season as the starter. Lee, now Dallas' only offensive or

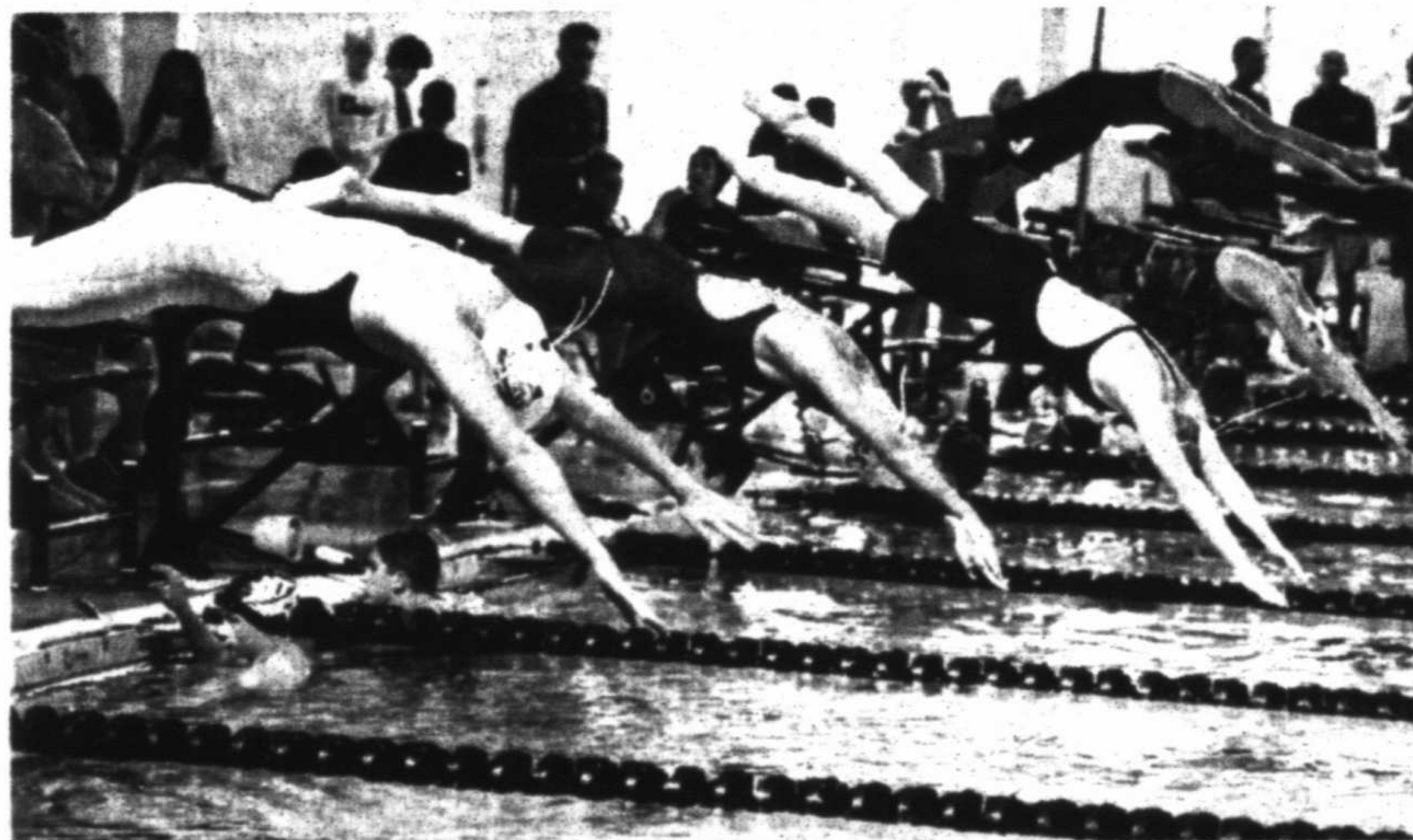
defensive player in his 30s (he's 31), always used to wait until the end of the week to address reporters in the locker room during the season. There's talk of him moving that up to be more visible, and the 2016 All-Pro has left no doubt he knows things are different without Witten. Center Travis Frederick and Zack Martin, who just signed a contract making him the highest-paid guard in the NFL, come up as well. But Frederick stops short of the idea of leadership by committee. "Committee makes it sound like it's a huge group of guys," said Frederick, who started all 80 games in his first



Dallas Cowboys linebacker Sean Lee walks on the field Saturday during NFL training camp in Oxnard, Calif. **Gus Rueter/AP**

Please see **WITTEN/4C**

PLUNGING FOR GOLD



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Swimmers take off from the blocks Tuesday during a heat at the USA Swimming Southern Zone Age Group Championships at COM's FMH Foundation Natatorium.

Southern Zone meet brings top swim talent to COM

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

Tuesday was a landmark occasion for City of Midland Aquatics. The five-day USA Swimming Southern Zone Age Group Championships kicked off Tuesday afternoon at the FMH Foundation Natatorium. The event welcomed the fastest 11-18 year old swimmers from the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia. COM Executive Director/President Brad Swendig said it was the swimming club's biggest event it hosted since it had the 1995 U.S. Junior Nationals at Abell-Hanger Pool. "We want to bring first class competition here," Swendig said. "We're out in the middle of nowhere so it's nice to be able to bring good competition here for our kids, our town, for the facility and our program."

For COM swimmers, representing the West Texas swim team, it was a chance for them to face some of the nation's best in the pool. The Florida team shined brightest the first day with three event wins, followed by North Carolina and Georgia each with two victories. The competition was so fierce that the pool record of 17 minutes, 1.39 seconds in the 1,500-meter freestyle set by former Midland High state champion and University of Texas freshman Braden Vines was broken in both the age 13-14 and 15-18 races Tuesday. "The Southern Zone has about hundred thousand swimmers and out of those hundred thousand swimmers, 6/100 of them come to this swim meet," COM Aquatics and Midland ISD swim coach Steve Flato said of the exclusive group. There's a good chance that some of Southern Zone top performers will be competing for Olympic spots in the

future. "Ninety percent of all Olympic Trial swimmers have been to a Zone meet, so it's definitely a springboard all the way across the board," Flato said. Kayla Partin was the first COM Aquatics swimmer to compete in Tuesday's Southern Zone meet, as she posted a time of 5:05.15 in the girls 11-12 400-meter freestyle. Partin has dreams of being an Olympian, so the Southern Zone was a great opportunity for her to swim against high caliber competition. "There's a lot of pressure, but it was also really exciting," Partin said of the experience. "Like being the first person, it puts a lot of pressure on you, but it also shows how much you can do for your team." Swendig said COM Aquatics had ambitions to build its own Olympic-sized, 50-meter pool from the club's inception in 1967. The opening of the 50-meter FMH Foundation Natatorium in 2016 made COM Aquatics an attractive host for a USA Swimming national event. COM was awarded the Southern Zone meet in 2016. "We designed the pool for these kind of events," Swendig said. "It's a lot of fun," Swendig added. "We've been working on this for a long time so it's really exciting to see a major event in this pool. It's the first one, so it's very exciting." Flato, who coached for 33 years at Eastwood High in El Paso, said that it's rare for this region of Texas to land such a prominent swimming event. "All the people that come here have said nothing but positive things from all the coaches I've talked to," Flato said. "It should be a great week."

Follow Christopher on Twitter:
[@chris_mrt_sports](https://twitter.com/chris_mrt_sports)

Please see **SWIM/2C**

Dozier, Archer among 15 swaps on deadline day

By Ben Walker
Associated Press

For Brian Dozier, getting traded meant a dash to the airport and a long trip to Dodger Stadium. For Jake Diekmann, it was a lot easier — he simply rode the bullpen cart from one clubhouse to the other at Chase Field. Chris Archer, Jonathan Schoop and a bunch of relievers moved on deadline day, a flurry of 15 swaps Tuesday before time ran out to make deals without waivers. The trade market kept spinning at a dizzying pace. Every team except San Francisco made at least one deal since the All-Star Game, with Tampa Bay swinging seven.



Dozier

Archer, a two-time All-Star, hugged teammates at Tropicana Field before heading to Pittsburgh. He is 3-5 with a 4.31 ERA in 17 starts this season, and joins a Pirates club that has pushed back into the playoff race even after trading away Gerrit Cole and Andrew McCutchen in the offseason. "They're super-hot right now, and they want me," Archer said. "I'm excited to be part of the organization that wants me, part of a rich baseball history, a hard-working community. I can't wait to get there." The Rays sent former All-Star catcher Ramos to NL East-leading Philadelphia, while Leonys Martin, Kevin Gausman and Cameron Maybin also switched sides as contenders tweaked their rosters. And why not? All but four National League teams began the day within 5 1/2 games of a playoff spot. The American League is more spread out — division leaders Boston, Cleveland and Houston have been busy. Manny Machado, Cole Hamels, Zach Britton, Mike Moustakas and Ian Kinsler were among the big names that moved earlier this month. Bryce Harper, Jacob deGrom, J.T. Realmuto and McCutchen had been mentioned in trade speculation, but stayed put. "I think whenever you hear your name or see your name on stuff, you always wonder. But I think that's just the business side of the game," Harper said. "It's part of the game." One of Harper's teammates packed up.

Please see **TRADE/3C**

Users share player tweets to expose 'toxic' baseball culture

By Errin Haines Whack
Associated Press

A pair of Twitter users whose posts exposing offensive tweets by baseball players went viral over the weekend say their aim was not malicious but to give fans a fuller picture of who they're cheering for, and to expose the sport's "toxic" culture. In exclusive interviews with The Associated Press, both users said they weren't looking for the years-old tweets from Milwaukee Brewers reliever Josh Hader or Atlanta Braves pitcher Sean Newcomb, but when the posts came across their timelines, they felt obligated to share them. Kevin Jenkins wasn't looking through Hader's Twitter feed as he watched the All-Star Game earlier this month. But then they began popping up on his Twitter feed. After seeing the pitcher's racist, sexist and homophobic remarks, it was hard for Jenkins to remain a fan. "Before the tweets, I thought he was a cool guy," Jenkins said



Atlanta Braves starting pitcher Sean Newcomb (15) is shown during batting practice on Monday before a game against the Miami Marlins in Atlanta. **John Bazemore/AP**

via direct message on Twitter. "An amazing pitcher and an even better person ... After the tweets, I mean ... It's hard to defend the guy. My opinion has definitely changed." Jenkins compiled screenshots

of a handful of Hader's offensive tweets and created a post. That tweet has garnered nearly 6,000 likes. He said his intent wasn't to dig up Hader's past to bring him down. "I still feel that he's an amaz-

ing pitcher, but the things he said were inexcusable," Jenkins said. "None of us know if he's really changed since then. I felt it was important for people to see the tweets and make their own judgment." After Hader's tweets came to light, the reliever was swift to apologize, saying the posts were a youthful mistake, written in 2011 and 2012, when he was a 17-year-old and long before he was a major leaguer. For Jenkins, who is 16 and white, the explanation didn't fly. "I'm younger than he was at the time, and no one would ever see anything like that from me," Jenkins said. "It's horrid." Over the weekend, old, offensive tweets from Newcomb and Washington Nationals shortstop Trea Turner also resurfaced. Twitter user @NatsSquid posted about Newcomb after seeing one of the tweets on his timeline and did a search to see if there were others. "Baseball culture is toxic and I want players to be held account-

able for what they say," said @NatsSquid, who spoke to The AP via direct message on Twitter and declined to give a reporter his name identifying himself only as "a DC-area male." "There is deeply rooted racism in baseball as well as homophobia and sexism," he said. "I would like baseball culture to change and be more accepting for everyone." Despite the rivalry between the Nationals and Braves — currently fighting for position in the National League East — @NatsSquid said his posts were not a form of fan warfare. "It absolutely had nothing to do (sic) with the Braves," he said. "When I tweeted out Newcomb's tweets, I didn't even remember that he played for the Braves. It wasn't about the game, or the team, it was about him as person. I was also really disappointed in the tweets that came out with Trea Turner and I thought I could expect better

Please see **TWITTER/3C**

'HOONDSREPORT

FROM STAFF REPORTS

ROUGHRIDERS 6, ROCKHOUNDS 5

At Security Bank Ballpark

TOP HITTERS: For Frisco, Preston Beck was 3-for-4 with a run scored and a walk. Luis Mendez went 3-for-4 with a double, an RBI and two runs scored and Chuck Moorman was 3-for-4 with a double and two RBIs. ... Midland's Edwin Diaz was 2-for-3 with two home runs, four RBIs and a walk. The home runs were the first by Diaz in Double-A.

TOP PITCHERS:

RockHounds starter Jesus Luzzardo had a no-decision despite holding the RoughRiders to one run, five hits and one walk over five innings. Luzzardo struck out two. ... Frisco's Reed Garrett induced three straight groundouts in the ninth inning to record his 16th save.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Trailing 1-0, the RockHounds tied the game when Tyler Ramirez singled home Luis Barrera in the third inning. ... Diaz's three-run homer to left field in the fourth pushed Midland to a 4-1 advantage. ... The RoughRiders scored four runs in the sixth inning to take a 5-4 lead. Mendez provided a two-RBI single and Moorman added a two-run double. ... Diaz's solo homer in the seventh tied the game at 5. ... Frisco's Jose Cardona cracked a go-ahead single to bring home Mendez in the eighth.

NOTES: Frisco evened the three-game series at 1-1. The series concludes at 6:30 p.m. today. ... The RockHounds have dropped three of their last four games. ... The RockHounds announced Luzzardo was promoted to Triple-A Nashville after the game.

TODAY'S PROBABILITIES:

TL standings

Second Half				
North Division				
Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas (Dodgers)	23	15	.605	—
Arkansas (Mariners)	19	18	.514	3 1/2
Springfield (Cardinals)	17	22	.438	6 1/2
NW Arkansas (Royals)	13	24	.351	9 1/2

South Division				
Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Corpus Christi (Astros)	23	15	.605	—
San Antonio (Padres)	21	16	.569	1 1/2
Frisco (Rangers)	22	17	.564	1 1/2
Midland (Athletics)	14	25	.359	9 1/2

Tuesday's Scores
Frisco 6, Midland 5
Tulsa 7, Springfield 6
San Antonio at Corpus Christi, late
Northwest Arkansas at Arkansas, late

Today's Games
Frisco at Midland, 6:30 p.m.
Tulsa at Springfield, 6:05 p.m.
San Antonio at Corpus Christi, 7:05 p.m.
Northwest Arkansas at Arkansas, 7:10 p.m.

Frisco — RHP Edgar Arredondo (0-2, 4.83 ERA); Midland — RHP Norge Ruiz (3-7, 4.71)

ROUGHRIDERS 6, ROCKHOUNDS 5

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Frisco	20	15	.569	—
Midland	19	16	.543	1 1/2
Corpus Christi	17	22	.438	4 1/2
San Antonio	13	24	.350	9 1/2

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Frisco	20	15	.569	—
Midland	19	16	.543	1 1/2
Corpus Christi	17	22	.438	4 1/2
San Antonio	13	24	.350	9 1/2

MLB GLANCE

Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	75	34	.688	—
New York	68	37	.648	5
Seattle	54	53	.505	20
Toronto	48	57	.452	25
Baltimore	32	75	.299	42

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	58	48	.547	—
Minnesota	49	57	.462	9
Detroit	46	62	.428	13
Chicago	37	78	.321	25
Kansas City	33	73	.311	25

West Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	67	41	.619	—
Seattle	63	43	.594	3
Oakland	62	46	.574	5
Los Angeles	54	54	.500	13
San Diego	48	62	.438	21

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Philadelphia	59	48	.551	—
Atlanta	56	47	.544	1
Washington	53	53	.500	5 1/2
St. Louis	48	62	.438	13 1/2
New York	44	60	.423	13 1/2

Central Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	61	45	.575	—
St. Louis	62	47	.569	1
Pittsburgh	50	52	.490	8 1/2
San Diego	54	53	.505	7 1/2
Cincinnati	48	59	.446	13 1/2

West Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	59	48	.551	—
Cincinnati	58	48	.547	1
Arizona	50	52	.490	8 1/2
San Francisco	54	54	.500	5
San Diego	42	68	.382	18 1/2

Today's games

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	67	41	.619	—
Seattle	63	43	.594	3
Oakland	62	46	.574	5
Los Angeles	54	54	.500	13
San Diego	48	62	.438	21

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National League

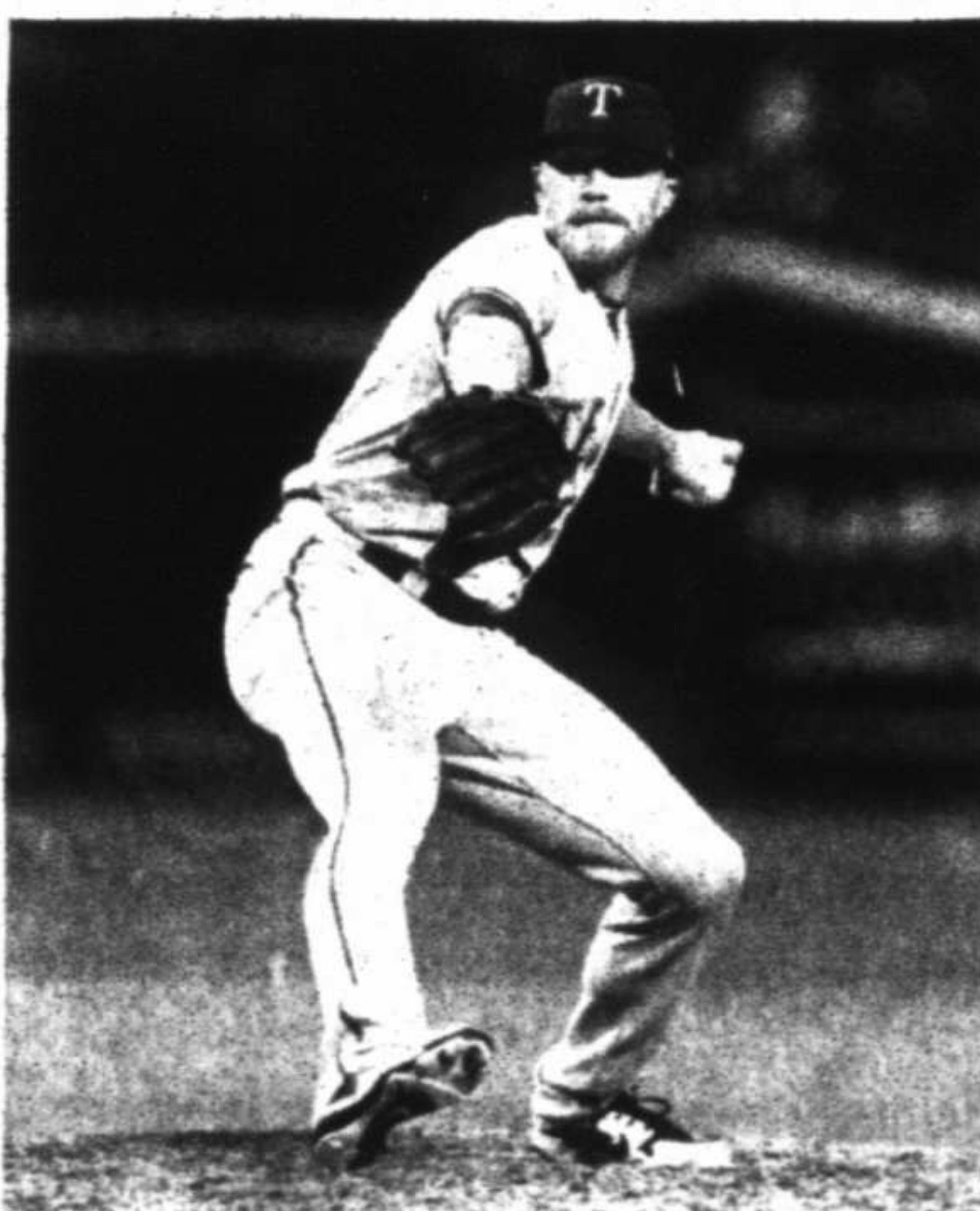
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Rick Scuteri/AP

Texas Rangers relief pitcher Jake Diekman (41) throws in the first inning Monday during a baseball game against the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Diekman from Rangers to DBacks while in Arizona

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Left-hander Jake Diekman went from one clubhouse to the other in Arizona after being dealt by the Texas Rangers to the Diamondbacks just before the non-waiver trade deadline Tuesday.

Diekman struck out two while pitching the ninth inning for Texas in its win at Arizona on Monday night. Diekman was 1-1 with a 3.69 ERA in a team-high 47 appearances for the Rangers this season.

Texas got right-hander Wei-Chieh (Way-Jay) Huang and a player to be named later from Diamondbacks. Huang was assigned to Double-A Frisco.

Arizona designated left-hander Jorge De La Rosa for assignment.

Diekman was the fourth pitcher traded by the Rangers in the past two weeks. Lefty starter Cole Hamels and reliever Jesse Chavez were sent to the Chicago Cubs in separate deals earlier this month, and closer Keone Kela was traded to Pittsburgh late Monday night.

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MLB ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

American League

YANKEES 6, ORIOLES 3
NEW YORK — Jacob deGrom tossed through a 31-pitch first inning against Baltimore, the team with the worst record in the major leagues, falling behind his first four batters.

Tanaka stranded a pair of runners when Chris Davis grounded to second baseman Gleyber Torres in short right field, and the 29-year-old Japanese right-hander regained his composure. He pitched six scoreless innings to extend his unbeaten streak to 13 starts, backed by Miguel Andujar's three-run homer in the Yankees' 6-3 win Tuesday night over the veteran-shedding Orioles.

New York (68-37) moved 31 games over .500 for the first time since the end of the 2011 season, beating the Orioles for only the sixth time in 11 meetings this year. The Yankees cut their AL East deficit to five games behind first-place Boston and are on their first three-game winning streak since four straight from June 18-21.

Coming off a three-hit shutout of Tampa Bay, Tanaka (9-2) limited the Orioles to a pair of singles and a double. He struck out eight and walked two, lowering his ERA to 2.00 over his last five starts. He is 7-0 in 13 starts since an April 17 loss against Miami and has pitched 17 1/3 consecutive scoreless innings, one out short of his big league best.

RAIS 10, ANGELS 6
ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — The Tampa Bay Rays finished a long day of making trades by producing a long inning for Los Angeles starter Tyler Skaggs on Tuesday night in a win over the Angels.

After making a series of deals just before the non-waiver trade deadline, the Rays broke through with a seven-run inning and beat the Angels 10-6 Tuesday night despite Mike Trout's 30th home run.

Trout's homer, which came off Ryan Yarbrough in the seventh inning, made him the second major league leader to hit 30 home runs and steal 20 bases in a season three times before the age of 26. The only other player to do it was Willie Mays.

Yarbrough (10-5) became the first rookie to win 10 games this season despite giving up a career-high six runs on nine hits in five innings.

MINNESOTA 6, TWINS 2
MINNEAPOLIS — Trevor Bauer won 17 games for Cleveland last season and continued his development this season, entering Tuesday fourth in the American League with a 2.32 ERA. He held to form on Tuesday in a matchup against Twins right-hander Kyle Gibson, who is in the middle of a season of growth himself.

Bauer limited the Twins to a sacrifice fly by Jake Cave in the second and solo home run by Logan Morrison in the sixth. He left after 6 1/3 innings and 102 pitches. The Indians bullpen fed the rest, and the Twins lost, 6-2.

ROYALS 4, WHITE SOX 2
CHICAGO — Ryan O'Hearn hit a two-run homer in his major league debut, helping Danny Duffy and the Kansas City Royals beat the Chicago White Sox 4-2 on Tuesday night.

Scott Phillips also hit a two-run shot for last-place Kansas City, which had dropped four of five. Duffy (7-8) pitched 5 2/3 scoreless innings, rebounding nicely from a rocky start against Detroit.

It was Phillips' first hit since he was acquired Friday in the trade that sent third baseman Mike Moustakas to Milwaukee. Phillips had to use Hunter Dozier's bat for his Kansas City debut Sunday against the Yankees after his lumber got lost while he was flying to New York to join his new team.

He was reunited with his bats in time for the series opener against Chicago, and he looked quite comfortable on his fifth career homer in the seventh.

GIANTS 3, PADRES 2
SAN DIEGO — If he keeps pitching this well, Derek Rodriguez will be in the discussion for the NL Rookie of the Year Award.

"That would be one thing that I'd never got, so that would be nice," Rodriguez, the son of Hall of Famer Ivan Rodriguez, said after pitching seven strong innings in the San Francisco Giants' 3-2, 10-inning victory against the staggering San Diego Padres on Tuesday.

Brandon Crawford singled in the go-ahead run with two outs in the 10th inning and Andrew McCutchen homered for the Giants, who swept the two-game series and won their third straight game.

Rodriguez was in line for his sixth victory against one loss before Reyes Moron allowed the Padres to tie it at 2 in the eighth on Manuel Margos's RBI grounder.

Brian Dawkins' alter ego sends him to the hall

By Rob Maaddi
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Brian Dawkins transformed from a calm, soft-spoken man into an action hero on game days for 16 seasons in the NFL.

Following what seemed like an out-of-body experience during pregame introductions, "Weapon X" terrorized opponents with ferocious hits all over the field. Dawkins redefined the safety position by providing excellent pass coverage, strong run support, and the ability to blitz quarterbacks.

A fan of the "Wolverine" Marvel comic, Dawkins played like a safety, cornerback, linebacker and defensive lineman in one package. No. 20 was the heart and soul on defense for the Philadelphia Eagles during the team's impressive run of success in the 2000s. His unique skills helped Dawkins become the first defensive back in franchise history elected into the Hall of Fame.

Perhaps even more remarkable is the fact no football player who passed



Matt Rourke/AP

Philadelphia Eagles football player Brian Dawkins speaks Dec. 3, 2009, at a news conference in Philadelphia.

through a city known for its passion and toughness was more revered than Dawkins. He has a special bond with the fans.

"They're crazy. They're twisted in some ways. But I love them, because there are a lot of parts of me that are twisted in a lot of different ways," Dawkins said. "That's why I did

some of the crazy stuff on the field that I did. So we fit like hand in glove.

"I believe if a Philadelphia Eagles fan had a chance to play, I believe the majority of them, if not all of them, would play the game the way that I played it. They would dance, they would be having a good time, and they would go

out and enjoy the opportunity to be on the football field and show it and not be afraid to show their emotions, to play with passion and give everything that they have, because that would be the only chance that they would ever get to play the game of football, and that's how I played. I played with a chip on my

shoulder. I wanted to have a good time. I danced. I celebrated after plays. I celebrated with my teammates, and they saw that."

Dawkins was a four-time All-Pro and went to the Pro Bowl seven times in 13 seasons with the Eagles. He made two more Pro Bowl rosters in three seasons for the Denver Broncos.

Dawkins played in five NFC championship games and one Super Bowl, a 24-21 loss to the New England Patriots following the 2004 season. He had 37 interceptions, 36 forced fumbles and 26 sacks in 224 regular-season games.

His crushing hit on Atlanta's Alge Crumpler was the defining moment in Philadelphia's 27-10 victory over the Falcons that sent the team to its second Super Bowl appearance.

"That was kind of a tone setter for what the game was going to be about," Dawkins said. "It was going to be a physical contest. We knew that going into it. We talked about it all week long. It just so happened that Alge got the brunt of that blow when it comes to the frustration

and anger I felt."

A second-round pick from Clemson in 1996, Dawkins moved into the starting lineup as a rookie under coach Ray Rhodes. He thrived after Andy Reid replaced Rhodes in 1999 and brought defensive coordinator Jim Johnson to Philly.

Dawkins credits Johnson for finding different ways to use his talents.

"With Jim and his imagination and his willingness to go away from some traditional thinking when it comes to the safety position, he allowed me and my gifts (to shine)," Dawkins said. "Jim just opened the floodgates. He would draw up different blitzes. We worked together when it came to those things. Without him using me the way he used me, I still would have had a good career. But if you look at my ability to affect the game in pretty much every statistical category, that had a lot to do with Jim running the defense through me a lot of times. That's unheard of for a defensive coordinator to run a defense through a safety."

Team builder Beathard heads into hall

By Bernie Wilson
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Bobby Beathard loathed first-round draft picks and reveled in taking chances on players from out-of-the-way colleges.

It was a formula that paid off with two victories in four trips to the Super Bowl as general manager of the Washington Redskins and San Diego Chargers.

He also loathed dressing up, meaning the gold blazer he'll wear when he's inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame won't get much use after Saturday night's ceremony.

"I don't think I'll be wearing it many places except there," Beathard said. "I don't think I'll be going out to dinner with that coat on."

That's Beathard, 81, who always was more comfortable dressed as a Southern California beach bum. In jobs ranging from scout to general manager, he helped build seven Super Bowl teams for four franchises, including four winners, during a career lasting nearly four decades.

Beathard was so low-key that when Kevin Gilbride was hired as Chargers coach in 1997 and insisted that everyone wear a coat and tie on road trips, even the GM, Beathard reached into his pocket on one trip and found an NFL schedule from 1989. That had been the last time he wore a blazer, when he worked on NBC's pregame show. Beathard certainly didn't need a blazer for scouting trips to small colleges, or to bodysurf in his beloved Pacific Ocean, run the Boston Marathon or have a few beers once a week with his buddies in Franklin, Tennessee, where he's lived for several years.

But he'll have to wear one Saturday night. His presenter will be Hall of Fame coach Joe Gibbs, hired by Beathard with Washington before the 1981 season.

"I would have had one of



Steve Helber/AP

Former Washington Redskins general manager Bobby Beathard speaks at a news conference July 30, 2016, at the Redskins NFL training camp in Richmond, Va.

my sons but I think it was more appropriate to have Joe," Beathard said. "We spent a long time together."

Gibbs, inducted in 1996, coached the Redskins to victory in two of the three Super Bowls the Redskins reached in the 1980s. Those are the teams Beathard is best-remembered for building.

He also built the San Diego Chargers' only Super Bowl team, which was routed by San Francisco in the 1995 game.

He began his career as a part-time scout for the Kansas City Chiefs in 1963 before leaving to scout in the AFL. He returned to the Chiefs in 1966, when they played in the first Super Bowl. In 1972, Beathard was hired as director of player personnel for the Miami Dolphins, who won consecutive Super Bowls.

The Redskins hired him as GM in 1978 and he began doing things his way. He viewed first-round draft picks as a commodity to be traded away to stockpile lower picks. He also worked the free agent market. In 1982, the Redskins team that won the Super

Bowl included 27 free agents signed by Beathard since he was hired. In his 11 years in Washington, the Redskins used their first-round pick only three times.

In 1988, Sports Illustrated called him "The Smartest Man in the NFL."

Beathard didn't like the title.

"That was kind of embarrassing," Beathard said. "Whoever put that in there, I told them when it first came out, 'Well, you better go back and ask my high school and college teachers if that's true, and I don't think they'd agree with that.'"

Taking Beathard's entire career as a whole, the label certainly fit.

"If I ever got into that position, I had a plan how I wanted to do it and it wasn't that the No. 1 draft pick was the most important thing," Beathard said about becoming a GM.

"Every year we'd go out all year to all the colleges, scouting and looking at the players. And if it was a draft that was deep in talent I thought it was more valuable to get some of the

later picks, because there were real good players down there, not only in the first round. If you had a high pick in the first round, trade that and get multiple picks where all the other players were. Fortunately it worked out for us. The only grief I got from it was from Darrell Green."

Of all his draft picks and free agent signings, Beathard said his favorite was Green, the 5-foot-8 defensive back from Texas A&I who was taken with the 28th pick overall — the last pick in the first round — of the 1983 draft. Green went on to a Hall of Fame career.

"That doesn't mean the other guys, the Art Monks, the Russ Grimms and the Jeff Bostics, all those other guys, it doesn't mean those weren't just as important," Beathard said. "When we took Darrell Green, I'll never forget the phone call.

When I called Darrell he was down at Texas A&I and I called Darrell and said, 'Hey Darrell, it's Bobby; we took you.' He got mad at me and said, 'Why did you wait until last pick to take me?' And I said, 'The way the draft works, we won the Super Bowl so we had the last pick, so blame the other (27) teams that didn't take you. Don't blame us.'"

Beathard left the Redskins in May 1989 and was out of the NFL only one season before being hired by the Chargers. His first draft pick was Junior Seau and the Chargers reached the Super Bowl five seasons later. Seau was posthumously inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2015.

When he scouted colleges, Beathard, who retired in April 2000, said he'd look beyond the players recommended by coaches.

"I traveled the whole country to every school that played football to look for players. I got to see the players personally, besides the scouting staff. I just had a lot of confidence in my evaluation. I wasn't afraid to take players from small schools, or small players."



Wally Skiff/Los Angeles Times/TNS

LeBron James smiles as streamers fill the sky during a celebration on Monday at the I Promise School in Akron, Ohio.

LeBron James joins other celebrities who launched schools

By Sally Ho and Kantele Franko
Associated Press

With the launch of a public school in his hometown of Akron, Ohio, LeBron James has joined a long list of celebrities who have sought to leave their mark on education centers.

The NBA star, who recently left the Cleveland Cavaliers and signed with the Los Angeles Lakers, was on hand Monday to welcome children to the I Promise School, built in a partnership with the LeBron James Family Foundation and Akron City Schools. The school launches with a group of third- and fourth-graders and plans to expand to serve first through eighth grades by 2022.

James has said the school, with a non-traditional schedule and year-round programming, can have a lasting impact for children facing the kinds of challenges he faced during a rough childhood. James grew up without a father, and he missed a lot of school because he and his mother lacked transportation.

Here is a look at some of the other celebrities who have been involved in creating schools, sometimes with mixed results:

Damon Dash

The NFL Hall of Famer co-founded a multi-campus charter school called Prime Prep Academy in Texas in 2012. He coached there and served in other capacities but had a rocky relationship with administrators and was twice fired and rehired. The school's enrollment slid amid financial and administrative problems, and it closed in early 2015.

Shakira

The singer has funded at least a half-dozen schools for children in her native Colombia over the past two decades with her foundation, Pies Descalzos, which means Barefoot in Spanish. Those institutions included

a \$6 million school she dedicated in 2009 in her hometown, Barranquilla, on Colombia's Caribbean coast. She said then that her foundation's work is about "breaking the myth that quality education is the privilege of the few."

Magic Johnson

The Lakers legend announced in 2011 that he was partnering with for-profit EdisonLearning Inc. to lend his name and business skills to promote dropout recovery centers. The effort expanded to at least 17 Bridgescape schools in six states within a couple years with the goal of reducing school dropout rates in urban areas. The company and Johnson parted ways after five years, but EdisonLearning says four Bridgescape Learning Academies still operate with the Chicago Public Schools.

Tony Bennett

The singer and his wife, teacher Susan Benedetto, founded the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in 2001 in New York, naming it after the legendary singer, who was Bennett's best friend. The public performing arts high school in Queens, which gets support from Bennett's nonprofit group, admits students based on auditions. It boasts a high graduation rate, with alumni who have gone on to study at a variety of top arts colleges.

Will Smith

The actor-rapper and his actress wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, founded the private New Village Academy in the Los Angeles area in 2008. Pinkett Smith said she was moved to start the school after developing home-schooling programs for their own children, but it was embroiled in controversy over rumors the curriculum used instructional methods developed by Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard. The couple and school leaders denied any connection to the church.

WITTEN

From 1C

five seasons. "Traditionally in a team like this, you have a group of captains that are a strong group of leaders, maybe five, six guys. I think you're going to find that here."

"But there's been a lot of guys in training. I think that Dak is one of the guys that's most naturally a leader that I've ever been around in my life."

Bryant shockingly called Lee a "snake" on Twitter while suggesting the ninth-year linebacker had a hand in the club's decision to move on from its career leader in touchdown receptions.

Equally shocking was Lee's response, acknowledging that he and Bryant

had been at odds over Lee's feeling that Bryant wasn't always accountable. Lee even suggested Bryant still wasn't holding himself accountable. It was the first time Lee had been forced to defend himself on such terms, and he left no doubt how he felt.

"I've been in a leadership role for a long time now and I need to take it to that next level," Lee said. "But there's also, we have a core group of guys. We have a lot of guys where it's easy to be a leader on this football team because of how many great leaders we have, all the way through, from the top to bottom."

Crawford, a seventh-year player who has been growing into a leadership role over several seasons, wasn't

happy that the team found itself in the middle of an unexpected tiff.

"When it comes to things like that and getting focused, I get angry and I say what I want to say and that's what it is," Crawford said. "I feel like I need to say the right things at the right time and I do and that's it."

When Prescott became the starter because of a pre-season back injury sustained by Romo two years ago, he spent half that season repeating that it was Romo's team. Somewhere in the middle of an 11-game winning streak, though, the conversation changed. The qualities to lead were already there.

"It's just about finding new ways to lead and it's going to continue to evolve each and every year —

every year that I get more experience and I get older," Prescott said. "New ways I can come in contact with my teammates, motivate them or do whatever I have to do to get the best out of them."

Asked specifically about what Witten's departure meant for Lee's leadership role, coach Jason Garrett almost cut off the question.

"Witten was the guy who was out in front, the most veteran guy, incredibly well-respected guy," Garrett said. "But all these guys have been grasping that mantle for a long time. There's no one guy that can lead as a player. It just doesn't happen that way. You have to have it throughout your team."

The Cowboys had some tangible proof during the first week of training camp.

Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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WEDNESDAY PRIME TIME

AUGUST 1, 2018

For Complete Information
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PEOPLE CHICK MYCE LUTHER																				
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
KMD ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Goldberg	Goldberg	Modern Family	An. Housewife	Shark Tank	Big 2 News (N)	Live Jimmy Kimmel	1230 Newsnightline					
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	Big Brother (N)	TKO: Total Knockout	SEAL Team 'No Man's Land'	CBS 7 News (N)	CBS 7 News (N)	P. Mason "The Case of the Baffling Bay"	1230 Newsnightline						
KWWT CW	5	14	5	14	5	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	1230 Newsnightline							
KPEI FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Griffin	How I Met & Back	Forensic Bisto	Forensic Bisto	Forensic Bisto	Modern "My Hero"	Modern "My Hero"	Modern "My Hero"	Modern "My Hero"	Modern "My Hero"	Modern "My Hero"	Modern "My Hero"	Modern "My Hero"
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Shepherd's Heart	Shepherd's Heart	Creation Magazine	Light of the South	Light of the South	Light of the South	Update News	In Touch With Dr. Charles Stanley	The Essentials						
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsWest 9 Now	NewsWest 9 Now	World of Dance	The South 2 Acts from each division take off in elimination dance. (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)	News "The Key" (N)
KPBT PBS	13	13	13	13	13	PBS NewsHour (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)	The Outback (N)	Mexico "Forests of the Maya" (P) (N)	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"	News "Making North America Ongoing"
KUPB UNI	4	4	4	4	4	La Rosa de Guadalupe	La Rosa de Guadalupe	El Rico y Lazaro	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias	La Bella y Las Bestias
KOSA MNT	16	16	16	16	16	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton	Downton
FLIX	340	375	340	375	340	Movie Line S	Movie Line S	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
HBO	340	375	340	375	340	Movie Line S	Movie Line S	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
HBO2	340	375	340	375	340	Movie Line S	Movie Line S	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
HBO3	340	375	340	375	340	Movie Line S	Movie Line S	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
MAX	340	375	340	375	340	Movie Line S	Movie Line S	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
MAX2	340	375	340	375	340	Movie Line S	Movie Line S	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
SHOW	320	360	320	360	320	Movie Line S	Movie Line S	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
PLEX	320	360	320	360	320	Movie Line S	Movie Line S	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
TMC	320	360	320	360	320	Movie Line S	Movie Line S	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
AME	27	58	28	59	27	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"	Ozzy Osbourne "Blizzard of Oz"
AMC	40	74	41	75	40	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
BET	58	-	59	-	58	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
BRAND	45	76	46	77	45	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
CHIC	46	52	47	53	46	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
CHN	43	50	44	51	43	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
DISC	50	60	51	61	50	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
DISNEY	56	64	57	65	56	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
ESPN	32	35	33	36	32	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
ESPN2	34	37	35	38	34	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
FX	45	48	46	49	45	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
FOOD	64	70	65	71	64	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
FREEFORM	53	63	54	64	53	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
FSW	37	38	39	40	37	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
FX	31	56	32	57	31	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
HALLMARK	54	71	55	72	54	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
HISTORY	71	59	72	60	71	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
LIFETIME	28	30	29	31	28	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
MSNBC	47	53	48	54	47	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
NBCSN	38	43	39	44	38	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
NICK	55	-	56	-	55	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
SPKE	30	-	31	-	30	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
SYFY	66	62	67	63	66	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
TBS	25	33	26	34	25	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
TEN	41	75	42	76	41	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
TELE	20	-	21	-	20	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
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TNT	24	34	25	35	24	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
TYLAND	49	-	50	-	49	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	V. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
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Family is divided in two by predator in their midst

DEAR ABBY: A number of years ago, it came out that my brother-in-law had raped and molested his two daughters and two granddaughters. It tore our family apart. Although my sister said she intended to divorce him, she never did. She also didn't report it — so he was never convicted of the crime — but we all, including my sister, knew it was true. Since then, my sister has disowned her daughters, my mother and me. She still interacts with her son and his family. I know I shouldn't miss my sister, but I do. I know my mom misses her, too. Abby, how can we get past this? Our family was always close, and now this. The grief is killing me. — **ANGUISED IN ARKANSAS**

DEAR ANGUISED: It seems there was a conspiracy of silence in the family. Your sister dealt with her husband's crime by choosing to ignore that he is a sexual predator. That your sister has blamed his victims is

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.



beyond the pale. Your nieces and grand-nieces should talk with a licensed mental health professional about this, and so should you and your mother. If you're lucky, the person may be able to offer a group discount.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I are in our 50s. We have lived together for two years. He's retired. I work full time. We have a woman friend (married with kids) he sees almost daily during the summer at the swimming pool. Every day he says to her, "What time will you be here? I'll be here around 10. See ya then." She brings him food occasionally while they're there. (He hasn't told me, but I know she has.)

Sometimes he can be in a foul mood, and all he wants is to go to the pool to relax. When we go, his eyes search for her and if/when he sees her, they light up and he gets a big smile on his face. When I pointed it out to him, he gave me the silent treatment for a couple of hours. Then he accused me of being jealous.

We are in a committed relationship, but I find this threatening. Was I wrong to say what I did? — **GEORGIA GIRL**

DEAR GEORGIA GIRL: No, but after he accused you of being jealous, what you should have told him was he was right, and that you wish his eyes would light up that way when he sees you. It appears your guy has developed a crush. If

you handle it with humor, it will pass. However, if you don't, you will continue to make him feel defensive — which is counterproductive — so use a light touch.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a first-time writer to your column. I'm mentally disabled, have MD (muscular dystrophy) and am diabetic. I take a lot of medication. When people ask me why I don't work or "Where do you work?" what should I say? When I say I don't work and that I'm disabled, they look at me funny and don't believe it. My disabilities aren't visible. — **WENDY IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR WENDY: You are not obligated to disclose your medical history to people you know casually. (If they knew you well, they wouldn't be asking those questions.) All you need to say is, "You know, that's personal. If you'll forgive me for not answering your question, I'll forgive you for asking." Then change the subject.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

Safe play

East-West vulnerable, North deals

NORTH
♠ A 8 9
♥ A Q 10 8 7 6 2
♦ K 5
♣ 7

WEST
♠ 10 6 3
♥ 7 6 4 3
♦ 3
♣ J 8 7 5 2

EAST
♠ K Q J 9 5
♥ 10
♦ K J 4
♣ Q 10 4 3

SOUTH
♠ 8 7 4 2
♥ 5 4 3 2
♦ Q 9
♣ A 6

The bidding:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1: 10 30 2: Pass
4NT Pass 5: 6: 7: All pass

"Two 'key cards,' among the four aces and the king of hearts, plus the queen of hearts."
— *Bob Jones*

Opening lead: Six of ♣

North's five no-trump bid was a grand slam try, promising that his side held all of the aces, plus the king and queen of trumps. West knew that the lead of his singleton was pointless, and might even point declarer to a winning line, so he chose the neutral six of spades as his lead. Success was dependent on setting up dummy's

diamond suit. South's first move was to cash the ace of hearts to make sure that the trumps were not splitting 5-0. Should that have been the case, declarer would have had to stake everything on the diamond finesse. When both opponents followed to the first trump, South continued by cashing the ace of diamonds and leading another diamond.

East won with his jack and led a high spade, forcing dummy to ruff. No other defense would have been better. Declarer ruffed in dummy and cashed dummy's 10 of hearts. A diamond was ruffed high, establishing the suit, and South drew the outstanding trumps. Dummy was high and the defense surrendered.

Note how important it was to play the diamonds properly. Had South crossed to his hand with the ace of clubs and taken the diamond finesse, instead, East could have defeated the contract by simply winning his king and leading a club to dummy's king. There would have been no late entry to enjoy the diamonds. Nicely played!

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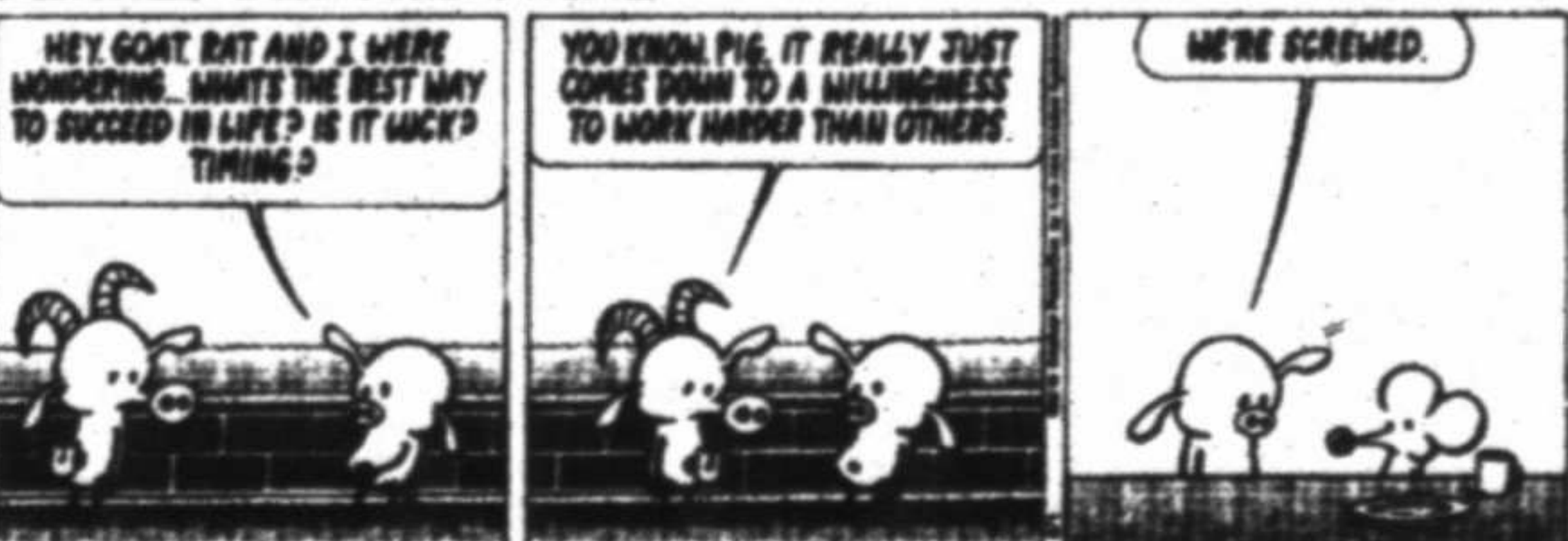
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DENNIS THE MENACE



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



LOCKHORNS



FAMILY CIRCUS



SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephams Group

3		2		5		1	9	
9					6			
	4	7				3		
6	8							
			4		8			
						6		7
		4				9	5	
			2					3
1	6					7	4	2

Level:

1	2
3	4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

6	4	8	5	9	7	1	2	3
9	1	2	4	3	8	5	6	7
3	7	5	1	6	2	4	8	9
2	6	4	3	8	9	7	5	1
8	3	7	6	1	5	9	4	2
1	5	9	7	2	4	6	3	8
4	8	3	9	7	6	2	1	5
7	2	6	8	5	1	3	9	4
5	9	1	2	4	3	8	7	6

8/1/18

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JUMBLE

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

VUMEA

OBTOA

SINBHA

CADILP

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: RIGID HARSH LOOSEN SPOTTY
Answer: The baseball team was moving and the jersey seller was about to — LOSE HIS SHIRT

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt

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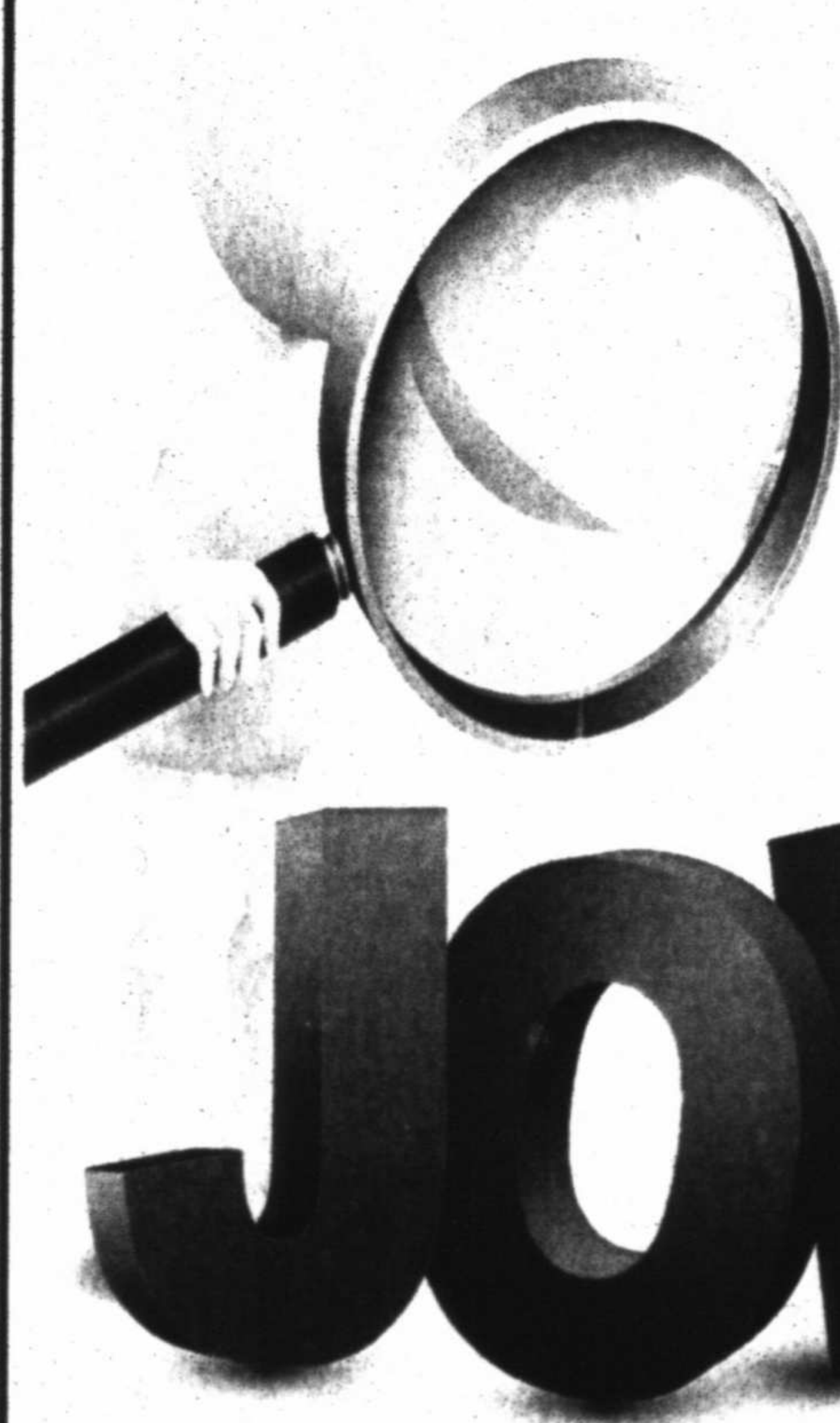
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