MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2016 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

YEAR IN REVIEW

Check out our photographers' favorite pictures of the year.

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BJHC RETURNS

The 24th Byron Johnston Holiday Classic begins at 9 a.m. today and runs through Friday. Games are scheduled to be played at Chaparral Center, Midland High and Lee High School.

Page 1C

Workforce housing transactions drive market

Market loses inventory, sees year-over-year increase in homes sold, drops in housing price

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

The sale of homes between $200,000 and $399,999 was the driver of housing metrics, according to the November report from the Permian Basin Board of Realtors.

The PBBOR reported a larger percentage of homes were sold in that range compared to the previous three months and that the number of homes sold for $400,000 or more dropped by nearly 58 percent during the same period.

The PBBOR report also includes:

■ a month-over-month drop in inventory from 594 to 559 houses.

The monthly average for inventory in 2016 has been 590 houses;

■ an increase in homes sold year over year.

There were 142 homes sold in November 2016, up from 99 in November 2015. The a month-over-month drop is typical of the market between October and November. The one-house drop from October to November is the smallest going back to 2012.

■ the days on the market increased month over month and year over year.

Homes sold stayed on the market an average of 57 days, which was five more days than October, three more days than the average year-to-date and 28 more days

Please see **HOMES**/4A

Not in our town

AP file photo

In this Aug. 18 photo, an oil pump jack is seen just outside of Balmorhea. The rise of fracturing nearby the town has some community members worried about their drinking water and natural springs, which serve as a popular tourism destination helping drive the town's economy. Activists have opened a protest camp in Toyahvale, home to the famous spring and pool of Balmorhea State Park, to protest drilling by Houston-based Apache Corp.

Activists to open drilling protest camp near Balmorhea

By David Hunn
Houston Chronicle

Another protest camp looks to open in West Texas, making at least two in the high desert south of Midland, the state's oil-and-gas capital. Activists began working three weeks ago on the first, near Alpine, to protest Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners' Trans-Pecos gas pipeline, which will run from the busy Permian Basin to Mexico.

Protesters were arrested near there earlier this month. The second camp is opening in Toyahvale, home to the famous spring and pool of Balmorhea State Park, to protest drilling by Houston-based Apache Corp. In September, the company announced it had discovered 15 billion barrels of oil and gas around Balmorhea, and said it could drill as many as 3,000 wells over the next two decades.

Resident Neta Rhyne and her husband own about 400 acres there, abutting the state park, and are designating 30 acres for the new camp.

"We're going to get Toyahvale on the map, finally," said Rhyne. "Wish it were for better reasons."

Rhyne said she and a few volunteers are clearing tumbleweeds off the acreage now, and getting a gate built in the property's perimeter fence. They hauled in portable restrooms, but plan to build composting toilets, using ground tumbleweeds for composting material. They hope to light their opening camp fire on Jan. 7, she said. Four campers have already arrived, Rhyne said, three from the pipeline protest camp near the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota and one from Austin.

Rhyne said she came to Toyahvale when she had lung cancer, to get away from the city pollution, and she says she already notices the change in air quality with just a few wells drilled.

"My goal would be for Apache just to go home, go away," she said. "I don't know how realistic that is." In response, Apache said that "the safe and responsible development of natural resources" is the company's top priority.

It is, for example, working with the University of Texas at Arlington on the first independent baseline water study in the region.

"With world-class technology, best management practices and continued dialogue with the community," spokeswoman Castlen Kennedy said in an email, "the Alpine High play will be safely developed to produce much needed domestic energy, high-quality jobs and local economic activity while protecting the land, air and water resources of the region."

School breaks mean kids gain weight study shows

By Nicole Villalpando
Austin American-Statesman

Warning, parents. When your kids are out of school, their potential to gain weight goes up. Paul T. von Hippel, an associate professor at the Center for Health and Social Policy at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas, worked with Joseph Workman of Nuffield College at the University of Oxford to crunch data using the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study and published their findings in the Obesity Symposium this fall.

The longitudinal study measured the heights and weights of 18,170 U.S. children in the 2010-2011 kindergarten class. It took measurements in fall and spring through their second-grade years.

What von Hippel and Workman discovered might surprise parents. We think of our kids as being more active in the summer — they swim, they run around, they might even be outside more than in the winter. Yet, they also gain weight. In fact, the numbers showed that the only time the prevalence of obesity or being overweight rose among these 18,170 kids was the summer between their kindergarten and first-grade years and the summer between their first- and second-grade years.

What this study seems to point to is that kids' behaviors change in the summer. "The out-of-school influences are affecting obesity," von Hippel says. He points to things like unlimited access to food all day and more time spent on sedentary activities such as watching TV or playing on the computer as some of the possible factors.

These increases in obesity or being overweight also suggest that the

Please see **KIDS**/4A

Health & Wellness

Faced with unaffordable drug prices, millions buy medicine outside US.

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76/36
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Energy prices

WTI Futures	$53.90	▲	$0.88
WTI Posted	$50.25	▲	$0.75
WTS Posted	$46.35	▲	$0.75
Natural Gas	$3.761	▲	$0.099
Gasoline	$2.135	▲	$0.014

The big number
Just under **400,000 Americans** have retired and moved abroad. Page 4A.

Word of the Day: stultify
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 2A.

Brought to you daily by JumBurrito

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WORD OF THE DAY
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stultify
1. to make, or cause to appear, foolish orridiculous.
2. to render absurdly or wholly futile or ineffectual,especially by degrading or frustrating means:*Menial work can stultify the mind.*
3. *Law.* to allege or prove (oneself or another) tobe of unsound mind.

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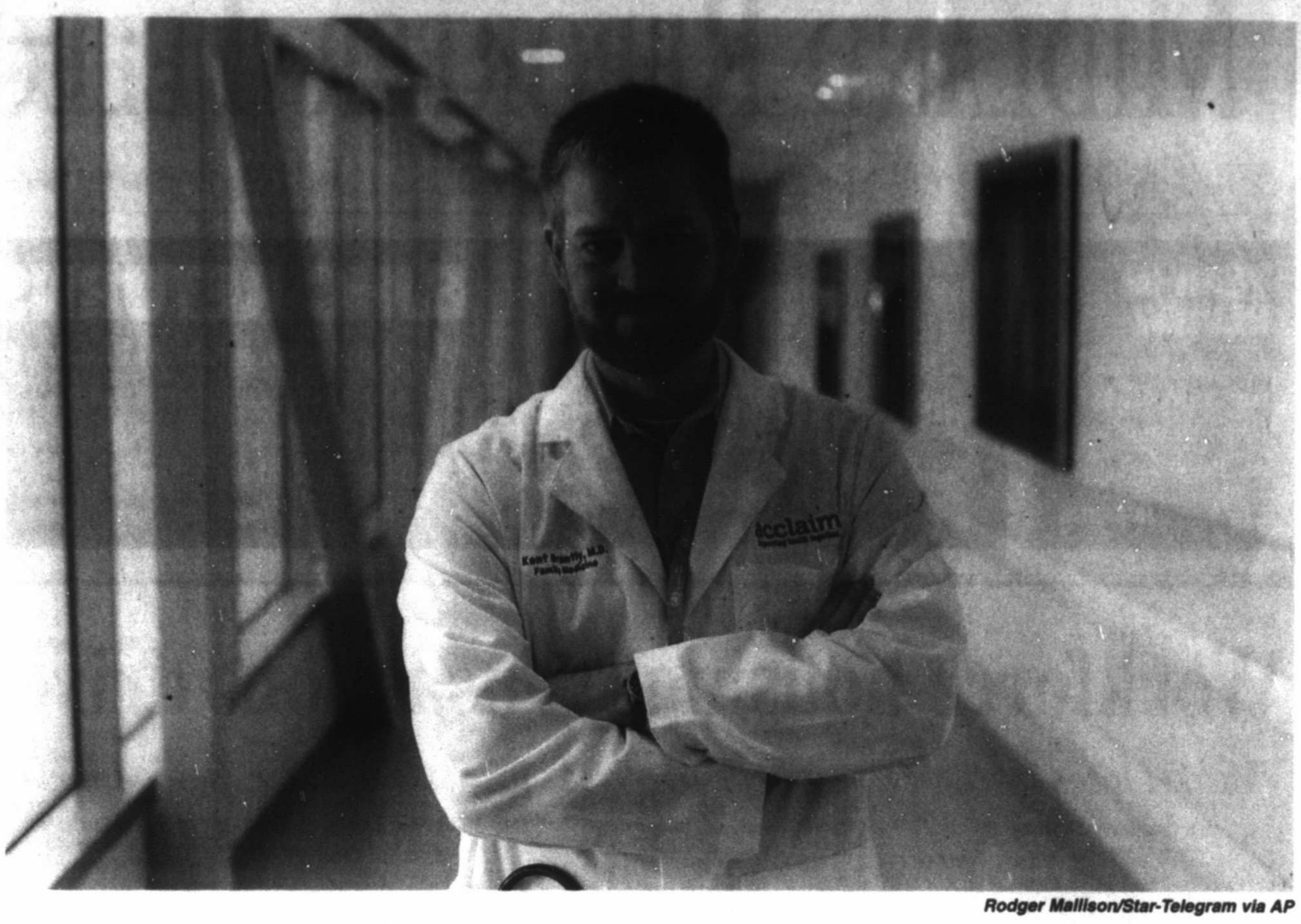

Rodger Mallison/Star-Telegram via AP

Dr. Kent Brantly, who was infected with Ebola in Liberia, poses Dec. 19 for a photo in Fort Worth. The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported that Brantly returned to practicing medicine about a year ago. He now practices medicine and teaches young doctors at JPS Health Network, where he said some patients recognize him and bring up his battle of more than two years ago.

Doctor who survived Ebola returns to practicing medicine

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — A doctor who survived Ebola after contracting the virus while treating patients in Liberia has quietly returned to practicing medicine in Fort Worth.

Dr. Kent Brantly, who resumed practicing family medicine about a year ago, now works at JPS Health Network, according to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. He sees patients, teaches family medicine residents and works one day a week in labor and delivery at John Peter Smith Hospital.

He says some patients recognize him and bring up his battle of more than two years ago. Brantly also said all of the responses have been positive and many have told him they prayed for him.

"I have patients in the clinic occasionally who say, 'Where do I know you from?' or "I've seen you on TV,'" the 35-year-old Indiana native said.

He became the face of Ebola for many in the United States, writing a book, appearing at the White House, speaking around the country and gracing the cover of Time magazine.

His experience in Liberia, where he worked for nine months as a doctor for the Christian relief agency Samaritan's Purse, has helped shape his outlook for treating patients locally and around the world.

At one point, Brantly thought he was going to die after contracting the virus in July 2014. More than a week into getting sick, he received the experimental drug ZMapp.

"I had a pretty dramatic response to that first dose," Brantly said. "I was in that position of struggling to breathe, thinking I'm going to die of respiratory failure in the next few hours, to being stable that night — not better but stable —and I was evacuated the next day."

He would continue to get better after being flown to Emory University Hospital in Atlanta.

Brantly said his health is fine now and he draws on his experience in Liberia to teach the message of caring for others — especially "choosing compassion over fear."

Robert Earley, president and chief executive officer of the JPS Health Network, said, "I could not have any greater respect for doctors like Dr. Brantly, not only for their humanitarian efforts, but for the medical knowledge they bring back to JPS."

Energy companies plan to boost wind generation in New Mexico

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Energy companies are expected to double the generating capacity of wind farms in eastern New Mexico over the next few years, thanks in part to federal subsidies and improvements in technology.

More than a gigawatt of wind capacity is now under construction or planned in New Mexico, said Jeremy Lewis, head of the energy, conservation and management division at the state Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department.

If all of that comes on line, that would be enough to potentially supply nearly 700,000 homes every year.

"The costs for wind and solar have dropped precipitously, allowing a lot more renewable energy to move onto the grid," Lewis told The Albuquerque Journal. "We'll see a lot more wind energy connected to our economy moving forward."

Still, some question whether the uptick will be temporary since subsidies will be phased out by 2020 and President-elect Donald Trump's incoming administration is expected to pursue fossil-fuel development over renewables.

In New Mexico, the other challenge is the need for more transmission lines, which can add to the cost of new projects.

But at least for the next few years, wind energy will be booming.

"Today's tax credits have brought down the costs to make wind energy very economical," said David Hudson, president of Xcel Energy New Mexico, which serves eastern New Mexico and West Texas through its subsidiary, Southwestern Public Service Co. "It's an opportune time to acquire wind-generated electricity."

"The costs for wind and solar have dropped precipitously, allowing a lot more renewable energy to move onto the grid. We'll see a lot more wind energy connected to our economy moving forward."

Jeremy Lewis, head of the energy, conservation and management division at the state Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department

The federal production tax credit, which currently pays 2.3 cents for every kilowatt-hour of electricity from wind farms, has contributed to rapid deployment of new wind facilities across the nation in the past decade. Developers installed a total of nearly 75 gigawatts of electricity nationwide as of 2015, or enough to power about 20 million homes, according to the Wind Energy Association.

As of last summer, the association reported 20 gigawatts of wind projects in advanced construction or planning nationwide, nearly three times the level in 2015.

"We're seeing near-record development," said John Hensley, association manager for industry data and analysis. "Many companies want to increase their holdings to lock in low, stable wind prices now."

Massive wind farms are either planned or under construction in Torrance and Curry counties. That includes two interrelated projects near Clovis totaling 497 megawatts of generating capacity.

The 298 megawatt El Cabo Wind Farm near Moriarty will open next year, and three other projects ranging from 30 to 250 megawatts are in the planning stages.

Together, those projects would double New Mexico's wind generation to nearly 20 wind farms with more than 2 gigawatts of installed capacity.

The $500 million El Cabo project will be the state's largest wind farm.

New Mexico's eastern plains have enough wind energy potential to generate 11 gigawatts of electricity, or about 75 times more than the state needs, according to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Colorado. As a result, most newly planned wind farms will supply customers in other states.

To do that, New Mexico needs more transmission, since current lines operated by the state's largest utility, Public Service Company of New Mexico, can only accommodate another 1 gigawatt of capacity, said Jeff Mechenbier, PNM director of transmission, distribution and planning contracts.

Five large-scale transmission projects are currently in different stages of development, including the 515-mile SunZia line that will carry wind-generated electricity from central New Mexico to Arizona.

STATE&REGIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

MERKEL

Search party finds remains of missing West Texas man

Authorities say the remains of a West Texas man missing for more than a week have been found in a field less than a mile from his home.

The Taylor County sheriff's office said a search party found the remains of 65-year-old Daniel Lerma on Monday afternoon. Foul play is not suspected. An autopsy has been ordered to determine his cause of death.

Lerma was last seen at his home in the small town of Merkel on Dec. 17.

The sheriff's office had asked for the public's help in finding him.

MCALLEN

11 dumped from Rio Grande raft rescued by Border Patrol

Border Patrol agents near McAllen have rescued 11 people, including seven children, who were crossing the Rio Grande in a raft tethered to a vehicle on the Mexican side when smugglers yanked on the rope and dumped the people into the river.

The people trying to enter the U.S. illegally were struggling to stay afloat when they were spotted by agents late Monday night. Authorities tossed floatation devices to some and others were rescued by a Border Patrol boat. Some smugglers on the raft wore life jackets and swam back to Mexico.

No one rescued was hurt. Five were under the age of 9, including a year-old infant. Officials say all were from Honduras and Nicaragua.

Agents say the tethered raft is a smugglers' tactic to make its retrieval easier.

NEW MEXICO

Lawmaker wants moratorium on new charter schools

SANTA FE — A lawmaker wants to put a moratorium on opening new charter schools in New Mexico for at least two and a half years so the state can evaluate the schools and find ways to ensure they're delivering high-quality education.

The Santa Fe New Mexican reported that Democratic Rep. Christine Trujillo of Albuquerque has introduced a bill that would halt approval of new charter applications between June 2017 and January 2020.

Many charter schools in New Mexico also have been under scrutiny in the past year for their financial management practices.

Trujillo says the state has been moving so fast on this front that it doesn't have enough time to oversee how they are functioning.

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WE ARE MORE THAN JUST A GARDEN CENTER

AP file photo

'Star Wars' princess Carrie Fisher dead at 60

By Hillel Italie
Associated Press

NEW YORK — No one could make us laugh through the pain like Carrie Fisher.

The daughter of Hollywood stars Eddie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds, and a survivor of early fame, drug addiction and bipolar disorder, she wrote with unsentimental wit and understanding about her private struggles and about an industry she was raised in but stood apart from.

Fisher, known to the world as Princess Leia of "Star Wars," died Tuesday at 60, four days after falling ill aboard an airline flight. Media reports said the actress had suffered a heart attack.

"I do believe you're only as sick as your secrets. If that's true, I'm just really healthy," she said in a confessional 2009 interview with The Associated Press.

The public fell in love with her twice: as Princess Leia and as the wry truth teller of such books as "Postcards from the Edge," "Wishful Drinking" and "The Princess Diarist," in which she revealed having an intense affair with "Star Wars" co-star Harrison Ford. When she and Ford reprised their roles last year in "The Force Awakens," audiences cheered both for her past on screen and for the life reflected on her sadder and wiser face.

Fisher told plenty of secrets about others — about her parents' breakup when she was 2, about being advised by Warren Beatty on wearing a bra in "Shampoo," and about arguing with then-husband Paul Simon about whether it was better to be a man or a woman.

Asked by NPR recently why she wrote about her fling with Ford, who was 15 years older and married, she joked that she could hold back no longer because he had refused to die: "I kept calling and saying, 'When are you going to die because I want to tell the story?'"

But she was toughest on herself and unafraid to turn trauma into humor. She became the most knowable of celebrities, with a great and generous gift for bringing us into her unusual life.

"One of the therapists came in to admit me and asked how long I had been a drug addict," she wrote in Postcards," her autobiographical novel that became a movie of the same name. "I said I didn't think I was a drug addict because I didn't take any one drug. 'Then you're a drugs addict,' she said. She asked if I had deliberately tried to kill myself. I was insulted by the question. I guess when you find yourself having overdosed, it's a good indicator that your life isn't working."

She is survived by her mother; her daughter, Billie Lourd, from a relationship with talent agent Bryan Lourd; her brother, the actor-filmmaker Todd Fisher; and her half-sisters, actresses Joely and Tricia Leigh Fisher. Her father died in 2010.

> *"People relate to aspects of my stories, and that's nice for me because then I'm not all alone with it."*
>
> **Carrie Fisher**

Born and raised in Beverly Hills, Carrie Fisher was a bookish child who had difficult relationships with both parents. In a celebrity breakup that made headlines everywhere in 1958, Eddie Fisher left his family for Elizabeth Taylor.

Eddie Fisher was hardly present for his daughter in her early years, and Reynolds' second husband, the shoe store magnate Harry Karl, was even worse. He squandered his own money and Reynolds' on gambling and prostitutes and left the actress and her children broke and devastated.

Meanwhile, Carrie Fisher went into the family business early — too early, she would later say. Fisher was performing on stage by age 12 and appeared with Reynolds in the 1973 Broadway revival "Irene." She was still a teenager when she made her feature film debut in "Shampoo," which came out in 1975.

Even after "Star Wars," Fisher would speak often of feeling overshadowed by her mother and about the need to break away, a conflict dramatized in "Postcards From the Edge."

Mother and daughter were estranged for years but reconciled later in life and came to admire each other's talent and determination. "Bright Lights: Starring Debbie Reynolds and Carrie Fisher," an HBO documentary, is scheduled for release in 2017.

Fisher's film credits included a wide range of spoofs, musicals and romantic comedies over the years, from "Austin Powers" and "The Blues Brothers" to "Hannah and Her Sisters" and "When Harry Met Sally ..." Meryl Streep was the star when "Postcards From the Edge," with a screenplay by Fisher, was adapted into a film of the same name in 1990. Shirley MacLaine played Streep's mother, the stand-in for Reynolds.

But for millions, Fisher was Princess Leia, with her now-iconic hair bagels and metal bikini, who uttered the immortal phrase "Help me Obi-Wan Kenobi, you're my only hope" in the original "Star Wars" in 1977.

Director George Lucas, who considered Jodie Foster, Amy Irving and dozens of others for the role, said he had been looking for an actress who could "hold her own" against her male co-stars.

Fisher would make a lot of wisecracks about the role that made her pop-culture royalty and led Reynolds to note ruefully she was now regarded as the mother of Princess Leia.

Fisher disliked her hairstyle, disparaged her hybrid British-American accent in the films and was appalled by some of the "Star Wars" merchandise, including a Princess Leia candy dispenser.

Given the chance, she would have preferred to play Han Solo.

"When I first read the script I thought that's the part to be, always wry and sardonic," she told a gathering in England in 2015. "He's always that. I feel like a lot of the time Leia's either worried or pissed or, thank God, sort of snarky. But I'm much more worried and pissed than Han Solo ever was, and those aren't fun things to play."

Her drug problems pre-dated "Star Wars." She recalled smoking pot at age 13 (She would later learn that there is a kind of marijuana called "Princess Leia.") and dropped acid at 21.

She used so much cocaine that even world-class partyer John Belushi, who died of a drug overdose at 33, warned her to stop.

In her 20s, she was diagnosed as bipolar and treated with electroshock therapy and medication, which she wrote about in the memoir "Shockaholic."

"People relate to aspects of my stories, and that's nice for me because then I'm not all alone with it," she told the AP in 2009.

Ever ready to satirize herself, she even played "Carrie Fisher" a few times, as in David Cronenberg's dark Hollywood sendup "Maps to the Stars" and in an episode of "Sex and the City." In the past 15 years, Fisher also had a steady career as a television guest star, perhaps most memorably as a has-been comedy legend on "30 Rock."

Her one-woman show, "Wishful Drinking," which she had performed on and off across the country since 2006, made its way to Broadway in 2009 and was captured for HBO in 2010.

"I don't have a problem with drugs so much as I have a problem with sobriety," she wisecracked in the show. At another point, she said: "I'm a product of Hollywood inbreeding. When two celebrities mate, something like me is the result."

RIGHT PHOTO: Carrie Fisher presents the life achievement award on stage at the 21st annual Screen Actors Guild Awards on Jan. 25, 2015, at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. On Tuesday, a publicist said Fisher has died at the age of 60. *AP file photo*

More coverage

Highlights of Carrie Fisher's Hollywood life and times

NEW YORK — With a big personality, a history of addiction and a long, varied show business career, here's a taste of Carrie Fisher's Hollywood life and times:

■ **Hollywood royalty**

Her mom is Debbie Reynolds and her dad the late crooner Eddie Fisher. They divorced when she was 2 after her dad decamped to marry Elizabeth Taylor. Suffering from mental illness, and drug and alcohol addiction during much of her life, Fisher became an outspoken advocate for those issues.

■ **"Star Wars"**

Who can forget that cinnamon-bun hairdo as Princess Leia in the original trilogy, from 1977 to 1983. She later reprised the role, including a turn in "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" last year.

■ **"Shampoo"**

Before Star Wars was "Shampoo" of 1975, starring Warren Beatty as a Beverly Hills hairdresser. She was Lorna Karpf and her mom reportedly wasn't thrilled about the character's use of profanity.

■ **"Postcards From The Edge"**

This 1990 film directed by Mike Nichols was based on a screenplay she wrote, which was based on her 1987 semi-autobiographical novel of the same title. Meryl Streep starred as movie actress Suzanne Vale, looking to rebuild her life after a drug overdose.

■ **"Wishful Drinking"**

It's the title of her one-woman stage show and autobiography. A version of the stage production hit HBO in 2010. She followed up this year with a memoir, "The Princess Diarist," based on diaries she kept while filming the original Star Wars trilogy.

Reactions to Carrie Fisher death

■ "no words #Devastated" — Mark Hamill, on Twitter.

■ "Carrie was one-of-a-kind.brilliant, original. Funny and emotionally fearless. She lived her life, bravely...My thoughts are with her daughter Billie, her mother Debbie, her brother Todd, and her many friends. We will all miss her." — Harrison Ford, in a statement.

■ "There are no words for this loss. Carrie was the brightest light in every room she entered. I will miss her dearly." — Peter Mayhew, who played Chewbacca in "Star Wars," on Twitter.

■ "I'm deeply saddened at the news of Carrie's passing. She was a dear friend, whom I greatly respected and admired. The force is dark today!" — Billy Dee Williams, on Twitter.

■ "Carrie and I have been friends most of our adult lives. She was extremely smart; a talented actress, writer and comedienne with a very colorful personality that everyone loved. In Star Wars she was our great and powerful princess — feisty, wise and full of hope in a role that was more difficult than most people might think." — George Lucas, in a statement.

■ "Thank you to everyone who has embraced the gifts and talents of my beloved and amazing daughter. I am grateful for your thoughts and prayers that are now guiding her to her next stop. Love Carries Mother." — Debbie Reynolds, on Facebook.

■ "Carrie Fisher was one-of-a-kind, a true character who shared her talent and her truth with us all with her trademark wit and irreverence. Millions fell in love with her as the indomitable Princess Leia; she will always have a special place in the hearts of Star Wars fans as well as all of us who were lucky enough to know her personally." — Bob Iger, chairman and chief executive officer, The Walt Disney Company, in a statement.

■ "When I was a young man, Carrie Fisher she was the most beautiful creature I had ever seen. She turned out to be witty and bright as well." — Steve Martin, on Twitter.

■ "I'm deeply saddened to learn of the death of Carrie Fisher. I will miss our banterings. A wonderful talent & light has been extinguished." — William Shatner, on Twitter.

■ "She was a beautiful spirit and a light that has dimmed too soon. ... What a sad way to end the year." — SAG-AFTRA President Gabrielle Carteris, in a statement.

■ "Carrie Fisher didn't make it. I am so terribly sorry, and send my sincere condolences to her family, friends and fans all around the world." — Bette Midler, on Twitter.

■ "I thought I had got what I wanted under the tree. I didn't. In spite of so many thoughts and prayers from so many, I am very, very sad." — Anthony Daniels, on Twitter.

■ "@CarrieFisher was a brilliant writer, actor, and friend. She was so much fun. I can't believe she's gone." — Ellen DeGeneres, on Twitter.

■ "Carrie Fisher has passed, she was funnier&smarter than anyone had the right to be. Sail On Silver Girl." — Whoopi Goldberg, on Twitter.

The Associated Press

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

(schedule could change due to the holiday week)

■ Yoga at the Museum for museum members. 8 a.m., Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E University Blvd, Odessa. Free. noelartmuseum.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. co.midland.tx.us/lib.

■ Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $6. permianbridgeclub.com.

■ Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 8 p.m., Torino's. challengeentertainment.com.

■ Moscow Ballet's "Great Russian Nutcracker," 7 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $30-$70. Wagnernoel.com.

New Year's Eve planner

■ New Year's Eve dinner will feature a five-course meal and live DJ. Doors, 5:30 p.m., Steak 42, 911 S. Big Spring St. $150 per couple. For reservations, call 432-528-8769 or 432-704-5242.

■ Black and White New Year's Eve is a family-friendly event, 6 p.m., Brew St. Bakery, 4610 N. Garfield St.

■ Toasting for Tails New Year's party and casino night. This is the inaugural event by the Midland Humane Coalition, 7 p.m., Doubletree Hotel, 117 W. Wall St. 21 and older. The night features dinner, dessert, casino games and a complimentary champagne toast. Midlandhumane.org.

■ Dos Amigos New Year's Eve Bash with Mark McKinney, 8 p.m., Dos Amigos, 4700 Golder Ave., Odessa. $20 individual, $30 couple. Dosamigos.com.

■ 80s Retro New Year's Eve Party with DJ Sho Nuff. 8 p.m., Midland Beer Garden, 7112 W. Highway 80. Free. midlandbeergarden.com.

Note: See Thursday's Weekender section for more information on things happening in New Year's Eve.

Recycling container locations

Large 30-cubic yard open top containers:

Midland Citizens Collection Station

■ 4100 Smith Road, 685-7278 -- has recycling containers for cardboard, aluminum, paper and No. 1 and No. 2 plastics.

Midland College (Chaparral Center)

■ 3200 N. Garfield Road – Cardboard, paper, aluminum and No. 1 and 2 plastics

Security Bank Ballpark west side

■ 5514 Champions Drive – Cardboard, No. 1 and 2 plastics

H-E-B

■ 3325 W. Wadley Ave. – No. 1 and 2 plastics and cardboard

Super Mercado

■ 2208 N. Big Spring St. – Cardboard

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

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

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

Contact your representative

Midland ISD

■ Address: 615 W. Missouri Ave., Midland, TX, 79701

■ Phone: 240-1000

■ Website: midlandisd.net

■ Facebook: facebook.com/midlandisd/

■ Interim superintendent: Rod Schroder 240-1001

■ District 1: James Fuller. District 2: Robert Marquez. District 3: Tommy Bishop. District 4: John Kennedy. District 5: Karen Nicholson. District 6: Rick Davis. District 7: Bryan Murry

Midlan County

■ P.O. Box 421, Midland, TX 79702

■ Website: www.co.midland.tx.us

■ County Judge Mike Bradford 688-4310

■ Commissioners — Precinct 1: Scott Ramsey, Precinct 2: Robin Donnelly, Precinct 3: Luis D. Sanchez, Precinct 4: Randy Prude

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■ Website: midlandtexas.gov

■ Facebook: www.facebook.com/CityofMidlandTX

■ Twitter: twitter.com/CityOfMidland

■ Mayor Jerry Morales 685-7204

■ City Council — At-large: Scott Dufford and Spencer Robnett, District 1: Jeff Sparks, District 2: John Love III, District 3: Sharla Hotchkiss, District 4: J.Ross Lacy

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 1-8-8
Pick 3 day: 8-8-0
Pick 3 evening: 5-3-1
Pick 3 night: 3-2-9
Daily 4 morning: 3-6-1-2
Daily 4 day: 6-0-6-6
Daily 4 evening: 2-1-7-1
Daily 4 night: 7-7-4-1
Cash Five: 6-15-21-30-36
Texas Triple Chance: 1-10-12-15-19-21-25-44-47-49
Mega Millions: 2-28-30-38-39 MB: 11 Megaplier: 4
All or Nothing morning: 1-3-4-7-8-9-14-15-16-20-22-24
All or Nothing day: 2-4-6-12-15-17-18-20-21-22-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 2-3-4-5-6-8-11-12-13-16-19-20
All or Nothing night: 2-4-7-8-9-13-14-15-17-19-21-22

Joseph Roginski/AP

In this photo taken May 13, 2011, Joseph Roginski, right, holds a package in a storeroom of the Misawa City Hall in Japan, where donations of clothing and supplies were being kept for earthquake relief efforts. He says that while the cost of living is higher in Japan, access to health care is not. "Things are very expensive here. It is impossible to live off Social Security alone," said Roginski, who was stationed in Japan in 1968. "But health insurance is a major factor in staying here." The former military language and intelligence specialist said he pays $350 annually to be part of Japan's national health insurance. His policy covers 70 percent of his costs. The rest is covered by a secondary insurance program for retired military personnel.

Growing number of Americans are retiring outside the US

By Maria Zamudio
The Associated Press

Newly widowed, Kay McCowen quit her job, sold her house, applied for Social Security and retired to Mexico. It was a move she and her husband, Mel, had discussed before he passed away in 2012.

"I wanted to find a place where I could afford to live off my Social Security," she said. "The weather here is so perfect, and it's a beautiful place."

She is among a growing number of Americans who are retiring outside the United States. The number grew 17 percent between 2010 and 2015 and is expected to increase over the next 10 years as more baby boomers retire.

Just under 400,000 American retirees are now living abroad, according to the Social Security Administration. The countries they have chosen most often: Canada, Japan, Mexico, Germany and the United Kingdom.

Retirees most often cite the cost of living as the reason for moving elsewhere said Olivia S. Mitchell, director of the Pension Research Council at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.

"I think that many people retire when they are in good health and they are interested in stretching their dollars and seeing the world," Mitchell said.

McCowen's rent in Ajijic, a community outside Guadalajara near Mexico's Lake Chapala, is half of what she was paying in Texas. And since the weather is moderate, utility bills are inexpensive.

In some countries, Mitchell said, retirees also may find it less expensive to hire someone to do their laundry, clean, cook and even provide long-term care than in the United States.

McCowen has a community of other American retirees nearby and has adjusted well.

But for others there are hurdles to overcome to adjust to life in a different country.

Viviana Rojas, an associate professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio, says the biggest obstacle is not speaking the language or knowing the culture.

"Many of the people we interviewed said they spoke Spanish, but they actually spoke very little Spanish," said Rojas, who is writing a book about retirees in Mexico. "They didn't have the capacity of speaking enough Spanish to meet their basic needs like going to the doctor or to the store."

Access to health care also can be a challenge. While retirees still can receive Social Security benefits, Medicare is not available to those living abroad, Mitchell said.

Joseph Roginski, 71, says that while the cost of living is higher in Japan, access to health care is not. "Things are very expensive here. It is impossible to live off Social Security alone," said Roginski, who was stationed in Japan in 1968. "But health insurance is a major factor in staying here."

The former military language and intelligence specialist said he pays $350 annually to be part of Japan's national health insurance. His policy covers 70 percent of his costs. The rest is covered by a secondary insurance program for retired military personnel.

Japan experienced biggest growth, 42 percent, of American retirees than any other country between 2010 and 2014, according to data from the Social Security Administration. The large U.S. military presence in the country may be a factor.

There are more than 50,000 U.S. military servicemen and -women stationed in Japan. The presence is so large that in the island of Okinawa, the U.S. military occupies about 19 percent of the area, according to Ellis S. Krauss, professor emeritus of Japanese politics and policy-making at the University of California, San Diego.

Roginski, who volunteers for the Misawa Air Base Retiree Activities Office, said he helps connect more than 450 retirees and their families living in Northern Japan with resources. He said he would never move back to the United States.

"We have a real strong sense of security here," he said. "I can leave my door unlocked and no one will take anything. When I go to another country I feel nervous, but when I come back I feel like I'm home."

Mexico has become home for retired firefighter, Dan Williams, 72, and his wife, Donna, 68. The couple has been living near the same retirement community in Lake Chapala for 14 years.

"The climate and the medical services are very good," Williams said.

Williams teaches painting to adults and children and puts together a monthly magazine for the local American Legion. He is also a member of the Lake Chapala Society, which offers daily activities for American retirees.

It was those same services that attracted McCowen to the region.

"Before moving, I found out how many widowed and divorced women lived here," she said. "There is comfort in numbers."

She says she loves being in a lively community.

"I see older people walking year round. I see them all over the place even in their wheelchairs. If they were in the U.S., they would probably be in a nursing home," she said. "I don't think I could move back."

At Pearl Harbor, US and Japan seek absolution from the war

By Josh Lederman and Caleb Jones
Associated Press

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii — In a historic pilgrimage, the leaders of Japan and the United States took to the hallowed waters of Pearl Harbor on Tuesday to prove that even the bitterest enemies can become allies. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe did not apologize, but conceded Japan "must never repeat the horrors of war again." Seventy-five years after Japan's surprise attack sent America marching into World War II, Abe and President Barack Obama peered down at the rusting wreckage of the USS Arizona, clearly visible in the tranquil, teal water. More than 1,000 U.S. war dead remain entombed in the submerged ship, and in a show of respect, Obama and Abe dropped purple petals into the water and stood in silence.

"As the prime minister of Japan, I offer my sincere and everlasting condolences to the souls of those who lost their lives here, as well as to the spirits of all the brave men and women whose lives were taken by a war that commenced in this very place," Abe said later at nearby Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

That was the closest Abe would get to an apology for the attack. And it was enough for Obama, who also declined to apologize seven months ago when he became America's first sitting president to visit Hiroshima, where the U.S. dropped an atomic bomb in a bid to end the war.

It was enough, too, for Alfred Rodrigues, a U.S. Navy veteran who survived the attack. The 96-year-old said he had no hard feelings and added, "War is war."

"They were doing what they were supposed to do, and we were doing what we were supposed to do," Rodrigues said before the visit. Abe, who became Japan's first leader to visit Pearl Harbor with a U.S. president, said the visit "brought utter silence to me." His remarks capped a day that was carefully choreographed by the U.S. and Japan to show a strong and growing alliance between former foes.

They started with a formal meeting at another nearby military base, in what the White House said was likely Obama's last meeting with a foreign leader before leaving office in January. It was a bookend of sorts for the president, who nearly eight years ago invited Abe's predecessor to be the first leader he hosted at the White House.

Obama, speaking after

Please see JAPAN/5A

Nonprofit leader who wrote racist Michelle Obama post fired

Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — A West Virginia nonprofit group has fired its director after she wrote a Facebook post referring to first lady Michelle Obama as an "ape in heels."

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin's office said Tuesday that Pamela Ramsey Taylor, executive director of the Clay County Development Corp., was removed following an agreement with the nonprofit's board of directors.

Taylor's racist social media comments were not directly mentioned as the reason. She had been placed initially on a six-week leave that was scheduled to end last Friday.

However, the state requested "specific assurances" the nonprofit is following anti-discrimination policies and has been assured Taylor is gone as director, Tomblin spokeswoman Jessica Tice said.

The Appalachian Area Agency on Aging will manage the nonprofit daily for six months while the Clay County organization makes any changes needed for compliance as a state contractor, Tice said.

The nonprofit provides services to elderly and low-income residents in Clay County.

West Virginia's Bureau of Senior Services and the Bureau for Medical Services have been reviewing the nonprofit's state contracts following the furor. The state also asked for guarantees that Taylor had not discriminated against recipients of state services.

Clay Mayor Beverly Whaling was criticized for responding to Taylor's post: "Just made my day Pam." Whaling said later that she was referencing the change in the White House and wasn't racist. She resigned following the backlash.

KIDS

From 1A

emphasis on school-based healthy eating education is not working.

"Obesity rates are still where they were in 2004," von Hippel says. That was the time when more concern about what kids were being served in school cafeterias and how much exercise they were getting in school led to some changes in cafeteria menus and schools adding more teaching of health values such as Go, Slow and Whoa Foods and the importance of exercise.

Von Hippel has some ideas of what can be done to limit the effect summer vacation, winter break and spring break can have on children. He'd like to see more summer activity programs for kids to be active, as well as families exercising together and eating better during breaks. When he looks at the role TV might be playing, it might not just be the sedentary activity of it. It could also be the amount of food marketing directed toward children.

All eyes are on Chile right now. It recently banned food marketing to children, including television commercials, for foods that are high in sugar, sodium, calories and fat. Sugar cereal boxes there also come with warning labels.

Researchers will study Chile's obesity rates and see if they go down with these changes.

There are things parents can do right now to reduce the weight gain during these breaks.

Pediatricians talk about these numbers — 9-5-2-1-0: Nine hours of sleep a night, five daily servings of fruits and vegetables, two hours or less of screen time (though recently that has changed to be more about quality screen time versus quantity), at least one hour of physical activity a day and zero sugar-added drinks (including juice, sports drinks, sodas and sweetened waters).

This might mean you check your pantry and refrigerator for what foods you are keeping on hand. Is it healthy, or is it junk food we all crave that tends to multiply this time of year? Sub out the candy, cookies and chips for more fruits and vegetables.

You also can encourage kids to drink water by filling Christmas stockings with cool reusable water bottles or adding pitchers of water with slices of cucumber, lemons or limes to your refrigerator.

Winter break also doesn't have to mean unlimited screen time. Shut off the TV, the tablets, the computers and the phones and head outside for a walk to see the neighbors' Christmas lights, or play a pickup game of basketball, tennis or soccer as a family

You also can download the Choose Healthier app and see where all the family recreational exercise activities are in town and do some of them as a family.

And don't forget the importance of sleep. Try to keep everyone close to the school schedule for bedtime. It will make going back to school in January a lot easier.

Still need ideas of how to be healthier at home? The YMCA has the MEND program, which teaches families healthier eating and exercise.

HOMES

From 1A

than November's outlier average of 29.

■ no price range, starting at $200,000, had a DOM lower than 44 ($500,000 to $749,000).

The Board of Realtors showed an average price in November of $270,859, which is the lowest average since April ($259,176), lower than the average this year ($276,282) and lower than the average in November 2015 ($287,432).

Fewer homes sold for $400,000 — or more — which likely had something to do with the lower average. The PBBOR reports that the number of homes sold for $400,000 or more — 17 — was lower than the last three months. There also wasn't a home sold for at least $1 million. The last time there were no million-dollar homes sold, according to the PBBOR, was April. Overall, the PBBOR reports more than $38 million in residential real estate was sold in November.

November averages

Average number of houses on market in November	
2012	306
2013	310
2014	354
2015	522
2016	559

Total houses sold in November	
2012	154
2013	137
2014	156
2015	99
2016	143

Average days on market in November	
2012	51
2013	39
2014	31
2015	29
2016	57

Average sold price in November	
2012	$243,833
2013	$255,365
2014	$301,508
2015	$287,432
2016	$270,859

Source: Permian Basin Board of Realtors

JAPAN

From 4A

he and Abe laid green-and-peach wreaths at the memorial, called the harbor a sacred place and said that "even the deepest wounds of war can give way to friendship and lasting peace." It's a notion Obama tried throughout his presidency to put into practice, as he reached out to former adversaries Iran, Myanmar and Cuba.

"As we lay a wreath or toss flowers into waters that still weep, we think of the more than 2,400 American patriots, fathers and husbands, wives and daughters, manning heaven's rails for all eternity," Obama said.

Then the two leaders greeted survivors in the crowd. They shook hands and hugged some of the men who fought in the Dec. 7, 1941, battle that President Franklin D. Roosevelt called a "date which will live in infamy."

Japanese leaders have visited Pearl Harbor before, but Abe was the first to go to the memorial above the sunken USS Arizona, where a marbled wall lists the names of U.S. troops killed in the Japanese attack.

For Abe, it was an act of symbolic reciprocity, coming seven months after Obama and Abe visited Hiroshima together and renewed their calls for a nuclear-free future. Still, both governments maintain that the visits were separate and not contingent upon one another.

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Michael Jordan makes more money from Nike each year than all the Nike factory workers in Malaysia combined.

Erosion at the base of Niagara Falls has caused the falls to recede approximately seven miles over the past 10,000 years.

Who Wants To Party?

AND BY 'PARTY', WE MEAN HELP OUT! Because that's how we party!

During the fall semester of 2014, our UTPB organization started a project helping **our local homeless** by providing basic everyday necessities **to help** them get through the bitter cold winter months.

This past Sunday, December 18, 2016, plunged down to 19 degrees.

Brrrr

OPINION

We need a more responsible Trump in 2017

■ People who still express concerns are not just sore losers

KATHLEEN PARKER
Washington Post Writers Group

CHARLESTON, S.C. —

As usual, the year's end brings reflections and ruminations on what was and what is to be. This time around, however, it feels as though an era is coming to an end.

That gentle frisson between past and future about which columnists customarily write feels vaguely apocalyptic as we approach the new year.

The usual regrets — too much ice cream, not enough exercise, too quick with a retort, not enough thank-you notes — all feel quaintly irrelevant juxtaposed against a collection of very real fears about the future. During a year and a half of bitter political infighting — sister against sister, neighbor against neighbor — we've lost a better part of ourselves and unleashed armies of vengeful strangers.

To put a fine point on it, Donald Trump's election has released a malevolent spirit upon the land. He invoked the magic message — essentially them vs. us — and the demons disembarked from their dark hiding places. He raided the lost ark, lifted the lid, and the whirlwind of humankind's worst impulses escaped.

Hyperbolic, yes. But when the next leader of the free world casually comments that we need to build up our nuclear arsenal — and seems to welcome a return of the Cold War — alarm expressed in the strongest terms possible is required. When such alarm did find expression around the nation and the world, the president-elect huddled in his "fake news" bunker and claimed that his remarks were quoted incompletely. He took special aim at NBC News, tweeting that the network "purposely left out this part of my nuclear qoute: 'until such time as the world comes to its senses regarding nukes.' Dishonest!"

If NBC left out the balance of his tweet, shame on them, but the rest of what he said adds nothing to assuage the larger concern that he thinks we need more nukes. Or, since this apparently needs pointing out, that he believes having more nukes will have no effect whatsoever until the rest of the world comes to its senses. My guess is the rest of the world is thinking the exact same thing: This president-elect is not in his senses — and he makes no sense.

Trump's complete original quote, as usual offered via Twitter, was: "The United States must greatly strengthen and expand its nuclear capability until such time as the world comes to its senses regarding nukes."

Really? By "greatly" expanding our already huge nuclear arsenal, other leaders will come to their senses regarding nukes? Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed earlier on the same day that he wishes to boost his country's nuclear strength, too. Just great.

And, really, again. What's with making such war-mongering threats when you're not in the White House yet? Tweeting on matters of such import is unpresidential, not to mention unmanly. Also, it's *insane*!

I could pause here and write verbatim the emails and social-media comments certain to follow these observations. They're as predictable as a 3 a.m. tweet from Trump Tower. This, too, is part of what's frightening as we take our leave of 2016. People who voted for Trump refuse to critique his behavior through any lens but that of having won a contest.

"We won, you lost — get over it" is what now passes for a serious dialogue about matters of immense importance.

The notion that people who still express concerns — including a growing list of psychiatrists and psychologists who've signed a letter suggesting the man isn't well — are just sore losers is nonsense. When the president-elect of the United States so cavalierly threatens to unravel the fragile threads that hold civilization together, there are no winners. He or she who is not worried is not paying attention.

My personal stake, other than the fears herein described, is well and good. What's bad for the republic is good for columnists and cartoonists, though this time, I admit, the muse's generosity is less enjoyable.

These are also not simple partisan fears. Many Republicans I know are "slightly terrified," as one Trump voter recently put it to me. That most, if not all, Democrats are, too, doesn't have to mean they're all excessively disappointed, though many surely are. Nor, as the incensed have written, does my non-support of Trump translate to support for Hillary Clinton. We call that a non sequitur.

And when it comes to abusing logic, Trump wins hands down.

OPINION EXTRA

Wear your pajamas at home, not in the public square

Dallas Morning News

When we saw young Prince George sporting his pajamas and slippers last spring in a private meeting with President Barack Obama, we found him irresistibly adorable.

What a cute kid. Appropriately clad, too, since the royal toddler was at home in Kensington Palace, fresh out of the bath and ready to go night-night.

But when we see teens and grown-ups hiking to the store or plodding into the workplace in their sleepwear, we find ourselves wondering: How much longer is this "pajama craze" going to last, for goodness' sake?

We get it. Today, of all days, you're tempted to stay in jammies all day, come what may. But tomorrow? Let the decade-plus reign of Public Pajamas come to an ignominious end.

These faint hopes were kindled by a pre-Christmas headline in The Washington Post: "The fashion industry really wants you to wear pajamas on the street. Don't do it!"

Indeed! We realize it will take more than a screaming Post headline and a Morning News editorial to put the fashion industry on its heels. One can't merely dress down the trend-setters, who likely will turn up their noses and ignore pleas for old-fashioned decency. The rest of us simply must resolve to dress up — or, at least, get dressed — when we step out in public.

That won't be an easy sell, of course. We, as a nation, have already gotten quite comfortable in our public PJs, as anyone who waltzes into a big-box store or coffee shop on any given Sunday can bear witness. Plus, top designers pride themselves on being bold. Thus, they're poised to roll up their (flannel? silk?) sleeves and put up a good fight.

Case in point: Check out the J. Crew holiday catalog, replete with women donning pajama tops to the office as blouses.

Ugh.

Some of the industry's most cherished labels — Gucci, Givenchy, Dolce & Gabbana — are charging hundreds for PJs bearing their names. They're finding buyers — but we take fuzzy-slipper comfort in the fact that the "average shopper" is resisting the temptation, according to The Post's fashion critic, Robin Givhan.

"Yet," Givhan wrote, "the fashion industry will not let this idea go, despite your reluctance to wear a pair of silk pajamas to a cocktail party. Indeed, in an uncharacteristic display of independence, confidence and adherence to civility, consumers have been immune to the concept. They've ignored the celebrity endorsements and the cachet of designer labels."

The nation, she says, "is bravely refusing the normalization of pajamas" as acceptable public attire.

Fight on, dear public. Fight on.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

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Get ready for a two-president nation

■ Just becomes Donald Trump will become the president next month doesn't mean that President Obama will go away

JAY AMBROSE
Tribune News Service

Barack Obama first came to national attention as a conciliator. It was 2004 at the Democratic National Convention and the Illinois state senator made a resounding, eloquent speech calling for national unity. Five years later, at his inauguration as president of the United States, he made another resounding, eloquent speech, this time calling for national division.

Or at least provoking it. Dr. Jekyll was gone, Mr. Hyde was on hand and the healing physician has since been hard to spot as Obama has broken records in polarizing the country. He has stirred up class antagonisms, heightened racial tensions and helped instigate political stalemate. His negotiation style with Republicans has been a modern-age version of a king telling uppity peasants what they had darned well do.

And, on top of that and much more, he now appears ready to harass Donald Trump from a prominent D.C. perch for the next four years, more or less serving as an unofficial leader of disruptive antagonism.

But let's start with that 2009 inauguration speech that told us so much about the real Obama as he tried to tell us so much about President George W. Bush. As a report in The Guardian newspaper observed, Obama spoke of Bush's eight years of running things as a time of "greed and irresponsibility," of "a sapping of confidence" and of "a nagging fear that America's decline is inevitable."

He announced an end to "the petty grievances and false promises, the recriminations and worn-out dogmas, that far too long have strangled our politics." With Bush sitting close by, the new president said the government must quit "protecting narrow interests and putting off unpleasant decisions." He said we must now "pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and begin the work of remaking America," then failing to go over to Bush, pick him up, dust him off and apologize.

This smooth, charming, brilliant but arrogant man continued to pick on Bush for the next four years as Bush himself said naiy a word. And yes, I've heard the stuff about Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell saying he wanted to make Obama a one-term president. That happened in a 2010 interview in which he also said he would love it if Obama would try to meet the Republicans at least halfway. So far, he had not, and, in McConnell's view, his uncompromising agenda was a thing to fear.

Misleading critics love to kick McConnell without mentioning how Obama started his tenure by telling some Republicans he was president and they weren't, implying they should shut up. The adorers do not delve into the ways in which subservient Harry Reid, easily among the worst Senate majority leaders in U.S. history, did far more than House Republicans to block conciliation on issues of moment. They also excuse Obama's vow to act unilaterally if necessary after the GOP took over both houses of Congress in 2014.

We've got a new issue now, namely that Obama, thoroughly practiced in keeping unity at bay, is not about to let his skills go to waste. He has said he will stay in Washington, D.C., to train Democrats on how to assume power again and has explicitly said he will speak out if he sees Trump going astray. Hardly any president has ever booed successors much — Jimmy Carter is a disgraceful exception — but it's easy to imagine Obama growling through a media microphone on a daily basis.

Gallup did various polls during this administration showing more political division in the country than ever before. Imagine what could happen with all the anti-Trump virulence, the mass protest rallies already planned and those now refusing to go to Canada despite pleas they get their passports as promised.

We seem to be in for something like a two-president country, and the national hurt could be enormous.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

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From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Trump names Bush-era veteran to posts

By Vivian Salama
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — President-elect Donald Trump on Tuesday appointed an experienced hand from the George W. Bush era to his national security circle and a figure from the Trump Organization to make international deals.

Thomas Bossert will become an assistant to the president for homeland security and counterterrorism. A statement from Trump's transition team said Bossert will advise the president on issues related to homeland security, counterterrorism and cybersecurity, and coordinate the Cabinet's process for making and executing policy in those areas.

The position notably "is being elevated and restored to its independent status alongside the national security adviser," the statement said. Policymakers have long debated whether such national security jobs should operate independently from the White House.

Bossert will work closely with Trump's pick for national security adviser, retired Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn. Bossert is currently president of the risk management consulting firm CDS Consulting. He previously served as deputy assistant to the president for homeland security under Bush.

The president-elect also appointed one of his main advisers on U.S.-Israel relations as special representative for international negotiations. Jason Greenblatt has worked for the Trump Organization for over two decades and currently serves as its executive vice president and chief legal officer.

In the statement, Trump said Greenblatt "has a history of negotiating substantial, complex transactions on my behalf," and has the expertise to "bring parties together and build consensus on difficult and sensitive topics."

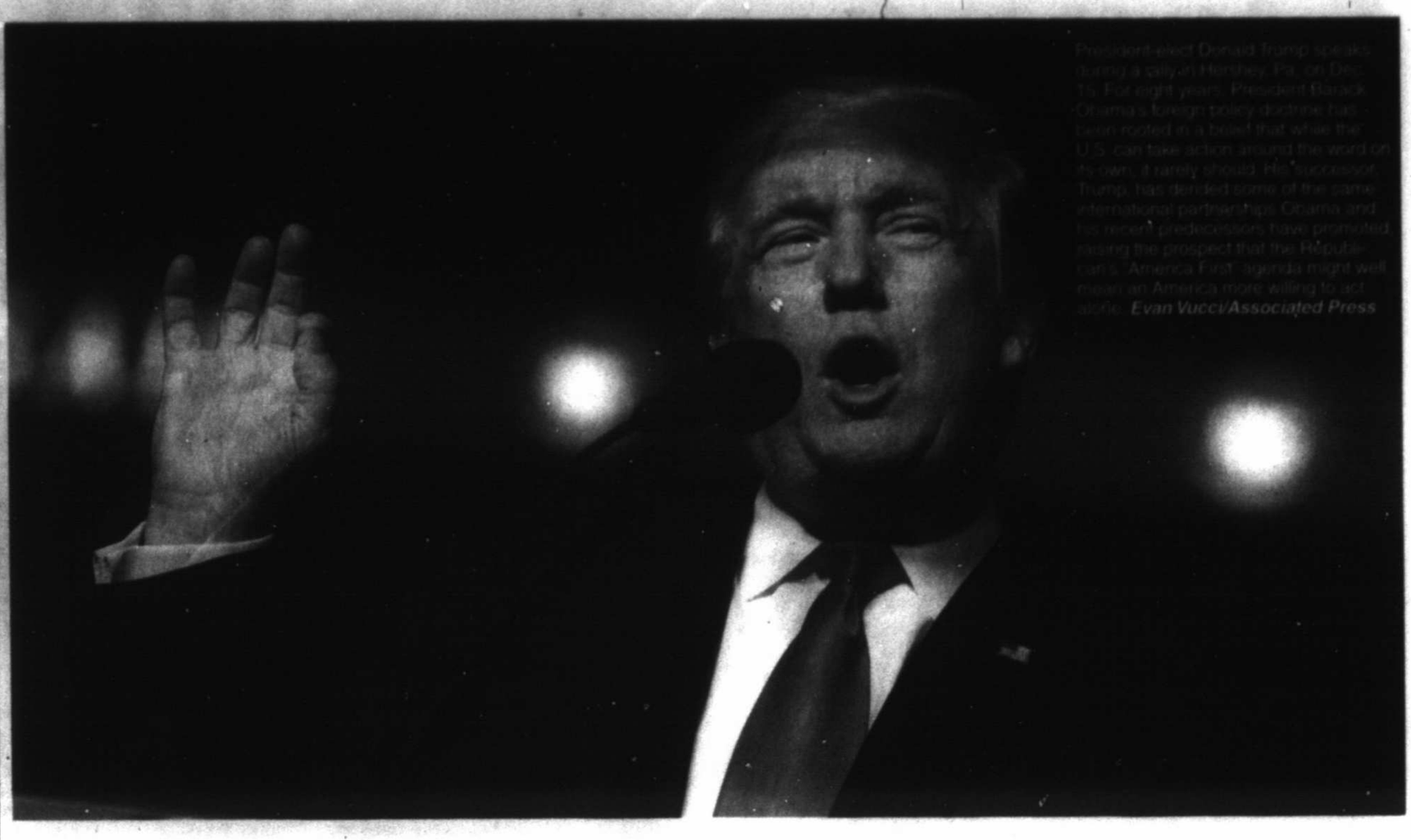
Trump recently named his other top adviser on Israel, David Friedman, as his pick for U.S. ambassador to Israel.

Trump's West Wing is shaping up to have multiple power centers. Chief of Staff Reince Priebus and senior adviser Steve Bannon will work as "equal partners," according to Trump, and counselor Kellyanne Conway is also expected to have autonomy. Trump's influential son-in-law, Jared Kushner, will also have a direct line to the president.

Trump has long stoked rivalries among his staff in business and during his presidential campaign. But doing so in the White House could sow confusion and slow decision-making.

In New York on Tuesday afternoon, police hastily cleared the lobby of Trump Tower to investigate an unattended backpack, only to find that it contained children's toys. Video taken by a bystander and posted on Twitter showed people running through the lobby for the exits.

The bomb squad checked out the package and gave an "all clear" just after 5 p.m.



President-elect Donald Trump speaks during a stop at Hershey PA on Dec. 15. For eight years, President Barack Obama's foreign policy doctrine has been rooted in a belief that while the U.S. can take action around the word on its own, it rarely should. His successor, Trump, has derided some of the same international partnerships Obama and his recent predecessors have promoted, raising the prospect that the Republican's "America First" agenda might well mean an America more willing to act alone. *Evan Vucci/Associated Press*

Trump signals shift from Obama's focus on multilateralism

By Julie Pace
Associated Press

For eight years, President Barack Obama's foreign policy doctrine has been rooted in a belief that while the United States can take action around the word on its own, it rarely should.

"Multilateralism regulates hubris," Obama declared.

His successor, President-elect Donald Trump, has derided some of the same international partnerships Obama and his recent predecessors have promoted, raising the prospect that the Republican's "America First" agenda might well mean an America more willing to act alone.

"The United Nations has such great potential but right now it is just a club for people to get together, talk and have a good time," Trump tweeted days after the UN Security Council approved a resolution condemning Israeli settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem. Both Israel and Trump called on the U.S. to use its veto power to block the measure, but the Obama administration instead abstained.

Trump's criticism of the United Nations is shared by some in his party, including a handful of GOP lawmakers who have called for Congress to withhold funding for the body following the settlements vote.

Some of Trump's other positions have drawn swift rebuke from Republicans, particularly his criticism of NATO during the presidential campaign and his suggestion that the U.S. might not defend partners that don't fulfill financial obligations to the long-standing U.S.-European military alliance.

Trump has also challenged the necessity of multilateralism in his economic agenda, pledging to scrap the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership trade accord in favor of one-on-one agreements that he says will be more favorable to U.S. businesses and workers.

With Trump still about three weeks away from taking office, it's unclear how his campaign rhetoric will translate into action. Even as he has criticized the UN and NATO, he has vowed to "aggressively pursue joint and coalition military operations" with allies to take on the Islamic State militant group. What those military operations might entail is uncertain, given that Trump's views on national security have been both isolationist and muscular, including his recent call for expanding U.S. nuclear capabilities.

Richard Grenell, who served as U.S. spokesman at the United Nations during President George W. Bush's administration and has been working with Trump's transition team, downplayed the prospect that Trump will withdraw from or even disregard the UN and NATO once he takes office.

"Trump is talking about reforming these organizations so that they live up to their ideals, not about abandoning them," Grenell said in an interview.

Obama has also been critical of U.S. partners at times, telling The Atlantic magazine earlier this year that some U.S. allies were "free riders" eager for Washington to solve the world's problems. Obama also has pushed NATO partners to live up to an agreement that they spend at least 2 percent of their country's gross domestic product on defense, a guideline only a few members adhere to.

But the president's major foreign policy decisions have highlighted his belief that the U.S. is better served acting in concert with other nations — and that a lack of involvement from allies should be a warning sign to Washington. Both Republican Presidents George H.W. and George W. Bush were also proponents of coalition-building before taking drastic action overseas.

With the support of the UN Security Council and NATO allies, Obama joined the bombing campaign in Libya in 2011. He backed away from plans to launch airstrikes against Syria in 2013, spooked in part by the British Parliament's refusal to authorize its military to participate and scant willingness among other allies to join the effort.

On the diplomatic front, Obama's administration worked alongside five other nations to secure a landmark nuclear accord with Iran and partnered with the European Union to level economic sanctions against Russia for its provocations in Ukraine.

Like much of Obama's approach to foreign policy, his preference for acting as part of a coalition was shaped by lessons learned from the Iraq war he inherited from George W. Bush. While numerous other countries were part of the war at the start, the U.S. had by far the largest commitment and bore the brunt of the casualties and the financial burden. Responsibility for quelling the sectarian violence and instability that consumed Iraq after the 2003 invasion also fell predominantly to the U.S.

During a foreign policy address in 2014, Obama chastised those who criticized him for seeking to share burdens with other countries and who saw working through institutions such as the UN as a "sign of weakness."

When crises arise that do not directly threaten the U.S. but still demand action, Obama said, "We have to work with others because collective action in these circumstances is more likely to succeed, more likely to be sustained (and) less likely to lead to costly mistakes."

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Israel: 'Ironclad information' White House behind UN rebuke

By Josef Federman
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Doubling down on its public break with the Obama administration, a furious Israeli government on Tuesday said it had received "ironclad" information from Arab sources that Washington actively helped craft last week's U.N. resolution declaring Israeli settlements in occupied territories illegal.

The allegation, which was denied by the State Department, further poisoned a toxic atmosphere between Israel and the outgoing administration in the wake of Friday's vote, raising questions about whether the White House might take further action against settlements in President Barack Obama's final weeks in office.

With the U.S. expected to participate in an international peace conference in France next month and Secretary of State John Kerry planning a final policy speech Wednesday, the Palestinians hope to capitalize on the momentum. Israel's nationalist government is banking on the incoming Trump administration to undo the damage with redoubled support.

Although the U.S. has long opposed the settlements, it has generally used its Security Council veto to protect its ally from censure. On Friday, it abstained from a resolution calling settlements a "flagrant violation" of international law, allowing it to pass by a 14-0 margin.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has had a cool relationship with Obama, called the resolution "shameful" and accused the U.S. of playing an active role in its passage.

On Tuesday, his spokesman went even further.

"We have ironclad information that emanates from sources in the Arab world and that shows the Obama administration helped craft this resolution and pushed hard for its eventual passage," David Keyes said. "We're not just going to be a punching bag and go quietly into the night."

He did not identify the Arab sources or say how Israel obtained the information. Israel has close security ties with Egypt, the original sponsor of last week's resolution who, as the lone Arab member of the Security Council, was presenting it at the Palestinians' request. Under heavy Israeli pressure, Egypt delayed the resolution indefinitely — but other members presented it for a vote a day later. Egypt ended up voting in favor of the measure.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Mark Toner said Kerry would lay out his vision for Israeli-Palestinian peace in the speech Wednesday. "He feels it's his duty in his waning weeks and days as secretary of state to lay out what he believes is a way to a peaceful two-state solution in the Middle East," Toner said.

Toner also rejected Israeli allegations of conspiring against it, saying Egypt and the Palestinians drafted the resolution and the U.S. worked with them on the language only after the intention to go forward was clear. "The idea this was pre-cooked in advance is not accurate," he said.

The Obama administration has acknowledged that it considered the possibility of abstaining on a settlements resolution over the past year as various drafts were circulated by different countries. In announcing the abstention, U.N. Ambassador Samantha Power referred to continued Israeli settlement construction and a recent effort to retroactively legalize dozens of illegally built settlement outposts.

A White House official said the U.S. was approached repeatedly by countries urging it to let the resolution pass, yet only replied by saying the U.S. would feel forced to veto any resolution that didn't also criticize the Palestinians for inciting violence. The official wasn't authorized to comment by name and requested anonymity.

The Palestinians, with strong international backing, seek all of the West Bank and east Jerusalem, territories captured by Israel in 1967, as part of an independent state. They say continued Israeli settlement undermines that goal, since already some 600,000 Israelis live in these areas.

Israel is livid that the resolution does not appear to recognize its claim to any part of the occupied areas, including Jewish holy sites in Jerusalem's Old City, though the resolution leaves the door open to agreed land swaps. The Palestinians did not embrace several past peace offers that would have left them with a state on the vast majority of the land, with a foothold in Jerusalem.

Past Security Council resolutions on the issue have been more vague. Critics of Israel argue that by insisting on the settlements, Netanyahu has earned the global impatience.

Netanyahu has made no secret that he is counting on President-elect Donald Trump to contain the damage. Trump has indicated he will be far more sympathetic, and has appointed an ambassador with deep ties to the settler movement.

Israeli Culture Minister Miri Regev, a close Netanyahu ally, dismissed Obama. "He is history," she told Channel 2 TV. "We have Trump."

The resolution seems largely symbolic, lacking any enforcement mechanism.

But Palestinians believe it will strengthen their position as they push on with a campaign to pressure Israel on the international stage.

Ap file photo

Palestinians and Israeli activists run away Nov. 17 from a tear gas fired by Israeli soldiers during a demonstration against the construction of Jewish settlements in the Jordan Valley, in the West Bank. Doubling down on its public break with the Obama administration, a furious Israeli government said Tuesday that it has "ironclad" information from Arab sources that Washington actively helped craft last week's U.N. resolution declaring Israeli settlements illegal. The allegations further poison the increasingly toxic atmosphere between Israel and the outgoing Obama administration in the wake of Friday's vote, and raise questions about whether the White House might take further action.

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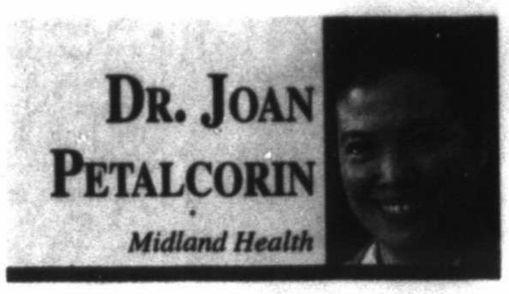
Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt★com | Wednesday, December 28, 2016 | Section B

Lifestyle modification can help with back pain



Have back pain?

To discuss issues with back pain, call 221-5560.

Low back pain is one of the most common complaints among the American population. An estimated 2 million episodes of low-back pain occurred among a population at risk of more than 1.48 billion person-years for an incidence rate of 1.39 per 1,000 person-years in the United States, according to an article published in Spine Journal. It affects people of all ages. It may be disabling enough that it prevents some people from working. It can be acute — lasting less than three months — or chronic, which is more than three months in duration. It may impact the individual's functions and daily activities. The pain may be from mild to severe. Regardless of how it affects a person's life, nobody wants to have low-back pain because of how bothersome it can be.

Back pain may be caused by various medical conditions. It is your physician's job to find out the cause. Most cases are benign, which means there is no horrible cause for the pain. It may be spontaneous. An example of this is acute back muscle spasms. Compared to other back pain problems, it usually goes away. Nevertheless, it is important to note that a study published in Spine Journal in 2012 regarding the prognosis of acute low-back pain showed that 13 percent of people continue to have pain six months later and 19 percent at two years.

Generally, there are specific behaviors that are closely related to chronic diseases and conditions, such as the case of chronic back pain, including sedentary lifestyle, poor nutrition or poor choice of food, tobacco use and excess alcohol consumption, according to the Centers for Disease Control. In most cases, chronic back pain is multifactorial, influenced by every aspect of a person's life. People with back pain can help the treatment process by look-

Please see **PETALCORIN**/3B

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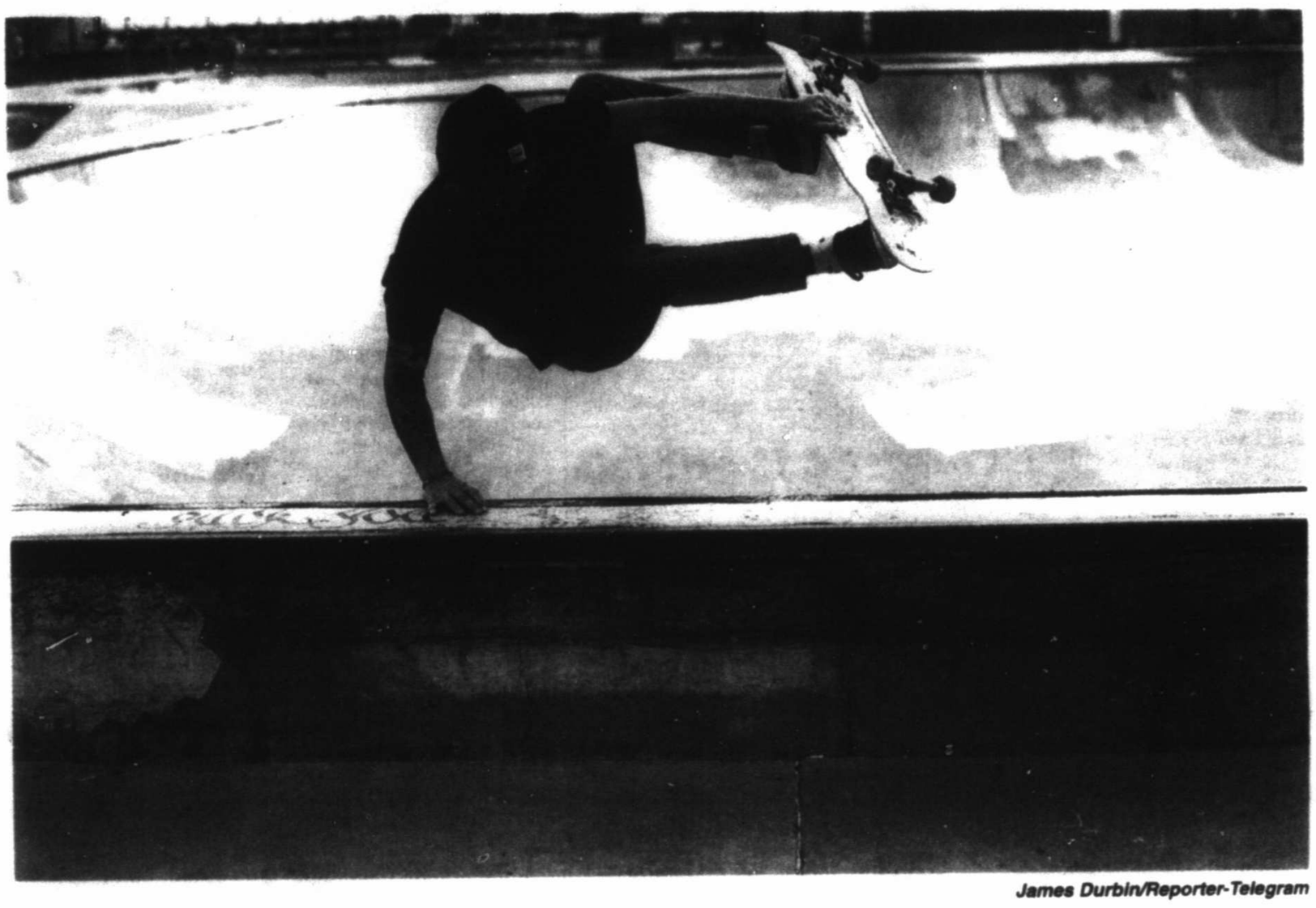

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Alec Stevens skateboards Tuesday at the Beal Park skatepark.

Millennials flock to high-intensity workouts — and hip pain follows

By Danielle Douglas-Gabriel
Washington Post

Physical therapist Karena Wu couldn't help notice a trend in patients visiting her New York City office this year. Many were under age 35, enjoyed strenuous workouts and were suffering immense hip pain.

The millennials had pushed themselves in endurance races such as the Tough Mudder or weekly CrossFit and metabolic conditioning classes that placed wear and tear on their bodies, she said. And with little downtime between routines or adherence to proper form, they were putting the long-term health of their hips at risk.

"A lot of millennials are doing all of these high-intensity exercises that are great for the mental and physical components of health, but if you're not as conditioned as you think, you're going to put excessive stress on the soft tissue and the joint," said Wu, owner of ActiveCare Physical Therapy.

It's not uncommon for active young adults to experience some joint pain, but orthopedic specialists worry that regimens that rely on heavy weightlifting or intense aerobic exercises are causing more hip injuries. There are no definitive studies that correlate the two, but research in the Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy says high-intensity activities appear to increase the risk of hip osteoarthritis, a degenerative joint disease.

What's more, specialists at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center have reported a rise in cases of young adults with femoral acetabular impingement, a condition that occurs when the ball of the femur fails to fit securely into the hip socket. High levels of activity, they say, can cause the plate to fuse in an abnormal shape and result in a hip impingement.

Shane Nho, an orthopedic surgeon at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, recalls a spike in hip, shoulder and knee injuries as CrossFit gyms sprung up several years ago. These days, he said, patients are coming in with hip ailments from high-intensity interval training and even some barre classes.

"We probably see at least a couple patients a week with injuries related to those types of intensive classes," Nho said. "The types of workouts these guys are doing ... they're doing it at all costs, despite poor form, mechanics, fatigue or their actual baseline level of conditioning."

Neuromuscular imbalances, or weakness in certain muscle groups, are often the root cause of the pain that Nho's patients experience, he said.

If patients come in as soon as they start feeling discomfort, he said, it's easier to connect them with the right physical therapist to improve their stability and flexibility.

Hips are built to withstand tremendous force, but they need full range of motion to work properly, hence the importance of flexibility and stability, Wu said. She encourages her clients to do yoga or attend a Pilates class if they are dead set on physically taxing workouts.

"Flexibility is critical in trying to prevent injuries," she said. "The body has a tendency to overemphasize larger muscles because they are easier to activate, so sometimes they get a little overused and smaller stabilizing muscles get underused. You create an imbalance."

A weight-room regular since high school, Niranjan Nagwekar, 28, figured there was no need to spend much time warming up before squatting 250 pounds. But as the New Yorker ramped up his lifting, he started feeling a deep pain in his left hip.

"For the longest time, I thought I just had tight hip flexors, so I started

Please see **PAIN**/2B

Faced with unaffordable drug prices, millions buy outside US

By Rachel Bluth
Kaiser Health News

As drug prices have spiraled upward in the past decade, tens of millions of generally law-abiding Americans have committed an illegal act in response: They have bought prescriptions outside the U.S. and imported them.

One was Debra Miller, of Collinston, La., who traveled to Mexico four times a year for 10 years to get diabetes and blood pressure medicine. She quit in 2011 after the border patrol caught her returning to the U.S. with a three-month supply that had cost her $40. The former truck driver drew a stern warning not to do it again but got to keep her pills.

"I didn't know what I did wrong," said Miller, 51, who now pays $120 a month at Wal-Mart for her five medications while she waits to join Medicaid.

It's no secret that some Americans regularly buy prescription drugs on the internet or while traveling abroad. But the popularity of the approach is underscored by the results of a Kaiser Family Foundation poll conducted in November. (Kaiser Health News is an editorially independent program of the foundation.)

Eight percent of respondents said they or someone in their household had imported a drug at some point, a figure that would translate to about 19 million adults in the U.S. based on current Census Bureau population estimates.

Even the proportion found in the poll may be low, said Andrew Zullo, a clinical pharmacist and a doctoral student at the Brown University School of Public Health who has researched the subject. "People are uncomfortable talking about the cost of their own health care, and they don't want to admit they are struggling to pay for their own meds," he said. Some may also be reluctant to reveal they've broken the law.

Still, 8 percent is far higher than in surveys conducted by government interviewers, which suggested the number was about 2 percent in 2011 — though the government survey focused only on purchases in the previous 12 months. The Kaiser poll queried a nationally representative sample of 1,202 adults.

The internet has made it easier for Americans to buy prescription drugs abroad, frequently from disreputable sources, according to Jaime Ruiz, a spokesman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

The Food and Drug

Please see **PRICES**/3B

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Obituaries

David Alan Lynch

Funeral services for David Alan Lynch will be held at Third and Central Church of Christ in Lovington, New Mexico on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. David Lough of Canyon, Texas and David Stewart of Lovington will officiate. Burial will follow at Lovington Cemetery.

David was born June 19, 1962 in Hobbs, New Mexico. He passed away at his Carlsbad, New Mexico home on Thursday, December 22, 2016. He was the third of three children born to Bennie Medlin Lynch and Charlotte Dephane (Bennett) Lynch.

He was a resident of Lovington and attended Lea Elementary School, Central Junior High, and Lovington High School, graduating in 1980. He attended New Mexico Junior College and College of the Southwest, taking courses appropriate to his career as a Landman. His interest in abstracting began in high school, while employed at Lovington Abstract Company.

After graduation, David opened his first business, Dalco Research, at the age of 18. He worked for oil and gas companies as a Landman. A few years later, he opened Basin Land Records, an Internet business designed to ease accessibility to records for other Landmen. He was in the process of building Lea County Abstract Company and acquired Eddy County Abstract Co., LLC. David also served on the Planning and Zoning Board for the City of Lovington.

He was preceded in death by his father, Medlin Lynch, and his brother, Jerry Lynch.

He is survived by his mother, Charlotte Lynch of Lovington; his sister, Lynette Lough and husband, David, of Canyon; nephews, David Sumner Lough and wife Ann of Canyon, Michael Lough and wife Lydia of Trumbull, Nebraska, and Christopher Lough of Canyon; a sister-in-law, Kim Lynch of Andrews, Texas; nieces, Kelsey Lynch of Lubbock, Texas and Korey McMillan and husband Stephen of Andrews; and by great-nephew, Logan.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to New Mexico Christian Children's Home, 1356 NM 236, Portales, NM 88130-9411.

Arrangements are under the direction of Kirby-Smith-Rogers Funeral Home. Condolences may be sent to *www.kirbysmithrogers.com* .

Don Tergerson

Don Tergerson passed away on December 23, 2016.

He was born in the Mustang Community near Cranfills Gap, Texas on September 11, 1927 to Clarence and Drucilla Tergerson. Upon graduating Cranfills Gap High School, he joined the Merchant Marines and served until 1945. He then enlisted in the Army and served in the Philippines until 1947. He married Nelda Swenson June 27, 1948.

Armed with a tremendous work ethic and an entrepreneurial spirit, Don and Nelda moved to Midland in 1949 where he began marketing eggs to local grocery stores. That business grew into Tergerson Fine Foods and eventually Phoenix Fine Foods, a wholesale food distributorship supplying restaurants, schools, and healthcare facilities in Midland-Odessa and throughout West Texas.

Don was a faithful servant to God and his community. He was a founding member of Midland Lutheran Church, serving on numerous boards and committees.

He was a member of the Midland Lions Club with 25 years of perfect attendance. He was also a member of Green Tree Country Club where he enjoyed many rounds of golf with his friends.

He was a co-founder of Community National Bank of Midland and served on the Board of Directors. He served on the Texas Egg Council for four years, and served on the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Sunset Home in Clifton, Texas.

After retirement, Don and Nelda built a home in the country near Cranfills Gap. Don loved living on TooBigga Ranch, fulfilling a dream to return to his roots and live in the countryside he so loved. They reestablished membership at St. Olaf Lutheran Church. He was a member of the Cranfills Gap Chamber of Commerce, and a supporter of the Bosque Arts Center and the Bosque Museum.

Don was a fabulous host and lots of fun, but above all, he was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. His character and reputation reflected his high moral standards, devotion to God, to his family and his fellow man. He will be greatly missed.

Don was preceded in death by his wife, Nelda; daughter, Cindy Tergerson Thompson; his parents, Clarence and Drucilla Tergerson; and his brother, Lonnie Tergerson.

He is survived by his daughter, Debbie Baird and husband Kenny of Georgetown; daughter, Carla Frazier and husband Jay of Dallas; son, Donnie Tergerson and wife Krista of Lubbock; grandchildren, Gannon Baird and wife Kellie, Keegan Baird, and Kelsi, Madison, and Tristan Tergerson; three great-grandchildren; sister, Sue Vanderford; sister-in-law, Charlene Tergerson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The funeral service will be held on Friday, December 30, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Olaf's Lutheran Church, Cranfills Gap.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Olaf's Lutheran Church, 402 Meridian Street, Cranfills Gap, TX 76637 or the charity of your choice.

Services are under the direction of Clifton Funeral Home.

Joe Raul Ramirez

Jose (Joe) R. Ramirez, 58, of Midland, Texas, went Home to Our Lord and Savior on Wednesday December 21, 2016.

Mass will be held Wednesday December 28, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, 1405 Garden Lane, Midland. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park, 4616 N Big Spring St., Midland.

The family is requesting that all friends and family of Joe wear Dallas Cowboy attire at his funeral mass.

Joe was born on January 31, 1958 in Odessa, Texas to Raul R Ramirez and Asencion Munoz. He met his best friend, Debbie, on May 22, 1999.

Joe, a skilled and life-long mechanic, worked recently at Basin Mitsubishi and also at Ingram Autoplex and Rogers Ford. Joe was a Die-Hard Dallas Cowboys Fan. He never missed a game.

In his free time, Joe enjoyed playing cards, especially Phase 10, grilling outside, watching wrestling, and spending weekends with family and friends, especially his grandkids.

Joe is preceded in death by his parents and his two brothers, George Luis and Manuel.

He is survived to cherish his memory by his wife of 17 years, Debbie; two sons, Jose III Ramirez (Daniela) and Joel E Navarro (Alanna); four daughters, Monica Hernandez (Rodolfo), Minnette Salazar (Jesus), Joni Lujan (Ruben), and Erica Sturgeon (Chase); four sisters; numerous nieces and nephews; and his pride and joy, his 15 grandkids, Sophia Ramirez, Josh Ramirez, Austin Ramirez, Christopher Ramirez, Gabriel Ramirez, Isaac Ramirez, Lilia Hernandez, Catalina Hernandez, Rodolfo Jr. Hernandez, Jesus E. Salazar, Alexis N. Salazar, Celeste Lujan, Era-lyn Lujan, Ruben (G-Baby) Adrik Lujan, and Marisol Garcia.

Pallbearers for the service will be Jose III, Joel Edward, Ruben Lujan, Chase Sturgeon, Jesus Salazar, Rudy Hernandez, Armando Hernandez, Jr., Daniel Hernandez, AJ, Gamez, and Jacob Gamez.

Honorary pallbearers will be Edward Alvarado, Jr., Bruce Ingram, Sammy Rodriguez, David Barrientez, Jr., Justin Canava, Jason Rodriguez, and Basilio Madria.

Funeral service is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel.

Family messages and condolences may be emailed to *pipkin@nts-online.net* or you can visit our website at *www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com*.

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin Funeral Home
2500 N. Big Spring · Midland, TX · (432) 682-3700

Larry R. Miller

Larry R. Miller, 69, of Midland, died Saturday, December 24, 2016 in a Big Spring nursing home.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel in Big Spring with Dr. Randy Cotton officiating. Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring.

He was born August 15, 1947 in Big Spring and married Marie Strickland May 28, 1968 in Big Spring.

Larry graduated from Big Spring High School in 1965 and from Howard College in 1967. He received his Bachelor of Pharmacy degree in 1970 from Southwestern State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma. He returned to Big Spring in 1970 and became a partner in Carver's Pharmacy and in 1974, he and Vic Keys became the owners.

Larry served on the Big Spring City Council from 1979 to 1986 and also served as a reserve police officer for a number of years. In 1996, he sold the pharmacy and moved to Midland. He worked at Medical Center Hospital in Odessa for 14 years, retiring in 2009. He enjoyed playing golf, and hunting and fishing.

Survivors include his wife, Marie Miller of Midland; two daughters, Carol Jeter and husband, Steve, and Meredith Burgess and husband, Tommy, all of Midland; one son, Shane Miller of Big Spring; and five grandchildren, Presley Miller, Danielle Jeter, Jensen Jeter, Breeana Jeter, and Tyler Burgess.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Roger and Ellen Miller.

The family suggests memorials to a charity of your choice.

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

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

Lois Marie Cox

Lois Marie Cox went to be with her Heavenly Father on December 24, 2016 in Midland, Texas.

Graveside services will be at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Odessa, Texas on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. with Reverend Clydel Chapman officiating.

Marie was born in Bellville, Texas to Joe and Lonie Long on June 23, 1926. She graduated from Coleman High School in Coleman, Texas in 1943. She worked in the hotel industry until 1978 and that is when she met the love of her life, Elbert L. (Ace) Cox. They married in Odessa, Texas on December 18, 1980. She then assisted keeping books for his business, Ace Cox Equipment until his death in 1987.

After Ace passed away, she became very involved in clogging and line dancing and met so many wonderful people. She also joined the line dancing group at the Odessa YMCA which she dearly loved. Marie was a member of the Northside Baptist Church of Odessa.

Mrs. Cox is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Ace Cox; two brothers, Travis and Howard Long; as well as her sister, Gladys Risinger.

She is survived by her four loving daughters and their spouses, Sue and Richard Hanna of Amarillo, Texas, Sandy and Charlie Beasley of Midland, Texas, Brenda and Tony Hanks of Odessa, and Becca and Greg Escobedo of Midland; her loving stepdaughter, Londie and Randy Shirley of Keene, Texas; and by six grandchildren, eight step-grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Midland or a charity of your choice.

Her family would like to sincerely thank Hospice of Midland for their excellent and compassionate care, Crystal, her amazing and loving caregiver, and Nora, who was our mother's angel and inspiration. Our mother loved them all.

Arrangements are under the direction of Sunset Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home. To send family condolences please sign the guest registry at *www.sunsetodessa.com* .

SUNSET MEMORIAL
GARDENS & FUNERAL HOME

Ralph Diaz

Ralph Diaz, 60, went to be with the Lord on Friday, December 23, 2016 at his home surrounded by his family. We are consoled knowing he is in good hands now and very meaningful to the family that Ralph entered this world on his father's birthday, November 11, and went home on his mother's birthday, December 23.

Ralph was born on November 11, 1956 in Midland, Texas to the late Martin and Victoria Diaz. He was raised and educated in Midland. He was an office installation supervisor for 20+ years. He was a long-time supporter of the Midland High Bulldogs and fan of the Dallas Cowboys. He was an avid outdoorsman loving to hunt and fish with his sons. He was very dedicated to working with his brothers at the orchard in Proctor, Texas and the farm in New Waverly, Texas. He had a strong passion for helping others.

Ralph also loved to spend time with his family and especially his grandchildren. He instilled his love and hard-working ethic that he was taught by his parents and carried it on to his children and grandchildren. He was always their number one supporter.

He is survived by his wife, Sally Diaz of Midland; daughter, Elisa and husband Albert Montez of Midland; two sons, Michael and wife Kimberly Diaz and Marcus and wife Danyale Diaz, all of Midland; two stepsons, Cory Munoz of Midland and Ryan Munoz of Arlington, Texas; eight grandchildren who were his pride and joy, Larissa, Kayle, Talon, Jayden, Kenzie, Kailynn, Gavin, and Caleb; his sisters, Tina Moseley of Midland, Isabel and husband Freddie Rey of Granbury, Texas, Frances and husband Jose Gloria of Midland, Ramona and husband Joe Perales of Duncanville, Texas, Elva and husband Larry Siqueiros of Spring, Texas, Anna and husband Joey Aguirre of Midland, Juanita Diaz of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Terry and husband Garland Burge of Midland; his brothers, Martin and wife Paula Diaz of Duncanville, Tony Diaz of New Waverly, Texas, David and wife Melissa Diaz of Midland, and Jesse and wife Sandra Diaz of Tulsa, Oklahoma; and by an abundance of nieces, nephews, and dearest cousins from Mexico that have always supported our family.

Pallbearers for the service will be Robert Leon, Ben Rey, Noel Lopez, Martin Diaz, Roy Ybarra, Lucas Burge, Ricardo Vejar, and Jesus Diaz, Jr.

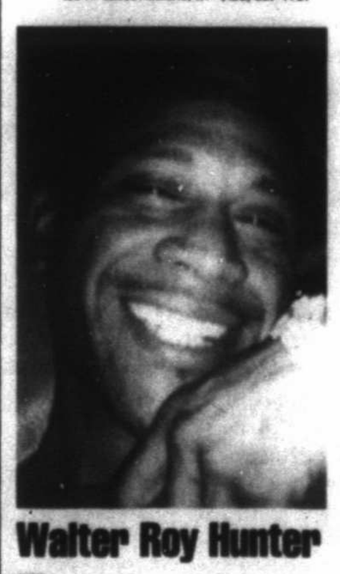
He will always be remembered for his infectious smile.

A funeral mass celebrating his life will be Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, following with a graveside service at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

Funeral service is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel.

Family messages and condolences may be emailed to *pipkin@nts-online.net* or you can visit our website at *www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com*.

Heavenly Gate
Funeral Home & Chapel
405 N. Sunset Midland, TX · (432) 687-1927



Walter Roy Hunter III

Walter Roy Hunter III, 35, of Midland, Texas. Our beloved brother, son, grandson, nephew, uncle, family member and friend passed away on December 21, 2016 from complications related to his recent diagnosis of CHF. Memorial assistants, donations directly to the family. Please make all donations payable to Krystal or Dorsey (Hunter). The Paypal link is: paypal.me/KrystalDorsey

Services are scheduled for Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 1:00PM at Antioch Baptist Church, 1400 E. Golf Course Road, Midland, Texas. The family will also be holding a memorial/ vigil service in Dallas on Friday at 7:00PM (location to be determined.) Please contact the family for questions regarding either or the services.

Death Notices

August "Gus" Keller

August "Gus" Keller, 86, of Midland, passed away on Monday, December 26, 2016.

Memorial services will be held on Thursday, December 29, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Midland.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Keller; and by his sons, Bill, Paul, Michael, and Karl Keller.

Clarice McPherson

Clarice McPherson, 77 of Midland, TX. was called home to be with the Lord, Friday December, 23, 2016. Funeral service will be held Friday December 30, 2016 at Faith Temple Church of God In Christ Church. Viewing will be Thursday December 29, 2016 at Jackie Warren Funeral Home.

Michael Earl Burditt

Michael Earl Burditt, 62, of Midland, passed away on Monday, December 19, 2016.

Viewing will be from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 and Thursday, December 29, 2016.

Funeral services will be at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, December 30, 2016 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel.

Ruby J. (Jones) Williams

Ruby J. (Jones) Williams, 86, of Odessa, Texas, died on Sunday, December 25, 2016.

Services are pending with Martinez Funeral Home & Crematory of Odessa.

Robert Lopez Sosa

Robert Lopez Sosa, 73, of Midland, passed away Monday, December 26, 2016.

A rosary will be held at 9:30 a.m., Friday, December 30, 2016 at St. Stephen's Catholic Church.

A funeral mass will be held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, December 30, 2016 at St. Stephen's Catholic Church. The inurnment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Survivors include children, John Sosa, Norma Ramon, and Cynthia Doerfer.

All floral offerings should be delivered to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Ruby Nell Patterson

Ruby Nell Patterson, 77, of Odessa, passed away December 24, 2016.

She is survived by her children, David, Glenn, and Gary Patton.

Memorial service will be held December 28, 2016, 11:00 a.m. at Belmont Baptist Church in Odessa.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

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

PAIN

From 1B

stretching a little more, but the pain persisted," Nagwekar said. "I didn't feel much discomfort walking or sitting down, so it was kind of a strange thing to explain to a doctor because they were like, 'If you could walk, you could sit; you're fine.' But I couldn't lift as much as normal."

It turns out Nagwekar had developed a hip impingement. Doctors recommended surgery, but he decided to opt for physical therapy.

Nagwekar became a patient five months ago at ActiveCare, where Wu has guided him through mobility exercises involving foam rolling, core conditioning and stretching with resistance bands.

"I'm back to about 80 percent capacity," Nagwekar said. "Any kind of power lifting that requires dynamic movement of the hips takes me a little longer. My hips don't move as fluidly as before, but I can still do them."

PRICES

From 1B

Administration has cautioned that many online pharmacies aren't what they seem to be. An international crackdown in 2014 found that many packages of medicines purportedly from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the U.K. contained drugs from other countries, including India, China and Laos.

Zullo acknowledged that imported medications could be inferior or expired. Some could be counterfeits. But many medicines purchased from another country are the same as the ones patients buy in the U.S.

When purchased outside the country, many prescription medicines cost half or less than they do in the U.S.

According to the FDA's website, it is generally illegal for Americans to import drugs into the U.S. for personal use. The law isn't rigorously enforced, in part, because it is difficult to monitor the entry of medicine in suitcases and small packages. But in 2015 the FDA implemented a rule that would give government border inspectors expanded authority to destroy drugs imported for personal use at their point of entry.

In the poll, people who had imported medicines ranged from college students in their 20s to retirees in their 80s. They bought medications to treat chronic conditions — such as high blood pressure and thyroid problems — as well as acute problems such as sinus infections and acne.

Amanda Mazumder, a 27-year-old graphic designer in St. Paul, Minn., was stressed out by the murky legality of the situation when she tried buying birth control pills while in college five years ago. "That was the most difficult part, trying to be an honest citizen but also getting an affordable prescription," she said. She couldn't afford to pay $150 a month for her birth control, but found an online Canadian pharmacy that sold her a three-month supply for $60.

Bobby Grant, of Los Angeles, has relied on foreign pharmacies for seven years to get medicine for his partner's severe asthma. Grant, 38, travels internationally for his job producing live shows. Each time he's in Mexico or France, he buys 10-packs of inhalers and 20-packs of nebulizer solution for a fraction of what they would cost in the U.S.

His partner's asthma would require inhalers costing $300 a month if she purchased them here. Grant estimates he saves at least $2,500 a year by buying the drugs overseas.

"I love her to death," he said. "I'll do whatever I can to take her stress away."

Kaiser Health News (KHN) is a national health policy news service. It is an editorially independent program of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. KHN's coverage of prescription drug development, costs and pricing is supported in part by the Laura and John Arnold Foundation.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

PETALCORIN

From 1B

ing at the five pillars of health: healthy lifestyle and habits; proper diet and better choice of food; sleep hygiene; appropriate type and amount of physical exercise; and effective stress management.

Lifestyle modification, including smoking cessation, is important in maintenance of health. Research studies have linked a relationship between chronic smoking and chronic low-back pain. So, if you have back pain and are smoking, it is high time to kick the habit.

In musculoskeletal and back pain conditions, there is a premise that an ongoing inflammatory process in the tissue in the particular painful part of the body, which is causing the pain. Hence, it is reasonable to modify one's diet toward foods that combat inflammation from a diet that is predominantly composed of foods that promote inflammation.

Likewise, sleep, affects one's chronic pain. Fragmented or dysfunctional sleep, inflammation and chronic pain are interrelated and are known among pain experts as the perfect storm in the life of someone with chronic pain. It is essential that any sleep disturbance be addressed appropriately.

Most people with low-back pain or chronic musculoskeletal disorder restrict their mobility and activities in life, with the mindset that movement will worsen their condition. The American College of Sports Medicine has a campaign slogan that says, "Exercise Is Medicine." Research studies have shown that regular exercises at moderate to high intensity has multitude of health benefits, according to the CDC.

Lastly, chronic pain is often triggered or exacerbated by life stressors. Anxiety increases muscle tension, which in turn increases pain. On the other hand, increased life stressors may pull a person into depression, which in turn will increase pain. Relaxation techniques and other effective means to cope with stressors in life are essential in back pain management.

There is good news in the horizon. Midland Memorial Hospital, through Premier Physicians, has recently added a line of services for non-surgical musculoskeletal and spine care. If you have a musculoskeletal or spine issue causing pain and you were told it is nothing surgical, there is hope for you.

A blessed New Year to the Midland community.

This won't hurt a bit: Good news about health that was overshadowed in 2016

By Lenny Bernstein
Washington Post

In a year of birth defects from the Zika virus, lead contamination of Flint's water, a startling decline in life expectancy and the ever-rising death toll from opioid overdoses, there was, in fact, some good news about health. In keeping with the holiday spirit, and in recognition of the vast sums of money devoted to our well-being, please consider some of the bright spots from last year.

■ The number of people who smoke continued to decline to record lows. This partly contributed to the lone bright spot in the life expectancy report: Cancer rates are down, though the disease remains the No. 2 killer of Americans. Teen pregnancy rates also continued their record-setting slide.

■ Another reason cancer rates have dropped: New immunotherapy drugs are having a significant impact for a longer period of time against a wider array of cancers.

■ There's new hope for an HIV vaccine; it's being tested right now. A vaccine against Ebola proved 100 percent effective in a study in Guinea. And more boys are being vaccinated against HPV. A lot more.

■ A woman received the first uterus transplant performed in the United States in February. (It soon failed however, because of infection.)

■ Some outside-the-box thinking may expand the pool of available organs for transplant.

■ And another innovative project gave a paralyzed man a sense of touch.

■ Scientists found a new antibiotic in an unlikely place: inside the human nose.

■ A new way of safeguarding children from potentially lethal peanut allergies appears to provide lasting protection.

■ A sharp-eyed lab tech, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and two good hospitals saved a Baltimore man from certain death when he picked up a rare parasite.

■ And at 70, a man underwent the gender-altering surgery he always wanted, supported by his wife of 48 years.

HEALTHBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

MMH classes

■ Birthplace Tour, 5 and 6 p.m., Monday, Midland Memorial Hospital, 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Pkwy. Contact Casey Weems at childbirtheducation@midland-memorial.com or at 221-3283S

■ Weigh to Success Support Group Meeting, 6-7 p.m., Jan. 5, Midland Memorial Hospital-West Campus, 4214 Andrews Highway. Contact Sundae Adkins.at sundae.adkins@midland-memorial.com or at 638-8081

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; 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays and 3-4 p.m. Sundays; B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 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, william.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, 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays; 206 N. Midkiff Road; 697-0272.

■ Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2926.

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

■ Xodus Group, 5:30 p.m. Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 7 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 8:30 p.m. Saturdays, 206 N. Midkiff Road.

■ CODA Group, 12-step program for relationships, 7 p.m. Thursdays, 206 N. Midkiff Road; 697-0272.

La Hacienda Alumni, support group for former patients, 7 p.m. Thursdays, 206 N. Midkiff Road; 697-0272.

MMH payment options

Midland Memorial Hospital recognizes that our community is facing challenging financial times. Resources are tight and families are having to make important decisions about what to spend money on now and what has to wait.

Realizing health care can be expensive and the increasing deductibles make it hard to manage, the hospital has adjusted its payment procedures. We want to make sure you receive the care you need, when you need it. To find out about the new options now offered to better accommodate your payment needs, call 221-4705.

Source: Midland Memorial Hospital

How sick are you?

Midland Memorial Hospital offers a a nurse triage program "68-NURSE."

The program is designed to help people determine whether their health situation warrants a trip to the emergency room. Midland residents can call the line by dialing 686-8773.

The program is free and available 24 hours a day-365 days a year. Local nurses are available to help you determine the best place to receive care for your situation. 68-NURSE can help you save time and money by directing you to the most appropriate healthcare option, whether it's a neighborhood clinic, urgent care center, emergency room ... or just staying home.

Help line for long-term or disabled care

The Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services has a toll-free number residents can call to obtain information on services for the disabled or long-term care.

For more information, call 855-937-2372.

Contact your Hospital District representative

Midland Memorial Hospital
400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland, Texas, 79701
Phone: 221-1111
Website: www.midland-memorial.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidlandMemorialHospital
Twitter: twitter.com/MidlandMemorial
President Russell Meyers 221-1584
Directors — District 1: Tracie Greene; District 2: Dwain Tomlin; District 3: Larry Mercer; District 4: Cressinda Hyatt; District 5: Cari Chaplin; District 6: Joe Kiowski; District 7: Jeffrey Beard

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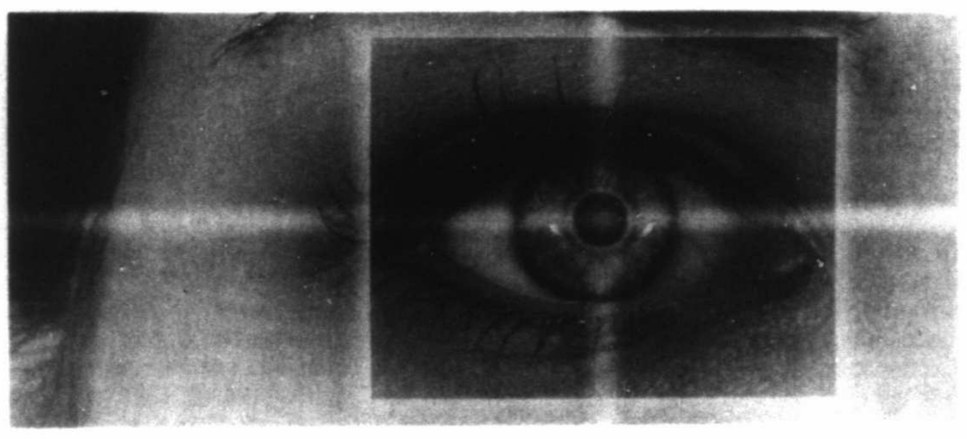

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- Skin Procedure
- Minor Surgical Procedure
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- Pre-Employment, Company Physical
- School Physical, Day Care Physical
- Well Women Physical
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Houston Chronicle file photo

Lacing dog treats with cannabis is a growing business

By Polly Mosendz
Bloomberg

Even for a puppy, Kat Donatello's black Labrador, Austin, was hyperactive. After experimenting with natural supplements on her older dog, Donatello slipped a special biscuit to Austin. "It just kind of took the edge off of him," she recalled.

The treat contained Cannabidiol, better known as CBD, a chemical compound extracted from the marijuana plant.

The CBD supplements were expensive, and options for pet treats were limited, Donatello said. "So I started spending my winters baking dog biscuits." She tinkered with the recipe before launching her CBD-laced biscuit company earlier this year.

Austin + Kat, along with Therabis and Treatibles, are among several Cannabidiol-for-dogs businesses that have popped up in the last two years, a time period during which CBD pet product sales nationwide doubled, according to data kept by cannabis industry analytics firm MJ Freeway. It's the newest trend in America's booming half-billion dollar animal supplements market, which is expected to grow by more than $150 million in the next four years.

CBD is one of over 80 active cannabinoid chemicals in marijuana, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Unlike tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), CBD doesn't create a euphoric sensation. In other words, these biscuits won't get your dog high. But there is debate as to what effect the compound has on our furry friends and whether they should be consuming it at all.

Academic research about CBD's affect on animals is nearly nonexistent, and the Food and Drug Administration has not approved marijuana use in animals. Still, some veterinarians recommend its use, and producers say pet stores are beginning to carry CBD treats. Treatibles is in talks for its products to be sold at a big-box pet store, though an executive wouldn't reveal which one as the deal is pending.

Veterinarians views on the supplement vary. Asked about CBD's effectiveness on dogs, Robert Goggs of Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine said there is "virtually no evidence in the veterinary literature."

Veterinarians Robert Silver and Gary Richter recently hosted a course on the cannabis-dedicated learning website Green Flower titled the "Cannabis for Pets Masterclass." Contacted by phone, Richter acknowledged that scholarly literature is lacking.

"A lot of what we're using is extrapolated data from humans, as well as just real-world experience on what works," he explained. If it works for humans, he argued, it could work for dogs.

In lieu of research, the CBD-for-dogs industry cites supportive veterinarians and customer testimonials as evidence of the products' effectiveness. On the website for Treatibles, which makes edible hemp products for animals, an October interview with the owner of a mixed-breed pup named Shelby described how the dog, plagued with anxiety and fear, settled down after eating a Treatibles product.

Human studies have linked CBD to anti-seizure, anti-inflammatory, and anti-anxiety effects. In findings presented to the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control in June of last year, Nora D. Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, said CBD could potentially aid those suffering from Alzheimer's, stroke, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease. Despite the largely positive feedback in Volkow's presentation, she warned that additional research on CBD is necessary. The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agrees and hopes to review further scientific studies on CBD.

CBD is often purchased online, which is technically a violation of federal law, according to DEA spokesman Russell Baer. "Extracts or derivatives from the cannabis plant are Schedule I controlled substances-just like the plant itself," Baer said in an e-mailed statement. "There is widespread illegal distribution of purported CBD products-regardless if they are derived from the marijuana plant or hemp plant," he added.

At a time when the nation faces an opioid crisis, the DEA's attention is not on CBD, and sterilized cannabis seeds can be legally used in animal feed mixture. Asked about the legality of the business, Therabis called it a "complex situation." Austin + Kat's Donatello expressed frustration with the DEA's position in light of the federal Controlled Substances Act and her ability to buy CBD products at Walmart.com.

Silver, the vet and a consultant to Treatibles, said on behalf of the company that the law is murky and referenced the Farm Act, a 2014 document passed by Congress to reform agricultural programs. The act mentions industrial hemp research and defers to state laws on industrial hemp cultivation.

There's also the matter of ethics. Humans can express discomfort verbally when trying a new treatment. Man's best friend cannot.

"If the proper administration of marijuana can truly relieve dogs' pain, then they should be given the same consideration that humans in pain are given, with regular doses to help reduce their misery," said Daphna Nachminovitch, senior vice president of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. "But it's an entirely different matter to amuse oneself by getting the cat drunk or the dog high."

While the researchers debate what, exactly, CBD can do for Fido, investors are excited by its increasing popularity, which has been buoyed by the legalization of cannabis for humans and increased dialogue about marijuana's medicinal properties.

Treatibles founder Julianna Carella said sales have exploded "like wildfire" over the past two years. "I'm not surprised at all," Carella said. "There's so many pet owners that would do just about anything to relieve their animals suffering."

Since February, Therabis has seen revenue quadruple, with sales growing 30 percent month-over-month, according to Joe Hodas, chief marketing officer of Therabis's parent company, Colorado-based Dixie Brands.

Troy Dayton, co-founder of the Arcview Group, an Oakland, California-based investment firm, was a skeptic before he saw the sales numbers. "If humans are noticing in droves all the different ways where cannabis products can have utility for them, then surely there will be a massive application" for animals," he said.

For two years, Arcview has been involved in fundraising efforts for two CBD pet-product companies. Dayton anticipates that additional capital will follow, particularly from investors leery of getting into the recreational cannabis market, which is legally murky. "There's a lot of opportunity" in the CBD market, Dayton said.

Mumps spreads on college campuses

By Rebecca Smith
Kaiser Health News

Caroline Brown, a sophomore at the University of Missouri, got a fever over Thanksgiving break. Soon it became painful to bite down, and her cheek began to swell. A trip to her physician confirmed it: she had the mumps.

"Mumps kind of sounds like this archaic thing," Brown said. "We get vaccinated for it; it just sounds like something that nobody gets. So I just didn't think that it was possible that I would get it."

But mumps is back, and is having its worst year in a decade, fueled in part by its spread on college campuses. Since classes began at the University of Missouri in August, school officials have identified 193 mumps cases on campus. Nationwide, more than 4,000 cases have been reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — nearly triple the number in 2015 and the largest increase in 10 years.

Some public health officials are asking questions about the vaccine protocol.

Dr. Susan Even, executive director of the University of Missouri's Student Health Center, said she hasn't seen anything like the current outbreak in her 31 years at the school. She said all of the students her team treated for mumps had two MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccine doses — a school requirement — but they got sick anyway.

"The fact that we have mumps showing up in highly immunized populations likely reflects something about the effectiveness of the vaccine," Even said.

Outbreaks are affecting several other universities. More than 300 cases were reported at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and students at universities such as Iowa State, Tufts and Harvard have also had mumps.

The largest current outbreak is in Arkansas, which reports over 2,000 cases among school-age children and adults throughout the state since August this year.

Mumps is no longer particularly common, and it rarely causes serious complications. However, there is no treatment for the viral illness except rest. Symptoms include swelling in the cheek and neck, fever and pain in the jaw, which can be alleviated by over-the-counter medications.

The symptoms might feel like flu at first, "but the characteristic that we look for is pain in the jaw and cheek area and swelling," Even said.

Dr. Janell Routh, a medical epidemiologist for the CDC who specializes in mumps, said it's not surprising that outbreaks are occurring on college campuses, where students often live in close quarters, eat together and party together.

"College campuses provide that perfect medium for the spread of the mumps virus," Routh said. "We know a lot of the behaviors that take place on college campuses are amenable to the spread."

The outbreak in Arkansas has been affecting a more diverse population — school-age children and adults.

Dr. Dirk Haselow, the state's epidemiologist and medical director of outbreak response, said the state's health department has been holding clinics in places like churches, and schools to dispense the MMR vaccine.

"We have people working 12 hours a day, seven days a week for months trying to get this under control. It's not for lack of effort," Haselow said.

The severity of the outbreak has Haselow questioning the vaccine dosing protocol.

More than 90 percent of affected children and 30 to 40 percent of affected adults were vaccinated, according to state data. But Haselow said those adult vaccination rates are typical and don't explain the outbreak.

"If you look at MMR vaccination coverage rates in adults, that's middle of the road," Haselow said. "It was incorporated into the childhood immunization schedule in the '80s."

Normally, people receive only two doses of the vaccine, but in Arkansas and also at the University of Missouri, officials are now recommending a third.

It's not clear whether a third dose is effective in preventing the spread of mumps. The CDC has not madea recommendation, stating in an online report from July: "The effectiveness of a third dose of MMR vaccine has not been established, but rationale exists for its use in outbreak settings." However, both the state of Arkansas and the University of Missouri are hoping third doses will help stem the outbreaks.

Haselow said he also worries there may be something about this particular outbreak that is making the mumps vaccine less effective against it.

"Despite all that effort, we still continue to see this outbreak worsen. And we are concerned that the outbreak may indicate something unusual," he said.

He explained that the mumps vaccine was developed in the 1960s using one specific strain of mumps, and now some of the cases showing up in Arkansas are a different strain.

"We are wondering whether the circulating strains have evolved away from the vaccine," Haselow said.

Researchers at the CDC aren't sure they agree yet, a spokesperson said, but they will examine the data from the Arkansas outbreak once it is declared over. Haselow said that some samples have already been collected and sent to the CDC for analysis.

Haslow said that the mumps vaccine is still the most effective protection against mumps infections. It makes it less likely you will contract mumps and greatly reduces the chances for severe complications if you do.

Complications are rare but include things like swelling in the testicles, meningitis and deafness that can have lasting implications.

"Vaccines reduce your risk of mumps ninefold. We're 100 percent positive that these vaccines are preventing the severe manifestations of mumps," Haselow said. "So they are helping, but they're not perfect."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Scientists develop robotic hand for quadriplegics

Associated Press

Scientists have developed a mind-controlled robotic hand that allows people with certain types of spinal injuries to perform everyday tasks such as using a fork or drinking from a cup.

The low-cost device was tested in Spain on six people with quadriplegia affecting their ability to grasp or manipulate objects.

By wearing a cap that measures electric brain activity and eye movement the users were able to send signals to a tablet computer that controlled the glove-like device attached to their hand.

Participants in the small-scale study were able to perform daily activities better with the robotic hand than without, according to results published Tuesday in the journal Science Robotics.

The principle of using brain-controlled robotic aids to assist people with quadriplegia isn't new. But many existing systems require implants, which can cause health problems, or use wet gel to transmit signals from the scalp to the electrodes. The gel needs to be washed out of the user's hair afterward, making it impractical in daily life.

"The participants, who had previously expressed difficulty in performing everyday tasks without assistance, rated the system as reliable and practical, and did not indicate any discomfort during or after use," the researchers said.

It took participants just 10 minutes to learn how to use the system before they were able to carry out tasks such as picking up potato chips or signing a document.

According to Surjo R. Soekadar, a neuroscientist at the University Hospital Tuebingen in Germany and lead author of the study, participants represented typical people with high spinal cord injuries, meaning they were able to move their shoulders but not their fingers.

There were some limitations to the system, though. Users had to have sufficient function in their shoulder and arm to reach out with the robotic hand. And mounting the system required another person's help.

Jan Schwab, an expert on spinal cord injury at Berlin's Charite hospital who wasn't involved in the research, called it an interesting pilot study that needs to be followed up with further clinical tests.

"Bigger studies will be very important to find out which patients respond well, less well or not at all," Schwab said.

Soekadar said the system could be brought to market within two years at a cost of between $5,370 to $10,740, depending on functionality.

The device could also be used to help re-train the brain of stroke patients undergoing rehabilitation, he said.

Mario Cortese video via AP

In this undated grab taken from video, a patient uses a robotic hand to drink from a cup in Badalona, Spain. Scientists have developed a mind-controlled robotic hand that allows people with certain types of spinal injuries to perform everyday tasks such as using a fork or drinking from a cup

TODAY: Mostly sunny — High: 76 Low: 36

THURSDAY: Partly sunny — High: 50 Low: 36

FRIDAY: Mostly sunny — High: 50 Low: 42

SATURDAY: Mostly sunny — High: 63 Low: 41

SUNDAY: Mostly sunny — High: 63 Low: 41

MONDAY: Sunny — High: 63 Low: 42

Local forecast

The National Weather Service is calling for a 20 percent chance of showers Thursday night and a 30 percent chance Friday morning.

Otherwise, expect cooler air tonight as a front moves in that, according to the NWS, will push the temperature Thhursday down 26.

The record high for Dec. 27 is 75, set in 1964 and equaled in 1970 and 1996. The record low is 9, set in 1939. On Dec. 27 of last year, the high was 33 and the low was 27.

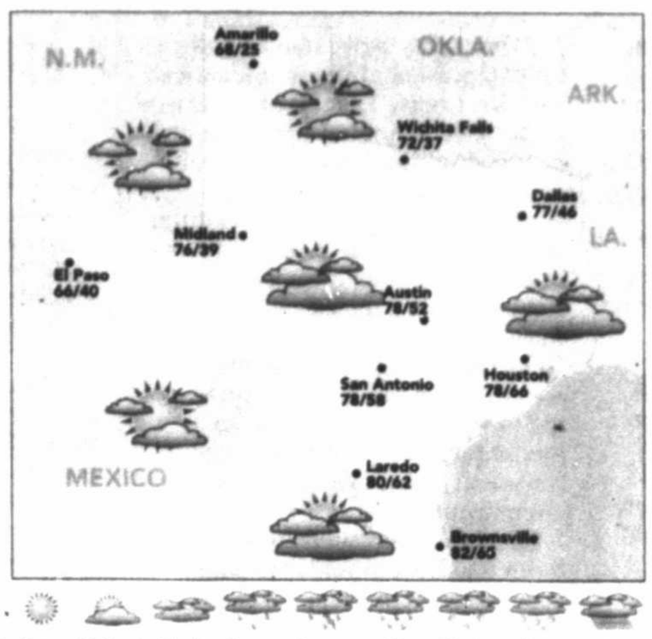
Weather brief

CHICAGO

Winter storm weakens, but thousands still without power

The fury of the winter storm that swept into the northern Great Plains on Christmas Day weakened heading into Tuesday, but thousands remained without power in the Dakotas and Michigan.

High winds and drifting snow continued to make travel hazardous in the Dakotas, even as vast stretches of highways that had been closed reopened to traffic.



Sunny Pt. Cloudy Cloudy Showers T-storms Rain Flurries Snow Ice

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Precipitation

Monday	0.00 in.
Tuesday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.35 in.
Year total	15.12 in.
Normal total (year to date)	14.53 in.

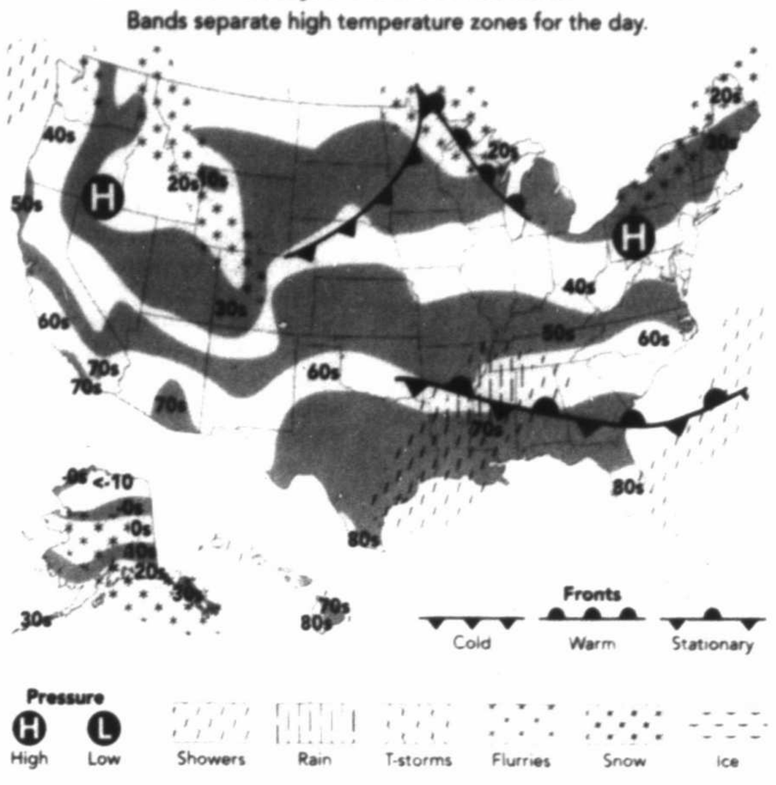
Tuesday's temperatures

High	68
Low	34
Normal high	57
Normal low	30
Sunrise	7:48 a.m.
Sunset	5:53 p.m.

National weather AccuWeather.com

Forecast for Wednesday, December 28, 2016

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



Wife married to old swinger would like to push him out

DEAR ABBY

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

DEAR ABBY: I am a 70-year-old woman, married for 50 years, and I hate my husband. He wants to go to swinger parties and toss me to other men. I tried it a couple of times for him and hated it.

He is overbearing and rude. We don't have any friends where we live, so he seeks out new people. He doesn't listen to my begging not to do this. His computer is full of porn and his thoughts are sinful, although he can't perform.

Every day, I wish he were dead, but I feel guilty for these thoughts. Please tell me what to do. My life is unbearable. — PAST MY LIMIT IN ORLANDO

DEAR PAST YOUR LIMIT: By now it should be apparent to you that you can't change your husband. The only thing you can change is yourself. If you find the strength to do that, your circumstances will change. Because you say your life is unbearable, stop bearing it. Talk to a lawyer and set yourself free.

DEAR ABBY: My 33-year-old son has mental problems. He is moving out to live with a guy he has been talking to on the internet and who has met him once.

His father and I are against it, not because of their homosexuality but because we are afraid it's a dangerous situation. We have learned that the guy was arrested three years ago on three different charges. He says he was cleared, but refuses any background checks or fingerprinting for jobs and/or government housing.

When we tried to talk to our son and explain the dangers, he became irate and blamed everything on us. He has no driver's license and has threatened to take off. He has also threatened suicide. We have asked him to consider talking to a psychiatrist, but he refuses. He does see a psychologist every three months, and he's supposed to be on medication, which he refuses to take. How can we deal with this? His psychologist won't talk to us unless my son gives the OK. — DESPERATE WORRIED MOTHER

DEAR DESPERATE: Because your son is an adult, unless he is a danger to himself or others, there is nothing you can do to prevent him from leaving. However, you CAN write his psychologist a letter letting him/her know what is going on and address your concerns. There is a chance your son might pay more attention to what his therapist says than to you.

An organization that may be of help to you is The National Alliance on Mental Illness, accessible at nami.org. It may be able to provide you with the guidance and emotional support you need.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 16, and I have a crush on a guy who is 23. We met in the gym he works at. He's very shy and he didn't make the first move, but now we flirt a lot. I don't know what to think because we met at his work, and he's so much older than I am. What do you think about the situation? If he kisses me, what should I think? If he doesn't make a move, what should I do? — CONFUSED IN CONNECTICUT

DEAR CONFUSED: My advice is to forget about it. If he kisses you, consider the consequences if your parents found out what's been going on. It could cost this man his job. He may be very nice, but he is so much older and more experienced than you are that there could be criminal penalties and possibly jail time for him if he's foolish enough to pursue you.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Trouble at trick one

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K 7 4
♥ A 8 6
♦ K 9 5
♣ J 9 6 4

WEST
♠ 10 2
♥ K 9 7 3 2
♦ Q 4 2
♣ K 3 2

EAST
♠ J 9 8 5
♥ 10 5
♦ 10 8 6 3
♣ A 7 5

SOUTH
♠ A Q 6 3
♥ Q J 4
♦ A J 7
♣ Q 10 8

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1NT	Pass	3NT	All pass

Opening lead: Three of ♥

The opening heart lead went to East's 10 and South's queen. Declarer continued with the queen of clubs to East's ace, and East returned his remaining heart. South played low and then allowed West's nine to hold the trick. West continued with a heart to dummy's ace, establishing his long hearts. Declarer led a club to his 10, trying to set up his long clubs, but West was able to win and cash two more heart tricks for down one. Three no-trump failed with a combined 27 high-card points. Was South unlucky or could he have done better?

South could certainly have done better! East would not have played the 10 of hearts at trick one if he held the king, so the king of hearts was marked with West. Declarer should have allowed East's 10 of hearts to hold the first trick. East can do no better than to return a heart. South will win this trick appropriately whether or not West plays the king, and then play a club. West can win and clear the hearts, but he has no entry to enjoy the established suit. Should East win the first club, he has no heart remaining and will have to attack another suit, to no avail. Declarer will finish with three spade tricks and two tricks in every other suit. Making three.

Many a makeable contract fails due to a poor play at trick one. It pays to give trick one some extra thought.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016:

This year you often feel as if others are observing you, especially at work or in public. You have a unique yet efficient style that attracts people's attention. You will start seeing the benefits of your abilities. In fact, a pay raise and/or a promotion is likely. If you are single, take your time deciding whether someone is the right person for you. Don't just settle for the first potential suitor who comes your way. If you are attached, curb a tendency to be me-oriented. Remember that a relationship is a two-way street. A fellow CAPRICORN understands you only too well!

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ You could feel complete and energized, especially after a recent surge of productivity. Do not assume that others want to hear your opinions and/or thoughts. Note the difference in how you think and how they think. Be patient when explaining yourself. Tonight: A must appearance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Your ideas reflect a transforming and more open view. Your ability to add to the quality of your life is enhanced as a result. If you're involved with a community matter, expect to be extra busy. Your instincts with money will serve you well. Tonight: Evaluate a suggestion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ One-on-one relating could be quite dynamic and exciting if you stay open-minded. You have the potential for a new beginning within a partnership or in another major area in your life. In life, you can only go forward; there is no option for going backward. Tonight: Share news.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You can be very strong-willed when you so choose. However, a loved one will make it clear that he or she is going to run the show. Let this person see how his or her ideas play out. Meanwhile, enjoy the extra time to focus on another project. Tonight: Go along for the ride.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ If you don't have a busy schedule yet, just wait. You will get a request from someone that might sound more like a demand for your time. Be as gracious as possible. Understand where this person is coming from. Be clear about your choices. Tonight: Time for a workout.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Your sense of amusement could be a lot higher than those around you. Be careful, as you won't want to burst out laughing at an inappropriate moment. Don't be surprised by the pleas for help you receive because of your problem-solving abilities. Tonight: Have some fun.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ You have more to offer than you realize. If you focus, many solutions will emerge. Others appreciate your sharing and might feel as if your perspective produces unique ideas and information. Call a friend who depends on you. Tonight: Opt for a cozy night at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ You might want to initiate a conversation or just start scheduling some time with key friends. You could get caught up in a conversation that will be particularly funny. As a result, you will make plans to see the other party. Tonight: At a favorite spot with a favorite person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ You'll remain on top of a problem because of your interest in money matters. You tend to be the main investor or budget person in your family. Don't hesitate to ask questions, especially if you feel that they will be beneficial or informative. Tonight: Do your thing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ Act on what you feel, and take a stand if need be. The spotlight is on you. Others will be highly responsive to your suggestions. Understand what is going on when someone makes unreasonable demands; he or she could be feeling very insecure. Tonight: Time to treat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ Recognize that you tend to speak with a toughness in your voice or come off as being overly domineering. Your patience might wear thin when dealing with a personal matter. Your intention simply might be to state your case, so try a softer approach. Tonight: Out late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ Use today to end the year on a positive note. Write down some New Year's resolutions. Know that you might need to make a resolution to keep your resolution! You are easily prone to indulgence, so the goals you set can be hard to keep! Tonight: Out and about.

BORN TODAY

Comedian Seth Meyers (1973), actor Denzel Washington (1954), singer Johnny Otis (1921)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Specially formed
6 Circle components
10 Set in stone, say
14 Hiking map line
15 Western wine region
16 Melancholic
17 "Reasons for refinancing
20 Top card
21 Iris layer
22 Syst. with a Buffalo campus
23 "Inconsistent nutrition plan
26 Spanish bear
29 "Top Gun" org.
30 Iditarod racer
32 Colo. setting
34 Scat legend, familiarly
37 Crème de la crème
38 "With 41-Across, "How to Get Away With Murder" Emmy winner
40 "That feels amazing"
41 "See 38-Across
42 Waits in traffic
43 Support during exercise
45 Give no stars to
46 Asian noodle dish
48 One step __ time
50 Govt. aid for the disabled
51 "Marshall Islands nuclear test site
57 Arab bigwig
59 Wild speech
60 GM's Mary Barra, for one
61 Proposal conditions ... and what the first parts of the answers to starred clues all can have
65 It comes before one
66 Big name in beauty products
67 Demi of "A Few Good Men"
68 Give for a while
69 December number
70 "None for me, thanks"

DOWN

1 On the defensive
2 Harsh Athenian lawmaker
3 "Roots" writer
4 It may be crude
5 Sun blockers
6 A year in Provence
7 Knock on
8 Busy pro in tax season
9 Doesn't go along
10 Steinbeck's "East of __"
11 Twins legend who was the first DH to hit a home run
12 Director's shout
13 Appt. book slots
18 Like a lamb
19 Made faces
24 Juice provider
25 Home of most of Sawtooth National Forest
27 Become established
28 Some flowery works
31 Try to hit, as a mosquito
32 King who turned his daughter into gold
33 Persevere
35 Vision-correcting surgery
36 Computer support?
38 Big shots
39 Rubbish holder
44 Contaminate
47 BB shooter
49 Teahouse mat
52 Hot under the collar
53 Birth-related
54 Former #1 LPGA golfer Lorena
55 Wolfish starve
56 Veinlike deposits
58 Look after
61 Show with "Weekend Update" skits initially
62 Tip of a wingtip
63 Pavement warning
64 Booking agent?

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

H	A	J	J	I		S	W	A	P		S	F	O	
A	D	O	R	N		T	A	C	O		N	O	B	
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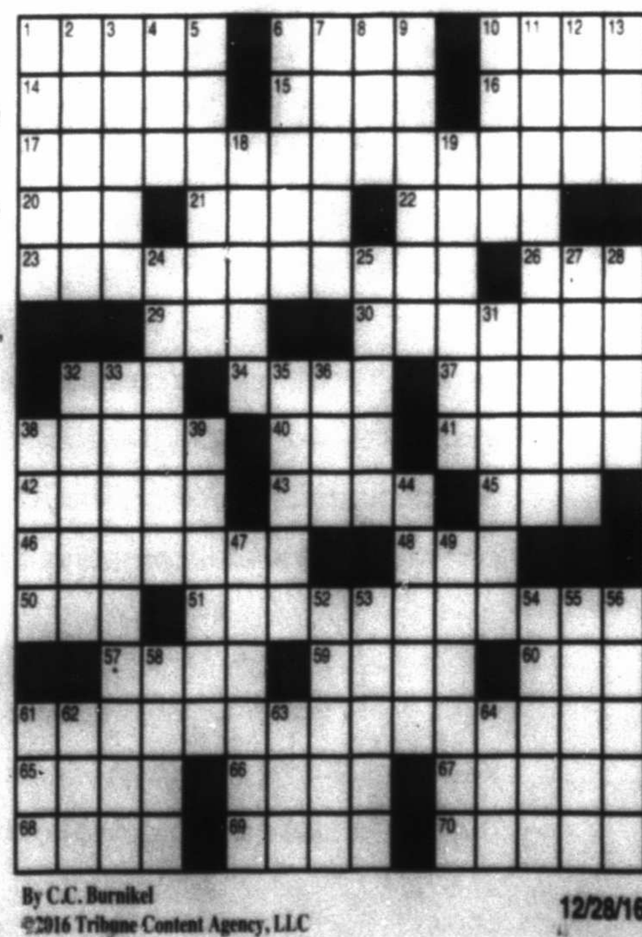
xwordeditor@aol.com 12/28/16



By C.C. Burnikel
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12/28/16

Latest hospital injury penalties include crackdown on antibiotic-resistant germs

By Jordan Rau
Kaiser Health News

The federal government has cut payments to 769 hospitals with high rates of patient injuries, for the first time counting the spread of antibiotic-resistant germs in assessing penalties.

The punishments come in the third year of Medicare penalties for hospitals with patients most frequently suffering from potentially avoidable complications, including various types of infections, blood clots, bed sores and falls. This year the government also examined the prevalence of two types of bacteria impervious to drugs.

Based on rates of all these complications, the hospitals identified by federal officials last week will lose 1 percent of all Medicare payments for a year — with that time frame beginning this past October. While the government did not release the dollar amount of the penalties, they will exceed a million dollars for many larger hospitals. In total, hospitals will lose about $430 million, 18 percent more than they lost last year, according to an estimate from the Association of American Medical Colleges.

The reductions apply not only to patient stays but also will reduce the amount of money hospitals get to teach medical residents and care for low-income people.

Forty percent of the hospitals penalized this year escaped punishment in the first two years of the program, a Kaiser Health News analysis shows. Those 306 hospitals include the University of Miami Hospital in Florida, Cambridge Health Alliance in Massachusetts, the University of Michigan Health System in Ann Arbor and Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City.

Nationally, hospital-acquired conditions declined by 21 percent between 2010 and 2015, according to the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, or AHRQ. The biggest reductions were for bad reactions to medicines, catheter infections and post-surgical blood clots.

Still, hospital harm remains a threat. AHRQ estimates there were 3.8 million hospital injuries last year, which translates to 115 injuries during every 1,000 patient hospital stays during that period.

Each year, at least 2 million people become infected with bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics, including nearly a quarter million cases in hospitals. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates 23,000 people die from them.

Infection experts fear that soon patients may face new strains of germs that are resistant to all existing antibiotics. Between 20 percent and 50 percent of all antibiotics prescribed in hospitals are either not needed or inappropriate, studies have found. Their proliferation — inside the hospital, in doctor's prescriptions and in farm animals sold for food — have hastened new strains of bacteria that are resistant to many drugs.

One resistant bacteria that Medicare included into its formula for determining financial penalties for hospitals is methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, or MRSA, which can cause pneumonia and bloodstream and skin infections. MRSA is prevalent outside of hospitals and sometimes people with it show no signs of disease. But these people can bring the germ into a hospital, where it can be spread by health care providers and be especially dangerous for older or sick patients whose immune system cannot fight the infection.

Hospitals have had some success in reducing MRSA infections, which dropped by 13 percent between 2011 and 2014, according to the CDC. AHRQ estimates there were 6,300 cases in hospitals last year.

The second bacteria measured for the penalties is Clostridium difficile, known as C. diff, a germ that can multiply in the gut and colon when patients take some antibiotics to kill off other germs. It can also spread through contaminated surfaces or hands.

While it can be treated by antibiotics, C. diff can also become so serious that some patients need to have part of their intestines surgically removed. C. diff can cause diarrhea and can be deadly for the elderly and other vulnerable patients.

C. diff has challenged infection control efforts. While hospital infections dropped 8 percent from 2008 to 2014, there was a "significant increase" In C. diff that final year, the CDC says. AHRQ estimated there were 100,000 hospital cases last year.

"The reality is we don't know how to prevent all these infections," said Dr. Louise Dembry, a professor at the Yale School of Medicine and president of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America.

The Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program also factors in rates of infections from hysterectomies, colon surgeries, urinary tract catheters and central line tubs. Those infections carry the most weight in determining penalties, but the formula also takes into account the frequency of bed sores, hip fractures, blood clots and four other complications.

Specialized hospitals, such as those that treat psychiatric patients, veterans and children, are exempted from the penalties, as are hospitals with the "critical access" designation for being the only provider in an area. Of the remaining hospitals, the Affordable Care Act requires that Medicare penalize the 25 percent that perform the worst on these measures, even if they have reduced infection rates from previous years.

That inflexible quota is one objection the hospital industry has with the penalties. In addition, many hospitals complain that they are penalized because of their vigilance in detecting infections, even ones that do not cause any symptoms in patients. Academic medical centers in particular have been frequently punished.

The penalties come as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services also launches new requirements for hospitals to ensure that the use of antibiotics is limited to cases where they are necessary and be circumspect in determining which of the drugs are most likely to work for a given infection. Hospitals will have to establish these antibiotic stewardship programs as a condition of receiving Medicare funding under a regulation the government drafted last summer.

Lisa McGiffert, who directs Consumers Union's Safe Patient Project, said that as a result of Medicare's penalties and other efforts, "more hospitals are thinking more about appropriate use of antibiotics." However, she said, "I think most hospitals do not have effective antibiotic stewardship programs yet."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Hospitals and surgery centers play tug-of-war over America's ailing knees

By Christina Jewett
Kaiser Health News

Five years ago, Dr. Ira Kirschenbaum, an orthopedic surgeon in New York City who replaces more than 200 knees each year, would have considered it crazy to send a patient home the same day as a knee replacement operation.

And yet there he was this year, as the patient, home after a few hours. A physician friend pierced his skin at 8 a.m. at a Seattle-area surgery center. By lunch, Kirschenbaum was resting at his friend's home, with no pain and a new knee.

What felt to Kirschenbaum like a bold experiment may soon become far more standard. Medicare, which spends several billions of dollars a year on knee replacements for its beneficiaries — generally Americans 65 and older — is contemplating whether it will help pay for knee replacement surgeries outside the hospital, either in free-standing surgery centers or outpatient facilities.

The issue is sowing deep discord in the medical world, and the debate is as much about money as medicine. Some physicians are concerned that moving the surgeries out of hospitals will land vulnerable patients in the emergency room with pain, blood clots or other complications.

But proponents of the change say it can give patients more choice and potentially better care, as well as save Medicare hundreds of millions of dollars. Already, an "overwhelming majority" of commenters said they want to allow the surgeries out of hospitals, according to recent rule-making documents.

The final decision, which could come within a year, would also act as a test of sorts for Donald Trump and his new administration. They will weigh whether to limit government controls, as Trump has often suggested, or to bend to pressure from hospitals and doctors, many of whom oppose the change.

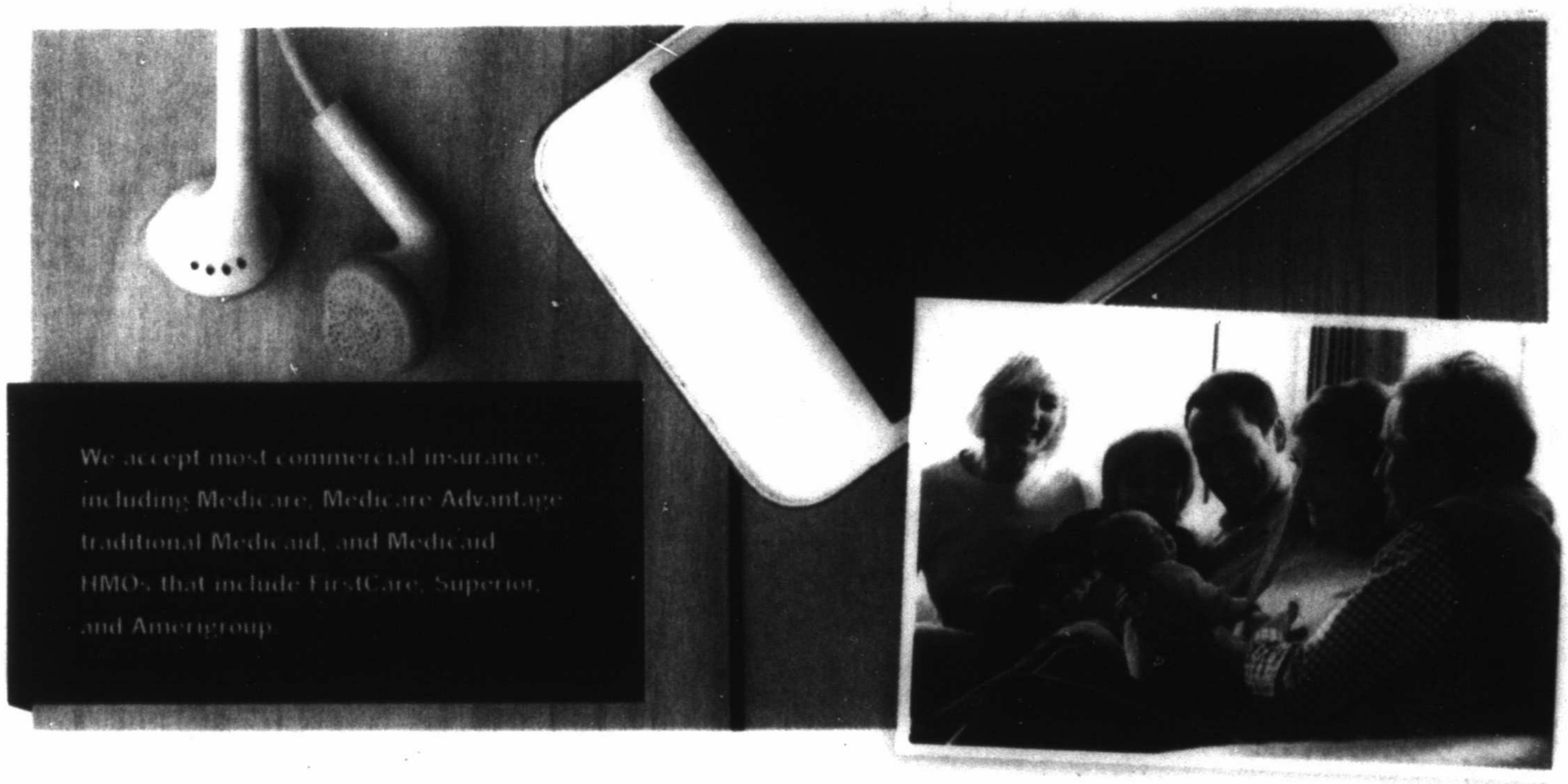
"I think the question will come down to two things," said David Muhlestein, senior director for research at Leavitt Partners, a leading health consulting firm. "It's the balance of trying to reduce regulations and let the market function — and the competing interest of vested parties."

Demand for total knee replacements is growing — 660,000 are performed each year in the United States. That number is likely to jump to two million annually by 2030, making this complex and expensive operation one of surgery's biggest potential growth markets.

Even if the policy change is made, Medicare would still pay for patients to get traditional inpatient surgery. But with the agency also paying for the bulk of outpatient procedures, there would be a huge shift in money — out of hospitals and into surgery centers. Medicare could save hundreds of millions of dollars if it no longer needed to pay for multiple-day stays at the hospital. Investors at the outpatient centers could profit greatly, as could some surgeons, because doctors often have an ownership stake in the outpatient centers where they operate.

Whether the shift is beneficial for patients remains an open question. Medicare patients tend to spend nearly three days in a hospital, data shows. Forty percent of Medicare patients also spend time in a rehabilitation facility for further recovery. The data, which reflects knee replacement operations from 2014, suggests that Medicare patients are taking advantage of the post-operation support at hospitals and aftercare centers. Given that, it is unclear the percentage of eligible patients who would choose outpatient care.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency



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MIDLAND HEALTH
LIGHTING THE WAY FOR HEALTH

Rookie stars want wins, despite Cowboys' spot atop NFC

By Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press

FRISCO — Dak Prescott can help the Dallas Cowboys set a franchise record with 14 wins. Ezekiel Elliott could break Eric Dickerson's 33-year-old rookie rushing record with a career high and a few more yards.

Other than that, Dallas doesn't have much on the line in the regular-season finale at Philadelphia on Sunday. The Cowboys (13-2) are guaranteed the best record in the NFC, and the home-field advantage that goes with it, after beating the Detroit Lions 42-21 .

Prescott just wants to keep playing, and it's not because of that franchise mark or because he could break the record he now shares with Pittsburgh's Ben Roethlisberger for most wins by a rookie quarterback (13).

"I want to play every game," said Prescott, whose 11-game winning streak put Tony Romo on the bench when the 10-year starter returned from a preseason back injury. "I want to keep this momentum going. Any rep I can get is making myself better and I want to take advantage of those."

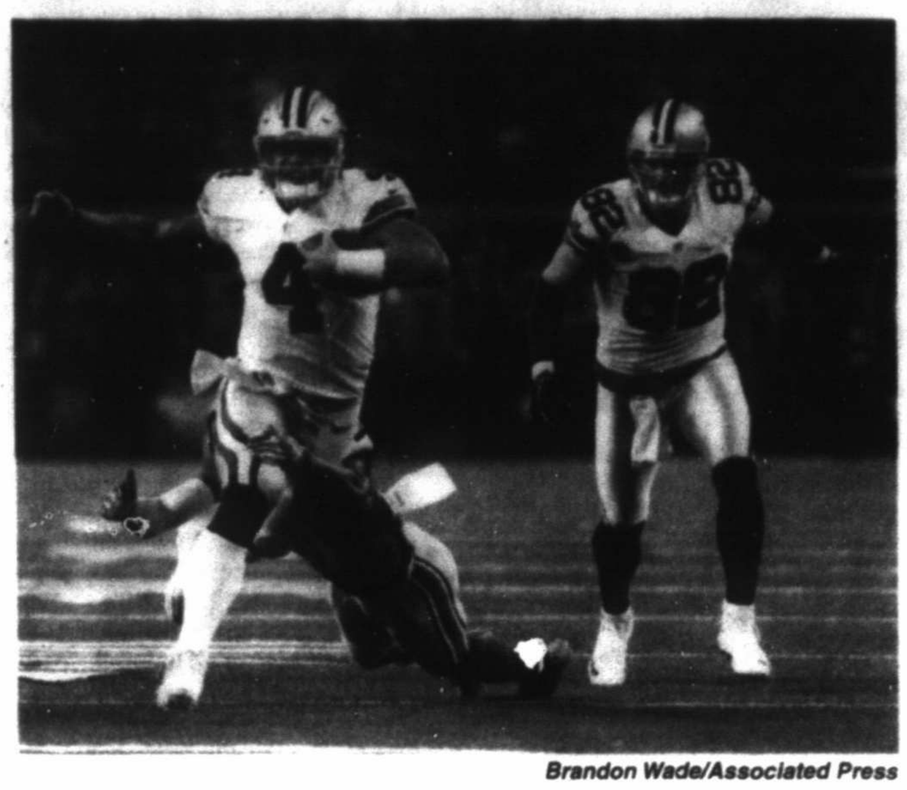
Prescott is 47 of 56 passing for 491 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions in two games since his worst as a pro in a 10-7 loss to the New York Giants. He has 23 touchdowns with just four interceptions and has risen to fifth on the NFL's rookie passing yardage list with 3,630 yards.

If he plays long enough against the last-place Eagles (6-9), he needs 110 yards to pass Peyton Manning, who had 3,739 yards for Indianapolis in 1998.

Owner Jerry Jones said he isn't worried about Prescott getting injured.

"Look at what Dak Prescott learned tonight and what's now in his computer that wasn't there before tonight," Jones said. "With him being a rookie, we really need all these reps he can get, including any reps we get this week and next week, because we want him to be as educated

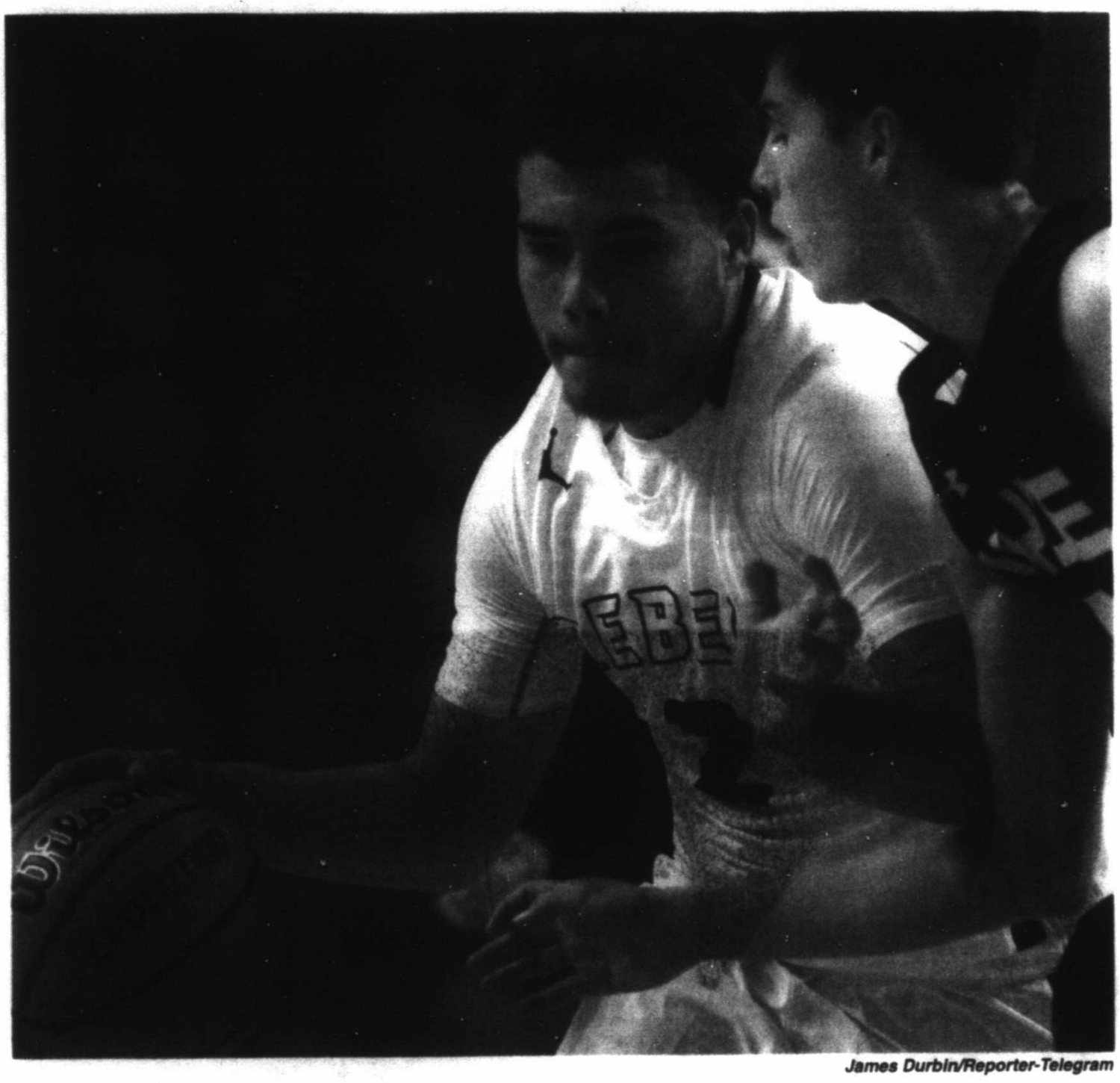
Please see **COWBOYS**/4C



Detroit Lions' Johnson Bademosi, brings down Dallas Cowboys' Dak Prescott (4) after a short run as tight end Jason Witten watches in the second half of an NFL game, Monday in Arlington.

Brandon Wade/Associated Press

Weather weary but ready



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Eron Pena (2) moves the ball against Abilene Wylie's Thomas Lynch (33) on Nov. 15 at Chaparral Center.

BJHC returns after weather interrupts past two years

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

For 22 years, Midland's annual Byron Johnston Holiday Classic boasted an impeccable history of undeterred tournament play.

But that streak was snapped in 2014, when inclement icy weather forced the cancellation of the tournament's final day of games. The next year, despite the tireless efforts of the tournament's committee, the tournament was canceled altogether because of the snowstorms that engulfed the Permian Basin.

Barring any additional mischief from Mother Nature, the tournament's 24th installment begins 9 a.m. today and runs through Friday. Games are scheduled to be played at Chaparral Center, the Midland High gym and the Lee High School gym. The girls' field will follow round robin format, while the boys will play the first two days in pool play and placement games on Saturday.

Tournament committee member Blake Johnston said this year the community is ready for the BJHC to begin an impressive new streak of completion.

"As a whole, people respect the tournament, they think highly of the tournament and they're excited to be a part of it. It's great for the basketball community in the Permian Basin. We've got quality programs, great coaches, great schools, and that has been consistent the last five, 10 years."

Blake Johnston, BJHC committee member

"The biggest excitement comes with us starting a new streak after the weather last year," said Blake Johnston. "Everyone is excited about it getting going and to complete it, to play an entire tournament.

Johnston added that he and the other tournament committee members and organizers remain confident that Permian Basin high school basketball fans will be treated to a full three-day slate of action.

"The history of the tournament is pretty optimistic of the hope that we'll be able to play," Johnston said. "We had some bad luck last year and a little the year before, but we're excited about this year's tournament."

This year's boys' field features a mix of staples — MHS, Lee, Plainview, Hereford — and newcomers Odessa Permian, Odessa High, San Angelo Central and Bushland. The girls' tournament includes familiar faces MHS, Lee, No. 2-ranked Midland Classical, Plainview, Bushland, El Paso Eastlake and newcomer Lake Travis.

Some might assume that, because of the weather complications over the past two Decembers, a few teams might be discouraged from making the trek to the Tall City to compete in the tournament.

But one of the most important draws of the BJHC is its welcoming nature. Despite the weather threat, the tournament was attractive enough that MHS girls head coach Wes Torres and the

Please see **BJHC**/3C

THE KING OF 2016

LeBron James named AP Male Athlete of Year

By Tom Withers
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James was jolted forward when the massive crowd swelled from the sidewalks and into Cleveland's streets, surrounding the convertible that he and his family were riding in. This wasn't supposed to happen.

James looked at his wife, Savannah, their baby daughter and two sons and feared for their safety.

"We were kind of afraid for a second," James said.

Then relieved.

Scanning the crowd, James spotted people dangling from lamp posts and traffic lights, even a few straddling window ledges to get a glimpse of the champion Cavaliers, who were being honored with a once-in-a-generation downtown parade after their comeback in the NBA Finals. James was awe-struck, and any concerns quickly melted away when he looked at the spectators' faces and saw only smiles, laughter and tears of joy.

"Everybody was just rejoicing in grace and happiness," James said, fondly reflecting on the picture-perfect day in June when Cleveland was transformed into a giant block party. "It was more than I could have ever imagined. It was unforgettable, unbelievable."

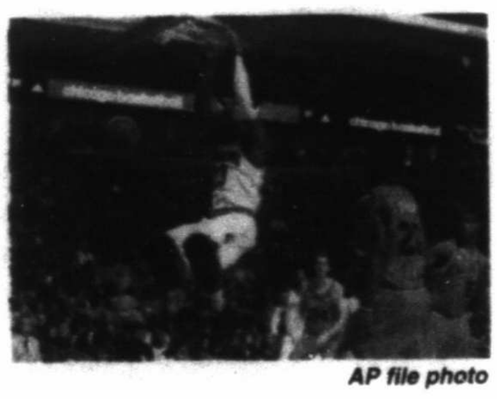
And he had made it possible.

James, who ended 52 years of sports heartache by bringing Cleveland a championship and used his superstar platform to address social causes, was chosen as The Associated Press 2016 Male Athlete of the Year, an award he won previously in 2013.

Results of the vote by 59 editors from AP member newspapers and customers were announced Tuesday.

James collected 24 first-place votes, beating out a pair of Olympic legends: Michael Phelps (16) and Usain Bolt (9), the fastest men in water and on land who are not accustomed to finishing behind anyone.

Please see **LEBRON**/5C



AP file photo

LeBron James (23) hangs from the rim after dunking against the Chicago Bulls on April 9 during the first half of an NBA game in Chicago.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV
COLLEGE FOOTBALL
Pinstripe Bowl: Northwestern vs. Pittsburgh, 1 p.m., ESPN
Russell Athletic Bowl: West Virginia vs. Miami-FL, 4:30 p.m., ESPN
Foster Farms Bowl: Utah vs. Indiana, 7:30 p.m., FOX
Texas Bowl: Kansas State vs. Texas A&M, 8 p.m., ESPN
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Houston at Connecticut, 2 p.m., ESPN2
Huston-Tillotson at Prairie View A&M, 3 p.m., YouTube
Wake Forest at Florida State, 4 p.m., ESPN2
DePaul at Villanova, 5:30 p.m., FS1
Nebraska at Indiana, 5:30 p.m., BTN
Virginia at Louisville, 6 p.m., ESPN2
Monmouth at North Carolina, 6 p.m., ESPNU
USF at East Carolina, 6 p.m., ESPNews
Seton Hall at Creighton, 7 p.m., FS2
Austin Peay at Western Kentucky, 7 p.m., FCSA
UCF at Tulane, 7 p.m., SNY
Georgetown at Marquette, 7:30 p.m., FS1
Iowa at Purdue, 7:30 p.m., BTN
UCLA at Oregon, 8 p.m., ESPN2
Cincinnati at Temple, 8 p.m., ESPNU
Boise State at Utah State, 8 p.m., ROOT
UNLV at Colorado State, 10 p.m., ESPNU
USC at Oregon State, 10 p.m., P12, P12 LA, P12 OR
MEN'S SOCCER
PL: Southampton vs. Tottenham Hotspurs, 1:45 p.m., NBCSN
Scottish Premier: St. Johnstone FC vs. Rangers FC, 1:50 p.m., FSP
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
Los Angeles Clippers at New Orleans, 7 p.m., NBAtv
Phoenix at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m., FSSW+
Toronto at Golden State, 9:30 p.m., NBAtv
NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
Philadelphia at St. Louis, 7 p.m., NBCSN
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Marquette at Villanova, 11 a.m., FSN (FSSW)
Rutgers at Michigan, 1 p.m., BTN
Iowa at Illinois, 3 p.m., BTN
Vanderbilt at Memphis, 4 p.m., ESPNU
ON RADIO
National Basketball Association
Phoenix at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m., KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring)

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
National League
CINCINNATI REDS — Named Dick Williams president of baseball operations and general manager. Mark Heil player development analyst, Mark Edwards baseball operations analyst, Haley Alvarez administrative assistant to baseball operations, Nick Wan data scientist, Rob Fidler manager of Pacific Rim scouting, and Jim Moran, Charlie Allano and Jamey Storvick area scouts. Promoted Rob Coughlin to assistant director of professional scouting, Bo Thompson to manager of major league video operations, Eric Lee to director of baseball operations, Melissa Hill to coordinator of baseball administration, Richard Stark to director of minor league medical administration, Patrick Serbus to director of minor league athletic training, Brad Epstein to director of minor league physical therapy and area scouts Brad Meador and Greg Zunino to cross checkers.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Re-signed RHP Ivan Nova to a three-year contract.
American Association
LARDO LEMURS — Signed C Manuel Boscan and RHP Quinton Stevens.
Can-Am League
ROCKLAND BOULDERS — Sold the contract of OF Leandro Castro to Minnesota (AL).
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
SAN ANTONIO SPURS — Waived G Nicolas Laprovittola.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
ARIZONA CARDINALS — Placed G Taylor Boggs and S Tony Jefferson on injured reserve.
BUFFALO BILLS — Fired coach Rex Ryan. Named Anthony Lynn interim coach.
CHICAGO BEARS — Waived DL Jimmy Staten from the practice squad.
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Waived OL Jonathan Cooper.
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed WR Antwan Goodley to the practice squad. Placed TE Devon Cajuste on the practice squad-injured list. Signed RB Russell Hansbrough from the New York Giants practice squad. Placed CB Jude Adjei-Barimah and TE Cameron Brate on injured reserve.
NEW YORK GIANTS — Signed QB Keith Wenning, RB Jacob Huesman and S Ryan Murphy to the practice squad.
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS — Placed RB Kenneth Farrow on injured reserve. Signed RB Andre Williams from the practice squad.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Claimed DL Zach Moore off waivers from Dallas. Placed RB Carlos Hyde on injured reserve.
TENNESSEE TITANS — Placed QB Marcus Mariota on injured reserve. Signed QB Alex Tanney from the practice squad.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Activated F Artem Anisimov from injured reserve. Placed F Marian Hossa on injured reserve, retroactive to Dec. 20.
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Recalled D Yohann Auvitu from Albany (AHL).
NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled G Brandon Halverson from Hartford (AHL).
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Recalled C Matthew Peca from Syracuse (AHL).
American Hockey League
HARTFORD WOLF PACK — Recalled G Jeff Malcolm from Greenville (ECHL).
ECHL
ATLANTA GLADIATORS — Announced F Mark Nacleno was assigned to the team by Providence (AHL). Signed F Mike Moran. Activated G Jay Williams from suspension. Suspended F Bryan Cameron.
SOCCER
Major League Soccer
FC DALLAS — Signed M Javier Morales.

NHL GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	34	21	9	4	46	104	76
Ottawa	35	20	12	3	43	91	93
Boston	37	18	15	4	40	88	91
Tampa Bay	35	17	15	3	37	100	98
Florida	35	15	14	6	36	85	97
Toronto	33	14	12	7	35	97	95
Detroit	34	15	15	4	34	83	96
Buffalo	33	12	13	8	32	71	91

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Columbus	33	24	5	4	52	114	68
Pittsburgh	36	23	8	5	51	126	102
N.Y Rangers	37	24	12	1	49	123	92
Washington	33	20	9	4	44	95	73
Philadelphia	36	20	12	4	44	110	108
Carolina	33	15	11	7	37	88	90
N.Y Islanders	34	14	14	6	34	94	105
New Jersey	35	13	15	7	33	82	107

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	36	22	9	5	49	102	86
Minnesota	33	21	8	4	46	102	66
St Louis	35	18	12	5	41	98	103
Nashville	33	15	13	5	35	94	94
Dallas	35	14	14	7	35	89	106
Winnipeg	36	16	17	3	35	95	105
Colorado	33	12	20	1	25	67	106

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	34	21	12	1	43	87	75
Edmonton	36	18	12	6	42	105	97
Anaheim	35	17	12	6	40	96	99
Los Angeles	34	17	13	4	38	87	84
Calgary	36	18	16	2	38	94	103
Vancouver	35	14	18	3	31	86	109
Arizona	34	11	18	5	27	75	108

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

Scores and schedule

Tuesday's games
Pittsburgh 5, New Jersey 2
N.Y Islanders 4, Washington 3
N.Y Rangers 4, Ottawa 3
Columbus 4, Boston 3
Buffalo 4, Detroit 3
Minnesota 3, Nashville 2: OT
Winnipeg 3, Chicago 1
Calgary at Colorado, late
Dallas at Arizona, late
San Jose at Anaheim, late
Today's Games
Carolina at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Florida, 6 p.m.
Montreal at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

BOWL GLANCE

Tuesday, Dec. 27
Heart of Dallas Bowl
Army 38, North Texas 31: OT
Military Bowl
Annapolis, Md.
Wake Forest 34, Temple 26
Holiday Bowl
San Diego
Minnesota 17, Washington State 12
Cactus Bowl
Phoenix
Boise State (10-2) vs. Baylor (6-6), late
Wednesday, Dec. 28
Pinstripe Bowl
Bronx, N.Y.
Northwestern (6-6) vs. Pittsburgh (8-4), noon (ESPN)
Russell Athletic Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Miami (8-4) vs. West Virginia (10-2), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Foster Farms Bowl
Santa Clara, Calif.
Indiana (6-6) vs. Utah (8-4), 6:30 p.m. (FOX)
Texas Bowl
Houston
Kansas State (8-4) vs. Texas A&M (7-4), 9 p.m. (ESPN)
Thursday, Dec. 29
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl
South Florida (10-2) vs. South Carolina (6-6), 1 p.m. (ESPN)
Belk Bowl
Charlotte, N.C.
Virginia Tech (9-4) vs. Arkansas (7-5), 4:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Alamo Bowl
San Antonio
Oklahoma State (9-3) vs. Colorado (10-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Friday, Dec. 30
Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.
Georgia (7-5) vs. TCU (6-6), 11 a.m. (ESPN)
El Paso, Texas
North Carolina (8-4) vs. Stanford (9-3), 1 p.m. (CBS)
Music City Bowl
Nashville, Tenn.
Tennessee (8-4) vs. Nebraska (9-3), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Arizona Bowl
Tucson, Ariz.
Air Force (9-3) vs. South Alabama (6-6), 4:30 p.m. (ASN)
Orange Bowl
Miami Gardens, Fla.
Florida State (9-3) vs. Michigan (10-2), 9 p.m. (ESPN)
Saturday, Dec. 31
Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
LSU (7-4) vs. Louisville (9-3), 10 a.m. (ABC)
TaxSlayer Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
Kentucky (7-5) vs. Georgia Tech (8-4), 10 a.m. (ESPN)
CFP Semifinals
Peach Bowl
Atlanta
Alabama (13-0) vs. Washington (12-1), 2 p.m. (ESPN)
Fiesta Bowl
Glendale, Ariz.
Clemson (12-1) vs. Ohio State (11-1), 6 p.m. (ESPN)

SKI REPORT

New Mexico
Angel Fire — Tue 6:02 am MG machine groomed 20 - 25 base 36 of 78 trails
46% open, 7 of 7 lifts, Mon-Thu: 9a-4p; Fri: 9a-8p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p
Night Skiing 4-8p Select Nights.
Pajarito — Tue 5:40 am powder machine groomed 25 - 25 base 18 of 44 trails
41% open, 2 of 7 lifts, am Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p; Dec 27: 9a-4p
Jan 02: 9a-4p;
Red River — Mon 9:53 am powder machine groomed 24 - 24 base 54 of 58 trails
93% open, 7 of 7 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Sandia Peak — Sun 5:22 pm variable 18 - 18 base 2 of 39 trails
5% open, 2 of 5 lifts, Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p; Open Fri-Sun
Dec 26-Jan 03: 9a-4p;
Sipapu — Tue 6:07 am packed powder machine groomed 18 - 24 base 27 of 42 trails, 64% open
5 of 8 lifts, am Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Ski Apache — Sun 6:52 am MG machine groomed 28 - 28 base 3 of 55 trails, 5% open
3 of 10 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Ski Santa Fe — Mon 8:26 am packed powder 38 - 33 base 65 of 79 trails
82% open, 7 of 7 lifts, Ltd-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Taos — Tue 5:43 am powder machine groomed 65 - 65 base 59 of 110 trails, 53% open
686 acres, 12 of 15 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Enchanted Forest XC — Tue 11:53 am packed powder machine groomed 20 - 36 base 40 of 40 trails, 22 miles Mon-Fri: 9a-4:30p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4:30p
Colorado
Arapahoe Basin — Tue 5:40 am packed powder machine groomed 41 - 41 base 93 of 109 trails
85% open, 695 acres, 7 of 8 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 8:30a-4p;
Aspen Highlands — Tue 3:35 am packed powder 32 - 46 base 113 of 113 trails
100% open,1013 acres, 5 of 5 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-3:30p; Sat/Sun: 9a-3:30p;
Aspen Mountain — Tue 3:31 am packed powder 29 - 31 base 71 of 76 trails
93% open, 660 acres, 6 of 8 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-3:30p; Sat/Sun: 9a-3:30p;
Beaver Creek — Tue 5:26 am packed powder machine groomed 33 - 33 base 144 of 150 trails
96% open, 1790 acres, 24 of 25 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Breckenridge — Tue 5:27 am packed powder machine groomed 35 - 35 base 124 of 187 trails
66% open, 2008 acres, 35 of 35 lifts, Mon-Fri: 8:30a-4p; Sat/Sun: 8:30a-4p;
Buttermilk — Tue 3:32 am packed powder 18 - 20 base 39 of 44 trails
89% open, 434 acres, 7 of 8 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-3:30p; Sat/Sun: 9a-3:30p;
Cooper — Tue 5:35 am packed powder machine groomed 22 - 28 base 38 of 39 trails, 97% open
26 miles, 400 acres, 4 of 4 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p

Garrett leads Texas A&M against Kansas State in Texas Bowl

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Texas A&M's Myles Garrett is expected by many to be the top overall pick in the 2017 draft.

Unlike other probable high draft picks who are skipping their bowl games after dealing with injuries this season, the defensive end will play for the Aggies when they meet Kansas State in the Texas Bowl on Wednesday night.

"Texas is home to me, so whenever I'm here I want to bring home a win," Garrett said. "No matter who it is ... you've got to play your hardest and try your best for a win."

Garrett got healthy late in the season after dealing with a high ankle sprain for most of the year. Coach Kevin Sumlin not only appreciates that he never questioned playing in the bowl game with so much at stake personally, but also what the junior did for the Aggies all season.

"With what you see going on with bowl games, with what you see going on during the year in playing games, this guy was not healthy after Arkansas and was a dominant player," Sumlin said. "And the fact that he wanted to play in games at 50 percent ... with his teammates says more about him than just his talent. It's been a great example to our younger players."

Garrett was a consensus All-American this season after finishing with 8 1/2 sacks and 15 tackles for losses despite missing two games and being limited in several others.

"He is a big, physical guy that can get his hands up and disrupt throws, disrupt the quarterback," Kansas State coach Bill Snyder said. "He is obviously a good pass rusher. He has got length to him, he has those long arms, and sometimes it is just hard to get to him because he can keep you at bay with those long arms that he has. Good player, very good player."

While Garrett is the unquestioned star in this bowl game, the Wildcats also have a standout defensive end in Jordan Willis, who could also be drafted in the first round. The Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year led the conference in sacks with 11 ½, which tied a school record, and he has 16 ½ tackles for losses.

"He's a really, really talented guy. One of the better defensive linemen in the country," Sumlin said. "I think he's very versatile ... he'll be easily one of the top three or four guys that we've played against this year, and we've played some good ones. I think half the All-American team is in our league in the West."

Willis has kept up with Garrett since he arrived at A&M and is looking forward to seeing him play Wednesday night.

"I am not going to try and compare myself to Myles because he is a great football player and he is in his own league," Willis said. "I do study him, though. He has a great takeoff, a great motor, and he is always in the backfield. He is a great football player."

Some things to know about the Texas Bowl

■ **Snyder's streak**

This is Kansas State's 20th bowl game, 18th under Snyder, and seventh in a row. Snyder is proud of his success with the Wildcats, but hopes that his players gain more off the field than they do on it under his direction.

"In my way of thinking college athletics, college football, is all about building a foundation for the rest of your life," he said. "And the rest of your life is about becoming successful as a student, a businessman, a family member, with your faith, your family. Whatever it is that's important in your life, how do you become the best at it? That's the important thing."

■ **Bye bye knight**

Quarterback Trevor Knight, a graduate transfer from Oklahoma, will wrap up his first and only season with the Aggies after throwing for 2,122 yards and 16 touchdowns, running for 594 yards and 10 more scores. He missed two games late in the season because of a shoulder injury, but returned against LSU and should be completely healthy for his final college game Wednesday night.

■ **Dual-threat Ertz**

Like Knight, Kansas State quarterback Jesse Ertz is dangerous as a runner. Ertz leads the team and is fifth among FBS quarterbacks with 945 yards rushing and 10 scores. He added 1,560 yards passing with eight more TDs.

BOWLROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

MILITARY BOWL
WAKE FOREST 34
TEMPLE 26

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — When Wake Forest fans look back at 2016, perhaps they will remember an exciting victory in the Military Bowl as the culmination of the team's first winning season in eight years.

At least, that's what Demon Deacons coach Dave Clawson would like to believe.

Wake Forest attached a positive ending to a season marred by scandal, using a strong performance by quarterback John Wolford to beat heavily favored Temple 34-26 on Tuesday in the Military Bowl.

After throwing an interception on the first series of the game — a turnover Temple used to take a 7-0 lead — Wolford helped the Demon Deacons rattle off 31 straight points before halftime.

Wolford left with a neck strain in the third quarter with the score 31-17. Wake Forest (7-6) then withstood a comeback bid by Temple (10-4) to secure its first bowl victory since 2008.

That gave the Demon Deacons something to talk about this offseason beside a troubling spy story. According to a Wake Forest investigation, broadcaster Tommy Elrod leaked or attempted to leak game plan information to at least three opponents. Though Elrod has not released a public statement on the scandal, the school has since fired him.

The scandal was dubbed "Wakey Leaks."

"It was really important we win this game so this game and this bowl championship becomes the lasting memory for this football team and not some stupid hashtag that nobody in our program was responsible for," Clawson said. "That becomes the lasting memory for the team and not a bitterness of something we're ready to move past."

In spite of the distraction, the Demon Deacons snapped a three-game losing streak and won for only the second time since Oct. 8.

"I'm trying to fight back tears right now," linebacker Thomas Brown said. "It's such a great feeling. I really don't even know how to describe it."

Wolford, a junior, completed 10 of 19 passes for 183 yards and two scores. Though he wasn't there at the finish, he certainly did enough while in the game.

"I wanted to play, but it was probably the safest thing to come out," Wolford said.

His backup, redshirt freshman Kyle Kearns, went 4 for 10 for 60 yards and an interception.

Seeking the first 11-win season in school history, Temple came in as an 11-point favorite. A 48-yard pass from Phillip Walker to Adonis Jennings on the Owls' first offensive play gave them their only lead.

Down 31-7 late in the first half, Temple used a 19-point run to close to 31-26 with 3:56 left. Wake Forest then used an 80-yard kickoff return by John Armstrong and the resulting field goal to make it an eight-point game with 1:59 left.

Temple came in with a seven-game winning streak after capturing the American Athletic Conference title with a 34-10 rout of Navy on this same field Dec. 3.

"I know that once it all sinks in — on how close we came to winning this game and how close we came to being the best Temple team ever — it's going to hurt worse than it does right now," interim coach Ed Foley said.

Foley took the reins after Matt Rhule was hired by Baylor on Dec. 6. The Owls subsequently signed Florida defensive coordinator Geoff Collins as their new head coach, and he got a first-hand look at his new team on Tuesday.

Walker finished his career by going 28 for 49 for 396 yards and two touchdowns, both to Jennings. He was sacked four times, including a pivotal 22-yarder on second down from the Wake Forest 6 preceding the Owls' final field goal.

HOLIDAY BOWL
MINNESOTA 17
WASHINGTON STATE 12

SAN DIEGO — Shannon Brooks caught a tipped pass from Mitch Leidner for a 13-yard, go-ahead touchdown in the third quarter and the Minnesota Golden Gophers, beset by turmoil after 10 players were suspended after a sexual assault investigation, upset Luke Falk and the Washington State Cougars 17-12 in the Holiday Bowl on Tuesday night.

It was one of the few exciting plays in an otherwise pedestrian edition of what traditionally has been one of the country's most exciting bowl games.

WSU cornerback Marcellus Pippins reached up with his right hand and deflected Leidner's pass in the end zone but it went right to Brooks for the TD and a 10-6 lead. That capped an 84-yard, 10-play drive on Minnesota's first possession of the second half.

The Golden Gophers (9-4) were looking to regroup after backing down from a threat to skip this game if 10 teammates suspended after a sexual assault investigation weren't reinstated. Their boycott lasted less than 36 hours, with university leadership never blinking. The players backed down amid pressure from many who read details of the allegations.

WSU (8-5) ended on a three-game losing streak and was held to its lowest point total of the season. The Cougars had scored more than 50 points four times this season, a school record.

The Golden Gophers frustrated Falk most of the game, holding him to 264 yards — 86 below his average — on 30-of-51 passing. Falk didn't crack 200 yards until the final minutes, when he led a drive capped by an 8-yard TD pass to Kyle Sweet. After three tries due to Minnesota penalties, the conversion attempt failed. Minnesota then recovered an onside kick.

Falk came in having completed 71 percent of his passes in throwing for 4,204 yards and 37 touchdowns. The Cougars were ranked second in the nation in passing.

Falk was intercepted by Adekunle Ayinde on fourth down with 3:05 left. That set up Rodney Smith's 9-yard TD run with 2:06 left for a 17-6 lead.

WSU lead 6-3 after a lackluster first half that included just three field goals.

The Cougars couldn't get their vaunted Air Raid offense going and crossed the 50 just twice, getting field goals of 26 and 41 yards by Erik Powell.

Powell's second field goal was set up when Nnamdi Ogueyo hit Leidner and forced a fumble that Isaac Dotson recovered at the Golden Gophers' 38.

Minnesota got a 43-yard field goal by Emmit Carpenter in the second quarter.

■ **Up next**

Minnesota: Tensions remain between the school administration and the team, which backed down from a threat to skip this game if 10 teammates suspended after a sexual assault investigation weren't reinstated.

Washington State: Coach Mike Leach said Monday that Falk would return for his senior season rather than declaring for the NFL draft. However, Falk hasn't said anything officially, and Leach kept players off limits to the media during bowl week.

Army rushes past North Texas at Heart of Dallas Bowl

Associated Press

DALLAS — For Army coach Jeff Monken, there was never really a second thought about what to do on fourth down from the 3 on the opening possession of overtime.

Not with the way the triple-option Black Knights dominate running the ball and struggle kicking it.

Jordan Asberry took a toss and scored Army's sixth rushing touchdown in a 38-31 win over North Texas on Tuesday in a rematch at the Heart of Dallas Bowl.

"One of our goals is not flinch and believe no matter what," said quarterback Ahmad Bradshaw, who ran for 129 yards and a score. "A lot of people say it's a questionable call. ... We were determined to get it in."

The Black Knights (8-5) finished with 480 yards rushing, including 119 yards and two TDs by Darnell Woolfolk. Asberry's score was the 46th rushing touchdown this season, breaking the school record held by the 1945 national championship team that had two Heisman Trophy winners in the backfield.

North Texas (5-8) had its chance in overtime. But after Alec Morris scrambled for 4 yards and Jeffery Wilson lost 3, consecutive incomplete passes followed. The former Alabama graduate transfer threw for 304 yards and three TDs, but his desperation fourth-down throw on the run ended the game.

"We may not have accomplished our mission of winning our bowl game, but these men ... set a solid foundation of brotherhood," first-year coach Seth Littrell said.

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Ginger is a 4 year old calico. She is the proud mom of our spice kittens at the Enhanced Adoption Center. She and her kittens are now fully vetted and ready for their furr-ever homes.

HSBASKETBALLROUNDUP

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Girls

MCS WINS TWO, IN SEMIFINAL

KLONDIKE — No. 6-ranked Midland Christian rolled to a pair of blowout wins Tuesday in the Klondike Lady Cougars Holiday Classic.

Megan Ashton and Anaiz Galindo each scored 12 points to lead the Lady Mustangs (14-3) to a 62-8 rout of Klondike's JV team in the first game. Blaire Neatherlin then tallied a game-high 15 points in MCS' 67-22 thumping of Water Valley.

MCS will resume tournament play in the semifinal game against Forsan at 9:30 a.m. Thursday.

NO. 6 MCS 62, KLONDIKE 8

MCS (13-3) — Megan Ashton 12, Anaiz Galindo 12, Blaire Neatherlin 8, Makenzie Mondragon 8, Avery McKinney 8, Shea Fender 7, Kayla Ackerman 3, Lexi Deville 2, Daniella Anastasio 2

Klondike JV — Wiebe 3, Weaver 3, Smith 2

MCS	24	15	8	15—62
Klondike JV	0	0	8	0—8

Free throws — MCS 6-16; Klondike JV 0-2.
3-point goals — Klondike JV 2 (Wiebe, Weaver). Total fouls — MCS 3; Klondike JV 10. Fouled out — None.

NO. 6 MCS 67, WATER VALLEY 22

Water Valley — Sheppard 10, McCoy 6, M. Sheppard 3, Jordan 2, Hines 1

MCS (14-3) — Blaire Neatherlin 15, Avery McKinney 10, Kayla Ackerman 10, Anaiz Galindo 10, Daniella Anastasio 9, Megan Ashton 7, Makenzie Mondragon 4, Shea Fender 2

Water Valley	2	10	4	6—22
MCS	16	14	12	15—67

Free throws — Water Valley 2-5; MCS 4-10.
3-point goals — MCS 3 (Anastasio 3). Total fouls — Water Valley 12; MCS 9. Fouled out — Davila.
Next: MCS vs. Forsan in Klondike Lady Cougar Holiday Classic semifinal, 9:30 a.m. Thursday

TRINITY SPLITS PAIR OF GAMES

KLONDIKE — Behind a 28-point outburst, including seven 3-pointers from Reagan Long, Trinity rolled past Buena Vista, 57-35, on Tuesday to split its two games at the Klondike Lady Cougar Holiday Classic.

The Lady Chargers (4-8) dropped their first game, 25-21 against Monahans. Long led Trinity with 10 points in the loss.

Trinity resumes tournament play today.

MONAHANS 25, TRINITY 21

Trinity (3-8) — Julia Sharum 1, Audrey Spotts 2, Reagan Long 10, Rebecca Young 3, Karoline Watson 2, Megan Spotts 3

Monahans — Combs 3, Brandenburg 5, Carter 5, Grimer 2, Porras 7, Baltazar 3

Trinity	0	5	3	13—21
Monahans	2	11	8	4—25

Free throws — Trinity 5-14; Monahans 3-6
3-point goals — Trinity 2 (Long 2); Monahans 4 (Combs, Porras 2, Baltazar). Total fouls — Trinity 10; Monahans 16. Fouled out — None

TRINITY 57, BUENA VISTA 35

Buena Vista — Lozano 8, Garlick 7, Jhaveri 5, Sherwood 4, Penegar 5, Cameron 4, Bardy 2

Trinity (4-8) — Julia Sharum 9, Reagan Long 28, Rebecca Young 14, Megan Spotts 6

Buena Vista	7	8	9	11—35
Trinity	5	15	18	19—57

Free throws — Buena Vista 8-13; Trinity 2-16.
3-point — Buena Vista 1 (Penegar); Trinity 9 (Long 7, Sharum, Young). Total fouls — Buena Vista 14; Trinity 13. Fouled out — None
Next: Trinity at Klondike Lady Cougar Holiday Classic, TBA, today

Boys

NO. 6 TRINITY 71, IRA 37

KLONDIKE — Behind 20 points and 13 assists from freshman guard Ciro Baeza, No. 6 Trinity rolled past Ira on Tuesday at the Klondike Cougar Holiday Classic.

Evan Smith added 10 points and 11 rebounds for the Chargers (10-2), while Daniel Webb and Garrett Rosner each scored 14.

Trinity resumes tournament play at 2 p.m. today against Plains.

NO. 6 TRINITY 71, IRA 37

Trinity (10-2) — Daniel Webb 14, Garrett Rosner 14, Cooper Shipley 9, Ciro Baeza 20, Evan Smith 10, Lewis Ohlman 5

Ira — individual scoring unavailable

Trinity	30	15	20	6—71
Ira	6	10	6	15—37

Free throw information unavailable. 3-point goals — Trinity 8 (Rosner 4, Webb, Shipley 2 Baeza); Ira 1. Total fouls — Trinity 19; Ira 11. Fouled out — Rosner, Smith.
Next: Trinity vs Plains, 2 p.m. today

BJHC

From 1C

other organizers were able to bring in Lake Travis, one of the state's premier athletic programs.

"We just put out some feelers, talked to some coaches and was able to attract (Lake Travis)," said Torres. "We're one of the few tournaments that doesn't charge an entry fee, and that helps a ton.

"We've got a great deal with Insignia Hospitality Group. They own a couple of hotels here in town. The owner is a good friend of mine. They really take care of our teams and give them good deals and give the families good deals. It's a win-win for the teams with no entry fee. They get really good hotel rates and the families get hotel rates, and it brings in good revenue and good tax revenue for the city."

Johnston said one reason why some of the same programs return to play in the tournament year in and year out is because of its reputation of high-quality play. It has a certain level of respect and support in West Texas that is hard to ignore.

"As a whole, people respect the tournament, they think highly of the tournament and they're excited to be a part of it," Johnston said. "It's great for the basketball community in the Permian Basin. We've got quality programs, great coaches, great schools, and that has been consistent the last five, 10 years."

Christopher Hadorn contributed to this report

BJHCTEAMCAPSULES

COMPILED BY WILL KORN AND CHRISTOPHER HADORN

Boys

MIDLAND HIGH

Coach: Shannon Hooker
Record: 4-9
Players to watch: G/F Courtney McMarylon, Sr.; G Camran Rock, Sr.
Notes: Maybe the most athletic team in the tournament, the Bulldogs will look to use the BJHC as a springboard into the regular season's second half. Sweet-shooting guard Rock has been on a tear over the last month.

LEE

Coach: Justin Boswell
Record: 5-10
Players to watch: G Sema'J Davis, Sr.; G Avery Chambers, So.
Notes: The Rebels are improved with more playmaking ability than a year ago and are a on a three-game winning streak, their first since the 2013-14 season. New head coach Justin Boswell appears to have this team trending in the right direction.

ODESSA PERMIAN

Coach: Tim Thomas
Record: 6-6
Players to watch: F Anthony Thomas, Sr.; F Ozzy Terrazas, Jr.
Notes: The Panthers enter BJHC play having lost six of their last seven games. Four of those losses came by seven points or less, so Permian will be hungry to win early in this tournament.

ODESSA HIGH

Coach: Nate Bridges
Record: 6-9
Players to watch: G Issac Hernandez, Jr.; F Memo Anaya, Jr.
Notes: Similarly to Lee, the Bronchos are also a noticeably improved bunch under first-year head coach Nate Bridges. Third-year varsity starting guard Hernandez is the engine to the offense.

SAN ANGELO CENTRAL

Coach: Dustin Faught
Record: 11-5
Players to watch: G Isaiah Oliver, Sr.; F Luke Ramos, Sr.
Notes: No longer in the district with MHS, Lee, Permian and OHS but it should be interesting to see an old rival in action. Oliver can be explosive and the Bobcats also possess plenty of height.

BUSHLAND

Coach: Kendall Cogburn
Record: 5-4
Players to watch: G Colton Kirkland, Sr.; F Kyle Ray, Sr.
Notes: The tournament's lone Class 4A competitor in the boys' field. Bushland advanced to the regional quarterfinals last season and fell just eight points short of making it to the regional tournament. The Falcons shouldn't be overlooked. New head coach Cogburn directed Happy to the Class 1A state tournament last season.

PLAINVIEW

Coach: Leon Hagerman
Record: 8-6
Players to watch: F Bryson DeBerry, Sr.; F Beaux Bennett, Sr.
Notes: Another regional quarterfinalist from a year ago, the Bulldogs have plenty of weapons returning to make a real run at this year's tournament title.

HEREFORD

Coach: C.J. Villegas
Record: 4-4
Players to watch: G Caleb Martinez, Sr.; F Parker Lowrey, Sr.
Notes: The Whitefaces are no strangers to the BJHC, but have never reached the tournament's championship game. They'll look to change that this season.

Girls

LEE

Coach: Alfred Acosta
Record: 8-4
Players to watch: PG Karysa Edwards, Sr.; PG Braydyn Hill, So.; PF/C Madison Leavitt, Sr.; F/G Zion Niblett, Sr.
Notes: Under first-year head coach Alfred Acosta, the Lady Rebels have been spurred by their defense in the early going, a strength that helped them reach the regional tournament in 2015-16. ... Two of Lee's losses came against Class 6A No. 10 Plano West and defending Class 3A state champion Wall.

NO. 2 MIDLAND CLASSICAL

Coach: Carla Cunneen
Record: 12-3
Players to watch: PG Leia Beattie, Fr.; G Delanie Griffin, Sr.; G/F Makenna Beattie, Jr.; G/F Elleri Haest, Sr.
Notes: "They've got one of the best guards in the area," Midland High head coach Wes Torres says of Leia Beattie. ... MCA's only three losses are to 2015-16 Class 4A regional finalist Greenwood, last year's Class 3A regional semifinalist Denver City and No. 6 Midland Christian.

MIDLAND HIGH

Coach: Wes Torres
Record: 7-9
Players to watch: P Kaylyn Evans, Sr.; F Brittney Garza, Sr.; PG Taysha Rushton, Fr.; G Sadie Govan, So.
Notes: After going 3-8 to start the season, the Lady Bulldogs have won four of their last five. ... Rushton, a freshman sensation, has been her team's leading scorer in four of her team's last six games, including a 35-point showing against Monahans Dec. 9.

BUSHLAND

Coach: Bryan Lintner
Record: 9-7
Players to watch: C Jayla Norman, Sr.; PF Skylar Cleavinger, So.; PG Jaylee Sims, Jr.
Notes: Norman was the state tournament MVP and Sims made all-tournament team on the Bushland volleyball team that won the Class 4A state championship this year. ... Lintner, in his second year, coached as an assistant for 17 years under Texas coaching legend Joe Lombard at Canyon.

EL PASO EASTLAKE

Coach: Joi Woodard
Record: 10-6
Players to watch: P Athina Castanon, Sr.; SG/SF Jessika Espinoza, Jr.
Notes: Eastlake is the defending District 2-5A champion. ... MHS head coach Wes Torres says the Lady Falcons are traditionally a guard-oriented team, but this year they have skilled size to complement their backcourt play.

LAKE TRAVIS

Coach: Patrick Hinson
Record: 11-8
Players to watch: PG Aspen Howie, Sr.; C/PF Allie Dalle, Sr.; G Jordan Ott, Jr.
Notes: Howie is a University of Houston softball signee. ... The Lady Cavaliers play in a tough District 25-6A, which includes No. 6 Cedar Park Vista Ridge.

NO. 14 PLAINVIEW

Coach: Danny Wrenn
Record: 16-3
Players to watch: SF Harlee Davis, Sr.; SG Amela Dizdarevic, Sr.; PG Jade Nails, Sr.
Notes: Wrenn coached Plainview to three consecutive state championships between 2001-03 and took the Lady Bulldogs back to the state title game in 2004. ... Plainview has been one of the staples of Byron Johnston Tournament since its inception.

SCHEDULE

Byron Johnston Holiday Classic
Wednesday-Friday
Chaparral Center/MHS gym/Lee HS gym
Wednesday's games

Boys

10:30 a.m. — Odessa High vs. Hereford, Chap Center
1:30 p.m. — Plainview vs. Odessa Permian, Chap Center
4:30 p.m. — San Angelo Central vs. Lee, Chap Center
7:30 p.m. — Bushland vs. Midland High, Chap Center

Girls

9 a.m. — Lake Travis vs. Bushland, Chap Center
Noon — MCA vs. Plainview, Chap Center
3 p.m. — Bushland vs. Lee, Chap Center
6 p.m. — El Paso Eastlake vs. MHS, Chap Center

Thursday's games

Boys

9:30 a.m. — Lee vs. Plainview, Chap Center
9:30 a.m. — San Angelo Central vs. Odessa Permian, MHS gym
12:30 p.m. — MHS vs. Hereford, Chap Center
12:30 p.m. — Bushland vs. Odessa High, MHS gym
3:30 p.m. — Plainview vs. San Angelo Central, Chap Center
7:30 p.m. — Hereford vs. Bushland, MHS gym
7:30 p.m. — Odessa Permian vs. Lee, Lee HS gym
7:30 p.m. — Odessa High vs. MHS, Chap Center

Girls

8 a.m. — Lee vs. MCA, Chap Center
8 a.m. — Lake Travis vs. El Paso Eastlake, MHS gym
11 a.m. — MHS vs. Bushland, Chap Center
2 p.m. — MCA vs. Lake Travis, Chap Center
6 p.m. — El Paso Eastlake vs. Lee, Lee HS gym
8 p.m. — Plainview vs. MHS, Chap Center

Friday's games

Boys

10 a.m. — 5th place game, Chap Center
10:30 a.m. — 7th place game, MHS gym
1 p.m. — 3rd place game, Chap Center
4 p.m. — Championship game, Chap Center

Girls

8:30 a.m. — Bushland vs. El Paso Eastlake, Chap Center
9 a.m. — Plainview vs. Lake Travis, MHS gym
11:30 a.m. — MHS vs. MCA, Chap Center
2:30 p.m. — Lee vs. Plainview, Chap Center

Harden, Rockets top Mavs in technical-marred game

By Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press

DALLAS — James Harden scored 34 points and the Houston Rockets completed a four-game season sweep of Dallas, beating the Mavericks 123-107 on Tuesday night in a game marred by eight technical fouls.

Harden had 24 points at halftime and finished with 11 assists without playing in the fourth quarter. The Rockets broke a 37-all tie in the second with a 16-0 run and improved to 13-2 in December.

With two games left in the month, Houston can tie the franchise record of 15 wins from November 1996.

Five of the technicals came during the third quarter, and another during the break before the fourth when Houston's Trevor Ariza was assessed his second technical and ejected.

There were also two flagrant fouls, both against Dallas.

Most of the technicals came during dead-ball situations, with players and Dallas coach Rick Carlisle complaining to officials. Carlisle mockingly clapped at the refs, saying "good call," after he was whistled for one.

Harrison Barnes scored 21 for the last-place Mavericks, who lost their second straight following their first two-game winning streak of the season.

The game started with a bit of an edge when Harden had a couple of sharp exchanges with Dallas center Andrew Bogut, who returned after missing 11 games with a right knee injury. Bogut got one of the flagrant calls on a hard screen that staggered Harden, who had one of the third-quarter technicals.

There were a couple of face-to-face confrontations, the first ending in double technicals in the second quarter for Dallas' Justin Anderson and Nene. Later in the quarter, Houston's Ryan Anderson went nose-to-nose with Dallas star Dirk Nowitzki without a technical being called.

The Mavericks started their projected starting five for just the fourth time, and first since a 128-90 loss at Cleveland on Nov. 25. The lineup is winless.

Bogut and Nowitzki, in his third game back from his latest absence for a sore right Achilles tendon, stayed in the locker room at halftime. Bogut went scoreless with six rebounds in 10 minutes, and Nowitzki scored seven points.

Harden was 9 of 16 from the field and made all 12 of his free throws as the Rockets shot 53 from the field and 3-point range, where they made 15 of 38. Harden and Anderson, who scored 22 points, were both 4 of 7 from long range against the league's worst defensive team at the arc.

Walker leads Kent State past Texas 63-58

Associated Press

AUSTIN — When Kent State's best scorer and rebounder was temporarily assigned to the bench with foul trouble early in the second half on Tuesday night, the Golden Flashes did not fall apart.

Instead, they thrived. Jaylin Walker scored 16 of his 24 points in the second half, helping Kent State overcome a six-point deficit and defeat Texas 63-58.

Deon Edwin scored 15 for Kent State (8-5), including 13 in the second half, and grabbed 12 rebounds. Kent State out rebounded Texas 53-34.

Jarrett Allen led Texas (6-6) with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Kerwin Roach, Jr. added 13 points.

Forward Jimmy Hall, who averages 18.3 points and 11.3 rebounds, left the game with four fouls with 14:54 remaining. The Golden Flashes trailed by six at the time, but rallied without Hall.

TOP 25 FARED

Men

1. Villanova (12-0) did not play. Next: vs DePaul, Wednesday.
2. UCLA (13-0) did not play. Next: at No. 20 Oregon, Wednesday.
3. Kansas (11-1) did not play. Next: at TCU, Friday.
4. Baylor (12-0) did not play. Next: at Oklahoma, Friday.
5. Duke (12-1) did not play. Next: at Virginia Tech, Saturday.
6. Louisville (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 12 Virginia, Wednesday.
7. Gonzaga (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Pepperdine, Thursday.
8. Kentucky (10-2) did not play. Next: at Mississippi, Thursday.
9. North Carolina (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. Monmouth (N.J.), Wednesday.
10. Creighton (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Seton Hall, Wednesday.
11. West Virginia (11-1) did not play. Next: at Oklahoma State, Friday.
12. Virginia (10-1) did not play. Next: at No. 6 Louisville, Wednesday.
13. Butler (11-1) did not play. Next: at St. John's, Thursday.
14. Wisconsin (12-2) beat Rutgers 72-52. Next: at No. 16 Indiana, Tuesday.
15. Purdue (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. Iowa, Wednesday.
16. Indiana (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Nebraska, Wednesday.
17. Xavier (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Providence, Wednesday.
18. Arizona (11-2) did not play. Next: at California, Friday.
19. Saint Mary's (10-1) did not play. Next: at Loyola Marymount, Thursday.
20. Florida State (12-1) did not play. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Wednesday.
21. Oregon (11-2) did not play. Next: at No. 2 UCLA, Wednesday.
22. Southern Cal (13-0) did not play. Next: at Oregon State, Wednesday.
23. Cincinnati (10-2) did not play. Next: at Temple, Wednesday.
24. Notre Dame (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Saint Peter's, Wednesday.
25. Florida (9-3) did not play. Next: at Arkansas, Thursday.

Women

1. UConn (11-0) did not play. Next: at No. 4 Maryland, Thursday.
2. Notre Dame (12-1) beat Chattanooga 79-58. Next: at N.C. State, Thursday.
3. Baylor (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Kansas State, Thursday.
4. Maryland (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 1 UConn, Thursday.
5. Mississippi State (13-0) did not play. Next: vs. Northwestern State, Wednesday.
6. South Carolina (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Alabama, Sunday.
7. Florida State (12-1) did not play. Next: at No. 11 Miami, Thursday.
8. Louisville (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 25 Syracuse, Thursday.
9. Washington (12-1) vs. Washington State. Next: at Oregon, Friday.
10. UCLA (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Utah, Friday.
11. Miami (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 7 Florida State, Thursday.
12. West Virginia (12-0) did not play. Next: at TCU, Thursday.
13. Stanford (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Yale, Wednesday.
14. Ohio State (10-4) did not play. Next: vs. Minnesota, Wednesday.
15. Duke (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 17 Kentucky, Thursday.
16. Texas (6-4) did not play. Next: vs. Texas Tech, Thursday.
17. Kentucky (9-3) did not play. Next: at No. 15 Duke, Thursday.
18. Arizona State (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 13 Stanford, Friday.
19. Virginia Tech (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Delaware State, Friday.
20. Colorado (10-1) did not play. Next: at Southern Cal, Friday.
21. California (12-0) did not play. Next: at Arizona, Thursday.
22. Oregon State (10-1) vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff. Next: vs. Washington State, Friday.
23. South Florida (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Stetson, Friday.
24. Oklahoma (9-3) did not play. Next: at Kansas, Thursday.
25. Syracuse (9-4) did not play. Next: at No. 8 Louisville, Thursday.

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

CELTICS 113-WIN GRIZZLIES 103

BOSTON — Avery Bradley scored 23 points, Isaiah Thomas had 21 points and seven assists, and the Boston Celtics held off the Memphis Grizzlies 113-103 on Tuesday night.

Gerald Green added a season-high 19 points and Jae Crowder scored 17 for Boston, which won for the sixth time in seven games and beat the Grizzlies for the second time in a week. The Celtics needed overtime and a career-high 44 points from Thomas for a 112-109 win in Memphis last Tuesday.

Marc Gasol had 26 points and nine assists for Memphis. Zach Randolph scored 10 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter to help keep the Grizzlies close and pulled down 10 rebounds. Tony Allen had 17 points and eight rebounds for Memphis, which was coming off a 112-102 loss in Orlando the night before but hung with Boston until the final minute.

The Grizzlies, who fell to 8-1 in the second of back-to-back games this season, have lost five of seven.

After falling behind by 13 in the second quarter, Memphis pulled within 56-48 at halftime and cut the margin to 69-67 on Allen's layup with 5:16 left in the third.

Boston led 84-77 after three, but the Grizzlies kept within range behind Randolph and Gasol in the fourth quarter. Randolph scored Memphis' first six points of the period and Gasol pounded the Celtics inside and out, converting a three-point play early and adding a 3-pointer with 5 minutes remaining to cut Boston's lead to 100-97.

The Celtics didn't falter, getting a pair of free throws from Green and a three-point play by Thomas to make it 105-97 with 3:06 left. They put away Memphis down the stretch after the Grizzlies pulled within 105-101 on a 3-pointer by James Ennis III.

THUNDER 106 HEAT 94

MIAMI — Russell Westbrook got his 15th triple-double of the season by the midpoint of the third quarter, and the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the Miami Heat 106-94 on Tuesday night to extend their winning streak to four games.

Westbrook finished with 29 points, 17 rebounds and 11 assists. He was two rebounds shy of the triple-double at halftime, and now has six before the end of third quarters this season.

Enes Kanter scored 19 and Steven Adams added 15 — including a highlight-reel dunk in the first half — for the Thunder.

Josh Richardson tied a career high with 22 points for the Heat. James Johnson scored 16 and Tyler Johnson added 15, both off the bench, for Miami.

The Heat were without point guard Goran Dragic, sidelined by back spasms.

Oklahoma City dominated in the paint, outscoring Miami 58-32. And Westbrook simply controlled play, making 11 of 22 shots from the field and then scoring 11 points in the fourth to help the Thunder close out the win.

"They see the numbers and what he does in games. They don't get a chance to see behind the scenes," Thunder coach Billy Donovan said. "The one thing I admire about him is he practices every single day. He comes to every shootaround and he practices. He puts the time in and that's the reason why he's as successful as he is."

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	22	8	.733	—
Boston	19	13	.594	4
New York	16	14	.533	6
Brooklyn	9	22	.267	14
Philadelphia	7	23	.233	15

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Charlotte	17	14	.548	—
Atlanta	15	16	.484	2
Washington	14	16	.467	2½
Orlando	15	18	.455	3
Miami	10	22	.313	7½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	23	7	.767	—
Chicago	15	16	.484	6½
Milwaukee	14	15	.483	6½
Indiana	15	17	.469	9
Detroit	13	16	.455	9½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	25	6	.806	—
Houston	24	9	.727	2
Memphis	20	14	.588	6½
New Orleans	15	21	.384	14
Dallas	9	23	.281	16½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	20	12	.625	—
Utah	18	13	.581	1½
Denver	13	18	.419	6½
Portland	13	20	.394	7½
Minnesota	10	21	.323	9½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	27	5	.844	—
L.A. Clippers	22	11	.667	5½
Sacramento	14	17	.452	12½
L.A. Lakers	12	22	.353	16
Phoenix	9	22	.290	17½

Scores and schedule

Tuesday's games

Boston 113, Memphis 103
Oklahoma City 106, Miami 94
Houston 123, Dallas 107
Utah at L.A. Lakers, late

Today's games

Charlotte at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Indiana at Washington, 6 p.m.
Milwaukee at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at Chicago, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Denver, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Portland, 9 p.m.
Toronto at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES

Men

EAST
Northeastern 87, Penn St. 77
Syracuse 80, Cornell 55
SOUTH
Maryland 84, Illinois 69
South Carolina 80, Lander 62
Tennessee St. 81, Covenant 50
VCU 85, Howard 51
MIDWEST
Wisconsin 72, Rutgers 52
SOUTHWEST
Kent St. 63, Texas 58

Women

EAST
Drexel 62, George Mason 71
SOUTH
FIU 58, UMass 57
Notre Dame 79, Chattanooga 58
Richmond 54, Morgan St. 37

NFL has issues, but Cowboys making it fun again

By Tim Dahlberg
Associated Press

■ COMMENTARY

Just when it seemed the NFL was losing its tight grip on America's fans, America's team came riding to the rescue.

OK, so maybe the Dallas Cowboys didn't exactly ride to the rescue, though Jerry Jones might take credit for it anyway. But their surprising run behind a pair of spectacular rookies has helped turn into must-watch TV what was shaping up to be a rare down season for the NFL.

The Cowboys didn't do it all by themselves. The man who will likely go down as the greatest NFL quarterback ever is putting on another show in New England, the Oakland Raiders are winners once again, and Los Angeles finally has the Rams back.

Meanwhile, Roger Goodell for the most part hasn't had to rush around putting out fires, though the decline in TV ratings earlier this season should be reason for caution.

It's an indication the NFL is overexposed, and a good reason why Thursday football should be sacrificed for the greater good of the league. There's nothing special about a Thursday night NFL game, which does little for the league other than fatten owners' wallets.

But a season that started with Tom Brady on enforced sabbatical and Colin Kaepernick on his knee just may end with the Cowboys making a deep run in the playoffs for the first time in more than 20 years. And that has to make TV executives and the league's billionaire owners even giddier than they usually are at this time of year.

Imagine, if you will, the Cowboys and Pittsburgh Steelers facing off in the Super Bowl in a reprise of their 1970s rivalry. Could happen, and then the talk will be of record TV ratings instead of people turning off their sets.

These should be good times in the NFL, where stadiums are for the most part full and the value of teams keeps rising. Television money keeps pouring in by the billions and players remain tied to a long-term deal that is the most favorable for management in major sports.

Football is by far the most popular sport in America. Just the thought of luring the Raiders to Las Vegas was so exciting to Nevada legislators that they quickly offered $750 million in new taxes to get it done.

But there were far more Raiders fans than Chargers faithful late in the season in their matchup at San Diego, where fans are being held hostage by a team intent on getting taxpayer money of its own. And there are other issues that left unattended might someday threaten the popularity of the game.

Chief among them is that the NFL remains a very violent place, despite a number of initiatives designed to cut down on the kind of blows to the head that cause brains to be scrambled early and often.

Concussions remain a vexing issue, as anyone who has watched Cam Newton take a hit to the head can empathize with. The NFL is finally dealing with the issue after pretending for years that it didn't exist, but nearly every game seems to have at least one player go down from a debilitating head hit.

There are also issues with how penalties are called, and fans have grown increasingly frustrated with the ubiquitous TV commercials that make some games nearly unwatchable. The NFL took the commercial issue seriously enough to experiment late in the season with a "Back in 30 seconds" promise for some ad breaks.

Still, there's sameness to most games, made worse by the fact there are too many teams not ready for prime time that get put there anyway.

There are prime-time games three nights a week, and many of them are not top matchups. The Thursday night games feel particularly out of place, and the quality of play reflects that: teams don't have enough time to prepare and many players are not sufficiently healed from the week before.

Meanwhile, the Monday night lineup that used to be the star of prime time has suffered from bad matchups and a lack of compelling personalities.

None of it means the NFL — now a $13 billion a year business — is going away anytime soon. Far from it, though the softness in ratings and the continuing cord-cutting by cable subscribers have to be worrisome to a league built on TV.

The new reality may be that the NFL simply can't take things for granted anymore. A league that has grown increasingly insular will have to reach out more to its fans and make more of an effort to connect them with the game.

The arrogance of recent years doesn't work anymore. The NFL has to adapt to the new reality that it must work harder for its fans.

Then again, if the Cowboys and Steelers meet in the Super Bowl, the league will probably be good for at least another 10 years.

Bills fire coach Rex Ryan ahead of last game of season

By John Wawrow
Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Rex Ryan's inability to back up his boasts of building a bully — particularly on defense — in Buffalo led to the Bills firing their high-profile coach one game short of completing his second full season.

Terry Pegula, who made Ryan's hiring his first big splash as owner, was the person who informed Ryan of his dismissal Tuesday. The decision came three days after a 34-31 overtime loss to Miami which eliminated Buffalo (7-8) from contention, and extended the NFL's longest active playoff drought to 17 years.

"We mutually agreed that that the time to part ways is now," Pegula said in a statement released by the team. "These decisions are never easy."

Pegula then noted his wife in saying: "Kim and I and our entire Bills organization share in the same disappointment and frustration as our fans, but we remain committed to our goal of bringing a championship to western New York."

Ryan had three years remaining on his contract

General manager Doug Whaley's job appears secure after being put in charge of the Bills coaching search, the team's third in four years. Buffalo is also moving on to its eighth coach since the playoff drought began during Wade Phillips' final year as coach in 2000.

Ryan replaced Doug Marrone, who opted out of his contract following a 9-7 finish in 2014, and three months after the Pegulas purchased the Bills from the estate of Hall of Fame owner Ralph Wilson.

Assistant head coach and offensive coordinator Anthony Lynn will coach the Bills in their season finale at the New York Jets (4-11) on Sunday. Lynn is also considered a candidate to replace Ryan permanently because of his familiarity with an offense that is closing in on leading the NFL in rushing for a second consecutive season.

Lynn, a long-time Ryan assistant, was promoted to coordinator in September, when Ryan fired Greg Roman after an 0-2 start.

The 54-year-old Ryan appeared emotionally drained during a 20-minute news conference Monday.

He called the loss to Miami his most painful as a Bills coach, and the second-most painful in his 20 NFL seasons as a coach or assistant. Ryan also second-guessed some of the decisions he made during the game, including punting from his own 41 with a little over four minutes left in overtime. He said he hoped the loss wouldn't become his defining moment in Buffalo.

"But if it is, it's something I've got to live with," he said.

Bills defensive lineman Leger Douzable voiced his displeasure with Ryan's firing on his Twitter account.

"I'm tired of people talking about the 17 year drought REX was here for 2 of those years hard to build a winner if coach changes every two years," Douzable wrote in a series of posts.

NFL GLANCE

Standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	13	2	0	.867	406	236
x-Miami	10	5	0	.667	349	345
Buffalo	7	8	0	.467	389	348
N.Y. Jets	4	11	0	.267	245	399
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Houston	9	6	0	.600	262	304
Tennessee	8	7	0	.533	357	361
Indianapolis	7	8	0	.467	387	372
Jacksonville	3	12	0	.200	298	376
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Pittsburgh	10	5	0	.667	372	303
Baltimore	8	7	0	.533	333	294
Cincinnati	5	9	1	.367	298	305
Cleveland	1	14	0	.067	240	425
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Oakland	12	3	0	.800	410	361
x-Kansas City	11	4	0	.733	352	284
Denver	8	7	0	.533	309	291
San Diego	5	10	0	.333	383	386

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Dallas	13	2	0	.867	408	279
x-N.Y. Giants	10	5	0	.667	291	274
Washington	8	6	1	.567	386	364
Philadelphia	6	9	0	.400	340	318
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Atlanta	10	5	0	.667	502	374
Tampa Bay	8	7	0	.533	337	353
New Orleans	7	8	0	.467	437	416
Carolina	6	9	0	.400	353	385
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	9	6	0	.600	401	364
Detroit	9	6	0	.600	322	327
Minnesota	7	8	0	.467	289	297
Chicago	3	12	0	.200	269	361
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Seattle	9	5	1	.633	329	269
Arizona	6	8	1	.433	374	356
Los Angeles	4	11	0	.267	218	350
San Francisco	2	13	0	.133	286	455

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Scores and schedules

Sunday's games

New England at Miami, noon
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, noon
Carolina at Tampa Bay, noon
Dallas at Philadelphia, noon
Houston at Tennessee, noon
Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, noon
Chicago at Minnesota, noon
Baltimore at Cincinnati, noon
Jacksonville at Indianapolis, noon
Seattle at San Francisco, 3:25 p.m.
New Orleans at Atlanta, 3:25 p.m.
Kansas City at San Diego, 3:25 p.m.
Arizona at Los Angeles, 3:25 p.m.
Oakland at Denver, 3:25 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Washington, 3:25 p.m.
Green Bay at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.

COWBOYS

From 1C

and as well-prepared and have as much experience as he can when we get in the playoffs."

Prescott was reminded after the Lions game that Oakland's Derek Carr and Tennessee's Marcus Mariota had their seasons end with broken legs in Week 16.

"It's football," Prescott said. "You think about those things, they happen. You're just reacting and playing ball. You have to take those chances."

Jones has a different view on the injury issue with Romo, who hasn't played since Thanksgiving last year. The question is whether he needs snaps in a game to be better prepared to replace an injured Prescott in the playoffs. Coach Jason Garrett hasn't addressed the question of whether Romo will play.

"We don't feel like we can gain anything from him running a few plays or a series of plays or several plays," Jones said. "It would not be worth the risk."

Elliott is more cautious than his rookie roommate, saying there's a "bigger purpose" than the NFL rushing leader reaching Dickerson's mark of 1,808 yards from 1983. The former Ohio State star has 1,631 yards and would need 178 against the Eagles. He had his career high of 159 in Week 15 against Tampa Bay.

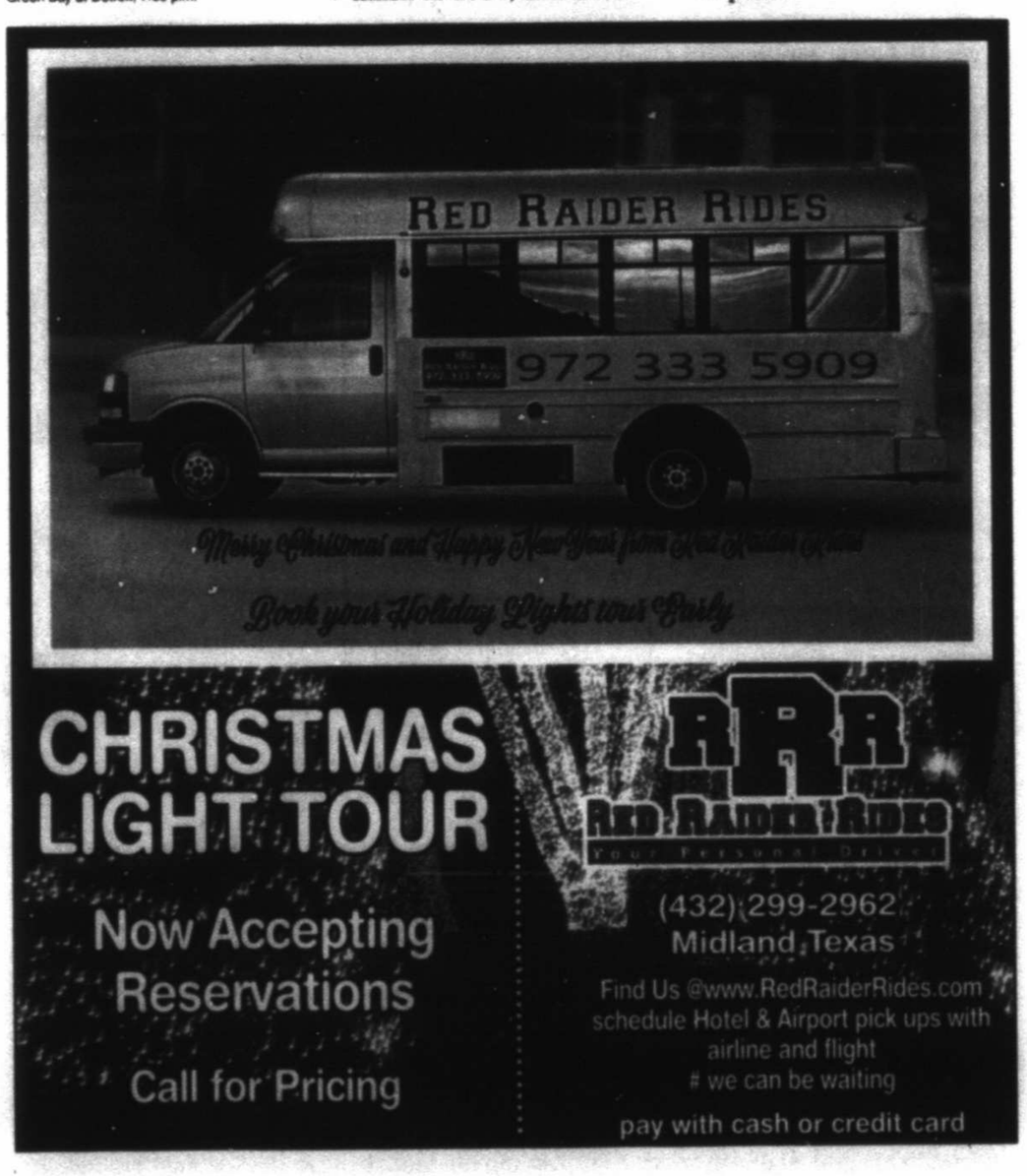
But that doesn't mean Elliott's approach is any different from Prescott's. The Cowboys weren't holding back either, using a trick play against Detroit to get receiver Dez Bryant his first career touchdown pass on a reverse pitch and throw to tight end Jason Witten.

"We want to go out and win ballgames every week," said Elliott, who has the third-highest rookie rushing total behind Dickerson and George Rogers (1,674 with New Orleans in 1981). "We don't care if we have the playoff spot clinched. We don't care if we have home field clinched. We just want to win ballgames."

By beating the Eagles, the best rookie quarterback and running back in franchise history will have the ultimate club mark: victories.

Notes

LT Tyron Smith left the Detroit game with a right knee injury. While Garrett said the injury doesn't appear serious, the Pro Bowler likely won't play against the Eagles. ... DT Terrell McClain didn't return because of an ankle injury, but Jones said it was a precautionary move. The Cowboys were down to four healthy defensive linemen at the end of the game.



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WEDNESDAY PRIME TIME — DECEMBER 28, 2016

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	C	5	8	4	3	2	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
BROADCAST	KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Goldberg	Speechless	Modern Family	Black-ish "VIP"	Match Game		Local 2 News/ 10 Live	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
	KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	Undercover Boss (N)		MacGyver "Wrench"		Criminal Minds "Taboo"		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert		(:35) J.Corden
	KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S* H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	MacGyver "Every Time She Smiles"		Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Jealous Journalist"		Twilight Zone
	KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Pre-game (L)	NCAA Football Foster Farms Bowl Indiana vs. Utah Site: Levi's Stadium -- Santa Clara, Calif. (L)							Fox 24 News	Met Your Mother
	KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Shepherd's Heart		Update News	Aleph Course	Light of the Southwest "Part 1"		Light of the Southwest "Part 2"		Update News	In Touch With Dr. Charles Stanley		Walking
	KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	NewsWest 9 Now	SVU "Heightened Emotions"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Rape Interrupted"		Chicago P.D. "All Cylinders Firing"		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
	KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Nature		Nova "Building Pharaoh's Chariot"		Egypt's Treasure Guardians (N)		Charlie Rose (N)		Newsline	Tavis Smiley
	KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		Despertar contigo		Vino el amor		El color de la pasion		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto	Deportivo
	KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	Agents of SHIELD		Agents of SHIELD		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0	Access H.
PREMIUM	FLIX	340	575		165		Movie	(:35) ★ ★ Summer of Sam ('99, Cri) John Leguizamo.					★ ★ ★ Dressed to Kill			(:45) ★ ★ Frankenhooker		
	HBO	300	550	14	14		(5:30) ★ My Big Fat...		(:10) ★ Hail, Caesar! Josh Brolin.				Real Sports		Fight (N)	Boxing	Boxing (N)	
	HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	Thrones "Second Sons"		Game of Thrones		Thrones "Mhysa"		(:05) ★ Keanu			(:45) Vice		
	HBO5	304	552	16	102		PMuerte	(:25) ★ ★ Bride Wars			★ In the Heart of the Sea Chris Hemsworth.				(:05) ★ ★ Self/ Less Ben Kingsley.			
	MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:20) ★ Krampus		★ ★ ★ ★ Crimson Tide Gene Hackman.				★ ★ ★ American Gangster Denzel Washington.					Movie
	MAX2	382	558	18	122		★ ★ Friday Night Lights				★ ★ ★ Blood and Wine			(:45) ★ Traders Killian Scott.			(:15) ★ The Village	
	PLEX			96			(5:20) ★ Guarding Te...		★ ★ In Good Company				(:50) ★ ★ The Open Road			(:25) ★ ★ ★ Driving Lessons		
	SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	Homeland		Homeland "Crossfire"		Homeland				Homeland "The Vest"	Homeland "Marine One"		Movie
	TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(4:40) ★ ★ Flyboys		★ ★ The Alamo ('04, West) Dennis Quaid.						★ ★ ★ Hidalgo ('04, Dra) Viggo Mortensen.			
CABLE	A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Going Sir-al (N)	Wahlburgers (N)	Remini: Scientology "Golden Era"		(:35) Duck Dynasty	(:05) Duck Dynasty	(:35) Duck Dynasty
	AMC	40	74	23	42	51	BreakBad	Breaking Bad		Breaking Bad		(:35) BreakBad "Bug"		(:40) Breaking Bad		(:45) Breaking Bad		BreakBad
	BET	58	-		40		(4:00) ★ The Man In ...		★ ★ Lakeview Terrace ('08, Thril) Samuel L. Jackson.						An Obama Celebration			
	BRAVO	65	76		41		VanderR "No Show"		Beverly "Pantygate"		Housewives Atlanta		Married to Medicine		Watch	H.Wives "100th Episode Special"		
	CNBC	46	52		39	72	Blue	Blue Collar	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
	CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		CNN Special Report		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360		CNN Special Report	
	DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Alaskan Bush People		Alaskan Bush People		Bush People (N)		Croc Gold (N)		Bush "Raised Wild"		Alaskan Bush People	
	DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Underc.	★ Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rod...		Underc.		Liv/Mad	Friends	StuckMid	(:50) Mickey	Girl M.	Austin
	ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	(4:30) NCAA Football Russell Athletic Bowl (L)				NCAA Football Texas Bowl Texas A&M vs. Kansas State Site: NRG Stadium (L)							SportsC
	ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball Virginia at Louisville (L)				NCAA Basketball UCLA at Oregon (L)				SportsCenter			S.Sci.
	FNC	45	48	53	23	55	On the Record		The Kelly File		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
	FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Cooks vs. Cons		Cuthroat (N)		Cooks vs. Cons (N)		Cooks vs. Cons		Holiday Baking		Cooks vs. Cons	
	FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(5:30) ★ ★ ★ Despicable Me		★ Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian						The 700 Club		★ ★ ★ ★ Matilda	
	FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	NCAA Basketball Providence at Xavier Site: Cintas Center -- Cincinnati, Ohio (L)				H.S. Football UIL State Championship 6A Division II						Under the Lights	Bowl Special
	FX	31	56	59	64	69	(4:30) ★ American R...		★ ★ This Is 40 (2012, Comedy) Leslie Mann. Megan Fox, Paul Rudd.						★ ★ This Is 40 ('12, Com) Paul Rudd.			
	HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	(5:00) ★ A Nutcrack...		★ A Crown for Christmas Danica McKellar.						★ My Christmas Love ('16) Meredith Hagner.		★ Family for Chris...	
	HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Property Brothers		Property Brothers		Property Brothers		H.Hunt	House	Buying and Selling		Property Brothers	
	HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers		Vikings		Vikings (N)				Vikings		Vikings	
	LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Little Women: Dallas		Little Women: LA - A Little Extra		Little Women: LA		Little Women: Dallas		Little Women: Dallas		Little Women: LA - A Little Extra	
	MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All In With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		11thHour	Hardball	Rachel Maddow	
	NBCSN	38	43				NHL Live! (L)		NHL Hockey Philadelphia Flyers at St. Louis Blues (L)					(:45) NHL Overtime (L)		Sport (N)	Sport (N)	Sport (N)
	NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Thunder	Thunder	GShakers	Sponge	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
	SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	(4:30) ★ Training Day		★ ★ ★ Four Brothers ('05, Act) Mark Wahlberg.						★ ★ The Expendables ('10, Act) Eric Roberts, Jet Li.			
	SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	★ ★ Snowpiercer ('14, Sci-Fi) Jamie Bell, Tilda Swinton, Chris Evans.						Incorporated (N)			★ ★ ★ Tremors ('90, Hor) Kevin Bacon.		
	TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Search Party	People "Pilot"	People of Earth	People of Earth	People of Earth	People of Earth	People of Earth	People of Earth	People of Earth	People of Earth	Wrecked	Wrecked
	TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(4:30) ★ North by N...		★ Pleasure Cruise				★ ★ ★ Wedding Rehearsal			★ The Man Who Could Work		★ Topper
	TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		Silvana Sin Lana		La Doña		El Chema		Al rojo	(:35) Titular	La Doña	
	TLC	51	61	32	38	52	My 600-lb Life: Transformed "Chay" (N)			My 600-lb Life: Transformed "Pauline" (N)			My Kid's Obsession (N)		My 600-lb Life: Transformed "Chay"			600-lb "Pauline"
	TNT	24	34	40	26	50	Animal Kingdom "Animals"		Animal Kingdom "Man In"		Animal Kingdom "Judas Kiss"		Animal King "What Have You Done"		Arrow "Tremors"		Arrow "Heir to the Demon"	
	TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	Griffith	A. Griffith	Griffith	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Younger	Impastor	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
	USA	26	55	42	27	49	NCIS "Crescent City" Pt. 1 of 2 cont'd next		NCIS "Crescent City" 2/2		NCIS "Page Not Found"		NCIS "Alleged"		Modern Family	Modern "Hawaii"	Modern Family	Modern "The Kiss"
	WGN	19	85				Cops	Cops	★ ★ Troy ('04, Act) Orlando Bloom, Brad Pitt. The Prince of Troy starts a war when he leads the Queen of Sparta away from her husband.						Mother "Noretta"	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother

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An entertaining year in golf inside and outside the ropes

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

Jason Day ends the year at No. 1 in the world ranking, another indicator of how much and for how long Tiger Woods dominated golf.

This is the eighth straight year that a different player was at No. 1 in the final world ranking — Woods in 2009, Lee Westwood in 2010, Luke Donald in 2011, Rory McIlroy in 2012, Woods in 2013, McIlroy in 2014, Jordan Spieth in 2015.

Dating to 1998, Woods was at No. 1 in the final ranking in 11 out of 12 years.

Woods ends this year at No. 652, because he didn't play for 15 months until the Hero World Challenge in December. What happens next year?

"He's got to go play," Jack Nicklaus said. "If he plays, he'll find out if he can come back or not."

In the meantime, there still was plenty of action without him, and an endless supply of entertainment. From inside and outside the ropes, here is this year's collection of "Tales from the Tour" before moving on to another year.

During the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, an Australian journalist was at Spyglass Hill following Jordan Spieth and Dustin Johnson, along with their amateur partners, country singer Jake Owen and hockey great Wayne Gretzky. At the end of the round, the journalist couldn't find a shuttle back to the main press center at Pebble Beach. Gretzky spotted him and offered a ride.

Gretzky grinned as he recounted the conversation.

"Mate, I've never seen a hockey match, but I trust you were better at hockey than you are at golf?" the journalist inquired.

"Well," Gretzky replied, "I did well enough that they invited me to play in the tournament."

"Oh, that's great, good for you," said the journalist, oblivious to Gretzky's sport, his career or that his nickname is "The Great One."

Nothing annoys PGA Tour caddies more at the Sony Open than a sign with large block letters outside the clubhouse door at Waialae Country Club.

"NO CADDIES."

Caddies are not allowed in the clubhouse at other tournaments, though none has such a contemptuous sign on the door.

The club had no choice but to bend the rules by the end of the week.

Fabian Gomez of Argentina won the Sony Open in a playoff over Brandt Snedeker. A tradition at the Sony Open is for the winner to speak to members in the clubhouse dining room. Gomez doesn't have a great command of English, and so he summoned Jose Luis Campra, a fellow Argentine, to help him with the speech.

Campra is the caddie for Emiliano Grillo.

Patrick Reed isn't afraid to dish it out to anyone, and neither is Phil Mickelson.

They were paired at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, and during a backup on the par-3 14th hole at Monterey Peninsula, Reed noticed the watch on Mickelson's wrist.

"Isn't it time for an upgrade?" Reed said.

Lefty looked at his Rolex and then stood on his soap box to explain to this youngster the way of life and watches.

"You're right," Mickelson said. "This is a 'classique.' This is 10 years old. See, what young people don't quite understand is that new doesn't always mean better. Sometimes style is found in the classic, elegant look."

Reed waited for Mickelson to finish and replied, "Thanks, Grandpa."

As usual, Mickelson had an answer. He smiled at Reed and said, "Yeah, well, Grandpa just blew it by you 20 yards on the last two holes."

LeBron

From 1C

Chicago Cubs third baseman Kris Bryant, the NL MVP who led his team to its first World Series title since 1908, tied for fourth with Golden State star guard Stephen Curry, last year's winner. Cristiano Ronaldo, Von Miller and Andy Murray also received votes.

James joined Michael Jordan as the only NBA players to win twice. Jordan won it three straight years from 1991-94.

U.S. Olympic gymnast Simone Biles was named AP's top female athlete on Monday.

A rabid sports fan, James was flattered to be in the same class with Phelps, the 23-time gold medalist who added five more to his record collection at the Rio Olympics.

"To be that dominant in your respective sport, to see what he's been able to do over the years, what he does in that water, man, it's tremendous and very inspiring," James said. "When you have that type of tenure to be able to dominate, when you know that the entire competition is gearing up to beat you — and only you — and you're still able to come away No. 1 or always be at the top of the food chain, that's very inspiring."

That James received the honor in an Olympic year underscores the weight of his accomplishments.

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

Each set of letters below is arranged alphabetically, and the ? is in the correct alphabetical position. Figure out what letter the ? represents, and then rearrange the letters to spell a six-letter word. For example, in HH?RTY the ? could be an H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q or R. Here it represents an M, which can be combined with the other letters to spell RHYTHM. The first letter is placed to get you started.

C E E ? L L O
C _ _ _ _ _ _

C E I ? R T W
C _ _ _ _ _ _

A D D E ? O R
R _ _ _ _ _ _

Yesterday's Answer: ZANY, YARN, RANG, GRIN, GIRL; POUT, ATOP, ALTO, COAL, CALF

12.28

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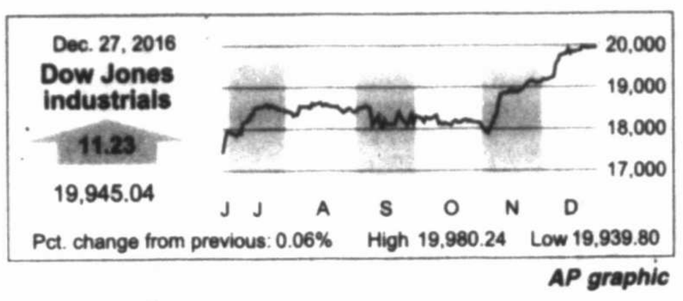
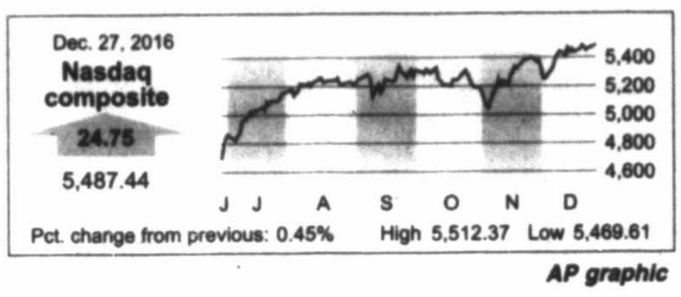
BUSINESS & OIL

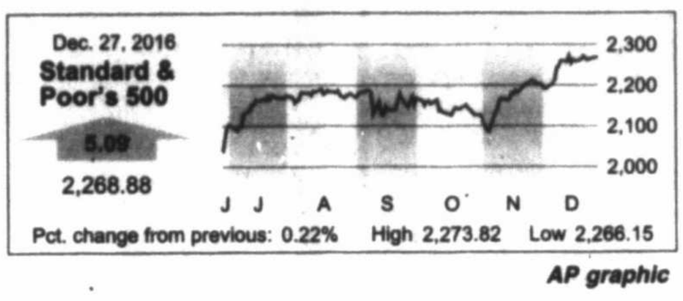
A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



AP graphic



AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Tuesday: $53.90
Previous: $53.02

POSTED

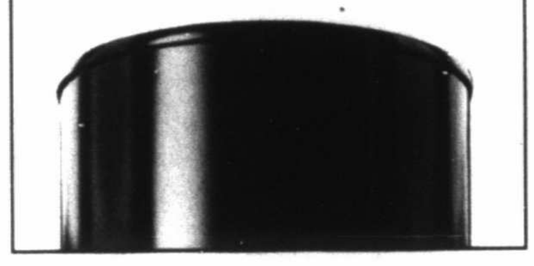
Tuesday: $50.25
Previous: $49.50

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Tuesday: $46.35
Previous: $45.60

NATURAL GAS

Tuesday: $3.761
Previous: $3.662-



NYSE

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
VanEGold	454415	19.87	+.53
ChesEng	442100	7.59	+.15
BkofAm	391754	22.61	+.01
SPDR Fncl	377190	23.61	+.03
DxGBull s	377105	6.72	+.48

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
IntPotash	2.60	+.43	+19.8
NL Inds	9.50	+1.30	+15.9
BcoBrades s	9.50	+.99	+11.7
GolLinhs rs	14.06	+1.43	+11.3
LSB Inds	9.08	+.88	+10.7

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
ChCBlood	5.37	-.97	-15.3
iPBtaCocoa	33.50	-5.20	-13.4
Deut 300Ch	19.22	-2.74	-12.5
DxGlMBr rs	46.60	-5.72	-10.9
DBXHrvCh	25.98	-2.86	-9.9

Diary

Advanced	1,849
Declined	1,139
Unchanged	116
Total issues	3,104
New Highs	149
New Lows	21
Volume	1,939,262,008

AMEX

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Globalstar	142171	1.60	-.24
NDynMn g	109034	2.46	+.57
NwGold g	31069	3.20	+.04
NovaGld g	25434	4.17	+.12
TherapMD	23520	6.06	+.08

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NDynMn g	2.46	+.57	+30.2
AMCON	115.00	+10.70	+10.3
SwGA Fn	19.95	+1.83	+10.1
EntrPEn rs	2.85	+.20	+7.5
Air Inds	3.06	+.21	+7.4

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
TrinityPlcs	8.99	-.61	-6.4
ChiRivet	36.57	-2.31	-5.9
NovaBay rs	3.30	-.20	-5.7
InspMD rs	2.51	-.12	-4.6
StrPathCm	34.73	-1.56	-4.3

Diary

Advanced	183
Declined	161
Unchanged	22
Total issues	366
New Highs	15
New Lows	6
Volume	108,153,675

NASDAQ

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Nvidia	292820	117.32	+7.54
MicronT	238884	23.30	+.04
ConatusPh	230308	6.11	+1.68
SiriusXM	195057	4.53	+.01
Apple Inc	176103	117.26	+.74

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Moleculin n	2.75	+.79	+40.3
ConatusPh	6.11	+1.68	+37.9
Cyclacel rs	5.18	+1.23	+31.1
PyxisTnkr	3.20	+.71	+28.5
ENGlobal	2.46	+.54	+28.1

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Endologix	5.27	-1.92	-26.7
PermaT rs	2.13	-.51	-19.3
SeattGen	52.36	-9.50	-15.4
PhotMdx rs	2.16	-.39	-15.3
HydralAcq	8.45	-1.30	-13.3

Diary

Advanced	1,694
Declined	1,114
Unchanged	226
Total issues	3,034
New Highs	197
New Lows	30
Volume	1,181,547,282

IPOs fall to 7-year low, but a rebound is expected next year

By Mike Freeman,
San Diego Union-Tribune

Fewer companies went public in 2016 than in any year since the 2008-09 financial crisis, as a series of stock market hiccups from "Brexit" to the U.S. presidential election cooled demand for initial public stock offerings.

But the coming year could make up for 2016 malaise, as the pipeline of companies looking to go public is well stocked with IPO candidates.

Two reports out this month — Ernst & Young's Global IPO Trends study and Renaissance Capital's U.S. IPO Market Annual Review — are optimistic about a rebound in companies going public, despite lingering uncertainty around the European Union, the new U.S. administration and China's growth prospects.

"The most important catalyst for an IPO is how the existing ones have done," said Kathleen Smith, principal at Renaissance Capital, a Maryland-based manager of IPO-focused Exchange Traded Funds. "The returns are such that there is nothing in the way. Companies should be filing right and left when we return from the holidays."

Based on Renaissance's data, the average stock price increase for 2016 IPO companies on U.S. exchanges is 22.5 percent. Its Private Company Watchlist contains 277 companies likely to go public in the next 12 to 24 months.

"I think we'll see 2017 being a lot better than 2016 now that there is some stability, at least in the U.S.," said Tim Holl, a San Diego partner with Ernst & Young. "The election is behind us. There is obviously some momentum in the market. So there is an expectation that 2017 is going to be better."

The numbers vary slightly between the Ernst & Young and Renaissance Capital reports, but the trends are similar.

Ernst & Young reported 112 companies raised $21.3 billion in IPOs this year in the U.S., down more than 35 percent from the prior year.

Renaissance pegged the number of IPOs at 105, with $18.8 billion raised. That's down from 170 companies raising $30 billion a year earlier.

A steep stock market sell-off early this year froze out potential IPO companies in the first quarter. In June, Brexit — the British referendum to exit the European Union — shook up investors again. Finally, the U.S. presidential election whipsawed markets toward year end. As of Friday, the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index was up 11 percent for the year.

Many companies that did go public in 2016 did so at a discount, said Smith of Renaissance Capital. They lowered their proposed prospectus stock price range prior to their IPOs, or they priced shares below publicly traded peers.

> *"Good companies will get out. I think you will see activity in the first quarter and second quarter. I can't mention any names, but you'll see activity."*
>
> **Tim Holl,** San Diego partner with Ernst & Young

"Once private companies saw that, they were thinking maybe we should wait a little longer," she said. "There has been a lot of private capital that has been able to sustain these private companies longer than normal."

Another reason for the IPO slowdown, particularly for technology companies, is sky-high valuations for high-profile firms, including Uber, Snapchat (now called Snap), Dropbox, Spotify and Airbnb.

The valuations created a chasm between what venture capitalists bet a company would be worth and what IPO investors are willing to pay. It led several big tech outfits to stay on the IPO sidelines this year.

Will that ease next year? It's unclear. But with growing pressure on venture capitalists to find exits for aging portfolio companies — coupled with another year for these companies to grow in hopes of justifying their lofty valuations — more tech firms are expected to test public markets in 2017, Renaissance Capital says. Snap already has filed for a $4 billion IPO that could value the company as high as $40 billion.

Nationwide, health care, which includes life sciences, was the top industry sector for IPOs this year, with 40 firms going public, according to Ernst & Young. Technology ranked second with 23 deals.

Shares of new health care IPOs haven't always performed well, however. Nine of the 10 worst-performing IPOs this year are health care firms, Renaissance Capital's data show.

Holl of Ernst & Young said the IPO window opened wide for the life sciences sector from 2013 to 2015, encouraging companies to go public earlier than they usually do.

Now the pendulum has swung back. Life sciences firms are going public later in a drug-medical device development cycle — which could improve post-IPO performance, he said.

"Good companies will get out," Holl said. "I think you will see activity in the first quarter and second quarter. I can't mention any names, but you'll see activity."

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Stocks fall

A day of quiet trading on Wall Street ended Tuesday with the Dow Jones industrial average inching closer to 20,000 and a record high for the Nasdaq composite.

Materials and technology companies led U.S. stocks slightly higher overall. Energy companies also rose as the price of crude oil moved higher. Utilities and phone company stocks edged lower.

Trading was light following the long holiday weekend, with less than 1.9 billion shares traded on the New York Stock Exchange. That's the lightest full day of trading since October 2015.

"Markets are moving toward 20,000 and bond yields are up; there's a little bit of buoyancy in oil prices," said Erik Davidson, chief investment officer at Wells Fargo Private Bank. "(But) trading is very, very thin."

The Dow added 11.23 points, or 0.1 percent, to 19,945.04. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 5.09 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,268.88. The Nasdaq rose 24.75 points, or 0.5 percent, to 5,487.44. The tech-heavy index's previous record high was 5,483 on Dec. 20.

The three major indexes are on pace for solid gains for 2016, led by the Dow, which is up 14.5 percent.

Metal prices rise

The price of gold rose $5.20 to $1,138.80 an ounce. Silver added 23 cents to $15.99 an ounce. Copper gained 4 cents to $2.52 a pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $118.06 Down 1.16

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $136.98 Up 0.65

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $8.38 Up 0.11

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $103.85 Up 0.92

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $2.18 Up 0.04

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $4.88 Down 0.17

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $32.40 Up 0.10

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $45.67 Up 0.41

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $12.94 Down 0.06

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $16.49 Up 0.14

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel		32	10.74	+.04	+379.5
AT&T Inc	1.96f	17	42.65	-.08	+23.9
Abraxas	...	...	**2.65**	**+.04**	**+150.0**
AdaOvvsEq	**.92e**	...	**12.86**	**+.04**	**+.2**
AMD		...	12.07	+.49	+320.6
AlonUSA	.60	...	11.77	...	-20.7
Ambev	.06e	...	4.89	+.03	+9.6
Amgen	**4.60f**	**14**	**148.36**	**+.81**	**-8.6**
Anadarko	**.20**	...	**71.54**	**+.29**	**+47.3**
Annaly	1.20a	8	10.22	-.08	+9.0
Apache	**1.00**	...	**66.34**	**-.06**	**+49.2**
Apple Inc	2.28	14	117.26	+.74	+11.4
ApldMatl	**.40**	**20**	**33.33**	**+.43**	**+78.5**
ArcelorMit		26	7.37	+.02	+129.2
Archrock	.48f	...	13.80	+.20	+83.5
ATMOS	**1.68**	**22**	**74.73**	**+.12**	**+18.5**
AutoData	2.28f	29	103.31	+.38	+21.9
BP PLC	**2.40e**	...	**37.11**	**+.09**	**+18.7**
BakrHu	.68	...	65.55	+.82	+42.0
BcoBrad s	.43e	...	8.31	+.02	+90.0
BkofAm	.30f	18	22.61	+.01	+34.3
B iPVxST rs		...	23.82	-.33	...
BaringsCp s	1.20	...	15.13	+.18	-12.3
BarrickG	.08	34	14.86	+.31	+101.4
BasicEnSv	...	...	.45	...	-83.2
BertHa A	**...**	**1624**	**7300.00**	**-700.00**	**+25.0**
BldHillsCp	**1.68**	**22**	**61.51**	**-.13**	**+32.5**
BlackBerry	...	...	7.08	+.06	-23.7
BonanzaCE	...	...	1.08	+.23	-79.5
BrllySq	**1.56f**	**41**	**59.33**	**-.26**	**-13.8**
BrownFA s	**...**	**29**	**46.56**	**+.06**	**...**
BrownFB s	**...**	**...**	**44.99**	**+.16**	**-10.7**
CVS Health	1.70f	14	79.29	+.15	-18.9
Caterpillar	3.08	26	94.55	+.23	+39.1
Celestic g	...	10	11.98	+.15	+8.6
Cemex	.29t	...	8.08	+.26	+50.9
CntryLink	2.16	10	24.14	+.08	-4.1
ChesEng	...	...	7.59	+.15	+68.7
Chevron	**4.28**	**...**	**110.22**	**-.20**	**+31.4**
Chicos	.32	32	14.72	+.10	+38.0
Cimarex	.32	...	136.71	+.99	+53.0
Cisco	1.04	15	30.68	+.15	+13.9
Citigroup	.64	17	61.09	+.10	+18.0
CloyEng	**...**	**...**	**118.00**	**-1.16**	**+299.3**
CocaCola	**1.40**	**25**	**41.61**	**+.01**	**-3.1**
ColgPalm	**1.56**	**24**	**66.01**	**-.26**	**-.9**
ConAgra	**.80**	**21**	**39.85**	**+.08**	**+21.5**
ConatusPh	...	...	6.11	+1.68	+112.2
ConchoRes	**...**	**...**	**136.98**	**+.65**	**+47.5**
ConocoPhil	**1.00**	**...**	**51.60**	**+.23**	**+10.5**
CrackerB	4.60	22	169.98	+.01	+34.0
CSVlnvNG			3.07	-.18	-75.5
CrosTim	**1.06e**	**13**	**18.13**	**-.12**	**+39.4**
DCP Mid	3.12	18	39.07	+.25	+58.4
DTE	2.92	22	98.65	-.09	+23.0
Dataram rs	...	...	1.91	+.33	-3.5
DevonE	**.24**	**...**	**46.84**	**+.30**	**+46.4**
DrGMBil s	...	...	4.78	+.48	...
DxGBull s	...	...	6.72	+.48	...
Disney	**1.56f**	**18**	**106.17**	**+.02**	**+.1**
DowChm	**1.84**	**19**	**58.42**	**-.01**	**+13.5**
eBay s	...	17	30.24	+.45	+10.0
EOG Resc	**.67**	**...**	**102.54**	**+.51**	**+44.9**
EmpDist	**1.04**	**23**	**34.13**	**+.03**	**+21.6**
Endologix	...	...	5.27	-1.92	-46.8
Energen	.08	...	59.92	+.36	+46.2
EngyTsfr	4.22	...	36.16	-.23	+7.2
EnPro	**.84**	**52**	**69.08**	**+.73**	**+57.5**
EnteroM rs	...	...	.04	-.01	-97.9
EntProdPt	1.62f	21	26.93	-.03	+5.3
Ericsson	.46e	...	5.80	+.02	-39.6
ExxonMbl	**3.00**	**36**	**90.75**	**+.04**	**+16.4**
Facebook	...	33	118.01	+.74	+12.8
Fitbit n	...	10	7.83	+.54	-73.5
FordM	.60a	6	12.39	-.07	-12.1
FrptMcM	...	...	13.76	-.05	+103.2
FrontierCm	.42	...	3.42	...	-26.6
GATX	**1.60**	**9**	**63.38**	**+.26**	**+49.0**
GabtlutT	**.94e**	**...**	**7.31**	**...**	**-2.5**
GAInv	**1.15e**	**...**	**31.55**	**+.19**	**+10.0**
GenElec	**.96f**	**28**	**31.90**	**+.02**	**+2.4**
Gerdau	.02e	...	3.33	+.15	+177.5
Globalstar	...	15	1.60	-.24	+11.1
GtPlainEn	**1.10f**	**16**	**27.62**	**+.07**	**+1.1**
Hallibrtn	**.72**	**...**	**54.91**	**+.07**	**+61.3**
HeclaM	.01e	30	5.34	+.08	+182.5
iAMGold g	...	12	3.55	+.16	+150.0
iShGold	...	...	10.97	+.07	+7.2
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	34.05	+.08	-3.5
iShEMkts	.84e	...	34.43	+.15	+7.0
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	57.61	-.07	-1.9
iShR2K	1.77e	...	136.65	+.61	+21.3
Intel	**1.04**	**17**	**37.07**	**+.10**	**+7.6**
InterDig	1.20	16	91.05	+.20	+65.7
ItauUnibH	.32e	...	9.91	+.04	+52.5
JohnJn	**3.20**	**18**	**115.91**	**-.05**	**+12.8**
KimbClk	**3.68**	**19**	**115.11**	**+.29**	**-9.6**
KindMorg	.50	48	21.14	+.01	+41.7
LegacyRes	.60m	...	2.18	+.04	+24.6
Lubys	**...**	**...**	**4.24**	**-.04**	**-5.1**
McDnlds	3.76f	23	123.07	-.07	+4.2
MemorialP	.12	...	.19	+.01	-93.0
Merck	1.88f	16	59.79	+.23	+13.2
MeritMed	**...**	**35**	**26.35**	**-.05**	**+41.7**
MexcoEn	...	...	4.88	-.17	+51.1
MicronT	...	...	23.30	+.04	+64.5
Microsoft	1.56f	26	63.28	+.04	+14.1
Nabors	.24	...	16.53	+.22	+94.2
NatGrid	**3.35e**	**...**	**58.16**	**-.04**	**-16.4**
NOilVarco	.20	21	38.92	+.54	+16.2
NikeB s	.84f	23	51.29	-.62	-17.9
NDynMn g	...	...	2.46	+.57	+703.9
NSTFI3	**.55e**	**...**	**13.98**	**+.04**	**-3.9**
NTXGI	**.65**	**...**	**13.68**	**-.04**	**-5.2**
Nvidia	.56f	71	117.32	+7.54	+255.9
OcciPet	**3.04f**	**...**	**72.35**	**+.24**	**+7.0**
PerTech	**...**	**16**	**5.35**	**-.09**	**-20.5**
ParkDri	**...**	**...**	**2.70**	**-.06**	**+48.4**
PattUTI	**.08**	**8**	**27.09**	**+.40**	**+79.6**
Penney	...	...	8.53	+.07	+28.1
PennaRE	**.84**	**78**	**18.82**	**-.18**	**-13.9**
Pmian	.41e	22	8.09	+.03	+59.9
Petrobras	...	...	10.15	+.04	+136.0
Pfizer	**1.28f**	**13**	**32.53**	**+.06**	**+.8**
PioNtrl	.06	...	185.00	-.01	+47.6
PlainsAAP	**2.20m**	**30**	**33.49**	**+.08**	**+45.0**
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	120.82	+.62	+8.0
Praxair	**3.00**	**23**	**118.55**	**+.96**	**+15.8**
PrmEgy	**...**	**...**	**64.60**	**+3.60**	**+3.4**
PUVixST rs			7.63	-.20	...
ProctGam	**2.66**	**23**	**84.60**	**-.38**	**+6.5**
Protalix	...	...	.35	+.01	-65.4
RangeRs	.08	...	34.77	+.07	+41.3
RegionsFn	.28f	19	14.64	+.08	+52.5
RennovaH	...	...	.09	+.00	-93.5
RiteAid	...	76	8.32	-.07	+6.1
Rowan	.40	6	19.57	+.20	+15.5
RoyDShllA	3.76	82	54.32	+.21	+18.6
SpdrDJIA	3.98e	...	199.21	+.16	+14.5
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	226.27	+.56	+11.0
SabrR	1.93e	16	35.00	-.29	+33.3
SanderFn	**.96f**	**11**	**93.70**	**+.17**	**+20.9**
Schlmbrg	2.00	56	85.44	-.07	+22.5
SeadrillLtd	...	2	3.55	+.16	+4.7
SiriusXM	.01p	38	4.53	+.01	+11.2
Smucker	3.00f	16	128.88	-.58	+4.5
SwstnEngy	...	...	11.02	+.01	+55.0
Sprint	...	...	8.69	+.19	+140.1
SP CnSt	1.28e	...	52.05	-.01	+3.1
SP Engy	2.04e	...	76.52	+.17	+26.9
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	23.61	+.03	+22.0
SP Util	1.55e	...	48.65	+.04	+12.4
SunocoLog	2.04f	52	24.40	-.19	-5.1
SyngryPh	...	...	5.93	+.16	+4.6
TelefEsp	**1.03e**	**...**	**9.13**	**-.04**	**-17.5**
Tesoro	2.20	11	90.43	-.52	-14.2
3M Co	4.44	22	178.92	+.17	+18.8
Torchmark	**.56**	**17**	**74.49**	**+.22**	**+30.6**
Transocn	...	...	15.22	+.49	+22.9
TriContl	**.82e**	**...**	**22.17**	**+.03**	**+10.7**
Twitter	...	...	16.61	+.11	-28.2
TylerTech	**...**	**51**	**144.06**	**+.51**	**-17.4**
UBSI	**1.32**	**24**	**47.20**	**+.55**	**+27.8**
US NGas	...	...	9.33	+.15	+7.6
US OilFd	...	...	11.73	+.17	+6.6
Vale SA	.29e	...	7.90	+.19	+140.1
ValeantPh	...	16	14.09	-.26	-86.1
ValeroE	2.40	15	69.45	+.49	-1.8
VanEGold	.12e	...	19.87	+.53	+44.8
VnElkRus	.64e	...	20.97	+.38	+43.1
VanE JrGld	...	...	29.66	+1.04	+54.4
VangEmg	1.10e	...	35.20	+.17	+7.6
VangFTSE	1.10e	...	36.41	-.05	-.8
Vulcanml	**.80**	**44**	**127.54**	**+1.95**	**+34.3**
WEC Engy	2.08f	20	58.57	-.16	+14.1
WalgBoots	1.50	19	84.49	+.21	-.8
WealthInt	...	...	5.08	+.06	-39.5
WellsFargo	1.52	14	55.95	.01	+2.9
WstnRefin	1.52	27	39.14	-.25	+9.9
WhitingPet	...	...	12.51	+.15	+32.5
WmsCos	.80	74	31.78	+.22	+23.7
XcelEngy	**1.36**	**19**	**40.73**	**+.06**	**+13.4**
Xerox	**.31**	**12**	**8.94**	**-.01**	**-15.9**
Yamana g	.02m	89	2.67	+.13	+43.5

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
19,987.63	15,450.56	Dow Jones Industrials	19,945.04	+11.23	+.06	+14.46	+12.55
9,490.29	6,403.31	Dow Jones Transportation	9,199.23	+8.59	+.09	+22.51	+20.73
723.83	563.91	Dow Jones Utilities	681.00	+.19	+.03	+14.40	+12.97
11,256.07	8,937.99	NYSE Composite	11,146.40	+17.60	+.16	+8.89	+6.15
5,489.47	4,209.76	Nasdaq Composite	5,487.44	+24.75	+.45	+9.59	+7.43
2,277.53	1,810.10	S&P 500	2,268.88	+5.09	+.22	+11.01	+9.17
1,698.70	1,215.14	S&P Midcap	1,680.23	+6.68	+.40	+20.14	+17.96
23,802.01	18,462.43	Wilshire 5000	23,733.30	+61.45	+.26	+12.12	+10.34
1,392.71	943.09	Russell 2000	1,377.70	+6.20	+.45	+21.29	+18.71

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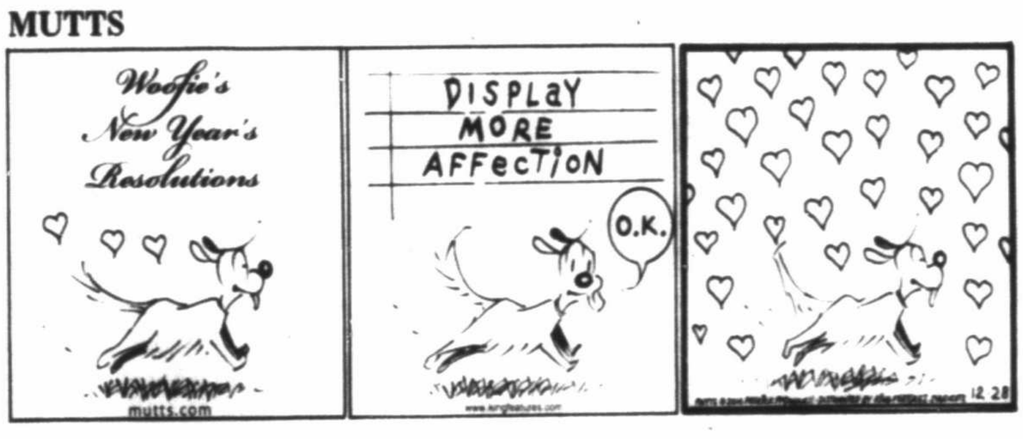
ZITS

CLASSIC PEANUTS

BABY BLUES

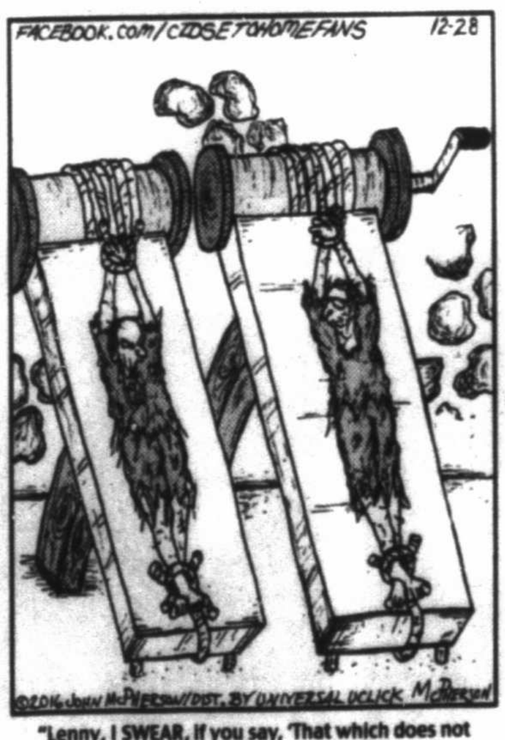
SHOE

MUTTS



GARFIELD

CLOSE TO HOME



"Lenny, I SWEAR, if you say, 'That which does not kill us makes us stronger' one more time, I'm going to strangle you when we get down from here!"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"AREN'T YOU A LITTLE BIG TO HAVE A BABY SITTER?"

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

LOCKHORNS

"THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN...I COULD DO IT THE NEXT TIME YOUR MOTHER COMES OVER."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"We're gonna go outside and play with the boxes. Okay, Mommy?"

WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT

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Leave Message – Will Call to Schedule.
Schedule after 6pm Weekdays
Weekends by Appointment only

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I'M HERE THROUGH THEM ALL.
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432-686-7000 o
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Pine & Beckett REALTORS

ENTERTAINMENT

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Paul St. Hilaire, Executive Director 432-685-1112

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OPEN 10:30AM - 4:00PM, Monday - Saturday

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ENERGY AND UTILITIES

CRMWD
Colorado River Municipal Water District

The Colorado River Municipal Water District is accepting applications for the following position:

Electrician - Responsible for maintaining the District's control panels, motors, electric substations and power lines. Intermediate level position, good understanding of electricity required.

For additional information visit www.crmwd.org

WEST TEXAS GAS, INC.
GIS / Compliance Specialist

WTG is seeking a GIS / Compliance Specialist for our Amarillo office. The qualified candidate will be responsible for the maintenance development of WTG's GIS systems. **Qualifications include**

- 3+ years GIS experience
- ESRI ArcGIS for Desktop / ESRI ArcGIS Server
- Knowledge of DOT pipeline regulations
- Knowledge of Microsoft Word / Excel
- Must be able to travel

Contact Ray Reed at 806-358-1321 rreed@westtexasgas.com

HEALTHCARE

Big Spring State Hospital
Registered Nurses, Job Posting # 298933 & 303578
Earn up to $5312.11 per month (DOE)
Licensed Vocational Nurses, Job Posting # 298944
Earn up to $3678.00 per month (DOE)
Psychiatric Nursing Assistants, Job Posting # 295342
Varied Shifts, Starting salary $1962.85 per month

Contact our Job Center for Job Descriptions or to Arrange a Campus Tour 432-268-7341 or 432-268-7298 or Complete an application online at: https://jobshrportal.hhsc.state.tx.us/ENG/default.cfm

Big Spring State Hospital 1901 North Highway 87 Big Spring, TX 79720

Home Hospice

Full-time Registered Nurse Needed - Odessa Area

*****$4000 Sign-on Bonus*****

We offer an excellent salary, insurance, 401K, and paid time off.

If interested please email adrumm@homehospicewtx.com or call (432) 580-9990
Equal Opportunity Employer.

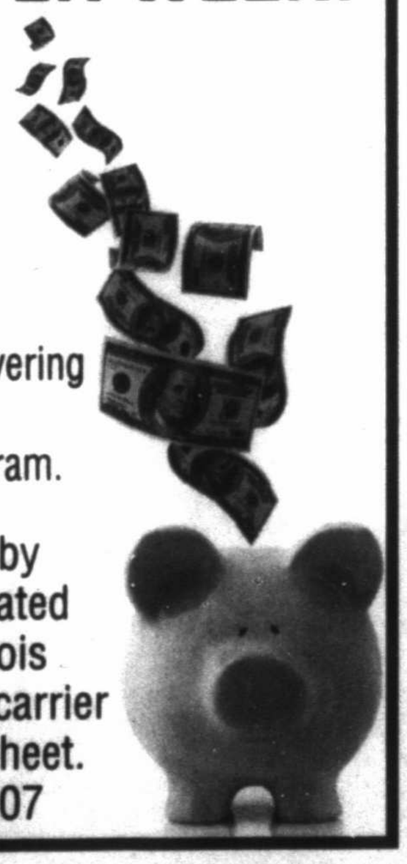
LCDC/LPC/Intern
LCDC/LPC/Intern needed for Addiction medical clinic part time Monday-Friday, 8am-10:30am. Tx planning, case mgmt and therapy. Paid holidays, paid sick days, no health benefits. Midland positions. Please fax resume to 800-671-8364.

Medical Assistant
Must be bilingual, available to work M-F & some Saturdays. Please call 432-699-5111 for more information.

OTHER JOBS

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone?? Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram.



Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet.
Linda 687-8807

Assistant Manager
Midland Village Apartments is taking applications for an assistant manager. Please call for an appointment 432-683-9726.

SALES JOBS

Delivery Driver
Delivery driver with some warehouse and light maintenance duties needed. Benefits available. Clean driving record required. Apply in person at Basin Engine & Pump, 1914 S. County Rd., Midland, TX.

Electronic Billing Specialist
Local service company is looking for an experienced electronic billing specialist for a fast paced office has an opening for experienced electronic billing specialist. Must be organized, have accurate data entry skills and an attention to detail. Must have the ability to multi-task with distractions while still meeting strict goals. This candidate will have the skills listed above while being self-motivated and a team player. We offer an excellent work environment with good salary and benefits package for the right person. Send your resume to P-111 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX. 79701

SALES JOBS

Salesperson
Experienced pump salesperson needed. Excellent compensation and benefit plans provided. Send resumes to P-121 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX, 79701

SKILLED LABOR

Field Mechanics
Basin Engine & Pump
Mechanics needed for Industrial Oilfield Shop. Must be experienced working on centrifugal & positive displacement pumps. Furnish your own tools. Uniforms provided. Benefits package includes vacation, health insurance and retirement match savings. Salary depends on experience. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email toTodd@basinengine.com. Applications can be filled out at 1914 S. County Rd. 1083, Midland, TX 79706

Heavy Equipment Operators
Hiring experienced heavy equipment operators for oilfield dirt work and rock crushing. 1-2 years operator experience required. Dozer experience a plus. Pay DOE. Health, vision, and dental insurance 100% paid!
Apply in person: 9400 S. Service Rd., Coahoma, TX.
or call 432-394-4604 for more information.

Vaquero Midstream is now hiring for an I&E Technician
Interested candidates should submit their resume to demi.carrasco@vaqueromidstream.com. Basic/Required Qualifications Hold a minimum total of three years' experience as a Plant Mechanic. Obtain a minimum of five years' experience in the natural gas industry or related field. Possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Demonstrate the ability to work under limited supervision. Have basic knowledge of Plant operations and Cryo Plant Mechanics. Have a valid State Operators Driving License and excellent driving record, be willing to work after hours and on-call rotations. Possess adequate communication skills. Ability to carry and lift items that can weigh 50lbs or more. Team orientated and the ability to work well with others. Excellent organizational, interpersonal, and initiative skills.

Salesman
Salesman needed: South Environmental Services is looking to hire an experienced salesperson. Oilfield experience a must. Please send resume to joanna@southenv.com or apply in person at 2400 S. loop 250W Midland Texas. Across the loop from the DPS.

Vaquero Midstream is now hiring for a Mechanic
Interested candidates should submit their resume to demi.carrasco@vaqueromidstream.com. Basic/Required Qualifications Hold a minimum total of two years' experience as an Instrumentation & Electrical Operations Technician. Obtain a minimum of two years' experience in the natural gas industry or related field. Possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Demonstrate the ability to work under limited supervision. Have basic knowledge of Microsoft Office Application and PC skills. Have a valid State Operators Driving License and excellent driving record, be willing to work after hours and on-call rotations. Possess adequate communication skills. Ability to carry and lift items that can weigh 50lbs or more. Team Orientated and the ability to work well with others. Excellent organizational, interpersonal, and initiative skills.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

REAGENT CHEMICAL & RESEARCH, INC.

Employment Opportunities
CDL-HAZMAT DRIVERS-
at least
1 YEAR TANKER EXPERIENCE
2 YEARS CDL DRIVING
WITH GOOD DRIVING RECORD
MUST BE OVER 23 YEARS OLD
MUST PASS BACKGROUND CHECK

- Medical, Prescription, Vision & Dental Ins. for you and your family.
- 401K & Profit Sharing Savings Plan
- Every other weekend off
- 2 Weeks Paid Vacation plus 10 Paid Holidays
- Affordable Life Ins., Supplemental Ins., Short and Long Term Disability Ins.
- **$3000.00 sign on BONUS**

Apply
Monday-Friday
8:00am-4:30pm
2833 I-20, South Service Rd,
Stanton TX
432-458-3446

CDL Drivers & Owner Operators
Local trucking company Now hiring Class A CDL Drivers & Owner Operators, clean driving record is required. Must pass a criminal background check and DOT drug test. Apply in person at 3913 FM 715, Midland, Texas 79706

Driver Tractor Trailer - Crude Oil
HIRING DRIVERS IN BIG LAKE, MIDLAND, GARDEN CITY, BIG SPRING, STANTON AND STERLING CITY AREAS! MISSION PETROLEUM CARRIERS is currently HIRING CDL drivers for LOCAL RUNS hauling crude oil.
++Must live close enough to travel to the site daily; Must have valid Class A CDL with X Endorsement; Minimum 24 months previous driving experience in tanker or tractor-trailer is required++
Apply today Or call Marissa at 361/288-7367 for more info.
MISSION PETROLEUM CARRIERS OFFERS:
- Local Hauling-Home Daily • Weekly Pay • Training/Orientation Pay
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- Quarterly Safety and Performance Bonus
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Benefits Package Includes Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance
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--Mission Petroleum does not reimburse or pay for relocation expenses--

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Do you know an outstanding Midlander?

Nominate them for 52 Faces of Community

The 52 Faces of Community campaign allows Chevron and the Midland Reporter-Telegram to honor Midland's unsung heroes and volunteers. We all know those who go the extra mile to help the community – help us share their stories.

LOOKING FOR PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN:

Health & Human Services, Veterans Affairs, Kids & Family Services, Senior Health & Support, Pets and Animal Care, Corporate Citizenship, Arts, Environment, Education, Diversity, Corporate Partnership and Religious Organizations.

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

Have questions? Email us at news@mrt.com.

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Fuels Our Community

Chevron supports Midland.

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Events and Notices

General Announcement

I HAVE 3 degrees in music with alot of experience and am looking for students to teach. 432-695-4341.

Mark Berryhill.com
Ministering for Christ
Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

LOST BLACK Yorkie cross, female, very timided, doesn't bite, Purple harness & a tag. Lost on 12-21-16. 432-413-1623

Legal and Public Notices

Sec. 59.044 Notice of Sale
The following storage units will be auctioned to satisfy a landlords lien:

Joby Fussell #11 amount owed $2,040.00. Cassidy Voake #17, Harold McCart #54, Stephanie Ramos #48, Pedro Martinez #43,44, Joao Lins #10,58,63, Brian O'Donnell #73. The seizure will occur on January 1, 2016. All units will be auctioned at a later date at H&H Storage 3020 SCR 1225, Midland, Tx 79706.

Legal and Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BID.

Midland County Hospital District is Requesting Proposals for:

RFP 1201-122816
Microwave Convection Turbo Chef i3
for
Midland Memorial Hospital.

Specifications may be secured at Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital located at 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland TX 79701 on or after **12-28-16.**

All proposals must be received in the Department of Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital by **Friday, January 13, 2017 12:00 Noon.**

All proposals must be sealed and labeled **"RFP # 1201-122816."**

Under no circumstances will faxed proposals from bidders be accepted.

All proposals must be price protected until **July 15, 2017.**

All proposals will remain confidential until after an award has been made. Offerors will then be allowed to review the proposals in the purchasing office according to the policy and procedures of Midland Memorial Hospital. Midland County Hospital District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive formalities.

Proposals shall be addressed to:
Rachel Hanna Jones
Director of Materials Management
Midland County Hospital District
Midland Memorial Hospital
400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Pkwy
Midland, Texas 79701

Autos For Sale-Lease

Passenger Cars

NICE CLEAN BMW 2003 model 325, must see. New tune up, clutch & fuel pump. Asking $5,000. 432-349-0041

TO SETTLE ESTATE: 2016 Red Mercedes-Benz SLK 350 convertible. 950k. $59,000 Firm. 325-473-2609, San Angelo, TX.

Passenger Cars

Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. 432-685-4078

Pickup Trucks

FORD 350, 1999, 7.3 Diesel Hotshot Welder; 220,000 miles refurbished; good condition. Asking $10,000.00, make an offer. Come see at 1209 W. Illinois, Midland, TX.

FORD F150 Lariat, 2007. 75,000 Miles. GREAT CONDITION! $9,000 OBO. 432-210-6561.

4WD and SUV

CHEVROLET 2000 Suburban 227K miles $2,900. 432-634-0950 Text or leave message.

LIKE NEW 2008 Yamaha Raptor ATV. Garage kepted, only ridden 4 times. $5,000 432-349-0041.

Recreation Vehicles

31' RV/ Motor home for sale. Great condition - less than 50K miles. 2001 Fleetwood Jamboree/ Ford 10 cylinder. $20,000. See & drive by appointment. Henry K Hermann - 432-684-8813

REDUCED
HARLEY DAVIDSON 2005 Road King. 13K miles. $8,000 OBO. MUST SEE! 432-697-9787 leave message

Garage-Estate-Yard Sale

Estate Sales

Once a Year Sale at
The Cats Meow
408 Andrews Hwy.
Midland, TX. 79701

Sale Days: Dec. 26th - Dec. 31st
Sale Hours: 10am - 6pm
Closed Sunday

Everything Storewide 30 - 75% off.
Vintage Christmas Ornaments
30 - 40% off
Vintage Costume Jewelry
50% off
Estate Jewelry
30% off
All Porcelain & Glass
50% off
Kitchen Collectibles
50% off
Vintage Clothing and Fur
30 - 50% off
All Furniture
30% - 60% off
Linens and Textiles
50% off
Dolls & Toys
50% off
Chandeliers
30% - 50% savings
Selected Items Extravagant Savings
AMEX, Discover, MC & Visa accepted.
432-687-2004

Legal and Public Notices

EXHIBIT "B"

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO LEASE LAND

On the 17th day of January, 2017, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. at a Regular Session of the Commissioners Court of Travis County, Texas, in the Commissioners Courtroom in the Travis County Administration Building, in the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas, the Travis County Commissioners Court will open sealed bids for and may award an oil and gas lease in the following described real property, to-wit:

Tracts 44, 45, 46, and 47 of the Travis County School Land, Survey, Abstract No. 254, as recorded in the Plat Records of Throckmorton County, Texas, at volume 2, page 16, and the Deed Records of Throckmorton County, Texas, at Book 60, page 73, specifically, Tracts44, 45, 46, and 47 which consist of One Thousand Two Eighty (1,280) acres of land more or less.

All bids must be submitted to and received by Cyd V. Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, P. O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767, located on the Eighth floor of the Travis County Administration Building, in the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas, on or before 11:00 o'clock a.m., on the 16th day of January, 2017. Interested parties should contact Jason G. Walker, Purchasing Agent Assistant, Travis County Purchasing Office, P. O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767, (512)-854-4562, to obtain bidding instructions and the County's standard oil and gas lease form.

Pets-Animals

Dogs

****CHRISTMAS PUPPIES****
AKC German Shepherd puppies
5 females & 3 males. Ready to got this weekend. 12/18. $500. 432-634-4618.

Merchandise

Furniture

USED FURNITURE FOR SALE - MATCHING BABY SET with crib, changing table, dresser. QUEEN SIZE bedding FULL SIZE bedding, DRESSER / MATCHING NIGHT STANDS / CHEST OF DRAWERS / BOOKCASE with drawers / DESK. Please call Jeremy 432-238-3634.

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

HAVE a lot of incontinence underwear for reasonable price. Women's size large 432-686-7513 between 9am-5pm

Sporting Goods

.45 ACP semi-auto rifle in AR format. See at DR Armament. 4100 N. CR 1133, Midland, TX. (480) 620-5241 Ask for Rick.

OAK, PECAN, hickory, mesquite, pinon. 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262

Real Estate Rental-Sale

Residential Rentals

Lots and Land

Acreage

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Lots and Land

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

12/28/16

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

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

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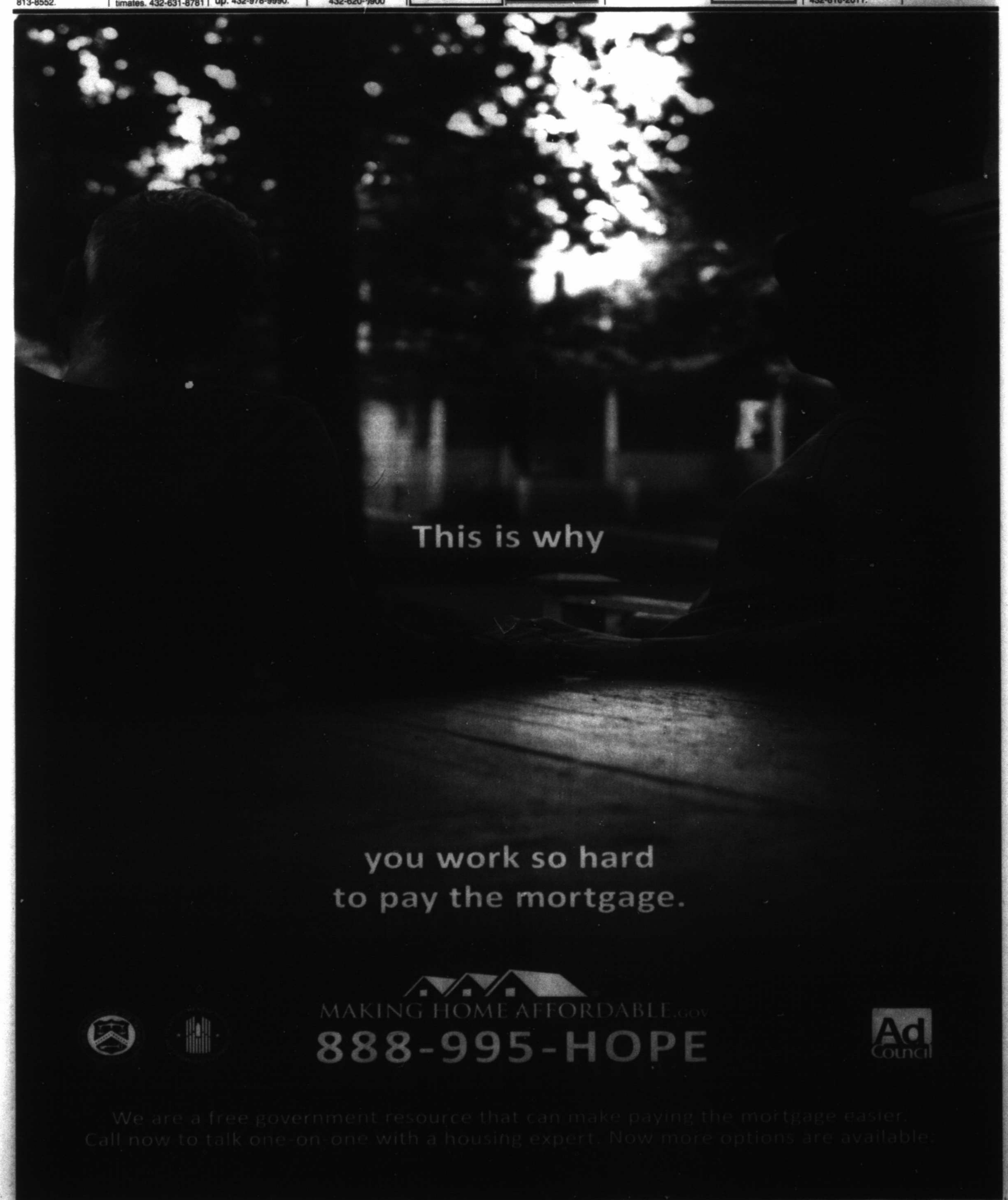

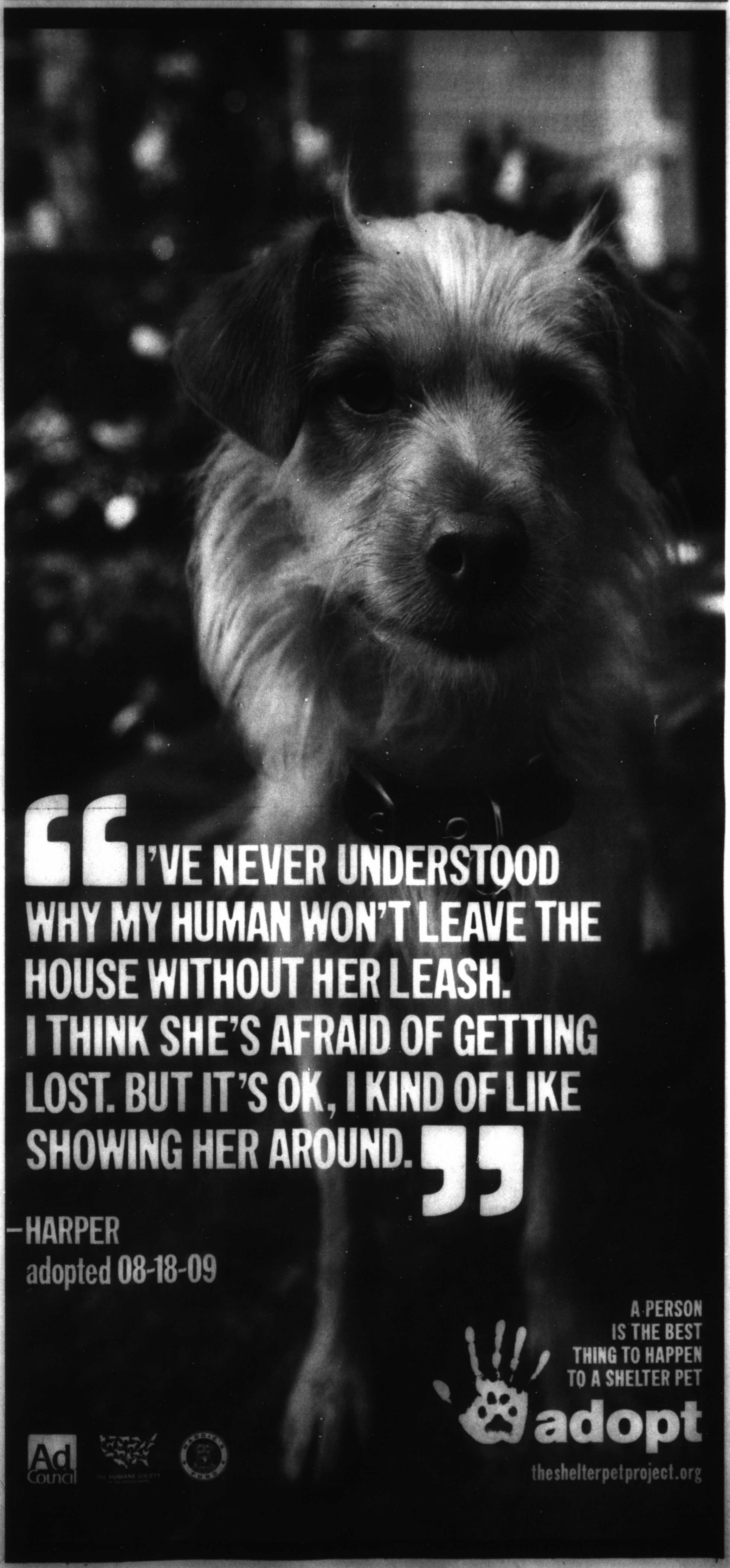
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