MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

DOWN DEGREES

Downturn takes toll on engineering graduates.

Page 2B

OUR VIEW

Apparently, if you want to be a restaurant or entertainment venue in Midland, you have to serve alcohol to compete. The Regal Tall City Stadium 14 is the latest to seek an alcohol permit.

Page 6A

Midland College, Baylor announce agreement

'Baylor Bound' will help students transfer more easily between the institutions

From staff reports

Midland College and Baylor University announced Monday the creation of a formal Baylor Bound transfer agreement that will help students transfer more easily between the two institutions, according to a release from the college.

Baylor President and Chancellor Ken Starr and Midland College President Steve Thomas signed the partnership agreement during a ceremony in the Scharbauer Student Center Carrasco Room at Midland College.

As one of its goals under the strategic initiative, Baylor intends to create 10 Baylor Bound partnerships during the next five years. The Baylor-Midland agreement, according to the college, is the seventh partnership, along with McLennan Community College in Waco, Tyler Junior College in Tyler, Blinn College in Brenham, Collin College in McKinney, Temple College in Temple and Alamo Colleges in San Antonio.

The Baylor Bound program will serve students from Midland College who, upon meeting the program's criteria, will transfer to Baylor to complete their bachelor's degrees.

Thomas called Baylor Bound a "wonderful opportunity for our students." He added the agreement with Baylor University adds to MC's list of quality universities that enable Midland College students to seamlessly transfer in order to continue their studies.

"By beginning their college careers at Midland College, students can take advantage of the Legacy Scholarship and other opportunities while receiving the personal attention and specialized assistance for which Midland College is renowned," Thomas said. "After completing an associate degree, students have the opportunity to transfer to esteemed higher education institutions such as Baylor."

Starr said the Baylor Bound program "provides an affordable avenue for community college students who wish to complete their studies at Baylor University."

Students can declare their intent

Please see **BAYLOR**/3A

Courtesy photo

Midland College President Steve Thomas, left, and Baylor President and Chancellor Ken Starr shake hands after signing the "Baylor Bound" articulation agreement.

ROOSTERS RESCUED

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland law enforcement professionals work a scene near the 2700 block of South County Road 1195 where drugs, money, firearms, roosters and vehicles were seized in a bust of a cockfighting ring, according to a statement from Midland County Sheriff Gary Painter on Saturday.

MCSO: Cocaine distributor hosted cockfights

By Brandon Mulder
bmulder@mrt.com

Two days after law enforcement authorities broke up one of the largest cockfighting rings discovered in Midland County, authorities revealed details about the raid in which about 40 people — including one minor and at least two undocumented Mexican immigrants — were arrested.

The cockfighting event was hosted by Midlander Lionel Garcia, 35, and held at his wife's house in a neighborhood along Interstate 20 just south of Midland, according to a Midland County Sheriff's Office investigator. Garcia is the owner of Midland-based Boomerang Trucking and "is a heavy cocaine distributor," the investigator wrote in the arrest affidavit.

In addition to the 30 live roosters — and several dead birds — recovered at the scene, authorities also seized 46 ounces of cocaine, $32,000 in cash and weapons. Authorities said they also seized hundreds of sharpened razor blades, or gaffs, that owners strap to the birds' talons to inflict fatal harm to their opponents.

Inside

■ See a list of people who were arrested in Saturday's raid.
■ Drug task force arrests two in connection with methamphetamine distribution.

Page 3A

Photographs released by authorities showed the scene has a large wooden cockfighting ring built within a large corrugated tin shed. A metal barrel was also located on scene with burned rooster corpses.

"It's very organized. You have people here who do this for a living. We believe this guy was charging admission from everybody that came," said Midland County Sheriff Gary Painter at a press conference on Monday.

Garcia allegedly was charging $20 to $100 for spectators and an entry fee of $1,000 for four roosters, according to the arrest affidavit. Beer was being sold at the event for $2, and Garcia was "known to have cocaine and large amounts of money at the cockfights he hosts," according to the affidavit.

The affidavit also states that Garcia hosts large cockfights and distributes cocaine out of another property located near State Highway 349 and West County Road 180 in Midland County.

"Unfortunately, this is not isolated. This is one group that we know about, but they've been in other areas," Painter said. "We know they've done fighting in other spots. We know that it is going on in other places."

As part of a task force involving the MCSO, Drug Enforcement Administration, Homeland Security, Ector County Sheriff's Office, Texas Department of Public Safety and U.S. Marshals Service, local officials were informed by Homeland Security agents on Friday about the cockfighting event. Investigators then conducted surveillance and observed several pickups arrive at the property.

At about 11:30 a.m. Saturday, local SWAT teams along with federal and state units executed a search warrant at the property.

Please see **MCSO**/3A

Exxon: Oil and gas will still dominate energy in 2040

By David Koenig
Associated Press

DALLAS — The way oil giant Exxon Mobil sees it, the global energy landscape won't be radically different in 2040 than it is today.

Oil and gas will remain king, accounting for an even slightly larger share of the energy supply. Coal will fall behind natural gas to become the third-largest source of energy.

Inside

■ Did the Fed err in raising rates for the first time in nearly a decade?
■ Chairman of Saudi Aramco says plans to possibly go public are not driven by need for cash amid global slump in oil prices.

Page 8A

Exxon forecasts that emerging renewables such as solar and wind power will triple but remain small — just 4 percent of the world's energy. And carbon emissions will continue rising until around 2030, when cuts in industrialized nations gain traction and lead an overall reduction.

Those are some of the highlights in the long-range outlook that Exxon Mobil Corp. released Monday. It is not likely to win an enthusiastic response from environmentalists, including some of the company's dissident shareholders, who point to record global temperatures in 2015 and want a quicker pivot away from oil, gas and coal and faster progress to bring down carbon emissions.

Exxon officials say their report is a dispassionate forecast, not a political document.

"Exxon Mobil uses the outlook to develop business strategies that underpin our billion-dollar investment decisions," William Colton, the oil giant's chief strategist, said in an interview. "We have every incentive to get it right."

A great deal has happened since Exxon's last long-term outlook in December 2014. Oil prices have plunged lower for longer than anyone expected. International sanctions that kept Iran largely out of the world oil market were lifted. And international negotiators meeting in Paris reached an unprecedented agreement to reduce the growth in emissions linked to climate change.

Please see **EXXON**/8A

Weather
Partly sunny
40/27
Get your complete forecast on 5B

Energy prices

WTI Futures	$30.34	▼ $1.85
WTI Posted	$26.50	▼ $2.25
WTS Posted	$32.85	▼ $2.25
Natural Gas	$2.158	▲ $0.019
Gasoline	$1.679	▼ $0.013

The big number
Gasoline has dropped
below $1.50 a gallon
in the Midland-Odessa area. Read more on Page 8A.

Today in Education
Did you know it's School Choice Week? Page 2B

Coming Sports
Midland College men beat NMMI. Page 1C

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Daily $1, Sunday $2

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Obituaries

Ethelyn McCann

Ethelyn Allen McCann, of Midland, Texas, and formerly of Big Spring, Texas, a charter member of America's greatest generation, passed away peacefully in the early morning hours of January 24, 2016, at Manor Park in Midland, Texas. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 27, 2016 in the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring, Texas, with Mike Couch, of First Baptist Church of Big Spring, officiating. The family will receive friends and visitors at the funeral home in Big Spring on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. -7:30 pm.

Ethelyn was born April 30, 1918, on the family farm in Navarro County, Texas, near Corsicana, to John Patrick Allen and Olivia Bressie Allen. She moved at a young age with her family to Hamlin, Texas, where her father farmed five miles south of town. She subsequently graduated Hamlin High School in 1935 as salutatorian and then left home to attend Texas Women's University in Denton, Texas.

Following college, Ethelyn joined her family in Kermit after her father had taken a position in the oil and gas industry with Ralph Lowe. In Kermit, Ethelyn met the only man she ever loved, T. H. McCann, a young man of true grit, uncommon valor and unquestionable integrity, and the two were married in Houston on July 11, 1942. Shortly thereafter, T. H. joined the Army and left for Fort Lewis, Washington, while Ethelyn relocated to Long Beach, CA, to join the war effort by working in the shipyards.

After the war Ethelyn and T. H. made their home in Breckenridge, Texas, where T. H. was the area jobber for Sinclair Oil & Gas products. Then in 1951, the McCanns settled in Big Spring, Texas, where T. H. formed his company distributing petroleum products throughout the Permian Basin to various drilling contractors and agricultural producers as well as other commercial enterprises.

After T. H. passed away suddenly in November, 1973, Ethelyn stayed busy with her various investments in oil and gas, real estate and the stock market as well as traveling the world, playing bridge with her many, many friends and staying active in First Baptist Church of Big Spring of which she was a pillar. She cherished every chance she got to spend time with all her grandchildren.

Ethelyn will forever be remembered by all who knew her for her quiet resolve, her kind and gentle spirit, her steadfast Christian character as well as her razor-sharp wit and wonderful sense of humor. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Big Spring for over 60 years having taught Sunday School for almost 50 years and faithfully serving her church in a variety of capacities. As a cook, she was unsurpassed for it was common knowledge that friends and family would run through a brick wall, if necessary, to score a sampling of her chocolate pies, apricot fried pies, and chicken fried steaks.

She is survived by her son Tom McCann and his wife Ann of Austin, Texas, and their three daughters Tara Moore and her husband Tom of Flower Mound, Texas; Ashley Lepine and her husband Mike of Lakeway, Texas; and Raygan Watson and her husband Mike of San Antonio, Texas.

Ethelyn is also survived by her daughter Betty Newman and her husband Terry of Whitney, Texas, and their children Connally Newman and his wife Robin of China Springs, Texas; Laura Rose and her husband Eric of Midland, Texas; and Lisa Firle and her husband Brian of Boulder, Colorado.

Ethleyn is also survived by six great-grandchildren Wiley James Newman, Dash and Cross Lepine, Jake and Libby Moore and Winnie and Charlie Watson. Also surviving are sister-in-law Lynn Haumont of San Diego, CA, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Ethelyn was pre-deceased by her husband, T. H., by her parents, a brother, Bud Allen in 1942, a brother Bill Allen of Vista, CA, in 2015, and a sister, Bernice Rubin Cardwell of Midland, in 1996.

The family wishes to thank the wonderful staff of Manor Park Younger Center and Home Hospice of Midland for the loving care extended to Ethelyn during her illness. Also thanks to Dr. Raj Patel and Dr. Chau Le for the caring treatment extended to Ethelyn in her final years. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to First Baptist Church of Big Spring, Texas, Manor Park, Inc. in Midland or Home Hospice of Midland.

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

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

Harland Eugene "Gene" Abbott II

Harland Eugene "Gene" Abbott II, of Midland, passed away on January 22, 2016. A Rosary will be held at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel located at 3800 N Big Spring, Midland. Services will be held at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at St. Stephens Catholic Church located at 4601 Neely Ave., Midland, TX 79707.

Gene was born on September 19, 1925 in Mt. Forest, Canada, to Harland Eugene Abbott Sr. and Bernice Moore.

Gene was raised in Niagara Falls, NY and, after obtaining a Civil Engineering degree from the University of Oklahoma, as a member of the Naval Construction Builders program, Gene was discharged from the Navy and, soon thereafter, he started a construction business with his father and brother in Midland, Texas. Abbott Building Company has enjoyed over 60 years of successful operation and continues to serve businesses operating in the Texas-New Mexico area today.

Gene married the love of his life, Rachel, on April 12, 1950 and devoted the next 65 years of his existence to honoring their union with pure, unconditioned love. Gene and Rachel raised seven children together and Gene made it one of his life's purposes to involve himself deeply in the lives of his children, thirteen grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Gene is known by those whose lives he touched as a congenial, compassionate, considerate, and generous man who pursued his personal and professional interests with an unwavering spirit and boundless energy. He was an active and accomplished sportsman who cherished opportunities to share his love of the outdoors and numerous sports activities with his family and friends. In his professional life, Gene enjoyed considerable success and he astutely managed multiple businesses over many years and through exceedingly variable economic conditions.

Gene's kind-hearted and generous nature was manifested in the depth and breadth of his active participation in the management and operation of numerous civic and charitable organizations and events. He continually gave of himself throughout his life and the legacy of his giving spirit will live on through the gifting of his Midland residence to a local charitable organization.

Gene's physical presence will be missed by all who were fortunate to know him but his indomitable spirit will live forever. Words simply cannot express the deepness of the love and appreciation that his children feel for his absolute devotion to their comfort and happiness.

Gene is survived by his wife, Rachel; his daughters and their spouses, Carol & Gene Shumate, Patty & Tim Hodgens, and Jan & Tom Matchus; his sons and their spouses, Jack & Terri Abbott, John & Shailete Abbott, and Mike & Sarah Abbott; his grandchildren, Kristina Abbott, Jason Abbott, Mike Shumate, Brad Shumate, Juli Hodgens-Thrall, Jennifer Hodgens, Sean Matchus, Seth Matchus, Sam Matchus, Simon Matchus, Rachel Abbott, Jones Abbott, and Jaxson Abbott; and his great granddaughter Payton Thrall.

Gene is preceded in death by his parents Harland and Bernice Abbott, his sisters Barbara McLean, and Dorothy Holmes, and his son Harland Abbott III.

The Abbott family wishes to express our gratitude to Mrs. Brenda Nickell for her steadfast dedication to Dad's comfort and contentment.

We kindly ask that, in lieu of flowers, you please make donations to either St. Ann's Catholic School or Alzheimer's Foundation of Midland.

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

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

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

Miguel Angel Brito

Miguel Angel Brito, 31 of Midland, went home to be with his Lord Jesus Christ on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 after a tragic motorcycle accident.

Miguel was born November 28, 1984 in Midland, TX. He was raised and educated in Midland and had attended Robert E. Lee High School. He later worked in the oil fields and was currently working with an electrical company.

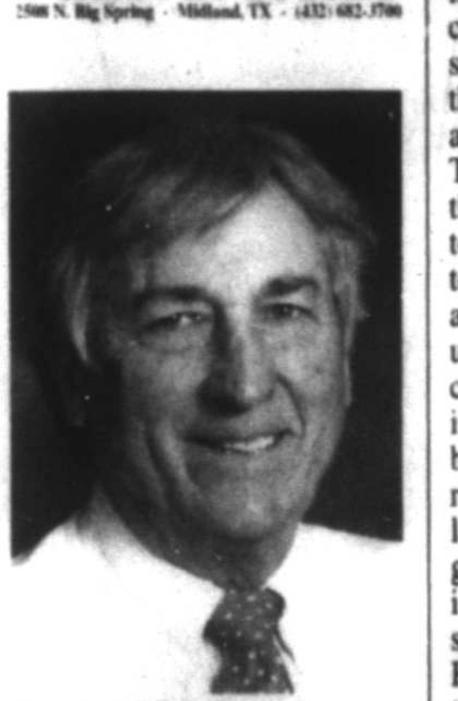
Miguel was a motorcycle fanatic and a gun collector but overall a family man. He was very outgoing and a fun person to be around. He loved to barbecue for family and friends and was a member of Cherry Lane Church of Christ. He will be missed greatly by all his family and friends.

Miguel is survived by his mother, Santa Maria Villalobos of Midland, TX; two sons, Miguel Angel Brito Jr. of Midland, TX and Kassius Ramos of Tahoka, TX; one daughter, Liliana Marie Brito of Midland, TX; six brothers, Rodolfo Villalobos of Lovington, NM, Jesse Villalobos, Armando Villalobos, Jesus Brito, Baltazar Brito and Gil Brito all of Midland, TX; three sisters, Miriam Rodriguez, Mireya Villalobos and Elizabeth Brito also all of Midland, TX.

A prayer service will be tonight at 7:00 pm at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Chapel. Funeral service is set for Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 10:00 am also at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Chapel. A burial will follow 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 *lewallengarciapipkinfh.com*

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



Oran Harrison "J.R." Bowen Jr.

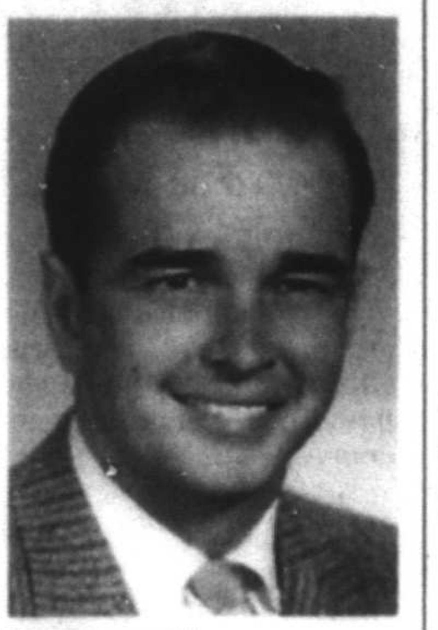
J.R. Bowen, 91, of Denton, passed away early Friday morning, January 23, 2016, at Good Samaritan Village. He was born November 21, 1924, in Killeen, Texas to Oran Harrison Bowen and Minnie Ellen Swope Bowen.

After serving in the army, he spent many years as a hairdresser in Midland, Texas before moving to Jonesboro, Texas to be a part of the family ranch. He spent his final years in Denton, Texas where his sister LaVerne resides.

There will be a memorial service at 10:00a.m. Tuesday, January 26 in the chapel of Good Samaritan Village in Denton. Burial will follow at 3:00p.m. at Smith Cemetery in Purmela.

He is survived by one sister, LaVerne of Denton; preceded in death by his parents and ten brothers and sisters.

Mulkey-Mason Funeral Home of Denton is in charge of the arrangements.



William H. Crenshaw Jr.

William H. (Bill) Crenshaw Jr, 79, of Buchanan Dam, TX passed away January 15, 2016. He was the son of the late Margarete Birdsong Crenshaw and William H. Crenshaw and was born June 6, 1936 in Lubbock, TX.

He is survived by his wife Nancy; a daughter Keely and husband, Jess McNeely; and granddaughters Allison, Ella and Kier McNeely of Wichita, KS. He was preceded in death by another granddaughter, Liv Ann McNeely.

Bill graduated form Midland High School in 1954 and attended Austin College in Sherman before transferring to Texas Tech University in Lubbock, where he graduated in 1958 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. While at Tech he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, a national social fraternity.

Bill's grandfather began practicing law in Lubbock in 1926. The firm is still known by the name Crenshaw, Dupree and Milam.

Bill often stated that his grandfather Birdsong was the person who had the most influence on his life.

Bill's father was a prominent, long-time Lubbock attorney and Bill learned the law by reading the books, committing to the hours of study and working in his father's law office. He was among the last lawyers in Texas to be allowed to take the bar exam without going to law school. He was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1965 and practiced law in Lubbock until he moved to Lake Buchanan in 1997. He practiced in the Hill Country until he became ill in 2015. He had a reputation as a "crusty old lawyer" but with a heart of gold, particularly for children in the CPS system that he served as attorney at lietum. He was a mediator and mentor.

He loved animals. In younger days he trained horses, raised dogs and at one time had the largest bird aviary in the southwest.

Bill loved and played sports. He played basketball, baseball, tennis and became a scratch golfer. He enjoyed snow skiing and sailing. He was an avid Texas Tech sports fan.

Bill was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend.

A celebration of life will be held at 11:00 AM Saturday, February 13, 2016 at the Waldrope-Hatfield-Hawthorne Funeral Home in Kingsland, TX. A reception will follow at the Hill Country Hall, 15675 HWY 29, Buchanan Dam, TX 78609.
Memorial Contributions may be made to:
Hill Country Humane Society, PO Box 1041, Marble Falls, TX 78654
Cherokee Children's Home, PO Box 295, Cherokee, TX 76832
Buchanan Arts and Crafts, 17534 E State HWY 29, Buchanan Dam, TX 78609

Funeral arrangements made under the direction of Waldrope-Hatfield-Hawthorne Funeral Homes, Inc.Kingsland, Texas. E-mail condolences may be sent to *whhfuneral1@verizon.net.*

Death Notices

Addilynn Grace Hord

Addilynn Grace Hord, infant, died Sunday, January 24, 2016. Visitation with the family will be from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Funeral services will be held at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, January 28, 2016 at Bellview Baptist Church. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Survivors include parents, Kayla and John Hord; 1 sister; and grandparents.

Kenneth Lynch

Kenneth Ray Lynch, 85, of Midland, passed away on January 24, 2016. A memorial service will be held on Thursday January 28 at 2:00 PM at West Texas Memorial Park Cemetery, 4100 N. FM 1788, Midland, TX, under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home. Online condolences may be offered at *www.ellisfunerals.com*

Margaret "Jeanette" Moore

Margaret "Jeanette" Moore, 87, of Midland, passed away on Monday, January 25, 2016. A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 pm, Thursday, January 28, 2016 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Midland.

Survivors include son, Randy Moore; daughter, Regina Ramsey; and son, Steven Moore.

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

Sam Bustamante

Sam Bustamante, 62, of Midland, died Sunday, January 24, 2016. A gathering will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Survivors include wife, Arcelia and son, Sammie Bustamante II.

All Obituaries must be submited by 3:30 P.M. prior to next publication day.

TODAYINMIDLAND

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Things to do

■ "In Football We Trust" screening by Indie Lens Pop-Up, Basin PBS and UTPB will also feature a discussion panel with former Dallas Cowboy Roy Williams, 6:30 p.m., UTPB Student Activities Center, 4901 E. University Blvd., Odessa. basinpbs.org.

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

Meeting schedule

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

Support group, club meetings today

■ 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.

■ Pop-Up Toasters Toastmasters Club., 6:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church's Family Life Center - Room 228, 800 W. Texas Ave.; 432-242-2061 or popuptoasters@gmail.com.

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

■ Overeaters Anonymous; 7-8 p.m., B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 553-1031.

■ Classic Movie Club, 7 p.m., Cigar Frog's, 216 N. Main St.; 687-1671.

■ Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1303 E. Taylor, bingo games 7 p.m.

■ Permian Basin Dance Club with live country western bands, 7:30 p.m.-10 p.m., St. Stephen's ballroom, 4601 Neely St. 432-520-4343 or 432-296-9340.

When it's open

Midland County Tax Assessor/Collector
2110 N. "A" St.
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Friday
8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday
688-4810

Municipal Courthouse
406 E. Illinois Ave.
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday
8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday
A deposit box for payments is open 24 hours a day
685-7314

Department of Public Safety: Driver's License Office
2405 S. Loop 250 W.
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Wednesday through Friday
8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays
498-2100

Know a member of the military coming home?

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

Honor those who served

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

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

Contact your representative

MIDLAND COLLEGE
3600 N. Garfield, Midland, TX 79705
Phone: 685-4500; Fax: 685-4522
Website: midland.edu
President Steve Thomas 685-4520
Trustees — Linda Cowden, Will Green, Steve Kiser, Paul L. Morris, Charlene McBride, Steve Castle, Ken Peeler, Ralph Way, Larry Lawrence

MIDLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland, Texas, 79701
Phone: 221-1111
Website: www.midland-memorial.com
President Russell Meyers 221-1584
Directors — District 1: vacant, District 2: Dorothea Logan, District 3: Tommy Lent, District 4: Cressinda Hyatt, District 5: Alison King, District 6: Joe Kiowski, District 7: Jeffrey Beard

MISD
615 W. Missouri, Midland, TX 79701
Phone: 689-1000. Fax: 689-1932
Website: midlandisd.net
Superintendent Ryder Warren 689-1001
Trustees — District 1: James Fuller, District 2: Angel Hernandez, District 3: Tommy Bishop, District 4: Jeff Robnett, District 5: Karen Nicholson, District 6: Rick Davis, District 7: Jay Isaacs

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 7-8-4
Pick 3 day: 2-7-0
Pick 3 evening: 4-2-3
Pick 3 night: 9-1-1
Daily 4 morning: 3-1-6-0
Daily 4 day: 3-2-2-5
Daily 4 evening: 3-9-0-3
Daily 4 night: 4-0-0-5
Cash Five: 04-06-10-26-29
Texas Two Step: 16-20-26-29 BB: 25
All or Nothing morning: 04-05-08-09-12-13-16-17-18-19-20-23
All or Nothing day: 02-04-07-09-11-12-14-17-19-20-22-24
All or Nothing evening: 01-02-03-14-15-16-17-19-20-21-22-23
All or Nothing night: 02-05-06-07-09-10-17-19-20-21-22-24

Midland Reporter-Telegram

AT YOUR SERVICE

ISSN 0890-6932

A Hearst Newspaper

Published each morning by the Hearst, Midland Reporter-Telegram Division, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701. Periodicals postage paid at Midland, TX 79711. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

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Drug task force arrests 2 in methamphetamine operation

By Brandon Mulder
bmulder@mrt.com

The Drug Enforcement Administration, in tandem with local law enforcement authorities, arrested two methamphetamine distributors on Saturday. Rene Zamaripa, 41, and Sandra Moreno, 46, were arrested in Odessa in connection with being in possession of two pounds of methamphetamine and three handguns, according to the DEA.

The arrests come on the heels of a large-scale raid in Odessa that netted 13 pounds of the drug and arrests of 24 people earlier this month, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram report. Though Saturday's arrest was not related to that larger drug ring, authorities stress how this continues to indicate the growing meth problem in the Permian Basin.

"There are a lot of people engaged in this business. It's a highly profitable business, and this is just another organization that is attempting to feed the market here in the Permian Basin," said Dante Sorianello, DEA resident agent in charge of the Midland office. "This is a significant hit."

That same night, DEA agents in Lubbock raided a "stash-house" in connection with Zamaripa and Moreno and seized another two pounds of the drug that was designated to be trafficked to the Midland-Odessa area, according to Sorianello.

DEA intelligence indicated that Zamaripa and Moreno's operation has been moving that amount of the drug from Lubbock to Odessa on a weekly basis, according to Sorianello.

CRIMEBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Midland man arrested for kicking police officer

A Midland man was arrested Sunday after allegedly assaulting a Midland police officer, according to court documents.

Lyles

Adrian James Lyles, 46, was arrested on a third-degree felony charge of assaulting a public servant after he allegedly kicked a police officer. Bond had not been posted, according to court documents.

Police responded to a burglary in progress on the 2300 block of Camp Street. An alleged female victim said that Lyles was in the process of forcing entry into her home by breaking windows. Officers arrived on scene and found Lyles in the back bedroom of a residence where he yelled "obscenities from inside," according to a police affidavit.

Officers entered the room and allegedly told Lyles to get on the ground. Lyles was holding a napkin in his hand that "appeared to be bloody" and "took an aggressive stance" rather than follow verbal commands. He initially pushed his way to the bedroom door while yelling at officers before officers put him in handcuffs, according to the affidavit.

The alleged victim told police that she arrived to the residence shortly before Lyles and locked the doors. Lyles arrived and began to break the windows while threatening to kill her, and the woman called because she felt Lyles "was going to make good on his threats," according to the affidavit.

Police escorted Lyles to a patrol vehicle while he resisted officers' efforts to walk and enter the vehicle. He made his body stiff and at one point kicked one of the officers in the groin area causing "immediate severe pain," according to the affidavit.

If found guilty of a third-degree felony, Lyles will face up to 10 years in prison.

Man allegedly chokes woman

A 33-year-old Midland man was arrested Sunday for assaulting a woman, according to court documents.

Torres

Andrew J. Torres was being held Monday for a third-degree felony charge of assault of a family/house member impeding breath. Bond had not been set as of Monday evening.

Police officers were dispatched to the 6400 block of Los Conchos Lane in reference to a physical disturbance. A woman was outside the residence and told officers Torres was inside, intoxicated and had gotten into a physical altercation with her, according to the arrest affidavit.

When Torres returned to the residence drunk, the woman went to the living room to watch turn television, according to the affidavit.

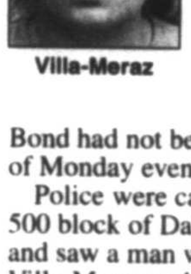
Torres entered the living room and yelled at the women to turn down the TV, according to the affidavit. The woman said he was cursing at her, so she turned up the volume, according to the affidavit.

Torres allegedly began yelling in her face, grabbed her from the couch and threw her to the floor. Torres then put his forearm against the woman's neck, preventing her from being able to breathe, according to the affidavit.

If convicted of the third-degree felony, Torres could face up to 10 years in prison.

Woman arrested for allegedly stabbing man in leg

A Midland woman was arrested Sunday after stabbing a man in the leg, according to court documents.


Villa-Meraz

Reyna Villa-Meraz, 27, was being held Monday for a second-degree felony charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Bond had not been set as of Monday evening.

Police were called to the 500 block of Dallas Street and saw a man who said Villa-Meraz stabbed him with a knife, according to the arrest affidavit.

The man said he was looking through Villa-Meraz's phone and refused to give it back when she demanded it. She threatened to stab him if he didn't give her the phone, and the altercation resulted in her stabbing him in the leg, according to the affidavit.

Villa-Meraz said she stabbed the man with keys. The wound was "superficial" and appeared to "be made by a knife, not a set of keys," according to the affidavit.

If found guilty of a second-degree felony, Villa-Meraz could face up to 20 years in prison.

Officer indicted for using Taser on city official in Prairie View

Associated Press

HOUSTON — A grand jury has indicted a police officer after he used a stun gun on a City Council member while arresting him in a small, predominantly black Texas college town, authorities said Monday.

Prairie View officer Michael Kelley was indicted Friday for official oppression, a misdemeanor, said E. Rivera, chief investigator for the Waller County District Attorney's Office.

Kelley's attorney, Roger Bridgwater, said the officer "was shocked" by the indictment and that Kelley plans to plead not guilty. Kelley was expected to turn himself in to authorities within the next 24 hours and a judge has already set his bond at $3,000, Bridgwater said.

Police said the incident began last October when they questioned four men outside Prairie View City Council Member Jonathan Miller's apartment about suspicious activity in the neighborhood and Miller intervened. Video from police and from one of Miller's friends showed Kelley using a Taser on Miller when he didn't follow police commands. Miller and a female officer also at the scene are both black while Kelley is white.

Miller, 26, who didn't immediately return a phone call or email seeking comment on Monday, has previously told reporters he was vouching for his friends during the incident and telling officers that the friends were doing nothing wrong.

After the incident, Miller was charged with resisting arrest and interference with public duties. But a grand jury on Friday declined to indict Miller on the interference charge and prosecutors on Monday dropped the resisting arrest charge, said Waller County Assistant Criminal District Attorney Noah Johnson.

Prairie View is the same city where a white state trooper arrested Sandra Bland, a black woman, on a traffic charge. Bland later died in jail. The Texas state trooper who arrested Bland was indicted in January, charged with perjury for allegedly lying about his confrontation with Bland.

Prairie View Police Chief Larry Johnson declined to comment on the indictment, saying he hadn't had a chance to review it. Johnson said Kelley was suspended without pay after being indicted.

BAYLOR

From 1A

to transfer to Baylor by submitting the Baylor Bound application before enrolling at MC or while enrolled as a full-time student, according to the press release. Admission to the program will be determined by Baylor's Office of Admission Services. Students at Midland College who become part of the Baylor Bound program can choose a plan from 66 majors, all of which are articulated through specific MAPS — or Major Academic Planners — that will assist them as they move toward degree completion. More information about these majors and course transfer equivalency between Baylor and Midland College is available at www.baylor.edu/advising/bbmaps.

Advisers from both institutions will help students select courses that satisfy program requirements to allow for a successful transition from Midland College to full-time status at Baylor. Midland College Baylor Bound students also will receive information about scholarships for transfer students and special transfer residential experiences. Also, students from Midland College will have access to Baylor's libraries via the Interlibrary Loan Agreement as well as special opportunities to visit the Baylor campus and meet with Baylor representatives.

Baylor and Midland College officials, along with about 100 alumni, friends and special guests from across the region, including U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway and state Rep. Tom Craddick, gathered at a reception following the signing to celebrate the partnership between the two institutions.

MCSO

From 1A

"When we hit, we had the DPS helicopter come in," Painter said. "When the officers went in, people started running into pastures."

"Like a covey of quail, they just took off. Some of them were hiding in the dirt; some were hiding in mesquite bushes," he said.

As officers swarmed the scene, the DPS air units identified those escaping on foot for deputies to pursue. However, not all were apprehended, Painter said.

Cockfighting remains a popular sport in many Texas communities. In 2009, Midland and Martin county officials raided the largest known cockfighting operation in which 81 adults — including several illegal immigrants — and two juveniles were arrested, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram report.

Tipped off by a nearby oilfield worker, authorities confiscated more than 100 roosters, $88,000 in cash allegedly used for betting money and large quantities of cocaine and marijuana in an operation on 640 acres along the Midland and Martin county line.

"It's a very sad thing that people will fight animals to death. But these people do it for money — thousands of dollars, not just a few hundred," Painter said. "Some of these animals are worth $2,000 to $3,000 or more."

The rescued animals are expected to be turned over to a group to be auctioned off to better homes, Painter said. Only one animal was injured enough to be euthanized.

All individuals are being held on state-degree felonies and will face up to two years in prison and up to $10,000 in possible fines.

Who was arrested

Names of those arrested in Saturday's raid

Amaya, Antonio Aguilar, 37, of Rule
Atayde, Uriel Hernandez, 31, of Midland
Baeza, Jose Reyes, 37, of Midland
Baeza, Jose Ruben, 17, of Midland
Beltran, Gilberto, 38, of Midland
Fabela, Edward Meas, 40, of Midland
Flores, Israel, 19, of Midland
Galindo, Francisco Cortez, 43, of Midland
Garcia, Anthony Lawrence, 35, of Midland
Garcia, Claudia, 35, of Midland
Garcia, Lionel Alexander, 35, of Midland
Gonzales, Elias, 23, of Midland
Gonzalez, Elisar,
Gonzalez, Juan Carlos, 37, of Midland
Gonzalez, Michael Garcia, 35, of Midland
Guebara, Rodolfo Lopez, 33, of Midland
Hernandez, Joel, 20, of Midland
Hernandez, Jose Luis Jr., 43, of Midland
Hurtado-Balderas, Joel Ventura, 31, of Midland
Leyva-Navarrete, Esben, 39
Lujan, Edgar O., 37, of Gardendale
Lujan, Roberto, 47
Melendez, Leonel Garcia, 39, of Odessa
Molina, Ivan, 39, of Midland
Natividad, Hernan, 17
Natividad, Jesus R., 51, of Midland
Ontiveros, Frank Marcus, 21, of Midland
Ontiveros, Tony Contreras, 33, of Midland
Puentes, Juan Alfonso, 18, of Midland
Ramos, Jorge Luis, 22, of Midland
Rodriguez, Hector Javier, 45
Rodriguez, Javier Antonio, 23
Rodriguez, Samuel Palma, 39, of Midland
Sanchez, Juan Jaime, 38, of Midland
Sanchez, Pablo James, 41, of Midland
Smith, Cody William, 30
Soto, Humberto, 20, of Midland
Vasquez, Guillermo Lujan, 20
Vasquez, Jesus, 32

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Purple Heart recipient to discuss 'Power of Choice'

By Erin Stone
estone@mrt.com

A Purple Heart recipient who went from being paralyzed to becoming a triathlete is the keynote speaker at the annual Crime Stoppers awards luncheon Thursday at the Petroleum Club.

Marine Corps and Army veteran Kris Rodriguez, now an entrepreneur, and his wife, Kali, who is an author, life coach and also an entrepreneur, will use anecdotes from Kris' military service to discuss "The Power of Choice."

Kris spent four years in the Marine Corps. When he got out, he moved back to Houston and started a business. But after Sept. 11, his business went downhill along with the economy, and Kris returned to the military.

He served two tours in Iraq with the Army. During his second tour, while on convoy security detail, an improvised explosive device blew up near his Humvee, he said in a phone interview from Austin, where he and Kali live.

"The explosion blew up on my back, and I blacked out and fell from the truck," Kris said. "When I woke up, there's smoke everywhere and my nose is bleeding."

When he stood up, one of his buddies noticed that Kris had a piece of shrapnel sticking out of his back. He was able to complete the mission despite the injury. Kris still has a piece of that shrapnel buried deep in his shoulder. After four years in the Army, Kris returned home and was awarded a Purple Heart for his service.

A couple of years later, Kris said he woke up one day with his right hand and right foot completely numb. Nine days later, he was completely paralyzed, blind and unable to speak.

His sight and speech returned more quickly, but, for as long as a month, Kris was confined to a hospital bed, having to be bathed by nurses. At his darkest moments, he had thoughts of suicide.

"When it was nighttime and I was supposed to be asleep, I would think, 'Is this really what my life is going to be?'" Kris said.

But he chose to see things differently.

"Then the determination and the drive, the things that the Marine Corps instilled in me, kicked in," Kris said. "I used that to my advantage, and I pushed myself hard every day to get out of the hospital."

When his left toe started to move, Kris had a new mission. Whenever he was awake, he was moving that toe as much as he could. Eventually, he was sneaking out of his bed to pull himself up the stairwell to gain strength. He went from a hospital bed, to a wheelchair, to a walker, to a cane, to doing a triathlon, he said.

But first, he had to choose to believe it was possible.

"The belief is important in having the determination and persistence to accomplish the goals that you have," Kris said. "But you have to have a desire first. And my desire was to get back into the civilian world."

The Rodriguezes will also speak about PTSD and ways to live with it.

"Law enforcement officers — they have to shoot people, they see death, they see difficult things," said Kali, a certified health and wellness coach and certified trainer through the Proctor Gallagher Institute and co-author of the book "Emerge: Real Stories of Courage and Truth."

"People in combat and war, they have to kill people, they go through some traumatic things. And those images, you can't make them go away. I've heard Kris say, 'Those images are in my mind; they're there.' But when they come up, he allows them to be. He doesn't suppress them. He chooses to shift his focus to where he is and to where he's going."

Kali described the effectiveness of deep breathing and practicing mindfulness with Kris' post-traumatic stress disorder.

Kris remembers having to make difficult choices — such as having to decide what to do when a child is approaching a convoy with the intent of setting off a bomb under a Humvee with his buddies in it.

"You're put into situations where you have to make a choice and live with that choice forever," Kris said. "Not only in Iraq, but in America these police officers are having to make choices that they have to live with for the rest of their lives. It's difficult for a lot of people to get out of that 'did I do the right thing, or should I have done this or that' ... so it's very difficult to change the way you think about things."

Even with the most emotional and deeply ingrained experiences, it is possible to change how you think about them and how they impact you, the Rodriguezes said.

"It's our thoughts, whether conscious or unconscious, that create our feelings and our actions and therefore what happens to us in our life," Kali said. "So at the very basic level, we have a choice to think about, to perceive something in a certain way. We can shift our thoughts and emotions to become in alignment with what it is you want and desire out of life."

Courtesy photo

Purple Heart recipient Kris Rodriguez and his wife, Kali, pose in this undated photo. Rodriguez will be the keynote speaker at the annual Crime Stoppers luncheon Thursday.

Crime Stoppers luncheon

Midland Crime Stoppers will recognize law enforcement Thursday during its annual awards luncheon at the Petroleum Club. Awards will be presented to members of the Midland Police Department, Midland County Sheriff's Office, U.S. Marshals Service, Midland Fire Department and Texas Department of Public Safety. The Crime Stoppers Board of Directors also will present the Campus of the Year Award to Goddard Junior High for its use of the campus Crime Stoppers program.

Student tips helped identify the suspects involved in vandalizing the school with paint as well as several other tips regarding theft and the delivery and possession of marijuana. A total of $540 in cash rewards was paid out to student tipsters last year.

Midland Crime Stoppers was started in 1984 as a way to allow residents to report criminal information while remaining anonymous. Since then, the nonprofit has developed into a combination of efforts by local media, businesses, civic and social clubs, law enforcement agencies and the public.

Source: Midland Crime Stoppers

Apple's iPhone success might be reaching its peak

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Apple could soon face one of its biggest challenges to date: Peak iPhone.

Most analysts believe Apple surpassed its own record by selling more than 74.5 million units of its flagship product in the final three months of 2015. But there are signs that iPhone sales in the first three months of 2016 will — for the first time ever — show an abrupt decline from the same period a year earlier.

That could mark a pivotal moment for the Silicon Valley giant. Apple is the world's biggest company, in terms of stock value, thanks to the iPhone's surging popularity around the world. In business terms, Apple makes most of its money from iPhone sales.

But concerns about slowing growth have sent the stock into a months-long slump, fueling debate about what kind of company Apple will be in the future.

The iPhone contributed nearly two-thirds of Apple's $234 billion in revenue last year. None of the other new products Apple has launched in recent years have emerged as blockbusters. That's led some critics to suggest Apple has lost its innovative touch, while others say it's evolving to depend on a broader base of related tech products and services.

One thing is clear, said analyst Angelo Zino at S&P Capital IQ: "Last year was an unprecedented year for Apple and the iPhone.... You'll never see that type of growth from the iPhone again."

When CEO Tim Cook reports Tuesday on Apple's sales for the last three months of 2015, investors will be watching closely for any hints about how Apple's signature smartphone is faring in the current quarter. Sales usually fall somewhat after the holiday shopping season. But analysts say it appears Apple has cut production orders from key suppliers in recent weeks, suggesting it's lowered its own forecasts.

Apple hasn't commented on iPhone sales since last fall, when Cook struck an upbeat tone. In part, Zino and other experts say, the company is suffering from its own success. Apple sold 61 million iPhones in the March quarter of 2015, or 40 percent more than it did a year earlier. To match that growth rate, Apple would need to sell more than 85 million in the current period. Instead, analysts are expecting around 55 million.

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Alaska quake Q&A: Geologists explain state's vulnerability

By Dan Joling
Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A massive weekend earthquake in Alaska cracked a road, broke natural gas lines and destroyed four homes. But the magnitude-7.1 quake wasn't the first or even the biggest temblor to rock the state.

Four of five U.S. earthquakes occur in Alaska, a state more than twice the size of Texas. But they often are overlooked because most occur in remote regions.

Here's a look at why Alaska has so many earthquakes and what's in store for the state:

Q: What makes Alaska prone to earthquakes?

The Earth's outermost shell is made up of tectonic plates that move, and Alaska is near the intersection of two great plates: the Pacific Plate, beneath the Pacific Ocean, and the North American Plate, which covers most of North America.

The Pacific Plate is being subducted, or pushed below, the North American Plate at a rate of 2 inches per year. The subduction zone stretches from Prince William Sound to Japan along the Aleutian Trench.

According to prevailing models, friction locks up the two plates, building elastic energy until the strain is too great, and there's an earthquake.

The largest releases come in the form of megathrust earthquakes such as the magnitude-9.2 Great Alaska Earthquake of 1964. They tear hundreds of miles of earth near the surface and can create tsunamis that send killer waves as far as Hawaii and California. Sunday's quake was not that kind.

Q: What caused Sunday's quake?

Tectonic plates don't move neatly below each other. U.S. Geological Survey research geologist Peter Haeussler compares it to bending a Snickers bar and producing cracks on the top.

Tectonic plates stretch, strain and contort as they dive beneath another plate, Alaska state seismologist Michael West said.

Sunday's earthquake originated 75 miles below ground and 53 miles offshore in a part of the Pacific Plate long ago subducted beneath the North American Plate.

The twisted tectonic plate continues to adjust by earthquakes as it's pushed toward the Earth's mantle.

Q: Why wasn't there more damage?

Sunday's quake was about one-fifteenth the size of the shallow, magnitude-7.9 Denali Fault quake in 2002 that ruptured the Earth's surface for 209 miles in interior Alaska.

This one tore tens of miles. It also was deep, and there was no rupture in the seafloor that could cause a tsunami.

The earthquake at 1:30 a.m. Sunday rattled beds in Anchorage, Alaska's largest city, but it was far enough away not to crack most buildings.

Credit Alaska building codes for requiring commercial structures that roll with the punches caused by shifting tectonic plates. Most Alaskans live in wood-frame houses that flex with quakes but retain their integrity.

Q: What does the future hold?

Alaska's earthquake susceptibility does not affect California, Utah or other earthquake-prone states, which have their own fault lines.

Alaska will see more large earthquakes, but the USGS says scientists have never predicted one. The agency instead calculates probabilities and focuses on long-term mitigation of earthquake hazards by helping improve structures' safety.

Alaska sees so many large quakes, West said, the state is often written off as a land of log cabins that can fend off major shakers. Besides the Denali Fault quake 90 miles south of Fairbanks in June 2014 saw a magnitude-7.9 earthquake, but it was in the remote Aleutians 1,400 miles southwest of Anchorage.

West fears a magnitude-6 quake directly under a major Alaskan city. "It's all a function of proximity," he said.

More than homes, an earthquake in the wrong place could damage Alaska's infrastructure, such as ports or power transmission, rail or communication lines, which have far less redundancy than other states.

Texas seismology program

AUSTIN — A program to study the recent increase in earthquakes in Texas is getting underway with management hirings and the deployment of new seismographic equipment.

The TexNet Seismic Monitoring Program is being overseen by the University of Texas and bankrolled with $4.5 million approved last year by the Texas Legislature.

The Austin American-Statesman reported its review of U.S. Geological Survey records shows about two dozen quakes in Texas since 2011 reached at least 3.5 magnitude. In the previous five years — before the hyraulic fracturing boom — there were only five such quakes. The newspaper said one quake reached that magnitude between 2001 and 2005.

"Although there are always naysayers, the vast majority of scientists in the earthquake community would agree (that the uptick in quakes) is caused by human activity, mostly from wastewater injection wells associated with fracking or oil production," one University of Texas seismologist, Cliff Frohlich, told the newspaper.

Texas lawmakers, long influenced by the state's oil and gas industry, have been more skeptical, saying they want more information on geology and fault lines in the state, according to Rep. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, chair of the House Energy Resources Committee.

The TexNet program will provide infrastructure and technical advice, he said.

A project manager has been hired along with a manager for the new Center for Integrated Seismicity Research at the University of Texas' Bureau of Economic Geology, where data will be analyzed.

The state money also is being used to install 22 new permanent seismograph stations, more than double the current 16, and for 36 portable devices.

Sharon Wilson, Texas organizer for the environmental group Earthworks Oil and Gas Accountability Project, said the state "already has the research it needs" to further regulate oil and gas drilling.

"This will lead to another study to tell us what we already know," she said.

Associated Press

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for your information

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

Fashion takes great care with all of your winter outerwear

As usual, this has been a crazy winter—freezing cold one day, warm and balmy the next. You have to be ready to break out your outerwear—coats, jackets and sweaters—at any moment! When you want them to look their best, take them to Fashion Cleaners.

Dusters, down-filled coats and jackets, sweaters and other warm attire are no problem for the experts at Fashion. Owner Philip McCain notes that down filled coats can be cleaned either in water or dry cleaned, but that the "fluff" is retained better if they're dry cleaned. The fluff is what gives you the warmth you need.

If you have a coat with a collar or cuffs of real fur, make sure those furs are removable for cleaning—they must be cleaned separately from the rest of the garment, no matter what it's made of. Furs must be handled so that the natural oils are restored, or the skin will dry, crack and ruin.

Fashion can add water repellant to many types of coats if you desire—please ask when you turn the garment in to see if it can be done.

Fashion Cleaners has two convenient locations: 801 W. Wall and in the Imperial Shopping Center at Midkiff and Wadley. They do all kinds of cleaning and laundry, as well as alterations, reweaving and keepsaking of bridal gowns. Pickup and delivery are available.

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I saw what you did and I know who you are

By Paul Wiseman

Do you like scary movies? Did you see the one mentioned in the headline? Does it remind you of your business?

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for your information healthy living

There's a way to keep Trump from nomination

■ You are free to use it, if it is not too late

ROSS DOUTHAT
New York Times News Service

This is, of course, a pointless column. The Republican presidential race is over, as you may have heard. Donald Trump has the nomination wrapped up — in the most luxurious, velveteen packaging you've ever seen. You've seen his polling lead: It's yuge. You've watched his rallies: They're even yuger. You've heard from the insiders, the panjandrums, the grand poo-bahs: He's a man they can do business with; Bob Dole guarantees it. You've heard from Sarah Palin, and when has her political judgment ever failed?

But just in case at some point over the next few months of voting (a mere technicality, but you have to let the people have their fun), one of Trump's remaining rivals (I can barely remember their names, to be honest) wanted to waste money running attack ads against him (a strange, anti-quated concept, I know), it seems worth suggesting some ideas for how the poor hapless dear might go about it.

Thus far Trump has faced two main attacks. First, that he's an unserious creep who's temperamentally unsuited for the presidency. Second, that he's not a real conservative. That he lacks the Reaganite faith, the commitment to the right-wing catechism.

These attacks haven't worked. Of course, they haven't been offered all that often, or at least not by anyone polling above the single digits. But if you're going to take a run at the Inevitable Nominee between now and his coronation, you might as well try something new.

So think back to that misty time, two years gone, when one of Trump's current rivals — Chris Christie, that's the one — was seen as the presumptive Republican front-runner. What was the basis of Christie's appeal? Simply this: He was a jerk, but he was your jerk. He was rude — but to people who deserved it. He was an SOB — the SOB the country needed.

Then think about why the "Bridgegate" scandal was devastating to his image. Not because petty political payback is the worst thing in the world. Not because it proved Christie wasn't a "true conservative."

No, it devastated Christie because it flipped his brand. Instead of the jerk who looks out for the average guy, he became the jerk whose allies had stuck it to commuters. Instead of the tough guy fighting for you, he became the tough guy whose goons would mire their constituents in traffic for a pointless little feud.

Now apply that model to the Inevitable Nominee. Calling Trump a creep and a jerk and self-promoter clearly doesn't work, because his voters have decided that someone with his business chops and middle-finger-first attitude is exactly what they need.

To attack him effectively, you have to go after the things that people like about him. You have to flip his brand.

So don't tell people that he doesn't know the difference between Kurds and the Quds Force. (They don't either!) Tell people that he isn't the incredible self-made genius that he plays on TV. Tell them about all the money he inherited from his daddy. Tell them about the bailouts that saved him from ruin. Tell them about all his cratered companies. Then find people who suffered from those fiascos — workers laid off following his bankruptcies, homeowners who bought through Trump Mortgage, people who ponied up for sham degrees from Trump University.

Or just take a camera crew around Atlantic City, and slap Trump's name on what you find.

Likewise, don't get mired in philosophical arguments about big government and crony capitalism. Find the people hurt by Trump's attempts to exploit eminent domain: The widow whose boarding house he wanted to demolish to make room for a limo parking lot, the small businessmen whose livelihoods he wanted to redevelop out of existence.

(One of the Donald's foredoomed rivals, Ted Cruz, actually just cut an ad along these lines. But of course it's too late for that to work.)

Finally: Calling Trump out for having "New York values" when you mean "thrice-married, coarse, and libertine" is telling people what they already know. If you want to persuade his voters that his "New York values" are a problem for them, put his alleged dealings with the Mafia on the table.

All of this is not particularly complicated. It's roughly what the Democrats did to Mitt Romney, rendering him radioactive with many of the same working class voters currently backing Trump.

Except with Trump the trick is subtly different. Mitt was a numbers guy, so he was caricatured as a cruel Scrooge. But Trump is a salesman: That's been a big part of his campaign's success. And how do you flip a salesman's brand? You persuade people that he's a con artist, and they're his marks.

Or least that's what you would do, if the primary campaign weren't over already.

But since it is, I guess I'm just offering general-election advice. Maybe Bernie Sanders will take it.

OUR VIEW

List gets smaller of places that don't serve alcohol

We didn't know there was such a need in the community to drink a beer while watching a movie.

The thought comes to mind as the Midland City Council is set to pass an item on today's agenda that would allow the Regal Tall City Stadium 14 on Loop 250 to sell "all alcoholic beverages, for on-premises consumption, in a movie theater."

Alcohol is sold at Cinergy Cinema at Business 20 and Loop 250. We knew that was the company's plan before ground was broken on its facility. Regal must realize business is being lost and, therefore, dollars are not coming in because they are not operating on the same playing field.

It's kind of sad. We tend to agree with a letter that has made its rounds in the community that Midland doesn't need every theater to sell alcohol. We would prefer that patrons have the option of being able to attend a movie with their kids or allowing kids to watch a movie by themselves without alcohol being consumed in the theater.

The truth is, alcohol is part of the business plan of most new establishments in Midland. In fairness to the Regal Licensing group that is asking for the alcohol permit for its theater, there are at least six other petitioners asking for alcohol permits. One is a supermarket that wants to sell alcohol to customers eating in its in-store restaurant. So, yes, alcohol is big business. It's where restaurants, and apparently movie theaters, can make their largest profits.

Alcohol is also in demand elsewhere. One of the most-attended Midland RockHounds games during any homestand is "Thirsty Thursday," when all drinks, including beer, are half off their normal price. We also can't have a community event without alcohol being served, and nonprofits have been known to debate locations of an event specifically because they want the ability to provide alcohol for its patrons who expect it.

We aren't under the illusion that the theater item — which passed 5-2 on first reading — won't pass again. Only Jeff Sparks and Sharla Hotchkiss voted against the item the first time. We hope there is real discussion on the issue at today's meeting.

In the end, it is hard to envision the reversal of a 5-2 decision on first reading. Regal will have the ability to sell alcohol, and consumers will be able to stand in line wondering whether to buy a outrageously high-priced soda or an even slightly higher-priced cup of beer.

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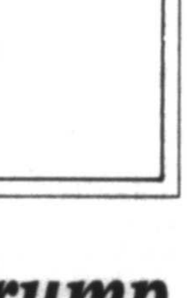
Politics of pride will define Trump

■ He won't unify, will find it hard to learn and lacks humility and empathy



MICHAEL GERSON
Washington Post Writers Group

Of all Donald Trump's political skills, perhaps the most impressive is his ability to persuade people to support him by suspending their deepest, lifelong beliefs.

Some prominent conservatives have embraced Trump, in spite of his recent support for dramatically higher taxes on the wealthy and a single-payer health care system. They are saying, in essence: Because he is an immigration restrictionist and speaks in a non-PC vernacular, it doesn't matter that he has endorsed the two main policy priorities of modern liberalism.

The same can be said of some pro-lifers, who must look past Trump's previous support for partial-birth abortion and his inability to provide a serious rationale for his pro-life conversion (other than the obvious political imperative). Ann Coulter put it bluntly, admitting she doesn't "care if [Trump] wants to perform abortions in the White House," so long as he builds a wall and expels 11 million undocumented immigrants.

Many evangelical Christians are now in a similar position. In considerable numbers (Trump was the presidential choice of 42 percent of them in a recent poll), they are attracted to Trump's unvarnished populism and his identification with middle-class anxiety and anger.

But this support comes at a price. Most obviously, it represents the final triumph of Clintonism — Bill Clintonism — which is the belief that personal character, particularly on sexual and family matters, has no serious public implications. Evangelicals have been cultural holdouts on this matter. "You brag about many affairs with married women," Sen. Ben Sasse recently challenged Trump. "Have you repented? To harmed children and spouses? Do you think it matters?" For evangelical supporters of Trump, it doesn't matter.

The greater problem for evangelicals is found not in the field of biology but of theology. Trump's defining personal and public characteristic is pride. In making America great again, he offers not a set of political ideals or policies but he himself. He, he says, is better, smarter and tougher than our corrupt and stupid leaders. Pride is his platform.

It is also, in the traditional Christian view, a vice, and a particularly pernicious one. "The essential vice, the utmost evil is Pride," wrote C.S. Lewis. "Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere fleabites in comparison; it was through Pride that the devil became the devil. Pride leads to every other vice; it is the complete anti-God state of mind."

Why is pride so dangerous? Because it is never sated, and always breeds conflict. "Pride is essentially competitive," says Lewis, "while the other vices are competitive only, so to speak, by accident. Pride gets no pleasure out of having something, only out of having more of it than the next man. ... Other vices may sometimes bring people together: You may find good fellowship and jokes and friendliness among drunken people or unchaste people. But Pride always means enmity — it *is* enmity. And not only enmity between man and man, but enmity to God."

In our personal experience, we know that pride is often at the root of resentment, rivalry, jealousy, antagonism, greed and a desire for revenge. It is the unifying conviction of evangelicals that people eventually come to the end of their ego and need to look upward; upward from the foot of the cross. For some, this humility comes naturally. For others, it involves humiliation, failure or loss — what some might call being a loser. But it is precisely at this point of surrender and trust that the prodigal is welcomed home: "You are my beloved son, on you my favor rests." So blessed are the poor, the hungry and the weeping. They are often the closest to God.

What does this mean for politics? A leader with an overweening, compulsive pride finds it difficult to learn or change: What of worth can others possibly teach? A narcissistic leader is always at enmity with other people and groups, and cannot be a unifying figure. As Abraham Lincoln displayed, the capacity to heal requires humility and empathy. A narcissistic leader is vindictive, keeps lists of his grievances and enemies and is vulnerable to the abuse of power. A narcissistic leader finds it difficult to feel sympathy for those regarded as failures and losers, for the wounded and disabled, for strangers, refugees and the vulnerable.

This is what evangelicals are sacrificing in their search for a savior. There is but one. And it is not Donald Trump.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

POLITICS BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

AUSTIN

Former Gov. Perry endorses Ted Cruz's White House bid

Former Gov. Rick Perry, who twice ran unsuccessfully for president, is endorsing fellow Texan Ted Cruz's White House bid.

Perry was the longest-serving governor in Texas history. He left office last January under felony indictment for abuse of power related to threatening a veto of state funding for public corruption prosecutors.

Perry's once-promising 2012 presidential run collapsed after a series of gaffes, and he was the first GOP presidential hopeful to drop out this cycle amid sluggish fundraising.

In a video released Monday by the Cruz campaign, Perry says that, as an Air Force veteran, he believes America deserves a president "who will keep our military strong."

WASHINGTON

Survey: Minorities make up 14 percent of state lawmakers

Only 14 percent of state legislators are minorities, according to a report released on Monday.

The New American Leaders Project surveyed state lawmakers in 2015 and found that black politicians held around 9 percent of the seats, Latino and Latina politicians held about 4 percent of the seats and Asian American politicians held about 2 percent of the seats. Native American officeholders numbered less than 1 percent. This number is far below the racial and ethnic makeup of this country, with minorities making up 40 percent of the population.

Sayu Bhojwani, president and founder of the New American Leaders Project, said the major political parties could do more to help usher more minority candidates to state-level offices. She also wants more support for minority candidates once they decide to seek office and foundations to invest in preparing future lawmakers.

"Part of the reason for the representation gap because the existing and traditional parties are not reaching out and encouraging Asians and Latinos and Latinas to run," she said.

Having more minority officeholders at the state level would mean minority communities would have someone who not only understands their issues but also likely has experienced what they are going through, she said. "If we could reduce the barriers, we could have a much more representative government," she said.

The survey also found a gender gap in state Legislatures, with women holding 24 percent of the lawmaking jobs and men holding 76 percent. Republicans also held a decisive advantage, holding 56 percent of state-level legislator positions while Democrats hold 43 percent. One percent is held by third-party candidates or independents.

WASHINGTON

Congressional agency reduces health law sign-up predictions

Fewer people than expected are purchasing health insurance under President Barack Obama's health care law, a report confirmed on Monday.

The Congressional Budget Office study said that 13 million people are likely to purchase policies through the Affordable Care Act this year, down about 8 million from estimates the agency made early last year. That's based on updated enrollment figures through last month.

The Department of Health and Human Services had already flagged the lowered expectations last fall, predicting just 10 million customers signed up and paying premiums through online insurance markets by the end of 2016.

Justices extend bar on automatic life terms for teens

By Mark Sherman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than 1,000 prison inmates, some behind bars more than 50 years for murders they committed as teenagers, will get a chance to seek their freedom under a Supreme Court decision announced Monday.

The justices voted 6-3 to extend an earlier ruling from 2012 that struck down automatic life terms with no chance of parole for teenage killers. Now, even those who were convicted long ago must be considered for parole or given a new sentence.

The court ruled in favor of Henry Montgomery, who has been in prison more than 50 years for killing a sheriff's deputy in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1963. Montgomery was 17 years old and playing hooky from high school when he encountered Deputy Charles Hurt, who was on truant patrol. Montgomery pulled a gun from his pocket and shot Hurt dead in a panic, he said.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, writing the majority opinion, said that "prisoners like Montgomery must be given the opportunity to show their crime did not reflect irreparable corruption; and if it did not, their hope for some years of life outside prison walls must be restored."

Kennedy said states do not have to go so far as to resentence people serving life terms. Instead, states can offer parole hearings, with no guarantee of release if inmates fail to show that they have been rehabilitated.

Louisiana is among seven states that refused to apply the Supreme Court's 2012 ruling to about 1,200 inmates who may now qualify for parole hearings. Alabama, Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana and Pennsylvania are the other states, according to public interest law firms that advocate on behalf of inmates.

Many states either have no inmates like Montgomery or have given them new prison sentences or parole hearings.

Monday's decision does not expressly foreclose judges from sentencing teenagers to a lifetime in prison. But the Supreme Court has previously said such sentences should be rare, and only for the most heinous crimes.

In dissent, Justice Antonin Scalia said the ruling "is just a devious way of eliminating life without parole for juvenile offenders." Justices Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas joined Scalia's dissent.

Four years ago, in a case called Miller v. Alabama, the justices struck down automatic life sentences with no chance of release for teenage killers. But the court did not say at the time if that ruling applied retroactively to Montgomery and other inmates like him, whose convictions are final.

In the 5-4 decision from 2012, Justice Elena Kagan wrote for the majority that judges weighing prison terms for young offenders must take into account "the mitigating qualities of youth," among them immaturity and the failure to understand fully the consequences of their actions.

Montgomery himself became a boxing coach and worked in the prison's silkscreen department, which he pointed to as evidence of his maturation.

Chief Justice John Roberts dissented from the 2012 decision barring automatic life sentences for young killers, but he joined the majority on Monday along with Justices Stephen Breyer, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor and Kagan.

Obama bans solitary confinement for juveniles in federal prisons

President Barack Obama said Monday he will ban the use of solitary confinement for juvenile and low-level offenders in federal prisons, citing the potential for "devastating, lasting psychological consequences" from the use of the isolation as punishment.

"It has been linked to depression, alienation, withdrawal, a reduced ability to interact with others and the potential for violent behavior," Obama wrote in an op-ed posted Monday evening on The Washington Post's website. "Some studies indicate that it can worsen existing mental illnesses and even trigger new ones. Prisoners in solitary are more likely to commit suicide, especially juveniles and people with mental illnesses."

Obama asked the Justice Department to review the use of solitary confinement last summer, as part of the administration's increased focus on the criminal justice system. Activists have been pushing for changes to the prison system.

The department review yielded a series of recommendations and 50 "guiding principles," which officials said would aim to ensure solitary confinement was an increasingly rare punishment used as an option of last resort when inmates posed a danger to staff, other inmates or themselves.

The changes would also expand treatment for the mentally ill and ensure that inmates in solitary can spend more time outside their cells.

Associated Press

Obama hasn't endorsed a Dem yet, but Clinton has a reason to smile

By Kathleen Hennessey
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama hasn't endorsed a Democratic successor, but he's now revealed some personal pros and cons in the fight between Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders.

Clinton has reason to smile.

In an interview published Monday, Obama casts his former secretary of state as a "wicked smart," progressive pragmatist and Sanders as a "bright, shiny object" fueled by Democrats' long-standing frustrations. He defends Clinton as burdened by her perceived front-runner status while Sanders benefits from "the luxury of being a complete long shot."

"Her strengths can be her weaknesses," Obama said in the interview with Politico's "Off Message" podcast. "Her strengths, which are the fact that she's extraordinarily experienced — and, you know, wicked smart and knows every policy inside and out — sometimes could make her more cautious and her campaign more prose than poetry. But those are also her strengths. It means that she can govern and she can start here, day one, more experienced than any non-vice president has ever been who aspires to this office."

The comments, coming a week before the Iowa caucuses, were Obama's most detailed yet on the unexpectedly tight contest to replace him. After months of keeping to his promise not to interfere, Obama's analysis showed he's been watching closely and thinking deeply about which candidate is best positioned win — and carry on his policies.

In framing the debate, Obama was notably on board with the Clinton campaign, which promotes her as battle-tested and experienced.

He was less in sync with Sanders' camp. Obama suggested he is a one-issue candidate, who will have to broaden his scope.

"The one thing everybody understands is that with this job right here, you don't have the luxury of just focusing on one thing," he said.

When asked whether he sees Sanders' campaign as comparable to his own 2008 battle against Clinton, a comparison Sanders' supporters have embraced, Obama wasn't buying it.

"No, I don't think that's true," he replied.

Campaigning in Iowa, Clinton showed she was listening.

"When you're in the White House, you can't pick the issues you want to work on," she told the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines.

The Sanders campaign took the president's comments in stride.

Campaign manager Jeff Weaver noted that Obama has had positive things to say about both candidates.

"We feel he's been very fair and evenhanded in this process," Weaver said.

Clinton weeks ago decided to align herself with Obama and his legacy — a bid to win Obama loyalists. The president features prominently in her speeches, from her assertion that he doesn't get enough credit for rescuing the economy to her detailed description of being in the Situation Room alongside him during the raid that killed Osama bin Laden.

One of Clinton's biggest applause lines comes when she mentions that the economy has done better under the two Democratic presidents who have served in the past 35 years than the three Republicans.

"I know both of the Democrats," Clinton says with a knowing smile.

Like Sanders, Obama in 2008 ran a campaign that cast Clinton's politics as outdated and compromised, and, like Sanders, he ran to her left. But Obama's presidency has looked much like the one Clinton is promising.

The president has proven to be comfortable with a steady, incremental approach. His taste for long-shot policy proposals is limited. Friction between Obama and the progressive wing of his party — what Obama's former spokesman once dubbed the "professional left" — has been constant.

Meanwhile, Obama and Clinton forged a close and, at times, affectionate rapport during her time in his Cabinet. Obama has been effusive and public about his respect for her work ethic and intellect.

Obama's ties to Sanders are far less personal or deep, though Obama served in the Senate with Sanders and campaigned for him in 2006 when the two were prominent anti-war voices in Congress.

Obama noted in the interview that he respects Sanders' skills as a legislator and his blunt speaking style.

White House officials say they have been working on arranging a one-on-one meeting between the men this week, although it isn't certain it will come together.

Clinton has met with Obama periodically in recent months, while several of Obama's former senior aides have signed on to her campaign.

Current White House aides are in regular contact with their former colleagues. They typically get a heads-up on policy announcements or comments that might ricochet back on the president.

But that overlap, doesn't mean the White House is full of Clinton cheerleaders.

Her decision to come out against Obama's Pacific Rim trade deal was viewed as so transparently political it risked backfiring. Her use of a private email at work was greeted with some bewilderment and head-shaking. The political wisdom of her recent attacks on Sanders, whose voters she'll need to win in November, has raised eyebrows.

White House aides and their boss are watching the campaign with a close, and occasionally critical, eye — much like a group of retired football players watching the Super Bowl.

Justices uphold government's energy conservation program

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a win for the Obama administration and environmental groups, the Supreme Court on Monday upheld a 5-year-old federal program that pays large electric customers to save energy during times of peak demand.

The justices ruled 6-2 that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission had the authority to issue regulations aimed at conserving energy and preventing blackouts.

Supporters of the plan say it has saved billions in energy costs, improved reliability of the power grid and reduced air pollution since it was put in place in 2011. A coalition of utility companies, which have lost millions of dollars in profits under the rule, argued it was too generous and trampled state rights over retail electricity sales.

A federal appeals court ruled last year that the plan intrudes on state power because it affects the purchasing decisions of retail customers.

But the Supreme Court said the commission acted within its authority to regulate wholesale markets and was not attempting to regulate retail sales, which are governed by states.

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Aramco chair defends oil giant's possible IPO move

Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — The chairman of Saudi Arabia's state oil giant said on Monday that plans for a possible initial public offering are not being driven by a need for cash amid a global slump in oil prices, but instead signal a desire for greater openness to outside investors.

Speaking at an investment conference in the Saudi capital of Riyadh, Khalid al-Falih said the potential listing of the world's largest oil producer "is not for cash" but a "sign of the times" that the kingdom is open for business.

"If we do it, the percentage will not be such that it's going to move the needle significantly in terms of the government proceeds," al-Falih said, a reference to the potential listing.

He said that despite oil prices recently dipping below $30 a barrel, Saudi Aramco's investments in oil and gas have not slowed down.

Earlier, al-Falih told the Saudi-owned Al-Arabiya news channel that any initial public offering of Saudi Aramco would not include the kingdom's oil reserves.

Saudi Arabia has aggressively kept its production levels high in what analysts say is an attempt to keep its market share and stymie the reach of U.S. shale producers in the global market.

Talking to reporters at the conference, al-Falih said excessively high oil prices "precipitated" the current slump since "everybody wanted to contribute to supply more than the demand that was coming in."

Fed faces darker global economy after raising rates

By Martin Crustinger
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Since the Federal Reserve raised interest rates from record lows last month, the global picture has darkened. Stock markets have plunged. Oil prices have skidded. China's leaders have struggled to steer the world's second-biggest economy.

All of which raised a delicate question: Did the Fed err in raising rates for the first time in nearly a decade?

Don't expect the central bank to answer or even acknowledge that question when it issues a statement after its latest policy meeting ends Wednesday. But in their meeting, the Fed's policymakers will surely grapple with whether — and, if so, how — to respond to an altered economic landscape.

No one thinks the Fed will suddenly reverse course and roll back the quarter-point increase in its key short-term rate it announced Dec. 16. But some analysts say the Fed might signal that the pace of three or four additional rate increases that many had expected this year could become more gradual — with perhaps only two rate hikes this year and not starting until midyear.

"People are just scared right now," said David Wyss, a former Fed staff economist and now an economics professor at Brown University. "It isn't just China weighing on things. Europe hasn't solved its problems, we have geopolitical risks in the Middle East and in the United States there is a lack of confidence in the political parties and the candidates."

The most visible sign of the economic fear has been the sharp fall in the stock market. Even after a gain of 211 points Friday, the Dow Jones industrial average shed more than 7 percent of its value in the first three trading weeks of 2016.

China has unnerved investors because of an economic slowdown that Beijing seems incapable of managing properly. The country's decelerating growth has shrunk global commodity prices and the emerging market countries that have supplied them to China. Last week, the price of oil reached a 12-year low of $28.15 a barrel before rebounding to around $32 on Friday.

Many see the Fed's December rate hike as a key factor in the stock market's tumble.

The move amounted to only a small rise in the Fed's still-extremely low target rate for overnight bank lending. But it signaled that a seven-year period of near-zero rates was ending and that while borrowing costs wouldn't be rising fast, they would be headed steadily up.

The Fed's critics had warned for years that by keeping rates so low for so long, it was fueling dangerous bubbles in assets such as stocks. Some now see the falling stock prices as the correction that they had forecast would occur after the Fed started raising rates.

Others say the market's swoon seems hardly due to a small increase in the Fed's benchmark rate. They point instead to China's economic troubles, the slide in oil prices and weakness in some key areas of the global economy. Still, some economists suggest that if the Fed could have foreseen what has ensued in the month since it raised rates, it might have reconsidered.

"At the time they raised rates, it seemed like a reasonable decision, and it certainly has been supported by the strong employment numbers we have seen," said Nariman Behravesh, chief economist at IHS Global Insight. "But starting at the beginning of the year, it seems all hell broke loose. The rather inept handling by Chinese authorities of the stock market troubles in that country has really bothered global markets."

Price of gas drops below $1.50 in Midland, Odessa

From staff reports

The average price of gasoline in Midland-Odessa fell another 2.1 cents per gallon in the last week, and a handful of stores are selling gas for less than $1.50, according to website reports.

GasBuddy reported that the average price of gas, according to its daily survey of 156 gas outlets in Midland-Odessa on Sunday, was $1.67. The average price of gas in Lubbock was $1.58, down 8.7 cents per gallon, and the average price across the state was $1.61, down 5.5 cents per gallon.

The cheapest gas in Midland, according to TexasGasPrices.com, was $1.47 a gallon at the Sunoco station at Interstate 20 and Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Closer to heart of the city, Sam's Club was offering gas for $1.49, and the northside Wal-Mart had gas for $1.51. The cheapest price of gas in Odessa was $1.46. There were seven locations in Odessa with gas less than $1.50.

Gas in Midland-Odessa has decreased by 29 cents in the past year and 13.8 cents in the past month, according to GasBuddy.

"Crude oil futures have lost 18 percent of value since the end of 2015 and have cleared the way for the retail gasoline price decline," said Will Speer, a GasBuddy senior petroleum analyst. "Ample supply has been attributed as the cause of prices falling at the pump. Gasoline inventories sitting at 245 million barrels are the highest the U.S. has seen since March 1990."

Exxon

From 1A

Yet Exxon's new forecast is strikingly similar to the old one. Its main predictions:

- Global energy demand will rise 25 percent from 2014 to 2040, led by developing nations in Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. The International Energy Agency recently forecast a one-third increase by 2040.
- Oil use will grow 25 percent in that period, although it will account for a slightly smaller share of overall energy, and use of natural gas will jump 56 percent.
- Together, oil and gas will account for 57 percent of the world's energy, up from 56 percent in 2014.
- Coal's share will slip to 20 percent from 26 percent.
- Nuclear and biomass will each account for 8 percent of energy in 2040, hydro 3 percent, and other renewables 4 percent. Exxon thinks alternative fuels will become a staple in power generation but grow more slowly in transportation because of technology and cost issues.
- Carbon emissions will rise about 11 percent between 2014 and 2040. Emissions will fall 21 percent in industrialized nations but rise 32 percent in developing ones, notably India and countries in Latin America.

Exxon sees a slightly smaller increase in carbon emissions than it forecast in December 2014 after adjusting for the earlier study's different time period; 2010 to 2040. Technology and climate-change policies are among the reasons.

Critics said the Exxon forecast understates pressure to reduce emissions of gases blamed for climate change. According to U.S. science agencies, 2015 was by far the hottest year in 136 years of record-keeping. At Paris, nearly 200 nations vowed to limit global warming below 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit compared with pre-industrial levels.

Energy researcher Jonathan Koomey of Stanford University said there will be pressure for more aggressive action and that Exxon was making assumptions most favorable to continued use of oil and gas.

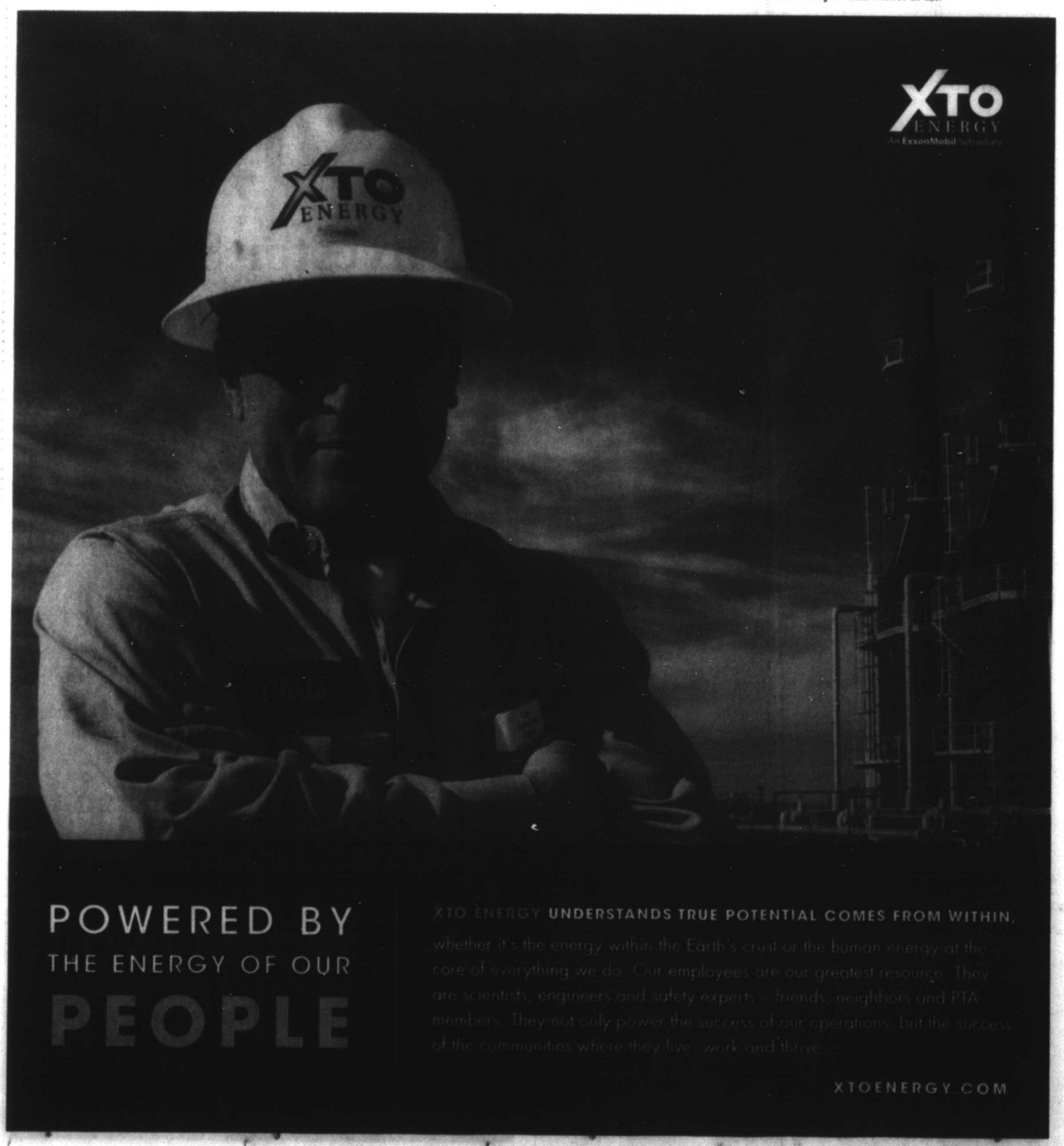
"I don't think they are saying things that are crazy — the Exxon people are very sharp," Koomey said, "but they are painting a picture of a world in which there is not significant climate action, and that's not the world we're going to live in the next 25 years."

James Leaton, head of research for the UK-based Carbon Tracker Initiative, said Exxon overstated energy demand, underestimated an increasing role for renewables and ignored looming changes in energy.

"It is very easy to justify business as usual if nothing is changing in your outlook," he said. Oil and gas companies will shrink because "technology and policy will curtail demand for their product."

Colton said Exxon took the December agreement in Paris and climate-change policies into account when forecasting emissions. "We already had a good basis for estimating what was going to happen," he said.

Colton declined to say whether Exxon believes the goals of the climate-change deal will be met. He said the company considers environmental policies on a country-by-country basis, "then we have to handicap what we think is really going to happen" — whether regulations will be delayed or whether they'll take effect at all.



PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM PRESENT

Classroom Pioneers

CELEBRATING INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

Diane Harris

SIXTH-GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER AT JONES ELEMENTARY

Diane Harris was assigned to Jones Elementary 25 years ago when she began teaching in Midland ISD and she hasn't left yet.

"I have had the privilege of teaching at Jones for 25 years," said Harris, who has 35 years teaching experience overall. "Jones is home to me. I have taught multiple siblings, and I will be teaching their children in the next couple of years. Every year I have former students come to visit me and tell me what an important part I played in their education. It doesn't get any better than that."

During her time at Jones, Harris has taught nearly every grade level but finds sixth grade to be her favorite.

"The one lesson that I want every one of my students to know is that they are my 'babies' and that they are important to me," said Harris, who believes showing compassion to students is a key to effective teaching.

The graduate of Plainview High School and Wayland Baptist University began teaching in Midland ISD immediately after moving to Midland from Plainview 25 years ago. Her family includes daughters Kristin and Ashley, stepdaughter Mandy, seven grandchildren and significant other, Larry Anglin.

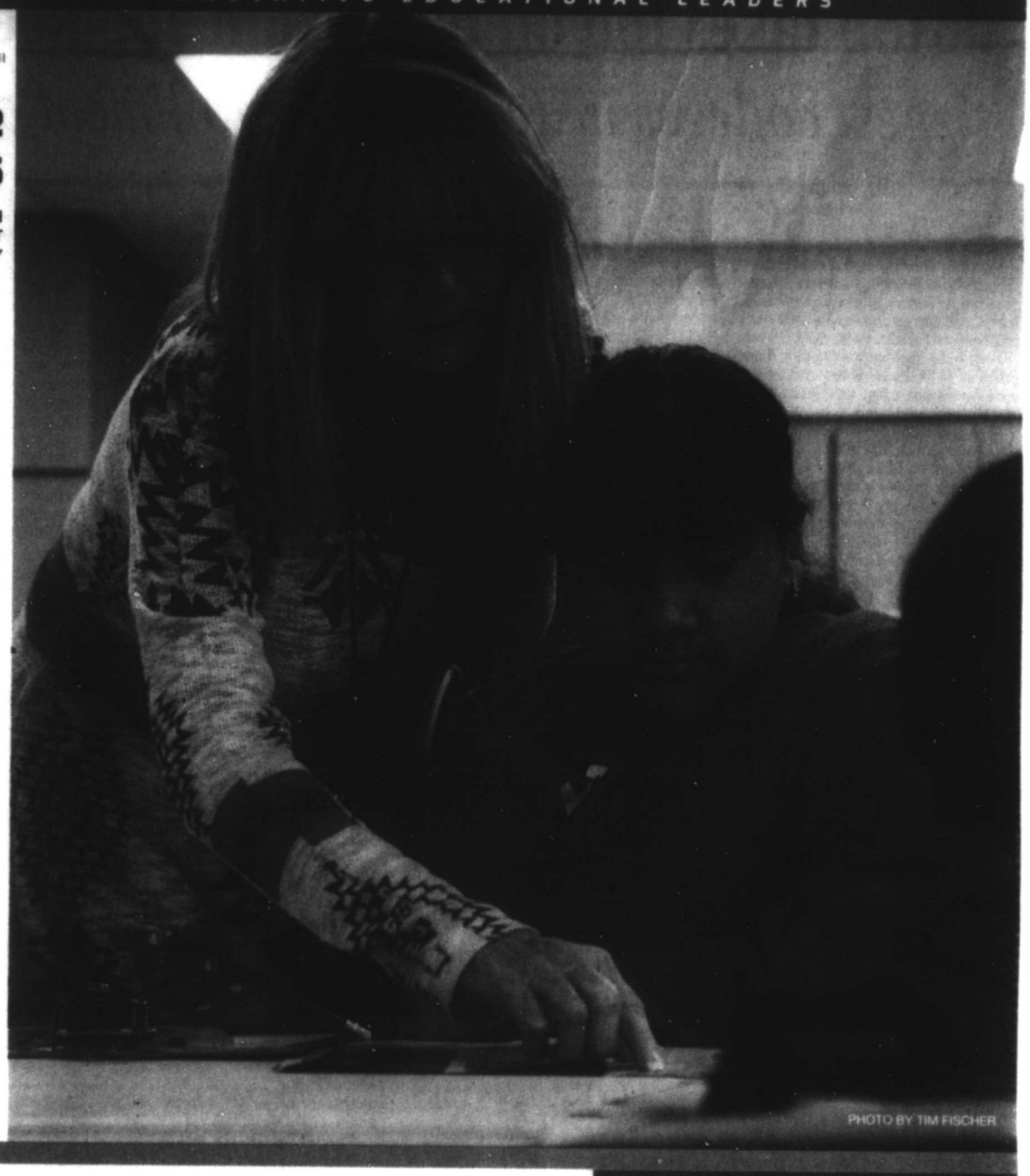


PHOTO BY TIM FISCHER

Q&A with the Pioneer

How, and why, do you make a difference in Midland's educational landscape?

As a veteran teacher, I feel that I make a difference in the educational landscape by providing the best education for my students. In order to achieve this goal, I am always looking for new ways to improve my teaching style. I am a member of the Lead4ward team on my campus this year and it has been very beneficial for myself, my students and for my colleagues.

How have you moved beyond the basic curriculum and found innovative ways to reach your students?

I have been able to move from teaching the basic curriculum, the textbook, to the use of technology in my classroom. This has helped my students to become more engaged in their learning. Technology is the wave of the future, and I want my students to have the opportunity to experience it in my classroom.

How do you inspire your peers, colleagues and others aiming to make a difference in Midland ISD?

I think that teaching at the same school for 25 years is an inspiration to all educators. I love Jones, and I know that being an educator for 35 years is also an inspiration to my peers because they see my passion for teaching. I have also mentored many new sixth-grade teachers for MISD. It is a privilege to help these educators become the best teachers in Midland.

Has the role of being an educator changed since your first year as a teacher? If so, how?

Oh my, yes! I remember when the only technological tool we had was the overhead projector and the purple ditto machine. Since I have been a teacher in Midland, I have had multiple opportunities to grow as an educator. Don't get me wrong, I have seen a lot of educational programs come and go, but for the most part the trainings have been very beneficial.

How have you implemented technology into your classroom and instruction model?

Thanks to the recent bond, I have five computers and LearnPads in my classroom that the students use on a regular basis. Jones has a computer lab that the students use at least once a week. I have a Smartboard and a document camera that I use every day in my classroom.

What are your professional goals for the future?

My professional goal is to teach for at least five to seven more years.

What is the greatest challenge to being an educator in Midland today?

I think that one of the greatest challenges in being an educator today is making sure my students know that I care about them and understand the challenges that they are facing due to the bust in the oilfield and the growing cost of living in Midland. Another challenge in being an educator today is keeping up with the latest ways to use technology in the classroom. Technology must be used to keep our students interested in learning.

What support can Midlanders provide you and other educators?

I have worked for two other school districts in my teaching profession, and Midland is by far the best one. I feel that Midlanders are very supportive of MISD. Dr. (Ryder) Warren has done a great job in ensuring that Midlanders are informed on every aspect of what is going on at MISD.

She takes the time to get to know the children — both academically and socially

Diane Harris is in her 35th year of teaching — 25 of those years have been at Jones Elementary. She is a tremendous influence on the campus, and she consistently exhibits and imparts enthusiasm and confidence to both adults and children. As a veteran teacher, Ms. Harris has seen many people, programs and teaching philosophies come and go. However, she meets any new initiative with an open mind and then follows through vigorously. Her students are always central to her decision-making, and they in turn love being in her classroom.

Adapting to change is important in every profession, but it is essential in teaching. Ms. Harris changes with new instructional techniques. She is part of the campus leadership team and is instrumental in teaching her colleagues new and innovative instructional strategies, different ways to disaggregate student data and how to facilitate student goal-setting and self-reflection through progress monitoring. Even though technology is not necessarily her forte, she embraced the "bring your own device" concept, and her students thoroughly enjoy reviewing English Language Arts content with a rousing game of Kahoots.

Ms. Harris has many talents, but what makes her stand apart from other teachers is her ability to form positive relationships with her students. She takes the time to get to know the children — both academically and socially. She sets high standards for each student, and they in turn work diligently to rise to her expectations of them. She is the epitome of the quote: "My teacher thought I was smarter than I was — so I was."

– SHARLA BUTLER, JONES ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

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Slump takes toll on petroleum engineering grads

Biggest colleges in Texas have enrollment caps in place

By Ginger Hervey
Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — Shane Farren has a timing problem.

In 2011, when the Dallas native enrolled at Texas A&M University and picked what was then one of the most lucrative college majors, oil prices were soaring above $100 a barrel, and energy companies were recruiting petroleum engineers as early as their freshman year.

Four years later, with a degree in hand and oil prices tanking to an 11-year low, Farren had to turn to his Plan B — graduate school, a part-time job at a Dallas-area oil company and hopes of a rebound.

"I'm just taking it step by step," Farren said. "But I really want to stay in the industry."

The boom-and-bust cycles in the oil business can be brutal for those wanting to make it a career. Recent graduates entered the field when colleges boasted near 100 percent job placement rates and six-figure jobs awaited the top of the class.

Today, the biggest colleges in Texas have enrollment caps in place and advise petroleum engineering majors to consider other disciplines, take entry-level jobs to stay in the industry, or go to graduate school until conditions improve.

But the next two graduating classes — the petroleum engineers who entered school before the 2014 crash — are still the largest in history.

The few universities that put enrollment caps in place before the price collapse, such as Texas A&M and the University of Texas at Austin, had been getting as many as 15 applicants for each available spot, said Jon Olson, chair of UT's petroleum engineering department.

"Really, it was kind of out of hand," Olson said. "There was so much demand."

Those who research the industry realized several years ago that increased demand could oversaturate the job market, especially if there was a steep drop in oil prices.

2010 "was when we collectively in the U.S. started talking about it," said Lloyd Heinze, a professor at Texas Tech University who has collected data on petroleum engineering programs since the 1970s. "But a university is a large boat, and it's hard to turn very fast."

In 2010, there were 4,721 petroleum engineering students in the United States, according to Heinze's data. Today, there are 11,332.

"That gives you an idea of what happens when universities think there's a job market there," Heinze said. "We've collectively probably produced way more students in the last five years than we should have."

For Farren, the challenging classes were worth it, and not just for the money the career would yield.

"Taking classes revolving around oil, I just fell in love with it," he said. "I find myself picking up books about oil and gas and reading them. And I'm a slow reader, so that should tell you something."

Companies were courting freshmen and sophomores for internships, and Farren worked them during the summers. Typically, companies offer interns who are entering their senior year full-time positions at the end of the summer.

The June before his senior year, the price of oil peaked at $115 a barrel. By December, it had fallen to less than $70. Now it's below $30.

That precipitous drop forced oil and gas companies to cut more than 250,000 jobs worldwide, according to industry

Please see **SLUMP**/3B

CELEBRATING CHOICE

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Students, teachers and parents celebrate School Choice Week on Monday at Bynum School.

Local schools raise awareness of National School Choice Week

By Cassie Burton
cburton@mrt.com

This week some Midland schools are planning activities to participate in a nationwide celebration of educational opportunity: National School Choice Week.

The purpose of the week, which always falls the last week of January, is to raise public awareness about school choice and spark conversations about "the need for, and benefits of, educational opportunity," according to a press release from the National School Choice Week.

Midland Academy Charter School

Midland Academy, a tuition-free charter school with between 420 and 450 students, kicked off the celebration Monday with a proclamation about school choice from City Councilman J.Ross Lacy.

It's one of many events planned for the week that include Chamber of Commerce members visiting and students decorating "Why I Love My School!" index cards. It's the second year the school has celebrated the national event, according to school secretary Grace Perez. Superintendent Jill Lankford credited Perez for organizing events.

"We're our own little community," Perez said. "I think the reason parents come here is they are looking for the small community setting."

Midland Academy has grades pre-kindergarten through eighth, and a greater number of applicants last year meant kindergarten currently has four sections with 16 students in each, Lankford said.

Like many charter schools, the school does not have sports teams, but students still participate in common activities such as Red Ribbon Week and take the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) tests, Perez said.

The school will celebrate 100 Days of School on Monday by challenging each classroom to collect 100 cans of food to donate to the West Texas Food Bank, which also qualifies as a service project for the National Junior Honor Society. The school also raises funds by often permitting students to wear sweatshirts on Fridays instead of the standard school uniform top if they pay $1, Perez said.

Lankford said that a common reason parents choose Midland Academy is that they come from a small community and want to emulate a familiar environment of smaller class sizes. Midland Academy's classes often are 20, but can be 16 students per teacher in the younger grades.

Once they start, students typically stay at the school until seventh grade, when

Please see **CHOICE**/3B

Charter funding is a complex question

■ Comparison with traditional school districts prove difficult, thanks to patchwork finance rules

By Lauren McGaughy
Houston Chronicle

AUSTIN — With the Supreme Court close to deciding whether Texas' method of funding public schools is constitutional, a recurrent talking point again has pervaded the conversation: Charter schools are disadvantaged when compared with traditional school districts because they get less money on average from the state.

More on charters

Dallas ISD rues loss of students to charter schools

Page 6B

That narrative is incomplete at best, experts said.

Lawmakers and lobbyists often say that only about five people in the state of Texas really understand how school finance works. Weighted average daily attendance, the cost of education index, "golden pennies" — the way state and local tax dollars fund public schools is a complex set of concepts that takes time and effort to understand.

In addition, as a result of seven lawsuits challenging the system's constitutionality since 1984, Texas has ended up with a patchwork set of formulas, weights and measures that is updated in some areas and outmoded in others.

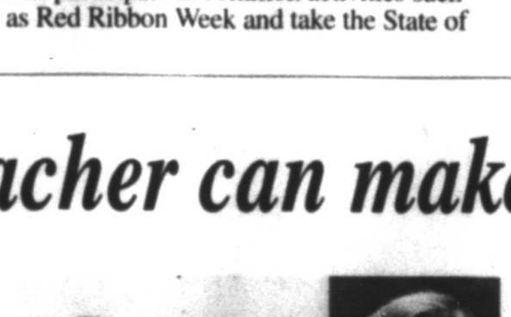
Add charter schools to the mix, and things get more complicated, according to Lisa Dawn-Fisher. As associate commissioner at the Texas Education Agency in charge of school finance, Dawn-Fisher is the top expert on public school funding in the state.

"I don't think there's anything about school finance that is as simple as people want it to be," Dawn-Fisher said recently. "I think it's hard to wrap your mind around all these esoteric concepts."

State lawmakers first approved charters 20 years ago. Texas now boasts 195 charter providers, which operate

Please see **CHARTER**/4B

'Just right' teacher can make a difference in a child's life



Patricia Maurer
Trinity School

This is written for anyone who ever thought about becoming a teacher, who is a teacher, or who knows in their heart that they were profoundly changed, for good or not, by the work of a teacher.

Recently, through the miracle of social media, I reconnected with a group of children I taught over a three-year period some 35 years ago. I still call them children as they are forever captured in my memory as 8 and 9 and 10. As the story of our shared experience unfolded in post after post, I celebrated once again the countless blessings I gathered while working with this extraordinary class.

One comment especially touched my heart and caused me to think long and hard about the incredible gift and the awesome responsibility of being a teacher. Writing about her life as a third-grader, my young friend had this to say, "You were one of the first, but not the last, thankfully, to allow me to be me — back when there were no ADD diagnoses and IEP's — you saw that all my energy and 'spaciness' was joy and light and could be harnessed."

I was humbled to know that she counted me one of the first to have recognized the power of her unique spirit, and that she acknowledged me for not squelching her boundless enthusiasm for learning. For that's how I remember her — curious about everything, willing to try anything and open to everyone. Where she now gives me credit, I simply remember being glad to have been along for the ride, no harness needed, just wind in our faces and joy climbing the next hill.

No teacher — myself included — should ever take singular credit for the success of any student, and while it pleased me to know this now-grown and accomplished young woman has positive memories of our time together, I was equally pleased to know that she found other teachers, "just right" teachers, ready to nudge, to shape and to rekindle her efforts along the way. For in the end, that's what it takes: teachers all along the way who put aside labels and look for the right solution, the right question, the right answer for every child.

I've been thinking a lot about just how many times I've deserved credit for being a "just right" teacher. If at all, I believe it results from my constant state of discontent. Where children are concerned, I've never been willing to say, "That's good enough." Ignacio Estrada, once commented, "If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should just teach the way they learn." This simple, yet powerful statement makes it clear that one-size-fits-all teaching, including one-size-fits-all strategies, methods, standards or assessments, does not fit what we have come to know about how children learn. More of the same harder and longer just does not make any sense.

After much reflection, and nearly a half century of trying to shape the answer, I

Please see **MAURER**/4B

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TUESDAY PRIME TIME — JANUARY 26, 2016

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Fresh Off the Boat	The Muppets	Agent Carter "Better Angels" (N)		What Would You Do? (SP) (N)		Local 2 News/ 10	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Viral"		NCIS: New Orleans "Shadow Unit"		Limitless "Brian Finch's Black Op"		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	HappyD. "Allison"	Laverne & Shirley	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	P. Mason "The Case of the Lonely Eloper"		Columbo
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	New Girl (N)	Grandfathered (N)	Brooklyn 99 (N)	Grinder (N)	TMZ	2 Broke Girls	Modern Family	Two and Half Men	Met Your Mother	Hot in Cleveland
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Jean-Claude	Joshua Caleb	Update News	Rocks/Manuscripts	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Israel Inspired	Mission: M25	Ministerios Nueva Vida	
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsWest 9 at 6 p.m.		Game Night "Battle of the Sexes II" (N)		Chicago Med "Saints" (N)		Chicago Fire "Not Everyone Makes It" (N)		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Your Roots "Tragedy + Time = Comedy" (N)		Amer. Experience "The Mine Wars" Go inside the bitter battle to unionize coal miners. (N)				Charlie Rose (N)		World News	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Muchacha italiana viene a casarse		Antes muerta que lichita		Pasion y poder		El Hotel de los Secretos		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Fam.Feud	Fam. Feud	Dead "Triggerfinger"		Dead "18 Miles Out"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Office	Access H.
FLIX	340	575		165		(5:25) Celtic Pride		★★★★ American Graffiti				The Kentucky Fried Movie			★★ Tapeheads John Cusack.		
HBO	300	550	14	14		Movie	Bill Maher		Unfriended Heather Sossaman.			Real Sports (N)		★★ Feast of Love			Movie
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(5:40) ★★★ Bull Durham			Focus Will Smith.			1stLook	Bill Maher		★★★ Music and Lyrics		
HBOS	304	552	16	102		Movie	★★★★ Once Glen Hansard.			★★★ Unbroken ('14, Bio) Jack O'Connell.				(:20) ★★★ Knocked Up Seth Rogen.			
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:45) Saving Silver...		(:20) ★★★ Walk of Shame				★★ Tammy Melissa McCarthy.			Lingerie	Lingerie	Movie
MAX2	382	558	18	122		(:15) ★★ Queen of the Damned				Dracula Untold Luke Evans.			(:35) ★★ The Forsaken			(:10) Dracula 2000	
PLEX			96			(5:15) A Guy Thing	★★ He Said, She Said Kevin Bacon.					★ Jury Duty Pauly Shore.			The Secret of My Success		
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	(5:15) The Seven Five...		Billions		Inside the NFL (N)		Shameless		Inside the NFL		Billions	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:00) Cleanskin		★★★ Camp X-Ray Kristen Stewart.				★★★ Harsh Times Christian Bale.				The Lovers	
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Married at First Sight "Intimacy" Pt. 1 of 2		Married "Breaking Down Barriers"		Married "Making Memories" (N)		Fit to Fat to Fit "Steve/ Tasha" (N)		Fit to Fat to Fit "JJ/ Ray"		Married "Breaking Down Barriers"	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(4:00) Enemy of the S...		★★★ Live Free or Die Hard ('07, Act) Justin Long, Bruce Willis.						★★★ Rambo III Sylvester Stallone.			
BET	58	-		40		Baggage Claim (2013, Comedy) Taye Diggs, Paula Patton.						Zoe (N)	Husbands	Zoe Ever	Husbands	Wendy Williams	
BRAVO	65	76		41		Beverly "Pretty Mess"		Beverly "Going Deep"		Beverly Hills (N)		Girlfriends' Guide (N)		Watch (N)	Beverly "Busted BBQ"		Guide
CNBC	46	52		39	72	Profit "Inkkas Shoes"		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		The Profit (N)		The Profit		The Profit	
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	Moonshiners		Moonshiners (N)		Moonshiners (N)		Killing Fields (N)		Mnshiner "Caved In"		(:05) Killing Fields	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Austin	Mako Mer	★★★ Bedtime Stories			Liv/Mad	Friends	Underc.	Girl M.	Liv/Mad	Jessie	Jessie
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball Indiana at Wisconsin (L)				NCAA Basketball Georgia vs LSU (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball Texas Tech at Oklahoma (L)				ITF Tennis Australian Open Men's and Women's Quarter-final Site: Melbourne Park (L)							
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Chopped "Waste Not"		Chopped Junior (N)		Chopped "Hot Stuff"		Chopped (N)		Chopped		Chopped "Hot Stuff"	
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	Liar "Charlotte's Web"		Pretty Little Liars (N)		Shadowhunters (N)		Pretty Little Liars		The 700 Club		★★ Casper	
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Spursinsider (N)	Ultimate Insider (N)	WPT Poker Seminole Hard Rock Showdown		Cowboys Legends	Rangers Insider	Mavs Pre (L)	NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Los Angeles Lakers Site: Staples Center -- Los Angeles, Calif. (L)				
FX	31	56	59	64	69	(4:00) Star Trek: Into ...		Riddick ('13, Sci-Fi) Karl Urban, Vin Diesel.					Riddick ('13, Sci-Fi) Karl Urban, Vin Diesel.				
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper (N)		H.Hunt	House (N)	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper	
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Curse of Oak Island		Curse of Oak Island		Curse/Oak Island (N)		(:05) DrillingDown (N)		(:05) Oak Island		Curse of Oak Island	
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Pitch Slapped "This is Aca-War!"		Dance "Mini Dancers, Big Drama" (N)		Dance Moms (N)		Pitch "The Cruella of A Capella" (N)		The Rap Game "Style and Swagga"		Dance Chat "Mini Dancers, Big Drama"	
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN	38	43				NHLLive	NHL Hockey Chicago Blackhawks at Carolina Hurricanes (L)					NHL Hockey Colorado Avalanche at San Jose Sharks (L)					Overtime
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	MakePop	Thunder	H.Danger	Nicky	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	(4:30) Ender's Game		★★★ Iron Man 2 ('10, Act) Don Cheadle, Robert Downey Jr..						★★ Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time			
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	Movie	★★ Twister ('96, Act) Bill Paxton, Helen Hunt.					The Expanse (N)		12 Monkeys		12 Monk. "Shonin"	
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Sein. "The Soup"	Seinf. "The Secretary"	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan Zach Galifianakis		2 Broke Girls	Conan
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(4:30) The Young Phi...		★★★ The Unsinkable Molly Brown				(:15) ★★ A Woman Under the Influence ('74, Dra) Peter Falk.					
TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado (N)		Celia (N)		Eva, La Trailera (N)		Querida centauro		Al rojo	Titulares	Gran Hermano	
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Kate Plus Eight "Blind Date"		The Little Couple "Safety First!"		The Little Couple "A Fashion Show" (N)		Kate Plus Eight "Kate's Advice" (N)		The Little Couple "A Fashion Show"		Kate Plus Eight "Kate's Advice"	
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	Castle "Hedge Fund Homeboys"		Castle "Hell Hath No Fury"		Castle "A Chill Goes Through Her Veins"		Castle "Always Buy Retail"		Castle		CSI: NY "Risk"	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	Griffith	(:35) Griffith	(:10) Ray	(:50) Ray	(:25) Loves Ray		Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Modern "Snip"	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Bound"	
WGN	19	85				(5:00) ★★★ The Lost World: Jurassic Park ('97, Adv) Julianne Moore, Jeff Goldblum.				Outsiders "Farrell Wine" (P) (N)		Outsiders "Farrell Wine"		Outsiders "Farrell Wine"		Outsiders "Farrell Wine"	

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SLUMP

From 2B

consultant Graves & Co.

The first jobs to go were those closest to the rigs, the actual hands-on work in the field. But it wasn't long before employees with the least seniority were cut. And there are no employees with less seniority than those who haven't even started working yet.

"One of my good buddies had a full-time offer that got rescinded," Farren said. "That was a real eye-opener for me. That's what got me thinking, 'Whoa, we're in some bad times.'"

The last comparable slump was in the mid-1980s, when crude oil prices fell more than 46 percent between January and March 1986. Students then faced similar job shortages.

"There's not many industries like this," said Mike Minarovic, a 1987 UT graduate who now manages an oil and gas company in Houston. "The price of an F-150 truck doesn't go down 50 percent in 12 months. The lows are low and the highs are high."

In the long term, enrollment caps and high grade-point average requirements will help reduce class sizes. Heinze's data shows that enrollment tends to lag oil prices by about two years.

There are still jobs in the industry — just fewer of them, said Daniel Hill, head of Texas A&M's petroleum engineering department.

"We tell students in times like this, you just have to work at it a lot harder," Hill said. "You can't just wait on campus for jobs to come to you, like you maybe could a few years ago."

In 2014, about 80 percent of Texas A&M graduates were placed in full-time positions or in graduate programs, Hill said. That percentage, while lower than petroleum placement in the past, was still higher than the national employment rate for college graduates, which was 69.4 percent in 2014.

But in a December poll in a Texas A&M senior seminar, only 50 percent of those graduating have job offers, and 10 percent plan to go to graduate school, Hill said.

At Texas Tech, Heinze estimated the numbers are even lower. "I'd be surprised if more than 25 percent of them have a job," he said.

The consensus among petroleum engineering professors, professionals and students is that the industry will be back on the rise by the time this year's freshmen graduate. Some experts cautiously predict prices to climb into the $60 range by 2020. By then, Heinze predicts that class sizes will have shrunk to a reasonable level.

"Maybe instead of 15 applicants for every chair, we'll have six or seven," UT's Olson said.

The demographics of the industry also ensure that companies will hire in the future as engineers brought on before the 1980s price crash begin reaching retirement age.

But for the three or four years of students in between — the ones like Farren in grad-school limbo — prospects may be more uncertain.

"I've heard from friends still in school that it seems like a lot of the companies that go to A&M now to recruit are mostly looking at freshmen and sophomores for internships," Farren said. "They're not looking at the juniors or seniors as much. So those guys are just stuck in the middle."

Distributed by Triubune Contest Agency

CHOICE

From 2B

they transfer to play on other schools' sports teams, Lankford said.

"I think safety is always an issue for parents, and I think because we are small, and we know all of our kids we are also able to provide an extra blanket to surround our kids. It goes back to 'one size does not fit all,'" Lankford said. "If they're advancing, they advance. If they need more support, they receive more support."

NATIONWIDE, STATEWIDE, CITYWIDE

School choice encompasses charter schools, magnet schools, online learning, private schools and homeschooling as well as traditional public schooling, according to the NSCW's website.

The city of Midland has more than a dozen schools that are alternatives to traditional public schools. These include Midland Academy, Richard Milburn Academy, Hillcrest School, Midland Christian School and four magnet schools.

"I believe our democratic system, our state Constitution supported the general diffusion of knowledge through providing for public schools, so I'm a cheerleader for public schools," Lankford said.

Gov. Greg Abbott officially proclaimed Jan. 24 through Jan. 30 as "School Choice Week" in Texas, following a national trend of more than two dozen governors. More than 1,200 events will be held in Texas alone to celebrate, according to a press release from National School Choice Week.

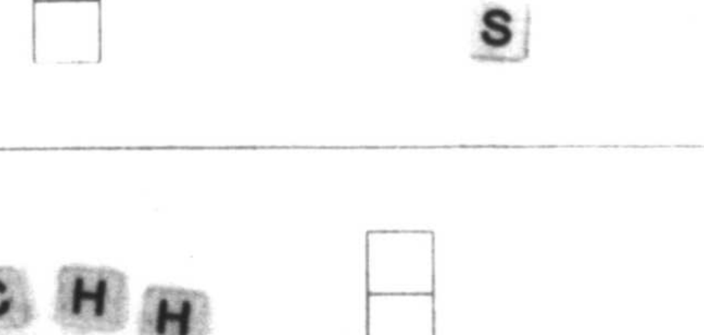
"No matter where they decide to send their children, it is important for parents in Texas to explore and identify the best education options available to their sons and daughters, as research demonstrates that providing children with multiple education options improves academic performance," Abbott said in a NSCW press release. "I encourage all Texans to learn more about the variety of educational options available and support families' ability to choose the educational environment that best suits their children's needs."

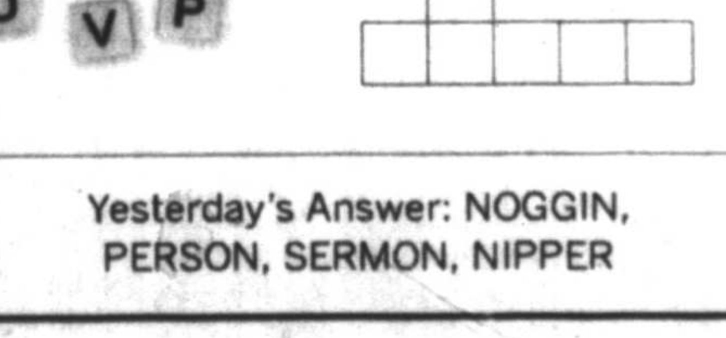
Follow Cassie on Twitter: @Cassie_Burton51

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

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





Yesterday's Answer: NOGGIN, PERSON, SERMON, NIPPER

1.26

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MAKINGTHEGRADE

FROM STAFF REPORTS

TCEA Area 18 Robotics Competition was Jan. 16 at Midland College. Eighty-two teams of fourth- through 12-graders competed.

The winners are:

Inventions Category

■ Advanced level: Eighth- through 12th-graders

1st place : Team: J.C. Gardeners, Alpine High School

2nd place: Team: WOBW Inc., Goddard Junior High School

3rd place: Team: Generation Z from Abell Junior High School

■ Intermediate level: Fourth- through eighth-graders

1st place: Team: Ethereal from Alpine Middle School

2nd place: Team: Foreign Contaminate from Abell JHS

3rd place: Team: Unit 001 from Alpine Middle School

Arena Category

■ Advanced level: Eighth- through 12th-graders

1st place : Team: Light-Year from Presidio High School

2nd place: Team: Dustie from Presidio High School

3rd place: Team: A Team from Abell JHS

■ Intermediate level: Fourth- through eighth-graders

1st place: Team: The Colossal Team, Crockett Middle School Pecos-Barstow-Toyah ISD

2nd place: Team: The Fazbear Crew, Crockett Middle School

3rd place: Team: Avengers, Abell JHS

* * *

Midland High School senior **Chad Schmidt** has been honored by the Midland Rotary Club. He is the son of Tahni and David Schmidt.

He is a member of the cross country and track and field teams, Model Organization of American States team, National Honor Society and is vice president of the Spanish Honor Society. He is a Texas Scholar and academic letterman and received and award from the Optimist Club.

Schmidt

He is involved with First United Methodist Church youth group and volunteers with Keep Midland Beautiful and Recording Library of West Texas.

Schmidt plans to attend St. Edward's University.

* * *

MURFREESBORO, N.C. — Midlander **Darius Johnson** has been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Chowan University. To be eligible, students must maintain a GPA of at least 3.25.

* * *

OKLAHOMA CITY — Midlander **Elizabeth Stowers** has been named to the Dean's Honor Roll for the fall semester at Oklahoma City University. To be eligible, students must maintain a GPA of at least 3.5.

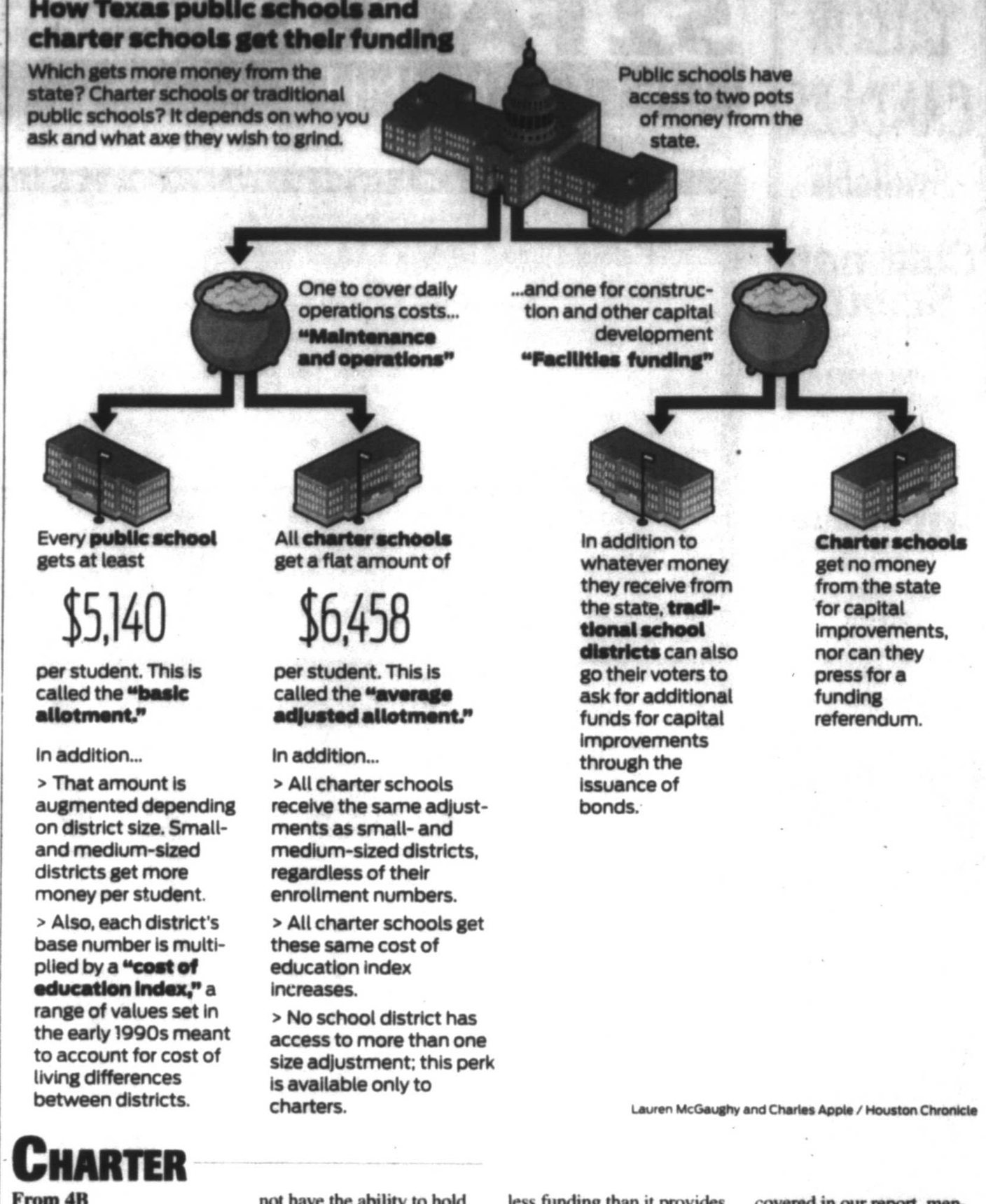
* * *

DENTON — Several Midlanders were named to honor rolls for the fall semester at University of North Texas.

Named to the President's List were: **Hailey Balch, Darian Chambers, Claire Hardeman** and **Jacob Moreno.**

Named to the Dean's List were: **Saul Colmenero, Tyler Campbell, Kolton Cotten, Hadyn Evans, Christina Flores, Kimberlea Fox, Emily Isbell, Victoria Jeter** and **Laura Kidder.**

To be eligible for President's List, students must maintain a 4.0 GPA. For the Dean's List, they must maintain a GPA of at least 3.5.



Lauren McGaughy and Charles Apple / Houston Chronicle

EDUCATIONBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

MC faculty members receive awards

Midland College recently honored nine faculty members at a luncheon Jan. 14 at the Scharbauer Student Center Carrasco Room.

The Teaching Excellence Award is the most prestigious awards that the college gives its faculty. Recipients are nominated and selected by their peers.

Award winners are:

■ Pedro Avalos, department Chair, Automotive/Diesel Technology

■ Alma Brannan, associate professor, Mathematics Center Coordinator

■ Cindy Cuny, associate professor, Associate Degree Nursing

■ Chad Farris, instructor, Aviation Maintenance

■ Leland Hart, instructor, Emergency Medical Services

■ Sonia Ford, department chair, Math, Physics & Engineering

■ Miranda Poage, program Chair, Biology

■ Sondra Richards, program chair, Government

■ Lori Thomas, associate professor, Mathematics

Conaway to host Academy Day

SAN ANGELO — U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway will be hosting Academy Day 1:30-4:30 p.m. March 5 for students interested in applying to one of the military service academies. The event will be at Angelo State University, MCS Building, Room 100, 2200 Deana Drive.

The Academy Day program will feature information about the nomination process. Academy liaison officers, ROTC representatives and others will be on hand to meet with prospective students and their families. Congressional staff members also will be in attendance to assist prospective applicants.

Application deadline for the class of 2021 is Oct. 18. High school juniors may submit their applications to Conaway at his San Angelo Regional Office, 33 East Twohig, Suite 307, San Angelo, TX 76903.

For more information, call Joanne Powell at 325-659-4010.

GT applications being accepted

Midland ISD is accepting applications for GT (Gifted & Talented) Student Services for the 2016-17 school year. Deadline to apply is 4 p.m. Friday.

Applications are available on the MISD website. Information on the nomination process is available at the Advanced Academics web page.

Trinity to host author Ashley Merryman

Trinity School is hosting its annual Hal and Sweetie Peck Memorial Speaker Series on Feb. 4. The speaker is author and journalist Ashley Merryman.

The topic of Merryman's talk is "Raising Children Who Are Fearless When Facing Challenges and Resilient in Defeat."

Tickets are $55. Deadline to buy tickets is Friday. For more information or to buy tickets call 697-3281 or visit www.trinitymidland.org.

GHS to offer credit by exam tests

Greenwood High School will be offering credit by examination tests, 8 a.m. to noon March 1-3.

To be eligible to take the test with prior instruction, students must have received a grade of at least 60 in the course failed. To receive credit, the student must score a minimum grade of 70 and meet all other district requirements.

To be eligible to earn credit by examination without prior instruction, students must meet all district requirements for that grade level or applicable course. To receive credit, the student must score a minimum of 80 or better.

Wednesday is the deadline to register for the exams. Contact the school counselor to register.

CHARTER

From 4B

hundreds of individual campuses, most clustered in large urban areas. Charters are public schools funded by taxpayer money, just like traditional public school districts.

There are some differences, however.

Every traditional public school district has access to two pots of money from the state: one to cover daily operations costs, called "maintenance and operations," and one for capital development, known as "facilities funding."

'Up to the reader'

Charters do not get facilities funding from the state, nor do they have the option of asking voters for additional money through the issuance of bonds. Instead, they often cover new building costs out of operations money or through private donations.

That facilities funding gap is the basis for the narrative that charter schools generally are disadvantaged compared to public school districts. Dawn-Fisher points out, however, that on the operations side of the equation, charters get benefits "that school districts just can't achieve, by and large."

Small- and medium-sized districts each get extra money from the state, depending on their enrollment numbers. Charters, however, get both size adjustments, a perk that ripples through the rest of the formulas to the charters' advantage. In addition, while charters do not have the ability to hold a bond election, they benefit every time local taxes are raised because they receive so-called "enrichment" money based on the average of all school districts.

"Charters get about $1,000 more per (average daily attendance) than a school district for their maintenance and operations funding. And on average, school districts get about $1,000 per ADA in state aid and local taxes for facilities, and so it's kind of up to the reader to decide whether or not those things wash out," Dawn-Fisher said.

The Texas Charter School Association takes issue with Dawn-Fisher's numbers, saying they "cannot include all state and local components of the funding mechanism."

At a December meeting of the Senate Committee on Education, TCSA Executive Director David Dunn told lawmakers that charters, on average, get $1,000 less than districts when looking at a number called "weighted average daily attendance." The figure is a district or charter's average daily attendance, with additional money for students that are more expensive to educate, such as English language learners.

Dunn and other charter representatives included the "$1,000 less" talking point in arguments before the Texas Supreme Court.

"The State provides charter schools not only significantly less funding than necessary to achieve a general diffusion of knowledge, but also significantly less funding than it provides to school districts. In fact, it is undisputed that this discrimination costs charter schools $1,000 per weighted student," the TCSA wrote in a brief to the high court last August.

'Misleading' numbers

That assertion is far from undisputed.

Scott Hochberg and Lynn Moak both have spent decades working on school finance, the former as a long-time legislator and consultant and the latter as a top researcher on the issue. Both said the problem with the charters' narrative is that they rely on averages that do not provide a complete picture.

"Averages are misleading," said Hochberg, who was involved with the creation of the charter system in Texas in 1995. "You might not drown in the average water level in Sims Bayou, but I wouldn't go stand there in a rainstorm."

Moak agreed. A study he recently co-authored found charters with an average daily attendance of more than 1,000 kids received more operations funding per child from the state than similarly-sized districts, while smaller charters were disadvantaged in that same funding when compared with smaller-sized districts. The study did not look at facilities funding because the different ways charters and districts calculate their weighted average daily attendance means it is not an apples-to-apples comparison.

"One of the things we discovered in our report, mentioned in our report, is that school districts and charters operate under different accounting systems and include different things," Moak said. "You can't make a generic statement."

Comprehensive solution

Dunn said his group has joined in on the school finance lawsuit precisely to address how to fix the way Texas funds public schools, including charters. He said they draw attention to the facilities funding gap because it is the most negative , impactful problem arising from the current system for charters.

"Ultimately, all of us in the public education system are after the same thing, and that is better educational outcomes for kids," Dunn said. "The more that we can find ways to work together to achieve better education outcomes for kids, the whole state of Texas wins."

Hochberg said the solution is not simply to issue a blank check to charters to make up for the facilities funding gap — something they've asked for in the past — but a more comprehensive answer that could involve allowing charters to issue bonds.

"No one denies there's an issue with charter schools' facilities funding," Hochberg said. "I think the problem is the lack of a creative solution to provide both the funding they need and the accountability that the taxpayers deserve."

MAURER

From 2B

think I am beginning to understand what the best teachers do. They work hard every minute of every day to fuel new adventures with their students, and they always take time to celebrate, to find joy in the journey. The best teachers never take themselves too seriously and let learning be fun.

The best teachers lead by example. They are passionate about what they are called to teach, and they practice their own craft every day, letting children see their successes, struggles and even mistakes. They live in a world of big ideas, and they have big expectations for the ability of children to grapple with what is real and what is important.

The best teachers follow the curiosities of their students. They listen, question, and remain responsive. They are committed to the reality that every child and every class is different. They are flexible, willing to shift gears, and ignore mandates. They care less about the agenda than they do about the needs of the children who are — at this very moment — sitting right in front of them. They know in their hearts and minds that learning cannot be captured on a worksheet or in a "bubble" of any kind.

The best teachers get out of the way when their students are ready to push the boundaries and see more, do more and learn more than they thought possible. The best teachers take risks, and more importantly, they allow their students to do the same. They help students to build connections, allow them to collaborate, encourage them to make choices, and allow them to solve authentic problems.

The best teachers don't just say every child can learn; they expend effort and exercise creativity to make it possible for each child to experience success, each child to feel as if they belong, and each child to be good — at least most of the time. They teach for engagement, and they know that skills will come. They are less concerned about a perfect score than they are about a moment that they remember as perfectly wonderful.

While I still believe that a single teacher should never take credit for a child's success, I know that one teacher, a "just right" teacher, can make an incredible difference in the life of a child. A single teacher can propel a child in a successful trajectory, one with lifelong and positive outcomes. I've seen it happen time and again. Sadly, I have also seen a single teacher dampen the enthusiasm of a child for school, and set in motion a pattern of failure, one with lifelong and negative consequences.

So, if you want to count your blessings, to be amazed, and to be entertained every day of your life, be a teacher. You have to be willing to work harder than you thought you could. You have to be able to lead, to follow or to get out of the way. You have be the person you hope your children will become, people who exercise not just intellect, but compassion, patience and love.

It's an incredible opportunity, but don't pick teaching, or for that matter keep teaching, if you aren't willing to give it your whole heart. All our children deserve nothing less. Finally, thank you to every administrator, community leader or parent who advocates on behalf of teachers, supporting them and fighting for their right to do what is best for every child. I know I am profoundly grateful for the blessings of my life in schools.

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

TODAY: Partly sunny	WEDNESDAY: Sunny	THURSDAY: Sunny	FRIDAY: Sunny	SATURDAY: Sunny	SUNDAY: Sunny
High: 40 Low: 27	High: 52 Low: 31	High: 63 Low: 36	High: 68 Low: 39	High: 72 Low: 44	High: 74 Low: 43

Local forecast

Expect a chance of rain before noon and then a chance of snow today, according to the National Weather Service. The chance of precipitation is 30 percent. Temperatures will warm up this week, reaching around 16 degrees above normal this weekend.

The record high for Jan. 25 is 83 set in 1952. The record low is 13 set in 1940. On Jan. 25 of last year, the high was 63 and the low was 35.

Weather brief

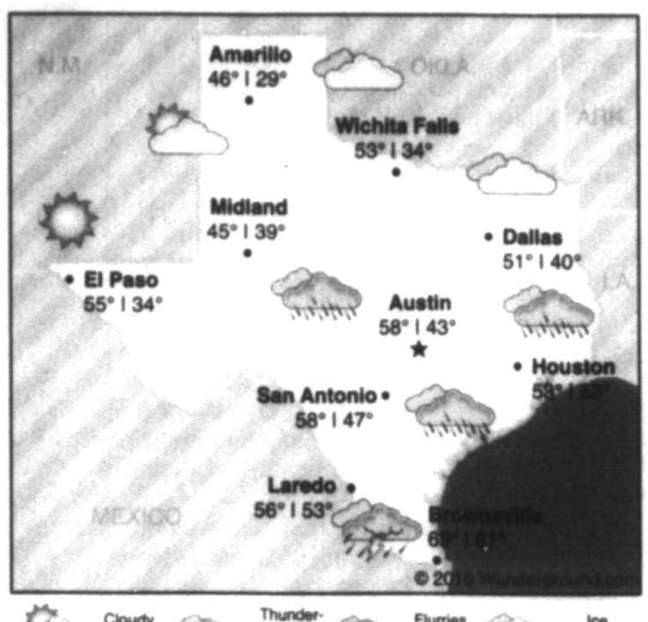
DEMVER

10 die in avalanches in 10 days

Ten people have died in avalanches across the West in the past 10 days, making this month the deadliest January for slides in nearly 20 years.

Eleven people have died in slides throughout the whole month, including four over the weekend, for a total of 14 so far this snow season, according to the Colorado Avalanche Information Center, which tracks slides across the country.

On Sunday, one person was killed and another was injured in Washington state.



Precipitation

Sunday	0.00 in.
Monday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.09 in.
Year total	0.09 in.
Normal total (year to date)	0.42 in.

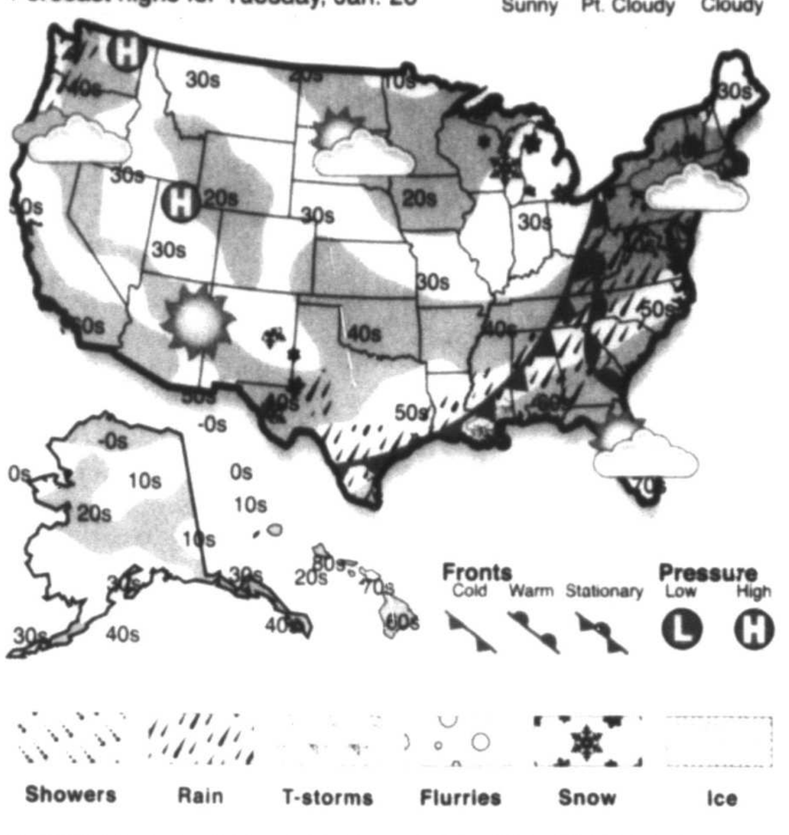
Monday's temperatures

High	63
Low	40
Normal high	58
Normal low	31
Sunrise	7:46 a.m.
Sunset	6:17 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Tuesday, Jan. 26

Sunny Pt. Cloudy Cloudy



Unplanned pregnancy can become welcome surprise

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 just read the letter from "Expecting in Canada" (Sept. 8) and am disappointed in her daughters' reaction to her pregnancy, as were you.

My own mother announced she was pregnant with my baby brother when she was 42 and my sister and I were in college. Now, 46 years later, I can say he is one of the best things that ever happened to our family. He took great care of both my parents as they grew older and was with them when each passed away. My sister and I are very close to him, even though we nicknamed him "the crown prince" and teased him because that's how my parents treated him.

I hope "Expecting's" daughters will eventually embrace this great gift. If they don't, they might miss out on a wonderful experience and a lot of love. — ELDER SISTER OF THE CROWN PRINCE

DEAR ELDER SISTER: Thank you for your letter. Readers wrote to share their personal experiences as you did. Most agreed that having a child with older parents and siblings can be a life-changing event. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I was a surprise baby. My birth mother was 40 and my birth father was 67. My sisters were 15 and 16. The older one was not happy; the younger one loved having a baby sister.

As fate would have it, my mother died when I was 7 years old. My father was too old to care for a child, so my older sister, the one who hadn't been thrilled with my arrival, and her husband became my "parents." Not every day was perfect, but my life was very blessed.

My sister, whom I called Momma, became ill in her 60s, and my brother-in-law, whom I called Daddy for the rest of his life, also had health problems. I became their "legs" for many errands. When Daddy died, I became Momma's primary caregiver.

I would like those two girls to know that the little "intruder" might just be the one who takes care of them someday. I'm shocked that the parents would even entertain the idea of giving the baby away. — JUDY IN LOUISIANA

DEAR ABBY: When I was a junior in high school, my mother told me she was pregnant. I was disgusted and angry, and I told her so. As I reflect back on it, I'm mortified that I could be so cruel. After giving it more thought, I realized I was annoyed to think my parents were sexual beings.

Teenagers that age are just coming to terms with their own sexuality. They can also be somewhat selfish and self-absorbed. While it might be a family matter to some extent, it really is between the mother and father.

My little brother is very close to me now and, more important, close to my children, who are nearer in age to him. I hope that mother won't let the temporary opinion of the daughters ruin a beautiful experience of a shared love. — CHERYL IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY: "Expecting" should ask her daughters to be a part of the baby's life, such as going to doctor's appointments, picking out clothes, decorating the room, giving name suggestions and having them participate in a baby shower. — STEPHANIE IN ILLINOIS

DEAR ABBY: When my mother was 42, my baby brother was born. I was 17 when I became his nanny and learned how to take care of a baby. It was an experience that made me more mature. After I married, I was never able to have my own children.

Please don't listen to your daughters. I know what it's like. Perhaps they are jealous that they have to share their parents. My mom and dad were the oldest parents at PTA meetings, graduations, etc., but they were proud of my younger brother. Many times people thought they were the grandparents. We shared many laughs during those years. — EILEEN IN WEST VIRGINIA

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

A different view

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ J 8 6 2
♡ 2
♢ 10 4 3 2
♣ J 8 5 4

WEST
♠ 9 7 5
♡ K 9 8 7 4 3
♢ 9 5
♣ K 7

EAST
♠ Q 10 4 3
♡ Q 10 6
♢ A
♣ 10 9 6 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A K
♡ A J 5
♢ K Q J 8 7 6
♣ A Q

The bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2	Pass	3	?

Opening lead: ♢ 9

This deal arose in a recent team match. At one table, South chose to bid three no-trump. The opening heart lead went to East's queen and South had a serious problem — who had the ace of diamonds? He guessed wrong, playing West for that card. He won the opening lead in order to protect his jack of hearts. When it was East who held the diamond ace, declarer had to go two down. Bad luck.

At the other table, the South player took a different view. He reasoned that his partner was likely to have a singleton heart from the auction. Should he catch a few diamonds in the dummy, he might have an easy slam, at worst on a club finesse. He chose to bid six diamonds!

West led the seven of spades, covered by dummy's eight. East would have done well to play low, but he innocently played the 10. South won with the king and led the king of diamonds, losing to East's ace. East shifted to the 10 of clubs and South rose with his ace, reasoning that West, who would have led the king of hearts had he held both high hearts, had to hold the club king to justify his bid. Declarer drew the remaining trump, cashed the ace of spades, and crossed to dummy with a heart ruff. He led dummy's jack of spades and bravely discarded the queen of clubs when East played low. It would not have helped East to cover, as the jack pinned his partner's nine and the lowly six in dummy would have been high. Well done!

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2016:

This year the quality of your interpersonal relationships becomes an even higher priority than it has been in past years. You will fight for what you want, to the point of causing a problem in the long run. Careful. Your leadership skills come to the forefront. If you are single, your charisma speaks for itself. You will have many admirers; which one will you choose? If you are attached, the two of you have a memorable year together. Your bond not only endures, but it also strengthens. The two of you will plan a special trip or vacation together. VIRGO is fussy, but you understand him or her well.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★ Your efficiency and graciousness will be tested. You simultaneously could offer your assistance to both a friend and a loved one. You might decide that the facts are being misrepresented. Deal with anger directly, and you will feel better. Tonight: Out late.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ Your creativity saves the day. You might see a confusing situation emerge around a friendship. The facts seems to change, depending on who is telling the story. A close loved one easily could lose his or her temper. Tonight: Remain gracious, no matter what happens.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ There is no way around a problem; you must find the right path. The information you're receiving might be far from correct. Ask the right questions, and you will get answers. You will need to learn the lay of the land, and then you'll know what to do. Tonight: Head home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You'll make an extraordinary effort to communicate with someone who can be vague and difficult. Your ability to figure out what's going on will emerge. Don't ignore common sense and straight facts. Tonight: Keep asking questions about what you are seeing.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ You could see a somewhat deceptive situation evolve. A key person is telling you only what he or she wants you to know. Lie low, if you can, and wait for more information. A solution will appear, given some time. Tonight: Decide if you can afford a new household item.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Your energy is at its peak. Focus on key matters that need to be cleared up. You will accomplish a lot of work as a result. A loved one might add a very caring tone to your day. Be careful with someone you don't know very well. Tonight: Whatever puts a smile on your face.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★ You don't often let others take the lead, but right now you are inclined to do just that. Avoid channeling your disappointment into a shopping spree or some other kind of overindulgence that helps you forget what ails you. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ You know what you want. You are willing to fight, cajole or manipulate in order to make a goal possible. Your sense of direction makes it nearly impossible to stop you. A loved one might be feeding you the lines you want to hear, but is not being authentic. Tonight: Be near music.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Your performance counts far more now than your ideas and leadership skills do. You might be disappointed that you are not being appreciated. Look at the situation positively. Your instincts are right-on. You have no control over how others think. Tonight: Burn the candle at both ends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Take an overview and, with newfound detachment, again look at a situation that is affecting your home life. You could be surprised by how close you are to manifesting a special offer or opportunity. Don't stop. Go full speed ahead. Tonight: Brainstorm with a buddy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ One-on-one relating marks your day. For this reason alone, you'll have a big smile on your face. Your instincts about a relationship and how you project yourself will help you hit a home run. Someone could be angrier than you had thought possible. Tonight: Make nice.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ The smart move is to defer to someone else. You might not agree with this person, but you still should listen to what he or she has to say. Consider the ramifications of heading down your present path. Just because it's not your way doesn't mean it's the wrong way. Tonight: Say "yes."

BORN TODAY

Political activist Angela Davis (1944), U.S. Gen. Douglas MacArthur (1880), musician Eddie Van Halen (1955)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Zen garden growth
5 Arthur of tennis
9 Toss back and forth, as words
14 __ and for all
15 Fishing line holder
16 Be wild about
17 What buck passers "play"
19 JCPenney competitor
20 Former baseball commissioner Bud
21 Holiday song first popularized by Eartha Kitt
23 Hits gently
25 Arrest
26 Maiden name intro
27 Holiday threshold
28 Weeping, perhaps
30 In disagreement
33 __ meat
34 "A bit of talcum / Is always walcum" poet
37 God of love
38 You might stand pat in it
41 Auth. unknown
43 Back of the neck
44 Navig. tool
47 Some stoves
49 Tailor
51 Insistent knock
52 Drill insert
53 "Mazel __!"
56 Italian deli sandwich
58 Navy stunt pilot
62 One with wanderlust
63 Countesses' spouses
64 Drill sergeant's directive ... and, literally, what the ends of 17-, 21-, 38- and 58-Across can each have
66 Rhubarb unit
67 Island near Corsica
68 Masterful tennis server
69 Monica of tennis
70 Ultra-fast jets
71 Brewed beverages

DOWN

1 Many a character in "The Godfather"
2 Temporarily not working
3 Sold for a quick profit, as tickets
4 Loading dock trucks
5 Chile neighbor: Abbr.
6 Salty waters
7 Muscle beach dude
8 Court colleague of Ruth and Sonia
9 The Crimson Tide
10 Very little
11 "Impossible"
12 Signs of prolonged drought
13 "I completely agree!"
18 Showbiz clashers
22 "Check back later," in a sked
24 Grandma
29 Light before sunup
31 Concert shirt
32 Bobby of hockey
35 Mother's Day indulgence
36 Short plane trips
38 Crime family leader
39 Genetic letters
40 "__ your chin up!"
41 "Have we started yet?"
42 Without additives
44 Pained expression
45 It'll cure all ills
46 Little web masters
47 Convent overseer
48 LIRR stop
50 Desire
54 Fairy tale baddies
55 Bndal shop buys
57 Jack Sprat's restriction
59 InStyle competitor
60 Poses a question
61 Pride parade letters
65 Owns

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/26/16

By C.C. Burnikel
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01/26/16

Dallas ISD rues loss of students to charter schools

■ District also has lost millions in state funding

By Tawnell D. Hobbs
Dallas Morning News

Superintendent Michael Hinojosa says Dallas ISD has acted "fat, dumb and happy" for too long as charter school enrollment exploded within the district's boundaries, taking away millions in state funding.

"We kind of fell asleep," Hinojosa recently told the school board. "We were losing kids without even realizing it."

DISD's enrollment dropped by 2,000 students this school year, at a cost of at least $10 million in state funding provided on a per-pupil basis. About half the lost enrollment is kindergartners going to charter schools. The district's chief financial officer expects another drop in enrollment next school year.

Meanwhile, charter school enrollment within the district's boundaries has grown from 7,500 to more than 27,000 in the last 15 years, with much of the growth in southern Dallas. DISD's enrollment has mostly stayed flat over the years, averaging around 159,000 students.

Hinojosa and board members said they have had enough of losing students and want to fight to keep them. They are speaking out a week before the Dallas City Council considers whether to grant a permit to Uplift Education to build a charter school in southwest Dallas. Charter schools are taxpayer-funded, just like traditional schools, but they are independent of the local district.

DISD trustee Joyce Foreman has demanded that the permit for the new school be rejected, saying there are already too many charters in her southwest Dallas area. Her strong resistance has pushed the council into an increasingly contentious debate over charter schools. The council's vote on the permit was postponed last week.

'We have to coexist'

Hinojosa has since said he wants the council to deny the permit. He said he'd rather not have the competition because it could affect enrollment for DISD, which in turn affects funding the district needs for new initiatives.

"It has a cascading effect," Hinojosa told The Dallas Morning News' editorial board this week. "I'm not against charter schools. I know we have to coexist. But I want our kids to go to our schools."

Hinojosa, who began his second stint as DISD superintendent in October, said the district's "monopoly" as the only public school choice in town is already over. He said that's why the district is stepping up its game with more school options of its own.

The district has magnet schools, Montessori campuses, collegiate academies, single-gender schools and other specialized programs, with plans for more offerings after voters in November approved a $1.6 billion bond program.

During a community meeting in Oak Cliff on Wednesday to discuss the proposed charter school, Uplift CEO Yasmin Bhatia commended DISD for its focus on providing choices. But she said those efforts shouldn't keep charter schools from being an option.

"I don't understand why that has to limit family choice," Bhatia said, to the applause of an audience of mostly Uplift supporters.

Bhatia said 20,000 families applied to Uplift schools last year for 2,500 open slots. Uplift opened in 1997 with one North Texas school and now has 34, serving 14,000 students.

It's that charter growth that prompted DISD trustees to have their first public discussion on the competition during a meeting last week.

Trustees talked about attracting kids by using marketing to tout magnet schools and specialized campuses. They mentioned using an external demographer to determine where kids are going and why, and to conduct interviews with departing students. They talked of countering other school systems that seek to discredit the district's programs.

"We need to be competing effectively," trustee Dan Micciche said. "That would mean that if they are sending a mailer to our kids, to our kids' families, saying things about DISD that are not exactly true, then we ought to be able to counter that."

The district also is dealing with a history of dysfunction. Controversy was the norm over the past three school years under Superintendent Mike Miles, who quit in June.

'Better product'

Board President Eric Cowan acknowledged the chaos when ticking off ways DISD could improve.

"Better product, better service, better discipline, and then less drama," he said. "Whether we create it on our own or it's created for us, less drama. Because there's a lot of people in Dallas who just don't want to mess with Dallas ISD just because of the drama. So let's start there."

Cowan said Wednesday that he wouldn't run again for his seat on the board.

"The time is right for someone else to carry on with the good work being done," he said in a letter announcing his decision.

Foreman said she was happy that her fellow trustees now saw the urgency of the matter. Until last week, she was the lone voice on the board speaking publicly of her concerns about Uplift's proposed permit. She plans a community meeting for 6 p.m. Friday at Paradise Missionary Baptist Church to rally more support.

At last week's board meeting, she scolded her colleagues: "We are not fighting back. If they market to our kids, we need to market to their kids. Period. It's competition."

Foreman's fight is getting attention outside of Dallas. She was commended for her stance on a blog run by education historian Diane Ravitch.

The proposed Uplift school would be at Camp Wisdom Road and Interstate 35E and would serve middle and high school students, with the option of adding elementary students later.

Enrollment in the first year would be limited to students who attend Uplift Pinnacle Preparatory, a kindergarten through fifth-grade campus a few minutes' drive north of the proposed site, and only vacated spots would be filled in the second year.

Jahnisha Warren, who lives near Uplift Pinnacle Preparatory, left Wednesday's community meeting uncertain whether she would send her 5-year-old daughter to DISD or a charter school.

She said a friend told her that charter schools could bankrupt the district.

"I'm still new to this," she said. "I'm still getting information."

Trustee Nancy Bingham said DISD does "a horrible job" of advertising what it has to offer.

"I think that we need to put some monies into PR, or see if we can get some donors, because we're not telling our real story," Bingham said. "We've got a lot of great schools in Dallas ISD, and I think as the choice programs move into their full form, we're going to have even greater things."

Trustee Bernadette Nutall said the district needs to focus on issues parents are concerned with, such as the number of tests students are taking and the condition of school buildings.

"They want a great building," she said. "They don't want the sewer system to stink. They don't want the lights out. They want the walls painted. It's just simple things that we can do to bring parents and kids back to the district, but we're not doing them."

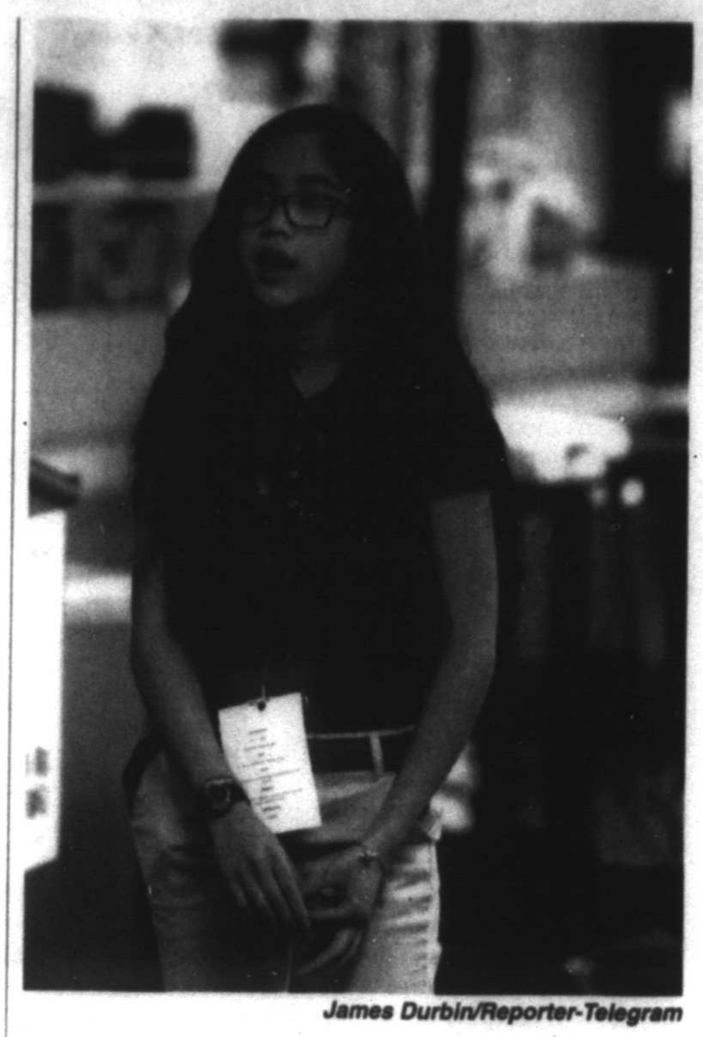
Hinojosa said officials don't yet know why kids are picking charter schools. He said his staff stumbled on the discovery of the charter growth while analyzing demographic information.

"This is new information that is really startling," he said. "We are monitoring and it is scary."

It was clear at last week's meeting that DISD is focused on developing a strategy.

"We are looking at every angle," Hinojosa said. "Together we can come up with a solution to take our kids back."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Anna Ngo, who won the 2015 Midland Reporter-Telegram Regional Spelling Bee, competes at Abell Junior High School's bee on Wednesday.

45 students to vie for spelling bee title

From staff reports

The 29th annual Midland Reporter-Telegram Regional Spelling Bee is 9:30 a.m. Feb. 20 at Allison Fine Arts Building at Midland College.

Forty-five students from schools in Midland, Howard, Andrews and Ward counties will be competing to represent the region in the annual Scripps National Spelling Bee, which is May 25-26 in Washington, D.C.

The contestants are:

■ Abell Junior High: Pranav Ganta, 12, seventh grade.

■ Alamo Junior High: Jalen Packer, 13, eighth grade.

■ Andrews Middle School, Andrews: Nevaeh Galvan, 12, seventh grade.

■ Bonham Elementary: Kirsten Cabalonga, 11, fifth grade.

■ Bowie Fine Arts Academy: Jerron Camp, 12, sixth grade.

■ Brooks Middle School: Isabel Munoz, 12, seventh grade.

■ Bunche Elementary: Julia Ward, 12, sixth grade.

■ Burnet Elementary: Isaiah Conde, 11, fifth grade.

■ Bush Elementary: Bjorn Marshall, 11, sixth grade.

■ Carver Center: Amanda Ngo, 9, fourth grade.

■ Crockett Elementary: Joe Alaniz III, 11, sixth grade.

■ DeZavala Elementary: Fernanda Montes, 11, sixth grade.

■ Emerson Elementary: Kirana Arisanti, 11, sixth grade.

■ Fannin Elementary: Lucas Pruessner, 10, fourth grade.

■ Fasken Elementary: Srikar Chamarthi, 11, sixth grade.

■ Goddard Junior High: Kimberly Lopez, 14, eighth grade.

■ Goliad Elementary, Big Spring: Ayla Bissonnette, 9, fourth grade.

■ Greathouse Elementary: Mikayla Guajardo, 12, sixth grade.

■ Greenwood Elementary: Harper Duran, 11, fifth grade.

■ Henderson Elementary: Alexia Lara, 11, sixth grade.

■ Hillander School: Trevor Van Husen, 12, sixth grade.

■ Houston Elementary: Juan Garcia, 11, sixth grade.

■ Jones Elementary: Alexia Lyles, 11, sixth grade.

■ Lamar Elementary: Autumn Maxim, 12, sixth grade.

■ Long Elementary: Phoenix Murrill, 10, fifth grade.

■ Midland Academy Charter School: Kayla Byrom, 12, sixth grade.

■ Midland Christian School: Jaiden Catalasan, 10, fourth grade.

■ Midland Classical Academy: Reagan Layh of Odessa, 10, fifth grade.

■ Milam Elementary: Alyssa Castro, 9, fourth grade.

■ Parker Elementary: Alyssa Orosco, 10, fourth grade.

■ Pease Communications & Technology Academy: Dariana Martinez, 10, fifth grade.

■ Rusk Elementary: Chloe Ortega, 11, sixth grade.

■ St. Ann's School: Taylor Moralez, 11, sixth grade.

■ San Jacinto Junior High: Leighton Petty, 13, seventh grade.

■ Santa Rita Elementary: Desiree Sebree, 10, fifth grade.

■ Scharbauer Elementary: Grace Burton, 10, fifth grade.

■ South Elementary: Zhonte Keets, 11, fifth grade.

■ Sudderth Elementary School, Monahans: Madisyn Yanez, 11, sixth grade.

■ Travis Elementary: Yariza Flores, 11, fifth grade.

■ Trinity School: Nikkie Galindo, 14, eighth grade.

■ Underwood Elementary, Andrews: Prayer Lorskulsint, 10, fourth grade.

■ Walker Junior High, Monahans: Isaiah Cereceres, 13, seventh grade.

■ Washington Elementary School, Big Spring: Casen Muniz, 9, fourth grade.

■ Washington Math & Science Institute: Myrron McGee, 9, fourth grade.

■ Yarbrough Elementary: Reagan Green, 10, fourth grade.

Novel chronicles struggles of some first-generation college students

Esther J. Cepeda
Washington Post Writers Group

CHICAGO — There are some ugly truths about being the first in your family to attend college: Those you leave behind aren't always happy for you, they sometimes think you're a traitor for leaving home and, when you return on breaks, they might accuse you of acting like you're better than everyone else.

Jennine Capo Crucet explores these issues and more in her devastating debut novel "Make Your Home Among Strangers."

It's not often I persist through a book that's so frustrating and painful. It's a testament to Crucet's ability to make the reader root for her heroine that I was glad I'd seen it through to the end — although I came away shell-shocked from the protagonists' tumultuous journey.

The story is about the travails of Lizet, the youngest daughter of Cuban immigrants who attends a badly under-resourced high school in Hialeah, Florida, but secretly applies to an elite private college in New York state and gets in.

As if that weren't stressful enough, her parents take the occasion to finally separate after a long, stormy marriage and there is the additional stress of Lizet's older sister intentionally getting herself pregnant in order to (unsuccessfully) get her boyfriend to marry her.

Lizet leaves the small apartment where her mom, sister and newborn nephew are living and heads off to school, without their blessing, on a patchwork of grants, scholarships, loans and a work-study job.

She's only a few weeks into her first semester at the fictional Rawlings College when she finds herself in over her head. Though her math and science courses had been easy in high school, her current ones aren't going well and, worse, she's been accused of plagiarism in her writing seminar.

It's at this point — Lizet is beginning to crack under the pressure and realize that, though she didn't expect it, she's wading out of her depth — that Crucet digs into the thorny issue of forging an adult identity even as you are being torn in two by the worlds you're straddling.

At school Lizet has grown weary of having to answer the persistent question, "Where are you from?" with "Florida." And then made to answer "But where are you from from?" with the explanation that her parents are Cuban. But she's also hurt and ashamed when, at home over Christmas, her sister mercilessly accuses her of looking, acting and talking "white."

I originally picked up this book thinking it would be predominantly about the on-campus obstacles first-generation college students face in navigating their new environment — the failure to anticipate how rigorous classes will be, the challenges of funding such a huge investment and the unfair burden of being a campus' designated diversity quotient.

And Crucet definitely gives readers a sense of the exertion it takes for someone of limited means to be able to function smoothly in a place where everyone is rich — if not financially, then at least in the background information necessary to fit in.

Anyone who will soon be shepherding a first-generation college student through this experience can gain insight into the countless unanticipated social and academic roadblocks that low-income college freshmen face: But this book hits at a deeper concern. It's really about finding the courage to excel despite — not because of — your family's hopes for you.

To be 100 percent clear: Not all, or even a majority, of low-income families with no college experience react to their child's opportunity at a highly selective university by labeling the accomplishment a betrayal and grudgingly accepting their absence. Most families, I'd like to think, are positive if, ultimately, mostly helpless and perplexed by the process.

And not all minority students arrive on college campuses and feel marginalized, exoticized or left out of a school's majority white community — I certainly didn't, though I, too, was a "first." And even Lizet had a Latina peer who seemed to be well-adjusted and positive about her new life.

The heart of "Make Your Home Among Strangers" is about the difficult question of what a "first" must sacrifice to actually graduate and what he or she owes those who are left behind.

Crucet rewards readers with a relief-filled ending, courageously not forcing any contrived, easy answers. Her captivating book is a must-read for anyone hoping to understand the family struggles that some first-generation college students navigate on their road to success.

16-year-old girl graduates from University of Kansas

Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Most people Alina Zheng encountered at University of Kansas didn't seem to notice anything unusual about her age.

"I usually don't tell them right away because I don't want them to freak out and treat me any differently," she said. But if anyone did ask, she said, of course she was always honest.

Alina is 16, and she just graduated from the university.

The Lawrence Journal-World reported that she got her degree in two and a half years, after enrolling as a full-time student at age 14.

Alina is quick to point out her college experience wasn't much different from most of her peers'. She studied a lot, and classes were hard at times. She lived on campus in Watkins Scholarship Hall, cooked her own meals with her roommates (who included, one semester, her 20-year-old sister Amy), and got involved with campus activities.

10 years later, Kubiak, Daniels head to Super Bowl

By Arnie Stapleton
Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — When Tom Brady took a knee with 33 seconds left in the first half of the AFC championship and turned to trot toward the tunnel, Broncos tight end Owen Daniels wasn't buying it.

He stood on Denver's sideline pointing at the New England Patriots until they indeed disappeared into their locker room. Only then did he head off the field, passing his coach along the way.

"I got some comments about that on social media that I looked really confused," Daniels said Monday while basking in the afterglow of his two-touchdown performance in Denver's 20-18 dethroning of the defending champs.

Daniels wasn't confounded, just cautious.

You see, while he was in Baltimore last season, the Ravens came up with a scheme to fool the Steelers in the playoffs. If they had enough time, they were going to take a knee and fake like they were trotting off to their nearby tunnel only to run back to the line of scrimmage, snap the ball while the Steelers were walking off and run for an easy touchdown.

They never got that chance.

But, hey, if anyone else has thought of it, you can bet Bill Belichick has, too.

"New England has always got something up their sleeve," Daniels said. "... So, I was just making sure I was ready to make a tackle."

It's that football acumen that led coach Gary Kubiak to vouch for Daniels last spring when he and general manager John Elway mapped out their free agency plans and offered Daniels a three-year, $12 million contract.

Daniels has played for Kubiak his entire NFL career. He spent eight seasons with him in Houston and followed him to Baltimore in 2014 when Kubiak was hired as the Ravens' offensive coordinator following

Please see **KUBIAK**/4C

AP file photo

From left are file photos showing Denver Broncos head coach Gary Kubiak during an NFL game on Nov. 8, 2015, Baltimore Ravens offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak during a game on Sept. 2, 2014 and Houston Texans head coach Gary Kubiak before a game on Nov. 24, 2013. Tight end Owen Daniels has spent his entire career working for Gary Kubiak, first in Houston, then last year in Baltimore and now in Denver, where he served as a tutor for the zone blocking scheme. Now, the two are heading to their first Super Bowl.

Carefully calculated

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Jachai Simmons drives to the basket Monday against NMMI at Chaparral Center.

Simmons' shooting carries Chaps past NMMI

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Shots were not falling in the first half for the Midland College men's basketball team against New Mexico Military Institute on Monday night.

But when the Chaparrals have a player like Jachai Simmons carrying a big load, there really wasn't much to worry about.

Simmons, a 6-foot-7 freshman forward, paced the Chaps with 18 of his game-high 26 points in the first half before MC finally pulled away for an 88-60 Western Junior College Athletic Conference win at Chaparral Center.

Chaparrals	**88**
Broncos	60

The Chaps have now won two straight to improve to 17-5 overall and 5-3 in the WJCAC.

"I don't even know how that came about. I was hitting shots and as I was hitting them, I started feeling it," said Simmons, whose first half play helped MC take a 36-33 halftime lead. "I just went from there and let the game just come."

MC coach Jordan Dreiling said it's always good to have a talented player like Simmons to step up like that, but it can also give the team a false impression that it's going to be an easy night.

"It wasn't an easy night and everyone's shots didn't fall," Dreiling said. "And not only that, you're so offensive-minded, you don't block out and then get second and third-chance points, and you also get into that foul trouble. And that's what happened to us in the first half.

"We snapped out of it at halftime and I was glad we got some good defensive possessions and got what we needed to in the second half."

The turning point came early in the second half as MC's Travaun Coad went to the free-throw line four straight times thanks to a technical foul called on NMMI's Nehemiah Mabson. That helped MC go on a 20-2 run and give the Chaps a nice cushion going forward.

"We went in the locker room knowing that we didn't come out in the first half playing as well as we should have," Simmons said. "We came out stronger and more as a team, and we decided to turn the game around."

Please see **SIMMONS**/3C

Warriors, Spurs on historic winning paces this season

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

MIAMI — There's never been an NBA season where two teams both won at least 80 percent of their games.

Golden State and San Antonio might change that.

With the season now past the midway point the Warriors are chasing a repeat title, the Spurs are chasing the Warriors, and they're both chasing history. When the teams meet late Monday night at Golden State for the first of their four regular-season matchups, the Warriors will enter with a .909 winning percentage — on pace to be the best in NBA history — while the Spurs are at .864.

Chicago's mark of .878 (72-10) from 1995-96 is the NBA's single-season best.

Win or lose Monday, Golden State will remain ahead of that pace.

And while San Antonio almost seemed like an afterthought amid Golden State's 24-0 start, the Spurs are merely on pace for the third-best record ever.

"The Warriors go on a 55-game winning streak and they're only two games ahead of them," said Miami's Chris Bosh, slightly overstating Golden State's winning streak. "That's crazy."

While this meeting is being touted as a potential Western Conference finals preview — as will the other Warriors-Spurs games on March 19, April 7 and April 10 — it lost some star power Sunday when San Antonio ruled Tim Duncan out with right knee soreness.

But Bosh didn't think the teams would take a true playoff-type approach anyway, not this early in the season. Spurs coach Gregg Popovich and Warriors coach Steve Kerr know that no matter how important Monday seems, much bigger nights await before the Larry O'Brien Trophy gets awarded again.

"I don't expect anybody to show their hand early," Bosh said. "They might play psychological games. Pop might rest the first 10 guys and sign eight D-League guys and send them out there. You never know."

The week ahead

There are other NBA games this week and here's five to keep an eye on:

■ Oklahoma City at New York, Tuesday: Madison Square Garden was the only arena Thunder coach Billy Donovan called home as an NBA player, albeit for a mere 24 games as a Knick in 1987-88. (But the Knicks were 19-5 in those games.)

■ Washington at Toronto, Tuesday: Wizards swept the Raptors 4-0 in last season's first playoff round. Raptors looking for a 4-0 sweep of the teams' regular-season series this year, winning

Please see **HISTORIC**/3C

FSU settles lawsuit with woman who accused Winston of rape

By Joe Reedy
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida State University has settled a Title IX lawsuit with a former student who said the school failed to adequately investigate allegations that she was raped by former star quarterback Jameis Winston.

The settlement was announced a day before Winston's accuser, Erica Kinsman, had been scheduled to give a deposition in the case. As part of the settlement, FSU is making a five-year commitment to sexual assault awareness and prevention. The university also has agreed to publish annual reports for the next five years about those programs.

Florida State said in a statement that it has formed a Sexual Assault Prevention Task Group, hired a full-time Title IX coordinator, added six positions to improve campus safety and required all incoming freshmen to complete an online course to make "more informed choices about sex and relationships."

FSU President John Thrasher also noted that there have been more than 100 training sessions conducted on campus dealing with sexual assault and how to prevent it.

The settlement also calls for a $950,000 payment to Kinsman and her attorneys. A copy of the settlement says Kinsman's attorneys will get $700,000 of that money, though they say that figure was inserted by the university and that they will receive far less for their fees.

The Associated Press does not typically identify people who say they have been sexually assaulted, but Kinsman has spoken publicly about her case, including in a documentary.

Thrasher said in a press release Monday that the university settled to avoid spending millions on the lawsuit.

"Although we regret we will never be able to tell our full story in court, it is apparent that a trial many months from now would have left FSU fighting over the past rather than looking toward its very bright future," Thrasher said in the release.

Jim Ryan, a partner with Cullen and Dykman who deals in Title IX cases, said typical settlement amounts range from $250,000 to $500,000, but most are kept confidential.

Kinsman has said she was drunk at a Tallahassee bar in December 2012 when Winston and others took her to an apartment, where she says the quarterback raped her.

Winston has said the

Please see **WINSTON**/4C

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

TV

Alpine Skiing

Schladming Men's Slalom, 1:30 p.m., NBCSN

Golf

European PGA: Commercial Bank Qatar Masters, 1st Round, 10:30 p.m., GOLF

Men's College Basketball

Creighton at Georgetown, 5:30 p.m., FS1

Indiana at Wisconsin, 6 p.m., ESPN

Texas Tech at Oklahoma, 6 p.m., ESPN2

Florida State at Boston College, 6 p.m., ESPNU

Kansas State at West Virginia, 6 p.m., ESPNews

Mississippi State at South Carolina, 6 p.m., SEC

Memphis at UCF, 6 p.m., CBSSN

TCU at Texas, 7 p.m., LHN

Xavier at Providence, 7:30 p.m., FS1

Georgia at LSU, 8 p.m., ESPN

Florida at Vanderbilt, 8 p.m., ESPNU

Tennessee at Alabama, 8 p.m., SEC

Southeastern Louisiana at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, 8 p.m., CBSSN

San Diego State at Nevada, 10 p.m., ESPNU

Dixie State at BYU-Hawaii, 11:30 p.m., BYUtv

Men's College Volleyball

Pepperdine at USC, 9 p.m., P12, P12 LA

Men's Soccer

English Championship: Burnley vs. Derby County, 7 a.m., beIN

Eredivisie: Ajax vs. Heracles Almelo, 1:30 p.m., UDN

Capital One Cup: Liverpool vs. Stoke City, 1:40 p.m., beIN, beIN2

Copa MX: Alebrijes de Oaxaca vs. Tiburones Rojos de Veracruz, 6:40 p.m., ESPNDEP

Copa MX: Atlante vs. Cafetaleros de Tapachula, 6:50 p.m., UDN

Copa MX: Tijuana vs. Murcielagos, 8:50 p.m., ESPNDEP

Copa MX: Cruz Azul vs. Venados, 8:50 p.m., UDN

National Basketball Association

Oklahoma City at New York, 6:30 p.m., NBAtv

Dallas at LA Lakers, 9:30 p.m., FSSW

National Hockey League

Chicago at Carolina, 6:30 p.m., NBCSN

Colorado at San Jose, 9 p.m., NBCSN

Tennis

Australian Open, Quarterfinals, 2:30 a.m., ESPN2

Women's College Basketball

Maryland at Penn State, 6 p.m., BTN

Illinois at Minnesota, 8 p.m., BTN

RADIO

Boys High School Basketball

Pecos at Andrews, 7:30 p.m., KACT 105.5 FM (Andrews)

Big Spring at Lamesa, 8 p.m., KBYG 106.3 FM, 1400 AM (Big Spring), KBST 1490 AM (Big Spring)

Irion County at Forsan, 8 p.m., KXCS 105.5 FM (Big Spring)

Girls High School Basketball

Pecos at Andrews, 6 p.m., KACT 105.5 FM (Andrews)

Big Spring at Lamesa, 6:30 p.m., KBYG 106.3 FM, 1400 AM (Big Spring), KBST 1490 AM (Big Spring)

Irion County at Forsan, 6:30 p.m., KXCS 105.5 FM (Big Spring)

National Basketball Association

Dallas at LA Lakers, 9:30 p.m., KBEST 95.7 FM (Big Spring)

WHAT'S ON DECK

High school

Boys Basketball

Lee at Odessa High, 6 p.m.

MHS vs. Odessa Permian, 6 p.m., Chaparral Center

Fort Stockton at Greenwood, 7:30 p.m.

Trinity at Lubbock All Saints, 7:30 p.m.

Pecos at Andrews, 7:30 p.m.

Rankin at Sanderson, 7:30 p.m.

Abilene Christian at MCA, 8 p.m.

Big Spring at Lamesa, 8 p.m.

Stanton at Colorado City, 8 p.m.

Reagan County at Coahoma, 8 p.m.

Irion County at Forsan, 8 p.m.

O'Donnel at Grady, 8 p.m.

Bronte at Garden City, 8 p.m.

Girls Basketball

Fort Stockton at Greenwood, 6 p.m.

Trinity at Lubbock All Saints, 6 p.m.

Pecos at Andrews, 6 p.m.

Big Spring at Lamesa, 6 p.m.

Rankin at Sanderson, 6 p.m.

Lee at Odessa High, 7:30 p.m.

MHS vs. Odessa Permian, 7:30 p.m., Chaparral Center

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Reagan County at Coahoma, 6:30 p.m.

Irion County at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.

O'Donnell at Grady, 6:30 p.m.

Bronte at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

CLEVELAND INDIANS — Named Koby Perez director of Latin American scouting.

LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Claimed INF Ronald Torreyes off waivers from the N.Y. Yankees. Agreed to terms with RHP Garrett Richards on a one-year contract.

MINNESOTA TWINS — Agreed to terms with 3B Trevor Plouffe on a one-year contract.

TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Shawn Tolleson on a one-year contract.

National League

COLORADO ROCKIES — Agreed to terms with OF Charlie Blackmon on a one-year contract.

LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Agreed to terms with INFs Charlie Culberson and Elian Herrera and OFs Corey Brown, Alex Hassan and Rico Noel on minor league contracts.

NEW YORK METS — Agreed to terms with 1B Lucas Duda and RHP Jenrry Mejia on one-year contracts.

American Association

GARY SOUTHSHORE RAILCATS — Signed RHP Taylor Black.

ST. PAUL SAINTS — Sold the contract of INF Anthony Phillips to the L.A. Angels.

TEXAS AIR HOGS — Released OF Ronnie Richardson.

Atlantic League

SUGAR LAND SKEETERS — Named Jay Lucas vice president of marketing and public relations.

Frontier League

GATEWAY GRIZZLIES — Signed RHP Vincent Molesky to a contract extension.

JOLIET SLAMMERS — Signed OF Hunter Ridge to a contract extension.

RIVER CITY RASCALS — Signed 1B Clint Freeman.

SCHAUMBURG BOOMERS — Signed RHP Kenny Knudson.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MINERS — Signed RHP Zach Cooper.

TRAVERSE CITY BEACH BUMS — Signed RHP Kyle McKay.

WINDY CITY THUNDERBOLTS — Signed RHP Jose Rodriguez Lima to a contract extension. Signed LHP Brett Maus and RHP Ryan Strombom.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Reassigned F Jarell Martin to Iowa (NBADL).

FOOTBALL

National Football League

ATLANTA FALCONS — Announced assistant head coach Raheem Morris will become the wide receivers coach. Named Jerome Henderson defensive passing game coordinator.

DETROIT LIONS — Named David Walker running backs coach.

LOS ANGELES RAMS — Named Michael Groh passing game coordinator and wide receivers coach.

MIAMI DOLPHINS — Named Lou Anarumo defensive backs coach, Darren Rizzi assistant head coach, Chris Kuper offensive quality control coach, Rusty McKinney defensive quality control coach and Jim Arthur and Ted Rath assistant strength and conditioning coaches. Promoted Dave Puloka to head strength and conditioning coach.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Announced tight ends coach Kevin Stefanski will become running backs coach. Named Pat Shurmur tight ends coach.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Signed TE Zach Ertz to a five-year contract extension through the 2021 season.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Named Brett Maxie defensive backs coach.

TENNESSEE TITANS — Named Russ Grimm offensive line coach, Deshea Townsend secondary coach and Steve Jackson assistant secondary coach.

Canadian Football League

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Re-signed LB Louie Richardson.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Recalled F Mark McNeill from Rockford (AHL).

American Hockey League

AHL — Suspended Utica LW Darren Archibald one game for a boarding incident during a Jan. 24 game at Toronto.

HARTFORD WOLF PACK — Reassigned F Josh Nicholls to Greenville (ECHL).

ECHL

ECHL — Suspended Wheeling's Anton Zlobin one game and fined him an undisclosed amount for his actions in a Jan. 23 game against Kalamazoo. Suspended Allen's David Makowski one game and fined him an undisclosed amount for his actions in a Jan. 24 game against Wichita.

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

ATLANTA UNITED — Signed G Alexander Tambakis.

D.C. UNITED — Named Stewart Mairs director of soccer strategy and analysis.

SPORTING KANSAS CITY — Named Jake Reid president.

NEW YORK RED BULLS — Released G Santiago Castano. Signed Ms Mike Grella and Sal Zizzo and G Luis Robles to multiyear contracts and M Shaun Wright-Phillips.

United Soccer League

SWOPE PARK RANGERS — Signed D Tommy Meyer.

National Women's Soccer League

WASHINGTON SPIRIT — Traded M Amanda Da Costa and a 2017 draft pick to Chicago for a player to be named.

THOROUGHBRED RACING

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF RACING AND HALL OF FAME — Named Cate M. Johnson director of development.

COLLEGE

BIG TEN CONFERENCE — Announced the suspension of Wisconsin hockey players Eddie Wittchow for three games, Aidan Cavallini one game and Ohio State hockey player Josh Healey two games for their actions in separate games on Jan. 23.

BALL STATE — Named Tim Daoust defensive coordinator, Kyle DeVan offensive line coach, Johnny Curtis linebackers coach, Byron Ellis director of football administration and Ben Armer director of strength and conditioning.

CUMBERLAND (TENN.) — Promoted Rory O'Connor to men's soccer coach.

FLAGLER — Named Larry Hall athletics communications coordinator.

GETTYSBURG — Named Justin Perry and Chris Winpigler assistant baseball coaches.

HOPE — Named Peter Stuursma football coach.

OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN — Announced it is joining the Great American Conference as an affiliate member for track and field.

UTSA — Named Ryan Filo football strength and conditioning coach and Spencer Ross assistant football strength and conditioning coach.

WASHINGTON STATE — Named JaMarcus Shephard inside receivers coach.

PREGAME.COM ODDS

NFL

Super Bowl

FAVORITE	OPEN	TODAY	O/U	UNDERDOG
Carolina	3½	4½	(45)	Denver

FIGHT SCHEDULE

Jan. 29

At Belasco Theater, Los Angeles, Julian Ramirez vs. Christopher Martin, 10, for the vacant WBC Silver Youth featherweight title.

Jan. 30

At Bell Centre, Montreal, Sergey Kovalev vs. Jean Pascal, 12, for Kovalev's IBF-WBA Super World-WBO light heavyweight titles; Francis Lafreniere vs. Renan St-Juste, 10, middleweights; Virgilijus Stapulionis vs. Laszlo Fazekas, 10, junior middleweights.

Feb. 5

At Fantasy Springs Resort Casino, Indio, Calif., Frankie Gomez vs. Silverio Ortiz, super lightweights; Randy Caballero vs. Ruben Garcia, 10, super bantamweights.

Feb. 9

At Sands Bethlehem (Pa.) Center (FS1), Jamel Herring vs. Luis Eduardo Flores, 10, lightweights.

Feb. 18

At The Hangar, Costa Mesa, Calif., Sergey Kuzmin vs. Rodney Hernandez, 10, heavyweights; Dmitry Bivol vs. Darnell Boone, 10, light heavyweights.

Feb. 19

At Boardwalk Hall, Atlantic City, N.J. (SHO), Adam Lopez vs. Mario Munoz, 10, junior featherweights.

Midland Polo Club Interscholastic Polo Team members, left to right, Hollis Hightower, Avery Evans, Jordan Williams, April Galindo, Madison Lange and Carter Nix. *Courtesy Photo*

Midland Polo Club's girls team qualifies for regionals

From staff reports

The Midland Polo Club Interscholastic Girls Polo teams recently qualified for regionals of the United States Polo Association's Interscholastic Polo Program.

The Central Regional Tournament will be held Feb. 12-14 at ERG Arena in Brookshire, located just outside of Houston.

To qualify for regionals, the teams competed this fall against over interscholastic girls teams from Central Region, including Culver Military Academy from Culver, Indiana, Hillside Farm from Richfield, Wisconsin, and Austin Interscholastic Polo.

Team members represent students from Midland Classical Academy, Midland High School, Permian High School and Trinity School

They are coached by John Watson.

MISDBASKETBALLTODAY

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Boys

ODESSA PERMIAN AT MIDLAND HIGH

When/where: 6 p.m. today, Chaparral Center

Records: Permian 9-8, 2-1 in District 3-6A; MHS 8-12, 2-1 in District 3-6A

Last game: Permian 38, Odessa High 26, Friday; MHS 68, San Angelo Central 55, Friday

Three things to watch:

■ The Bulldogs are picking up steam. They've won their last two district contests against Lee and San Angelo Central in convincing fashion after falling at Abilene High to open district play.

■ Over its first three district games, Permian has shown that it isn't quite the offensive juggernaut that it was last season. But while the Panthers have still yet to score more than 45 points in a district game, their defense has been suffocating at times. MHS will have to contend with pesky guards and plenty of ball pressure against Permian.

■ This game has important implications as the first half of the district season begins to wind down. Both squads are 2-1 in district play coming in and today's winner will be in no worse than sole possession of second place in the standings.

Next: MHS at Odessa High, 6 p.m. Friday

LEE AT ODESSA HIGH

When/where: 6 p.m. today, OHS

Records: Lee 3-15, 0-3 in District 3-6A; OHS 14-8, 1-2 in District 3-6A

Last game: Abilene High 91, Lee 41, Friday; Odessa Permian 38, OHS 26, Friday

Three things to watch:

■ Lee has had some recent success against the Bronchos. Last season, the Rebels were winless against the rest of the district but 2-0 against OHS. Seeking its first district victory this season, Lee might take comfort in knowing it has had the Bronchos' number.

■ OHS though, is a much improved team from last season's 10-19 overall finish. The Bronchos feature a bevy of talented guards, headlined by sophomore Issac Hernandez.

■ The Bronchos also boast a pair of 6-foot-7 sophomore forwards in Memo Anaya and Ozzy Terrazas. Lee's tallest player is Rhequan Strambler, who at 6-foot-6 will likely be tasked with manning up one or both OHS big men. How the Rebels matchup against that height will be critical in the outcome of today's game.

Next: San Angelo Central at Lee, 6 p.m. Friday at Chaparral Center

— Compiled by Will Korn

Girls

ODESSA PERMIAN AT MIDLAND HIGH

When/where: 7:30 p.m., Chaparral Center

Records: Permian 14-8, 2-3 in District 3-6A; MHS 16-8, 4-1

Last game: Permian 70, Odessa High 38; MHS 80, San Angelo Central 56

Notes: In the District 3-6A opener on Jan. 8, the Lady Bulldogs had their hands full with the Lady Panthers during a 55-50 win in Odessa. ... MHS closed out the first half of 3-6A play in style, coasting to an 80-56 win over visiting San Angelo Central on Friday. Alexis Washington and Kaylyn Evans each scored a game-high 16 points for MHS. They were joined in double figures by Alexandrea Washington with 15 points and Claire Lancaster with 12. Alexandrea Washington grabbed a team-high 12 rebounds, while Lancaster had 10 rebounds. ... Permian went on a 27-6 fourth-quarter run to leave rival Odessa High in the dust during a 70-38 victory on Friday. Lady Panthers senior guard Rhianna Jones led all scorers with 19 points.

Next: MHS at Odessa High, 7:30 p.m. Friday; Permian at Abilene High, 7:30 p.m. Friday

LEE AT ODESSA HIGH

When/where: 7:30 p.m., Odessa High

Records: Lee 19-4, 5-0 in District 3-6A; OHS 13-14, 1-4

Last game: Lee 52, Abilene High 29; Odessa Permian 70, OHS 38

Notes: The Lady Rebels blew through their first four opponents from start to finish with ease, but Abilene High played competitively with them at home on Friday, as Lee led by a narrow 22-20 margin at halftime. Following intermission, the Lady Rebs outscored the Lady Eagles, 30-9, to win by a 20-point plus margin for the fourth time in district. ... Lee senior Kyra Lewis scored 10 points against Abilene High and has scored in double figures in all five District 3-6A affairs. ... The Lady Bronchos' lone district win a 54-50 home win over Abilene High on Jan. 19. ... OHS was outscored by Odessa Permian in three of four quarters during a 70-38 loss on Friday. Ruthie Fox scored a team-best 16 points for Odessa High.

Next: San Angelo Central vs. Lee, 7:30 p.m. Friday at Chaparral Center; Midland High at OHS, 7:30 p.m. Friday

— Compiled by Christopher Hadorn

TABC-TEX PREPS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL RANKINGS

SUGAR LAND — High school basketball rankings as compiled by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches and Tex Preps Basketball magazine for the week of Jan. 25:

BOYS

Class 6A

1. Humble Atascocita, 26-0; 2. DeSoto, 24-1; 3. Cibolo Steele, 23-1; 4. SA Northside Brandeis, 24-0; 5. Houston Sam Houston, 22-4; 6. Amarillo Tascosa, 24-0; 7. Cedar Hill, 19-3; 8. Killeen Shoemaker, 24-2; 9. Klein Forest, 19-4; 10. Aldine Davis, 21-2; 11. North Crowley, 21-3; 12. Dallas Skyline, 21-1; 13. Spring Dekaney, 19-7; 14. Fort Bend Hightower, 23-4; 15. Fort Bend Travis, 22-4; 16. EP Americas, 24-1; 17. South Grand Prairie, 17-8; 18. Plano East, 19-6; 19. Richardson, 20-5; 20. Austin Westlake, 20-2; 21. Spring Westfield, 20-6; 22 Los Fresnos, 21-6; 23. Brownsville Veterans, 23-3; 24. SA Churchill, 22-4; 25. Cypress Lakes, 15-6.

Class 5A

1. Fort Bend Bush, 18-7; 2. Fort Bend Elkins, 23-2; 3 Lancaster, 22-2; 4. Houston Yates, 16-3; 5. Beaumont Central, 20-5; 6. Beaumont Ozen, 19-3; 7. Fort Bend Marshall, 20-7; 8. EP Burges, 21-0; 9. Cedar Park Vista Ridge, 24-2; 10. Frisco Liberty, 20-5; 11. Edinburg Vela, 24-2; 12. West Mesquite, 20-5; 13. Rockwall Heath, 18-4; 14. Amarillo Palo Duro, 16-3; 15. EP Bel Air, 19-2; 16. Plainview, 18-5; 17 Marshall, 20-0; 18. Little Elm, 15-6; 19. SA Alamo Heights, 15-8; 20. The Colony, 20-6; 21. Laredo Nixon, 19-6; 22. SA Jefferson, 19-5; 23 Tyler, 17-4; 24. Denton, 12-9; 25. CC Flour Bluff, 15-10.

Class 4A

1. Silsbee, 19-5; 2. Brazosport, 20-5; 3. La Marque, 22-7; 4. Houston Wheatley, 20-3; 5. Dallas Lincoln, 12-12; 6. Dallas Carter, 16-5; 7 Paris, 23-2; 8. Wilmer-Hutchins, 14-7; 9. Dallas Madison, 11-9; 10. Dallas Triple A, 15-8; 11. Abilene Wylie, 20-5; 12. Bridgeport, 17-8; 13. Argyle, 19-4; 14. Lubbock Estacado, 16-5; 15. Stafford, 16-9; 16. Wharton, 19-6; 17. Decatur, 17-7; 18. Tatum, 18-7; 19. Sour Lake Hardin-Jefferson, 21-7; 20. Geronimo Navarro, 22-2; 21. Center, 12-7; 22. WF Hirschi, 15-9; 23. Lamesa, 17-5; 24. Texarkana Pleasant Grove, 18-5; 25. Mexia, 16-7.

Class 3A

1. Van Alstyne, 19-5; 2. Brownfield, 20-3; 3. Ponder, 17-7; 4. Childress, 21-1; 5. Kermit, 22-2; 6. Kountze, 17-8; 7. Peaster, 17-5; 8. Red Oak Life, 24-3; 9. Dallas Faith Family, 16-6; 10. Weatherford Brock, 18-9; 11. Aransas Pass, 18-9; 12. Jarrell, 20-3; 13 East Chambers, 21-5; 14. Goliad, 24-2; 15. SA Randolph, 16-5; 16. Nixon-Smiley, 18-5; 17. Waskom, 8-5; 18. Nacogdoches Central Heights, 12-13; 19. Wall, 15-5; 20. Pollok Central, 21-6; 21. Franklin, 9-2; 22. Whitewright, 15-7; 23. Santa Rosa, 16-8; 24. Daingerfield, 12-5; 25. Slaton, 16-6.

Class 2A

1. Dallardsville Big Sandy, 26-2; 2. Clarksville, 21-4; 3. Thorndale, 22-2; 4. Tenaha, 14-7; 5. Muenster, 20-3; 6. San Augustine, 17-3; 7. Panhandle, 20-2; 8. Farwell, 17-4; 9. Schulenburg, 18-6; 10. Flatonia, 20-4; 11. Vega, 13-8; 12. Stratford, 9-3; 13. Canadian, 5-4; 14. La Rue La Poynor, 19-4; 15. Martins Mill, 20-7; 16. Dallas Gateway, 13-9; 17. Grapeland, 17-8; 18. Harper, 18-5; 19. Shamrock, 20-0; 20. Port Aransas, 13-12; 21. Avery, 19-4; 22. Clarendon, 17-5; 23. SA Lee Academy, 21-1; 24. Electra, 18-3; 25. Fruitvale, 14-7.

Class 1A

1. Lipan, 24-0; 2. Avinger, 20-2; **3. Grady, 17-4;** 4. Coolidge, 20-3; 5. Nazareth, 13-10; 6. Happy, 16-5; 7. Texline, 14-8; 8. Laneville, 13-10; 9. Jayton, 19-4; 10. Menard, 18-4; 11. Calvert, 15-3; 12. Chireno, 17-7; 13. Whitharral, 16-2; 14. Dime Box, 19-5; 15. Waelder, 17-7; 16. Turkey Valley, 11-9; 17. Knox City, 19-4; 18. May, 16-2; 19. Lingleville, 15-6; 20. Lometa, 19-3; 21. Borden County, 12-3; 22. Huckabay, 14-9; 23. McMullen County, 21-4; 24. Meadow, 13-6; 25 New Home, 15-5.

Large Private Schools

1. Plano Prestonwood Christian, 22-7; 2. Addison Trinity Christian, 22-4; 3. Tomball Concordia Lutheran, 28-5; 4. Houston Bellaire Episcopal, 23-4; 5. SA St. Anthony Catholic, 25-5; 6. Houston Westbury Christian, 22-7; 7. Austin St. Stephen's, 19-5; 8. FW Southwest Christian, 21-6; 9. Holy Cross of San Antonio, 26-5; 10. Lubbock Trinity Christian, 23-7; 11. Beaumont Monsignor, 17-6; 12. Houston St. Thomas, 17-5; 13. Dallas Parish Episcopal, 15-5; 14. Houston Christian, 23-8; 15. SA Antonian, 24-8; 16. Austin St. Dominic Savio, 19-8; 17. Saint Mary's Hall, 19-9; 18. SA Central Catholic, 23-7; 19. Tyler All-Saints Episcopal, 18-7; 20. Austin St. Michael's Catholic, 20-8; 21. Houston Kinkaid, 17-8; 22. Houston The Village School, 18-2; **23. Midland Christian, 19-12;** 24. FW Nolan Catholic, 18-6; 25. Grapevine Faith Christian, 19-10.

Small Private Schools

1. Cedar Hill Trinity Christian, 24-4; 2. Arlington Grace Prep, 21-5; 3. Houston St. Thomas Episcopal, 14-12; 4. Beaumont Legacy Christian, 20-5; 5. Austin Waldorf, 23-2; 6. Conroe Lifestyle Christian, 23-6; 7. Baytown Christian, 19-4; 8. Lubbock Christian, 23-6; **9. Midland Classical, 18-9;** 10. The Woodlands Christian, 20-8; 11. SA Lutheran, 22-7; 12. Waco Vanguard College Prep, 13-10; 13. Kerrville Our Lady of the Hills, 17-4; 14. Granbury North Texas Christian, 11-4; 15. FW Lake Country Christian, 15-12; 16. Lubbock All Saints Episcopal, 21-8; 17. Katy Faith West, 17-7; 18. Geneva School of Boerne, 23-9; 19. Dallas First Baptist, 12-4; 20. Huntsville Alpha Omega, 18-6; 21. League City Bay Area Christian, 12-15; 22. San Marcos Hill Country, 11-4; 23. Kingwood Northeast Christian, 23-8; 24. SA Castle Hills First Baptist, 13-6; 25. Mission Juan Diego, 14-4.

GIRLS

Class 6A

1. Duncanville, 28-0; 2. Galena Park North Shore, 27-1; 3. Spring Dekaney, 26-1; 4. Amarillo, 25-4; 5. Cibolo Steele, 28-1; 6. Harlingen, 27-1; 7. Cypress Woods, 19-6; 8. Killeen, 25-4; 9. Cedar Hill, 22-6; 10. Plano West, 24-4; 11. League City Clear Springs, 21-6; 12. Euless Trinity, 23-3; 13. Mesquite Horn, 23-5; 14. SA Northside Clark, 27-3; 15. SA Johnson, 21-7; 16. South Grand Prairie, 21-8; 17. Flower Mound, 20-4; 18. Katy Seven Lakes, 22-8; 19. Waco Midway, 23-5; 20. Converse Judson, 22-4; 21. SA Northside Brandeis, 19-8; 22. Richardson, 19-7; 23. Laredo Alexander, 24-7; 24. League City Clear Falls, 23-5; 25. Fort Bend Hightower, 20-7.

Class 5A

1. Mansfield Timberview, 25-0; 2. Canyon, 23-1; 3. EP Burges, 21-3; 4. WF Rider, 27-1; 5. Cedar Park Vista Ridge, 24-4; 6. Tyler, 24-2; 7. Lufkin, 24-1; 8. Floresville, 24-3; 9. Bryan Rudder, 24-4; 10. Frisco Liberty, 22-6; 11. Hereford, 20-4; 12. Georgetown, 16-9; 13. West Mesquite, 18-6; 14. Barbers Hill, 20-7; 15. Beaumont Ozen, 21-3; 16. McKinney North, 20-8; 17. Prosper, 23-5; 18. Fort Bend Bush, 16-6; 19. Mansfield Summit, 17-5; 20. Tomball Memorial, 16-3; 21. Aledo, 20-7; 22. Laredo Cigarroa, 26-6; 23. Austin LBJ, 22-5; 24. Crowley, 16-5; 25. Crosby, 21-7.

Class 4A

1. Argyle, 23-1; 2. Navasota, 31-0; 3. Waco La Vega, 22-2; 4. Abilene Wylie, 22-4; 5. Tatum, 22-2; 6. Sanger, 23-3; 7. Dallas Lincoln, 21-4; 8. Mexia, 21-4; 9. Wharton, 25-0; 10. Canton, 20-6; 11. Kennedale, 18-8; 12. Godley, 22-6; 13. Brownsboro, 24-5; 14. Liberty Hill, 26-3; 15. Brazosport, 21-5; 16. Taylor, 19-4; 17. Carrollton Ranchview, 22-3; 18. Devine, 23-3; 19. Madisonville, 19-9; 20. Gilmer, 19-6; 21. Boerne, 22-6; 22. Bullard, 22-6; 23. Houston Wheatley, 19-4; 24. Levelland, 19-8; 25. Ferris, 22-2.

Class 3A

1. Wall, 22-4; 2. Shallowater, 23-4; 3. Nacogdoches Central Heights, 20-4; 4. Jarrell, 24-3; 5. Brock, 23-4; 6. SA Cole, 27-3; 7. Alba-Golden, 19-7; 8. Winnsboro, 22-5; 9. Buffalo, 19-0; 10. Bowie, 20-7; 11. Malakoff, 20-3; 12. Life Oak Cliff, 21-5; 13. Tuscola Jim Ned, 18-9; 14. Mount Pleasant Chapel Hill, 23-6; 15. Little River Academy, 22-6; 16. Idalou, 19-6; 17. Grandview, 17-8; 18. Hitchcock, 26-3; 19. Hallettsville, 25-5; 20. Odem, 22-6; 21. Mathis, 30-1; 22. Goliad, 26-5; 23. Littlefield, 22-5; 24. Pottsboro, 23-3; 25. Elysian Fields, 20-4.

Class 2A

1. Canadian, 19-3; 2. Weimar, 27-2; 3. Mason, 26-3; 4. Martins Mill, 21-6; 5. Panhandle, 24-1; 6. La Rue La Poynor, 24-2; 7. Gruver, 20-4; 8. Muenster, 20-5; 9. Windthorst, 21-3; 10. Thorndale, 22-2; 11. San Saba, 21-5; 12. Christoval, 23-6; 13. Rosebud-Lott, 23-3; 14. Slocum, 23-4; 15. Goldthwaite, 20-3; 16. Gladewater Union Grove, 23-4; 17. Evadale, 24-4; 18. Hico, 20-5; 19. Sundown, 24-6; 20. Smyer, 18-7; 21. Falls City, 18-8; 22. Wellington, 20-4; 23. Frost, 19-2; 24. Sabinal, 19-4; 25. Bells, 19-5.

Class 1A

1. Garden City, 20-2; 2. Lipan, 21-6; 3. Nazareth, 20-5; 4. Chireno, 24-3; 5. Dodd City, 24-1; 6. Nueces Canyon, 19-2; 7. Richland Springs, 19-2; 8. Saltillo, 21-8; 9. Turkey Valley, 17-2; 10. Ira, 20-2; 11. May, 21-1; 12. Newcastle, 21-4; 13. Huckabay, 17-7; 14. Goodrich, 19-4; 15. Follett, 16-7; 16. Roby, 22-2; 17. Coolidge, 20-4; 18. O'Donnell, 20-7; 19. Roscoe Highland, 15-6; 20. Lorenzo, 18-8; 21. Whitharral, 16-5; 22. Robert Lee, 18-4; 23. North Zulch, 16-3; 24. Sidell, 22-3; **25. Grady, 14-8.**

Large Private Schools

1. Argyle Liberty Christian, 26-4; 2. Tomball Concordia Lutheran, 25-6; 3. Dallas Bishop Lynch, 17-7; 4. SA Incarnate Word, 17-6; 5. SA Antonian, 29-4; 6. Victoria St. Josephs, 25-5; 7. Dallas Christian, 23-5; 8. Plano Prestonwood, 15-5; 9. CC Incarnate Word, 22-5; 10. Dallas Greenhill, 18-4; 11. Austin Regents, 17-5; 12. Houston Kinkaid, 20-7; 13. Houston Westbury Christian, 23-8; 14. Houston Duchesne, 19-3; 15. Austin St. Dominic Savio, 16-9; 16. Houston Bellaire Episcopal, 19-8; 17. Lubbock Trinity, 15-12; 18. Austin St. Michaels, 15-14; 19. Plano John Paul II, 9-9; 20. SA Christian, 18-11; 21. Houston St. Agnes, 18-13; 22. Dallas Parish Episcopal, 13-8; 23. Houston Village School, 18-4; 24. Houston Christian, 16-12; 25. SA Holy Cross, 19-8.

Small Private Schools

1. Lubbock Christian, 20-6; 2. Houston Lutheran North, 25-6; 3. Marble Falls Faith, 25-5; 4. FW Lake Country Christian, 26-6; 5. Beaumont Legacy Christian, 16-7; 6. Tomball Rosehill Christian, 20-3; 7. McKinney Christian, 17-3; 8. Cedar Hill Trinity Christian, 22-4; **9. Midland Classical, 14-7;** 10. Austin Brentwood Christian, 16-11; 11. Austin Waldorf, 18-4; 12. Kennedale Fellowship, 18-7; 13. Temple Central Texas Christian, 20-7; 14. Dallas Lutheran, 14-4; 15. Muenster Sacred Heart, 12-6; 16. Sherman Texoma Christian, 12-10; 17. Waco Vanguard, 15-7; 18. WF Notre Dame, 14-9; 19. Hallettsville Sacred Heart, 19-6; 20. Conroe Covenant Christian, 15-7; 21. Shiner St. Paul Catholic, 16-6; 22. League City Bay Area Christian, 19-5; 22. Austin Texas School for the Deaf, 18-8; 23. Denton Calvary, 14-10; 24. San Antonio Christian Academy of SA, 18-8; 25. Greenville Christian, 9-1.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION

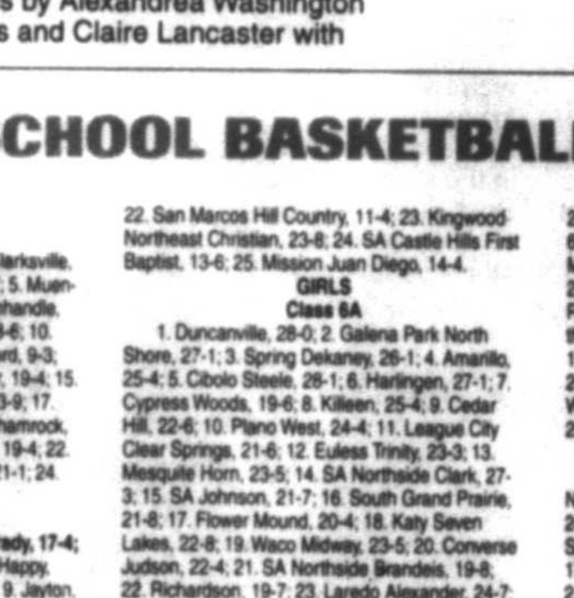
"Change The Path Of A Pet's Life"

4206 W. Loop 250

Midland, TX 79707

432-520-3134 ext. 7

Please visit us at www.midlandhumane.org and 'Like' us on FaceBook



Perry

is a 1 year old lab. He loves people and kids. He would prefer a home without cats and with a secure fence.

Please contact the Midland Humane Coalition (Located inside Petsmart)

For more information 432.520.3134

Sponsored by: Brown's Permian Electric

SIMMONS

From 1C

In addition to Simmons' big night, Daeshon Francis had 16 points, Bryce Ervin had 12 and William Tchiengang added 10 for MC.

Taylor Breck led NMMI (8-13, 0-8) with 14 points and Chancellor Ellis added 12.

MC now turns its attention to South Plains College, which visits Chaparral Center at 7:30 p.m. Friday. SPC steam-rolled the Chaps 89-63 in the WJCAC opener in Levelland on Dec. 2.

"I'm excited because of the way they beat us last time," said Simmons, of the anticipated rematch.

"I'm just ready to let them know that we're here to play and it's not going to be as easy as they think it's going to be.

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

WJCAC Men's basketball

Team	Overall W	Overall L	District W	District L
New Mexico JC	7	1	17	5
Odessa College	6	2	17	4
South Plains	6	2	15	6
Midland College	5	3	17	5
Frank Phillips	5	3	16	6
Western Texas	4	5	12	10
Howard College	2	6	12	10
Clarendon College	2	6	14	8
NMMI	0	8	8	13

Monday's scores

Midland College 88, New Mexico Military Institute 60; South Plains College 83, Western Texas College 76; Frank Phillips College 78, Odessa College 72; New Mexico JC 88, Howard College 79; Clarendon College was open

Thursday's games

South Plains College at Midland College; Clarendon College at Howard College; Odessa College at New Mexico JC; New Mexico Military Institute at Frank Phillips College; Odessa College is open

WJCAC Women's basketball

Team	Overall W	Overall L	District W	District L
New Mexico JC	7	0	20	2
Midland College	6	1	19	3
Howard College	5	2	15	7
Odessa College	4	3	15	6
South Plains	3	4	15	8
Frank Phillips	2	5	9	9
Western Texas	1	6	14	8
Clarendon College	0	7	5	16

Monday's scores

South Plains College 56, Western Texas College 52; Odessa College 63, Frank Phillips College 47; New Mexico JC 54, Howard College 45; Midland College and Clarendon College were open

Thursday's games

South Plains College at Midland College; Clarendon College at Howard College; Odessa College at New Mexico JC; Frank Phillips College and Odessa College are open

MIDLAND COLLEGE 88
NEW MEXICO MILITARY INSTITUTE 60

NMMI (8-13, 0-8) — Chaz Lassiter 0-2 2-2 2, Chancellor Ellis 4-9 0-0 12, Moe Niang 1-1 0-0 2, Emmanuel Kema 1-5 0-0 3, Merrick Mackdanz-Marble 1-3 0-0 3, Taylor Breck 5-9 4-8 14, DeMarco Enoch 1-7 4-5 7, Ahmed Coulbaly 1-4 1-2 3, Connor Green 0-0 0-0 0, Christian Marks 1-4 0-1 3, Rashad Wattie 1-4 0-1 3, Nehemiah Mabson 3-11 3-4 9. Totals 19-59 14-22 60

Midland College (17-5, 5-3) — William Tchiengang 3-3 3-4 10, Jachai Simmons 10-17 0-0 26, Austin Dasent 0-2 0-0 0, Bryce Ervin 4-7 0-0 12, Solomon Hainna 0-3 6-8 6, Norbertas Giga 1-4 1-2 3, Traveun Coad 2-8 5-6 9, James McPherson 2-7 0-0 5, Daeshon Francis 4-7 8-8 16. Totals 26-58 23-28 88

Halftime — MC 36, NMMI 33. 3-point goals - NMMI 8-29 (Ellis 4-9, Kema 1-3, Marble 1-2, Enoch 1-3, Marks 1-4, Lassiter 0-1, Beck 0-1, Wattie 0-1, Mabson 0-3), MC 13-28 (Simmons 6-10, Ervin 4-6, Coad 2-5, Tchiengang 1-1, Dasent 0-1, Coad 0-3, Francis 0-2). Total fouls — NMMI 8-29 (Ellis 4-9, Kema 1-3, Marble 0-1, Enoch 1-3, Marks 1-4, Lassiter 0-1, Breck 0-1, Coulbaly 0-2, Wattie 0-1, Mabson 0-3), MC 13-28 (Simmons 6-10, Ervin 4-6, McPherson 2-5, Tchiengang 1-1, Dasent 0-1, Coad 0-3). Fouled out — Mabson, Wattie. Technical fouls — Mabson. Rebounds - NMMI 32 (Mabson 10), MC 45 (Hainna 6) Assists — NMMI 5 (Marks 2), MC 12 (Coad 4). Turnovers — NMMI 18, MC 18.

Next: South Plains College at Midland College, 7:30 p.m. Thursday

HISTORIC

From 1C

first three by two, three and nine points, respectively.

■ San Antonio at Cleveland, Saturday: The second installment of ABC's Saturday night broadcasts this season should be another good one. LeBron James has walked off a winner in only two of his last nine games against the Spurs.

■ Atlanta at Miami, Sunday: This will be only the second home game for the injury-riddled and slumping Heat in a span of 25 days. Hawks and Heat have split two games this season, both winning on the road.

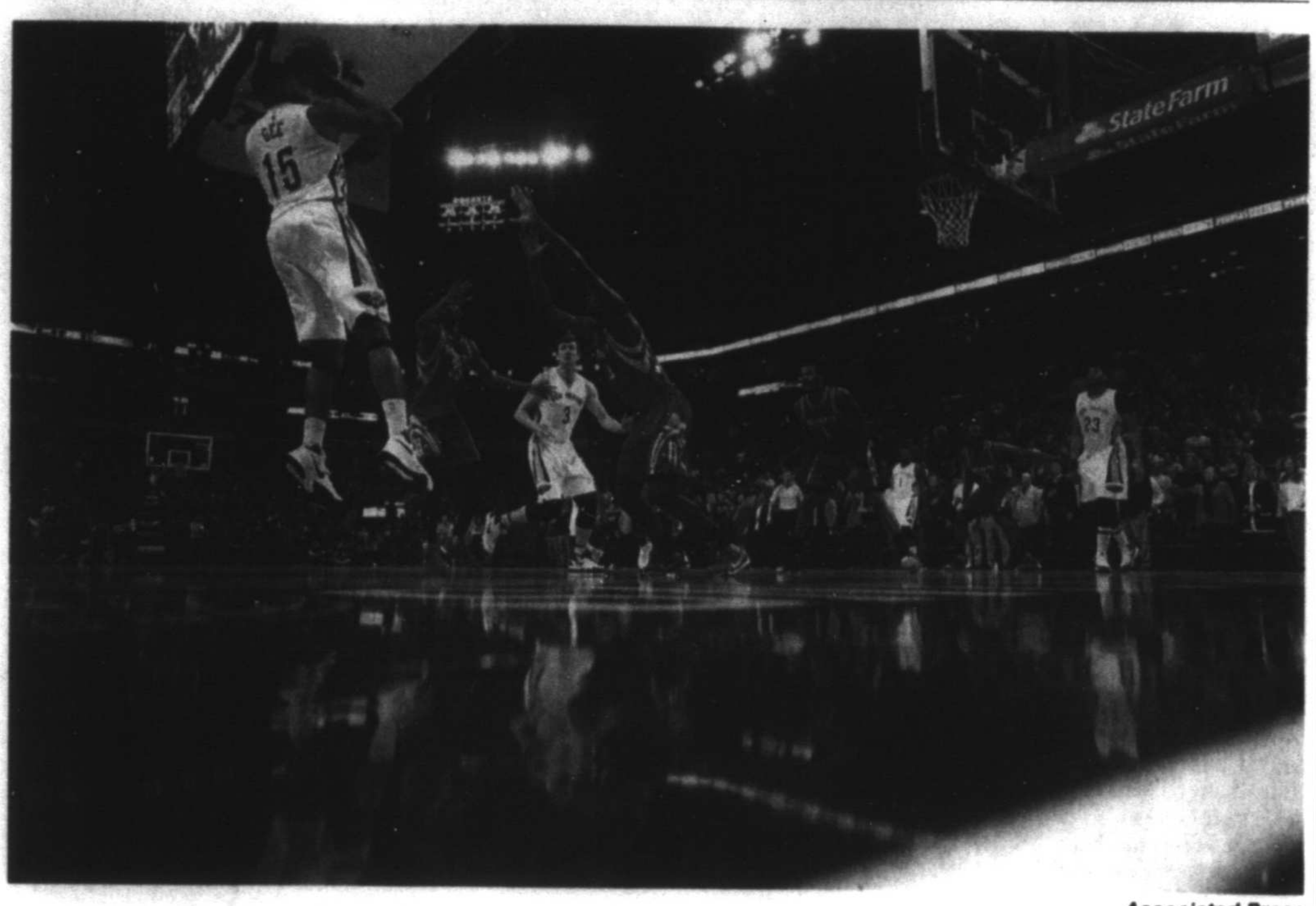
All-star reserves

The coaches' picks for the NBA All-Star reserves get released Thursday. Who might get a call:

■ Eastern Conference: DeMar DeRozan and John Wall at guard. Chris Bosh, Andre Drummond and Pau Gasol in the front court. Jimmy Butler and Paul Millsap as wild cards.

■ Western Conference: Chris Paul and James Harden at guard. DeMarcus Cousins, Anthony Davis and Draymond Green in the frontcourt. Klay Thompson and Damian Lillard as wild cards.

It's possible there could be an All-Star Game without Kyrie Irving, Carmelo Anthony, Dirk Nowitzki, Blake Griffin and LaMarcus Aldridge.



Associated Press

New Orleans Pelicans forward Alonzo Gee (15) attempts a shot in the first half of an NBA game against the Houston Rockets in New Orleans, Monday.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN RESULTS

Monday
At Melbourne Park
Melbourne, Australia
Purse: $30.18 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Men
Fourth Round

Gael Monfils (23), France, def. Andrey Kuznetsov, Russia, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (4)

Milos Raonic (13), Canada, def. Stan Wawrinka (4), Switzerland, 6-4, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-3.

David Ferrer (8), Spain, def. John Isner (10), United States, 6-4, 6-4, 7-5.

Andy Murray (2), Britain, def. Bernard Tomic (16), Australia, 6-4, 6-4, 7-6 (4).

Women
Fourth Round

Angelique Kerber (7), Germany, def. Annika Beck, Germany, 6-4, 6-0.

Victoria Azarenka (14), Belarus, def. Barbora Strycova, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-4

Johanna Konta, Britain, def. Ekaterina Makarova (21), Russia, 4-6, 6-4, 8-6.

Zhang Shuai, China, def. Madison Keys (15), United States, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Men
Third Round

Adrian Mannarino and Lucas Pouille, France def. Juan Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah (12), Colombia, 6-3, 7-6 (6).

Jamie Murray, Britain, and Bruno Soares (7), Brazil, def. Dominic Inglot, Britain, and Robert Lindstedt (11), Sweden, 6-3, 6-4

Raven Klaasen, South Africa, and Rajeev Ram (13), United States, def. Bob and Mike Bryan (3), United States, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4

Jean-Julien Rojer, Netherlands, and Horia Tecau (1), Romania, def. Marco Cecchinato and Andreas Seppi, Italy, 7-6 (7), 6-3.

Women
Third Round

Julia Goerges, Germany, and Karolina Pliskova (13), Czech Republic, def. Caroline Garcia and Kristina Mladenovic (3), France, 6-1, 7-6 (5)

Xu Yi-Fan and Zheng Saisai (15), China, def. Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, and Oksana Kalashnikova, Georgia, 6-2, 6-4

Vania King, United States, and Alla Kudryavtseva, Russia, def. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova and Elena Vesnina (5), Russia, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3

Martina Hingis, Switzerland, and Sania Mirza (1), India, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova, Russia, and Roberta Vinci, Italy, 6-1, 6-3

Mixed
Second Round

Chan Yung-jan, Taiwan, and Rohan Bopanna (3), India, def. Andrea Hlavackova, Czech Republic, and Lukasz Kubot, Poland, 4-6, 6-3, 10-6

Bethanie Mattek-Sands and Bob Bryan (2), United States, def. Sam Stosur and John Peers, Australia, 6-3, 7-6 (6)

Early Tuesday
At Melbourne Park
Melbourne, Australia
Purse: $30.18 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Women
Quarterfinals

Agnieszka Radwanska (4), Poland, def. Carla Suarez Navarro (10), Spain, 6-1, 6-3

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ROCKETS 112
PELICANS 111

NEW ORLEANS — James Harden scored 35 points and Trevor Ariza added a season-high 31 to help the hot-shooting Houston Rockets beat the short-handed New Orleans Pelicans 112-111 on Monday night.

The Pelicans played the second half without All-Star forward Anthony Davis, who left late in the second quarter with a concussion after getting elbowed in the head by teammate Tyreke Evans.

Houston, which did not have center Dwight Howard for the third straight game due to a left ankle sprain, hit a season-high 19 3-pointers. Ariza connected on his first six 3s.

GRIZZLIES 108
MAGIC 102

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Jeff Green scored a season-high 30 points, Memphis converted enough free throws in an extra period and the Grizzlies defeated the Orlando Magic 108-102 in overtime Monday night.

Two free throws by Mike Conley with 15.9 second left provided the final margin. Memphis could have put the game away earlier, but converted only four of its first eight free throws in the extra session.

Zach Randolph finished with 18 points and 13 rebounds. Marc Gasol had 17 points, Courtney Lee added 16 and Conley had 12 points and nine assists.

Tobias Harris, Nikola Vucevic and Evan Fournier had 16 apiece for the Magic, who lost their sixth straight and 10th in 11.

HEAT 89
BULLS 84

CHICAGO — Dwyane Wade had 28 points, Chris Bosh added 18 and the Miami Heat rallied from an eight-point deficit early in the fourth quarter for an 89-84 victory over the Chicago Bulls on Monday night, snapping a four-game losing streak.

Wade scored 10 points in the fourth period. He and Bosh combined for the last five points in the final 1:02 as Miami snapped an 84-all tie.

Pau Gasol had 19 points and 17 rebounds to lead the Bulls. Jimmy Butler scored 13 on 5-for-15 shooting.

Chicago, coming off a win at Cleveland on Saturday, has dropped three straight home games.

Bulls guard Derrick Rose didn't play in the second half because of lower back and right hamstring injuries. Aaron Brooks took Rose's place with the starting unit.

CELTICS 116
WIZARDS 91

WASHINGTON — Pint-sized point guard Isaiah Thomas scored 23 points in three quarters, and five other players finished in double figures as the Boston Celtics kept John Wall in check and beat the Washington Wizards 116-91 on Monday night.

The 5-foot-9 Thomas was sinking shots from all over the floor and driving all over the Wizards (20-22) as the Celtics (25-21) won their third straight. He added nine assists and did it all before coach Brad Stevens held him out when the game became lopsided.

Evan Turner had 18 points for the Celtics, who got 13 from Kelly Olynyk and Marcus Smart and 11 from Avery Bradley and Jae Crowder.

Wall had eight points on 3-of-11 shooting. Washington's Otto Porter returned after missing four games with a sore right hip and scored 15.

CAVALIERS 114
TIMBERWOLVES 107

CLEVELAND — Tyronn Lue has had a hectic few days. He now has his first win as an NBA coach.

LeBron James scored 25 points to lead six players in double figures and the Cleveland Cavaliers defeated the Minnesota Timberwolves 114-107 on Monday night.

Cleveland lost to Chicago on Saturday, a day after Lue replaced David Blatt, who was fired on Friday.

Lue was presented the game ball in the locker room following the win.

"It's only been two games, but to get my first head coaching win, it means a lot," he said. "I came in the locker room, the team presented me with the game ball, LeBron gave a speech and they all gave me a hug and said congratulations."

"It's a special moment for anyone," James said. "It could be a rookie player, a rookie head coach. When you get that first win it's very special. You never forget it."

Lue admitted the last few days have been a whirlwind.

"Things are still moving fast for me," he said. "I'm not used to it yet, but I think I'm ready for it. I think after tonight and the Phoenix game (Wednesday), I think things will start to slow down."

The timing of Lue's promotion came as a shock considering the Cavaliers have the best record in the Eastern Conference. A lackluster loss to Chicago didn't help, but Lue understands the expectations he's inherited.

"It comes with the territory," he said. "When you coach this type of team, a team who has aspirations of winning a championship, it's going to be like this."

The Cavaliers struggled with the Timberwolves before going on a spurt that began late in the third quarter and carried over into the fourth.

Cleveland still had to hold off a run by the Timberwolves, who cut a 15-point lead to 94-91 midway through the fourth. Tristan Thompson scored seven straight points and Matthew Dellavedova hit a 3-pointer, giving Cleveland a 104-91 lead.

Thompson had 19 points with 12 rebounds and Dellavedova scored 18 points.

Stars beat Calgary, 2-1, in their last game before break

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

DALLAS — Jamie Benn and Jason Speeza scored 80 seconds apart early in the second period, and the Dallas Stars beat the Calgary Flames 2-1 on Monday night.

It was only the third win in 11 games this month for the Stars, who closed out a 3-6-2 stretch heading into the All-Star break after leading the Western Conference for much of the season.

The Stars have 67 points, three behind conference and Central Division-leading Chicago. But the Blackhawks have played 52 games, two more than Dallas, and have their last game before the break Tuesday night.

Benn's 28th goal of the season came 2:43 in the second, with a little backhanded flip just off the right post. The goal was set up by Valeri Nichushkin's pass, after he had skated behind the net to retrieve his own pass off the boards.

Then Spezza was off the left post behind Karri Ramo after the goalie had skated up for another shot that was wide. The puck ended up on Spezza's stick on the left side of the net with a wide open gap for his 17th goal and a 2-0 lead.

Ramo stopped 28 shots.

Antti Niemi, making his third straight start for Dallas, had 23 saves.

Calgary, 2-5-1 its last eight games, got its only goal early in the third period when Jiri Hudler passed from behind the net to Joe Colborne. It was the seventh goal of the season for Colborne, who has goals in two straight after getting two in his previous 28 games.

The Flames had three power-play chances in the second period without a goal. Their best chance to score in the middle period was right after the start of the first power play, when Niemi stopped two point-blank shots and the Stars survived a flurry of activity in front of the net.

NBA STANDINGS

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	29	15	.659	—
Boston	25	21	.543	5
New York	22	24	.478	8
Brooklyn	12	33	.267	17½
Philadelphia	6	39	.133	23½

Southeast Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	26	19	.578	—
Miami	24	21	.533	2
Charlotte	21	23	.477	4½
Washington	20	22	.476	4½
Orlando	20	23	.465	5

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	31	12	.721	—
Chicago	25	19	.568	6½
Indiana	23	21	.523	8½
Detroit	23	21	.523	8½
Milwaukee	19	27	.413	13½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	38	6	.864	—
Memphis	26	20	.565	13
Dallas	25	21	.543	14
Houston	25	22	.532	14½
New Orleans	16	28	.364	22

Northwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	33	13	.717	—
Utah	19	24	.442	12½
Portland	20	26	.435	13
Denver	17	27	.386	15
Minnesota	14	32	.304	19

Pacific Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	40	4	.909	—
L.A. Clippers	28	16	.636	12
Sacramento	20	23	.465	19½
Phoenix	14	31	.311	26½
L.A. Lakers	9	37	.196	32

Scores & schedule

Monday's Scores

Cleveland 114, Minnesota 107
Boston 116, Washington 91
Miami 89, Chicago 84
Houston 112, New Orleans 111
Memphis 108, Orlando 102, OT
Detroit at Utah, late
Atlanta at Denver, late
Charlotte at Sacramento, late
San Antonio at Golden State, late

Today's Games

L.A. Clippers at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Phoenix at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Washington at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
Miami at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Orlando at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Portland, 9 p.m.
Dallas at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	48	28	15	5	61	130	107
Detroit	49	25	16	8	58	122	124
Boston	48	26	17	5	57	145	125
Tampa Bay	48	26	18	4	56	129	117
Montreal	49	24	21	4	52	134	129
Ottawa	49	23	20	6	52	137	152
Toronto	46	17	20	9	43	113	128
Buffalo	49	19	26	4	42	111	134

Metropolitan Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	46	35	8	3	73	155	100
N.Y. Rangers	49	27	17	5	59	142	129
N.Y. Islanders	47	25	16	6	56	130	118
New Jersey	49	25	19	5	55	114	116
Pittsburgh	47	23	17	7	53	119	120
Carolina	50	22	20	8	52	118	135
Philadelphia	46	20	18	8	48	105	124
Columbus	50	18	27	5	41	128	161

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	52	33	15	4	70	147	117
Dallas	50	31	14	5	67	162	133
St. Louis	52	28	16	8	64	129	128
Colorado	50	26	21	3	55	138	133
Minnesota	48	23	17	8	54	120	113
Nashville	48	22	18	8	52	125	129
Winnipeg	48	21	24	3	45	121	138

Pacific Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	48	30	15	3	63	126	109
San Jose	47	25	18	4	54	136	128
Arizona	47	23	19	5	51	127	140
Vancouver	49	20	18	11	51	121	137
Anaheim	46	21	18	7	49	95	109
Calgary	47	21	23	3	45	125	144
Edmonton	50	19	26	5	43	122	149

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

Monday's Scores

Detroit 4, N.Y. Islanders 2
Boston 3, Philadelphia 2
Columbus 5, Montreal 2
N.Y. Rangers 6, Buffalo 3
Dallas 2, Calgary 1
Arizona at Minnesota, late

Today's Games

Anaheim at Boston, 6 p.m.
New Jersey at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
Chicago at Carolina, 6:30 p.m.
Columbus at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.
Buffalo at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
Toronto at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
Arizona at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
Colorado at San Jose, 9 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL GLANCE

Scores

MEN

SOUTHWEST

Houston Baptist 109, Hillsdale Baptist 84
MVSU 76, Prairie View 73
Sam Houston St. 72, Abilene Christian 51
Stephen F. Austin 86, Lamar 52
Texas Southern 78, Ark.-Pine Bluff 49

MIDWEST

Green Bay 115, Detroit 108, OT
Iowa St. 85, Kansas 72
Ohio St. 66, Penn St. 46

EAST

Bucknell 79, Lafayette 67
Stony Brook 81, Maine 54

SOUTH

Davidson 78, Richmond 70
Delaware St. 57, NC A&T 55
Furman 68, VMI 56
Georgia Southern 101, Appalachian St. 100
McNeese St. 79, Incarnate Word 76, OT
Miami 80, Duke 69
New Orleans 94, Cent. Arkansas 82
Norfolk St. 92, Savannah St. 73
Northwestern St. 88, Nicholls St. 80
SC State 67, Hampton 62
Southern U. 73, Alabama A&M 52

WOMEN

SOUTHWEST

Prairie View 80, MVSU 57
Texas Southern 57, Ark.-Pine Bluff 30

EAST

Bryant 84, St. Francis (Pa.) 72
CCSU 48, Robert Morris 39
Drexel 53, Northeastern 49
Louisville 71, Syracuse 53
Manhattan 74, Rider 70
Marist 69, St. Peter's 46
Stockton 76, Baruch 65

SOUTH

Alabama St. 52, Alcorn St. 51
Emory & Henry 71, E. Mennonite 67
Florida A&M at Md.-Eastern Shore, ppd.
Georgia Southern 65, Appalachian St. 50
Hampton 63, SC State 50
Haverford 70, Washington (Md.) 59
James Madison at Coll. of Charleston, ppd.
Kentucky 64, Tennessee 63
Lincoln (Pa.) 70, Virginia Union 65
Livingstone 65, Johnson C. Smith 54
Martin Methodist 60, Bethel (Tenn.) 52
Michigan St. at Maryland, ppd.
Morehead St. 67, Jacksonville St. 63
NC A&T 64, Delaware St. 64
Pikeville 83, Georgetown (Ky.) 66
Savannah St. 68, Norfolk St. 53
Southern U. 77, Alabama A&M 38
Stetson 83, Lipscomb 62
VCU 53, Richmond 42
Vanderbilt 67, Alabama 52
W. Carolina 74, Wofford 72
Winston-Salem 51, Fayetteville St. 44

Polls

MEN'S POLL

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 24, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Oklahoma (36)	16-2	1,592	1
2. North Carolina (29)	18-2	1,586	2
3. Iowa	16-3	1,473	9
4. Kansas	16-3	1,369	3
5. Texas A&M	**17-2**	**1,332**	**10**
6. Villanova	17-3	1,261	4
7. Xavier	17-2	1,186	5
8. Maryland	17-3	1,111	7
9. West Virginia	16-3	1,105	6
10. Providence	17-3	1,005	16
11. Virginia	15-4	903	13
12. Michigan St.	17-4	869	11
13. SMU	**18-1**	**838**	**8**
14. Iowa St.	15-4	792	19
15. Miami	15-3	753	15
16. Louisville	16-3	719	17
17. Baylor	**15-4**	**594**	**13**
18. Arizona	16-4	502	12
19. Indiana	17-3	466	25
20. Kentucky	15-4	403	23
21. Purdue	17-4	328	22
22. Wichita St.	14-5	151	—
23. Oregon	16-4	149	—
24. Duke	15-5	145	20
25. Notre Dame	14-5	136	—

Others receiving votes: Dayton 77, South Carolina 74, Saint Mary's (Cal) 42, Pittsburgh 38, Southern Cal 27, Butler 26, Clemson 18, VCU 17, Hawaii 9, Valparaiso 9, UConn 5, Utah 5, UAB 4, Chattanooga 2, Colorado 1, Grand Canyon 1, Michigan 1, Navy 1.

WOMEN'S POLL

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 24, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. UConn (32)	18-0	800	1
2. South Carolina	19-0	765	2
3. Notre Dame	19-1	739	3
4. Baylor	**19-1**	**700**	**4**
5. Maryland	17-2	659	5
6. Texas	18-1	651	6
7. Ohio St.	15-4	592	7
8. Arizona St.	17-3	582	8
9. Oregon St.	16-3	539	11
10. Texas A&M	**14-5**	**473**	**13**
11. Florida St.	16-4	467	14
12. Kentucky	14-3	434	9
13. Mississippi St.	17-4	408	10
14. Louisville	14-5	352	17
15. UCLA	14-5	317	20
16. Stanford	15-5	290	12
17. Miami	17-3	240	16
18. Michigan St.	14-4	219	21
19. Tennessee	12-6	209	18
20. South Florida	13-5	193	15
21. Oklahoma	13-5	143	19
22. Missouri	16-4	140	23
23. DePaul	15-6	123	24
24. West Virginia	16-4	108	25
25. Washington	15-4	80	—

Others receiving votes: Florida 46, Green Bay 34, George Washington 18, Purdue 17, Oklahoma St. 15, Duke 10, UTEP 10, San Diego 9, Colorado St. 8, BYU 7, Albany (NY) 2, Syracuse 1.

Schedules

MEN

SOUTHWEST

Texas Tech at Oklahoma, 6 p.m.
TCU at Texas, 7 p.m.
SE Louisiana at Texas A&M-CC, 7 p.m.

MIDWEST

N. Illinois at Akron, 6 p.m.
E. Michigan at Kent St., 6 p.m.
Cent. Michigan at Miami (Ohio), 6 p.m.
Ohio at Toledo, 6 p.m.
Bowling Green at W. Michigan, 6 p.m.
Indiana at Wisconsin, 6 p.m.
Drake at Illinois St., 7 p.m.

FAR WEST

Wyoming at Fresno St., 9 p.m.
San Diego St. at Nevada, 10 p.m.

EAST

Creighton at Georgetown, 5:30 p.m.
Florida St. at Boston College, 6 p.m.
Ball St. at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
La Salle at Duquesne, 6 p.m.
Siena at Niagara, 6 p.m.
Kansas St. at West Virginia, 6 p.m.
Xavier at Providence, 7:30 p.m.

SOUTH

Mississippi St. at South Carolina, 6 p.m.
Memphis at UCF, 6 p.m.
Virginia at Wake Forest, 6 p.m.
South Alabama at Troy, 7:30 p.m.
Tennessee at Alabama, 8 p.m.
Georgia at LSU, 8 p.m.
Florida at Vanderbilt, 8 p.m.

WOMEN

MIDWEST

Illinois at Minnesota, 8 p.m.

EAST

Maryland at Penn St., 6 p.m.
Penn at Villanova, 6 p.m.

SOUTH

South Alabama at Troy, 5:15 p.m.
Campbell at Charleston Southern, 6 p.m.
UNC Wilmington at Elon, 6 p.m.
Gardner-Webb at Liberty, 6 p.m.
Winthrop at Longwood, 6 p.m.
High Point at Radford, 6 p.m.
Presbyterian at UNC Asheville, 6 p.m.
Temple at Tulane, 7 p.m.

UTPB football season tickets on sale

From staff reports

UT-Permian Basin football season tickets for its inaugural 2016 season went on sale at 9 a.m. Monday.

Approximately 1,000 season tickets were sold by 3 p.m. Monday, according to the UTPB athletic department.

"We are pleased at the response from the community on this first day of season ticket sales," UTPB athletic director Steve Aicinena said. "I anticipate that several hundred additional tickets will be purchased (Monday) evening. Our season ticket package is a good deal at $50. It provides admission to seven home games in 2016. It is our way of making access to our intercollegiate football games accessible for Permian Basin residents."

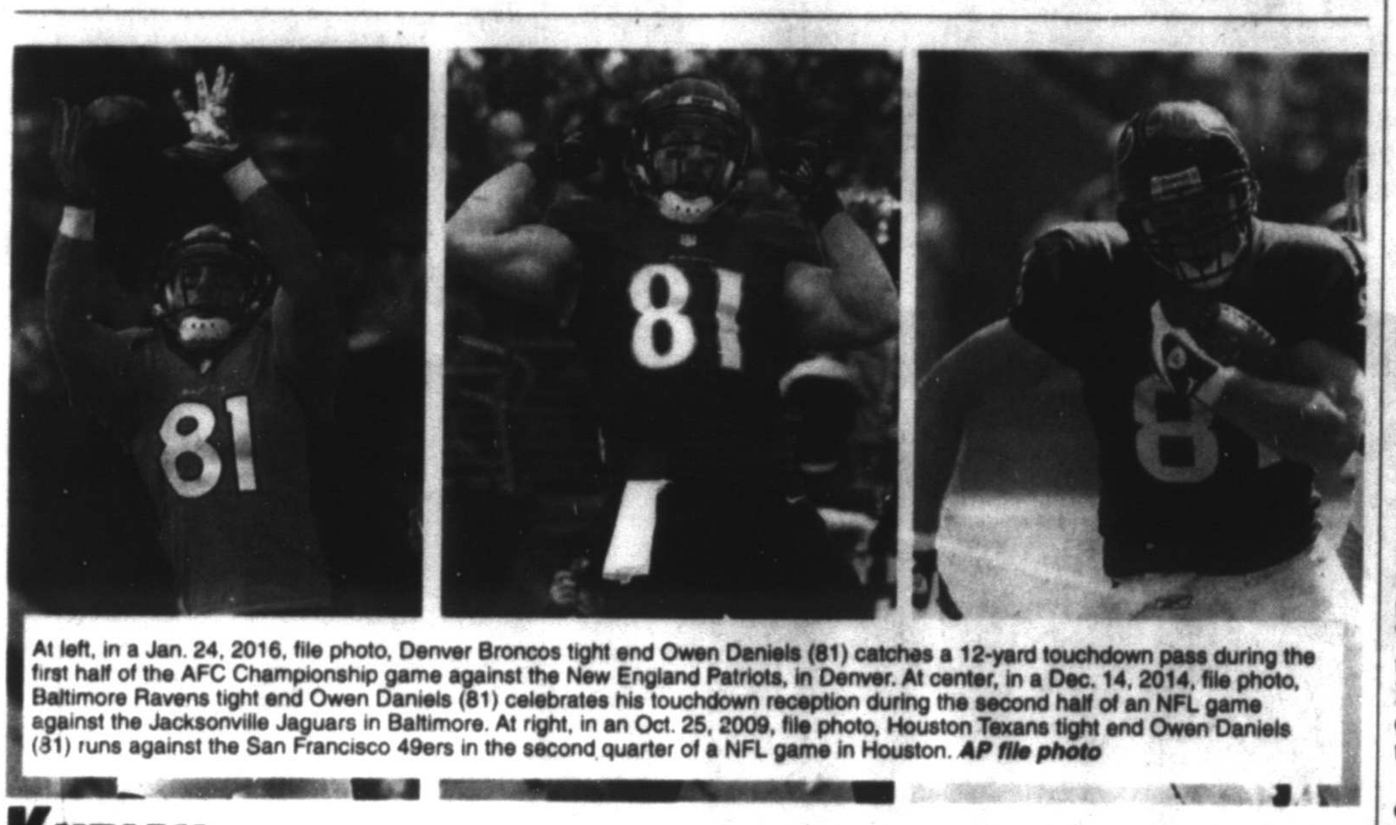
Two thousand seats have been have been set aside for students and 400 have been reserved for UTPB's band and associated student groups.

Tailgating activities will be permitted before home games at Ratliff Stadium.

Tickets can be purchased on-line at www.utpbfalcons.com/tickets.

For tickets by phone, call the Wagner-Noël Performing Arts Center Box Office at 1-800-514-3849.

Tickets can be purchased in person between noon and 5 p.m. at the Wagner-Noël Performing Arts Center Box Office, which is located at 1310 N. FM 1788 in Midland.



At left, in a Jan. 24, 2016, file photo, Denver Broncos tight end Owen Daniels (81) catches a 12-yard touchdown pass during the first half of the AFC Championship game against the New England Patriots, in Denver. At center, in a Dec. 14, 2014, file photo, Baltimore Ravens tight end Owen Daniels (81) celebrates his touchdown reception during the second half of an NFL game against the Jacksonville Jaguars in Baltimore. At right, in an Oct. 25, 2009, file photo, Houston Texans tight end Owen Daniels (81) runs against the San Francisco 49ers in the second quarter of a NFL game in Houston. *AP file photo*

KUBIAK

From 1C

his firing as the Texans' head coach.

Together, they resurrected their respective careers before coming to Colorado.

Daniels caught 48 passes for 527 yards and four touchdowns in helping the Ravens reach the playoffs, where he scored his first postseason touchdown against New England.

In Denver, Daniels caught 46 passes for 517 yards and three TDs in the regular season. He had TD grabs of 21 and 12 yards Sunday.

"As a coach when you bounce to different places and guys' names come up, you've got to be careful," Kubiak said. "But there are certain guys you have no doubt staying up for, saying, 'Put him on your team.' And he's one of those guys."

Daniels brought pedigree to a position where Peyton Manning had lost Julius Thomas and his two dozen TD catches from 2013-14 to free agency.

NFL playoff glance

Pro Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 31
At Honolulu
Team Rice vs. Team Irvin, 6 p.m. (ESPN)

Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 7
At Santa Clara, Calif.
Denver vs. Carolina, 5:30 p.m. (CBS)

He immediately received an invitation from Manning to attend his annual passing camp at Duke, where the 39-year-old quarterback picked Daniels' brain about Kubiak's offensive philosophy.

Then, Daniels tutored the rest of the offense.

"He didn't like directly order me to do that, but ... it kind of happened naturally," Daniels said.

Daniels had a disappointing start in Denver as the Broncos struggled on offense early on. They were getting used to a new O-line and Manning's left foot was bothering him. Plus, they had injuries that reduced their ranks at tight end and limited their options.

Then, Elway brought in Vernon Davis from San Francisco just before the trade deadline and everything changed for Daniels and Virgil Green.

While Davis has had problems with drops and caught just 20 passes for 201 yards, his presence really opened things up for the other tight ends.

"It's been great. Having Vernon here, obviously he's a super dynamic player who has been playing really well for a long time," Daniels said. "Having him around, it's allowed us to do more two-tight end stuff. To have three guys that are really interchangeable out there, he's been a great asset for us."

It's not just Daniels' production, but his football instincts that helped the Broncos (14-4) get back to the Super Bowl, where they'll face the Carolina Panthers (17-1).

Like his heads-up on Brady's kneel-down.

"We tried to do that to another team," Daniels said, "so I was kind of alert to that."

After the game, Daniels searched for Kubiak to soak in the moment.

"Coach Kube and I obviously, we've been together 10 years. Those years in Houston were satisfying because we helped take that franchise from where it was and turn it around to make it a winning franchise expecting to win every year," Daniels said. "That meant a lot and then for us to just kind of be in this moment together. I was looking for Kube after the game. I couldn't find him until he was on the stage."

After the trophy presentation, the two embraced.

"We had a little moment," Daniels said. "I know it means a ton to him to be in this situation. It means a lot to me to share that with him."

2nd-guessing of Belichick begins with the man in the hoodie

By Jimmy Golen
Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — You still see T-shirts around the home of the New England Patriots with coach Bill Belichick's scowling face and the mantra "In Bill We Trust."

But more than any time since the hoodied football guru began filling the team's trophy case, fans here are beginning to question his judgment.

Two decisions to forego a field goal and go for it on fourth down in Sunday's AFC championship game was just the latest in a series of calls that didn't work out for Belichick and the Patriots this season. The Broncos won 20-18 to earn a trip to Super Bowl 50 that the defending champions had considered their birthright.

"I think each of us that competed in the game — players, coaches — probably feel the same way," Belichick said on Monday. "A couple of plays, calls, that you'd like to have back."

The Patriots wouldn't have even been in Denver — where quarterback Tom Brady has a 2-7 record — but for a rare December collapse by a team that has been one of the league's best finishers.

Winning just two of their last six regular-season games, the Patriots finished one win short of home-field advantage through the AFC playoffs.

Belichick's decisions — some risky but reasonable, others downright puzzling — were a big reason why.

While only the most extreme talk radio loudmouths would be calling for the head of a four-time Super Bowl winner after a few failed moves, Belichick conceded on Monday that he second-guesses himself "all the time."

Among his players, there's still absolute loyalty.

"One hundred percent, we follow him and the decisions he makes," long-snapper Joe Cardona said as he cleaned out his belongings in a somber locker room on Monday.

"We follow him and the decisions he makes," he said. "Obviously, he's accomplished a lot. There's no questioning our leaders."

Here are some of the decisions that proved costly in New England's failure to repeat as champions:

THE RUGBY KICK: Winners of their first 10 games, the Patriots arrived in Denver on Nov. 29 with a chance to open a three-game lead over the Broncos in the race for the AFC's top seed. The Broncos rallied from a 14-point, fourth-quarter deficit to win in overtime, taking advantage of a fumbled punt return by Chris Harper — an undrafted rookie who was called up from the practice squad 12 days earlier.

The following week, the Patriots again opened a two-touchdown lead — this time over Philadelphia. After scoring to make it 14-0 midway through the second quarter, Belichick inexplicably called for a rugby-style onside kick from safety Nate Ebner.

The thus-far overmatched Eagles — who would fire their coach before finishing a 7-9 season — fielded it and drove for their first touchdown, then added another to tie it before the half. In all, Philadelphia scored five straight touchdowns after the unusual play.

THE COIN TOSS: The Patriots won their next two games before playing the New York Jets on Dec. 27. New England trailed for most of the game before Brady hit James White for a touchdown with just under 2 minutes remaining to send the game into overtime.

Belichick decided to kick off to start the OT period. The Jets went 80 yards on five plays to end it without New England ever getting the ball.

WINSTON

From 1C

allegations are false and that he and Kinsman had consensual sex. Prosecutors said there wasn't enough evidence to win a conviction and that there were gaps in Kinsman's story.

A lawsuit filed by Kinsman against Winston — and a countersuit he filed against her claiming she is trying to take advantage of his newfound wealth as the starting quarterback for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers — are ongoing and are not affected by the settlement.

A Title IX investigation by the Office of Civil Rights for the U.S. Department of Education also is ongoing. Title IX is a federal statute that bans discrimination at schools that receive federal funding. The department in 2011 warned schools of their legal responsibilities to immediately investigate allegations of sexual assault, even if the criminal investigation has not concluded.

Baine Kerr, one of Kinsman's attorneys, told The Associated Press that the university wanted Kinsman to withdraw her complaint, but she refused. Kinsman will graduate this spring from another four-year university.

Melissa Ashton, who had been director of FSU's victim advocate program until August, said in a deposition given this past summer that football players receive special treatment at the school. She said most of the estimated 20 rape victims she encountered during the past decade declined to press student conduct charges.

"My hope is that the federal investigation of my complaint by the Office of Civil Rights will produce even more positive change, not just at FSU, but across the country," Kinsman said in a statement.

The settlement comes as numerous other cases call attention to the need for reform at campuses across the nation, said Brett Sokolow, Executive Director of The Association of Title IX Administrators. Two other colleges, Michigan State University and the University of California, Berkeley have faced similar lawsuits accusing administrators of failing to adequately investigate reports of sexual assault.

"This case has raised awareness nationally because of the high-profile coverage and how starkly the systemic failures were chronicled in the media," Sokolow said.

MLB studying raise of strike zone's bottom

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Baseball's strike zone could be getting a slight lift.

Major League Baseball is studying whether to raise the bottom of the strike zone from the hollow beneath the kneecap back to the top of the kneecap.

"I'm not in a position to predict whether it's going to happen or not," Rob Manfred said during an interview with The Associated Press on Monday on his first anniversary as baseball commissioner. "I think that the interest in the topic is really driven by the fact that if you look over time there has been a movement down of the strike zone, largely as a result of the way we evaluate the strike zone with umpires."

Strike zone data was included in a presentation given to owners last week at their meeting in Coral Gables, Florida. An agreement with the players' association would be necessary to make a change for this year, and baseball officials said the matter is likely to be discussed during collective bargaining, which would delay any change until 2017.

The strike zone extended to the top of the kneecap through the 1995 season, then was dropped to its current level.

Consideration of an alteration comes following a decade-and-a-half decline in offense. There was an uptick during the second half last season.

"The bottom to the top of the knees is only a matter of a couple inches, so it wouldn't be a big adjustment for anybody," San Francisco Giants shortstop Brandon Crawford said in an email. "But, it may help hitters mentally knowing that the zone is a little smaller (even if only by a couple inches). It could help us check off pitches that look like they might be at the bottom of the zone but are sinking even lower."

Without bottom-of-the-zone strikes, pitchers would have to adjust.

"Obviously, raising the strike zone provides more opportunity for hitters to create lift, leading to more doubles and homers, and runs — which probably generates more eyeballs watching the sport," Los Angeles Angels closer Huston Street said in an email.

On other topics:

DESIGNATED HITTER

Manfred said that when he spoke last week of a possible expansion of the designated hitter to the National League, he should have included an emphasis that change is not likely.

"I think the status quo on the DH has served the industry the well," he said. "I think it serves an important purpose in terms of defining the difference between the American League and the National League, and that league definition is important to us from a competitive perspective."

Vince Young arrested for drunken driving

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Officials at the University of Texas say they are considering Vince Young's position with the school after his arrest on suspicion of drunken driving.

Travis County jail records show that the 32-year-old former Texas Longhorns quarterback star was booked shortly after midnight Monday on a misdemeanor drunken-driving charge.

His bond was set at $2,000.

Young has worked with the university promoting diversity and community engagement.

In a statement Monday, a university spokesman says officials were working to "determine any appropriate action."

BASEBALL BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ARLINGTON

Closer Shawn Tolleson and Rangers agree at $3,275,000

Closer Shawn Tolleson and the Texas Rangers have agreed to a one-year contract worth $3,275,000, avoiding salary arbitration.

Eligible for arbitration for the first time, Tolleson got a raise of more than $2.75 million with Monday's deal. He made $519,700 last year, slightly above the major league minimum.

When the Rangers and the pitcher traded figures 10 days earlier, Tolleson asked for $3.9 million and the club offered $2.6 million. They settled $25,000 above the midpoint.

Tolleson had 35 saves in 37 chances last season, though he didn't become the closer until late May for the AL West champions. The 27-year-old right-hander was 6-4 with a 2.99 ERA in 73 appearances.

The only Texas players remaining in salary arbitration are left-hander reliever Jake Diekman and first baseman Mitch Moreland.

HOUSTON

Astros minor leaguer killed in motorcycle accident

The Houston Astros say minor league pitcher Jose Rosario was killed in a motorcycle accident in the Dominican Republic.

The team said Monday the 20-year-old Dominican died Sunday night.

Rosario pitched the last two seasons in the Astros minor league system, splitting 2015 between the Dominican Summer League and the Gulf Coast League. He was signed by the Astros as an 18-year-old minor league free agent in 2013.

Oz Ocampo, who oversees international operations for the Astros, called the lanky, outgoing pitcher a "true student of the game" who was "constantly looking to learn and improve his abilities." Ocampo says Rosario had "tremendous" ability to go with an "ever-positive disposition."

Adopt-A-Pet

Valerie is as cute as a button! She tends to be on the shy side, but she has a super sweet personality. Born 11/14, she's playful and can live with one other cat or by herself. Valerie would do best with kids 12 years and older. To add to her cuteness, she's polydactyl (has extra toes)! If you are interested in adopting this sweet girl, Valerie would love to meet you!

Peanut is a happy, high energy Schnauzer that loves to play. Born 1/15, he came to us as an owner surrender with 2 other dogs. His friends have all been adopted and Peanut is hoping he will find his forever home soon. Peanut does well with other dogs, and he's one of the most energetic small dogs at Lone Star by far. Peanut would love to go to a fun, active home. Could it be with you?

Looking to adopt a dog with lots of personality? Then come meet Goose! Born 10/14, Goose loves people, and she'll be a great fit for an active household where she can stay busy. Her favorite toy is a Jolly Ball, and she will fetch one for hours on end. Goose is a fast learner, she already knows sit, down, does the Army crawl, and we are working on shake. She can climb fences, so she'll need a tall/secure enclosure (no chain-link) and a person with a very watchful eye. She is super sweet and cuddly, but she will need to be the only pet in your home. Goose is hoping to find a fun, active home with a person who finds as much joy in life as she does.

(Bonded Pair)
Please meet Spike and Sparky! Spike and Sparky lost their home when their owner moved and was unable to bring them with. They are crate trained, leash trained, good with kids, and good with other dogs. They are both incredibly sweet and since they are a bonded pair, we are hoping they can find a new home together. Spike (white Chihuahua Mix) is happy and outgoing, and Sparky (black Chihuahua Mix) is loyal and a little shy. If you have room in your heart and home to make a difference in the lives of two homeless pets, please consider adopting this bonded pair. Twice the dogs equal twice the love.
Spike and Sparky qualify for our "The Buddy System" adoption program. Bonded pairs can go home together for only one adoption fee.

Looking for a dog that is already house trained, crate trained, and leash trained? Then come meet Duke! Born in 2010, Duke came to us as an owner surrender when his owner no longer had time for him. Duke thinks he is a lap dog, loves to chase a ball, and will sit nicely for treats. He does well with other dogs and did wonderfully in a large crowd when he attended our Runnin' Fur Rescues 5K! Duke would do best in a home with kids 10 and up. If you think you can give this cute guy a great home, he would love to meet you.

Splinter has had some ups and downs in life. Born in 2011, Splinter came to us from Animal Control. He was adopted once, but then returned to the shelter when his owner didn't have time for him. Splinter is sweet and playful. He does well with other dogs and is fine with kids. All he wants is to be loved. For some animals, like Splinter, the shelter environment can be a stressful place. Because of Splinter's stress, he doesn't "show well" to potential adopters. This had made it hard for Splinter to find his forever home.
We have taken Splinter to adoption events and he has done great. His previous owner said he did well in their home. We know he will make a fantastic, loving companion to someone who is willing to give him a chance! He'd be so grateful to find someone special to love. Could you be the one?

It's hard to say why some dogs find homes quickly, while others can wait for years to be adopted. For Addy, the road to finding a forever home has been a long one. Addy came to us from another shelter where she was being overlooked for adoption. Now at Lone Star Sanctuary, Addy has become a staff and volunteer favorite. She has a very sweet disposition and she absolutely LOVES kids. This has made her our "go-to" dog when we have large groups of children tour the facility.
Addy already knows basic commands and will do anything for a treat. Born in 2008, Addy is considered a senior, but she doesn't know that yet. She is still very active, and would make a great walking buddy. Addy can be selective about her K9 friends and seems to prefer the company of large male dogs. She will need to be in a home without cats. If you've got some time to spend with a special girl in her golden years, Addy is hoping you'll consider her. She has been waiting a long time and would be grateful to find a forever home.

Born 8/2004, Tiger is an independent cat that is looking to live out his golden years in a good home. He does not seek out attention from other cats, but he will tolerate them. He loves to sunbathe and would do great in a home where he has lots of places to lay around. Tiger absolutely loves kids and will seek attention from them. We would love to see this senior in a home. Could it be with you?

Chrissy is a playful German Shepherd/ Australian Cattle Dog Mix, who loves to chase a ball. Born 3/14, she's excellent on a leash and is very loyal to her human companion. This sweet girl is looking for a home without young children. If you're looking for a devoted new best friend, Chrissy would love to meet you.

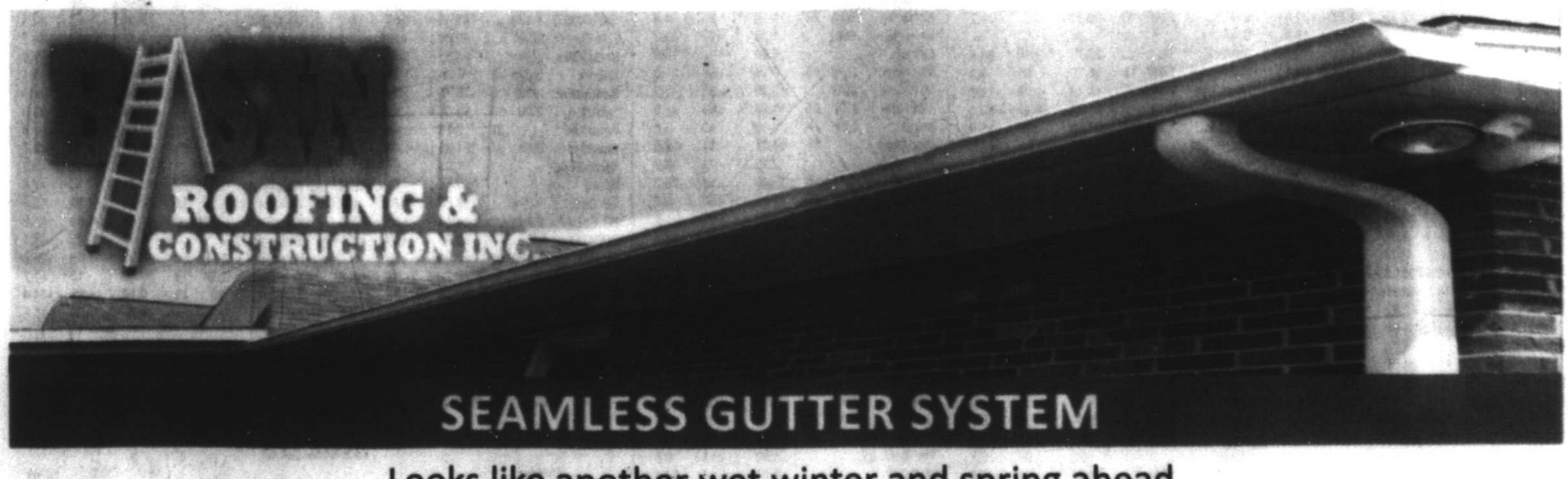
Rosie is such a sweet and loving girl! This little darling has the most expressive little face that makes her look deep in thought when you are talking to her! Born 10/14, Rosie came to us as an owner surrender when her owner could no longer take care of her. Rosie previously lived with children, is leash trained, and house trained. She does great with other dogs but can be iffy with cats. Rosie is ready to be in a loving home of her own! Could it be with you?

Trooper, named for the State Trooper that saved him, was found roaming around on I-20. Born 12/14, this young Boxer is as friendly as he is cute. Trooper sits nicely for treats and he loves getting attention from people. Trooper is playful, loves toys, and he will retrieve a ball. He will need some training not to jump up on people, so he would do best in a home with kids 12 and up. If you are looking for a happy, energetic dog, then Trooper is the one for you!

Tinkerbell is real cutie pie! Born 5/14, she is a Dachshund/Chihuahua Mix. Tinkerbell came to us from a overwhelmed caregiver. She can be a little shy at first, but once she knows you she is quite the sweet, cuddly girl. Tinkerbell is already crate trained, and she is good with both cats and dogs. Tinkerbell can't wait to be someone's very best friend. Could that be you?

Looking for an all around awesome cat? Then come meet Brutus! Born 1/10, Brutus came to us from Animal Control. He loves everyone he meets, does great with kids, and loves other cats. Brutus is not only handsome, but he's also very laid back. Brutus would make a great addition to almost any home!

These animals are all available for adoption
at Lone Star Sanctuary for Animals
4200 N Fairgrounds Rd, Midland, TX 79705
(432) 683-7387



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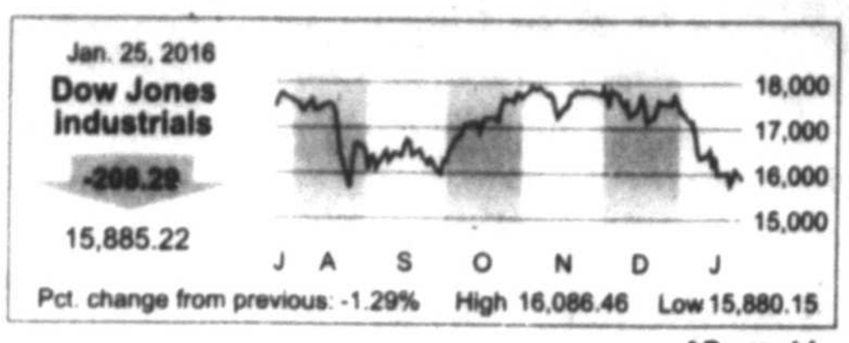
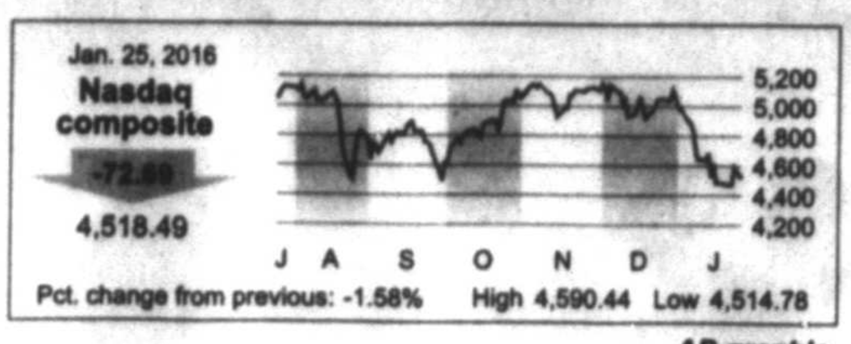
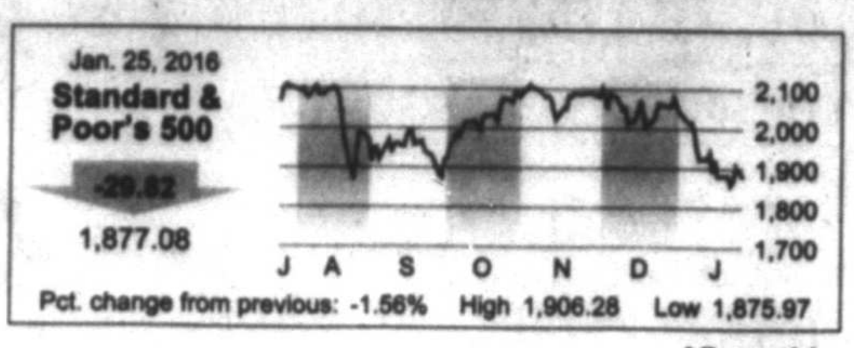


AP graphic



AP graphic



AP graphic

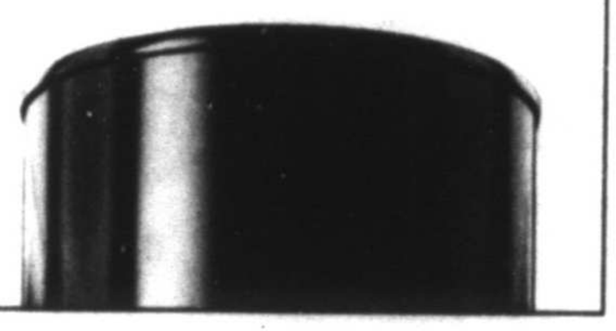
OIL PRICES

FUTURES
Monday: $30.34
Previous: $32.19

POSTED
Monday: $26.50
Previous: $28.75

WEST TEXAS SOUR
Monday: $22.85
Previous: $25.10

NATURAL GAS
Monday: $2.158
Previous: $2.139



NYSE

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BkofAm	1815377	12.96	-.60
S&P500ETF	1142554	187.64	-2.88
CSVLgCrd rs	1090857	1.73	-.50
B iPVixST	735976	26.24	+1.24
SPDR Fncl	602409	20.85	-.43

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
AmiraNatF	10.75	+2.45	+29.5
AMidstrm	6.63	+1.06	+19.0
eHiCarSvc	12.46	+1.72	+16.0
AtlasR pfE	7.26	+.87	+13.5
Comcst29	45.00	+4.79	+11.9

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
DxNGBll rs	2.25	-1.20	-34.8
DBCmdDS	85.26	-24.74	-22.5
DxSPOGBull	3.26	-.89	-21.4
KapStoneP	13.76	-3.69	-21.1
DiamdRsts	18.41	-3.87	-17.4

Diary

Advanced	491
Declined	2,662
Unchanged	53
Total issues	3,206
New Highs	18
New Lows	101
Volume	4,154,046,036

AMEX

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BarcGSOil	57346	4.51	-.32
SynergyRs	50361	5.62	-.23
NwGold g	36353	2.10	+.08
CheniereEn	32466	29.39	-2.23
NovaGld g	27770	3.90	+.10

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Ampliphi rs	3.50	+.40	+12.9
InfuSystem	2.90	+.12	+4.3
Ashford	49.00	+2.00	+4.3
NwGold g	2.10	+.08	+4.0
Richmnt g	3.46	+.13	+3.9

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
LucasE rs	3.50	-.64	-15.5
Gastar pfB	7.58	-.72	-8.7
GranTrra g	2.21	-.18	-7.5
ChenEnHld	13.89	-1.09	-7.3
CheniereEn	29.39	-2.23	-7.1

Diary

Advanced	142
Declined	242
Unchanged	17
Total issues	401
New Highs	
New Lows	5
Volume	67,691,512

NASDAQ

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Apple Inc	493940	99.44	-1.98
Cisco	416829	23.17	-.20
PwShs QQQ	360626	102.23	-1.54
Microsoft	330281	51.79	-.50
Facebook	315788	97.01	-.93

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
EnerNOC	7.05	+2.89	+69.5
SGOCO rs	2.72	+.64	+30.8
HansnMd rs	2.00	+.44	+28.2
Jinpan	5.24	+1.02	+24.2
EpirusBio	3.28	+.49	+17.4

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
OncoMed	10.04	-7.53	-42.9
Perfuman lf	2.15	-.61	-22.1
AscentCap	10.61	-2.35	-18.1
NakedBr n	2.65	-.53	-16.7
Novavax	5.56	-1.06	-16.0

Diary

Advanced	710
Declined	2,128
Unchanged	123
Total issues	2,961
New Highs	9
New Lows	115
Volume	1,881,559,522

Mergers continue in 2016 as Johnson controls and Tyco tie up

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Johnson Controls and Tyco will combine as the unprecedented pace of buyouts and mergers from last year rolls over into 2016.

Shareholders of Johnson Controls Inc., based in Milwaukee, will own about 56 percent of the new company, which would have a combined value of about $36 billon, and Tyco shareholders the rest. Dealogic, a research firm that tracks Wall Street mergers and acquisitions, pegged the deal's value at $14.6 billion, excluding debt. Johnson Controls spokesman Fraser Engerman said he wasn't familiar with Dealogic's calculation.

But the global headquarters will be in Cork, Ireland, where Tyco is based. Tyco International Plc has its U.S. headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey.

The new company, named Johnson Controls Plc, will have its operational headquarters for the U.S. in Milwaukee.

Its legal domicile, which could have tax implications, will be in Ireland.

The move, called a corporate inversion, has become a popular way for American companies to reduce their corporate tax payment to the IRS. About 50 U.S. companies have inverted in the past decade, with more seeking to do the same.

Tyco and Johnson Controls said they expect annual tax savings of at least $150 million.

Corporate inversions have become increasingly politicized with the election less than a year away, and Democrats — including presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders — have called for stronger rules to discourage inversions. Republicans have said the best way to curb inversions is to overhaul the tax code. In 2014, Treasury issued new regulations to limit the financial benefits of inversions, but officials said ultimately the issue must be solved by Congress.

One big question is whether companies will be rushing to merge with foreign companies before the election is over and any political action on inversions is taken.

Tyco and Johnson Controls said the merger will speed innovation in fast-growing smart technology now being enabled in devices, sensors, data analytics and controls. Tyco makes fire suppression systems. Johnson controls makes ventilation systems, auto seating and car batteries.

The deal also suggests that the unprecedented appetite for buyouts and acquisitions last year has not been suppressed by the extreme market volatility that kicked off 2016.

In 2015, U.S. companies embarked on deals worth a total of nearly $4.8 trillion, busting a record set in 2007, according to Dealogic. The number of mega-mergers worth $10 billion or more also set a record.

The shares of both companies have been under pressure, falling more than 25 percent in the past 52 weeks over concerns about growth potential.

Dealogic calculated that the deal was worth $14.6 billion based on Tyco's shares outstanding and Johnson Control's Friday closing price of $35.60, said Dealogic spokesman Edward Jones.

Johnson Controls shareholders will get $3.9 billion in cash consideration. Shareholders may choose to get one share of the combined company for each of their shares or $34.88 per share.

Tyco shares jumped 12 percent to close at $34.15. Shares of Johnson Controls fell 3.9 percent to $34.21.

Twitter parts with 4 key executives

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Four of Twitter's key executives are leaving the company in an exodus that has escalated the uncertainty facing the messaging service as it struggles to broaden its audience and lure back disillusioned investors.

Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey announced the management shake-up late Sunday after technology news site Re/Code reported the changes earlier in the day.

Dorsey described the departures as voluntary, a characterization that three of the four exiting executives echoed in their own posts.

The upheaval leaves Twitter without its top engineering executive, Alex Roetter; its top products executive, Kevin Weil; its head of human resources, Skip Schipper; and Katie Stanton, who oversaw the company's media partnerships.

Dorsey is turning over supervision of the human resources and media teams to Twitter's chief operating officer, Adam Bain, and assigned engineering to the company's chief technology officer, Adam Messinger. Bain and Messinger will share some of the responsibilities for creating and running Twitter's various products.

This is the second major fissure in Twitter's ranks since Dorsey was named the San Francisco company's permanent CEO in October. His hiring followed a three-month stint as interim CEO after the resignation of his predecessor, Dick Costolo.

In one of his first moves, Dorsey laid off more than 300 employees, or about 8 percent of Twitter's workforce, to trim expenses at a company that has never turned a profit since its service started nearly a decade ago.

It's not unusual for CEOs to reshuffle management shortly after their arrival.

But analysts interpreted Twitter's changes as a distress signal instead of a reason to hope that the company is starting to head in the right direction.

Stocks fall

U.S. stocks fell Monday as the price of oil slumped again, giving up some of the ground it gained late last week. That forced energy companies lower.

The stock market opened lower and stayed in the red all day. The selling accelerated in the last hour of trading. The biggest losses came in the energy sector and companies that make chemicals and paper goods.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 208.29 points, or 1.3 percent, to 15,885.22. The Standard & Poor's 500 index shed 29.82 points, or 1.6 percent, to 1,877.08. The Nasdaq composite index lost 72.69 points, or 1.6 percent, to 4,518.49.

Plunging oil prices have been decimating profits at energy companies and getting investors worried that the global economy is slowing down. Companies that mine metals, especially copper, face the same problem. Low oil prices are also hurting banking stocks because some banks hold large amounts of loans from energy companies, and investors fear they may not get paid back.

Gold price rises

The price of gold rose $9 to $1,105.30 an ounce and silver gained 19.7 cents, or 1.4 percent, to $14.254 an ounce. Copper fell less than half a cent to $1.998 per pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $14.02 Down 1.64

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $80.68 Down 5.19

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $2.94 Down 0.08

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $62.08 Down 4.09

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $1.08 Down 0.12

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $2.16 Up 0.01

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $17.29 Down 0.67

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $19.63 Down 1.34

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $4.86 Down 0.31

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $18.63 Down 0.50

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc	1.92f	38	35.00	-.14	+1.7
Abraxas	...	5	.93	-.10	-12.7
AdaDvsEq	.92e	...	11.56	-.21	-9.9
Alcoa	.12	12	6.80	-.07	-31.1
Alibaba		27	69.72	-.65	-14.2
AlonUSA	.60	7	11.61	-.89	-21.8
AlpAlerMLP	1.19e	...	9.57	-.35	-20.6
AmExp	1.16	11	55.02	-.04	-20.9
Amgen	4.00f	18	153.43	-2.65	-5.5
Anadarko	1.08	...	32.31	-3.17	-33.5
Apache	1.00	...	37.43	-1.95	-15.8
Apple Inc	2.08	11	99.44	-1.98	-5.5
ApldMatl	.40	15	16.91	-.14	-9.4
Archrock	.60	15	4.85	-.85	-35.5
ATMOS	1.68f	20	63.84	-.18	+1.3
AutoData	2.12	26	80.09	-1.02	-5.5
BP PLC	2.40	...	29.47	-.88	-5.7
BabsCCInv	1.20	...	16.58	-.04	-3.9
BakrHu	.68	...	39.18	-2.86	-15.1
BkofAm	.20	9	12.96	-.60	-23.0
B iPVixST	...	...	26.24	+1.24	+30.5
BarrickG	.08	26	9.27	+.69	+25.6
BasicEnSv	...	...	2.07	-.25	-22.8
BerkHa A	...	14187001.03-4394.98			-5.5
BlkHillsCp	1.62	30	46.24	-1.03	-.4
BrMySq	1.52f	61	62.92	-1.48	-8.5
BrownFA	1.36f	32	101.59	+.79	-7.7
BrownFB	1.36f	28	92.14	-.05	-7.2
CVS Health	1.70f	21	94.07	-1.57	-3.8
Cameron	...	15	59.11	-1.47	-6.5
Caterpillar	3.08	11	57.91	-3.07	-14.8
Celestic g	...	12	9.74	-.22	-11.7
CntryLink	2.16	17	23.76	-.04	-5.6
ChesEng	...	...	2.95	-.56	-34.4
Chevron	4.28	18	80.89	-2.65	-10.1
Chicos	.31	42	9.69	-.38	-9.2
Cimarex	.64	...	75.60	-8.77	-15.4
Cisco	.84	12	23.17	-.20	-14.0
Citigroup	.20	9	39.55	-1.51	-23.6
ClayEng	...	...	14.02	-1.64	-52.6
CocaCola	1.32	27	42.16	+.10	-1.9
ColgPalm	1.52	24	63.93	-.68	-4.0
ConAgra	1.00	21	39.08	-1.17	-7.3
ConchoRes	...	48	80.68	-5.19	-13.1

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
ConocoPhil	2.96	38	34.20	-3.47	-26.8
CrackerB	4.40a	17	122.05	-1.70	-3.8
CSVLgNG rs	...	...	1.79	-.05	-26.6
CSVLgCrd rs		...	...	1.73	-.50
-56.2					
CSVelIVST	...	...	18.55	-.99	-28.1
CSVixSh rs	...	...	10.07	+.91	+60.9
CrosTim	1.56e	8	12.98	-.21	-.2
DCP Mid	3.12	9	17.06	+.01	-30.8
DTE	2.92f	15	80.76	-.57	+.7
Dataram	...	...	.66	-.07	...
DevonE	.96	...	22.77	-2.86	-28.8
Disney	1.42f	18	95.29	-1.61	-9.3
DowChm	1.84f	11	42.18	-1.04	-18.1
EOG Rescs	.67	...	61.59	-4.43	-13.0
EmpDist	1.04	21	28.36	-.29	+1.0
EnerNOC	...	...	7.05	+2.89	+83.1
Energen	.08	...	27.91	-1.99	-31.9
EgyTrEq s	1.14f	10	9.17	-.46	-33.3
EngyTsfr	4.22f	83	26.52	+.18	-21.4
EnPro	.80	...	40.00	-.74	-8.8
EntProdPt	1.56f	17	21.37	-.21	-16.5
Ericsson	.39e	...	9.33	-.01	-2.9
ExxonMbl	2.92	16	73.98	-2.59	-5.1
Facebook	...	98	97.01	-.93	-7.3
FifthThird	.52	9	15.01	-.93	-25.3
FordM	.60a	10	11.98	-.16	-15.0
FrptMcM	...	...	3.94	...	-41.8
GATX	1.52	7	37.06	-1.76	-12.9
GabMultT	.94e	...	6.59	-.06	-12.1
GAInv	1.15e	...	27.72	-.52	-13.2
GenElec	.92	...	28.04	-.20	-10.0
GraphPkg	.20	15	11.01	-1.18	-14.2
GtBasSci rs	...	...	.23	-.01	-75.5
GtPlainEn	1.05f	20	26.71	-.22	-2.2
HP Inc	.50	...	9.49	-.31	-19.8
HalconRs rs	...	...	.49	+.03	-61.3
Hallibrtn	.72	...	29.28	-.91	-14.0
iShGold	...	...	10.71	+.12	+4.7
iShJapan	.13e	...	11.05	-.24	-8.8
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	29.99	-.75	-15.0
iShEMkts	.84e	...	28.83	-.51	-10.5
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	53.75	-.73	-8.5
iShiBxHYB	5.09	...	78.05	-.78	-3.1

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
iShR2K	1.73e	...	99.12	-2.26	-12.0
Intel	1.04f	13	29.60	-.33	-14.1
InterDig	.80	16	42.73	-.21	-12.9
IntPap	1.76	13	32.56	-3.87	-13.6
JPMorgCh	1.76	10	55.66	-1.29	-15.1
JohnJn	3.00	17	96.40	-.35	-6.2
JohnsnCtl	1.16f	14	34.21	-1.39	-13.4
Keycorp	.30	10	10.85	-.47	-17.7
KimbClk	3.52	35	122.69	-4.03	-3.6
KindMorg	.50m	22	14.19	-1.15	-4.9
LegacyRes	.60m	...	1.08	-.12	-38.3
Lubys	...	...	4.20	...	-6.0
MarathnO	.20m	68	8.14	-.88	-35.3
MktVGold	.12e	...	13.38	+.35	-2.5
McDnlds	3.56f	24	119.20	+.80	+.9
Merck	1.84f	14	50.92	-.43	-3.6
MeritMed	...	27	16.21	-.14	-12.8
MexcoEn	...	...	2.16	+.01	-33.2
MicronT	...	6	10.48	-.59	-26.0
Microsoft	1.44	35	51.79	-.50	-6.7
MorgStan	.60	9	24.98	-.63	-21.5
Nabors	.24	...	5.67	-.62	-33.4
NatGrid	3.35e	...	68.13	-.31	-2.0
NOilVarco	1.84	8	29.69	-1.54	-11.3
Netflix s	...	...	99.12	-1.60	-13.3
Novavax	...	...	5.56	-1.06	-33.7
NvMAd	.79a	...	13.86	-.01	+.1
NvPMI	.78a	...	13.86	+.04	+1.5
NuvPI	.82a	...	14.04	-.06	-.4
NSTFI3	.55a	...	14.46	-.10	-.6
NTXQI	.65	...	14.16	-.02	-1.9
OcciPet	3.00	27	61.79	-2.01	-8.6
Oracle	.60	16	34.34	-.46	-5.6
ParTech	...	...	5.42	-.13	-19.5
ParkDrl	...	...	1.23	-.14	-32.4
PattUTI	.40	...	11.49	-1.18	-23.8
PennaRE	.84	...	19.81	-.19	-9.4
Prmian	.35e	11	4.69	-.33	-7.3
Petrobras	...	...	2.92	-.11	-32.1
Pfizer	1.20f	23	30.50	-.21	-5.5
PioNtrl	.08	21	107.75	-5.75	-14.1
PlainsAAP	2.80	11	19.76	-1.23	-14.5
Potash	1.52	8	14.84	-1.25	-13.3
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	102.23	-1.54	-8.6
Praxair	2.86	18	96.13	-1.86	-6.1

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
PrmEgy	...	18	38.00	...	-28.3
PUVixST rs	...	...	45.94	+4.08	+62.0
PrUCrude rs	...	...	7.43	-1.34	-40.7
ProctGam	2.65	27	76.85	-.51	-3.2
RangeRs	.16	15	24.90	-1.60	+1.2
RegionsFn	.24	11	7.57	-.36	-21.1
Rowan	.40	...	11.31	-.43	-33.3
RoyDShllA	3.76	60	39.51	-.92	-13.7
SpdrDJIA	3.90e	...	158.70	-2.09	-8.8
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	187.64	-2.88	-8.0
SpdrLehHY	2.30	...	32.68	-.28	-3.6
SpdrOGEx	.73e	...	24.55	-1.92	-18.8
SabnR	3.09e	8	25.74	-1.27	-2.0
SanderFm	.88a	8	75.75	-1.79	-2.3
Schlmbrg	2.00	19	63.30	-1.90	-9.2
SiriusXM	...	37	3.65	-.08	-10.3
Smucker	2.68	34	121.85	-1.04	-1.2
SwstnEngy	...	...	7.93	-.84	+11.5
Sprint	...	...	2.52	-.35	-30.4
SP CnSt	1.28e	...	48.85	-.44	-3.2
SP Engy	2.04e	...	53.14	-2.60	-11.9
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	20.85	-.43	-12.5
SP Inds	1.12e	...	48.04	-.60	-9.4
SunEdison	...	...	2.72	+.07	-46.6
SunocoLog	1.83f	...	20.78	+.29	-19.1
TelefEsp	1.03e	...	10.11	-.17	-8.8

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Tesoro	2.00	6	85.72	-5.01	-18.6
3M Co	4.10	18	137.57	-1.95	-8.7
Torchmark	.54	13	52.22	-.88	-8.4
TriContl	.81e	...	18.09	-.30	-9.6
21stCFoxA	.30	7	26.00	-.38	-4.3
Twitter	...	...	17.02	-.82	-26.4
TycoIntl	.82	26	34.15	+3.56	+7.1
TylerTech	...	76	158.18	-4.52	-9.3
UBSI	1.32f	16	32.49	-.92	-12.2
US OilFd	...	...	8.54	-.73	-22.4
Vale SA	.29e	...	2.15	-.12	-34.7
ValeroE	2.40f	7	65.14	-2.72	-7.9
VangEmg	1.10e	...	29.08	-.49	-11.1
VangFTSE	1.10e	...	33.58	-.49	-8.6
Vapor hrs	...	...	.04	-.06	-93.0
VerizonCm	2.26	11	47.03	-.01	+1.8
VulcanM	.40	63	82.89	-2.48	-12.7
WEC Engy	1.98f	20	53.21	-.41	+3.7
WalgBoots	1.44	23	78.71	-2.13	-7.6
WellsFargo	1.50	12	47.66	-1.36	-12.3
WstnRefin	1.52f	6	31.49	-1.49	-11.6
WhitingPet	...	...	6.13	-.49	-35.1
WmsCos	2.56	52	18.31	-1.43	-28.8
XcelEngy	1.28	19	36.53	-.10	+1.7
Xerox	.28	31	9.10	+.03	-14.4
Yahoo	...	...	29.78	+.03	-10.5

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	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
18,351.36	15,370.33	Dow Jones Industrials	15,885.22	-208.29	-1.29	-8.84	-10.14
9,214.77	6,403.31	Dow Jones Transportation	6,651.78	-126.76	-1.87	-11.41	-26.42
657.17	539.96	Dow Jones Utilities	584.04	-5.10	-.87	+1.08	-9.89
11,254.87	8,937.99	NYSE Composite	9,262.99	-163.92	-1.74	-8.68	-14.60
5,231.94	4,292.14	Nasdaq Composite	4,518.49	-72.69	-1.58	-9.76	-5.31
2,134.72	1,812.29	S&P 500	1,877.08	-29.82	-1.56	-8.16	-8.75
1,551.28	1,215.14	S&P Midcap	1,261.38	-26.39	-2.05	-9.81	-14.31
22,537.15	18,550.48	Wilshire 5000	19,261.48	-330.86	-1.69	-9.01	-11.18
1,296.00	958.48	Russell 2000	997.37	-23.29	-2.28	-12.19	-16.94

TODAY'S COMICS SPONSORED BY

HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
432-522-1117
QUALITY, INTEGRITY, EXPERIENCE
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!!!

The wiseman built his house on a rock
Then he hired Hartman to roof it!!!
All Types of Roof and Roof repair • Free Estimates
Commercial • Residential
www.HartmanRoofing.com

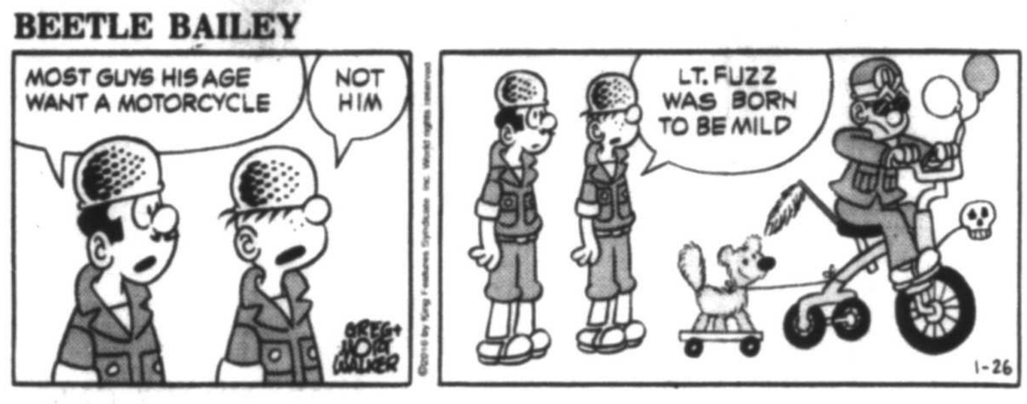
HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
Mention this ad. and receive $300.00 off a full roofing job or $50.00 off any repair of $200.00 or more

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

FUNKY WINKERBEAN

BLONDIE

BEETLE BAILEY



CLASSIC PEANUTS

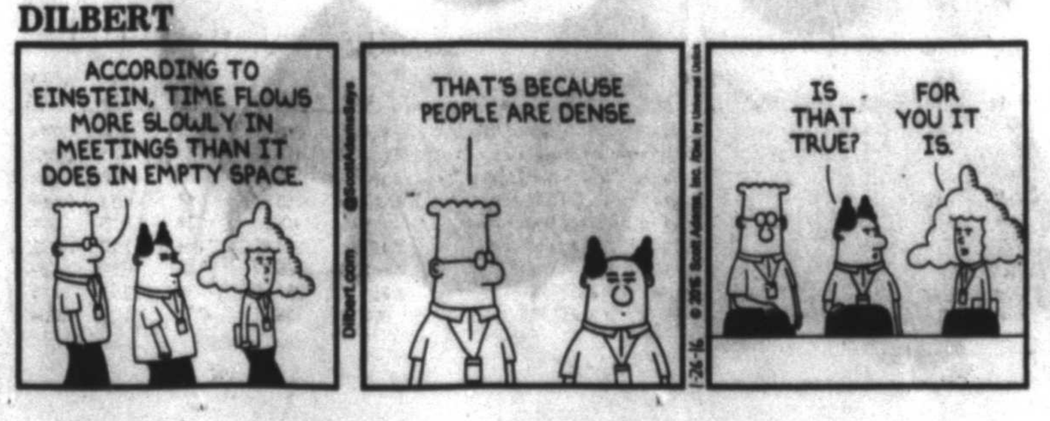
SHOE

GARFIELD

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT



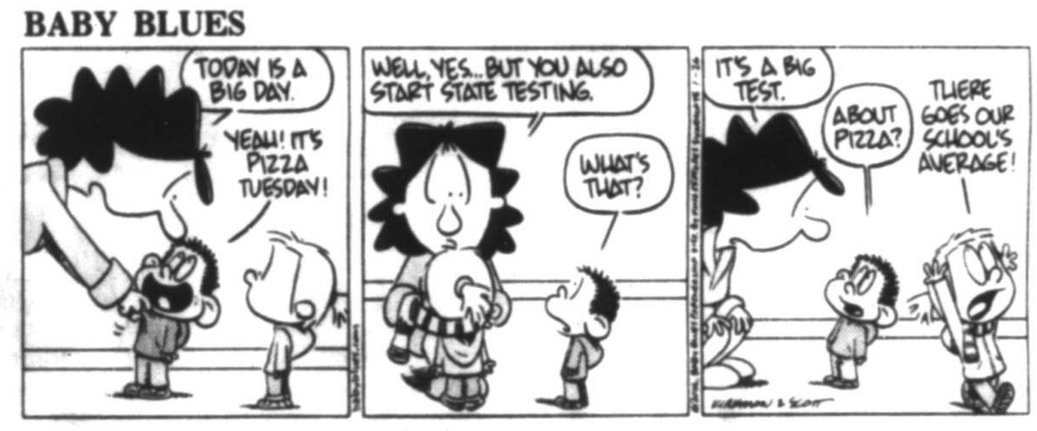
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

MARY WORTH

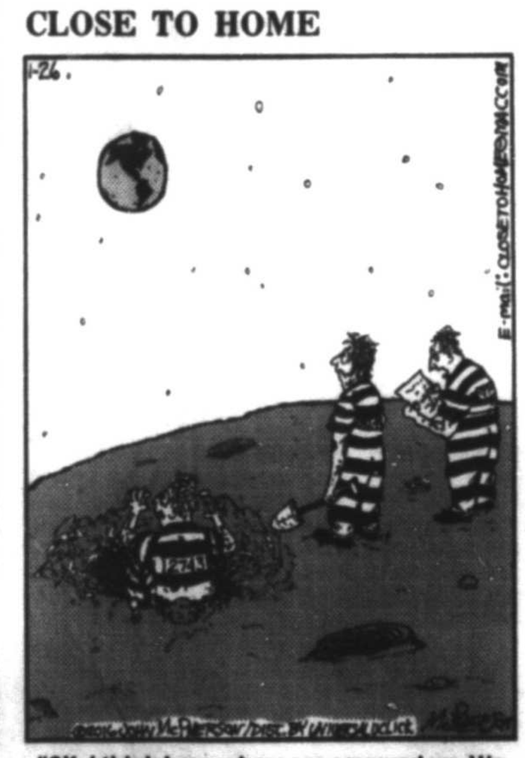
ZITS

BABY BLUES



MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME



"OK, I think I see where we screwed up. We should have taken the LEFT fork in the sewer line!"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"DAD SAYS YOU'RE MAKIN' A NEW RECIPE. SO WE'LL PROBABLY HAVE PIZZA TONIGHT."

LOCKHORNS

"THANK GOODNESS I'M NOT ALLERGIC TO PEANUTS."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"That's right again, Mommy! I bet you did really good on your tests in second grade."

SWEET SAVINGS!

Find The Perfect Valentines Gift
With Over 100 Merchants
To Choose From

MUSIC CITY MALL

Burlington Dillard's JCPenney sears

An ICA Company • For employment opportunities log on to: www.icajobs.net

PUPPY ADOPTION DAY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30
2-6PM

Puppies from the Humane Society of Odessa will be available for adoption.

MUSIC CITY MALL

4101 E. 42nd
Odessa
Across from
Fuddrucker's
Inside entrance

432-381-5503
odessahumanesociety.org

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

REVENUE CLERK

A publicly-traded oil and gas company in Midland, Texas, is seeking a revenue clerk with experience in the following areas: revenue booking, and filing. Excel proficiency a must, Horizon experience helpful. This position demands an energetic individual who is conscientious, accurate and reliable. We are an equal opportunity employer and offer competitive salary with an excellent benefits package. Non-smoking environment.

Please email resumes to personneldept.resume@gmail.com

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT & PUBLISHING

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is accepting résumés for a full-time Copy Editor/Page Designer position on our Universal Desk.

The right candidate should have a knack for grammar, punctuation and Associated Press style but also can find inconsistencies in stories and isn't afraid to ask questions. He or she also should have an eye for page design.

This is a great opportunity for anyone who wants to make a difference in the newspaper industry and who wants to perfect his or her craft at copy editing and page design.

A bachelor's degree in journalism or English, two years of editing experience, InDesign or Quark knowledge and proficiency in AP style are preferred. Recent college graduates and those who are graduating soon are encouraged to apply. Time on a universal desk and experience editing sports copy are pluses.

The Reporter-Telegram is part of Hearst and offers a competitive salary and benefits.

If you are interested in our copy editor/page designer position, please email a cover letter, résumé, your best design samples and three references in PDF or Word format to Trevor Hawes, Assistant Managing Editor, at thawes@mrt.com. You can also mail a hard copy submission to Midland Reporter-Telegram, Attn.: Trevor Hawes, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call

432-682-6222

OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm -4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person

$10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifiting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com

NOPHONECALLSPLEASE

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person

$10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifiting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com

NOPHONECALLSPLEASE

Looking For A New Job?

Log into the classifieds to find a job that suits you better. Listings are updated daily.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

201 E. Illinois
(432) 682-6222

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Sales Assistant

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for a dynamic self-starter with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment with minimal supervision. Duties include supporting the advertising sales staff in day-to-day operations and helping the sales team consistently reach its revenue targets. Conducting sales and marketing research, creating sales presentations, event coordination and preparing reports are a few of the duties required. Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package.

Please send resume to: jhouston@mrt.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising. No calls please.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Customer Services

Pak Mail of Midland is seeking someone immediately to be an integral part of a unique packing/shipping business. We ensure our customers have a pleasurable experience by providing efficient and effective service, exceeding expectations, while promoting products and services to meet the customers' needs. We are looking for someone who can lift 40-50 lbs. unaided, has a valid driver's license with a clean record. We are looking for a person with a positive attitude who can make accurate decisions on how to pack and ship items properly. Persons with sales experience preferred, but we will teach you all you need to know. Apply in person at 3323 N. Midland Dr., ste. 113, Midland, TX.

ENERGY & UTILITIES

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Our oil and gas company, PetroPro Services LLC is looking for a Sales Representative (Oil Service Equipment) for the Midland location. The successful candidate will possess the following qualifications and behaviors:

- Must have existing clients in the Midland area
- The qualified candidate has engineering or a business degree, helpful but not required
- 5+ years of experience in the oil and gas industry
- Must has strong knowledge / experience in completions/fracturing
- Must has 3+ years direct sales experience for completion in the Midland area
- Field experience with drilling and completions is an asset

Please send resumes to Leticia Perez, HR Manager.
Email address: lperez@petroquip.com

HEALTHCARE

Available Positions

Desert Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
3203 Sage Street
Midland, TX 79705

Desert Gardens located in Midland, Texas is currently seeking staff to fill the following Positions:

- **RN $2,000 sign on bonus**
- **LVN $1.500 sign on bonus**

New Shift Differential Rate
Full benefits

Available Positions

Desert Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
3203 Sage Street
Midland, TX 79705

Desert Gardens located in Midland, Texas is currently seeking staff to fill the following Positions:

- **Social Worker**

Full benefits
Apply in person

Midland Surgical Associates, P.A.

is seeking a

Billing/ Coding & Collections Specialist

with prior experience to join our team. Applicant must have worked with CPT and ICD9 coding and compatibility, electronic billing & posting, exception reports, claim appeals, disputes and collection methodologies. Experience with Greenway practice management system preferred. M-F 8:30-5:30. Benefit package includes PTO, Health, Life & AFLAC insurance coverages and a 401-K retirement plan.

Send resume to joann@midland-surgical.com

HEALTHCARE

Veterinary Techs

Greenbelt Veterinary Hospital and Pet Resort has an immediate opening for Veterinary technicians.Experience is a plus but not necessary. Must have a can do attitude and willingness to learn,dependability is a must! Please submit resume to info@greenbeltpetdoc.com or stop by our office at: 5000 N. Midkiff Rd.

MANAGEMENT & EXECUTIVE

Sales Manager

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for an experienced and dynamic sales manager with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment and lead by example with confidence and enthusiam. Responsibilities include managing all aspects of the inside sales department and lead generation process, including training and coaching Account Executives, helping the sales team consistently meet/exceed established revenue targets, monitoring and reporting on sales metrics, managing the administration process and providing support to the Director of Advertising as needed.

Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package.

Please send resume to: jhouston@mrt.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising. No calls please.

OTHER JOBS

Assembly Technician

Assemble and wire electrical control panels. Must be mechanically inclined and able to follow wiring diagrams. Pre-employment drug screen required. Apply in person at R&D Specialties. 2629 Faudree Road #B-7, Odessa, Texas 79765, or send resume via fax 432-561-5696 or email rdspec@rdspec.com.

REAL ESTATE

Leasing Agent

Experienced in Commercial properties. Call 432-352-2067 ask for Don.

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Restaurant Positions

Osaka Japanese Steakhouse **FT**

Pay range from **$15-$20** an hour, depending on position. Now hiring Hibachi Chefs, Waitresses, Hostesses, Cashiers, Bartenders, Bus Help, Dishwashers & Kitchen Help. Please apply in person: **1207 Tradewinds Blvd. 79706**

SALES JOBS

Sales Manager

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for an experienced and dynamic sales manager with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment and lead by example with confidence and enthusiam. Responsibilities include managing all aspects of the inside sales department and lead generation process, including training and coaching Account Executives, helping the sales team consistently meet/exceed established revenue targets, monitoring and reporting on sales metrics, managing the administration process and providing support to the Director of Advertising as needed.

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SCIENCE & RESEARCH

Chemist for Oil & Gas Industry needed

IMPACT! Chemical Technologies, Inc. is seeking a Chemist for the Oil and Gas Industry. Experience is a must with a Bachelors of Chemistry as a minimum for education level is a must. Great Benefits and 401K plan. Please send resumes to PO Box 10887, Midland, TX 79702 or tbohannon@impactchemtech.com.

SKILLED LABOR

Drillers & Roughnecks

Pacesetter Drilling is looking for Safety minded Drillers and Roughnecks experienced in the operation of Top Drive and Mechanical Rigs. Applications are being accepted in person only at 12505 WCR 125 in Odessa, TX. We are between Midland and Odessa right off of Business 20. If you need directions please call 432-563-4000. All applicants must be able to pass a drug and alcohol screening before employment will be offered.

Electrician/Lineman

Oilfield Electrician/Lineman Voltages up to 25KV CDL preferred, must pass drug screen Apply online @ www.hargravepower.com

Geologist/ Geophysicist

Sharp Image Energy, Inc. is looking for a full time Geologist/ Geophysicist with a minimum of 12 years experience and must be familiar with Petra and Kingdom Suite Software. Will be working at SIE corporate headquarters in Big Spring, TX. Please send resumes to P.O Box 1888, Big Spring, TX. 79721.

SKILLED LABOR

In-House Diesel Mechanic

Catalyst Oilfield Services looking for a in-house diesel mechanic. Competitive wages based on experience. Please bring in resume or call office with questions. ASE preferred but not required. Benefits offered. 11999 E. Hwy. 158, Gardendale, TX, 79758. Human resources at: 432-563-0727

Mid-Tex of Midland

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring commercial construction project superintendents and assistant project coordinators. Competitive pay plus excellent benefits. Experience in commercial construction a must if applying for the project superintendent position. Experience not necessary, but a plus if applying for the coordinator position. Please send resumes to 5206 W. Wadley Ave., Midland, Texas 79707 or email them to Billy Mays at billy@midtexofmidland.com. You may also fax your resume to (432) 694-9627.

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

OTR Truck Driver

Triple D Supply is looking for qualified candidates for an OTR Long Haul position. If you want an opportunity to operate new equipment and get the miles you've been missing call 800-426-1675 ext 835.

SPOOLERS

JW Enterprise is looking for **Spoolers** with Class A CDL with Air Brake Endorsement. Great benefits and competitive wages, also on the job training available. It's a great place to work with a family-like atmosphere. Call Javius at 432-664-3408 or the office at 432-458-3675 for more information.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone??

Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram.

Contact: Linda 687-8807

The Top 5 Ways to Get Your Ad To The Public:

1. Call 432-682-6222
2. Fax 432-682-6999
3. mrtclassified@mrt.com
4. Just Mail or Drop It By: 201 E. Illinois

Come On In And Say HI! We'll Leave The Computer On!

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Events and Notices

General Announcements

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ. Teach the Lords' Word 1-4

Lost & Found

FOUND: 3 LEGGED doberman. 432-425-7320.

FOUND/DUMPED! Need a loving home for twin kittens. Gray, orange and white calico. Just want to be loved. 432-853-9080.

FOUND: WHITE, american eskimo/sheltie mix dog. Call 432-262-5524.

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

2005 FORD Wheelchair Van. Only 56,000 miles. Like new. $15,000 firm. 432-212-1830.

Fax R... 682-6999

Passenger Cars

CADALLIC 2006 CTS good condition, black, $6,200. See at 2109 Western Drive, Midland, TX. 432-238-0614

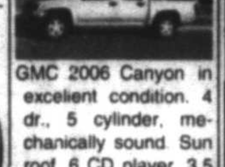
SATURN 2008 Aura LE Sedan. 77K miles, new tires. $5000. Call 432-853-0110.

Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. 432-685-4078

Antique & Vintage

CHEVROLET 1967 Camaro, 350, new A/C, paint & suspension. Call for pricing, serious inquires only! 432-661-6819

Pickup Trucks



GMC 2006 Canyon in excellent condition. 4 dr., 5 cylinder, mechanically sound. Sun roof, 6 CD player, 3.5 liter, automatic transmission, cruise control, trailer hitch, new battery and alternator, front end alignment and oil change. $7,850. Call 432-638-5405 or 432-682-0770

PREVENT TRUCK REPO. I am looking for a late model (14 – 15) clean, low mileage Chevrolet LTZ Crew-cab, 6.6 Duramax with Allison transmission LOADED to pay off balance, possible trade. Prevent a repo on your record. Call Mike 903-521-0252.

Fax Your Classified Ad in Today! 682-6999

Pickup Trucks

TOYOTA 2008 Tundra, exterior black, cloth seat, all power, AC, automatic, 5.7 V8, grill guard, Rhino lined bed, running boards tool box, 91K miles. Asking $15,500. 432-254-1007.

4WD & SUV

LEXUS 1995 SC400 135k miles, runs but needs work $1,500 OBO. 432-238-8480

Utility Trailers

UTILITY TRAILER: 2014 10' X 6' Dove tail trailer with 2' ramp. $1000.00 or OBO call 432-638-1429

Recreational Vehicles

2015 ROYAL TRAVEL 5th wheel. 39 ft. 2 bedroom, 4 slides, island kitchen, king bed, garden tub, 3 ACs, washer/dryer, loaded with upgrades. $41,500 OBO. 682-712-3574

Firewood

Good split firewood Wood racks available. 432-413-6000.

Miscellaneous for Sale

KEN'S RV SALES
5904 W. Hwy. 80 • Midland, TX 79706
432-697-6447 • kensrvs.com
LARGEST SELECTION OF USED TRAILERS IN THE BASIN
TRY US ONCE YOU'LL BE BACK
TOY HAULERS FIFTH WHEEL GO RVing BUMPER PULLS MOTORHOMES
Tuesday 8:30-5:30 Mon.-Fri. • 9-3 Sat. Thursday
LOCATIONS ACROSS THE STATE OF TEXAS
CONVENIENT LOCATIONS IN YOUR AREA

Sporting Goods

AUCTION #2016-003

An online auction of Midland College surplus property will be held by Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. The auction will begin on Thursday, January 14, 2016 and close on Wednesday, January 27, 2016. Items will be available for viewing and bidding on the auctioneers website:

http://www.renebates.com.

The College will be auctioning treadmills. For additional information, contact Barbara Fennell, Director of Purchasing, (432) 686-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all auction bids. For a complete list of instructions, or to participate in the online auction go to http://www.renebates.com

Appliances

AAA Appliance 15 minute pickup. 432-556-0104 / 432-528-3046

Free Stuff

FREE PUPPIES, Blue Heeler mix, female 6 wks old, 1 male 6 months old 238-9756.

FREE to good home, 2 AKC registered chocolate labs. Ages 11 & 12. Owners moved to city & yard is tiny 432-687-0304

FREE TO good home - Lovable cats fixed, boxed trained, shots. Call Brian 661-1817

FREE WOODEN PALLETS! Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

MAGAZINES OUT THE wazzoo! Free, call 685-3189 after 6:00 p

ONE FISH - to good home. "Texas Chiclid" Free, needs a home. texast1836@gmail.com.

Home Items

APEX STORAGE Bdg, 8x10, insulated. Wingback chair w/matching curtains, lg desk, outside pipeswing. Reasonable prices. Cash only. Call 432-699-1593

Classified CAN 682-6222

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

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

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

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

1/26/16

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The Bottom Line

76 percent of adults have read a daily newspaper in the past five days.

Source: Scarborough Research, 2005

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com
201 EAST ILLINOIS AVENUE
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701
432-682-5311

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fax 432-682-3793

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

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Excavation and Utility Contractor

WE HELP YOU GET IT DONE!

GREENWOOD PIT

2 miles East of Greenwood on 307

Crushed Caliche, Base Course, Top Soil, Clean Rock

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Remodeling & Repair

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- Full-Service Remodels
- Fencing & Masonry Work

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Major Credit Cards Accepted
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Lawn & Garden

All Fall/Winter Cleanup
FREE ESTIMATES
Gutter & drain clean out, lawn services, trim trees and bushes, and removal of dead trees.
Billy - 432-634-5040

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BUCKET TRUCK AVAILABLE.
FREE ESTIMATES. INSURED. CALL JOSE RUEDAS 432-684-6745
OR 432-352-7435
JOJOSBEELAWN@YAHOO.COM

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- concrete - cabinets - heating & A/C -Metal buildings
- fences wood/ metal
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40 years experience.
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QUALITY SERVICE-REASONABLE PRICES
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FREE ESTIMATES
RODNEY MATTHEWS
TEXT OR CALL
432-559-6444

Miscellaneous Services

WATER TREATMENT
Culligan of West Texas
Residential & Commercial
FREE WATER ANALYSIS
563-2690

AMERICAN HOME IMPROVEMENT
Remodeling, Windows, Siding, Outdoor Kitchens, Grills, Fire Pits, Sunrooms, Patios and much more!
3D Virtual Designs • (432) 550-7224
11220 State Highway 191 (Between Midland and Odessa)
http://www.ahi-texas.com
ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+ 2014 SILVER

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Home Cleaning

A Experienced, Honest, dependable housekeeper has openings for weekly or biweekly cleanings. References available. Call 432-638-8679

BETTY'S HOUSE Cleaning Services. Residential, references. 432-488-8650

INDEPENDENT PERSON cleans houses 10yrs Experience. Free Estimates. Call or Text 432-234-0418 or 432-234-0423

NICOLE'S CLEANING Service has availability. 15 Years experience. References available. Call or text 432-238-2437

RESIDENTIAL/MAKE READY/NEW construction. All cleaning supplies provided. 25 years experience. Call Shelly 432-599-3001

Window Cleaning

WINDOWS PLUS • Serving Midlanders since 1994. Residential. Commercial. 432-682-9322

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Repair & Replacement

A+ COMPUTER Tutor! Overcome Your Fear of Computers! ✔Your PLACE at Your PACE ★Call Karen 432-553-2468 (leave msg)

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ADVANCE EXCAVATING. Specializing in caliche yards, paving, parking lot maintenance & repair, top soil, welding, concrete, septic systems & demolition. No job too large or too small! (432) 570-1704 or (432) 634-3800

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APPLIANCE REPAIR
REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers & Dryers.
Free Service Call with Repair. Free Removal.
Full Warranty, Very Affordable Prices.
M&M Appliances
1007 N Midkiff, Midland Call 432-570-8278

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24 HR Handyman. For any type of job, big or small. Repair or rebuild, flat rate. 432-978-9990.

24 HR Painting. Painting can't fix everything but it sure does look better. 432-978-9990.

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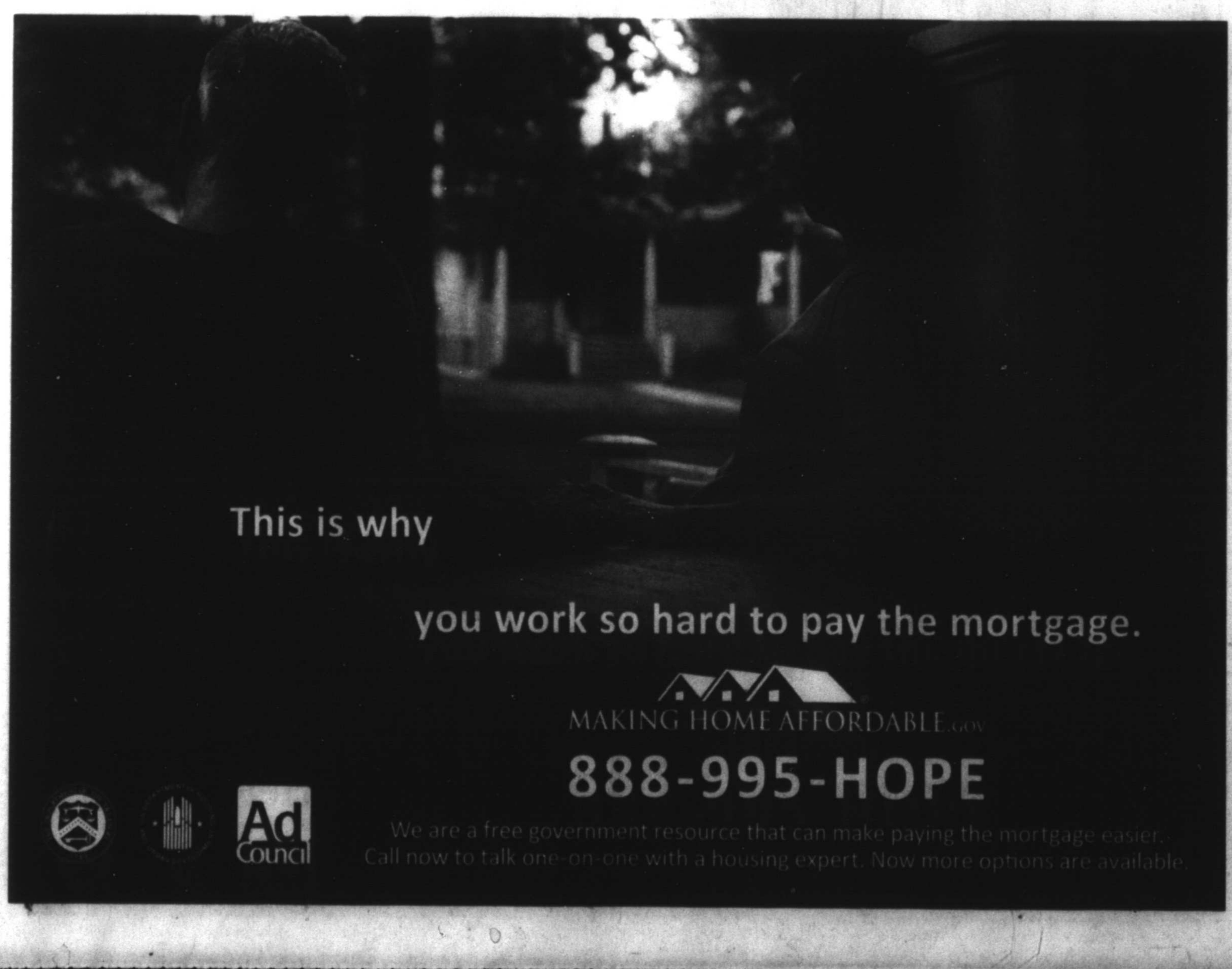

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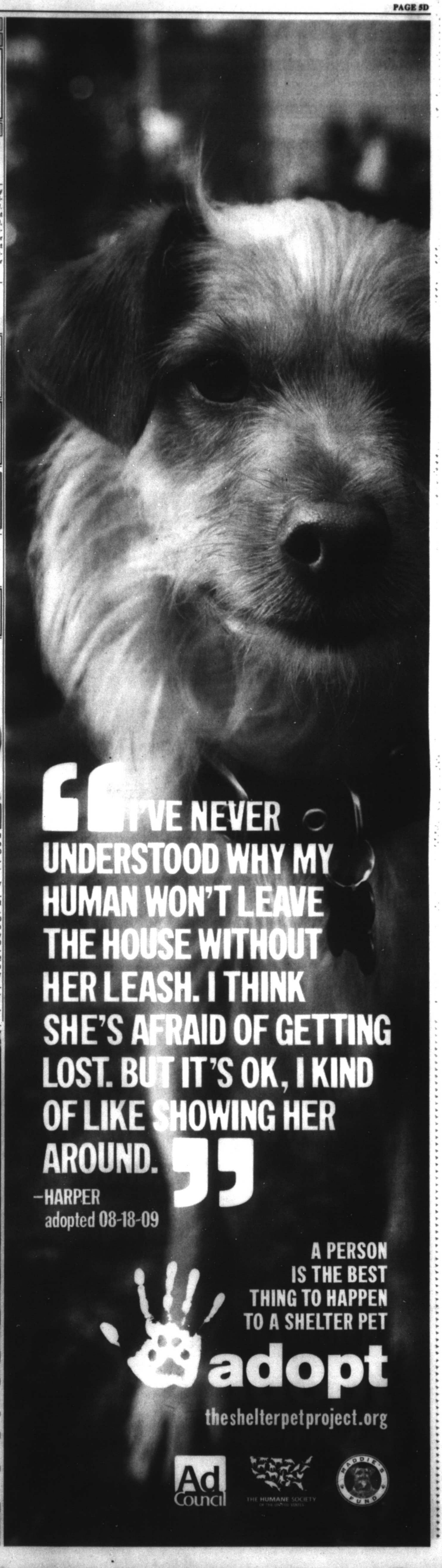

Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

Lukas Keapproth/Austin American-Statesman via AP

The front of the Austin Waldorf School in Austin in shown. Nearly half of the 400 students enrolled in the school forgo vaccinations, one of the highest rates in Texas.

Texas health officials wary of rise in unvaccinated students

By David Warren
Associated Press

DALLAS — Tucked into a hillside not far from a popular nature preserve, the private Austin Waldorf School touts its individualized learning and emphasis on moral purpose. But the school with an enrollment of nearly 400 is different in another way: Nearly half its students forgo vaccinations, one of the highest rates in Texas.

Four years ago fully half its students received a "conscientious exemption" from at least one of the federally recommended vaccinations, a rate that's since dipped slightly to 48 percent, according to figures provided by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

The school is a striking example of a statewide rise in exemptions that concerns public health officials and runs contrary to efforts in California and elsewhere to ensure more students are immunized.

Texas is one of 18 states that allow parents to cite religion or personal beliefs in exempting their school-age children from vaccination. In 2007 there were more than 10,000 students exempted and that number soared to nearly 41,000 in the last school year. Texas began allowing exemptions for reasons of conscience in 2003. A year later, some 3,000 students had received one.

"I'm mostly concerned about parents who request personal exemptions based on reasons of conscience but in fact they're making that choice based on misinformation they've gotten from other sources or perhaps someone outside the medical community," said Dr. Justin Smith, a pediatrician with Cook Children's Health Care System in Fort Worth.

While students who aren't fully vaccinated account for less than 1 percent of the 5.2 million students enrolled in Texas public or charter schools, the rising trend of exemptions has some medical experts worried about outbreaks of disease.

Those fears were highlighted when a child who had traveled abroad went to school early this month in a Dallas suburb and later showed signs of measles. It was the first reported case of the highly contagious virus in Texas in this new year. Measles cases in the U.S. are unusual, although there were 667 reported cases in 2014, mainly due to an outbreak that occurred primarily among unvaccinated Amish communities in Ohio, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Smith believes that social media are playing a role in the rise in exemptions.

"There's more a trend in discussing these issues in social media or discussing them interpersonally with other parents and it kind of becomes a group mentality," he said.

Dawn Richardson, a co-founder of the Texas-based Parents Requesting Open Vaccine Education, said more parents are opting to spread out when their children receive a range of vaccinations rather than when a physician or school dictates it must be done. Parents also are concerned with the increase over the years in the number of vaccines and the dosages that are given, she said. There were 13 vaccinations recommended by the CDC last year, up from six in 1995, according to Dr. Amanda Cohn with the CDC.

"Parents are trying to make better decisions and actually tailor the vaccine schedule according to their child," Richardson said.

Critics contend vaccination can result in disabling side effects — most notably in the form of autism, a connection scientific research has debunked — but Smith and other health experts note the overwhelming science points to wide-ranging benefits from immunization.

He said while the vaccination rate in Texas remains high, if the rate were to drop to 90 percent or lower then outbreaks of disease could become alarming.

Kathy McElveen, interim director of the Austin Waldorf School, said any decision on vaccinating students is left to the parents and that the school complies with all state-mandated health standards.

"Just because somebody sought an exemption doesn't mean that a student isn't immunized," she said, explaining that a parent may opt to immunize for measles or chickenpox, but not another disease, such as hepatitis.

The exemption rate in Texas is comparable to other large states. In Florida, which allows for a religious exemption but not one based on personal beliefs, 1.8 percent of kindergarten students last year had an exemption while just over 1 percent of seventh-graders did.

Just over 3 percent of kindergarten students in California were exempted two years ago and that number dropped to 2.54 percent before lawmakers last year adopted a bill that only allows for medical exemptions. That action came after an outbreak of measles at Disneyland sickened more than 100.

California joined Mississippi and West Virginia as the three states allowing only medical exemptions.

House passes bill that would cut high school science test

By Donna Gordon Blankinship
Associated Press

SEATTLE — The Washington House has passed a bill Monday that would eliminate the need to pass a science test to graduate from high school.

The proposal, House Bill 2214, would also discontinue the tenth grade English and math exams in favor of the new tests based on the Common Core academic standards.

It would also eliminate an alternative to the high school exams, a portfolio approach known as the collection of evidence. Instead, students who don't pass the exams would be required to take and pass another high school class in the same subject area.

The changes in the bill, which now goes on to the Senate after passing in the House on a vote of 87-10, would take effect this school year.

Lawmakers say the changes to the testing system would save the state $45 million over the next three years.

Rep. Chris Reykdal, D-Olympia, said the idea of streamlining the high school test system has had support from both Democrats and Republicans in the House for more than a year. He hopes the Senate will give the bill a hearing, which they did not do last legislative session.

"We think the one-size-fits-all test approach not only isn't going to work for kids, it's very expensive," said Reykdal, who is running for superintendent of public instruction, during a news conference after the vote.

Under current law, this year's graduating class is required to pass either the tenth grade or eleventh-grade English exams as well as one of three possible math tests. The proposal approved by the House would cut those requirements down to one test in each subject area, with fewer testing alternatives for those who don't pass the eleventh grade exams, followed by additional classes if necessary.

Rapid City students advance to National Science Bowl finals

Associated Press

RAPID CITY, S.D. — A team of students from Rapid City Stevens High School has advanced to the National Science Bowl finals in Washington, D.C.

U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz said the Rapid City students won their regional competition over the weekend.

Moniz said the National Science Bowl pits thousands of middle school and high school students. The format is a fast-paced question-and-answer format where they solve technical problems and answer questions regarding biology, chemistry, Earth and space science, physics and math.

The national finals are April 28 to May 2. The top 16 high school teams and the top 16 middle school teams will win $1,000.

GPS trackers help find lost dogs and stray spouses

Q: My dog keeps getting loose and while he eventually comes back, I'd like to be able find him on demand. What tech can help me?

A: Want your dog to come back in a hurry? Slather a T-Bone steak in peanut butter and sprinkle some chicharrones on top. He'll come arunnin' home, trust me.

But let's say your pup is already halfway to the Westminster Dog Show and his nose is out of range, what are you to do? If only there were something you could put on your dog's collar to help you find him. Oh, hold on, there is!

GPS trackers for pets (or anything else you might want to track … like your cheating, lying, spouse's car) come in a range of prices and capabilities. Let's look at a few.

First up aren't GPS trackers at all, but Bluetooth trackers. These are used to find things that are in very close range. The typical example is your keys or remote control. You know they are in the house somewhere, just not where. There is a corresponding app you install on your smart phone to help you navigate your clutter to find your lost item.

Probably the two best known Bluetooth trackers are Tile (thetileapp.com) and TrackR (thetrackr.com), which cost $25-30 per tracking device. Of the two, I think TrackR is marginally better just from the standpoint that you can replace the battery once it dies. With Tile you need to replace the entire unit!

Both of these claim to be able to find items at a much greater distance, but that isn't nearly as reliable as you might think. In order for the long distance locator to work for Bluetooth devices is if all three of the following happen: the tracker comes into range of somebody else who has the app installed, and they have Bluetooth turned on, and they configure the app to work in crowd-sourcing mode. In other words, the chances of finding Fido using one of these is slim.

Next up, again aren't GPS trackers, but radio collars. These are principally used by hunters or farmers where they know with some certainty the dog is within about a mile range. Most famous of these is Marco Polo (eurekaproducts.com), which costs $200 and has a range of a couple of miles.

Finally, let's get to the actual GPS trackers. What's key to remember with GPS trackers is that there will be a monthly subscription fee in addition to the initial hardware cost of the tracker itself. These fees can add up and vary greatly, so don't just consider the initial cost of the product. Also, some trackers are tied to a specific cellular network coverage area. More on that in a bit. Batteries for GPS trackers typically need to be recharged weekly.

There are several GPS trackers to choose from: Gibi (gibitechnologies.com, $100 initial, $10 monthly, AT&T/T-Mobile networks), Loc8tor (loc8tor.com, $130, $60, All), Pod (podtrackers.com, $200, $5, AT&T/T-Mobile), Tractive (tractive.com, $130, $5, Verizon), and Whistle (formerly known as Tagg) (pettracker.com, $80, $10, Verizon).

After considerable contemplation, I decided to get Tractive for my dog Lucas, AKA Lucifer the destroyer of all that is good and pure in the universe. As you might have guessed, he is a bit of a character and regularly takes some unchaperoned walks about the neighborhood. I opted for Tractive because the reviews for Whistle went downhill fast after it stopped being Tagg, Gibi's unit was a little large, and Loc8tor was too expensive.

So far, it has worked pretty much as I've expected. The battery lasts about a week and I receive an email when it needs to be recharged. The unit is pretty easy to snap on and off, yet does not fall of easily. It comes with two collar attachments, one for thin and one for thick collars.

I can set up a safe zone around the house and if Lucas leaves that area I'll be notified by email or text. The unit updates its position every 15 minutes and you can view where your pup has visited in the last 24 hours. However, a lot can happen in 15 minutes, so if you are actively looking for a lost dog, you can ask to receive continuous updates.

The accuracy of the GPS reading is probably the weakest point, though I'm not sure other units would be better. It is probably accurate to a couple hundred feet. For example, I could clearly see that he is in our backyard on our dog cam, yet the GPS would periodically indicate he is two houses down. Lucas is clever, but if he is smart enough to hack the web cam then we all are in trouble!

When the PropellerHeads at Data Directions aren't busy with their IT projects, they love to answer questions on business or consumer technology. Email them to questions@asktheropellerheads.com or contact us at Data Directions, Inc., 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA, 23116. Visit our website at www.asktheropellerheads.com.

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