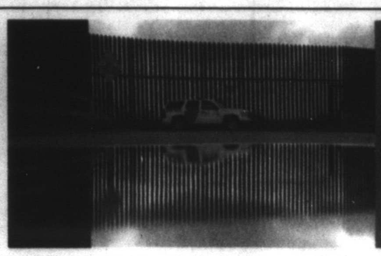
MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

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Check out what you need to know about open carry inside.

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IN THEIR WORDS ...

Several presidential candidates have proposed building more border wall along the nearly 2,000 mile frontier with Mexico to keep people from crossing into the U.S. illegally. See what they have to say tomorrow.

Coming Sunday

Oil companies quick off the mark to export

With end of export ban, NuStar Energy is loading tanker full of ConocoPhillips' crude to ship out

By Jordan Blum
Houston Chronicle

Companies are jumping to be first out of the gate to send crude to foreign soil, less than two weeks after Congress acted to strike the country's decades-old ban on oil exports.

In an announcement Wednesday, San Antonio-based NuStar Energy said it would finish loading crude for export on Thursday into an unnamed, foreign-flagged vessel. NuStar said the oil produced from the Eagle Ford by Houston's ConocoPhillips is being sold to Switzerland-based Vitol, an international trading company that will market the oil globally. ConocoPhillips, an independent oil and gas producer, confirmed the sale, but declined other comment.

More energy news inside

See how the Permian Basin's rig count did this past week in the weekly rig count report.

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Congress agreed to lift the 40-year-old ban on oil exports earlier this month as part of a larger federal budget compromise.

NuStar's announcement appears to put its shipment ahead of plans by Houston-based Enterprise Products Partners, which said last week it will load 600,000 barrels of crude onto a tanker in Houston during the first week of 2016. Vitol is also the buyer of Enterprise's load. There may be other companies planning such shipments that haven't announced their plans.

It makes financial and business sense for companies to want a head start on exports, even if there won't be a huge volume right away, said analyst Jeff Dietert, of Simmons & Co. International in Houston. "The people that can do it want the market to be aware they can do it," Dietert said, noting the value in acting quickly to attract attention and new international buyers.

Andy Lipow, president of Lipow Oil Associates in Houston, said NuStar, Enterprise and ConocoPhillips are all moving impressively fast.

"In one sense, I'm surprised they were able to get a vessel this quickly. But it also tells you vessels are available," Lipow said.

NuStar, which transports and stores oil and gas, said it is bulking up its Corpus Christi operations and building a new dock to prepare for more exports.

"Based on our investments in Corpus Christi and our South Texas pipeline system, NuStar was well-positioned, equipped and staffed to immediately begin loading cargoes for export," said NuStar President and CEO Brad Barron in a statement. NuStar declined to comment beyond its statement. Vitol also declined comment, and Enterprise did not respond to an inquiry.

Please see **EXPORTS**/4A

First baby of the year



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Daisy Brielle Lopez arrived at 12:40 a.m. Friday, born to Brittany Olivas, 19, and Ramiro Lopez, 21, of Midland at Midland Memorial Hospital, making her the first recorded baby of 2016 at MMH.

Midland welcomes first baby of 2016

By Cassie Burton
cburton@mrt.com

Midland's first baby of the new year wore an appropriately festive hat with toy gem stones at its center on the day of her birth. Daisy Brielle Lopez arrived at 12:40 a.m. Friday, born to Brittany Olivas, 19, and Ramiro Lopez, 21, of Midland at Midland Memorial Hospital, making her the first recorded baby of 2016 at MMH.

"It's exciting," Olivas said. "We never thought she would be the first baby because she was supposed to be here next week. I was happy ... since I felt her kick."

Although a week early, Daisy arrived "healthy," weighing 6 pounds and 2 ounces. Ramiro picked her first name and Olivas her middle name, according to her parents.

A call came unexpectedly while Ramiro was at work that Olivas had gone into labor.

"I just stayed frozen for a little while," he said.

Labor lasted about 15 hours, according to Ramiro.

"We were waiting the whole day patiently, and, finally, 12 o'clock came, and she came out at 12:40. I never felt that excited before," Ramiro said.

The hospital, in partnership with several organizations, presented the new parents and Daisy with a gift basket to commemorate her being Midland's first baby of the new year.

"More than anything, it was just a blessing for all of us, really," Ramiro said.

First baby in Odessa

Adriel Eugene Apodaca was the first baby delivered in 2016 at Odessa Regional Medical Center. He was delivered at 5:02 a.m. Friday. The baby boy weighed 6 pounds, 5.1 ounces and was 21 inches. His parents are Diana Morales and Abel Apodaca.

Source: ORMC

The basket included towels, stuffed animals, diapers, wipes, an ornament, gift certificates, vitamins, a hand-made baby blanket, a newborn photography session and clothes. Partners were La Bebe Boutique, The Canopy, Terry's Kids Shoes, Natural Foods Market, Salon Tolani, Bettie Hawkins from the MMH Auxiliary, Kristi McKnight Photography, MMH and March of Dimes' Hope Chest program, Midland Lactation Supplies, March of Dimes, The Stork Lady and Blazin Designs and Signs.

Follow Cassie on Twitter at @Cassie_Burton51

Obama explores unilateral steps on guns

By Kevin Freking
Associated Press

HONOLULU — President Barack Obama is looking for ways to keep guns out of the hands of "a dangerous few" without depending on Congress to pass a law on the fraught subject of gun control.

He said he'll meet his attorney general, Loretta Lynch, on Monday to see what executive actions might be possible. Steps to strengthen background checks could come this week.

"The gun lobby is loud and well organized in its defense of effortlessly available guns for anyone," Obama said in his weekly radio address. "The rest of us are going to have to be just as passionate and well organized in our defense of our kids."

He said he gets so many letters from parents, teachers and children about the "epidemic of gun violence" that he can't "sit around and do nothing."

Obama recently directed staff at the White House to look into potential executive actions.

Currently, federally licensed firearms dealers are required to seek background checks on potential firearm purchasers. But advocacy groups say some of the people who sell firearms at gun shows are not federally licensed, increasing the chance of sales to customers prohibited by law from purchasing guns.

A source familiar with the administration's efforts said Obama is expected to take executive action next week that would set a "reasonable threshold" for when sellers have to seek a background check. That person didn't know whether it would be based on the number of guns sold or revenue generated through gun sales.

The source, a member of a gun control advocacy group, was not authorized to discuss details before the announcement and spoke on condition of anonymity. White House officials won't confirm the timing.

In his efforts to work around a Congress that has often been politically gridlocked, Obama has made aggressive use of executive power, particularly on immigration. It has been an increasingly effective presidential tool. And while le-

Please see **GUNS**/4A



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The 'affluenza' teen can stall his deportation by claiming Mexican authorities violated his human rights. Page 3A

The big number
Singer Natalie Cole has died at 65.
Read about the Grammy Award-winning performer on Page 2A.

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See a list places and events to travel to in 2016. Page 1C
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Catch up on Friday's bowl action. Page 1C

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AN EVERLASTING LOVE



AP file photo

Natalie Cole performs at the Blue Note in New York on Feb. 2, 1999. Cole, a Grammy Award-winning singer whose hits included "Inseparable," "Pink Cadillac" and "Unforgettable," a virtual duet with her father, Nat King Cole, that topped the Billboard charts in 1991, died in Los Angeles on Dec. 31. She was 65.

Natalie Cole, Grammy winning singer, has died

By Sandy Cohen and Mesfin Fekadu
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Natalie Cole, the daughter of jazz legend Nat King Cole, who carved out her own success with R&B hits like "Our Love" and "This Will Be" before triumphantly intertwining their legacies to make his "Unforgettable" their signature hit through technological wizardry, has died. She was 65.

While Cole was a Grammy winner in her own right, she had her greatest success in 1991 when she re-recorded her father's classic hits — with him on the track — for the album "Unforgettable ... With Love." It became a multiplatinum smash and garnered her multiple Grammy Awards, including album of the year.

Cole died Thursday evening at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles due to complications from ongoing health issues, her family said in a statement.

"Natalie fought a fierce, courageous battle, dying how she lived ... with dignity, strength and honor. Our beloved Mother and sister will be greatly missed and remain UNFORGETTABLE in our hearts forever," read the statement from her son Robert Yancy and sisters Timolin and Casey Cole.

"I had to hold back the tears. I know how hard she fought," said Aretha Franklin in a statement. "She fought for so long. She was one of the greatest singers of our time."

Other celebrities honored Cole on social media. In a tweet, actress Marlee Matlin called Cole a lovely songbird and a great actress, writing "she is now singing in heaven." Patti LaBelle tweeted, "She will be truly missed but her light will shine forever!"

Natalie Cole had battled drug problems and hepatitis that forced her to undergo a kidney transplant in May 2009. Cole's older sister, Carol "Cookie" Cole, died the day she received the transplant. Their brother, Nat Kelly Cole, died in 1995.

Natalie Cole was inspired by her dad at an early age and auditioned to sing with him when she was just 11 years old. She was 15 when he died of lung cancer, in 1965.

She began as an R&B singer but later gravitated toward the smooth pop and jazz standards that her father loved.

Cole's greatest success came with her 1991 album, "Unforgettable ... With Love," which paid tribute to her father with re-worked versions of some of his best-known songs, including "That Sunday That Summer," "Too Young" and "Mona Lisa."

Her voice was spliced with her dad's in the title cut, offering a delicate duet a quarter-century after his death.

The album sold about 14 million copies and won six Grammys, including album of the year, as well as record and song of the year for the title track duet.

While making the album, Cole told The Associated Press in 1991, she had to "throw out every R&B lick that I had ever learned and every pop trick I had ever learned. With him, the music was in the background and the voice was in the front."

"I didn't shed really any real tears until the album was over," Cole said. "Then I cried a whole lot. When we started the project it was a way of reconnecting with my dad. Then when we did the last song, I had to say goodbye again."

She was also nominated for an Emmy award in 1992 for a televised performance of her father's songs.

"That was really my thank you," she told People magazine in 2006. "I owed that to him."

Another father-daughter duet, "When I Fall in Love," won a 1996 Grammy for best pop collaboration with vocals, and a follow-up album, "Still Unforgettable," won for best traditional pop vocal album of 2008.

Cole made her recording debut in 1975 with "Inseparable." The music industry welcomed her with two Grammy awards in 1976 — one for best new artist and one for best female R&B vocal performance for her buoyant hit "This Will Be (An Everlasting Love)."

She also worked as an actress, with appearances on TV's "Touched by an Angel" and "Grey's Anatomy."

But she was happiest touring and performing live.

"I still love recording and still love the stage," she said on her website in 2008, "but like my dad, I have the most fun when I am in front of that glorious orchestra or that kick-butt big band."

Cole was born in 1950 to Nat "King" Cole and his wife, Maria Ellington Cole, a onetime vocalist with Duke Ellington who was no relation to the great bandleader.

Her father was already a recording star, and he rose to greater heights in the 1950s and early '60s. He toured worldwide, and in 1956 he became the first black entertainer to host a national TV variety show, though poor ratings and lack of sponsors killed it off the following year. He also appeared in a few movies and spoke out in favor of civil rights.

Natalie Cole grew up in Los Angeles' posh Hancock Park neighborhood, where her parents had settled in 1948 despite animosity from some white residents about having the black singer as a neighbor. When told by residents who said they didn't want "undesirable people" in the area, the singer said, "Neither do I, and if I see (any), I'll be the first to complain."

The family eventually included five children.

Natalie Cole started singing seriously in college, performing in small clubs.

But in her 2000 autobiography, "Angel on My Shoulder," Cole discussed how she had battled heroin, crack cocaine and alcohol addiction for many years. She spent six months in rehab in 1983.

When she announced in 2008 that she had been diagnosed with hepatitis C, a liver disease spread through contact with infected blood, she blamed her past intravenous drug use.

She criticized the Recording Academy for giving five Grammys to drug user Amy Winehouse in 2008.

"I'm an ex-drug addict and I don't take that kind of stuff lightly," Cole explained at the 2009 Grammy Awards. Hepatitis C "stayed in my body for 25 years and it could still happen to this young woman or other addicts who are fooling around with drugs, especially needles."

Cole received chemotherapy to treat the hepatitis and "within four months, I had kidney failure," she told CNN's Larry King in 2009. She needed dialysis three times a week until she received a donor kidney on May 18, 2009. The organ procurement agency One Legacy facilitated the donation from a family that had requested that their donor's organ go to Cole if it was a match.

Cole toured through much of her illness, often receiving dialysis at hospitals around the globe.

"I think that I am a walking testimony that you can have scars," she told People magazine. "You can go through turbulent times and still have victory in your life."

Obituaries



Joyce Doyle

Joyce Ann "Joy" Minter Doyle, 68 of Midland left earth for her heavenly home on December 29, 2015.

Joy was born on February 25th, 1947 in Lamesa, Texas to J.W. and Rebecca Jane Minter. Throughout her younger years she moved with her family to O'Donnell, Seagraves, and Hobbs. She graduated from Hobbs High School in 1965. Following graduation, Joy moved to Midland to attend business school. After completing business school, Joy met the love of her life and her soul mate, Jerry. The couple fell deeply in love and then married March 11, 1967. They had two daughters, Donna Joyce and Deborah Ann, both having Joy's namesake. Joy and Jerry shared 48 wonderful years together until Jerry's passing on October 27th, 2015.

Joy was a survivor whom at the age of 29 was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer and was told she only had a few years. Jerry packed his "Doll" up and took her to M.D. Anderson in Houston to seek treatment. She not only survived but lived 39 more years! She later said that she wanted to be there for her girls as they grew up and she was not going to let anything stop her from that goal.

Joy worked 36 years for the City of Midland Parks and Recreation/Community Services. After her retirement, she and Jerry worked for Enterprise Rental as drivers. Joy enjoyed sewing and putting her heart into creating customized gifts for her loved ones. Joy loved volunteering her time at Crestview Baptist Church as a member of the hostess committee, whenever she was called upon. She had a sweet spirit and a kind heart, always with a smile on her face. Those closest to her knew that she was always there to lend a helping hand, offering a shoulder to cry on, was not afraid to speak her mind and always gave great advice.

Joy is survived by daughters, Donna Joyce Doyle of Midland and Deborah Ann Doyle of Plano; adopted grandsons Nicholas Doyle-Diaz and Elijah Doyle-Diaz; Brother J.W. Minter (Loretta); Brother in-law Robert Doyle, Brother in-law Bob Thurman; numerous nieces and nephews, Max (best friend with four legs), special family friends Michael and Shari Santorelli, Rachel Santorelli, Mikey Santorelli, Jessica, Emmalyn and Waylon Massey and a host of friends and church family.

Joy is preceded in death by her husband Clyde "Jerry" Doyle; parents J.W. Minter and Rebecca Jane Minter, brother Roy Minter, sister-in-law Jo Ann Minter, grandparents Roy and Addie Self, sisters-in-law Billie Doyle and Bertha Thurman.

Visitation will be on Friday, January 1, 2016 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at Resthaven Memorial Park at 11:00am, Saturday, January 2, 2016, with memorial services to follow at Crestview Baptist Church at 12:30pm.

The family would like to express their deepest gratitude to Dr. Michael Miller and the ICU staff at Midland Memorial Hospital.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Crestview Baptist Church "Forward By Faith" or Midland Memorial Foundation "Janet's Closet".

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

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

Death Notices

Harold Bolton

Harold Wesley Bolton, 68, of Midland, passed away on December 30, 2015. Friends may come to view at Ellis Funeral Home on Saturday, January 2, 2016 any time after 1 p.m. There will be a Funeral Service held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel in Midland. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park. Online condolences may be offered at *www.ellisfunerals.com*

Wayne Rogers, Trapper John on 'M.A.S.H.,' dies at 82

By Andrew Dalton
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Wayne Rogers, whose Trapper John McIntyre alongside Alan Alda's Hawkeye Pierce brought mischief, martinis and meatball surgery to the masses in the 1970s every week on "M.A.S.H.," has died.

The actor was surrounded by family when he died Thursday in Los Angeles of complications from pneumonia at age 82, his publicist and longtime friend Rona Menashe told The Associated Press.

Rogers' army surgeon Trapper John was one of the most beloved characters — and half of one of the most beloved duos — in TV history, despite the actor's appearing in only the first three of the show's 11 seasons on CBS.

"I loved Wayne. He was smart and funny and curious and dedicated," Alda said Friday. "On the day we met we promised each other to give "M.A.S.H." everything we had, and that promise bonded us. We were close friends and I'll miss him very much."

The two skilled doctors, Hawkeye and Trapper, blew off steam between surgeries pulling pranks, romancing nurses and tormenting their tent-mate Frank Burns, with a seemingly endless supply of booze and one-liners at the ready.

In one classic moment, Trapper reaches out as though he's checking for rain and says, "Hmm, feels like it's going to martini," as Hawkeye promptly passes him a drink.

And in another line that typified the show's ethos, Trapper answers a question with "How should I know? I dropped out of school to become a doctor."

McIntyre was on "M.A.S.H." from 1972 to 1975, becoming one of many original cast members to leave the wildly popular show that went on until 1983. He was initially considered for Alda's character, but he preferred Trapper's sunnier disposition to Hawkeye's darkly acerbic personality.

The characters were essentially equals when the show began, but it increasingly focused on Alda, which was a factor in Rogers' departure.

Two other actors played Trapper in other incarnations. Elliot Gould was the same character in the "M.A.S.H." feature film that preceded the TV show, and Pernell Roberts played the title character in the 1980s spinoff drama "Trapper John, M.D."

An Alabama native and Princeton University graduate, Rogers had parts on many short-lived shows early in his career, specializing in westerns like "Law of the Plainsman" and "Stagecoach West." He had a bit part in the 1967 film "Cool Hand Luke" with Paul Newman.

In the years after "M.A.S.H." he returned to TV regularly, including a recurring role in the early 1990s on "Murder, She Wrote."

He moved beyond acting to see serious success later in life as a money manager and investor.

'Affluenza' teen may delay deportation with human rights law

By Emily Schmall
Associated Press

FORT WORTH — Lawyers for a teen who cited "affluenza" as a defense in a deadly drunken-driving wreck may be attempting to stall his deportation to the United States by claiming that Mexican authorities violated his human rights, according to legal experts.

Ethan Couch, 18, won a delay in his deportation based on a constitutional appeal in Mexico that could lead to a trial process that could last weeks or even months.


Ethan Couch


Tonya Couch

Any flaw in the process of his detention by Mexican immigration authorities can be considered a violation of due process and of his human rights, San Antonio attorney Javier Lopez de Obeso, who is licensed to practice in Mexico, said Thursday.

"If the immigration authorities didn't act properly, he can find a way to stay in Mexico for more time," said Lopez.

If the judge considering the appeal decides there was a mistake made in the process of detaining Couch, he could be released, and authorities would have to re-arrest him, Lopez said.

Treaties between the U.S. and Mexico say that Mexican authorities have to respect Couch's warrant in the U.S., so unless he files for asylum, he will not be able to stay in Mexico indefinitely, said Aldo Salazar, a Texas attorney also licensed to practice in Mexico.

"Asylum is granted to those who can prove a well-founded fear of persecution. I'm not sure 'affluenza' would qualify," said immigration attorney Nicolas Chavez.

Tarrant County Sheriff Dee Anderson has said he believes Couch and his mother fled to Mexico in late November after a video surfaced that appears to show Couch at a party where people were drinking, which would be a violation of his probation. The mother and son were arrested Monday after using a phone to order pizza delivery that was traced to a condominium complex in the Mexican resort city of Puerto Vallarta.

Couch, who was 16 at the time of the crash and was tried in juvenile court, received 10 years' probation for driving drunk and crashing into a disabled SUV parked on the side of the road in 2013. The collision killed four people and injured several others, including passengers in his truck. He pleaded guilty to four counts of intoxication manslaughter and two counts of intoxication assault causing serious bodily injury.

During the sentencing phase of his trial, a defense expert argued that Couch's wealthy parents had coddled him into a sense of irresponsibility — a condition the expert termed "affluenza." The condition is not recognized as a medical diagnosis by the American Psychiatric Association, and its invocation drew ridicule.

Judge Jean Boyd sentenced Couch to probation over the objections of prosecutors who asked for 20 years' detention. Couch's attorneys argued probation would be more effective than detention because Couch could have been eligible for release in as few as two years.

Whether Couch's "affluenza" claims had an impact on Boyd is unclear. Boyd, whose term on the bench ended in 2014, did not return phone messages this week from The Associated Press.

Had Couch been tried as an adult, he could have 20 years in prison for intoxication manslaughter, which is typically classified as a second-degree felony.

"We think it's important that juveniles are treated differently. The issue is what's in the best interest of the child," said John Convery, president-elect of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

Couch's mother, Tonya Couch, 48, was returned to the United States early Thursday after her deportation from Mexico. She has been charged in Tarrant County with hindering an apprehension, a felony charge that carries a two- to 10-year prison sentence, and is being held on a $1 million bond.

Ethan Couch was transferred Thursday to a Mexico City immigration detention center in one of the capital's poorest areas where he will likely spend weeks, if not months, as he appeals deportation.

A Mexican immigration official said the affluent young man will have no special privileges at the Agujas immigration detention center, where detainees sleep in common areas and use concrete basins to hand-wash clothes.

"Is there a chance that Ethan Couch could be successful in staying in Mexico? Yes, but I think it is delaying the inevitable," said Dallas attorney Peter Schulte, who specializes in juvenile law.

Tarrant County District Attorney Sharen Wilson has said she plans to ask a judge to transfer Couch's case to adult court, where he could get up to 120 days in an adult jail, followed by 10 years of probation. If he violates probation again, he could face up to 10 years in prison per death, Wilson said.

A probation violation hearing is set for Jan. 19.

News Guide: A look at the 'affluenza' teen case

FORT WORTH — A teen fugitive who's known for using an "affluenza" defense in a trial for a deadly drunken-driving wreck is being detained in a Mexico City immigration facility while his mother is jailed in Los Angeles after being deported from Mexico. Here's a look at what has happened so far and what could happen in coming days or weeks:

Arrest in Mexico

Tonya Couch and her 18-year-old son, Ethan, were taken into custody this week in Mexico, where authorities believe the pair fled to in November as Texas prosecutors investigated whether he had violated his probation.

Ethan Couch was driving drunk and speeding near Fort Worth in June 2013 when he crashed into a disabled SUV, killing four people and injuring several others, including passengers in his pickup truck. He pleaded guilty to four counts of intoxication manslaughter and two counts of intoxication assault causing serious bodily injury and was sentenced to 10 years' probation.

During the sentencing phase of his trial, a defense expert argued that Couch's wealthy parents had coddled him into a sense of irresponsibility — a condition the expert termed "affluenza." The condition is not recognized as a medical diagnosis by the American Psychiatric Association, and its invocation drew ridicule.

Texas prosecutors believe the mother and son fled the state after a video surfaced that appears to show Ethan Couch at a party where people were drinking. He then missed a mandatory Dec. 10 appointment with his probation officer.

The mother and son were arrested Monday after using a phone to order pizza that was traced to a condominium complex in the resort city of Puerto Vallarta.

Delay in deportation

Ethan Couch won a delay in deportation on Wednesday, a ruling that could lead to a drawn-out court process if a Mexican judge decides Couch has grounds to challenge his deportation based on arguments that kicking him out of Mexico would violate his rights.

Such cases can take anywhere from two weeks to several months, depending on the priorities of the local courts and the actions of defense attorneys, said Richard Hunter, chief deputy for the U.S. Marshals Service in South Texas.

Couch was transferred Thursday to an immigration detention center in one of Mexico City's poorest areas where he will likely spend weeks, if not months, as he appeals deportation.

U.S. Marshals brought Couch's mother through Los Angeles International Airport early Thursday after a flight from Mexico. She will remain jailed in Los Angeles until officers can take her to Texas, which likely won't happen until at least next week, Los Angeles District Attorney's Office spokeswoman Jane Robison said.

Couch, however, is scheduled to appear in court Tuesday, the Los Angeles Police Department told The Associated Press.

Texas prosecutors have charged Tonya Couch with hindering apprehension of a felon. Her bond there was set at $1 million, Tarrant County District Attorney's Office spokeswoman Samantha Jordan said Thursday.

Her attorneys released a statement saying that though "the public may not like what she did, may not agree with what she did, or may have strong feelings against what she did," she had done nothing illegal and wanted to get back to Texas as soon as possible.

Texas probation hearing

If Ethan Couch's appeal is unsuccessful, he will be deported back to Texas and be held in a county facility until a probation violation hearing Jan. 19.

Tarrant County District Attorney Sharen Wilson has said she plans to ask a judge to transfer the case to adult court, where Couch could get up to 120 days in an adult jail, followed by 10 years of probation. If he violates probation again, he could face up to 10 years in prison per death, Wilson said.

By Emily Schmall
Associated Press

Influx of teen migrants leads US to open 3 more shelters

By Colleen Slevin
Associated Press



AP file photo

A sign stands outside Southwest Key-Nueva Esperanza in Brownsville June 20, 2014. The facility shelters unaccompanied immigrant children. The U.S. government announced on Thursday that it plans to open three new shelters, one each in Colorado, Florida and New Mexico, to house young Central American immigrants as part of an effort to deal with a renewed influx of unaccompanied children across the border.

"We're worried that there may be another episode on the border this coming summer, and we want to be prepared for that."

House Speaker Paul Ryan

DENVER — The U.S. government plans to open three new shelters in three states to house unaccompanied migrant children as officials brace for another influx of young Central American immigrants crossing the border.

The temporary shelters in Colorado, Florida and New Mexico, all located on federal property, are in addition to shelters that opened outside Dallas earlier this month to deal with the growing number of immigrants expected in the spring and summer of 2016.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services plans to house up to 1,000 children in a renovated warehouse in the sprawling Federal Center complex in the Denver suburb of Lakewood. Another 800 will be housed at a Job Corps site in Homestead, Florida, and 400 more at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico, Mark Weber, a spokesman for HHS, which is responsible for overseeing the children's care, said Thursday.

The new planned shelters, combined with the camps opened in Rockwall and Ellis counties this month, represent a 42 percent increase over the 8,400 permanent shelter beds the agency previously relied on in 12 states mainly along the Mexican border.

Children in the shelters, most of them between ages 14 and 17, stay an average of 32 days. They receive schooling and medical care on site until they can be placed with sponsors as they wait to hear whether they will be allowed to stay in the U.S. or will be deported.

Officials in Colorado and Florida were quietly informed Wednesday about the decision to open the shelter there. Last week, U.S. Defense Secretary Ashton Carter directed Holloman Air Force Base officials to get ready to house immigrant children in a vacant building once used by the 4th Space Surveillance Squadron starting in January.

Children could arrive at the Florida facility as soon as February. The Colorado warehouse still needs to be renovated and isn't expected to open until April.

The federal government is trying to avoid a repeat of the summer of 2014, when so many children crossed the border into the U.S. from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador that they were forced to stay in Border Patrol facilities, which aren't designed to house children. That also diverted officers from securing the border, even though the law requires children under 17 who enter the country alone to be turned over to HHS.

"This is out of an abundance of caution," Weber said of the new temporary shelters.

It's not yet known how much renovating and operating the new shelters will cost, Weber said. The permanent shelters cost $223 per bed per day to operate, and the temporary locations cost more, he said.

Border crossings haven't returned to 2014 levels, but the numbers began to pick up again in June and have remained high even though migration usually slows down in the fall and winter.

According to the U.S. Border Patrol, 10,588 unaccompanied children crossed the U.S.-Mexico border in October and November, more than double the 5,129 who crossed during the same two months last year. The number of family members crossing together has nearly tripled, to 12,505.

In an interview on "Bill Bennett's Morning in America" before Christmas, House Speaker Paul Ryan said officials want to be prepared for another influx and place children in the "least restrictive environment possible."

"We're worried that there may be another episode on the border this coming summer, and we want to be prepared for that," Ryan said.

Such an episode would come in the midst of a presidential election that has already been dominated by concerns over immigration and border security.

U.S. Rep. Ed Perlmutter, a Democrat who represents the swing district where the Colorado shelter will be located, downplayed the potential impact on the surrounding community since the children won't be allowed to leave the site. While candidates may debate immigration policy, he said officials still have to deal with the fact that these children have managed to end up in the U.S. and have been apprehended.

"It's a sad situation, but you have to step up and acknowledge the reality of the situation and provide these services," he said.

Lakewood Mayor Adam Paul said he wished the government had waited until after the holidays to announce the shelter, giving him and other leaders more time to learn about it and be ready to answer questions from the community.

"We're just going to demand that they communicate with us," he said.

Border Patrol acknowledges helping Texas border effort

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Border Patrol officials say they are now participating in a Texas Department of Public Safety border security strategy six months after distancing themselves from a previous effort.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection spokesman Michael Friel said last week that his agency is participating in Operation Secure Texas, the roughly $800 million security surge legislators funded last spring, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

The new effort limits "front-line operational work" in favor of a "detection-based" strategy that "aligns better with our objectives," Friel said.

Amid an influx of Central American children and families in 2014, former Gov. Rick Perry ordered DPS troopers and Texas National Guard soldiers to the Rio Grande Valley as part of Operation Strong Safety, the effort that became Operation Secure Texas. Perry claimed the federal government wasn't doing enough to secure Texas' border.

Last spring, DPS told lawmakers Border Patrol was a partner in the operation and used Border Patrol drug seizure numbers to bolster its case that the state operation was successful and worthy of greater funding.

However, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske wrote that his agency had in fact "declined participation." And an American-Statesman investigation found the DPS was responsible for less than 10 percent of drug seizures. The rest came from outside agencies, including the U.S. Border Patrol.

Kerlikowske's position that the Border Patrol was not involved led some Democratic lawmakers to accuse DPS Director Steven McCraw of misleading them.

DPS still insists Border Patrol was involved. Spokesman Tom Vinger wrote in an email to the newspaper, "We don't want to engage in a battle of semantics, but U.S. Border Patrol agents have been actively involved in Operation Strong Safety." He cited the presence of Border Patrol agents in everyday functions at the Operation Strong Safety command post, sharing intelligence and "coordinating interdiction efforts with Operation Strong Safety missions."

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

This date in Midland

On Jan. 2, 2012, John Hyde, a district court judge and Midland historian, died at the age of 69.

Things to do

■ Old Miner's Maze interactive adventure features a maze, rock walls, mechanical bull and more, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., 4305 N. County Rd. 1140. oldminersmaze.com.
■ Free skateboarding lessons, noon-1:30 p.m., RTD Skatepark. rtdskatepark.com.
■ Tabletop players group, 2:30 p.m., Astral Castle, 10 Meta Drive.

Support groups

■ Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.
■ Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2526.

Know a member of the military coming home?

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

Honor those who served

Many organizations in operation in the Permian Basin serve 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)

Recycling container locations

Large 30-cubic yard open top containers

■ Midland Citizens Collection Station — 4100 Smith Road, 685-7278 — has recycling containers for cardboard, aluminum, paper and No. 1 and No. 2 plastics.
■ Midland College (Chaparral Center) — 3200 N. Garfield Road — Cardboard, paper, aluminum and No. 1 and 2 plastics
■ Security Bank Ballpark west side — 5514 Champions Drive — Cardboard, No. 1 and 2 plastics
■ H-E-B — 3325 W. Wadley Ave. — No. 1 and 2 plastics and cardboard
■ Super Mercado — 2208 N. Big Spring St. — Cardboard

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

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

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

Large item pickup

For residential customers, the city of Midland will pick up furniture and appliances at no additional charge. These items must be placed in the alley in the city right-of-way; the city will not go onto private property. Do not place your item next to the dumpster; it needs to be behind your home, in the alley. These larger item collections must be scheduled with the Solid Waste Division. Please call 432-685-7278 to schedule this service.

What's on the radio

■ **News Talk:** KCRS (AM 550). KWEL (AM 1070)
■ **Sports Talk:** KMND (AM 1510)
■ **Contemporary Christian:** KFRI (FM 88.7), KLVW (FM 90.5)
■ **NPR:** KOCV (FM 91.3)

How sick are you?

Midland Memorial Hospital has partnered with Medical Center Hospital in Odessa for the telephone nurse triage program "88-NURSE" to bring the service to the entire Permian Basin.

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

The program is free and available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Local nurses are available to help you determine the best place to receive care for your situation. 88-NURSE can help you save time and money by directing you to the most appropriate healthcare option, whether it's a neighborhood clinic, urgent care center, emergency room or just at home.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 5-3-2
Pick 3 day: 5-7-4
Pick 3 evening: 4-3-3
Pick 3 night: 6-8-7
Daily 4 morning: 9-8-7-4
Daily 4 day: 8-5-8-5
Daily 4 evening: 9-8-8-5
Daily 4 night: 8-5-1-6
Cash Five: 5-17-34-35-36
Mega Millions: 7-18-37-38-39 MB: 9 Megaplier: 5
All or Nothing morning: 1-2-5-6-7-9-10-13-17-18-19-22
All or Nothing day: 1-2-3-4-7-8-10-13-14-19-22-23
All or Nothing evening: 1-8-10-12-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-23
All or Nothing night: 1-5-6-7-11-12-13-14-18-20-21-24

Today in history

Today is Saturday, Jan. 2, the second day of 2016. There are 364 days left in the year.

On this date:

In 1921, religious services were broadcast on radio for the first time as KDKA in Pittsburgh aired the regular Sunday service of the city's Calvary Episcopal Church.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

No Open Carry signage is shown outside Midland Memorial Hospital on Friday.

FAQ about open carry law

Note: This list of FAQs compiled by the Midland Police Department is intended to serve as an educational tool and not legal advice. This is a brief summary of laws that can be found in full in the Texas Penal Code.

Q: In a nutshell, what does the new open carry law mean?

House Bill 910, which will be effective beginning today, eliminates the distinction between concealed and open carry, creating a "license to carry a handgun." A person with a current concealed handgun license, or a person who obtains the new "license to carry a handgun," can carry a handgun in a concealed manner or openly in a belt or shoulder holster. The rules related to where and when a license holder can openly carry are essentially identical to where and when a concealed handgun license holder can carry under current law.

Q: Does a police officer have the authority to question a person who is legally carrying a firearm?

Penal Code Section 411.205 states that if a license holder is carrying a handgun when a peace officer demands identification, the license holder must display both his or her driver's license and handgun license.

Additionally, a person commits a Class B misdemeanor offense if he or she intentionally or knowingly "displays a firearm or other deadly weapon in a public place in a manner calculated to alarm."

Ultimately, a peace officer who is acting within his or her official duties can disarm a license holder at any time the officer reasonably believes it is necessary for the protection of the license holder, officer or another individual (Penal Code Section 411.207). The handgun will be released back to the owner if it is determined that the license holder does not pose a threat and he or she has not been arrested.

Q: What about campus carry? Is that included in this bill?

Another new law, S.B. 11, allows the concealed carry of a handgun on the campus of an institution of higher education in Texas by a license holder beginning on August 1, 2016. Concealed carry does not go into effect for junior colleges, such as Midland College, until August 1, 2017. This provision does not allow open campus carry and creates a criminal offense that can apply for those who open carry on campuses.

The president of an institution of higher education can adopt rules as necessary for campus safety, but those rules may not generally prohibit concealed carrying. If the rules prohibit carrying in any particular premises, signage must be implemented in accordance with state law.

Private or independent institutions, as opposed to public, may establish rules prohibiting license holders from carrying handguns on the campus of the institution, any place where an activity sponsored by the institution is being conducted, or a passenger transportation vehicle owned by the institution.

Q: If I own a business with a "30.06" sign prohibiting handguns, does it need to be updated?

The language required to provide notice that concealed carrying is not allowed has been changed, which means any old "30.06" signs must be replaced to include new language. In addition, a new "30.07" sign that specifically refers to open carrying must also be posted in order to prohibit the carrying of handguns. The requirements for these signs can be found in Penal Code Sections 30.06 and 30.07. For more information, Midland businesses may call MPD at 432-685-7582.

Q: Are there restrictions regarding where I can carry a handgun?

Under House Bill 910, a person still commits a third-degree felony for bringing a handgun to the following places, regardless of whether he or she is licensed or not:

■ A school or educational institution, any place where a school- sponsored activity is taking place, a school bus or van used to transport passengers, regardless of whether the school is private or public.
■ A polling place on voting days.
■ Any government court or offices utilized by the court, unless there is a written authorization of the court.
■ A racetrack.
■ In a secured area of an airport. However, a license holder who makes a mistake at security by forgetting that he or she possesses a handgun can leave upon notice.
■ Within 1,000 feet of a place of execution on a day that a sentence of death is set to be imposed on the designated premises and the person received notice that doing so is prohibited.

Handgun license holders face further restrictions relating to the concealed or open carrying of a handgun. Private businesses may post signs to indicate entry on the property with a handgun by a license holder is forbidden. Open and concealed carry can also be prohibited in the following places if the proper signage is posted in accordance with state law:

■ A business that is licensed by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission and that derives 51 percent or more of its business from the sale of alcohol.
■ A state-licensed hospital or nursing home, unless the administration has granted written permission to the license holder.
■ An amusement park.
■ A church, synagogue, or other established place of religious worship.
■ A meeting of a governmental entity that is subject to the Open Meetings Act.
■ On the premises where a high school, collegiate, or professional sporting event is taking place, unless the handgun is used for the event.

Written notice is not required to prohibit the possession of handguns:

■ On the premises of a correctional facility.
■ On the premises of employment if prohibited by the license holder's employer (an employee may generally leave a handgun in a private, locked car in parking lot).
■ Anytime the handgun is not in a belt or shoulder holster, concealed, or if the license holder is intoxicated.

Source: Midland Police Department

EXPORTS

From 1A

ConocoPhillips Chairman and CEO Ryan Lance was one of the industry's most vocal proponents of lifting the crude oil ban. In an interview last month, Lance called lifting the export ban the "light at the end of the tunnel" during a time of low oil prices.

"Longer term, this is great for the industry," Lance said. "We aren't just captive to the U.S. markets. We'll be able to get into global markets, we'll be able to get more cash, and that cash will flow back to the U.S."

Gulf Coast can benefit

Houston and other Gulf Coast port cities in Texas and Louisiana are well-positioned to benefit, he said.

Exports would have benefited U.S. producers much more about three years ago when oil prices were nearly three times as high and domestic crude from shale sold at a global discount. Still, Lance and others are excited about the long-range prospects.

"As oil prices recover, U.S. shale is economic at a lot lower prices than (many) other parts of the world," Dietert said. "There's less opportunity right now."

Crude prices for the U.S. and international markets have tightened of late and are now nearly equal, so buyers can be more selective about the types of oil they bring in. The U.S. benchmark settled Wednesday at $36.60 a barrel — down $1.27 for the day — and just 8 cents below the international benchmark at $36.68 per barrel, which dipped $1.11.

"As a result, we're going to have a change in how crude is moved around the world," Lipow said.

The lighter, sweet crude produced in Texas and from most U.S. shale is not as compatible with Gulf Coast refineries, which were mostly built years ago before the shale boom, to run on heavier, sour crude that contains more sulfur produced from the Middle East, South America, Mexico, Canada and the deep-water Gulf of Mexico.

The Jones Act

So a lot of Texas crude in recent years has been shipped to East Coast refiners instead. But vessels trekking between U.S. ports must be made in the U.S. and operated by American companies because of the federal Jones Act, which refiners complain increases their transportation costs.

Lipow said logic therefore dictates more East Coast refiners will import lighter crude from other countries rather than take the Jones Act-impacted shale oil now that U.S. and international crude prices are much closer. Likewise, more of the Texas crude will be exported globally from places like Corpus Christi. Houston will benefit as well, although the Houston Ship Channel is already crowded, he said.

"We're definitely going to have a reshuffling of oil," Lipow said, noting the oil inventory gluts throughout the U.S. "There's oil everywhere in the world."

The oil set to go out Thursday wouldn't technically be the first oil exported in 40 years, since the ban had some exceptions, such as shipments to Canada and transactions involving some crude extracted in California or Alaska's North Slope

GUNS

From 1A

gal scholars are divided on whether Obama has accelerated or merely continued a drift of power toward the executive branch, there's little debate that he's paved a path for his successor.

Depending on who succeeds him, many Obama backers could rue the day they cheered his "pen-and-phone" campaign to get past Republican opposition in Congress. The unilateral steps he took to raise environmental standards and ease the threat of deportation for millions of immigrants in the U.S. illegally may serve as precedent for moves they won't cheer.

The National Rifle Association opposes expanded background check systems. The organization's Institute for Legislative Action said studies have shown that people sent to state prison because of gun crimes typically get guns through theft, the black market or family and friends.

Also, many purchases by criminals are made from straw purchasers who pass background checks. "No amount of background checks can stop these criminals," said the group's website.

Obama has consistently expressed frustration after mass shootings, saying it shouldn't be so easy for somebody who wants to inflict harm to get his or her hands on a gun.

Going into his final year in office, Obama said his New Year's resolution is to move forward on unfinished business.

"That's especially true for one piece of unfinished business, that's our epidemic of gun violence," Obama said in his weekly address.

He said a bipartisan bill from three years ago requiring background checks for almost everyone had huge support, including among a majority of NRA households. But the Senate blocked it.

"Each time, we're told that common-sense reforms like background checks might not have stopped the last massacre, or the one before that, so we shouldn't do anything," he said. "We know that we can't stop every act of violence. But what if we tried to stop even one?"

Oregon ranching case sparks anti-government sentiment

By Gosia Wozniacka
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — The father and son of a prominent Oregon ranching family plan to surrender at a California prison next week after a judge ruled they served too little time for setting fires that spread to government lands they leased to graze cattle.

Dwight Hammond, 73, and Steven Hammond, 46, said they lit the fires in 2001 and 2006 to reduce the growth of invasive plants and protect their property from wildfires.

The two were convicted of the arsons three years ago and served time — the father three months, the son one year. But a judge ruled their terms were too short under federal law and ordered them back to prison for about four years each.

The decision has generated controversy in a remote part of the state where the Hammonds are well-known for their generosity and community contributions. It's also playing into a long-simmering conflict between ranchers and the U.S. government over the use of federal land for cattle grazing.

In particular, the Hammonds' new sentences touched a nerve with far right groups who repudiate federal authority. The son of Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy, who was involved in a standoff with the government over grazing rights, is organizing opposition.

In 2014, after the Bureau of Land Management sought to remove Bundy's cattle from public rangeland, armed militiamen confronted federal officials. Bundy stopped paying grazing fees over 20 years ago and owes more than $1 million.

This month, his son Ammon Bundy and a handful of militiamen from other states arrived in Burns, some 60 miles from the Hammond ranch.

In an email to supporters, Ammon Bundy criticized the U.S. government for a failed legal process. Federal lawyers prosecuted the Hammonds under an anti-terrorism law that required a five-year minimum sentence, though they have declined to say why.

Ammon Bundy wrote that the Hammonds are not terrorists and didn't commit any crimes. He also shamed the Harney County sheriff for not protecting the Hammonds. The sheriff didn't respond to calls from The Associated Press.

Ammon Bundy and other right-wing leaders have called on armed militia around the country to come support the Hammonds. The groups will hold a rally and protest in town Saturday.

"If what is happening to the Hammonds is allowed, it will set a standard of what these powerful people will do to all of us," Ammon Bundy wrote in an email, referring to the federal government.

The Hammonds have not welcomed the Bundys' help.

"Neither Ammon Bundy nor anyone within his group/organization speak for the Hammond Family," the Hammonds' lawyer W. Alan Schroeder wrote to Sheriff David Ward.

Dwight Hammond said he and his son plan to peacefully report to prison Jan. 4 as ordered by the judge.

"We gave our word that's what we would do, and we intend to act on it," he told the AP.

Prosecutors said the Hammonds' grazing leases didn't give them exclusive use of the land or permission to burn public property. The fire charred just under 140 acres.

Though the family doesn't want confrontation, Dwight Hammond maintained their case isn't about fires: It's the climax of the government's efforts to take their land at a time when saving endangered species has gained in importance.

Dwight Hammond said he and his own father bought the ranch in 1964; the purchase price included several federal grazing allotments — the rights to lease public land for cattle grazing. But as the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge came to surround the Hammonds' property, the rancher said, the family had to stave off pressure from the federal government to sell the ranch.

Over the years, the government chipped away at their grazing allotments, taking some and increasing fees on others, Dwight Hammond said. New federal rules made it harder to renew permits.

After father and son were convicted of the arsons, the government declined to renew their grazing permit. The family is appealing that decision.

"We paid hard dollars over fifty years ago for the right to graze. It isn't right for them to take it away from us," Dwight Hammond said, adding they've had to rent pastures from other ranchers to keep their cows fed.

An attorney for the ranchers, Kendra Mathews, declined to discuss the case. The U.S. attorney's office also wouldn't comment. But in an opinion piece published this month in the Burns Times Herald, Oregon's U.S. attorney, Bill Williams, said the Hammonds received a fair trial and lawful sentences.

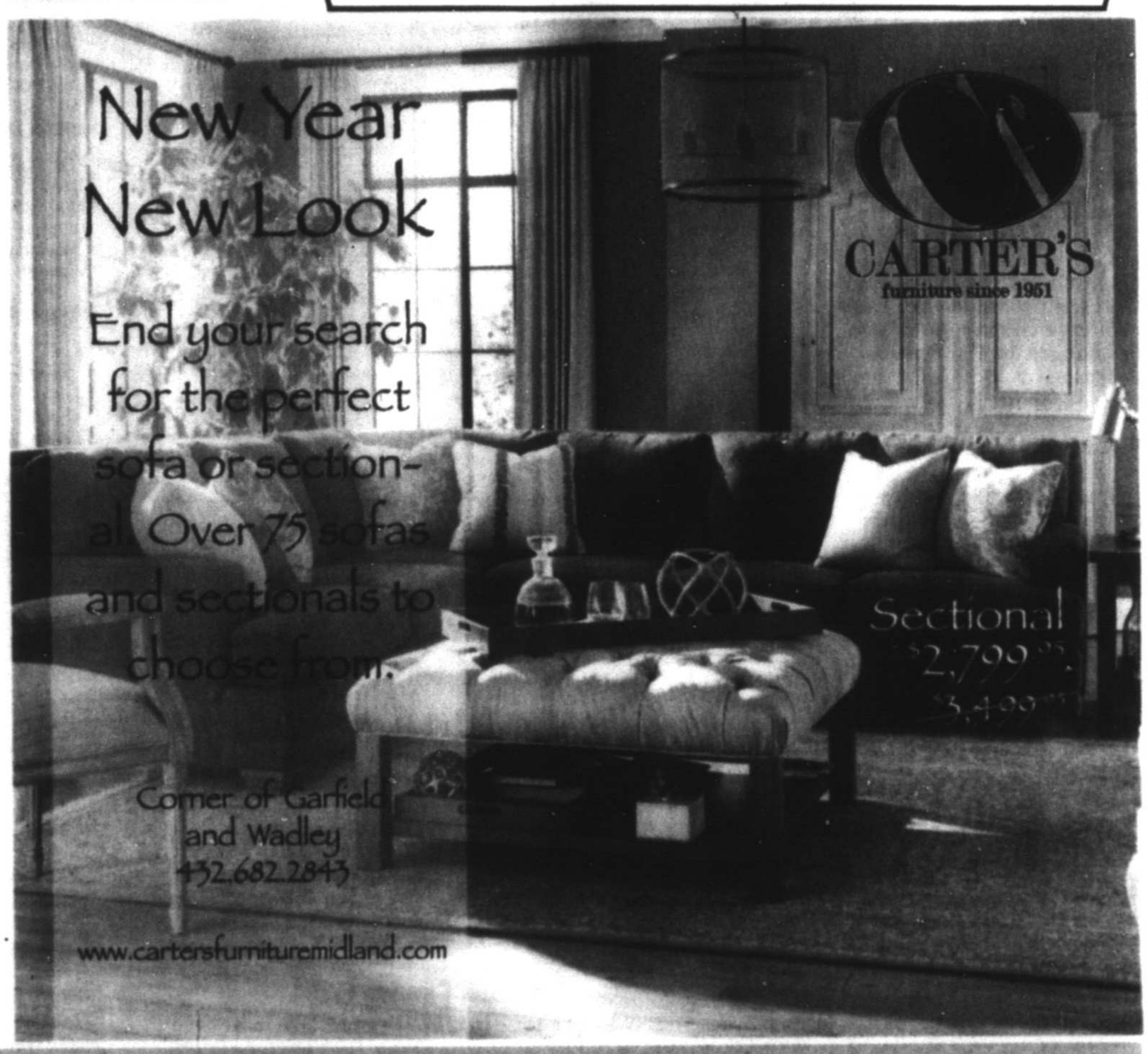
Williams said the government has never called the ranchers terrorists, and prosecutors acknowledged they were good people who contributed to their community.

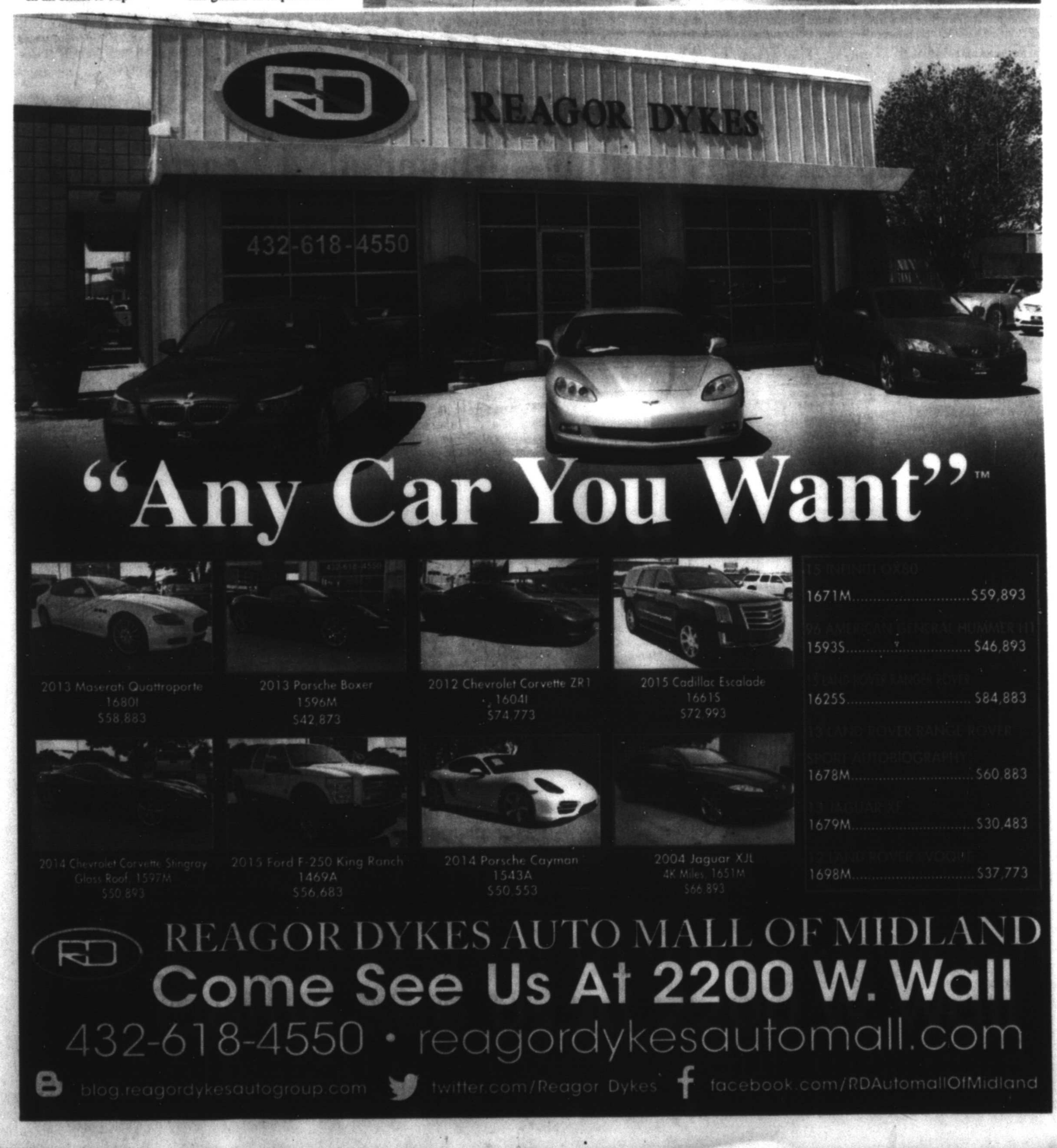
Referring to the militia, Williams said: "Any criminal behavior contemplated by those who may object to the court's mandate ... will not be tolerated."

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There are about a million ants per person.

More than 90% of the Nicaraguan people are Roman Catholic.





Permian Basin adds rigs on 2015's final weekly report

■ For the year, region experiences 60 percent drop in active rigs

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

Despite the price of West Texas Intermediate spending much of December in the $30 range, the Permian Basin added to its rig count for the third consecutive week.

The nation's most-active oil play marked the final rig count of the year with 217, an increase of five over last week and 13 over the past three weeks, according to the holiday-shortened weekly rotary rig count released Thursday by Houston-based oilfield services company Baker Hughes.

For the year, however, the Permian has fallen dramatically. The Permian opened 2015 with 530 rigs and lost just shy of 60 percent of those over the course of the year.

Reductions were seen throughout the Permian. District 8 saw a percent change of 55.73, while District 7C was down 71.43 percent.

This week, though, all active Texas districts in the Permian Basin finished positive. There were two rigs in District 7B, up one; 26 in District 7C, up two; 139 in District 8A, up one; and 14 in District 8A, up one. The number of rigs in New Mexico operating in the Permian was unchanged at 36. The Texas total was 181, up five.

Texas and New Mexico

Texas finished the week with 321 rigs, up two. The Haynesville added one rig, raising its total to 25. The Eagle Ford and Barnett were down one apiece to 76 and seven, respectively. The Granite Wash was unchanged at 15 rigs.

New Mexico closed the final reporting week of 2015 unchanged at 38 rigs.

At this time last year, there were 840 rigs in Texas and 101 in New Mexico.

United States

The United States fell below 700 for the first time since the 36th reporting week of 1999, when Baker Hughes recorded 690 rigs. This week, Baker Hughes reported 698 rigs in the U.S.

The number of rigs searching for oil fell to 536 after two rigs were idled, while the number of natural gas rigs held steady at 162.

By location, there were 672 rigs on land, down three, one in inland waters, unchanged; and 25 offshore, up one. All offshore rigs were in the Gulf of Mexico.

By drilling trajectory, there were 89 vertical rigs, up three; 549 horizontal rigs, down five; and 60 directional rigs, unchanged.

The U.S. had 1,811 rigs a year ago this week.

Top 5s

The top five counties by rig count in District 8 this week were Midland with 29, down two; Loving with 21, down one; Reeves with 21, unchanged; Martin with 18, unchanged; Culberson with nine, up one; and Glasscock with nine, up two.

The top five basins were the Permian; the Eagle Ford, the Williston with 53, down two; the Marcellus with 41, unchanged; and the Cana Woodford with 38, down one.

The top five states were Texas; Oklahoma with 87, down one; Louisiana with 58, up two; North Dakota with 53, down two; and New Mexico.

Canada and North America

Canada's rig count plunged again this week, this time by 43 rigs. Canada has idled 91 rigs in the past three weeks and closed this week with 83 rigs. The number of rigs searching for oil was 12, down 32, while the number of natural gas rigs fell 11, leaving 71. Canada had 208 rigs at this time last year.

The total number of rigs in the North America region fell 43 this week to 781. A year ago this week, there were 2,019 rigs in North America.

More energy news

Don't miss this week's Oil Report in Sunday's Reporter-Telegram. This week's big six stories:

■ Apache Corp. is working to spread the message of oilfield safety.

■ Technology helps oil operators learn more about seismic activity.

■ A BP executive says oil companies should recruit and retain talent despite the slump in oil activity.

■ Eagle Ford Shale counties top Texas production for October.

■ Recent blizzard has hurt operations at HollyFrontier's Navajo Refinery.

■ In 2015, more than a dozen new faces stepped into energy CEO roles.

More energy news is also available online at mrt.com/business/oil. For more information about this week's rig counts, visit the Baker Hughes website at bakerhughes.com.

Follow Trevor on Twitter at @HowdyHawes

By the numbers

The following are Permian Basin rig counts by county for the week ending Dec. 31, with changes in parentheses.

District 7B

Fisher	1
Nolan	1 (+1)
Total	2 (+1)

District 7C

Crockett	1
Irion	2
Menard	1 (+1)
Reagan	9
Terrell	1
Upton	12 (+1)
Total	26 (+1)

District 8

Andrews	7 (-2)
Culberson	9 (+1)
Ector	2
Glasscock	9 (+2)
Howard	8 (+1)
Loving	21 (-1)
Martin	18
Midland	29 (-2)
Mitchell	1
Pecos	5
Reeves	21
Sterling	1 (-1)
Ward	4 (+2)
Winkler	4 (+1)
Total	139 (+1)

District 8A

Borden	1
Dickens	1
Garza	1
Hockley	1
Scurry	4
Terry	1
Yoakum	5 (+1)
Total	14 (+1)

New Mexico

Eddy	13
Lea	23
Total	36

The following are percent changes between the first reporting and last reporting weeks for the Permian Basin and Texas in 2015:

Permian Basin

	Week 1	Week 53	Percent change
District 7B	3	2	down 33.33 percent
District 7C	91	26	down 71.43 percent
District 8	314	139	down 55.73 percent
District 8A	28	14	down 50.00 percent
Texas total	436	181	down 58.49 percent
New Mexico	94	36	down 61.70 percent
Permian total	530	217	down 59.06 percent

Note: District 1 was excluded from the data because Baker Hughes reported no activity for most of 2015.

Select Permian Basin counties

(District or state in parentheses)

	Week 1	Week 53	Percent change
Andrews (8)	20	7	down 65.00 percent
Crockett (7C)	10	1	down 90.00 percent
Culberson (8)	13	9	down 37.77 percent
Ector (8)	14	2	down 85.71 percent
Eddy (N.M.)	43	13	down 69.77 percent
Glasscock (8)	36	9	down 75.00 percent
Howard (8)	24	8	down 66.67 percent
Irion (7C)	13	2	down 84.62 percent
Lea (N.M.)	50	23	down 54.00 percent
Loving (8)	30	21	down 30.00 percent
Martin (8)	46	18	down 60.87 percent
Midland (8)	40	29	down 27.50 percent
Scurry (8A)	4	4	unchanged
Reagan (7C)	23	9	down 60.87 percent
Reeves (8)	54	21	down 61.11 percent
Upton (7C)	38	12	down 68.52 percent
Ward (8)	14	4	down 71.43 percent
Winkler (8)	8	4	down 50.00 percent
Yoakum (8A)	8	5	down 37.50 percent

Texas basins

	Week 1	Week 53	Percent change
Permian	530	217	down 59.06 percent
Eagle Ford	200	76	down 62.00 percent
Granite Wash	52	15	down 71.15 percent
Haynesville	40	25	down 37.50 percent
Barnett	24	7	down 70.83 percent

Texas districts

	Week 1	Week 53	Percent change
District 1	115	34	down 68.70 percent
District 2	86	36	down 58.14 percent
District 3	63	17	down 69.84 percent
District 4	21	12	down 47.62 percent
District 5	9	3	down 66.67 percent
District 6	32	17	down 50.00 percent
District 7B	6	3	down 66.67 percent
District 7C	94	28	down 71.28 percent
District 8	314	139	down 56.05 percent
District 8A	28	14	down 53.57 percent
District 9	16	3	down 81.25 percent
District 10	55	12	down 78.18 percent
Texas total	840	321	down 62.02 percent

Data: Baker Hughes
Compiled by Trevor Hawes/Reporter-Telegram

Indian capital starts limiting cars for 2 weeks to clear air

By Tim Sullivan
Associated Press



Associated Press

Vehicles move through morning smog on the first day of a two-week experiment to reduce the number of cars to fight pollution in New Delhi, India, on Friday. The volunteers are meant to encourage people to fall in line with the government's plan to allow private cars on the roads only on alternate days from Jan. 1-15, depending on whether their license plates end in an even or an odd number.

NEW DELHI — The Indian capital on Friday kicked off a sweeping plan to reduce its record-high air pollution by limiting the numbers of cars on the streets for two weeks.

New Delhi is testing a formula where private cars will be allowed on the roads only on alternate days from Jan. 1-15, depending on whether their license plates end in an even or an odd number.

On Friday, most cars appeared to be following the rules and traffic was a trickle compared to the usual rush-hour chaos. But with schools and colleges shut, and many offices closed for the New Year's holiday, it was not clear how much of the reduced traffic was the result of the new regulations. Monday, the first regular workday since the plan began, will be a clearer test of whether New Delhi's notoriously rule-averse drivers will comply, and how much the city's already-overburdened public transit system can help.

The city government last week announced a number of exemptions to the new rules, including top politicians, judges, police officials, women, sick people and motorcycles. Still, the plan represented the most dramatic effort the city has undertaken to combat pollution since a court order in 1998 mandated that all public transport use compressed natural gas.

Police appeared to be purposefully keeping a low profile Friday. Except for a handful of major intersections, where police and civil defense volunteers set up checkpoints to watch for wrong-numbered license plates, there was little official presence on the roads at all.

When cars were pulled over, the result was almost always a warning, not the $30 fine that has been announced.

"Today we are just educating drivers," Assistant Sub Inspector Krishan Singh told the driver of an Associated Press vehicle — with the wrong license plate number — when it was eventually pulled over.

Police officials said they do not have enough staff to properly enforce the rule.

Arvind Kejriwal, the city's top elected official and the architect of the plan, told reporters that he was "overwhelmed" by the response to the new rules.

People "seem to have accepted this anti-pollution drive with an open heart," said Kejriwal, who said recently that the plan would be scrapped if it inconvenienced too many people.

The World Health Organization last year named New Delhi the world's most polluted city. The pollution is at its worst in the winter, when winds die down and dense smog often engulfs the city in the morning.

Delhi has an estimated 7.5 million registered vehicles, including many that run on highly polluting diesel. The pollution is fed by construction dust, ash from crop waste burned in nearby farming areas and sand from the Thar desert.

On Friday morning, the average PM2.5 levels for New Delhi were over 297. That is a relatively low number for New Delhi in winter, but is still about 15 times higher than the WHO standard of 20.

These inhalable particles are smaller than 2.5 micrometers, small enough to penetrate deep into lungs and cause maximum damage.

Plans to lower the city's pollution levels included shutting down one of the oldest and least-efficient power plants, a temporary ban on the sale of large diesel vehicles and a stiff toll for pollution-spewing trucks entering the Indian capital.

Magnitude 4.2 earthquake hits north of Oklahoma City

By Ken Miller
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — A 4.2 magnitude earthquake struck north Oklahoma City early on New Year's Day, the latest in a series of temblors in the area in recent days that's prompted state regulators to call for more restrictions on oil and gas operators.

No injuries and only minor damage were reported with the quake, which struck at 5:39 a.m. Friday near Edmond, about 16 miles northeast of Oklahoma City, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

"We came out pretty good," said Mike Stewart, head golf professional at Fairfax Golf Club located near the epicenter. "I heard the earthquake, I expected some sort of damage, but all we had was some pictures fall, no broken stuff."

The city of Edmond reported about 4,400 power outages in the area shortly after the quake, but it was not clear if the two were related and power was restored within a few hours.

The temblor is the latest of at least a dozen since Tuesday when a 4.3 magnitude earthquake was recorded.

Oklahoma has become one of the most earthquake-prone areas in the world, with the number of quakes magnitude 3.0 or greater skyrocketing from a few dozen in 2012 to more than 800 so far this year. Many of the earthquakes are occurring in swarms in areas where injection wells pump salty wastewater — a byproduct of oil and gas production — deep into the earth. As a result, state regulators have begun reducing the volume or shutting down disposal wells in response.

However, the Edmond area has not previously been associated with the activity.

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission issued a statement Friday saying its Oil and Gas Division staff is taking action in response to the earthquakes in Edmond and that details should be available Monday.

"The issue is extremely complex, as the initial review of the data for the area in question has not identified any oil and gas wastewater disposal wells that are both high volume and in the state's deepest formation, a combination that researchers have identified as being at the highest risk for inducing earthquakes," the commission release stated.

The strongest earthquake on record in Oklahoma is a magnitude 5.6 centered in Prague in November 2011 that damaged 200 buildings and shook a college football stadium in Stillwater, about 65 miles away.

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New laws in 2016 show states are diverging on guns, voting

By Geoff Mulvihill
Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — Laws taking effect at the start of the new year show states diverging on some hot-button issues.

Restrictions on carrying guns eased in Texas, for example, but got tighter in California. It is easier to register to vote in Oregon, but there is another step to take at the polls in North Carolina.

The opposing directions in the states reflect a nation with increasingly polarized politics.

In the debate over gun control, both sides say their arguments are strengthened by a string of mass shootings this year. That includes the December attack at a county health department gathering in San Bernardino, California, when a couple who investigators say pledged allegiance to the leader of the Islamic State group killed 14 people.

Everytown for Gun Safety, a group backed by billionaire former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, is seeking to be a counterweight to the National Rifle Association's lobbying of state lawmakers. Both groups are expected to be active in legislatures in the coming year.

Whether to raise the minimum wage has become another hot topic in states and cities, with the issue getting no traction in the Republican-led Congress.

New voting laws, meanwhile, could help shape the outcomes in state and federal elections in the coming year. Democrats and others who want to boost voter participation have been pushing to expand access to the polls, while conservatives have pushed for measures aimed at preventing election fraud. Each side says the other is using legislation to help their favored party in elections.

A look at some of the more notable laws taking effect in January:

Guns

Texas, the second-most populous state, joins 44 other states in allowing at least some firearm owners to carry handguns openly in public places. Under the Texas law, guns can be carried by those with licenses and only in holsters.

Meanwhile, California, the most populous state, has multiple new laws on gun control. One tightens a ban on firearms in and around schools. Under the new law, the prohibition applies even to most people who are allowed to carry concealed weapons generally. Another allows people to request that a judge order weapons be taken away from relatives who are believed to pose a threat.

Voting

California and Oregon become the first states that automatically register eligible voters when they obtain or renew their driver's licenses. Critics of the measures — mostly Republicans — say that could lead to voter fraud and is part of a plan to register more voters who are likely to be Democrats. They say voters should register voluntarily. In both states, people are able to opt out of being registered.

Similar measures have been proposed in other states but never adopted. This year, Republican Gov. Chris Christie vetoed the concept in New Jersey.

In North Carolina, a voter identification law passed in 2013 that requires people to show a photo ID takes effect.

An amendment adopted this year allows voters who have trouble obtaining the required ID to vote anyway. That provision keeps North Carolina from joining eight states in which a photo ID is strictly required. There are still legal challenges over the law, and opponents want a judge to delay implementation.

In most states, voters are asked to show some kind of identification.

Public health

Hawaii becomes the first state to raise its minimum age, from 18 to 21, to buy or use cigarettes or e-cigarettes. It's a move some local governments have made before, but never a state.

California joins West Virginia and Mississippi as the only states without a personal-belief exemption for parents who do not want to vaccinate their children. Children whose parents refuse to have them immunized against several diseases are not allowed to enroll in public or private school and instead have to be homeschooled. There is an exemption for children with serious health problems.

Employment issues

In California, a new law lets female employees allege pay discrimination based on the wages a company pays other employees who do substantially similar work. Under the law, it is up to employers to prove a man's higher pay is based on factors other than gender.

Oregon becomes the fifth state with a paid sick leave mandate for many employers.

Some cities in traffic-congested urban areas are trying to ease the burdens of commuting. Employers with at least 20 workers in Washington, D.C., and New York City are required to offer commuter benefits such as tax-free mass transit subsidies to their workers. San Francisco already has a similar ordinance.

In Missouri, a new law links the duration of jobless benefits to the state's unemployment rate. When fewer people are out of work, those claiming the benefits will be cut off sooner. The maximum length of the benefits will be reduced from the current 20 weeks — already among the shorter periods in the nation — to 13. Only North Carolina, which has a similar sliding scale, has a shorter period: 12 weeks.

Minimum wage

The minimum wage rises in many cities and states with the new year. Some of the wage increases are coming under laws passed years ago that phased in the increases over a period of years. Some are automatic increases tied to the cost of living.

Fast-food workers in New York state receive their first pay bump under a new law that will eventually push their minimum wage to $15. The full amount will kick in at the end of 2018 in New York City and 2021 in the rest of the state.

The federal government has not touched the minimum wage since it was increased to $7.25 effective in 2009. Labor groups and workers keep pushing for higher raises while many business groups say raises could come at the expense of jobs. But with the federal rate unchanging, more state and local governments — particularly in the West and Northeast — are taking action.

The wages rise in California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Rhode Island, Vermont and West Virginia on Friday. States with automatic annual increases effective Jan. 1 are Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Jersey, Ohio and South Dakota.

Some cities, including New Orleans, also have new rates starting Jan. 1. Minimum-wage fast-food workers in Seattle get a bump as part of that city's phased-in increase to $15 an hour.

Taxes

Taxes have gone up in some places and dropping in others.

Income tax rates dropped slightly in Oklahoma, where state revenues have fallen sharply, and Massachusetts.

In North Carolina, the tax on gasoline dropped by a penny a gallon to 35 cents. The sales tax on boats will drop in New Jersey as of Feb. 1.

Taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products rose in Minnesota, as will hotel taxes in Hawaii.

Abortion

Physicians in North Carolina are required to provide the state with ultrasound images of fetuses and other data related to abortions performed after the 16th week of pregnancy.

For pregnancies terminated after the 20th week, doctors must explain to the state Department of Health and Human Services how continuing the pregnancy would have threatened the life and health of the mother. Some lawmakers who favor abortion rights say the state should not have this medical data.

Immigrant driver's licenses

Two more states allow people who are in the United States illegally to be licensed to drive. Delaware's law took effect Sunday and Hawaii's is in effect in the new year.

Ten states and the District of Columbia already have similar provisions.

Pets

Illinois made it a misdemeanor to leave pets outside during extreme weather. Missouri, in a crackdown on the state's commercial "puppy mills," required dog breeders to provide more space for their animals and barred them from using wire-strand flooring in dog kennels.

Tennessee gave approval this year to the first statewide animal abuse registry.

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Scott Fox, front, who decided it was time to leave his residence on Mississippi Boulevard, which was surrounded by water, paddles a boat with his friend Tony Watkins in Kimmswick, Mo., on Thursday. Watkins was helping Fox come to shore. *Associated Press*

Some begin picking up pieces in Missouri after flooding

By Jim Salter
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The worst of the dangerous, deadly winter flood is over in the St. Louis area, leaving residents of several water-logged communities to spend the first day of 2016 assessing damage, cleaning up and figuring out how to bounce back — or in some cases, where to live.

Farther south, things were getting worse. Record and near-record crest predictions of the Mississippi River and levee breaks threatened homes in rural southern Missouri and Illinois. Two more levees succumbed Friday, bringing the number of levee failures to at least 11.

The flood, fueled by more than 10 inches of rain over a three-day period that began last weekend, is blamed for 22 deaths. Searchers were still looking for five missing people — two teenagers in Illinois, two men in Missouri and a country music singer in Oklahoma.

On Friday, water from the Mississippi, Meremec and Missouri rivers was largely receding in the St. Louis area. Two major highways — Interstate 44 and Interstate 55 — reopened south of St. Louis, meaning commuters who return to work next week won't have hours-long detours. Some evacuees were allowed to return home.

But in the far southwestern tip of Illinois, the 500 or so people living behind the Len Small levee, which protects the hamlets of Olive Branch, Hodges Park, Unity and rural homes, were urged to move to higher ground after the Mississippi began pouring over the levee.

Alexander County Board Chairman Chalen Tatum said sandbagging efforts were cut off because it was simply too dangerous for the volunteers. Far more water is to come before the Sunday crest.

"It's going to get ugly," he said.

In St. Mary, Missouri, a town of about 360 residents 50 miles south of St. Louis, neighbors and volunteers placed sandbags around homes after a small agricultural levee broke. The Mississippi River was expected to crest there Saturday at about 3 1/2 feet below the 1993 record.

The main culprit in the St. Louis region was the Meramac River, a relatively small Mississippi tributary. It had bombarded communities in the far southwestern reaches of the St. Louis suburbs during the week. By Friday, it was relenting, but not before some points topped the 1993 record by 4 feet.

Two wastewater treatment plants were so damaged by the floodwaters that raw sewage spewed into the river. A water plant closed at High Ridge.

Hundreds of people were evacuated in Pacific, Eureka, Valley Park and Arnold, and many of their homes took in water.

Among those that were displaced were Damon Thorne, 44, and his 60-year-old mother, Linda, who live together in an Arnold mobile home park that washed away after a small private levee proved no match for the surging Meramec. For now, the Thornes are staying in a Red Cross shelter at a Baptist church.

"We're just basically homeless," Damon Thorne said. "We have nowhere to go."

In West Alton, Missouri, a Mississippi River town that sits near the convergence with the also-elevated Missouri River just north of St. Louis, evacuees couldn't yet return because floodwaters continued to pour over the overwhelmed levee. Mayor Willie Richter said. He estimated that about three-quarters of the homes were damaged.

Nearly 1,000 residents left West Alton after the 1993 flood, never to return. Richter said some of the remaining 500 or so may leave this time, too. Richter, 46, said he's staying put in the same house where he grew up. He plans to raise the home off the ground a bit.

"It's our family home, so it's hard to think about leaving," Richter said.

Many hard-hit St. Louis-area towns kept residents updated using social media. Valley Park used its Facebook page to advise residents Friday that the evacuation order was lifted, and the city of Arnold's Facebook page urged residents to watch out for snakes in flooded homes.

In southeast Missouri, the fast-rising Mississippi damaged about two-dozen homes in Cape Girardeau and threatened a power substation, though the community of nearly 40,000 residents is mostly protected by a flood wall. The crest prediction at Cape Girardeau, Missouri, expected Sunday, was upgraded to a foot and a half above the 1993 record.

In nearby Allenville, access into the often-flooded town was cut off by high water. Most of the four dozen residents stayed anyway, using boats to get around.

"They are used to being isolated and cut off, but with this record height, we're confident some homes will get wet," Cape Girardeau County emergency management director Richard Knaup said. "We're just not sure how many."

Parts of the South are also in the flood's path. Moderate Mississippi River flooding is expected in Memphis, where officials were moving to protect roads and an airport. The National Weather Service issued a flood advisory for the Cumberland River at Dover, Tennessee, through Monday evening.

Minor flooding along the Ohio River was affecting the Kentucky cities of Owensboro and Paducah, and the crest wasn't expected until Thursday.

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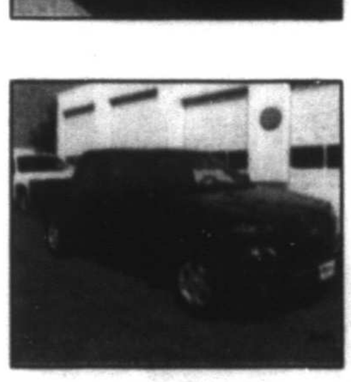

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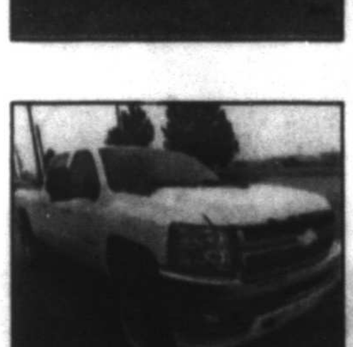

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Alamo Bowl matchup changes with Boykin suspension

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Gary Patterson is like the fans. TCU's coach wanted to see the matchup of big-play quarterbacks in the Alamo Bowl, with Trevone Boykin for his No. 11 Horned Frogs and Vernon Adams, Jr. for No. 15 Oregon.

But Boykin won't play tonight. His college career abruptly ended when Patterson suspended the one-time top Heisman Trophy contender, who left his room after curfew in San Antonio and then got charged with assault on a public servant.

"Sometimes, you have to make decisions you don't want to," Patterson said Friday. "My feelings went out to him. My feelings went out to the team. He's our starting quarterback. I'm a fan. I wanted to see him against Vernon Adams. That's the disappointing thing, just for the kids, and for him, all of them."

Boykin, who broke NFL quarterback Andy Dalton's passing records at TCU, has apologized in an online post. He said he has no excuses for his "very poor decision" and that he was embarrassed.

Oregon (9-3), with top-rated FBS passer Adams and standout running back Royce Freeman, went from a slight underdog to a touchdown favorite after Boykin was suspended within hours after his arrest outside a bar near San Antonio's famed River Walk around 2 a.m. Thursday.

Adams, the graduate transfer who succeeded 2014 Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Mariota after the Ducks were national runner-ups last season, has thrown for 2,446 yards with 25 touchdowns and six interceptions. He has played only nine games because of a broken finger.

"This is my first and last bowl game, but I'm excited to get out here and show what I got too," Adams said.

TCU (10-2) and Oregon are two of the nation's top offense. The Frogs are third at 564 yards a game, and Oregon fourth at 548 yards per game.

But TCU will also be without star receiver Josh Doctson, who set school records with 79 catches for 1,327 yards and 14 touchdowns even while missing two games and parts of two others with a broken left wrist.

Boykin has accounted for 56 percent of TCU's offense since 2012. He threw for 3,575 yards with 31 touchdowns and ran for 612 yards and 10 more scores this season.

After sharing the Big 12 title and getting snubbed for a playoff season last season, TCU started this season ranked No. 2 in the AP poll. The Frogs started 8-0 before losing at Oklahoma State, then lost at Oklahoma with Boykin out because of a sprained right ankle.

Please see **ALAMO**/4B

And then there were two



Miami Herald/TNS

Clemson quarterback Deshaun Watson (4) scores in the second quarter against Oklahoma in the Capital One Orange Bowl at SunLife Stadium in Miami Gardens, Fla., on Thursday. Clemson won 37-17.

Clemson, Alabama are last teams standing

By Paul Newberry
Associated Press

We're down to two.

And, boy, they both look impressive.

Top-ranked Clemson and No. 2 Alabama will face off in the desert for the national championship after dominating wins in the College Football Playoff semifinals Thursday. The Tigers romped in the second half for a 37-17 win over No. 4 Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl, followed by an even more dominating performance in which the Crimson Tide thumped Michigan State 38-0 in the Cotton Bowl.

The Jan. 11 title game in Glendale, Arizona, matches a high-scoring Clemson offense led by quarterback Deshaun Watson against Nick Saban's latest dominating defense at Alabama, which limited the Spartans to 239 yards.

There's another story line to the title game. Clemson coach Dabo Swinney is an Alabama alumnus who played on the Tide's 1992 national championship team.

Now, he's going against the greatest coach of this generation.

Saban has won three national titles in the last six years at Alabama, to go along with a BCS title at LSU.

Clemson and Alabama will be playing for the first time since 2008, when Alabama won 34-10 in a game that signaled the Tide's return to national prominence under Saban.

That was also a pivotal year for the Tigers. Embattled coach Tommy Bowden resigned after six games, and Swinney — who was in charge of receivers — took over as head coach. Serving at first on an interim basis, he got the job permanently after leading Clemson to bowl eligibility.

Now, he's got the Tigers within one win of their first national title since 1981.

"I knew that we would be here," Swinney said. "It was just a matter of when."

Alabama is playing for another title after being upset by Ohio State in the semifinals of the inaugural College Football Playoff.

Saban said his team came into this playoff with a different attitude.

"Last year, we sort of just participated in the game," he said. "This year, we really wanted to make a statement and do something special."

These teams have been on a collision course since Clemson and Alabama were ranked 1-2 in the second College Football Playoff rankings.

They've held the top two spots since, leaving no doubt they're the best teams in the country.

With Alabama favored by 7 points, Clemson is the underdog for a second straight game. Oklahoma was favored in the Orange Bowl by 4 points.

A look at the semifinals and what to expect heading to the title game:

Please see **PLAYOFF**/3B

Moving semifinals to New Year's Eve a total flop

By Paul Newberry
Associated Press

MIAMI —

The College Football Playoff is a marvelous thing.

The timing of the national semifinal games?

Boy, did they get that one wrong.

The Orange Bowl, a matchup between top-ranked Clemson and No. 4 Oklahoma that kicked off in the late afternoon on New Year's Eve, could've passed for an Alamo or Holiday Bowl.

There simply wasn't the sort of buzz one would expect from a game of that stature, which surely had a lot to do with a 4 p.m. EST starting time, when many people were just wrapping up their final work day of 2015.

Ditto for the Cotton Bowl, which began shortly after Clemson finished off its 37-17 victory over the Sooners. While held in prime time, the game between No. 2 Alabama and No. 3 Michigan State was overshadowed by New Year's celebrations around the country; in fact, the Tide's 38-0 rout ended just minutes before the crystal ball dropped in Times Square.

If that wasn't enough of a downer, playing the semifinal games on Dec. 31 left what is traditionally the biggest day of the season — New Year's Day — feeling like a bit of an afterthought, not all that different than staging the championship game in women's basketball 24 hours after the men play for the title at the Final Four.

The whole fabric of the college bowl season is out of whack. How are we supposed to get fired up for Rose, Sugar and Fiesta bowls when two more important games have already been held and most folks are now focused on the Jan. 11 national championship?

This much is clear: the semifinal games should move back to New Year's Day. The other major bowls should serve as worthy prelims, not meaningless consolations.

Of course, the powers-that-be are refusing to acknowledge the obvious.

This is, after all, the sport that nonsensically resisted a playoff until last season.

Bill Hancock, executive director of the College Football Playoff, said he would await the ratings for the New Year's Day games before making any declarations on whether this worked.

"It's just not appropriate to talk until all the results are in," he said Friday. "I guess it's like asking a coach to talk about a whole game at halftime."

Well, let's throw out the talking points

Please see **NEWBERRY**/3B

No. 7 Ohio State beats No. 8 Notre Dame 44-28 in Fiesta Bowl

By John Marshall
Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Ezekiel Elliott bulldozed his way into the end zone in the first half, showing off his strength as Ohio State's drive capper.

He flashed his speed in the second, becoming the show stopper as he raced up the middle for a long run.

Those skills should translate well in the NFL. They certainly worked out for the Buckeyes over the past three seasons.

Elliott ran for 149 yards and matched a Fiesta Bowl record with four touchdowns to close the curtain on his college career, sparking No. 7 Ohio State's prolific offense in a 44-28 win over Notre Dame on Friday.

"With all due respect to all the other running backs in Ohio State history, my first-round draft pick, I'd pick Zeke Elliott," Ohio State coach Urban Meyer said. "He's as good as any running back I've been around."

The Buckeyes (12-1) were left out of the College Football Playoff thanks to an inopportune loss. They may leave the desert wondering what could have been after blowing past another late-season playoff contender.

Ohio State rolled past the Fighting Irish (10-3), quick-hitting its way to one scoring drive after another and 496 total yards.

Elliott, who's leaving school early for the NFL, scored on three short runs first half and left Notre Dame defenders flailing as he raced past them for a 47-yard score to open the second.

J.T. Barrett gave the Buckeyes some balance, throwing for 211 yards and a score with 96 yards rushing in the highest-scoring game against Notre Dame's defense this season.

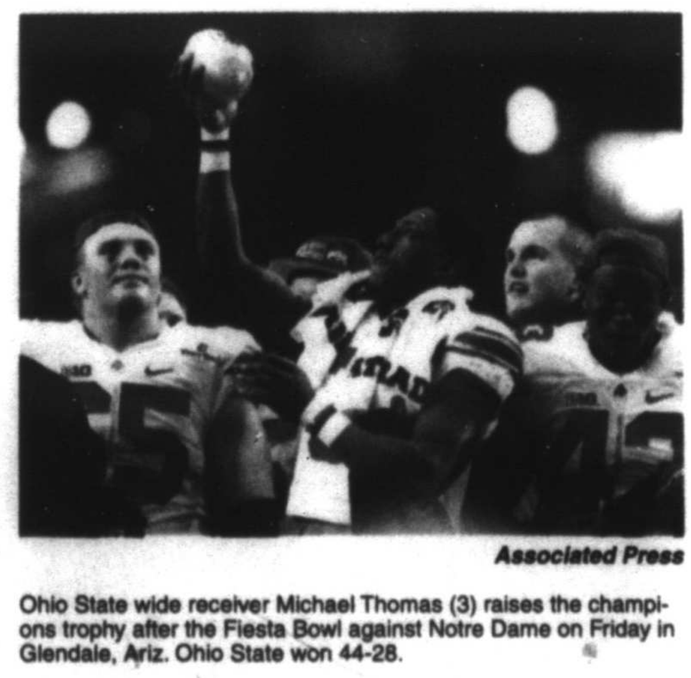
Ohio State's seniors finished 50-4, tying the FBS record set by Boise State's 2011 class for most wins in a four-year span.

"It's been a wild journey with this team, something I couldn't even imagine," Ohio State cornerback Eli Apple said.

The Fighting Irish had some good offensive moments behind DeShone Kizer after Buckeyes star defensive end Joey Bosa was ejected for targeting in the first quarter.

They just couldn't keep up with the blistering Buckeyes after a string of injuries, including do-everything

Please see **FIESTA**/4B



Associated Press

Ohio State wide receiver Michael Thomas (3) raises the championship trophy after the Fiesta Bowl against Notre Dame on Friday in Glendale, Ariz. Ohio State won 44-28.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

TaxSlayer Bowl: Penn State vs. Georgia, 11 a.m., ESPN/ESPNDEP

Liberty Bowl: Kansas State vs. Arkansas, 2:20 p.m., ESPN/ESPNDEP

Alamo Bowl: Oregon vs. TCU, 5:45 p.m., ESPN/ESPNDEP

Cactus Bowl: Arizona State vs. West Virginia, 9:15 p.m., ESPN/ESPNDEP

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Under Armour All-American Game, 11 a.m., ESPN2

IIHF World Junior Championships

Quarterfinal 1, 6 a.m., NHL

Quarterfinal 3, 10 a.m., NHL

Quarterfinal 4, 12:30 p.m., NHL

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

DePaul at Seton Hall, 10 a.m., FS1

West Virginia at Kansas State, 11 a.m., ESPNU

Houston at Temple, 11 a.m., ESPNews

Penn State at Michigan, 11 a.m., BTN

Florida State at Clemson, 11 a.m., FSSW

James Madison at Delaware, 11 a.m., SNY

St. Joseph's at Richmond, 11:30 a.m., NBCSN

Tennessee at Auburn, 1 p.m., CBS

Texas at Texas Tech, 1 p.m., ESPNU

Norfolk State at Alabama, 1 p.m., SEC

Rutgers at Wisconsin, 1 p.m., BTN

NC State at Virginia Tech, 1 p.m., FSSW+

Iona at Quinnipiac, 1 p.m., SNY

Dayton at Duquesne, 1:30 p.m., NBCSN

Michigan State at Minnesota, 2 p.m., ESPN2

Morehead State at Murray State, 2 p.m., CBSSN

St. John's at Providence, 2:30 p.m., FS1

Baylor at Kansas, 3 p.m., CBS

Tulsa at Cincinnati, 3 p.m., ESPNU

TCU at Oklahoma State, 3 p.m., ESPNews

Indiana at Nebraska, 3 p.m., BTN

Drexel at Elon, 3 p.m., SNY

Saint Louis at Rhode Island, 3:30 p.m., NBCSN

Arkansas at Texas A&M, 3:30 p.m., SEC

Duke at Boston College, 3:30 p.m., FSSW

Notre Dame at Virginia, 4 p.m., ESPN2

George Mason at VCU, 4 p.m., CBSSN

Marquette at Georgetown, 4:30 p.m., FS1

Memphis at South Carolina, 5 p.m., ESPNU

Iowa at Purdue, 5 p.m., BTN

Wyoming at Nevada, 5 p.m., ROOT

Northeastern at UNC Wilmington, 5 p.m., SNY

Iowa State at Oklahoma, 6 p.m., ESPN2

Ole Miss at Kentucky, 6 p.m., SEC

McNeese State at Stephen F. Austin, 6 p.m., ESPN3

USF at SMU, 6:30 p.m., ESPNews

Connecticut at Tulane, 6:30 p.m., CBSSN

Georgia at Florida, 7 p.m., ESPNU

Davidson at St. Bonaventure, 7 p.m., SNY

LSU at Vanderbilt, 8 p.m., ESPN2

New Mexico at Fresno State, 8:30 p.m., CBSSN

Villanova at Creighton, 9 p.m., FS1

San Diego State at Utah State, 9 p.m., ESPNU

Gonzaga at San Francisco, 10 p.m., ESPN2

MEN'S COLLEGE HOCKEY

Notre Dame at Denver, 8 p.m., ROOT+

MEN'S SOCCER

Scottish Premier: Dundee vs. Dundee United, 6:20 a.m., FSP

English Premier: West Ham vs. Liverpool, 6:45 a.m., NBCSN/NBCU

La Liga: Espanyol vs. Barcelona, 8:50 a.m., beIN/beIN2

English Premier: Arsenal vs. Newcastle, 9 a.m., NBCSN/NBCU

English Premier: Manchester United vs. Swansea City, 9 a.m., USA

English Premier: Leicester City vs. Bournemouth, 9 a.m., NBCET

English Premier: Norwich City vs. Southampton, 9 a.m., NBCET

English Premier: Sunderland vs. Aston Villa, 9 a.m., NBCET

English Premier: West Bromwich Albion vs. Stoke City, 9 a.m., NBCET

Scottish Premier: Alloa Athletic vs. Falkirk, 11:10 a.m., FSP

English Premier: Watford vs. Manchester City, 11:30 a.m., NBC/NBCU

La Liga: Rayo Vallecano de Madrid vs. Levante, 1:20 p.m., beIN/beIN2

Superliga Portugesa: Sporting vs. Porto, 2:20 p.m., UDN

La Liga: Malaga vs. Celta de Vigo, 3:20 p.m., beIN/beIN2

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

UFC: Lawler vs. Condit, Prelims, 7 p.m., FS1/FXDEP

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Phoenix at Sacramento, 4 p.m., NBAtv

New Orleans at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., FSSW

Houston at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m., FSSW/NSA

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

Dallas at New Jersey, 6 p.m., FSSW+

NY Islanders at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m., NHL

TENNIS

Abu Dhabi, 3rd Place Match, 7 a.m., TENNIS

Abu Dhabi, Championship, 9 a.m., TENNIS

Hopman Cup: Australia (Green) vs. Germany, 8 p.m., TENNIS

Hopman Cup: Australia (Gold) vs. Czech Republic, 3:30 a.m., TENNIS

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Richmond at LaSalle, 10 a.m., CBSSN

Ohio State at Maryland, 11 a.m., CBS

USF at East Carolina, Noon, CBSSN

Kansas State at TCU, 1 p.m., FSSW/FCSC

Washington at Colorado, 2 p.m., P12, P12 Mtn, P12 WA

Pacific at BYU, 3 p.m., BYUtv

Stanford at Arizona, 4 p.m., P12, P12 AZ

Oregon at UCLA, 4 p.m., P12 LA, P12 OR

California at Arizona State, 6 p.m., P12, P12 BAY, P12 AZ

Washington State at Utah, 6 p.m., P12 Mtn, P12 WA

Texas Tech at Texas, 7 p.m., LHN

Oregon State at USC, 8 p.m., P12, P12 LA, P12 OR

RADIO

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Texas at Texas Tech, 1 p.m., KCRS 97.5 FM/550 AM

NAHL Hockey

Lone Star at Odessa, 7 p.m., KFZX 102.1 FM

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

New Orleans at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., KBEST 95.7 FM (Big Spring)



Associated Press

Miami Heat center Hassan Whiteside (21) shoots as Dallas Mavericks forward Chandler Parsons (25) defends in the second half of an NBA basketball game on Friday in Miami. Miami won the game 106-82.

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

HEAT 106
MAVERICKS 82

MIAMI — Hassan Whiteside had 25 points and 19 rebounds, Gerald Green added 19 points off the bench and the Miami Heat rolled past the Dallas Mavericks 106-82 on Friday night to snap a two-game slide.

Chris Bosh scored 16 and Goran Dragic had 15 points and seven assists for the Heat. Miami adjusted its starting lineup shortly before tip-off when Dwyane Wade was stricken by flu-like symptoms. Wade got some intravenous fluids and checked in early in the second quarter, just his 10th time playing off the bench in his 13-year career. He finished with 10 points on 5-of-6 shooting.

Whiteside made 12 of 16 shots, and the Heat enjoyed their biggest victory margin of the season.

Dallas had 10 points in the first quarter — its low for any period this season — and shot just 36 percent for the game, compared to 56 percent for Miami.

Zaza Pachulia led the Mavericks with 14 points and 13 rebounds. Dallas' four-game winning streak was snapped.

BULLS 108
KNICKS 81

CHICAGO — Jimmy Butler scored 23 points, and Nikola Mirotic had 17 points and seven assists to help Chicago beat New York.

Pau Gasol added 17 points and eight rebounds as the Bulls won for the fourth time in five games while avenging a blowout loss at New York on Dec. 19. Rookie reserve Bobby Portis had 16 points and 10 rebounds in his third consecutive game scoring in double figures.

The Bulls blew a 17-point lead before pulling away from the Knicks in the fourth quarter.

Carmelo Anthony scored 20 for New York, which has dropped five of six.

Chicago played without Derrick Rose, who missed his second straight game due to right hamstring tendinitis.

RAPTORS 104
HORNETS 94

TORONTO — DeMar DeRozan had 23 points and Kyle Lowry added 18 points and 11 assists as Toronto rallied to beat Charlotte.

It was the fourth double-double of the season for Lowry, who helped the Raptors come back from a seven-point deficit entering the fourth quarter and avenge a 109-99 loss in Charlotte last month.

DeMarre Carroll and Patrick Patterson both added 14 points for Toronto.

Kemba Walker had 18 points for the Hornets.

WIZARDS 103
MAGIC 91

WASHINGTON — John Wall scored 24 points with 13 assists, Otto Porter had 20 points and 11 rebounds, and Washington extended its dominance of Orlando.

The Wizards won their 11th straight game over the improving Magic, who entered with a 13-5 record since Nov. 25, best in the Eastern Conference.

Wall had 12 points in the fourth quarter and Kris Humphries scored 11, all in the final period. Humphries' jumper with 7:38 to play started the Wizards on a 15-3 run that gave them a 93-81 lead with 3:51 left.

Victor Oladipo led Orlando with 20 points.

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	21	13	.618	—
Boston	18	14	.563	2
New York	15	19	.441	6
Brooklyn	9	23	.281	11
Philadelphia	3	31	.088	18

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	21	13	.618	—
Miami	19	13	.594	1
Orlando	19	14	.576	1½
Charlotte	17	15	.531	3
Washington	15	16	.484	4½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	21	9	.700	—
Chicago	19	12	.613	2½
Indiana	18	14	.563	4
Detroit	18	15	.545	4½
Milwaukee	13	21	.382	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	28	6	.824	—
Dallas	19	14	.576	8½
Memphis	18	16	.529	10
Houston	16	18	.471	12
New Orleans	10	22	.313	17

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	23	10	.697	—
Utah	14	17	.452	8
Portland	14	21	.400	10
Denver	12	21	.364	11
Minnesota	12	21	.364	11

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	30	2	.938	—
L.A. Clippers	21	13	.618	10
Sacramento	12	20	.375	18
Phoenix	12	23	.343	19½
L.A. Lakers	6	27	.182	24½

Schedule

Friday's Scores

Washington 103, Orlando 91
Toronto 104, Charlotte 94
Miami 106, Dallas 82
Chicago 108, New York 81
Philadelphia at L.A. Lakers, late

Today's Games

Brooklyn at Boston, 2 p.m.
Phoenix at Sacramento, 4 p.m.
Detroit at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
Orlando at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Houston at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Memphis at Utah, 8 p.m.
Denver at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Chicago at Toronto, 2:30 p.m.
Atlanta at New York, 2:30 p.m.
Miami at Washington, 5 p.m.
Portland at Denver, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 8:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL GLANCE

Friday's scores

MEN

SOUTHWEST

North Texas 70, UTSA 66

MIDWEST

IUPUI 77, South Dakota 66
Nebraska-Omaha 82, W. Illinois 80
S. Dakota St. 68, Denver 59

WOMEN

SOUTHWEST

North Texas 68, UTSA 58
UTEP 60, Rice 54

SOUTH

Florida A&M 59, Savannah St. 38
Louisville 79, Florida St. 69
N. Kentucky 55, Ill.-Chicago 53
Stetson 68, Hampton 59

MIDWEST

Green Bay 63, Milwaukee 42
IUPUI 69, IPFW 50
Indiana St. 59, Wichita St. 33
Missouri St. 73, Illinois St. 51
N. Iowa 62, Evansville 51
S. Illinois 77, Drake 67
South Dakota 85, Denver 60
W. Illinois 72, Oral Roberts 61
Wright St. 80, Valparaiso 63

EAST

Syracuse 91, Texas Rio Grande Valley 32

Today's schedules

MEN

Today's Games

No. 1 Michigan State at Minnesota, 2 p.m.
No. 2 Kansas vs. No. 23 Baylor, 3 p.m.
No. 3 Oklahoma vs. No. 11 Iowa State, 6 p.m.
No. 4 Maryland at Northwestern, 7 p.m.
No. 5 Virginia vs. Notre Dame, 4 p.m.
No. 6 Xavier vs. No. 9 Butler, noon
No. 7 North Carolina vs. Georgia Tech, 11 a.m.
No. 10 Kentucky vs. Mississippi, 6 p.m.
No. 12 Providence vs. St. John's, 2:30 p.m.
No. 13 Miami vs. Syracuse, 2:30 p.m.
No. 14 Purdue vs. Iowa, 5 p.m.
No. 15 Duke at Boston College, 3:30 p.m.
No. 16 Villanova at Creighton, 9 p.m.
No. 17 SMU vs. South Florida, 6:30 p.m.
No. 19 West Virginia at Kansas State, 11 a.m.
No. 20 Texas A&M vs. Arkansas, 3:30 p.m.
No. 22 Cincinnati vs. Tulsa, 3 p.m.
No. 24 South Carolina vs. Memphis, 5 p.m.

Sunday's Games

No. 8 Arizona at Arizona State, 1 p.m.
No. 18 Louisville vs. Wake Forest, 7 p.m.
No. 21 Utah at California, 6:30 p.m.
No. 25 UCLA at Washington State, 8:30 p.m.

WOMEN

Today's Games

No. 5 Texas vs. Texas Tech, 7 p.m.
No. 6 Maryland vs. No. 9 Ohio State, 11 a.m.
No. 10 Oregon State at Southern Cal, 6 p.m.
No. 11 Stanford at Arizona, 4 p.m.
No. 17 Arizona State vs. No. 19 California, 6 p.m.
No. 20 South Florida at East Carolina, noon
No. 21 UCLA vs. Oregon, 4 p.m.

Sunday's Games

No. 2 South Carolina vs. Arkansas, 2 p.m.
No. 3 Notre Dame at Pittsburgh, 2 p.m.
No. 4 Baylor vs. No. 18 Oklahoma, 3:30 p.m.
No. 7 Kentucky at Auburn, 2 p.m.
No. 8 Mississippi State at Florida, noon
No. 12 Duke at Syracuse, noon.
No. 14 Northwestern vs. Nebraska, 1:30 p.m.
No. 16 Texas A&M vs. Georgia, 4 p.m.
No. 22 Miami at Virginia, noon.
No. 24 Michigan State vs. Wisconsin, 1 p.m.
No. 25 DePaul at St. John's, 4 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

FOOTBALL

National Football League

PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Signed S Ross Ventrone from the practice squad. Released WR Jacoby Jones.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Placed S Chris Conte on injured reserve. Signed LB Darrus Eubanks from the practice squad.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Signed DL Kamal Johnson to the practice squad.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

FLORIDA PANTHERS — Signed executive vice president and general manager Dale Tallon to a contract extension. Named Tom Rowe associate general manager. Named Scott Allen coach of Portland (AHL).

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Recalled G Andrei Vasilevskiy from Syracuse (AHL). Reassigned G Kristers Gudlevskis to Syracuse.

WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Recalled D Ryan Stanton from Hershey (AHL). Re-assigned D Connor Carrick to Hershey.

ECHL

ELMIRA JACKALS — Announced F Allan McPherson was recalled by the Rochester (AHL).

COLLEGE

PURDUE — Named Ross Els defensive coordinator.

SPORTS ODDS

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Today's Bowls

TODAY

Taxslayer Bowl
At Jacksonville

FAVORITE	OPEN	O/U	UNDERDOG
Georgia	6½	(43)	Penn St

Liberty Bowl
At Memphis

Arkansas	12	(56)	Kansas St

Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio

Oregon	+1½	(74½)	TCU

Cactus Bowl
At Phoenix

West Virginia	+1½	(64)	Arizona St

National Championship Game
At Glendale

Alabama	6	(52)	Clemson

NFL

Sunday

TODAY

FAVORITE	OPEN	O/U	UNDERDOG
NY Jets	+1	2½ (42)	at BUFFALO
at CAROLINA	11	10½ (46½)	Tampa Bay
New England	4	9½ (47)	at MIAMI
at CINCINNATI	10	9 (41½)	Baltimore
at ATLANTA	3	5 (52½)	New Orleans
at HOUSTON	6	6½ (43½)	Jacksonville
Pittsburgh	8½	10½ (47)	at CLEVELAND
at KANSAS CITY	7	7 (43½)	Oakland
at INDIANAPOLIS	3½	OFF (OFF)	Tennessee
at DALLAS	3	4 (39)	Washington
at CHICAGO	1½	PK (46)	Detroit
at NY GIANTS	3	3½ (51)	Philadelphia
at GREEN BAY	5½	3½ (45½)	Minnesota
at DENVER	9½	9 (41½)	San Diego
St. Louis	3	3 (37½)	at SAN FRANCISCO
at ARIZONA	+2	6 (47)	Seattle

SKI REPORT

New Mexico

Angel Fire — Fri 5:41 am 1 new packed powder machine groomed 22 - 31 base 78 of 78 trails 100% open, 7 of 7 lifts, Mon-Thu: 9a-4p; Fri: 9a-6p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Pajarito — Fri 5:35 am MG machine groomed 23 - 31 base 34 of 44 trails, 77% open 4 of 7 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p, Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Red River — Fri 7:20 am powder machine groomed 30 - 35 base 58 of 57 trails 98% open, 250 acres, 7 of 7 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Sandia Peak — Fri 8:49 am 1 new packed powder machine groomed 16 - 32 base 36 of 39 trails 97% open, 4 of 5 lifts, Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p; Open Fri-Sun;

Sipapu — Fri 5:24 am 1 new packed powder machine groomed 35 - 42 base 42 of 42 trails 100% open, 10 miles, 200 acres, 6 of 6 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Ski Apache — Fri 6:02 am MG machine groomed 40 - 84 base 44 of 55 trails 80% open, 9 of 10 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Ski Santa Fe — Fri 8:55 am packed powder machine groomed 86 - 86 base 79 of 79 trails 100% open, 7 of 7 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Taos — Fri 5:40 am packed powder machine groomed 75 - 75 base 103 of 113 trails, 93% open 1000 acres, 12 of 15 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Enchanted Forest XC — Wed 6:51 am packed powder machine groomed 20 - 30 base 40 of 40 trails, 22 miles Mon-Fri: 9a-4:30p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4:30p;

HSROUNDUP

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Girls

LEE 55
MCA 34

Lee's strong start helped the Lady Rebels defeat Midland Classical Academy in a non-district game at the MCA gym on Thursday.

The game was scheduled to make up for the cancellation of the Byron Johnston Tournament.

Alison Valden and Kyra Lewis each scored 11 points to lead Lee (13-3), which led 55-34 at the half.

Lizabelle Russell had nine points to lead MCA (9-7).

LEE 55, MCA 34

Lee (13-3) — Allison Valdez 11, Alaysha Green 4, Karyssa Edwards 8, Kristyn Velasquez 4, Yanitza Rivas 7, Braydyn Hill 7, Kyra Lewis 11, Zion Nisbett 1, Aquinicia Robinson 2

MCA (9-7) — Hilary Sunderland 8, Alissa Beattie 7, Delanie Griffin 7, Lizabelle Russell 9, Makenna Beattie 3

Lee	14	15	10	**16 — 55**
MCA	5	9	11	**9 — 34**

Free throws — Lee 9-13, MCA 9-15. 3-point goals — MCA 1 (M. Beattie). Total fouls — Lee 17, MCA 7. Fouled out — None

Next: Coahoma at MCA, 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Lee vs. Amarillo High at Lubbock, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

Get a taste of life in Midland in this Sunday's Culture section



MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION

"Change The Path Of A Pet's Life"

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Duke is a 1 year old Hound Mix. He loves to be around people and really likes laps.

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NEWBERRY

From 1B

we know so far.

Start with ESPN's performance on New Year's Eve.

It was downright abysmal.

The Orange Bowl got a 9.1 rating, a plunge of 38.5 percent from last year's Rose Bowl (14.8) held in the same afternoon time slot but on Jan. 1. The number of viewers fell even more — dropping 44.5 percent from 28,164,000 for the Rose to just 15,640,000 for the Orange, a staggering decline for such a high-profile event.

The Cotton Bowl endured a similar nosedive. The 9.6 rating was down a whopping 36.8 percent from last year's 15.2 for the Sugar Bowl in the same time slot, while the total viewership crashed 34.4 percent, going from 28,271,000 to 18,552,000.

Of course, neither game was competitive, and that didn't help.

But there's no way to sugarcoat this debacle.

ESPN tried to make the best of the situation, pointing out that streaming views for the Orange and Cotton were up over last year's games. But that was like Custer trying to put a positive spin on Little Bighorn. In all likelihood, that increase could be attributed largely to those who might've been fully-engaged viewers if not for the ill-advised schedule.

What makes all of this more infuriating is that ESPN recognized the ratings Armageddon it was facing. At least a year ago, the network suggested holding the semifinal games on Jan. 2, which falls on a Saturday.

The College Football Playoff balked at that idea, not wanting to disrupt its plans to carve out a niche on New Year's Eve.

In retrospect, that decision is roughly akin to casting Ashton Kutcher as Steve Jobs.

We all got punked.

The semifinals games weren't even a hit on social media.

According to Nielsen, the Orange Bowl generated 487,000 tweets seen by 6.5 million people, a huge drop from what the Rose Bowl did a year ago: 2.6 million tweets viewed by 10.1 million people. The Orange Bowl took a similar hit compared to last season's Sugar Bowl.

But there was at least one positive to come out of this ratings fiasco.

ABC — part of the Disney empire along with ESPN — made a desperate bid to get people to tune in, which might go down as the most hilarious attempt at product placement in broadcasting history.

According to Deadspin, Wednesday's episode of soap opera "General Hospital" made no less than seven references to the playoff, displayed the CFP logo prominently in the background of a scene, and even had some of the actors wearing T-shirts bearing the playoff motto "Who's In?"

Well, it didn't work.

Do us all a favor: Move these games back to New Year's Day.

PLAYOFF

From 1B

No more Clemsoning

A team once known for such inexplicable stumbles that a derisive term was coined for it — Clemsoning — blew out the No. 4 Sooners over the final two quarters after trailing 17-16 at halftime.

Quarterback Deshaun Watson turned in another stellar all-around performance, beating Oklahoma with his arm and his legs.

The defense did the rest, shutting down Baker Mayfield and a Sooners offense that was averaging 52 points over its previous seven games.

Clemson (14-0) showed the sort of balance it will need to cope with Alabama's stifling defense, rushing for 312 yards and passing for 218. Watson, who was named the game's offensive MVP, passed for one touchdown and ran for another. Wayne Gallman rushed for 150 yards and a pair of TDs.

"As a unit," Watson said, "it's tough to beat us when we're all on the same page and have each other's back."

The defense was even more impressive, especially since star end Shaq Lawson was knocked out of the game in the opening minutes with a knee injury.

The Sooners (11-2) matched their lowest-scoring game of the season as Baker Mayfield was sacked five times and intercepted twice, finally getting knocked out of the game when he took a blow to the head trying to make a tackle after his second pick.

The Tigers didn't just beat the Sooners.

They beat them up.

Lawson, who intends to turn pro after this season, said he'll be ready to go in his final college game.

He was diagnosed with a sprained medial collateral ligament.

"I'm going to be back," he vowed.

Roll, tide, roll

Alabama looked like a team with no weaknesses against Michigan State.

Jake Coker was nearly perfect for the Tide (13-1). The senior completed 25 for 30 for a career-best 286 yards. Freshman Calvin Ridley was brilliant, streaking by defenders on deep throws and outfighting them on jump balls. He caught eight passes for 138 yards and two TDs.

Jonathan Allen and the ferocious Tide defensive front sacked Connor Cook four times and allowed the Spartans (12-2) only one trip into the red zone — which ended with Cyrus Jones intercepting a pass at the goal line.

Jones added a high-stepping 57-yard punt return touchdown for the Tide, which hardly had to use Heisman Trophy winner Derrick Henry.

The big tailback was just a role player against a Spartans defense stacked to stop the run.

He finished with 75 yards but did score two touchdowns.

Now, the Tide will try to prevent Clemson from becoming the first team in FBS history to finish 15-0.

"Clemson is a great team, undefeated, a great program," Saban said.

"I'm sure our guys will be motivated, trying to do the best they can to play the best they can in the game. It's a great opportunity for them. I'm proud as hell of them to get where they are."



Associated Press

Alabama players celebrate after the Cotton Bowl NCAA college football semifinal playoff game against Michigan State, Thursday in Arlington. Alabama won 38-0 to advance to the championship game.

Ratings plunge for New Year's Eve College Football Playoff

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press

DALLAS — Jimmy Kimmel told people to watch. Even soap opera stars on "General Hospital" made not-so-subtle references to making plans to watch the College Football Playoff on New Year's Eve.

All the prodding and promoting wasn't enough to convince many fans to tune in.

College football's move to create a new tradition with semifinal matchups on New Year's Eve drew ratings more than a third lower than last season, when the matchups were held on New Year's Day.

The Orange Bowl between Clemson and Oklahoma, which kicked off about 3:10 p.m. on ESPN, drew a 9.1 rating, a 38.5 percent drop compared to last year's Rose Bowl, which got a 14.8 rating. The number of viewers dropped 44.5 percent from 28,164,000 for the Rose to just 15,640,000 for the Orange.

The Michigan State-Alabama Cotton Bowl drew a 9.6 rating for ESPN compared to 15.2 for Ohio State-Alabama in the Sugar Bowl last Jan. 1 — a 36.8 percent drop. Total viewership crashed 34.4 percent, going from 28,271,000 to 18,552,000.

College Football Playoff executive director Bill Hancock told the AP he was still awaiting the results of the New Year's Day games.

"It's just not appropriate to talk until all the results are in. I guess it's like asking a coach to talk about a whole game at halftime," he said.

The dramatic matchups and results of last year's first College Football Playoff semifinals led to record-breaking cable audiences for ESPN.

Those games included a face-off between Heisman Trophy winning quarterbacks Marcus Mariota and Jameis Winston in the Rose Bowl. Ohio State and Alabama, two of the most popular programs in college football, played a game that went down to the final play. Ohio State upset the Crimson Tide 42-35.

Those games represented the biggest cable TV audiences ever, until the first playoff championship game with Oregon-Ohio State topped it with 33 million viewers.

The matchups of this year's games weren't as attractive and both turned out to be lopsided. Clemson beat Oklahoma 37-17, pulling away in the second half. Alabama routed Michigan State 38-0 in a game that was pretty much over midway through the third quarter.

But the biggest difference was the day the games were played.

The FBS conference commissioners who put together the College Football Playoff in 2012 said they wanted to create a new tradition by playing the semifinals on New Year's Eve twice every three years over the course of a 12-year contract with ESPN. This is year two of that deal.

The decision was mostly to protect the interests of four conferences and two bowls. The Rose Bowl with the Big Ten and Pac-12 has traditionally been played in the early evening of Jan. 1. The Big 12 and Southeastern Conference decided to have their own Rose Bowl-type relationship with the Sugar Bowl and lock in the television time slot right after the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1.

Those games have their own separate TV deals with ESPN and they were set before the playoff was finalized. The contracts with ESPN for the Rose Bowl, Sugar Bowl and College Football Playoff will pay the major college football conferences about $7.3 billion over the life of the deals.

Clemson playing for a title, and for history

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — With shiny orange confetti stuck to his sweat-soaked face as the celebration after the Orange Bowl rolled along, Clemson linebacker Ben Boulware knew the time was right to make a bold statement.

"We can be the best team ever," Boulware shouted.

Best team ever? Well, that would be debatable.

Best record ever? That's within Clemson's reach.

As if playing for the national championship wasn't enough motivation, No. 1 Clemson (14-0) will be vying for a piece of college football history as well when it meets No. 2 Alabama (13-1) in Glendale, Arizona on Jan. 11 in the title game. No FBS team has ever finished 15-0, and being the first to get there has been a goal for Clemson from the moment that the team convened for training camp last summer.

"August 3rd, when we started the season, I gave them shirts that said 'Dream the Dream,'" Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said. "And I said '15 for 15,' with the message being let's make them print 15 tickets this year, somehow, some way.

"My gosh, they've got to print a 15th ticket to see the Tigers now," Swinney added. "It's been a great 2015."

If they keep the greatness going into the first game of 2016, it would be historic.

Granted, the notion of best-record-ever meaning best-team-ever won't be unanimously accepted. The 2001 Miami Hurricanes, the 1971 Nebraska Cornhuskers, the 1974 Oklahoma Sooners — among others — would probably disagree.

And only a handful of teams have even had the chance to play 15 games, with longer regular seasons, conference title games and now a four-team College Football Playoff stretching schedules out more than ever before.

Clemson doesn't care about any of that. To the Tigers, 15-0 would be absolute.

"Having the national championship would be amazing," Clemson offensive lineman Joe Gore said. "But never in my career, never, any sport, going back to when I was a little kid have I been undefeated. It would be such an accomplishment. If we do it, no one could ever take it away from us."

Swinney doesn't want them hiding from the opportunity. He's telling his team to embrace this chance.

"When you do the common things in an uncommon way, you command the attention of the world," Swinney said. "And this team is uncommon in everything that they do."

Winning the national title and going 15-0 would be obviously a huge boost to the Tigers, but it would also be a major moment for the Atlantic Coast Conference as well.

The last team to go 14-0 was Florida State, which brought a national title back to the ACC in 2013. And even with what the Seminoles and Tigers have done in recent years, the ACC still believes it doesn't get the level of respect that's afforded to some of the other leagues — namely the Southeastern Conference, which just happens to be providing Clemson's final obstacle this season in Alabama.

"Any time you have a team from your league in the national championship game, it's a great thing," ACC Commissioner John Swofford said. "You can't ask for a whole lot more than that. And any time you have a team that could accomplish a first of that magnitude, it's truly something special. So our whole league will be pulling for them."

The Tigers' numbers are absurd, and certainly help prepare their case for greatness.

They're 32 passing yards away from becoming the ninth team to manage 4,000 passing yards and 3,000 rushing yards in the same season. They've outgained opponents by 2,946 yards — roughly 1.7 miles — this season. Quarterback Deshaun Watson is the third player in FBS history with 3,500 passing yards and 1,000 rushing yards in the same year, and he's doing that even while running back Wayne Gallman set a school record for rushing as well.

"Going 15-0, it would mean we're the best ever," linebacker Travis Blanks said. "No one's ever done it. So we would be the best ever. It's just that simple."

McCaffrey leads Stanford's 45-16 Rose Bowl romp over Iowa

By Greg Beacham
Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — The first time Christian McCaffrey touched the ball in the 102nd Rose Bowl, he took it 75 yards for a spectacular touchdown. A few hundred yards later, Stanford's sophomore star had smashed the oldest bowl game's record for all-purpose yards while leading the Cardinal to a blowout win over Iowa.

Sure, McCaffrey didn't win the Heisman Trophy, and Stanford barely missed out on the College Football Playoff.

McCaffrey and the mighty Cardinal are still headed into the new year with the Pac-12 champions' most coveted postseason trophy — and the brightest of futures.

McCaffrey caught a touchdown pass on the opening snap and returned a punt 66 yards for another score while racking up 368 all-purpose yards, propelling No. 5 Stanford to a 45-16 victory over the sixth-ranked Hawkeyes on Friday.

Three-time Rose Bowl starter Kevin Hogan passed for 223 yards and three TDs in his final game for the Cardinal (12-2) as this unlikely Bay Area football powerhouse won the Granddaddy of Them All for the second time in three trips over the past four years.

"It's so fun when a team can come together," McCaffrey said. "We've got a bunch of fighters on this team that will never give up. Just love playing with these guys."

McCaffrey was sublime in his Rose Bowl debut, breaking the all-purpose yards record set by Wisconsin's Jared Abbrederis in 2012. McCaffrey finished second behind Alabama's Derrick Henry in the Heisman voting, but the speedy running back turned in one of the most dynamic performances in the Rose Bowl's lengthy history.

"I think he was the best player in America before this game, so I think it's just the icing on the cake," Stanford coach David Shaw said. "I do think it's a shame that a lot of people didn't get to see him during the course of the year. Apparently the games were too late."

The world was wide awake to see McCaffrey in Pasadena — and he scored 11 seconds in. Hogan's throw to McCaffrey was the second-longest TD pass in Rose Bowl history and the longest play given up all season by the stingy Iowa defense.

McCaffrey finished with 172 yards rushing, 105 yards receiving and 91 on kick returns, putting an appropriate cap on the season in which he set the NCAA record for all-purpose yards. He also became the first player ever to rack up more than 100 yards rushing and 100 yards receiving in a Rose Bowl — and he even became the single-season rushing leader in Stanford history with 2,109 yards on the ground.

Stanford and Iowa finished in the final two spots outside the College Football Playoff field, but the Cardinal showed they belong among the best with their 12th win in their final 13 games.

ALAMO

From 1B

"Our motto this year was prove them right. I mean, everybody counted us out," TCU receiver Kolby Listenbee said. "For this game, it's prove them wrong."

Some other things to know when the Alamo Bowl has two top 15 teams for the second year in a row after no such matchups the first 21 games:

DUCK CALLS: Matt Lubick has been promoted from Oregon's receivers coach to offensive coordinator to replace Scott Frost, who left to become Central Florida's coach. Third-year coach Mark Helfrich made the expected move official Friday, and said Lubick will call plays in the Alamo Bowl.

GO GREEN: Senior running back Aaron Green leads TCU with 1,171 yards rushing and 10 touchdowns. He is the Frogs' first 1,000-yard rusher in five seasons, and has the most yards since LaDainian Tomlison's 2,158 in 2000.

BIG GAINS: Oregon sophomore running back Royce Freeman is the only FBS player with at least 100 yards from scrimmage in every game this season, and has a national-best 71 plays that have gained at least 10 yards. His is the Pac-12 leader with 142 yards rushing per game, and needs 100 yards to break LaMichael James' single-season record 1,805 set in 2011.

IN HONOR: Oregon sophomore receiver Darren Cunningham is switching from No. 7 to No. 22 in honor of late New Mexico safety Markel Byrd. Cunningham's longtime friend and former prep teammate in San Diego was killed a single-car crash Dec. 22. Byrd wore No. 22 for the Lobos.

FIESTA

From 1B

linebacker Jaylon Smith to a knee injury in the first quarter.

"The guy is so impactful on our defense," Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly said. "You lose a guy like that early on, it significantly affects what you're doing defensively."

Notre Dame missed its CFB chance by four points; two-point losses to Clemson and Stanford.

Ohio State lost to Michigan State in its penultimate game and had to watch the Spartans join fellow one-loss teams Alabama and Oklahoma in the playoff.

Those just-misses turned the Fiesta Bowl into a talent show, with NFL-caliber players dotting rosters from both teams.

Two of the best players were gone before the first quarter ended.

Smith, the Butkus Award winner as the nation's best linebacker, had to be helped off four minutes in after suffering what Kelly said was a significant leg injury.

"With all due respect to all the other running backs in Ohio State history, my first-round draft pick, I'd pick Zeke Elliott. ... He's as good as any running back I've been around."

Urban Meyer, Ohio State coach

Bosa, projected as a top-10 NFL draft pick, was gone a few minutes later after driving the top of his helmet into the chest of Kizer, long after the Notre Dame quarterback had released the ball.

"That was a kidney shot right there, but I guess it was the right call," Meyer said.

Ohio State had its way with Notre Dame's defense without Smith in the lineup, racing down the field for scores like a 7-on-7 drill.

Elliott, another potential first-round pick, was the Buckeyes' punctuation mark, scoring on a pair of 1-yard runs and another from 2 yards. Barrett accounted for the other score, finding Michael Thomas on a 15-yard TD to put Ohio State up 28-14 at halftime.

Elliott showed off his speed to open the second half, blurring through a hole for his 47-yard touchdown to match the Fiesta Bowl record set by Arizona State's Woody Green against Missouri in 1972.

"He's a physical back. He makes his presence known," Notre Dame defensive lineman Sheldon Day said. "He did some special things with his feet today."

Notre Dame took advantage of Ohio State's Bosaless defense a few times, though not enough to keep pace with the Buckeyes.

Kizer was the key, moving the Irish down the field to set up a 3-yard touchdown run by Josh Adams and on another drive that he capped himself with a 1-yard score. It was his 10th rushing TD, most by a Notre Dame quarterback in one season.

Kizer connected with Chris Brown on a 4-yard touchdown pass to open the second half, pulling the Irish within a touchdown.

After a quiet first three quarters, Will Fuller finally got a chance to show off his speed, using a quick move to create space before racing off on an 81-yard touchdown. The second-longest TD reception in Fiesta Bowl history pulled the Fighting Irish within 38-28, but they got no closer.

Kizer threw for 284 yards and two touchdowns on 22-of-37 passing, but had an interception and lost a fumble.



Associated Press

Michigan quarterback Jake Rudock, left, throws a pass as he is hit by Florida linebacker Jarrad Davis, right, during the first half of the Citrus Bowl, Friday in Orlando, Fla.

BOWLROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Citrus Bowl

NO. 17 MICHIGAN 41
NO. 19 FLORIDA 7

ORLANDO, Fla. — Jake Rudock threw for 278 yards and three touchdowns and Michigan's defense dominated throughout in the Wolverines' victory over Florida in the Citrus Bowl.

In a game billed as a battle of two of the top defenses in the Big Ten and Southeastern Conference, the Wolverines' offense shined bright in their first bowl victory since 2012.

Michigan (10-3) had three touchdown drives of at least 70 yards and finished with 503 yards of offense against a Florida defense that entered the game ranked sixth nationally. Leading by 10 at the half, Michigan scored on each of its first two possessions in the third quarter to take a 31-7 lead.

Michigan played without safety Jabrill Peppers, who sat out with an undisclosed injury. But the Wolverines didn't miss him, holding the Gators (10-4) to 28 total yards in the second half.

Outback Bowl

TENNESSEE 45
NO. 12 NORTHWESTERN 6

TAMPA, Fla. — Joshua Dobbs threw for 166 yards and ran for two touchdowns, helping Tennessee cap its best season in eight years with a victory over Northwestern in the Outback Bowl.

Dobbs scored on runs 14 and 18 yards, and Jalen Hurd ran for 130 yards and one touchdown for the Volunteers (9-4). They finished with at least nine wins for the first time since 2007.

Northwestern (10-3) failed in a bid to finish with a school-record 11 victories.

Dobbs completed 14 of 25 passes. The dual-threat quarterback ran 12 times for 48 yards, including a highlight-reel burst around right end in which he dove for his second TD after picking up a bobbled snap and tight-roping his way up the sideline to make it 31-6 early in the fourth quarter.

BOWLCAPSULES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Cactus Bowl

WEST VIRGINIA (7-5, BIG 12) VS. ARIZONA STATE (6-6, PAC-12), 9:15 P.M. (ESPN)

Line: West Virginia by 1 ½.
Series Record: Arizona State leads 1-0.

WHAT'S AT STAKE

Arizona State and West Virginia both failed to live up to lofty expectations, so this is a chance to end the season with a win and hopefully build some momentum into spring football.

KEY MATCHUP

Arizona State's defense vs. West Virginia RB Wendell Smallwood. Arizona State has one of the nation's most aggressive defenses, sending blitzes from every direction. The Sun Devils are among the best in the nation at tackling behind the line of scrimmage, but also have been susceptible to big plays. Get through Arizona State's initial tacklers, Smallwood could have a few of those big plays on his own.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

West Virginia: WR Shelton Gibson. Despite the Mountaineers penchant for running, Gibson has found a way to peel off big plays. He was second nationally in yards per reception at 22.5 per catch and was 28th in receiving touchdowns with seven. Gibson also is a threat on kickoffs.

Arizona State: RB D.J. Foster. The senior was one of the most versatile players in Arizona State history during his four seasons in Tempe, playing running back and receiver. He has 4,785 career all-purpose and is one of five players in NCAA history to have 2,000 yards rushing and passing. He also has a catch in 52 straight games, the nation's longest active streak.

FACTS & FIGURES

Arizona State is playing in its fifth straight bowl, a school record. ... West Virginia is 2-11 all-time against Pac-12 opponents. ... Arizona State K Zane Gonzalez needs 11 points to break Luis Zendejas' school record of 280. ... West Virginia's Nick O'Toole is sixth nationally with 44.7 yards per punt. ... West Virginia reached a bowl game for the fourth time in five seasons under coach Dana Holgorsen. ... QB Mike Bercovici is responsible for 32 of Arizona State's 45 offensive touchdowns.

Liberty Bowl

ARKANSAS (7-5, SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE) VS. KANSAS STATE (6-6, BIG 12), 2:20 P.M. (ESPN)

Line: Arkansas by 12 ½
Series Record: Kansas State 3-2

WHAT'S AT STAKE

Arkansas is seeking its first eight-win season since 2011. The Razorbacks also could get capture their third straight bowl victory, which would be the longest such streak in school history. This game also determines whether Kansas State finishes above or below .500. Kansas State hasn't had a losing season since Bill Snyder began his second stint as the Wildcats' coach in 2009.

KEY MATCHUP

Arkansas running back Alex Collins vs. Kansas State run defense: Kansas State's chances of pulling the upset depend on making sure the Razorbacks don't run wild. Arkansas' offense is more balanced than usual this season, but the Razorbacks' ground attack remains potent. Collins has rushed for 1,392 yards and 17 touchdowns in his third straight 1,000-yard season. He runs behind a mammoth offensive line that has a major size advantage over Kansas State's defensive front. Kansas State ranks second in the Big 12 in run defense but is allowing 4.3 yards per carry.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Arkansas: TE Hunter Henry: The Associated Press All-America first-team tight end has 46 catches for 647 yards and three touchdowns. He leads all tight ends in yards receiving, first-down catches (32) and gains of 15-plus yards (19). According to Arkansas' sports information department, Henry hasn't dropped a pass all season.

Kansas State: CB/KR Morgan Burns: He has scored touchdowns on four kickoff returns this season and also has 34 tackles and 11 passes defensed as a starting cornerback. He could tie a Football Bowl Subdivision single-season record Saturday by producing a fifth touchdown on a kickoff return.

FACTS & FIGURES

Arkansas coach Bret Bielema was an assistant on Synder's staff at Kansas State in 2002-03. ... While Arkansas has been known primarily for its rushing attack during Bielema's tenure, quarterback Brandon Allen has a school-record 63 career touchdown passes. ... Kansas State is on a three-game winning streak, while Arkansas has won five of its last six. ... Kansas State has lost six of its last seven bowl games. ... This marks the second time in the last five years these teams have met in a bowl game. Arkansas capped the 2011 season by beating Kansas State 29-18 in the Cotton Bowl.

TaxSlayer Bowl

PENN STATE (7-5, BIG TEN) VS GEORGIA (9-3, SEC), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Line: Georgia by 6.
Series Record: Penn State leads 1-0.

WHAT'S AT STAKE

Georgia is trying to extend its winning streak to five games and give incoming coach Kirby Smart extra momentum as he finalizes his inaugural recruiting class. Penn State is trying to end a three-game losing streak in coach James Franklin's second season.

KEY MATCHUP

Georgia OT John Theus vs Penn State DE Carl Nassib. Theus is a first-team All-Southeastern Conference selection who has held his own against some of the league's elite pass rushers. Nassib is a consensus first-team All-American and the Lombardi Award winner as the nation's top lineman. He leads the nation with 15 ½ sacks, which also is the school's single-season record.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Penn State: Junior QB Christian Hackenberg has started all 37 games in his college career and holds school records for passing yards (8,318) and touchdowns (48).

Georgia: Junior OLB Leonard Floyd, a Butkus Award finalist, ranks second on the team with 68 tackles and leads the Bulldogs with 10 ½ tackles for loss and 4 ½ sacks.

FACTS & FIGURES

Teams meeting for first time since the 1983 Sugar Bowl, a 27-23 victory for Penn State that vaulted the Nittany Lions to the national championship. ... Penn State is 23-21 all-time against the SEC, including 12-6 in bowl games. ... Franklin went 1-2 against Georgia during his three years as head coach at Vanderbilt. ... Penn State has four players from the Sunshine State, but none from Jacksonville. ... Georgia's Theus brothers, John and Nathan, are from Jacksonville and will serve as captains in their final collegiate game. ... The Bulldogs are playing their fifth game in Jacksonville in the past 27 months. They are 1-3 in the previous four, including three consecutive losses. ... Smart, who is still coaching Alabama's defense through the College Football Playoff, is expected to attend the game.

COLLEGE BOWL GLANCE

Today

TaxSlayer Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
Penn St. (7-5) vs. Georgia (9-3), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.
Kansas St. (6-6) vs. Arkansas (7-5), 2:20 p.m. (ESPN)

Alamo Bowl
San Antonio
Oregon (9-3) vs. TCU (10-2), 5:45 p.m. (ESPN)

Cactus Bowl
Phoenix
West Virginia (7-5) vs. Arizona State (6-6), 9:15 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 11

College Football Championship Game
Glendale, Ariz.
Orange Bowl winner vs. Cotton Bowl winner, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 23

East-West Shrine Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFLN)

NFLPA Collegiate Bowl
At Carson, Calif.
National vs. American, 5 p.m. (ESPN2)

Saturday, Jan. 30

Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South, 1:30 p.m. (NFLN)

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

Add a **U** to each of the six-letter words below, and then rearrange the letters in each word to form a new seven-letter word.

PALATE

BOTANY

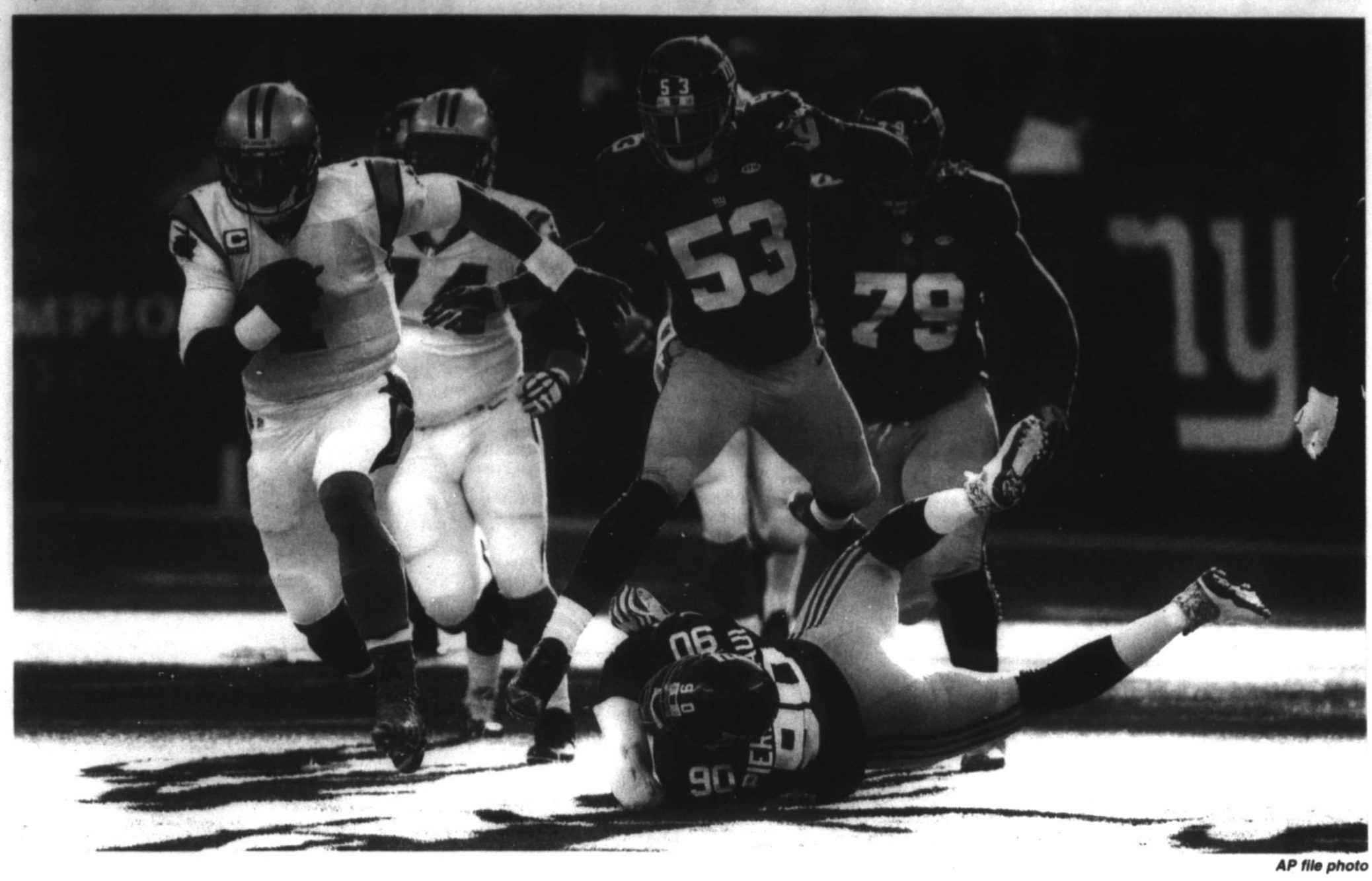
CARPET

RAFFLE

Yesterday's Answer: CATNAP, QUICHE, VACUUM 1.2

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AP file photo

Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton (1) breaks a tackle by New York Giants' Jason Pierre-Paul (90) during the first half in East Rutherford, N.J., on Dec. 20, 2015. We know the Panthers won the NFC South in 2014, but they did it with a 7-8-1 record. Their playoff win was over a severely undermanned Arizona. To see them win their first 14 games and for Newton to emerge as one of the NFL's elite players was unexpected.

The good, bad and weird of the NFL season

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press

While the NFL generally avoided the alarming off-field episodes that plagued it a year ago, the product on the field rarely was memorable.

Except when officials were making incorrect calls, perhaps. Or when a standout receiver was losing control and drawing three personal fouls (and a subsequent suspension). Or when the Packers got even for the "Fail Mary" of a few years back with their own desperation throw on the final play to beat Detroit.

There were plenty of award-winning incidents and performers to fill up the Offbeat Awards, though. Here they are:

BEST GAME: Arizona's 34-31 escape against Cincinnati in Week 11. Chandler Catanzaro kicked a 32-yard field goal with 2 seconds remaining after Cincinnati's Domata Peko was called for a rare unsportsmanlike conduct penalty for hollering out offensive signals to try to confuse the Cardinals as they were about to spike the ball to set up the kick. Against the team that drafted him first overall in 2003, Carson Palmer overcame two early interceptions to throw four touchdown passes. Andy Dalton had two TD throws, both to Tyler Eifert, and Mike Nugent tied it at 31 with a 43-yard field goal 1:03 from the finish.

A dynamic game between two strong teams.

Runner-up: Despite all of the ugliness involving Giants receiver Odell Beckham Jr., the Panthers' 38-35 win in Week 15 stands out. Cam Newton threw for five touchdowns in building a 35-7 lead, then New York matched the biggest regular-season comeback in NFL history to tie it at 35. Newton calmly led Carolina to a winning field goal on the final snap and a 14-0 record.

WORST GAME: Most of the Thursday night games would qualify — quality on such a short week is virtually impossible — but the most unwatchable was Miami's 36-7 loss at New England in Week 8. The Dolphins were coming off two wins under coach Dan Campbell after Joe Philbin had been fired. They didn't show up in Foxborough, though, and trailed 19-0 at the half. Center Mike Pouncey, a good player, caused a safety when he snapped the ball to unprepared QB Ryan Tannehill among the lowlights.

Runner-up: Buffalo's 16-6 win over Dallas in Week 16, when both teams were long gone from the playoff race and with stars Tony Romo, Dez Bryant and LeSean McCoy absent. A real snoozer."

BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR: Danny Amendola's pass to Tom Brady against Philadelphia. Brady walked to his right behind the offensive line, barking out instructions. But the ball was snapped to Patriots running back James White, who handed to Amendola on a reverse. Amendola immediately threw to Brady down the right sideline for a 36-yard gain. Brady even displayed some speed on the play, with analytics showing he reached a speed of 16.96 mph, third fastest among receivers in the game.

Runner-up: Philadelphia's Darren Sproles' darting 89-yard punt return for a TD after being pinned against the left sideline by the Jets.

WORST PLAY OF THE YEAR: We could probably pick one per week, but the topper (bottomer?) has to be the Colts' fake punt against New England — the most stupefying play of the season. Andrew Luck called it "bone-headed."

With New England leading 27-21 late on Oct. 18, Indianapolis lined up to punt and then sent nine players sprinting toward the sideline. That left safety Colt Anderson behind receiver Griff Whalen, who was playing center. But instead of catching the Patriots with too many men on the field or snapping the ball immediately to catch New England off-guard, the Colts ran the play clock down to 1 second, then snapped the ball. By then, the Patriots had adjusted and tackled Anderson for a loss.

Compounding the problem: The Colts didn't even line up correctly and were called for illegal formation, too.

Coach Chuck Pagano later acknowledged the Colts were taking the play out of their playbook.

Oh, and Indy lost 34-27.

Runner-up: Steven Hauschka's poorly executed squib kick to start over in Seattle's Week 1 loss at St. Louis. Coach Pete Carroll got blamed for trying an onside kick, but that wasn't the call. Hauschka simply made an awful attempt.

BIGGEST SURPRISE (PLAYER): Josh Norman. It would have been tempting to say Cam Newton, but he made huge steps down the stretch last year. So it's his teammate, who has become the best one-on-one pass defender in the NFL. Yes, he's been better than Darrelle Revis or Richard Sherman, and certainly shouldn't be defined by the shenanigans between the Panthers cornerback and Odell Beckham Jr. in Week 15.

Runners-up: Doug Baldwin (offense), Kurt Coleman (defense). Yet another Panther, safety Coleman was nothing more than a journeyman in his previous five seasons. He has seven interceptions heading into the finale. Baldwin has been a dependable and sometimes spectacular wideout in Seattle for four seasons. But a game changer? Not until this year.

BIGGEST SURPRISE (TEAM): Carolina. We know the Panthers won the NFC South in 2014, but they did it with a 7-8-1 record. Their playoff win was over a severely undermanned Arizona. To see them win their first 14 games and for Newton to emerge as one of the NFL's elite players was unexpected. Plenty was expected from their defense, but when top receiver Kelvin Benjamin was lost for the season in the summer, who could have predicted such a strong points-producing machine in Charlotte?

Runner-up: New York Jets. Their quarterback got slugged by a teammate in training camp. A new coach was taking over from the popular if bombastic Rex Ryan. They were in New England's division. But the Jets have stayed in the wild-card race when a .500 record would have signified progress.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT (PLAYER): DeMarco Murray. Not real sure who to blame for this, the 2014 Offensive Player of the Year who left Dallas as a free agent, or Chip Kelly. The Eagles coach never figured out how to use Murray, who clearly doesn't fit the system the recently fired Kelly employs. But to virtually bury Murray on the bench down the stretch?

Runners-up: Matt Ryan (offense), Mario Williams (defense). Ryan looked befuddled at times and took far too many gambles, particularly when the Falcons spiraled to six consecutive losses after a 6-1 start. Bills DE Williams has been invisible for much of the season and in December criticized Ryan's schemes.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT (TEAM): The club Murray left, the Cowboys. Dallas supposedly was primed for its first Super Bowl run in two decades, but was ill-prepared for key injuries (Tony Romo, Dez Bryant, Orlando Scandrick), never truly replaced Murray's production, and seemed to believe it could will itself to victories rather than earn them.

Runners-up: Indianapolis. After three straight playoff appearances under Chuck Pagano, getting closer to the Super Bowl each year, the Colts certainly took the next step — a big one, backward.

NFL GLANCE

Standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	12	3	0	.800	455	295
N.Y. Jets	10	5	0	.667	370	292
Buffalo	7	8	0	.467	357	342
Miami	5	10	0	.333	290	379
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	8	7	0	.533	309	307
Indianapolis	7	8	0	.467	303	384
Jacksonville	5	10	0	.333	370	418
Tennessee	3	12	0	.200	275	393
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Cincinnati	11	4	0	.733	396	263
Pittsburgh	9	6	0	.600	395	307
Baltimore	5	10	0	.333	312	377
Cleveland	3	12	0	.200	286	404
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Denver	11	4	0	.733	329	276
x-Kansas City	10	5	0	.667	382	270
Oakland	7	8	0	.467	342	376
San Diego	4	11	0	.267	300	371

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Washington	8	7	0	.533	354	356
Philadelphia	6	9	0	.400	342	400
N.Y. Giants	6	9	0	.400	390	407
Dallas	4	11	0	.267	252	340
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Carolina	14	1	0	.933	482	296
Atlanta	8	7	0	.533	322	325
Tampa Bay	6	9	0	.400	332	379
New Orleans	6	9	0	.400	368	459
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Green Bay	10	5	0	.667	355	303
x-Minnesota	10	5	0	.667	345	289
Detroit	6	9	0	.400	334	360
Chicago	6	9	0	.400	315	373
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Arizona	13	2	0	.867	483	277
x-Seattle	9	6	0	.600	387	271
St. Louis	7	8	0	.467	284	311
San Francisco	4	11	0	.267	219	371

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Schedule

Sunday's Games

Jacksonville at Houston, noon
Washington at Dallas, noon
Detroit at Chicago, noon
N.Y. Jets at Buffalo, noon
New England at Miami, noon
New Orleans at Atlanta, noon
Baltimore at Cincinnati, noon
Pittsburgh at Cleveland, noon
Tennessee at Indianapolis, noon
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, noon
St. Louis at San Francisco, 3:25 p.m.
San Diego at Denver, 3:25 p.m.
Atlanta at Arizona, 3:25 p.m.
Oakland at Kansas City, 3:25 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 3:25 p.m.
Minnesota at Green Bay, 7:30 p.m.

Scenarios

Week 17

AFC

CLINCHED: New England - AFC East and first-round bye; Cincinnati - AFC North; Denver and Kansas City - playoff berth.

NEW ENGLAND (at Miami)

Clinches home-field advantage throughout AFC playoffs with:
- Win or tie, or
- Denver loss or tie

DENVER (vs. San Diego)

Clinches AFC West with:
- Win or tie, or
- Kansas City loss or tie

Clinches first-round bye with:
- Win, or
- Tie and Cincinnati loss or tie, or
- Kansas City loss or tie and Cincinnati loss

Clinches home-field advantage throughout AFC playoffs:
- Win and New England loss

CINCINNATI (vs. Baltimore)

Clinches first-round bye with:
- Win and Denver loss or tie, or
- Tie and Denver loss, or
- Denver loss and Kansas City win

KANSAS CITY (vs. Oakland)

Clinches AFC West with:
- Win and Denver loss

NEW YORK JETS (at Buffalo)

Clinch playoff spot with:
- Win or tie, or
- Pittsburgh loss or tie

PITTSBURGH (at Cleveland)

Clinches playoff spot with:
- Win and N.Y. Jets loss

HOUSTON (vs. Jacksonville)

Clinches AFC South with:
- Win or tie, or
- Indianapolis loss or tie, or
- Clinches strength of victory tiebreaker or strength of schedule tiebreaker over Indianapolis

Clinches strength of victory tiebreaker over Indianapolis if one of the following teams wins or ties: Cincinnati, New England, New Orleans, N.Y. Jets and San Diego

Clinches strength of schedule tiebreaker over Indianapolis if Kansas City wins or ties and Baltimore wins or ties as long as both teams don't tie

INDIANAPOLIS (vs. Tennessee)

Clinches AFC South with:
- Win and Houston loss and Indianapolis ties Houston in strength of victory tiebreaker and clinches strength of schedule tiebreaker over Houston

Ties Houston in strength of victory tiebreaker and clinches strength of schedule tiebreaker over Houston if BOTH of the following occurs
- All of the following teams win: Atlanta, Baltimore, Buffalo, Denver, Miami
- Oakland and Pittsburgh win or tie as long as both teams don't tie

If Houston and Indianapolis end up tied in strength of victory and tied in strength of schedule, the teams would then go to the next tiebreaker, which is best combined ranking among AFC teams in points scored and points allowed in all games.

NFC

CLINCHED: Carolina - NFC South and first-round bye; Arizona - NFC West and first-round bye; Washington - NFC East; Green Bay, Minnesota and Seattle - playoff berth.

CAROLINA (vs. Tampa Bay)

Clinches home-field advantage throughout NFC playoffs with:
- Win or tie, or
- Arizona loss or tie

ARIZONA (vs. Seattle)

Clinches home-field advantage throughout NFC playoffs with:
- Win and Carolina loss

GREEN BAY (vs. Minnesota)

Clinches NFC North with:
- Win or tie

MINNESOTA (at Green Bay)

Clinches NFC North with:
- Win

Injury report

NEW YORK JETS at BUFFALO BILLS — JETS: QUESTIONABLE: TE Kellen Davis (foot), T Breno Giacomini (ankle), RB Bilal Powell (ankle). PROBABLE: LB Demario Davis (wrist), WR Eric Decker (knee), WR Quincy Enunwa (neck), QB Ryan Fitzpatrick (left thumb, right elbow, back), LB Erin Henderson (illness), RB Chris Ivory (knee), WR Brandon Marshall (ankle), LB Lorenzo Mauldin (back), CB Dee Milliner (hamstring), LB Calvin Pace (abdomen), WR Kenbrell Thompkins (quadriceps, shin), DE Muhammad Wilkerson (toe). BILLS: OUT: LB Nigel Bradham (ankle), RB LeSean McCoy (knee). PROBABLE: CB Ronald Darby (groin), DT Marcell Dareus (neck), WR Chris Hogan (wrist), G John Miller (ankle), S Bacarri Rambo (knee, shoulder), QB Tyrod Taylor (right shoulder), DE Mario Williams (hand).

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS at MIAMI DOLPHINS — PATRIOTS: OUT: CB Justin Coleman (concussion), WR Julian Edelman (foot), LB Jonathan Freeny (hand), LB Dont'a Hightower (knee), DE Chandler Jones (abdomen, toe), T Sebastian Vollmer (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: WR Danny Amendola (knee), TE Scott Chandler (knee), S Patrick Chung (foot), G Josh Kline (shoulder), WR Brandon LaFell (foot), S Devin McCourty (ankle), DE Rob Ninkovich (shin), DT Sealver Siliga (not injury related), T LaAdrian Waddle (shoulder). DOLPHINS: DOUBTFUL: LB Jelani Jenkins (ankle), C Mike Pouncey (foot, ankle). QUESTIONABLE: G Jamil Douglas (ankle), T Ja'Wuan James (toe), WR Rishard Matthews (ribs), DT Earl Mitchell (calf), WR Kenny Stills (thigh). PROBABLE: WR Jarvis Landry (knee), QB Ryan Tannehill (thigh, knee), G Billy Turner (calf).

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS at CAROLINA PANTHERS — BUCCANEERS: PROBABLE: DE Da'Quan Bowers (not injury related), LB Kourtnei Brown (groin), DE William Gholston (hip), RB Jonvorskie Lane (illness), G Logan Mankins (knee), CB Sterling Moore (ankle). PANTHERS: OUT: RB Jonathan Stewart (foot), RB Fozzy Whittaker (ankle). DOUBTFUL: S Kurt Coleman (foot), WR Ted Ginn Jr. (knee). PROBABLE: LB Thomas Davis (illness), C Ryan Kalil (illness), DT Star Lotulelei (illness), LB David Mayo (hamstring).

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS at ATLANTA FALCONS — SAINTS: OUT: WR Marques Colston (chest), LB Dannell Ellerbe (hip), T Andrus Peat (concussion). QUESTIONABLE: T Terron Armstead (knee). PROBABLE: QB Drew Brees (foot), S Jairus Byrd (knee), TE Josh Hill (concussion), DE Cameron Jordan (back), T Zach Strief (elbow). FALCONS: OUT: RB Tevin Coleman (concussion). PROBABLE: CB Phillip Adams (hamstring), CB Robert Alford (ankle), G Chris Chester (shoulder), LB Justin Durant (hip), RB Devonta Freeman (knee), WR Devin Hester (toe), DT Grady Jarrett (shoulder), QB Matt Ryan (hip), WR Eric Weems (concussion), WR Roddy White (ankle), LB Paul Worrilow (knee).

BALTIMORE RAVENS at CINCINNATI BENGALS — RAVENS: QUESTIONABLE: LB Albert McClellan (ankle). PROBABLE: LB Elvis Dumervil (not injury related), RB Kyle Juszczyk (illness), LB Daryl Smith (not injury related). BENGALS: OUT: QB Andy Dalton (right thumb), TE Ryan Hewitt (knee). PROBABLE: DE Carlos Dunlap (hamstring), TE Tyler Eifert (concussion), S George Iloka (groin), WR Marvin Jones (hamstring), QB AJ McCarron (left wrist).

PITTSBURGH STEELERS at CLEVELAND BROWNS — STEELERS: QUESTIONABLE: WR Martavis Bryant (illness), CB Doran Grant (groin), PROBABLE: S Will Allen (not injury related), CB Antwon Blake (back), CB William Gay (not injury related), LB James Harrison (illness), TE Heath Miller (not injury related), S Mike Mitchell (shoulder), QB Ben Roethlisberger (illness), LB Ryan Shazier (not injury related), TE Matt Spaeth (not injury related). BROWNS: OUT: QB Johnny Manziel (concussion), WR Marlon Moore (concussion), CB Tramon Williams (concussion), RB Glenn Winston (concussion). QUESTIONABLE: WR Travis Benjamin (ankle), LB Karlos Dansby (toe), RB Rashaun Mostert (ankle), T Joe Thomas (knee), CB K'Waun Williams (shoulder). PROBABLE: DE Desmond Bryant (thumb).

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS at HOUSTON TEXANS — JAGUARS: OUT: LB Telvin Smith (shoulder), RB T.J. Yeldon (knee). QUESTIONABLE: T Jermey Parnell (hamstring), LB Hayes Pullard III (hamstring). PROBABLE: DE Tyson Alualu (ankle), DE Chris Clemons (not injury related), S Johnathan Cyprien (thigh), WR Allen Hurns (thigh), T Luke Joeckel (back, knee), CB Demetrius McCray (not injury related), DT Roy Miller III (knee), DT Jared Odrick (quadriceps), WR Allen Robinson (shoulder). TEXANS: OUT: LB Jadeveon Clowney (foot), WR Cecil Shorts III (hamstring). QUESTIONABLE: DE Jeoffrey Pagan (illness). PROBABLE: RB Alfred Blue (calf), CB A.J. Bouye (knee), LB Max Bullough (shoulder), DE Jared Crick (back), QB B.J. Daniels (chest), TE Ryan Griffin (Achilles), QB Brian Hoyer (concussion, ankle), CB Kareem Jackson (ankle), CB Kevin Johnson (foot), C Ben Jones (ankle), LB Whitney Mercilus (back), S Rahim Moore (illness), T Derek Newton (elbow), LB Brian Peters (chest), RB Chris Polk (knee), G Xavier Su'a-Filo (calf), DE J.J. Watt (groin, hand).

TENNESSEE TITANS at INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — TITANS: OUT: T Taylor Lewan (concussion), QB Marcus Mariota (knee), WR Kendall Wright (knee). QUESTIONABLE: NT Sammie Hill (knee). PROBABLE: RB Jalston Fowler (toe), S Michael Griffin (foot), LB Wesley Woodyard (illness). COLTS: OUT: LB Trent Cole (concussion), QB Matt Hasselbeck (right shoulder, ribs, back), QB Andrew Luck (abdomen, kidney). QUESTIONABLE: S Colt Anderson (ankle), LB Sio Moore (knee). PROBABLE: S Mike Adams (ankle), CB Darius Butler (hip, knee), TE Jack Doyle (toe), LB Jerrell Freeman (hamstring), S Winston Guy (hamstring, shoulder), WR T.Y. Hilton (calf), T Jack Mewhort (illness), WR Donte Moncrief (toe), LB Erik Walden (foot).

OAKLAND RAIDERS at KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — RAIDERS: QUESTIONABLE: CB DJ Hayden (ankle), CB Neiko Thorpe (neck). PROBABLE: WR Amari Cooper (foot), DE Khalil Mack (knee), S Charles Woodson (shoulder). CHIEFS: QUESTIONABLE: S Husain Abdullah (concussion), LB Tamba Hali (thumb, knee), LB Justin Houston (knee), G Jah Reid (knee). PROBABLE: G Jeff Allen (ankle), LB Dee Ford (knee), TE Travis Kelce (groin), RB Spencer Ware (rib), WR Albert Wilson (shin).

WASHINGTON REDSKINS at DALLAS COWBOYS — REDSKINS: OUT: CB Quinton Dunbar (quadriceps), S Dashon Goldson (shoulder, rib). DOUBTFUL: RB Matt Jones (hip). LB Perry Riley Jr. (foot). QUESTIONABLE: CB DeAngelo Hall (calf), DE Jason Hatcher (neck, knee), WR DeSean Jackson (knee), RB Pierre Thomas (knee), T Trent Williams (knee, foot). PROBABLE: CB Will Blackmon (shin, hip), LB Will Compton (shin), WR Ryan Grant (abdomen), C Josh LeRibeus (ankle), T Morgan Moses (ankle), LB Keenan Robinson (shoulder), RB Chris Thompson (shoulder). COWBOYS: DOUBTFUL: G La'el Collins (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: CB Morris Claiborne (hamstring), LB Sean Lee (hamstring). PROBABLE: WR Cole Beasley (knee), DE Greg Hardy (illness), S Jeff Heath (shoulder), DE Demarcus Lawrence (chest), DE Jeremy Mincey (hip), WR Devin Street (concussion), LB Kyle Wilber (shoulder), TE Jason Witten (chest).

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES at NEW YORK GIANTS — EAGLES: OUT: WR Seyi Ajirotutu (ankle), DT Bennie Logan (calf), CB Byron Maxwell (shoulder). QUESTIONABLE: CB Jaylen Watkins (shin). PROBABLE: G Dennis Kelly (ankle), K Caleb Sturgis (right hamstring). GIANTS: OUT: S Craig Dahl (concussion), T Marshall Newhouse (concussion), S Cooper Taylor (concussion). QUESTIONABLE: WR Dwayne Harris (back, shoulder), DE Jason Pierre-Paul (ankle).

DETROIT LIONS at CHICAGO BEARS — LIONS: OUT: C Travis Swanson (shoulder). DOUBTFUL: DE Jason Jones (neck). QUESTIONABLE: S Isa Abdul-Quddus (shoulder), RB Ameer Abdullah (shoulder), WR Calvin Johnson (ankle), CB Nevin Lawson (shoulder), DT Haloti Ngata (foot), T Michael Ola (knee). PROBABLE: LB Josh Bynes (thumb). BEARS: DOUBTFUL: C Hroniss Grasu (knee), WR Eddie Royal (illness). QUESTIONABLE: S Adrian Amos (shoulder), CB Bryce Callahan (quadriceps), RB Matt Forte (back), DE Jarvis Jenkins (ankle, illness), LB Shea McClellin (concussion), LB Pernell McPhee (knee), TE Zach Miller (toe), CB Tracy Porter (ankle), DT Mitch Unrein (knee). LB Willie Young (rib).

MINNESOTA VIKINGS at GREEN BAY PACKERS — VIKINGS: PROBABLE: DT Sharrif Floyd (knee), DE Everson Griffen (shoulder), S Anthony Harris (hip), DT Linval Joseph (foot), T Matt Kalil (lower leg), RB Adrian Peterson (ankle, shoulder), S Harrison Smith (hamstring), WR Adam Thielen (back). PACKERS: OUT: LB Jayrone Elliott (quadriceps), TE Justin Perillo (hamstring). QUESTIONABLE: T David Bakhtiari (ankle), DT Mike Daniels (groin), LB Mike Neal (hip), DT B.J. Raji (concussion), CB Sam Shields (concussion). PROBABLE: T Bryan Bulaga (ankle), DT Letroy Guion (foot), CB Casey Hayward (ankle), RB Eddie Lacy (rib), G T.J. Lang (shoulder), C Corey Linsley (ankle), LB Clay Matthews (ankle), LB Nick Perry (shoulder), G Josh Sitton (back).

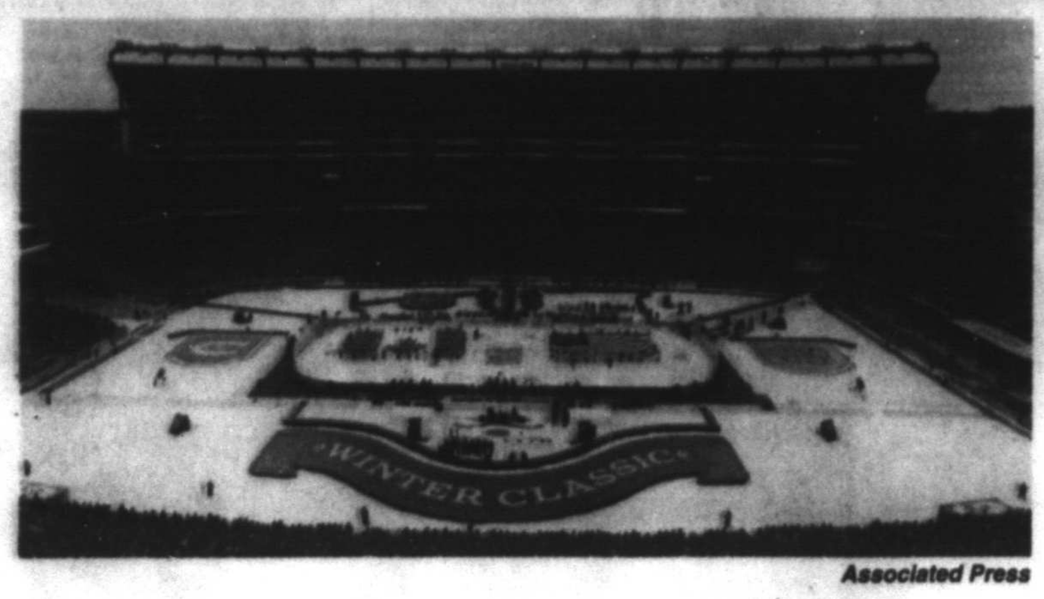
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS at DENVER BRONCOS — CHARGERS: OUT: G Orlando Franklin (concussion). DOUBTFUL: T King Dunlap (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: T Chris Hairston (abdomen), WR Javontee Herndon (chest), WR Steve Johnson (groin), C Trevor Robinson (concussion, shoulder), LB Manti Te'o (ankle), CB Jason Verrett (hamstring). PROBABLE: LB Jarry Attaochu (knee), LB Kyle Emanuel (concussion), CB Patrick Robinson (calf, not injury related). BRONCOS: QUESTIONABLE: LB Brandon Marshall (ankle), S T.J. Ward (ankle). PROBABLE: RB C.J. Anderson (back), S Omar Bolden (hamstring), TE Owen Daniels (knee, shoulder), LB Todd Davis (shoulder), QB Peyton Manning (foot), LB Lerentee McCray (hamstring), QB Brock Osweiler (left elbow, left shoulder, ribs), WR Emmanuel Sanders (ankle), S Darian Stewart (hamstring), WR Demaryius Thomas (hamstring), DE Vance Walker (shoulder).

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS at ARIZONA CARDINALS — SEAHAWKS: OUT: RB Marshawn Lynch (abdomen), G J.R. Sweezy (concussion), TE Luke Willson (concussion). DOUBTFUL: T Russell Okung (calf). QUESTIONABLE: S Kam Chancellor (pelvis), DT Jordan Hill (toe). PROBABLE: DE Cliff Avril (back), DE Michael Bennett (toe). CARDINALS: OUT: LB Markus Golden (knee), DT Josh Mauro (calf). QUESTIONABLE: WR Michael Floyd (knee), LB Dwight Freeney (knee), S Rashad Johnson (ankle), DT Frostee Rucker (ankle). PROBABLE: RB Andre Ellington (toe), WR Larry Fitzgerald (ankle), LB Alani Fua (groin), TE Mike Leach (back), QB Carson Palmer (right finger), CB Patrick Peterson (ankle), CB Jerraud Powers (hamstring), DE Cory Redding (ankle), DT Ed Stinson (ribs), RB Stepfan Taylor (shoulder).

ST. LOUIS RAMS at SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — RAMS: DOUBTFUL: RB Todd Gurley (foot). QUESTIONABLE: T Andrew Donnal (knee), DE Ethan Westbrooks (concussion). PROBABLE: S Mark Barron (concussion), DT Michael Brockers (thigh). 49ERS: OUT: DT Quinton Dial (back). DOUBTFUL: C Marcus Martin (concussion), S Jaquiski Tartt (knee). PROBABLE: DT Ank Armstead (shoulder, shin), LB NaVorro Bowman (shoulder, finger), CB Tramaine Brock (hamstring), LB Ahmad Brooks (shoulder, back), G Trenton Brown (knee), LB Eli Harold (finger), CB Dontae Johnson (ankle), RB Bruce Miller (foot), G Erik Pears (knee), S Eric Reid (hip), WR Torrey Smith (back, foot), T Joe Staley (knee, illness).

Winter Classic: Canadiens top Bruins at home of Patriots

By Jimmy Golen
Associated Press



Associated Press

The Canadian and American flags are presented during the national anthems before the NHL Winter Classic hockey game between the Boston Bruins and Montreal Canadiens at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Mass., on Friday.

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The Montreal Forum was the Canadiens' home for one of the most successful dynasties in professional sports.

The Bruins and Celtics filled the Boston Garden rafters with championship banners.

The Original Six rivals met at the home of the defending Super Bowl champions for the NHL Winter Classic on Friday, and it was the visiting Canadiens and their locally grown goalie who managed to mimic the New England Patriots' success.

Wearing a mask decorated with a Patriots theme and autographed by their coach and quarterback, Mike Condon stopped 27 shots to help Montreal beat the Bruins 5-1 on Friday at the home of the reigning NFL champions.

"I'm pretty sure anything Tom Brady touches turns to gold," said the Boston-bred goalie whose father is a policeman who works a security detail at Gillette Stadium during Patriots games. "Hopefully got some mojo on my helmet there. I'm a huge fan of his, huge fan of this organization, and I'm just happy to pay respect to them on the ice."

Paul Byron scored twice, and Brendan Gallagher returned from two broken fingers to score a goal and add an assist. David Desharnais and Max Pacioretty also scored for the Canadiens, who passed Florida and moved into first place in the Atlantic Division with 47 points.

Tuukka Rask stopped 25 shots for the Bruins, and Matt Beleskey scored in the third period to avert the first shutout in Winter Classic history. The four-goal win was the largest for the event since it began in 2008.

Both goalies paid tribute to the Patriots and Brady on their masks, and coach Claude Julien worked the Bruins bench in a hoodie straight from the wardrobe of his NFL counterpart, Bill Belichick.

Condon's mask had pictures of Brady and Belichick, New England's four Super Bowl trophies and their motto: "Do your job." The two Patriots icons rewarded his loyalty by signing the backplate for him; Belichick even listed the team's four championships.

Condon shut out the Bruins for more than two periods, gloving Ryan Spooner's wrist shot with 0.1 seconds left in the second period to protect a 3-0 lead.

"Anytime a player is coming back home, it's a special place for him," said Montreal's Michel Therrien, who also coached Pittsburgh to a win in the inaugural Winter Classic in 2008 and is the first NHL coach to win twice. "And we all are happy about the way he performed."

Rask had Brady and tight end Rob Gronkowski on his, along with a scowling minuteman — in black and gold, rather than the red, white and blue colors that the Patriots share with the Canadians.

But the Bruins fell to 0-1 in a building where the Patriots have lost only one meaningful game in three years.

"We definitely feel like we let everybody down," Bruins defenseman Dennis Seidenberg said. "It was such a big buildup. I'm sure everybody in here wanted to come out on the ice with a little bit more jump and bring a little bit better effort. But that wasn't the case today."

Before a crowd of 67,246 on a cloudy day with the temperature for the opening faceoff at 40 degrees, the teams dodged the slushy ice that has greeted other Winter Classic events, including the old-timers and women's exhibitions on Thursday. Organizers compensated for the lack of snow in the Boston area so far this winter by spreading white, puffy fabric over the football field.

But they couldn't account for such a lackluster effort from the Bruins, who were facing their longtime rival with a chance to take over first place in the Atlantic Division.

The Canadiens had beaten Boston seven straight times before a Bruins victory on Dec. 9, but Montreal had lost 11 of 13 heading into the New Year's Day game. Gallagher's return gave the Canadiens a boost and led to their third goal.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	40	22	15	3	47	116	99
Florida	37	21	12	4	46	101	84
Boston	37	20	13	4	44	116	102
Detroit	38	18	13	7	43	88	103
Ottawa	36	18	14	6	42	111	115
Tampa Bay	36	18	16	4	40	97	93
Toronto	39	14	15	7	35	95	102
Buffalo	36	15	19	4	34	88	101

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	37	28	7	2	58	117	78
N.Y. Islanders	36	21	12	3	45	105	89
N.Y. Rangers	38	21	13	4	46	112	100
New Jersey	36	19	14	5	43	90	92
Pittsburgh	37	18	15	4	40	86	91
Philadelphia	36	15	14	7	37	78	100
Carolina	38	16	17	5	37	91	108
Columbus	39	14	22	3	31	98	123

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	39	28	6	5	61	137	99
St. Louis	40	23	13	4	50	100	88
Chicago	39	22	13	4	48	108	97
Minnesota	36	20	10	6	46	88	85
Nashville	38	18	13	7	43	101	101
Colorado	36	16	17	3	35	109	106
Winnipeg	37	17	18	2	36	99	109

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	37	24	11	2	50	102	82
Arizona	37	19	15	3	39	104	118
San Jose	36	18	16	2	38	100	102
Vancouver	36	14	15	9	37	93	109
Anaheim	36	15	15	6	36	88	87
Calgary	37	17	18	2	36	97	121
Edmonton	39	15	21	3	33	97	119

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

Scores and schedule

Friday's Scores

Montreal 5, Boston 1
Anaheim at Vancouver, late

Today's Games

Detroit at Buffalo, noon
Arizona at Edmonton, 3 p.m.
Philadelphia at Los Angeles, 3 p.m.
St. Louis at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Florida, 6 p.m.
Dallas at New Jersey, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
Nashville at Carolina, 6 p.m.
Washington at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Winnipeg at San Jose, 9 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Dallas at N.Y. Islanders, 4 p.m.
Minnesota at Florida, 5 p.m.
Ottawa at Chicago, 6 p.m.
Winnipeg at Anaheim, 8 p.m.

Griffey, a favorite son of Pacific Northwest, awaits Hall

By Tim Booth
Associated Press

SEATTLE — The perfect swing that we could never emulate. The diving, leaping catches we only dared to copy with the protection of pillows and couch cushions on the floor. The smile that told us baseball could be fun for even the best player of our generation.

For those of us who grew up in the Pacific Northwest, Ken Griffey Jr. was the first transcendent star of our youth we could claim as our own. He was the guy that kids in Chicago, New York and Los Angeles were emulating. Yet we had the chance 81 times a season to go inside the dreary concrete confines of the Kingdome and watch Griffey perform.

He was ours.

Griffey will almost assuredly be voted into the Hall of Fame next week, potentially with the highest percentage ever. It will be a reinforcement of what we were able to watch up close. The ultimate accomplishment to go with all the numbers, awards and the fact that if not for Griffey's greatness — and the success of the franchise in 1995 — Safeco Field never gets built and baseball may have left Seattle.

When Griffey takes his place in Cooperstown, he'll take the entire Northwest with him.

Griffey wasn't from our region, but we adopted him as ours. He grew into an adult before our eyes and he taught us we could play the game with joy. Wear your hat backward. Smile. Laugh. Play with the same delight as if you were playing wiffle ball in the driveway with your buddies, arguing whether the fly ball cleared the power lines and landed for a home run.

If The Kid played baseball like a kid, then it was OK for us to play that way.

There had been other fantastic players to come through our region: Steve Largent, Gary Payton, Shawn Kemp to name a few. None of them matched what Griffey meant to us.

Naughty By Nature's "Hip Hop Hooray," will always lead to flashbacks of watching Griffey stroll to the plate.

Ken Griffey Jr. candy bars? We bought them.

"Ken Griffey Jr. Presents Major League Baseball" for the Super Nintendo? We played it as much as the first versions of Madden.

That No. 1 Upper Deck baseball card with Griffey's smile? It's never left the protective plastic case from the day it was purchased.

Before every game was available on TV, summer nights were spent sitting outside listening to Dave Niehaus on the radio provide a living narrative to Griffey's career, then staying up late to watch the local news hoping for a 20-second clip of the latest feat of No. 24.

The homers and the catches are too numerous to list, all looking effortless. The Spider-Man into the wall at the Kingdome. The back-to-back homers with his dad and the shot off the warehouse in Baltimore. Bookend moments like homering in his first at-bat in the Kingdome and the final game there. The 56 homers and MVP in 1997, and a Gold Glove for each finger on both hands.

And the most memorable moment in franchise history when Griffey's sprinted home from first base to win Game 5 of the 1995 ALDS over the Yankees, accompanied by Niehaus' radio call: "Here's Junior to third base. They're going to wave him in. The throw to the plate will be late. The Mariners are going to play for the American League championship."



TRAVEL



AP file photo

People celebrate the opening of the 182nd Oktoberfest beer festival Sept. 19 in Munich, southern Germany. In 2016, Germany marks 500 years since the passage of a law designed to ensure the purity of German beer.

Travel 2016: Rio, Indy 500, German beer, Christo in Italy



AP file photo

This is the aurora borealis, or Northern Lights, Oct. 5 over the Norwegian town of Harstad. Tourism to destinations like Norway, Iceland and Alaska has been growing in popularity in the coldest, darkest months, and Norway in particular has seen more tourists because of the movie "Frozen."

Beth J. Harpaz
Associated Press

Rio and Cuba. The Pope's Year of Mercy and artist Christo's walk on water. Philadelphia, Cleveland and the next U.S. president. Super Bowl in California and the Indy 500 at 100. A centennial for America's National Park Service, 400 years since Shakespeare died and 500 years of pure German beer.

These are among the places and events driving travel in 2016.

Rio and the Olympics: Rio de Janeiro hosts the Summer Olympics, Aug. 5-21.

Super Bowl 50: America's most important football game takes place Feb. 7 at the San Francisco 49ers' stadium in Santa Clara, California. San Francisco hosts a free public fan village, Super Bowl City, and other pre-game events beginning Jan. 30.

Philadelphia And Cleveland: Democrats choose their presidential candidate at a convention in Philadelphia on July 25-28. Republicans choose their candidate in Cleveland on July 18-21.

Cuba mania: Cuban tourism will likely keep booming after a year in which visits by Americans rose more than 50 percent and travel from elsewhere surged, too.

Rome's year of mercy and Christo's walk on water: Up to 10 million pilgrims may visit Rome during Pope Francis' Holy Year of Mercy, which began Dec. 8 and runs through November 2016. Events include the September canonization of Mother Teresa. And in northern Italy, fans of Christo will walk on water thanks to his "Floating Piers" project on Lake Iseo in Lombardy, June 18-July 3, weather permitting. The 3-kilometer (2-mile) walkway will consist of floating cubes covered in shimmering yellow fabric. Lakeside mountains will offer a bird's-eye view.

National parks: The National Park Service turns 100 on Aug. 25. A campaign called "Find Your Park" is designed to inspire a new generation to visit. Individual sites marking centennials include Acadia in Maine, established as a national monument July 8, 1916; Abraham Lincoln Birthplace in Kentucky; New Mexico's Capulin Volcano and Bandelier national monuments; and in Hawaii, Volcanoes and Haleakala parks, originally part of Hawaii National Park.

Shakespeare: Seems like only yesterday that William Shakespeare died, but it was 400 years ago, on April 23.

Please see **2016**/2C

Rural town becomes ski destination

Mike Koshmrl
Jackson Hole News and Guide

JACKSON, Wyo. — For much of its history Jackson Hole has always had skiing, and many schoolchildren learned how to execute their turns on the slopes of Snow King that led right into town.

But it wasn't until the Jackson Hole Ski Corporation debuted a new ski area in the Tetons in 1965 that the valley became a reliable draw to skiers elsewhere in the country and world.

The steady development of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort has since fostered a "ski town" community and culture that's now a centerpiece of the valley's identity.

Longtime locals recall that the transition from a dusty Yellowstone gateway with a one-season economy to a ski destination was far from seamless.

"It was a very different world back then," Kirby Williams said. "The mountain resort was not taken graciously by the locals. Rich people came in here and bought this mountain, and they were not embraced."

Gripes about the "goddamned ski bums" who smoked pot, had long hair and wore bright clothing weren't lacking, said Williams, a skier who, having grown up here, had one foot in each world.

"There was definitely a conflict between the cowboys and the hippies, and most of the hippies were ski bums," Williams said. "It took a while for everybody to meld.

"The cowboys and the ski bums at the Stagecoach were not a good mix," he said.

Arriving in 1968, Jimmy Anderson was a ski bum in the early days of commercial skiing in the Tetons. He recalls sometimes feeling like he had been plopped into enemy territory.

The so-called "cowboy wars" are not a fiction, Anderson said.

"They liked to get sauced up during the day and come out to beat on us after skiing," Anderson said.

"Right after the cowboys would arrive at the bars, right behind them was the sheriff's department, so it didn't last very long," he said.

By Williams' account, tensions between longtime locals, cowboys and ski bums gradually waned, and the new ski destination gained acceptance. Jackson Hole's transition into a year-round economy played a role, he said.

"As far as changing the attitude in Jackson, it took quite a while," Williams said. "I think it probably took 10 years for that situation to mellow out and for people to realize that there's a dollar here, and we can take it to our advantage."

One Jackson Hole businesswoman who has spent a career working in the tourism industry affirmed the impact of the resort on the economy.

"You could have closed in the winter before," Clarene Law said of her hotel before the resort. "I was very enthused it was coming, as were most people, I believe, that lived here."

Paul McCollister, the resort's original owner and developer, spoke of the economic impact of his business in a 1991 interview with Jackson Hole Magazine.

"Everyone had a job in the summer, but come Labor Day they got laid off and went on unemployment," McCollister said. "As I recall, there were about four restaurants in town, and each fall they flipped a coin to see which one would stay open that winter."

Anderson, who was in the thick of the "cowboy wars," agreed that the early conflict dissipated once people realized the new ski resort's pivotal role in bringing wintertime visitors.

"It was like the Indian seeing the cowboy on the street," he said. "Eventually they throw up their hands and say, 'What the hell's the point?'"



Price Chambers/Jackson Hole News and Guide via AP

Team Batman and Robin (Robin is the horse) put on a good show as skier Barton Slamey pulls in some rope coming off the second jump. With Brandon Whittington in the saddle, the skijoring team posted a time of 19.6 seconds back in 2013.

2016

From 1C

1616. His birthplace, Stratford-upon-Avon, and many other places around England plan tours, performances, festivals and exhibitions.

Germany and beer: Happy Oktoberfest! Germany celebrates 500 years since the Reinheitsgebot was signed into law on April 23, 1516, guaranteeing beer purity by specifying its ingredients.

New museums: The National Museum of African American History and Culture opens fall 2016 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., part of the Smithsonian Institution. Objects range from slave shackles to Louis Armstrong's trumpet to a segregation-era railcar.

■ The Met Breuer, a modern and contemporary art space for the Metropolitan Museum, opens March 18 in New York City.

The landmark building designed by Marcel Breuer on Madison Avenue and 75th Street formerly housed the Whitney Museum, which moved downtown.

■ The Louvre Abu Dhabi is supposed to open in late 2016, but the project has been repeatedly delayed and plagued by controversies over the treatment of workers.

Indy 500 at 100: The Indy 500, one of the most famous car races in the world, celebrates its centennial May 29 in Indianapolis.

A citywide celebration with parties, concerts and more is planned. The Indianapolis Motor Speedway is also undergoing a $100 million renovation.

Glaciers and Northern Lights: Northern lights and other magical winter experiences are drawing more tourists in the coldest, darkest months of the year to places like Alaska, Iceland and Norway. Norway has also seen more tourists from fans of the movie "Frozen."

Glaciers around the world have become must-sees, too, as some tourists worry that glaciers may disappear due to climate change.

Glacier National Park in Montana has been experiencing record tourism, including over 2.5 million visitors in 2015.

Safaris: The new year may also be a big one for trips to see Africa's wildlife.

Botswana marks its 50th anniversary of independence, and South Africa and East Africa — especially Tanzania and Zimbabwe, which are offering new safari options — are on several travel industry lists for top destinations in 2016.

Theme parks: Shanghai Disney Resort opens in China in spring 2016 with the tallest, grandest castle of any Disney park. Other Disney news: a new "Frozen" boat ride at Epcot; a new "Frozen" stage show at Disney California Adventure; new "Star Wars" experiences at Disney parks on both coasts; and at Disney's Animal Kingdom in Florida, night tours and a "Rivers of Light" nighttime illumination show.

Universal Hollywood in Los Angeles opens its own Wizarding World of Harry Potter on April 7.

Universal Orlando Resort in Florida expects a summer opening for Skull Island: Reign of Kong, themed on King Kong.

And don't forget:

■ A massive Noah's Ark attraction opens in northern Kentucky in July.

■ Las Vegas gets two major debuts in April: The Park, an outdoor area with restaurants, entertainment and more, and the Arena, a concert venue with performances scheduled by George Strait, Janet Jackson and Garth Brooks.

■ Australia is turning up on many travel industry lists of top places to go in 2016.

The island of Tasmania in particular — known for wildlife and scenery — is seeing record numbers of visitors.

■ The strong U.S. dollar is expected to drive more travel abroad by Americans.



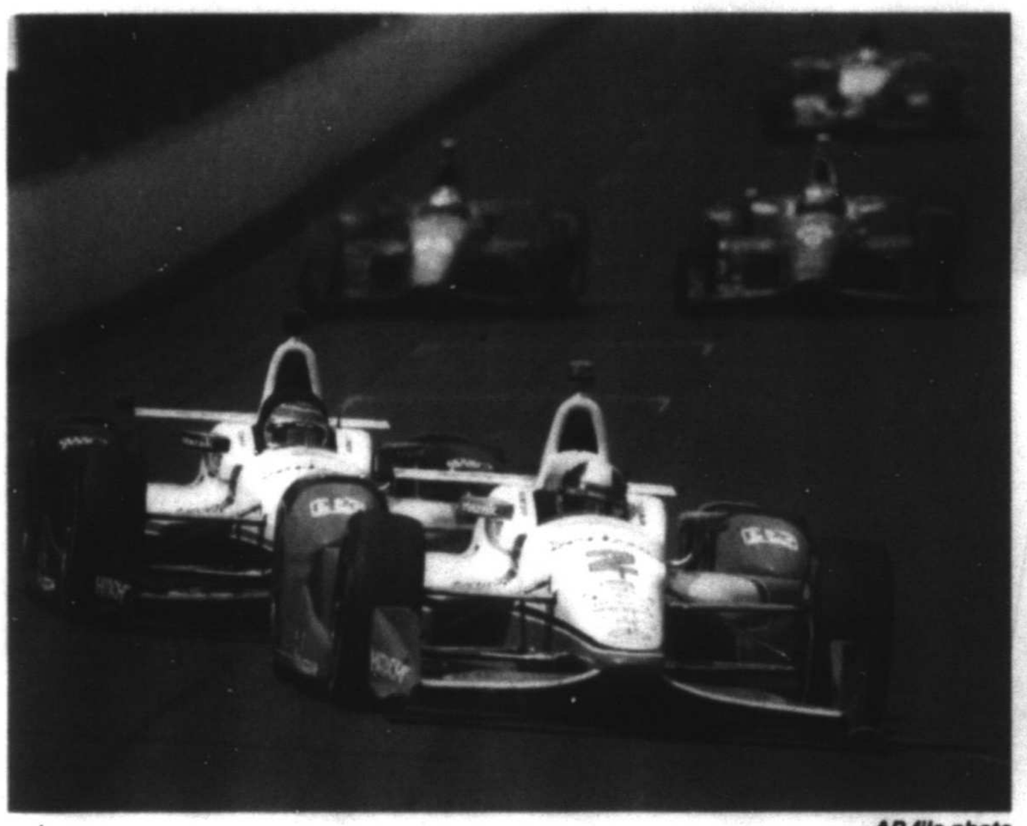
AP file photo

Pope Francis prays in front of the statue of the Virgin Mary, on the occasion of the Immaculate Conception's feast, Dec. 8 in Rome. Pope Francis opened the great bronze doors of St. Peter's Basilica to launch his Holy Year of Mercy, declaring that mercy trumps moralizing in his Catholic Church



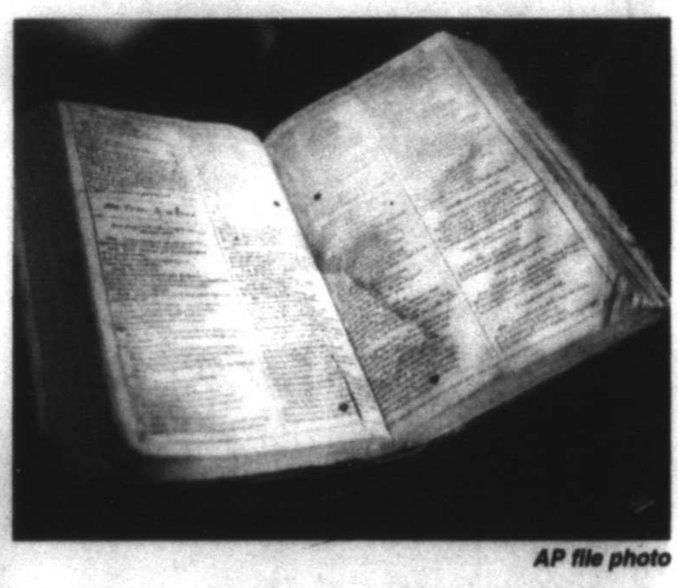
AP file photo

These are the beaches of Ipanema, left, and Copacabana, right, Oct. 9 in Rio de Janeiro. The 2016 Olympic Games will be held in Rio de Janeiro.



AP file photo

Juan Pablo Montoya, of Colombia, leads Will Power, of Australia, into the first turn on the 198th lap on his way to winning the 99th running of the Indianapolis 500 auto race May 24 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis. The race's centennial takes place in 2016.



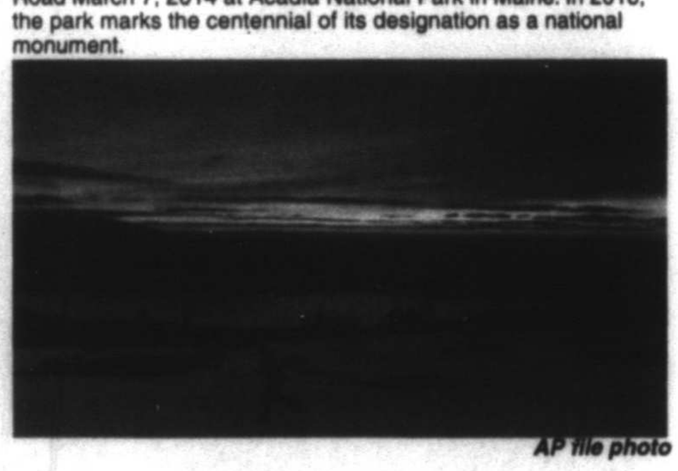
AP file photo

The First Folio of Shakespeare plays is displayed after a press conference Feb. 23 at Shakespeare's Globe theatre in London. The edition, which will be exhibited at the Globe in 2016, the year of the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, is one of 230 copies of the 1623 Shakespeare First Folio and is notable for its scribbled stage directions.



AP file photo

A runner races the fading daylight above frozen Eagle Lake as he makes his way down from the summit on the Cadillac Mountain Road March 7, 2014 at Acadia National Park in Maine. In 2016, the park marks the centennial of its designation as a national monument.



AP file photo

Tourists ride a vintage American convertible during sunset on the Malecon Sept. 30 in Havana, Cuba. Tourism to Cuba has surged in the wake of improved relations with the U.S.



AP file photo

Cnstruction continues on The Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture June 9 in Washington. The building is scheduled to open in 2016.

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PRESENTED BY CHEVRON AND THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

SATURDAY MORNING — JANUARY 2, 2016

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

		G	S	R	C	W	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
KMID ABC		3	3	4	3	2	WildA.	House	GMA Saturday		Wild C.	Ocean M.	S.Rescue	Wildlife D	RockPark	Explore	Family	Mr. Box
KOSA CBS		7	7	7	7	7	CBS This Morning Saturday				LuckyDog	Dr. Chris	Innovate	Inspect	Chicken	Changers	NCAA Basketball (L)	
KWWT CW		5	14		5	14	Pufnstuf	Land Lost	Green	Green	History	History	Hunters	Hunters	Wagon Train		The Big Valley	
KPEJ FOX		8	5	5	8	3	Consumr	Consumer	Aqua Kid	Animols	WildA.	Outdoors	Weekend Marketplace				Mazda	Raceweek
KMLM IND		11	12	12	11	11	Light of Southwest		Davey	Wonder	News	Warriors	Creation	Fire	Camino	Crossover	Dollars	HaYesod
KWES NBC		9	9	9	9	9	6:30FarmR	Media	Saturday Today (N)			LazyTown	Nina's (N)	Ruff-Ruff	Astro	Clangers	Luna	Soccer
KPBT PBS		13	13		13	8	D.Tiger	D.Tiger	C.George	C.George	Wild K.	Bob Build	Odd Sqd	Arthur	Dragon	Cook's	J. Child	Project
KUPB UNI		4	4		4	16	Pagado	Pagado	Pocoyo	Amigos	Mickey	Mickey	Handy	Handy	Pagado	Pagado	Netas divinas	
KOSA MNT		16	16		16		JTV	JTV Direct	Into Wild	J. Hanna	Dog Tales	Pets.TV	Dragon	Awesome	Whadd	News	Winter Sports	
FLIX		340	575		165		(5:30) ★ From the Hip				★★★★ The Station Agent		★★★ Stakeout ('87, Cri) Richard Dreyfuss,				★ Another Stakeout	
HBO		300	550	14	14		(5:35) ★★★ Happy Feet				★★ Joe Versus the Volcano		(:15) Fight	(:45) ★ The Longest Ride ('15, Rom) Britt Robertson.				
HBO2		302	551	15	101	23	(:05) ★★★★ The LEGO Movie				(:50) ★★★ Ella Enchanted Anne Hathaway.			★ American Sniper Bradley Cooper.				(:45) Sports
HBO3		304	552	16	102		Movie	(:40) ★★ The Next Best Thing Madonna.					★★★ Working Girl Melanie Griffith.				★★ Transcendence	
MAX		380	557	17	120	24	(5:00) ★ Pleasantville		(:05) ★ Good Night & Good Lu...				(:40) ★ Non-Stop ('14, Thril) Liam Neeson.				★★ The Uninvited	
MAX2		382	558	18	122		(5:40) ★★★ Bait Jamie Foxx.				(:45) ★★★ Vice ('08, Cri) Daryl Hannah, Michael Madsen.			★ Winter's Tale ('14, Fant) Colin Farrell.				
PLEX					96		Movie	(5:50) ★ Jury Duty Pauly Shore.					(:20) ★★★ Dirty Rotten Scoundrels		(:15) ★★★ Only You		Movie	
SHOW		320	565	19	140	25	(5:15) ★ Last Vegas		Inside the NFL				★★★ Superstar Molly Shannon.		★ Waiter Milo Ventimiglia.		Shameless	
TMC		336	573	22	155	26	(4:45) ★ Jefferson in...				(:05) Big Bang/ Pyongyang			(:40) ★ The Fifth Estate ('13, Bio) Peter Capaldi.			★★★ Sleepover	
A&E		27	58	28	35	47	Duck D.	Duck Dyn.	Duck Dynasty		Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Duck D.	Hoarders	
AMC		40	74	23	42	51	Walking Dead "First Time Again"		Walking Dead "355"		Dead "Thank You"		Walking Dead "Here's Not Here"				Dead "Now"	
BET		58	-		40		(5:00) BET Inspiration		BET's Top 20 of 2015									
BRAVO		65	76		41		(5:00) To Be Announced						Untying the Knot		Beverly "Will Power"		Wives Cheshire (N)	
CNBC		46	52		39	72	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
CNN		43	50	51	30	56	New Day Saturday		New Day Saturday		Smerconish		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom	
DISC		50	60	31	24	42	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Killing Fields		Dual Survival		Dual Survival		Dual Survival	
DISNEY		56	64	36	25	36	Mickey Mouse Club	★ To Be Announced			StarWars	StarWars	Friends Whenever		Bunk'd	Austin	Austin	Underc.
ESPN		32	35	48	31	30	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter						NCAA Football	
ESPN2		34	36	49	32	31	(5:00) NCAA Football		MatchUp	30 for 30	★ The Gospel According to MAC*			30 for 30 "Trojan War"			H.S. Football	
FAMILY		53	63	34	42	33	★★★★ Dumbo				★★★ Cinderella ('50, Ani) Ilene Woods.			★★★ Sleeping Beauty Mary Costa.			Movie	
FNC		45	48	53	23	55	(5:00) Fox & Friends Saturday						Bull Bear	Cavuto	Forbes	Cash In	Property	Journal E.
FOOD		64	70	27	68	54	Best	BBQ	Daphne	Heart	Rules	Pioneer	Pioneer	Southern	The Kitchen (N)		Cooking	Giada
FSSW		37	38	50	45	29	NCAA Basketball UCLA vs. Washington				Huddle	Texans	Paid	Paid	Lights	Big 12	NCAA Basketball (L)	
FX		31	56	59	64	69	Buffy "Triangle"		Buffy "Checkpoint"		Anger M.	Anger M.	2½Men	2½Men	2½Men	2½Men	★★ This Is 40	
HALLMARK		54	71	58		34	Lucy	I Love Lucy	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	★ I Do, I Do, I Do ('15, Rom) Shawn Roberts.			
HGTV		63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper	
HISTORY		71	59	29	50	43	To Be Announced		To Be Announced				To Be Announced		Pickers "Easy Riders"		American Pickers	
LIFETIME		28	30	25	28	48	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Step It Up		★ To Be Announced	
MSNBC		47	53		49	73	Weekends-Alex Witt		Up				Melissa Harris-Perry				Weekends-Alex Witt	
NBCSN		38	43				Live	EPL Soccer	Liverpool at West Ham United (L)			Live	EPL Soccer Swansea vs Man Utd (L)				Live	Basket.
NICK		55	-	39	34	37	Sponge	Sponge	ALVINNN	ALVINNN	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Pig Goat	Harvey	Dino	ALVINNN
SPIKE		30	-	55	53	58	Paid Program		Paid Program		★ To Be Announced						★ To Be Announced	
SYFY		66	82	41	57	67	Twilight "Miniature"		The Twilight Zone		The Twilight Zone		The Twilight Zone		The Twilight Zone		The Twilight Zone	
TBS		25	33	44	56	41	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	★★ Life as We Know It ('10, Com) Katherine Heigl.			★★★ Killers ('10, Act) Ashton Kutcher.					
TCM		41	75	24	63	66	Movie	★★ The Crowd Roars			(:15) ★ Adventures of Rusty		★★ Bowery Buckaroos				★ The Son of Mo...	
TELE		20	-	10	20		Pagado	Pagado	Raggs	Raggs	Noodle	Noodle	LazyTown	LazyTown	Pagado	Angel	SOS: Salva mi casa	
TLC		51	61	32	38	52	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Coupon	Coupon	Coupon	Coupon	Coupon	Coupon	My 600-lb Life	
TNT		24	34	40	26	50	Law & Order		Law&O. "Good Faith"		Law & Order "Bling"		Law&Order "Fallout"		Law&Order "Captive"		★ The Incredible ...	
TVLAND		49	-	35	54	35	Fam.Feud	Fam. Feud	Fam.Feud	Fam.Feud	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba
USA		26	55	42	27	49	Paid Program		Paid Program		Chrisley	Colony	EPL Soccer (L)				Law & Order: S.V.U.	
WGN		19	85				Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Law&Order "Refuge"		Law&Order "Refuge"		★★ Exit Wounds ('01, Act) Steven Seagal.			

SATURDAY AFTERNOON — JANUARY 2, 2016

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

		G	S	R	C	W	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
KMID ABC		3	3	4	3	2	Y. Icons	Comics	World XGames (N)		30 for 30 "The Four Falls of Buffalo" (N)				Paid	Paid	Paid	News
KOSA CBS		7	7	7	7	7	(11:00) NCAA Basketb.		NCAA Basketball Tennessee at Auburn (L)				NCAA Basketball Baylor at Kansas (L)				Spaces	News
KWWT CW		5	14		5	14	Gunsmoke		Bonanza		Rawhide		Wanted	Wanted	Rifleman	Rifleman	Superman	Superman
KPEJ FOX		8	5	5	8	3	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	★ To Be Announced				BigBang	BigBang	Paid	Paid
KMLM IND		11	12	12	11	11	News	Walking	About Us	S. Baras	Light of Southwest		Light of Southwest		Zion	R/Manusc	WhatCost	Jean-Cla
KWES NBC		9	9	9	9	9	(11:30) EPL Soccer (L)			GoalZone	Dog Challenge		To Be Announced				W.America	News
KPBT PBS		13	13		13	8	Chef's	Old House	House	HomeT.	Woodsh	Motor.	Americas	Daytrip.	Start Up	Parks	News. (N)	InnerV
KUPB UNI		4	4		4	16	Como dice el dicho		Lazytown		★★ Casi divas ('08, Com) Julio Bracho.				Como dice el dicho		P. Luche	Noticiero
KOSA MNT		16	16		16		Studio 7	Flipside	Access Hollywood		Homeown.	Hazelton	O.House	Homes	NameG.	Fam.Feud	The Good Wife	
FLIX		340	575		165		(11:00) ★ Another St...		★★★ The Mirror Has Two Faces				(:10) ★★ Captain Ron Kurt Russell.			(:55) ★ Rounders		
HBO		300	550	14	14		★★★ For Your Consideration				★★★ Titanic ('97, Dra) Kate Winslet, Leonardo DiCaprio.				(:40) ★ The Longest Ride			
HBO2		302	551	15	101	23	Sports	(:45) ★★ Divergent ('14, Act) Shailene Woodley.					(:05) Heroin: Cape Cod, USA		(:25) ★★★ Music and Lyrics			
HBO3		304	552	16	102		Movie	★★★ Proof of Life ('01, Act) Meg Ryan.					(:40) ★ A Cool, Dry Place Vince Vaughn.		(:35) ★★★ Malcolm X			
MAX		380	557	17	120	24	Banshee		(:55) Banshee				(:40) Banshee		(:35) Banshee		Banshee	
MAX2		382	558	18	122		Muted (6:20) ★ Austin Powers: ...		(:50) ★ Seventh Son ('14, Adv) Jeff Bridges.				(:35) ★★★★ Jackie Brown ('97, Dra) Pam Grier.					
PLEX					96		(11:50) ★★ Milk Money		(:40) ★★ Tap ('89, Dra) Gregory Hines.				(:35) ★★ Falling in Love Robert De Niro.				Movie	
SHOW		320	565	19	140	25	Shameless		Shameless		Shameless		Shameless		Shameless		Shameless	
TMC		336	573	22	155	26	Movie	★★ Underclassman			(:05) ★ Ask Me Anything		(:45) ★ The Fifth Estate ('13, Bio) Peter Capaldi.					
A&E		27	58	28	35	47	Hoarders "Jan/ Bebe"		Hoarders		Hoarders		Nightwatch		Nightwatch		The First 48	
AMC		40	74	23	42	51	The Walking Dead		Dead "Heads Up"		Dead "Start to Finish"		Fear the Walking Dead "Pilot"		Fear the Dead			FearDead
BET		58	-		40		Husbands	Husbands	Husbands	Husbands	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin
BRAVO		65	76		41		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump Rules		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills	
CNBC		46	52		39	72	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
CNN		43	50	51	30	56	CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		Smerconish	
DISC		50	60	31	24	42	Dual Survival		Dual Survival		Dual Survival		Dual Survival		Dual Survival		Dual Survival	
DISNEY		56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Underc.	Friends	Friends	Friends	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Liv/Mad	Liv/Mad	Underc.	Austin
ESPN		32	35	48	31	30	(11:00) NCAA Football	TaxSlayer Bowl (L)			(:20) NCAA Football Liberty Bowl Kansas State vs. Arkansas (L)							Football
ESPN2		34	36	49	32	31	(11:00) H.S. Football All-America Game (L)				NCAA Basketball Mich. St./Min. (L)				NCAA Basketball Notre Dame vs. Virginia (L)			
FAMILY		53	63	34	42	33	(11:30) ★★ The Parent Trap ('98, Fam) Lindsay Lohan.						★★ National Treasure ('04, Adv) Diane Kruger, Nicolas Cage.				Movie	
FNC		45	48	53	23	55	America's News HQ				America's News HQ		America's News HQ		The Five		America's News HQ	
FOOD		64	70	27	68	54	Cupcake Wars		Chopped		Chopped Junior		Chopped		Restaurant		WorstCooks	
FSSW		37	38	50	45	29	(11:00) NCAA Basketb.		NCAA Basketball Kansas State vs. TCU (L)				Big 12	NCAA Basketball Duke at Boston College (L)			Shootout	
FX		31	56	59	64	69	(11:00) ★★ This Is 40 ('12, Com) Paul Rudd.						★★ Wild Hogs ('07, Com) John Travolta.		★ Grown Ups 2 ('13, Com) Adam Sandler.			
HALLMARK		54	71	58		34	★ Portrait of Love ('15, Dra) Bree Williamson.						★ New in Town Renée Zellweger.		★ Autumn Dreams ('15, Dra) Jill Wagner.			
HGTV		63	69	26	48	44	Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It	
HISTORY		71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers		Pickers "Odd Fellas"		American Pickers	
LIFETIME		28	30	25	28	48	(11:00) ★ To Be Ann...		★ To Be Announced				★ To Be Announced				★ To Be Announced	
MSNBC		47	53		49	73	(11:00) Alex Witt		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary	
NBCSN		38	43				(11:30) NCAA Basketball (L)		NCAA Basketball Dayton vs. Duquesne (L)				NCAA Basketball St. Louis at Rhode Island (L)				NFLTP	
NICK		55	-	39	34	37	ALVINNN	ALVINNN	ALVINNN	★★ Open Season 2			Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Thunder	Thunder
SPIKE		30	-	55	53	58	(11:00) ★ To Be Announced				★ To Be Announced						Movie	
SYFY		66	82	41	57	67	The Twilight Zone		The Twilight Zone		The Twilight Zone		The Twilight Zone		Twilight "The Bard"		Twilight	Twilight
TBS		25	33	44	56	41	★★★ The Pacifier ('05, Com) Vin Diesel.				Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Girls	Girls	Girls	Girls
TCM		41	75	24	63	66	(11:00) ★ The Son o...		★★★ Somebody Up There Likes Me				★★★ Dangerous When Wet				★ A Funny Thing ...	
TELE		20	-	10	20		★ Bad Boys 2 (Action)				★ Búsqueda implacable Liam Neeson.				Noticiero	Videos	Videos	Movie
TLC		51	61	32	38	52	600-lb "James' Story"		600 Life: Supersized		600-lb "Paula's Story"		Dateline NBC		Dateline NBC		Dateline NBC	
TNT		24	34	40	26	50	(11:00) ★ The Incredible Hulk				★★ Daredevil ('03, Fant) Ben Affleck.				★★★ The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey			
TVLAND		49	-	35	54	35	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba
USA		26	55	42	27	49	Law & Order: S.V.U.		Law & Order: S.V.U.		Law & Order: S.V.U.		Law & Order: S.V.U.		Law & Order: S.V.U.		Law & Order: S.V.U.	
WGN		19	85				Walker "Higher Power"		Walker, TR "Patriot"		Walker "Ghost Rider"		BlueB. "Chinatown"		Blue Bloods "Re-Do"		BlueB. "After Hours"	

SATURDAY PRIME TIME — JANUARY 2, 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	Galavant "Pilot"	Galavant	Galavant	Galavant	20/20		KMID News	(:35) Garrett	(:05) Extra	Weekend
KOSA CBS		7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	The Insider	Weekend Scorpion		NCIS: New Orleans "Stolen Valor"		48 Hours		CBS 7 News	(:35) Elementary	(:35) P. of Interest	
KWWT CW		5	14		5	14	Batman: Series	Batman	WonderW "Richest Man in the World"		Star Trek "Shore Leave"		★★ Dr. Cyclops ('40, Horror) Charles Halton, Janice Logan, Thomas Coley.				Lost in Space "The Mechanical Men"	
KPEJ FOX		8	5	5	8	3	Two and Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Gotham		Rosewood		Blue Bloods		Golan the Insatiable	High School	Cowboy Huddle	Jerry Jones
KMLM IND		11	12	12	11	11	Day of Discovery	Israel Inspired	House Call	Update News	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Cry for Zion	Biblical Israel	HaYesod	Del Camino
KWES NBC		9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	Country Reporter	Dateline NBC Featuring features and stories.	quality investigative	Saturday Night Live		Newswe-st 9 at 10	Saturday Night Live				
KPBT PBS		13	13		13	8	History Detectives		Living Legends Derringer	"Rick	Front and Center "Warren Haynes"		Orchestra "Music's Emotional Impact"		Austin City Limits		Bluegrass Under	On Story
KUPB UNI		4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		Sabadazo						Familia P. Luche	Noticiero Univision	Estrellados	
KOSA MNT		16	16		16		Rizzoli & Isles		Castle		Scandal		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Office	Comedy.TV	
FLIX		340	575		165		(6:55) ★ Rounders		★★★ Stakeout ('87, Cri) Richard Dreyfuss,				★★ Turner & Hooch		(:40) ★★ Desert Saints			
HBO		300	550	14	14		(4:45) ★ The Longes...		★ The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel				(:05) ★★★ Unbroken ('14, Bio) Jack O'Connell.				Movie	
HBO2		302	551	15	101	23	(:10) ★ Taken 3 ('14, Act) Liam Neeson.				★ American Sniper Bradley Cooper.				(:15) ★★★★ John Wick Keanu Reeves.			
HBO3		304	552	16	102		(4:35) ★★★★ Malcolm X				★★ Transcendence Johnny Depp.				★★★ 11:14 Hilary Swank.		Movie	
MAX		380	557	17	120	24	(:15) Banshee		(:10) Banshee		Banshee		★ Child 44 ('15, Thril) Tom Hardy. (P)				(:20) Life on Top	
MAX2		382	558	18	122		(:10) ★★★ Smokin' Aces Ray Liotta.				★★★★ Edge of Tomorrow Tom Cruise.				(:55) ★★★ Jupiter Ascending Mila Kunis.			
PLEX					96		(5:20) ★ Only You		★★ Look Who's Talking Too (:25) ★★ Milk Money						(:20) ★★ Falling In Love Robert De Niro.			
SHOW		320	565	19	140	25	Shame. "Parenthood"		Shameless		Shameless		Shameless		Shameless		★ Spring Breakers	
TMC		336	573	22	155	26	★★★★ The Silence of the Lambs				★★ Species ('95, SCI-FI) Ben Kingsley.				★★ Species II		Movie	
A&E		27	58	28	35	47	The First 48		First 48 "Last Shift"		The First 48		The First 48		First 48: Revenge		First 48 "Last Shift"	
AMC		40	74	23	42	51	FearDead (:35) Fear the Dead		(:40) Fear the Dead		(:40) Fear the Dead		(:50) Fear the Dead "Pilot"		(:20) Fear the Dead			
BET		58	-		40		★★★★ The Five Heartbeats ('91, Mus) Robert Townsend.						BET's Top 20 of 2015				Life of "Brandy"	
BRAVO		65	76		41		Beverly "The M Word"		Beverly "Will Power"				★★★ How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days				★ How to Lose a Guy in 10 ...	
CNBC		46	52		39	72	Under Boss "Vivint"		Boss "Taylormade"				Boss "Budget Blinds"		Undercover Boss		Under Boss "Vivint"	Boss "Budget Blinds"
CNN		43	50	51	30	56	CNN Newsroom		CNN Special				CNN Special				CNN Special	
DISC		50	60	31	24	42	Dual Survival		Mythbusters (N)		Alaskan Bush People						Alaskan Bush People	Alaskan Bush People
DISNEY		56	64	36	25	36	Jessie		★ To Be Announced			Mighty M	Kir.Buc.	Underc.	Austin	Jessie	Girl M.	Girl M.
ESPN		32	35	48	31	30	(5:40) NCAA Football Alamo Bowl Oregon vs. TCU Site: Alamodome (L)						(:15) NCAA Football Cactus Bowl West Virginia vs. Arizona State (L)					
ESPN2		34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball Iowa State vs. Oklahoma (L)						NCAA Basketball LSU vs Vanderbilt (L)				NCAA Basketball Gonz./S.F. (L)	
FAMILY		53	63	34	42	33	(5:30) ★ National Treasure: Book of Secrets						★★★★ Forrest Gump ('94, Com/Dra) Sally Field, Tom Hanks.				★ The Three Musk...	
FNC		45	48	53	23	55	FOX Report Saturday		Fox News Reporting		To Be Announced		Greg Gutfeld Show		Red Eye		To Be Announced	
FOOD		64	70	27	68	54	WorstCooks		WorstCooks		WorstCooks		WorstCooks		WorstCooks		WorstCooks	
FSSW		37	38	50	45	29	Shootout	Mavericks	Mavs Pre	NBA Basketball New Orleans vs. Dallas (L)					Maverick	Cowboys	WPT Poker	
FX		31	56	59	64	69	Grinder	Grinder	Grinder	Grinder	Grinder	Grinder	Grinder	Grinder	Grinder	Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Louie 1/2
HALLMARK		54	71	58		34	★ A Country Wedding		Jesse Metcalfe.		Welcome to Paradise				G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV		63	69	26	48	44	Love It or List It		Property Brothers		Property Brothers		Renovation		LogCabin	LogCabin	Property Brothers	
HISTORY		71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers		Pickers "Good & Evil"		Being Evil (N)					Pawn S.	Pickers "Good & Evil"	
LIFETIME		28	30	25	28	48	(5:00) ★ To Be Ann...		★ Don't Wake Mommy Ashley Bell.				★ To Be Announced				★ To Be Announced	
MSNBC		47	53		49	73	MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary		MSNBCDocumentary	
NBCSN		38	43				Boxing Premier Champions				Boxing Premier Champions Card TBA				Match of the Day (N)			
NICK		55	-	39	34	37	H.Danger	H.Danger	Game Shakers		Nicky "Go Hollywood"		F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE		30	-	55	53	58	(5:00) ★ To Be Announced				★ To Be Announced						★ To Be Announced	
SYFY		66	82	41	57	67	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight	Twilight
TBS		25	33	44	56	41	Girls	2 Broke G.	Girls	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	★★★ The Pacifier ('05, Com) Vin Diesel.			
TCM		41	75	24	63	66	(5:00) ★ A Funny Th...		★★★ The Candidate Robert Redford.				(:15) ★★★ Smile ('75, Com) Bruce Dern.				(:15) ★ Divine Mad...	
TELE		20	-	10	20		(5:30) ★ Fast Five ('11, Act) Vin Diesel.				Para ser anunciado				Titulares	Videos	Decisiones extremas	
TLC		51	61	32	38	52	Dateline NBC		Untold Stories		Untold "Oh, Deer!"		The E.R. (N)		Untold "Oh, Deer!"		The E.R.	
TNT		24	34	40	26	50	(3:30) ★★ The Hobbit:...		★★★ Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End Johnny Depp.						★★★ Alice in Wonderland Johnny Depp.			
TVLAND		49	-	35	54	35	Reba	Reba	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA		26	55	42	27	49	Law & Order: S.V.U.		★★ The Lone Ranger ('13, Act) Armie Hammer, Johnny Depp.						Modern	Modern	Modern	Modern
WGN		19	85				BL. Bloods "Little Fish"		Blue Bloods		Blue Bloods				★★ Training Day ('01, Thril) Denzel Washington.		Movie	

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TODAY: Mostly cloudy	SUNDAY: Sunny	MONDAY: Partly sunny	TUESDAY: Mostly cloudy	WEDNESDAY: Mostly cloudy	THURSDAY: Mostly sunny
High: 44 Low: 29	High: 48 Low: 24	High: 48 Low: 30	High: 43 Low: 34	High:52 Low: 37	High: 59 Low: 36

Local forecast

There is a slight chance of rain and snow on Monday night, according to the National Weather Service. The chance of precipitation continues all day Monday and into Tuesday.

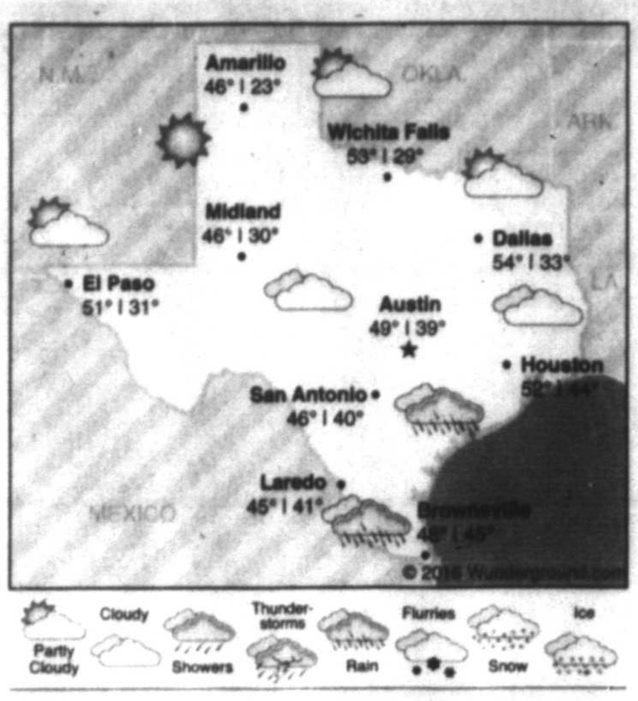
Otherwise, the NWS expects colder-than-average high temperatures through the middle of next week.

The record high for Jan. 1 is 76 set in 2000 and 2006. The record low is 5 set in 1979. On Jan. 1 of last year, the high was 28 and the low was 21.

Weather brief

Texas saw hail storms, floods, tornadoes, blizzards and even an acute summer drought this year. It all adds up to 2015 being the state's wettest since record-keeping began in 1895, according to official numbers through November and federal estimates for December.

That includes Washington County. The city of Brenham received 79.16 inches of rainfall in 2015, almost double its annual average of 44.15 inches.ve it, which rises in massive columns, thwarting the typical flow of atmospheric currents. This year saw the strongest El Nino on record by many metrics.



Precipitation

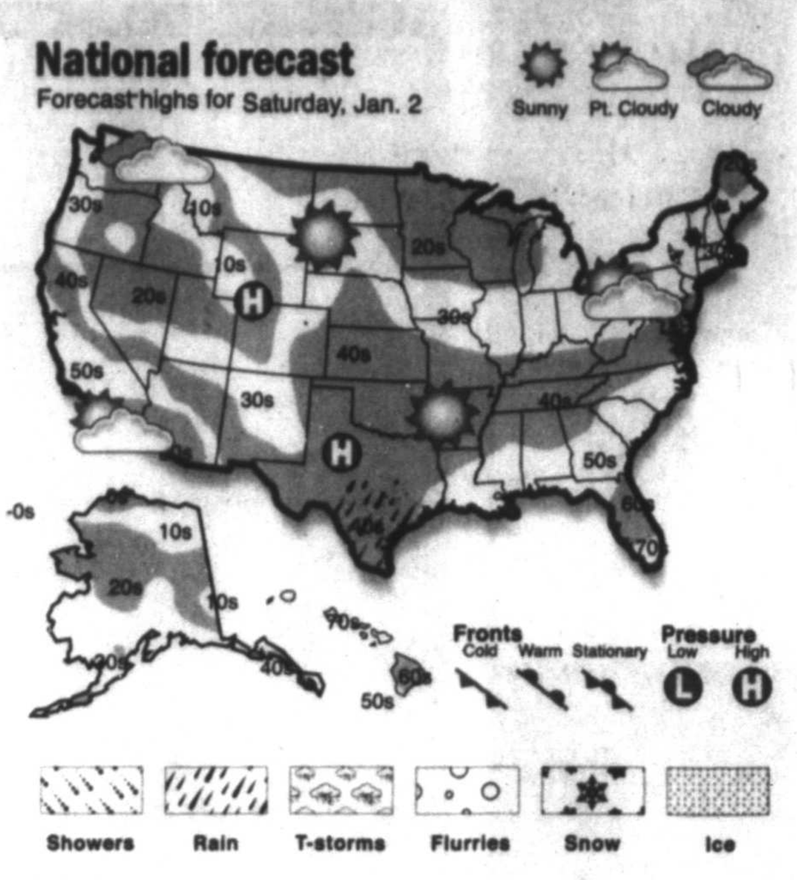
Thursday	0.04 in.
Friday	0.40 in.
Month total	0.04 in.
Year total	0.04 in.
Normal total (year to date)	0.01 in.

Friday's temperatures

High	35
Low	30
Normal high	57
Normal low	30
Sunrise	7:49 a.m.
Sunset	5:56 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Saturday, Jan. 2



Man without kids gets no respect from some parents

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'm a gay man in my late 40s who has worked for 10 years in the public school system with young adults and kids with special needs. I have done everything from changing preschoolers' diapers, to tutoring, travel training and teaching life skills to older children. In the process, I have encountered my share of cooperation, defiance, failure and success.

When speaking with family, friends or strangers about their parenting, I sometimes share my experiences. This is usually accepted and even encouraged, but occasionally I am put in my place by a parent who feels I must be told that what I've done "isn't the same as being a parent." Some even go so far as to imply that I should remain silent, as I have nothing of a parenting nature to offer.

I would think that making everyone feel included would be more important than official parent status, especially when discussing similar experiences. So what's the best way to handle this? I have no kids of my own; my students are all I have to share stories about. Should I just dummy up? — SORT OF CHILDLESS IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR SORT OF CHILDLESS: No, but recognize that whatever you offered clearly made someone defensive. When people are in that mode, they aren't receptive to your opinion.

Remember the phrase "casting pearls before swine"? It means offering something valuable to those who don't understand that it's precious. You and I, and most parents, understand that you are rich in experience. Don't let the others get under your skin.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Richard," is 15 years my senior, and the more he is involved in my life, the more overprotective he is becoming. Some of his concerns are legitimate, but it seems like he considers me more like a child or "little woman" than his equal partner.

He isn't comfortable with me walking two blocks from my house to a friend's house at night without an escort. I recently obtained my motorcycle license, and he doesn't want me riding at night. The latest issue is that he doesn't want me to walk him to his car because he would "rather me be locked safely in the house."

I think I'm capable enough to cross my front lawn at night without being attacked. How do I differentiate between legitimate concern and overprotective paranoia? — OVERPROTECTED

DEAR OVERPROTECTED: If your neighborhood is safe, then this may be a question of how your boyfriend is presenting his concerns to you. If he is SUGGESTING that he would prefer you be more cautious after dark, that's one thing. However, if he's INSISTING, then it's something else, and it could be a tip-off that he's not only "parental," but controlling.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Bidding Quiz

Q 1 — Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ Q 5 3 ♡ A 7 ◇ A Q ♣ Q J 10 8 6 5

As dealer, what call would you make?

Q 2 — East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ K 10 ♡ Q ◇ A Q 7 3 2 ♣ A K 10 8 6

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1◇	Pass	1♡	Pass

Q 3 — North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ K 10 9 7 2 ♡ A 10 6 ◇ 10 9 ♣ A 8 3

As dealer, what call would you make?

Q 4 — Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A K J 10 8 2 ♡ A Q ◇ 10 ♣ K 5 4 2

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	2◇	Pass	3◇

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Diamond surprise
6 Change keys often?
15 "You've got me on my knees" woman in a 1971 hit
16 Competition covering many miles
17 Wing
18 Unix guru, e.g.
19 Biblical miracle component
21 "Wedding Bell Blues" songwriter
22 Last Hebrew letter
23 eBay feature
25 Designer Ricci
26 D.C. United's org.
27 King ratsnake's defense
28 Arctic
29 Pencil contents, perhaps
32 "Particularly small and particularly wicked-looking" villain
33 Fateful day
34 Pick up
35 Neighbors of Frauen
38 "The Roosevelts" documentarian
42 Jordan's only port
43 Benefit from work
44 Classified initials
45 Tamblyn of "West Side Story"
46 Silk Road component
49 Down
50 Bug
51 Ace the test
52 Dogfish Head sellers
55 Mobutu's land
56 Most unforgiving
57 Inception
58 Slinky spots
59 Learning methods

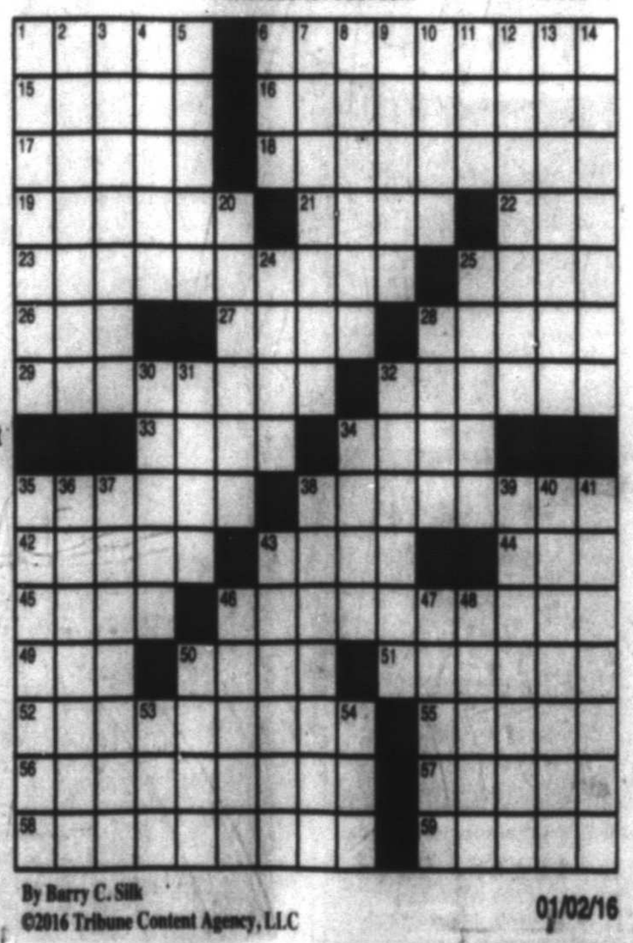
DOWN

1 Poe title answer to "... 'What is written ... / On the door of this legended tomb?'"
2 Impressive array
3 Neural junction
4 Professeur's charge
5 Government, often
6 Juno, e.g.: Abbr.
7 Back
8 Many a president
9 Having a bite
10 50s-60s emperor
11 R&B group __ Hill
12 With urgency
13 Mythological sea nymph
14 Fill
20 Tea cart items
24 Vitamin C sources
25 Prime minister sworn in by Mountbatten
28 Land __
30 An arm and a leg
31 Bean product?
32 "The Little Mermaid" composer Alan
34 Wormwood, e.g.
35 China setting
36 On a par with
37 Domination
38 Site of Truman's winter White House
39 Dreamer's opposite
40 "Ain't happening!"
41 Sonnet parts
43 Stages
46 1971 title detective
47 Carry-on no-no
48 Schroeder's love
50 WWI French marshal
53 It's heard at 52-Across
54 D and C, in D.C.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/02/16



By Barry C. Silk
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01/02/16

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 Saturday, Jan. 2, 2016:

This year you often say one thing, but then do something different. Others could be confused or frustrated by your mixed messages. If you get feedback about this behavior, stop and listen. Ask yourself what is going on. If you are single, others find you to be very attractive and alluring. You could get involved with someone quite exotic and different. If you are attached, the two of you play into each other's moods. A sudden move or an unanticipated change in your environment might trigger a new beginning that could be very exciting. Don't hold in your feelings so much. LIBRA understands much more than you realize.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ You still might be in the holiday spirit, and you'll try to make sure that everyone feels that life is copacetic. You could decide that you have had enough of the status quo and choose to head in a new direction. Avoid a difficult individual. Tonight: Spend time with a loved one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ You have a lot of ground to cover and every intention to complete what you feel is necessary. Don't forget a thank-you note that you still might have to write. A conversation with an older friend or relative could be very enjoyable. Tonight: Take care of yourself first.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ Containing your inner child will be close to impossible, so don't even try. A message from someone at a distance could be more important than you realize. Don't let this effort from the other party be ignored or unappreciated. Tonight: Relax. Choose a favorite pastime.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ You continue to find that you enjoy yourself most at home. You might enjoy clearing away the holiday knick-knacks and having a more orderly environment. A loved one will spend time chatting with you. It has been a while since you kicked back. Tonight: In the limelight.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Someone could be quite controlling in his or her present mood. You could feel as if this person is upsetting the applecart, perhaps because of a last-minute change of plans. Try to back away from this situation, and avoid any uproar. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Understand the limitations caused by the recent holidays, and honor them. Otherwise, you might not like the results. Your imagination is so wild that a child delights in playing with you. Together you can create quite an adventure. Tonight: Flex with someone's unpredictability.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ You are full of energy. A friend might not feel the same way you do. It simply might be an issue of low energy levels, or plans that he or she would prefer not to be involved with. Don't allow his or her actions and/or words to upset you. Tonight: Ask for what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ Be more aware of your limitations in a money matter. Understand what needs to happen in order to make a situation work. A conversation with a neighbor or close relative could be rather disconcerting. Try not to take a comment personally. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ You might need to be a little more serious in order to slow down a loved one who has a lot of influence over you. A conversation is long overdue. A child or new friend lets you know how independent he or she is. Maintain a sense of humor. Tonight: Surround yourself with friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Take charge. Some of you might choose to work for part of the day. You'll want to start clearing out some paperwork and emails before Monday. The unexpected occurs before you know it. Clearly, you have very little control here. Tonight: Others notice you wherever you are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ You might find that a friend is difficult to listen to, and you could feel drained as a result. You'll be overwhelmed by everything you hear, and even though you can distance yourself from a conversation, you still will have it in the back of your mind. Tonight: Surprises run amok!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ You will want to make a substantial change. You need to rethink a question revolving around a particular relationship. Your personal finances could swing in either direction. You might be dealing with some wildness and risk-taking. Tonight: Share with a favorite person.

BORN TODAY

Former U.S. Sen. Barry Goldwater (1909), zookeeper Jack Hanna (1947), actor Taye Diggs (1971)

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SHOE



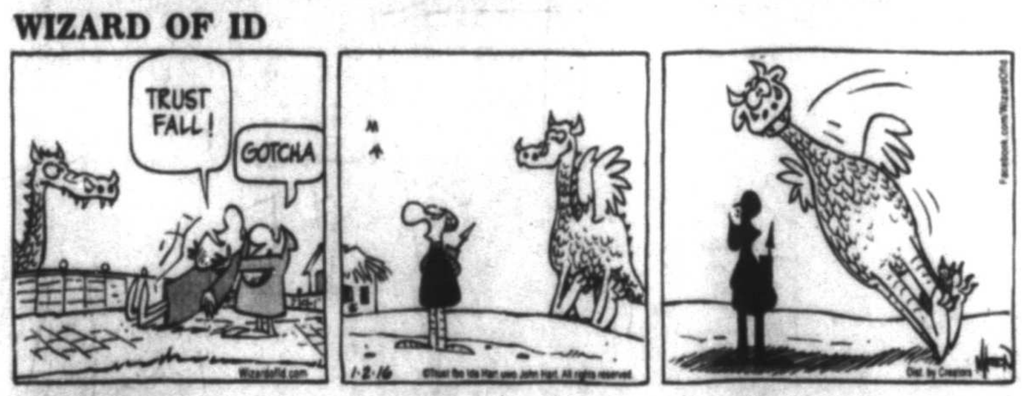
GARFIELD



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



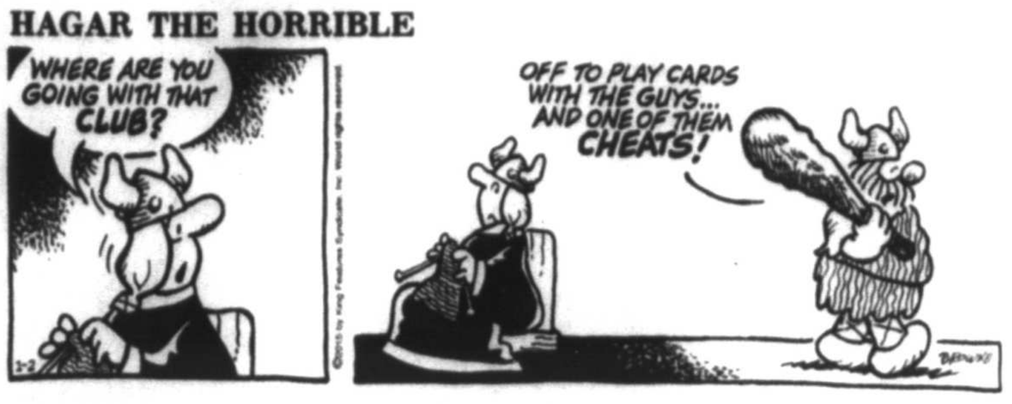
WIZARD OF ID



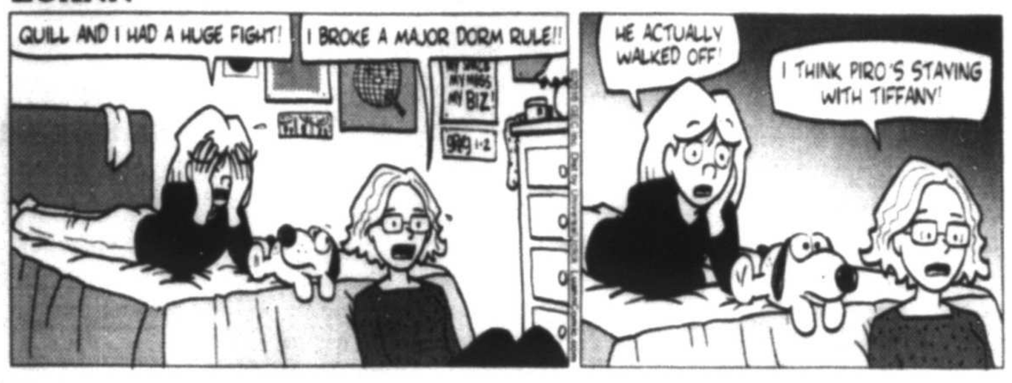
DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



LUANN



MARY WORTH



ZITS



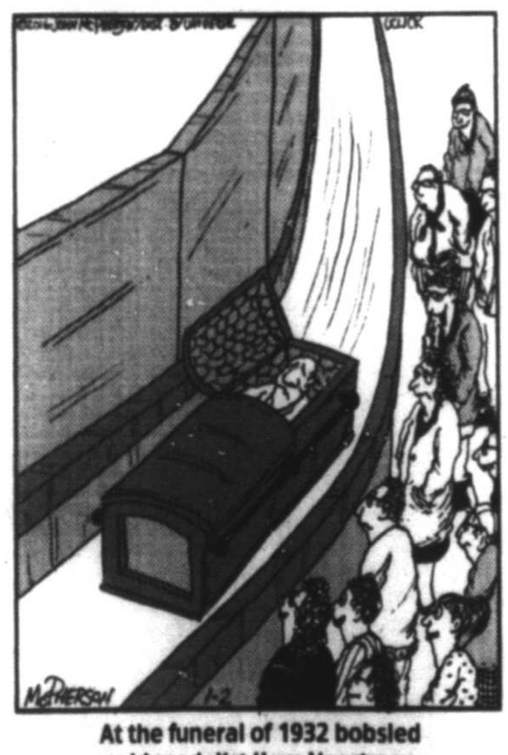
BABY BLUES



MUTTS



CLOSE TO HOME



At the funeral of 1932 bobsled gold medalist Hans Voortman.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"HOPE YOU'RE PREPARED, MR. WILSON. IF THIS KEEPS UP, WE COULD BE TRAPPED TOGETHER FOR DAYS!"

FAMILY CIRCUS



"This year is startin' out to be a very good year!"

LOCKHORNS



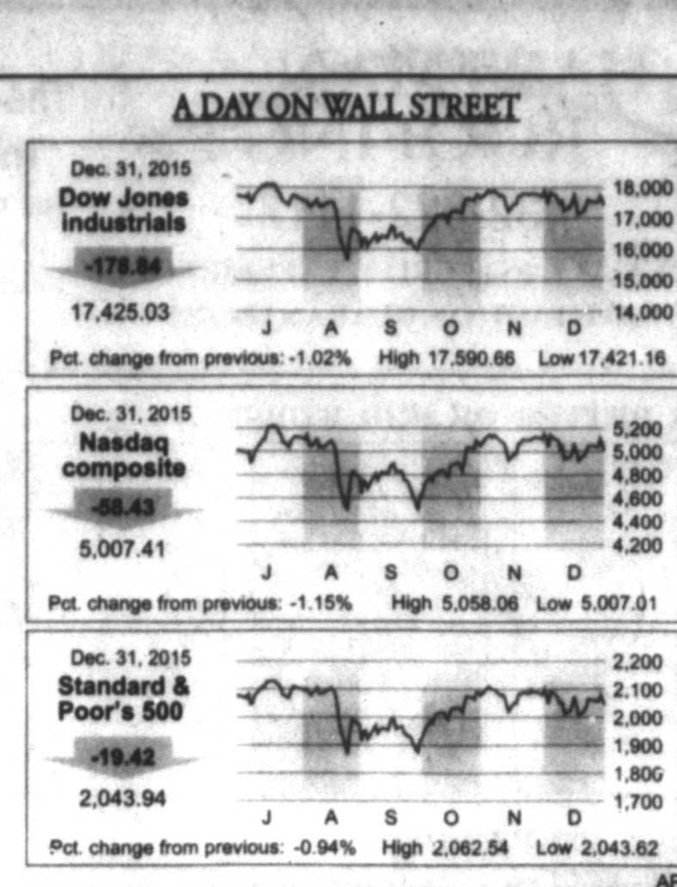
"I'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING, LORETTA. WHERE DO YOU KEEP IT?"

THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE



A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
S&P500ETF	894943203	87	-2.06
GenElec	511675	31.15	+.10
BkofAm	456068	16.83	-.22
B iPVixST	409295	20.10	+.48
iShEMkts	394060	32.19	-.10

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
EKodak wt	2.77	+.55	+24.8
AMidstrm	8.09	+1.46	+22.0
ForsghtEn	3.53	+.62	+21.3
SandRdgP	2.97	+.50	+20.2
Navios pfG	10.76	+1.63	+17.9

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
DnNGBear	53.55	-10.46	-16.3
WestmtIx s	4.00	-.50	-11.1
CSVInvNG	12.52	-1.43	-10.3
FXCM rs	16.73	-1.75	-9.5
DxSPOGBear	83.57	-7.23	-8.0

DIARY

Advanced	1,187
Declined	1,922
Unchanged	102
Total issues	3,211
New Highs	42
New Lows	45
Volume	2,587,450,020

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
LucasE rs	140115	7.30	+5.65
NwGold g	34977	2.32	+.02
Globalstar	30810	1.44	+.01
BarcGSOil	29783	6.23	-.02
TherapMD	24547	10.37	-.50

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
LucasE rs	7.30	+5.65	+342.4
MexcoEn	3.23	+.55	+20.5
EnvroStr	4.17	+.44	+11.8
EnFuel grs	2.95	+.30	+11.3
XtantMed	2.80	+.25	+9.8

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Oncocyt wt	6.25	-1.83	-22.6
Oncocyte	2.08	-.22	-9.6
StrPathCn	17.14	-4.2	-7.7
BioTime	4.10	-.28	-6.4
Skyline	3.56	-.19	-5.2

DIARY

Advanced	194
Declined	181
Unchanged	32
Total issues	407
New Highs	3
New Lows	9
Volume	85,102,962

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Apple Inc	3989361	105.26	-2.06
Chimerix	297034	8.95	+.60
PwShs QQQ	279144111	86	-1.41
Microsoft	259032	55.48	-.83
SiriusXM	257321	4.07	...

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Aemetis	2.90	+1.00	+52.6
SteadyM n	3.26	+.79	+32.0
EV Engy	2.81	+.41	+17.1
KuraOnc n	8.40	+1.12	+15.4
MemorialP	2.64	+.35	+15.3

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
FlameT	12.21	-2.28	-15.7
Gravity rs	3.16	-.49	-13.4
ReadgInfB	13.72	-1.76	-11.4
ChiCastR n	7.96	-.96	-10.8
Vuzix	7.59	-.92	-10.8

DIARY

Advanced	1,013
Declined	1,861
Unchanged	158
Total issues	3,032
New Highs	36
New Lows	85
Volume	1,390,221,297

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

MUTUAL FUNDS

INDEXES

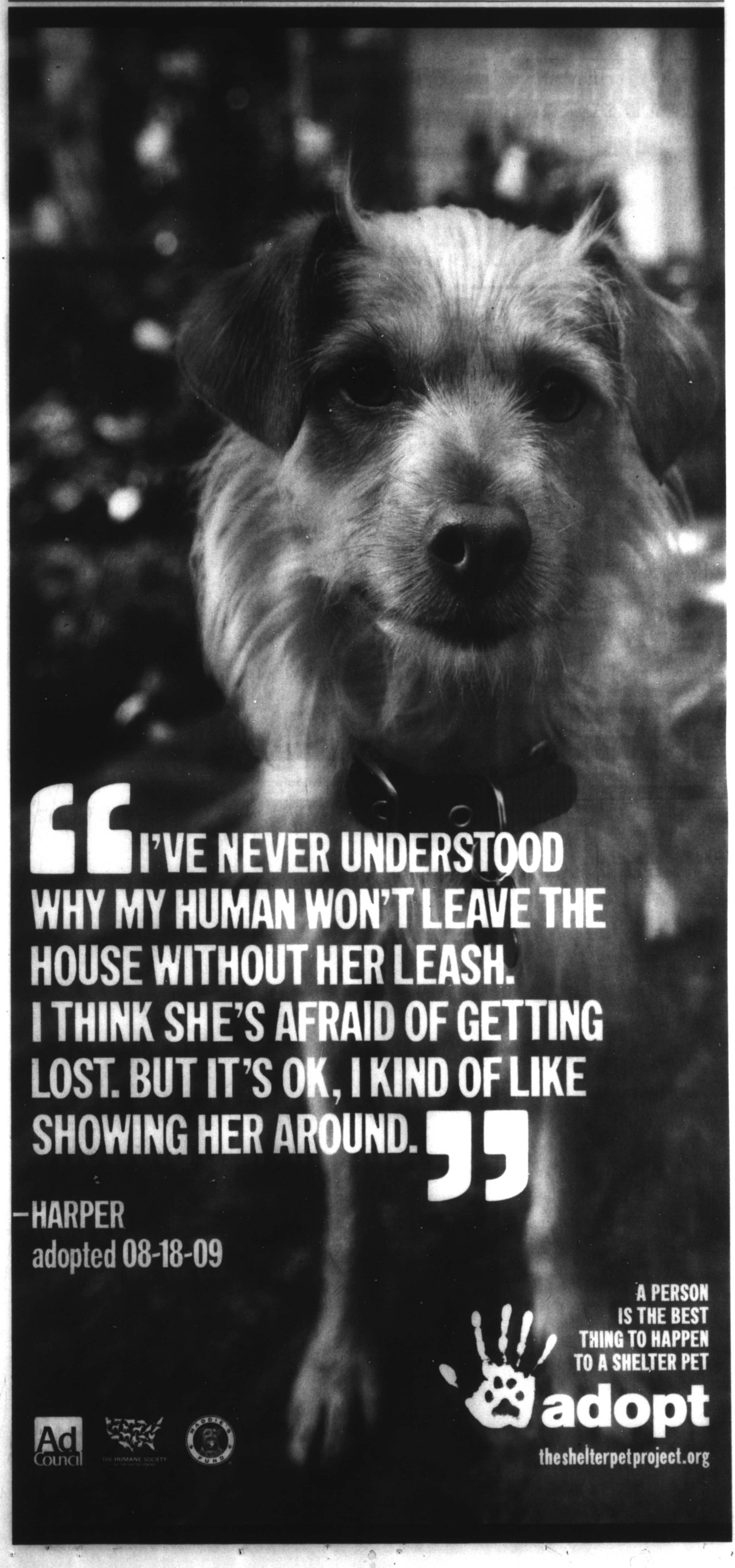
52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net % Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
18,351.36	15,370.33	Dow Jones Industrials	17,425.03	-178.84	-1.02	-2.22	-2.23
9,257.44	7,361.11	Dow Jones Transportation	7,508.71	-26.89	-.38	-17.85	-17.85
657.17	539.96	Dow Jones Utilities	577.82	-6.68	-1.14	-6.51	-6.51
11,254.87	9,509.59	NYSE Composite	10,143.42	-82.41	-.81	-6.42	-6.42
5,231.94	4,292.14	Nasdaq Composite	5,007.41	-58.44	-1.15	+5.73	+5.73
2,134.72	1,867.01	S&P 500	2,043.94	-19.42	-.94	-.73	-.73
1,551.28	1,344.80	S&P Midcap	1,398.58	-14.53	-1.03	-3.71	-3.71
22,537.15	19,619.26	Wilshire 5000	21,167.86	-182.36	-.85	-2.32	-2.32
1,296.00	1,078.63	Russell 2000	1,135.88	-13.76	-1.20	-5.71	-5.71

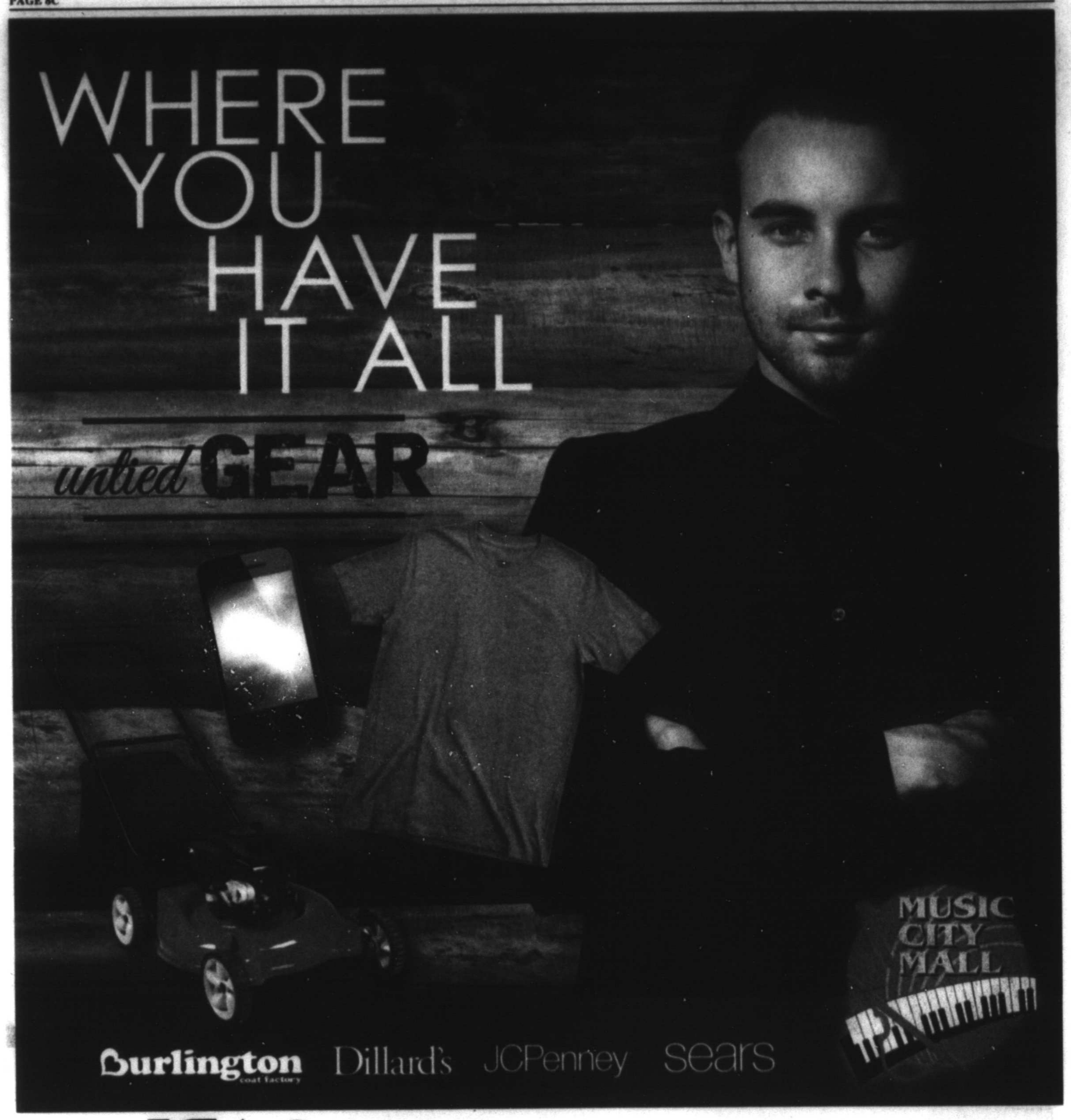
PERMIAN BASIN STOCKS

How stocks of local interest fared

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Read Basin Business and the Oil Report every Sunday to catch up with business news topics in the region.


"I'VE NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY MY HUMAN WON'T LEAVE THE HOUSE WITHOUT HER LEASH. I THINK SHE'S AFRAID OF GETTING LOST. BUT IT'S OK, I KIND OF LIKE SHOWING HER AROUND."
–HARPER
adopted 08-18-09
A PERSON IS THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN TO A SHELTER PET
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theshelterpetproject.org
Ad Council
THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES
ANIMAL FOUNDATION



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Uber LUX Exclusive property: 18 foot barrel ceiling, 12 foot iron doors. Custom glass mosaic tile features. Sequestered master bedroom. Walk-in master closet rivaling any Beverly Hills Estates, open kitchen with The utmost quality and design. Wine Pantry. Glorious Formal dining room. Plantation shutters. Hand scraped hardwood floors. Outstanding in every Way!! For your private tour contact me personally Chris Beckett Broker-Owner 432-349-7888

PINE & BECKETT, REALTORS 686-7000



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Visit: www.pbbor.org for a complete list of open houses this weekend.

SELLING HOMES IN MIDLAND?

Advertising in the MRT Homes Gallery is easy, and includes your listing online for a full week.

Just email mrthomesgallery@mrt.com by 5pm each Wednesday to reserve space, then email photos and copy for each listing by noon each Thursday.

Advertise your Open Houses here. The Homes Gallery gets results!

Happy New Year

Thank you for a wonderful year. May God Bless you all in 2016!

Sandy J Hanson

REALTOR ASSOCIATE ABR, GRI, CRS, ASR

Direct Office: 432-618-0613

Cell: 432-638-3819

Email: sandy@sandyjhanson.com

Legacy: 432-687-6500 Ext. 165



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2005 Ford Ranger SXT Edition Leather



$8,950

2002 Ford Supercrew KING RANCH



$10,950

2013 Chevy Malibu LT



$15,950

2015 Chevrolet Malibu LT



$17,950

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1-2 TERMS APR AS LOW AS 2.9 WAC

NO CREDIT NO PROBLEM WE FINANCE

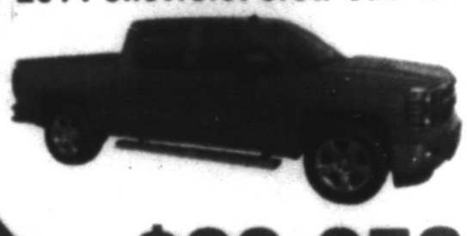
SPECIAL OF THE WEEK

2015 Dodge Charger



$22,950 LOADED

2014 Chevrolet Crew Cab 4x4



$29,950

WITH COPY OF THIS AD

2013 GMC Yukon SLT 3rd Row



$23,950

2014 Dodge Challenger



$20,950 FACTORY WARRANTY

2012 Dodge Journey 3rd Row



$13,950

2014 Jeep Compass



$14,950

WITH COPY OF THIS AD!!!

2011 Chevy Crew Cab TEXAS EDITION Leather, 1 Owner, 15k Miles



$29,950

2013 GMC Crew Cab TEXAS EDITION 4x4



$29,950

2015 Chevrolet Equinox Sunroof



$20,950 FACTORY WARRANTY

2011 GMC Sierra Only 24k Miles



$17,950

2013 GMC Sierra TEXAS EDITION



$24,950

2014 Chevrolet High Country Nav, Leather, Loaded, 4x4



$42,950

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OTHER JOBS

NOW HIRING EXTRA! EXTRA!

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

NOW HIRING EXTRA! EXTRA!

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.

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NOPHONECALLSPLEASE

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Lead Teller & Teller

Citizens Federal Credit Union is seeking the following positons: • Lead Teller - full time • Teller - full time. Positions are well paying with excellent health and retirement benefits. Please send a resume to: Citizens Federal Credit Union, ATTN: HR, P.O. Box 51070, Midland, TX. 79710

CITIZENS Federal Credit Union

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.

HEALTHCARE

Medical Receptionist

Medical receptionist needed for busy walk in clinic M-F 12:00pm-8:00pm. Great benefit package. Please send resume to Premier Physicians, 4214 Andrews Hwy., Ste. 240, Midland, TX 79703 or fax to 432-682-2284 Attn: Anita Routh. CC 9060

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 enthusiasm. 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

LVN

Premier Physicians has a current opening for an LVN with strong primary care experience. Full time position M-F 8:00-5:00 with a great benefit package.
Please send resume to Premier Physicians, 4214 Andrews Hwy., Ste. 240, Midland, TX 79703 or fax to 432-682-2284 Attn: Anita Routh. No phone calls please. COM9003

Resident Guards

Looking for a second retirement? Company funded, 100% vested in as little as 6 years. Please apply online at www.dismas.com or in person at 24 W Industrial Loop, Midland, TX. Residential re-entry center wants , Resident Guards for immediate openings. Must have high integrity and background checks conducted.

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, a cell phone allowance and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a **GREAT TEAM** and are ready to **SUCCEED**, please send a resume to:

Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or **jhouston@mrt.com**. No phone calls please.

QA & QUALITY CONTROL

Environmental Technician - Midland

Duties include air quality monitoring associated with Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) programs at natural gas processing facilities. An understanding of mechanical systems is required. Applicants must have attention to detail, be proficient with computers and have an ability to learn various database programs. Applicants must have a clean driving record and a commitment to safe operations. This position will require significant field work and some travel. This is a full-time position with excellent benefits. Apply at www.trihydro.com with application, resume, and cover letter. Trihydro Corporation is an EEO/AA/M/F/Disabled/VET employer.

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Five Guys Burgers & Fries - All Crew Members

Apply for the opportunity to work for the Best Burgers and Fries Restaurant in Midland. **Five Guys Burgers and Fries** is now accepting applications (and interviewing) for all crew positions. Starting pay $10.00 per hour. Potential for weekly secret shopper bonuses based on team performance. Vacation earned benefits available, free meals, free uniforms. No drive-thru. No breakfast. Flexible hours - 11:00am - 10:00pm. Please stop by to pick up an application at New Location: The Commons North Park (East of Chipolte, in front of Sketchers) 2816 W Loop 250 N., Unit 300 OR Send your resumes to fiveguysmidland@gmail.com. Be sure to include your telephone number!

SALES JOBS

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SKILLED LABOR

Sales Manager Position

United Production & Construction Services, Inc. is currently taking applications for a Sales Manager position. Apply at our main office 9518 W. CR 160, Midland,TX. 79706. Inquiry call 432-498-9200.

Shop Hands

$12.00/hr. Part time, less than 37 hours per week. Schedule may be flexible to accommodate educational requirements. **JOB SUMMARY:** Responsible and reliable individual to work in our fleet repair shop, must comply with all safety requirements. Responsibilities will include cleaning shop and parts areas, stock and keep parts inventory organized. Successful candidate will be trained to service trucks & lubricate vehicles and equipment. Remove and repair tires. Assist Diesel Technicians. Ensuring forms are complete. Responsibilities may be increased for candidates demonstrating a willingness to learn and advance. Entry level position, with the potential to grow with a solid company, and develop skills in a great profession. **QUALIFICATIONS** • Be reliable • At least 18 years of age. • Prefer a high school diploma or GED. Students are encouraged to apply. • Have a valid Texas DL by date of hire. • Must provide DD214 long form (if veteran). **Pick up application at: Stallion Oil Field Services , 1300 South County Road 1140, Midland, Texas 79706**

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Drivers Transport

Griffin Transportation
Local Positions - Class A CDL/ Hazmat, 2 yrs exp. (tanker preferred), good MVR. Full Benefit Package. Call 806 744-2067 Ask for the Transportation Dept. Fax 806 785-4182 Day & Night Shifts Available

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

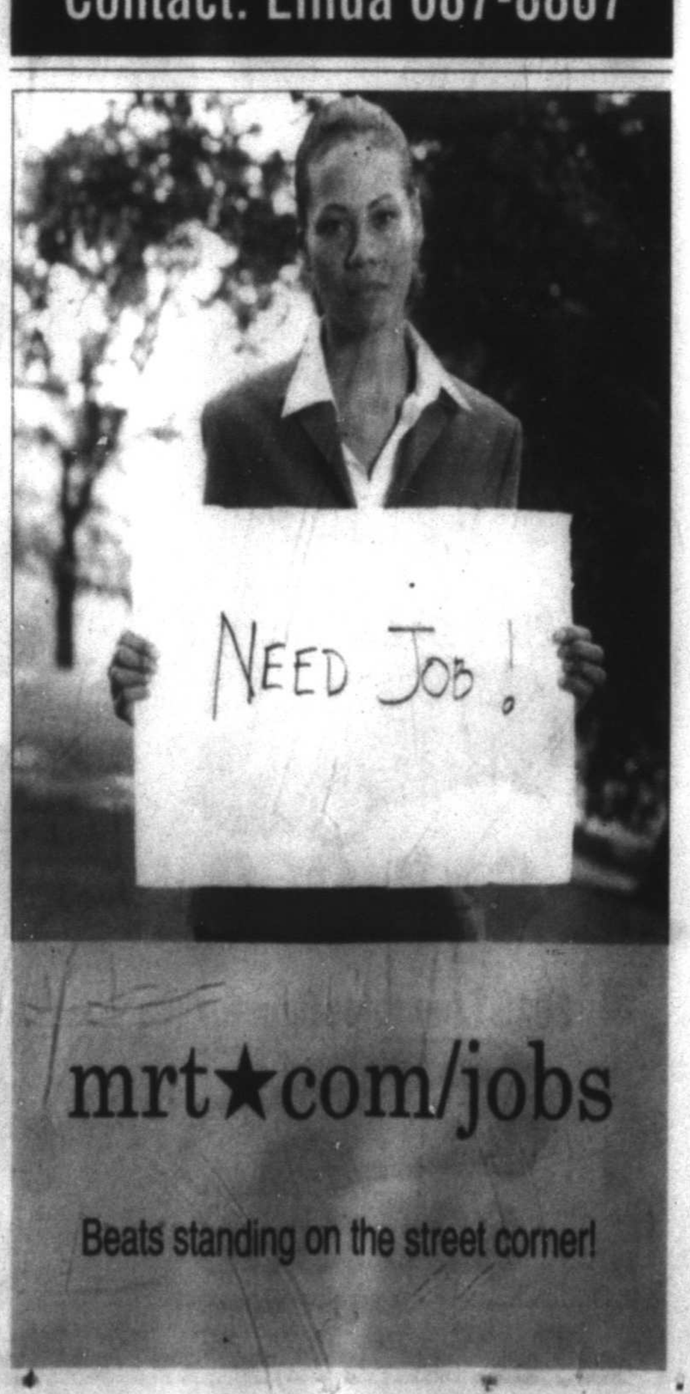
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Events and Notices

General Announcements

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ. Teach the Lords' Word 1-4

THANK YOU SAINT EXPEDITE for your intercession.

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

BMW 535I 1984, Very clean, runs and drives great. Asking $2,000 OBO, Call 432-599-3473

FORD 1997 Taurus, good condition, new tires & battery, asking $1800. Call 432-528-1029

MAZDA 2007 RX8 red great condition car!!! Automatic GREAT Milage still around 50k, willing to work with payments & a Down payment. Call or txt at (432) 254-0544

NISSAN 2012 JUKE SL only 20,100 miles!!! Garage kept and loaded with everything. 5 yr Extended warranty included. Excellent condition! Only $14,500. Call 432-230-2573

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86 Camaro IROC-Z. T-tops. As seen on E-bay. $5,000. 432-559-0692.

Pickup Trucks

2001 GMC 2500 HD 4x4 Crew Cab 8.1L Gas, 86k mi, 6" lift, off road tires. $12,500 OBO. 432-413-0994.

FORD, 2008 Ranger, $11,000. 53,500 miles, dark grey, excellent condition, bed liner & locked cover, clean title. Call or text Mike 432-664-6924.

4WD & SUV

2008 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER, fully loaded. Heated leather seats, sun roof, chrome wheels, 80,628 miles. Asking 11,500 OBO. Please call 432-413-3792.

Commercial Vehicles

Heavy Equipment

VARIOUS TRUCKS for sale, Peterbilt, & Freightliner, Flat Bed Trailers also available Good working trucks, Different Milage, Prices Range, Call (432) 681-1415 Come By & See located in Midland TX

Motorcycles

HARLEY XLHS 2008 Roadglide garage kept, runs great. $13,500. Will text pictures. Call 432-894-4692 or 432-556-6029

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RV PARK spaces between Midland & Stanton: quiet, clean, & safe. Adults only please. 432-238-3937.

RV SPACES for rent. $500 month, utilities furnished. Call 432-894-8234.

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Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

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Legal & Public Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Construction Manager-At-Risk:
Alan White Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc.
206 W. Wadley Ave.; Midland, TX 79707
(432) 697-2282 otc (432) 694-9627 fax

Project Name & Location:
New Annex Building & Sheriff Building Renovations.
124 S. Myrl St., Garden City, Texas

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. is requesting subcontractor and supplier proposals for the New Annex Building & Sheriff Building Renovations for Glasscock County. Proposals will be received up to and no later than Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 2:00 PM local time in the Midland, Texas office. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 2:00 PM, and will take place at 124 S. Myrl St., Garden City, TX. The meeting is not mandatory, but strongly encouraged. This will be the only time for prospective bidders to view the existing Sheriff Building Renovation portion of this project. Please submit all project questions, in writing, to Alan White at alan@midtexofmidland.com Electronic access to the bid documents is available by contacting Leslie Ramirez at leslie@midtexofmidland.com

Miscellaneous for Sale

MARCY DIAMOND Elite, mid size, Olympic weight bench, assembled but never used, with some weights -$200. Twin mattress, box springs, & rails -$175. Foosball table by DMI Sports - $225. All great condition! Text for pictures, 432-978-5574.

Sporting Goods

GOLF CART 2004 Electric Club Car, white w/blue cover. Blue & white seat covers. Call 432-699-6979

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon, 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262

Industrial Products & Supplies

Agriculture & Farm Equipment, Parts & Supplies

2008 PJ 40' Dovetail-dual- tandem gooseneck trailer. Like new 432-254-9209

Animals & Pets

Pets

CHRISTMAS PUPPIES, German Shepherd mix. $20 or two for $30. Please call 432-230-3170

LAB PUPPIES AKC & started dogs. Hips/eyes guaranteed. Training available. Pooles Labs. www.pooleslabs.com Call (806) 633-4364.

Real Estate Rentals & Sales

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Furnished

2901 W ILLINOIS. 1600sft 2BD/2BA Remodeled Executive Patio apartment with garage. $1,150 monthly. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

ALL BILLS PAID INCLUDING EXTENDED BASIC CABLE VILLA CHATEAU APTS. 432-694-1112

DUPLEX FOR LEASE. 3105 Mark Lane 2bed/2bath/2car garage/ fireplace. $1,250 mo. $1,000 deposit. No Pets. 432-557-5557.

LOWEST RENT! Spacious 1 - 2 - 3 Bedroom Apartments. 432-687-4514.

MIDLAND VILLAGE APARTMENTS, single story, never an upstairs neighbor. 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms 432-683-9726.

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2811 MOSS Ave Patio Home for Rent 4/3/2 Near Emerson Elementary & Goddard Junior High 432-934-4938 or 432-685-1711

2811 MOSS
Large 4 bed 3 bath, 2 car garage. Emerson/Goddard/ MHS. $2,350
UP Group 889-2934

SPECIAL!!!
2 BD/1 & 1/2 baths Townhouse, no pets. utility room with washer & dryer $1,250 per month, $1,000 deposit. Small front & back yards. 432-699-4420 or 432-553-8397

VERY CLEAN. 2 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH, large kitchen private backyard. No pets. 2 story, 4421 Crockett Ave. $1,100 per month. Call 602-432-0888.

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

2 BED/2bath duplex 1,450sqft, fireplace, garage, small fenced yard, water paid. $1,300/mo, $1,300 security deposit 3805 W Storey, side A. References and credit check required No pets, no smoking. 432-262-3100 or 325-947-9434. Applications available at house.

312 WILLOWWOOD. 3 bedroom 2 bath, nicely remodeled. Non smoking no pets. $1,300 monthly. Call 432-683-2243

4412 TANNER 3bed/2bath, double garage. $1,500 mo. $1,500 dep. 432-978-2074.

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Residential Rentals

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

4707 A Harvard, Cute 2BD/2B duplex, 2 carports, fenced yard, applicances, non-smoker, no pets prefered. $1,200 mo. 432-620-9222 or 432-425-2739.

NEWLY REPAINTED & carpeted 3 bedroom 2 bath, brick home with fireplace, attached garage, & large backyard in quiet neighborhood. $1,300 deposit, $1,500 per month for a year lease. Washer, dryer connections. Stove and refrigerator furnished. 1908 Woodlawn near A Street and Scharbauer. 903-385-2017 for showing appointment.

NICE HOMES remodeled with garage, great neighborhood. Northwest Midland, 3 bed 2 bath and larger. From $1,500 monthly. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

VERY NICE, newer, 2 bedroom mobilehome in quiet individually owned 6 unit park. Covered parking, appliances, landscaped. $1000 monthly, $750 deposit. Credit check, rental references required. No pets. 432-296-0951.

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Condos/ Townhouses

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Homes for Sale

2403 METZ Place: 5 bd, 3 1/2 bath, 2 lvg, areas, dining room and office. Great location close to Emerson Elementary and Goddard Jr. High. For more info please call 432-352-1218

3527 GULF. 3BD/2BA. Newly Remodeled, fireplace. 2000+ sf. Large backyard. $219,000. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

3608 SINCLAIR 2939sf 4BD/3BA, fireplace. Water well, Remodeled. $249,000 Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

4500 SQ. ft. spec home on 20 acres off 349 (still under construction). Qualified buyers only by appointment. Call Eric 432-934-6198 for home built your way.

5221 CANADIAN Beautiful 4 bedroom 2 bath, 2 living areas, large kitchen, computer room & laundry room. $227K Open house 2-4 every Sunday or call for an appointment. 432-683-2243

5225 Brazzos Ave, Midland. 3/2 Sequestered master bedroom. Breakfast nook. Dining room. 2 car garage. Central heat and air. Kids swing set. Good school district. Home warranty for 1 yr. $229K. Call Robert anytime 4328533009.

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$8,500/month
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5 ACRES. FENCED
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*4,212 ac, Maverick Creek, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail $825/ac
*1,771 ac, windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great w-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $850/ac
• Nolan County
*646 ac, over 1 mile d creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oaks, trees $3,550/ac
*365 ac, Pecan Creek, New Living Shop. 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $3,550/ac
• Howard County
*642 ac, canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some defined trails $750/ac
*150 ac, big canyons, banks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, jav $895/ac
• Martin County
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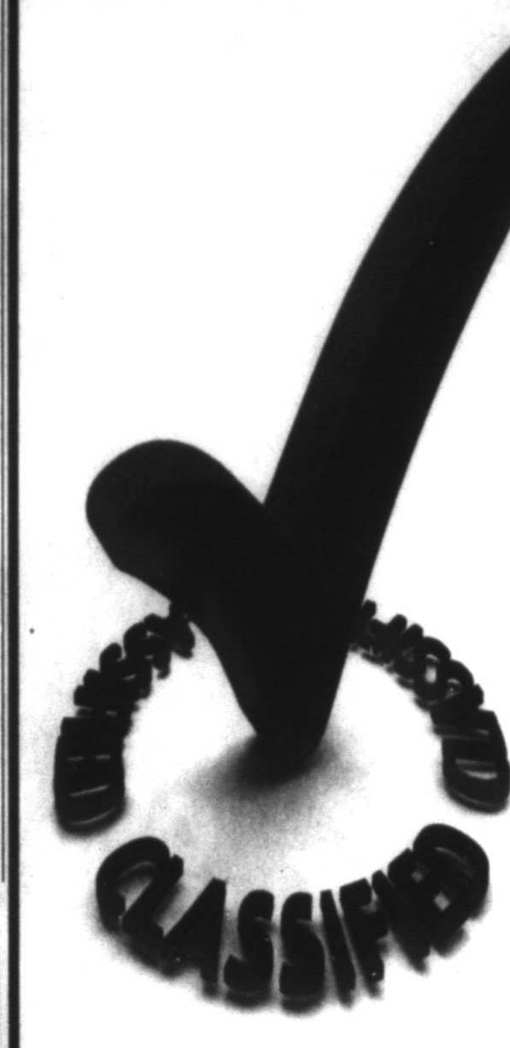
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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO FRIDAY'S PUZZLE

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

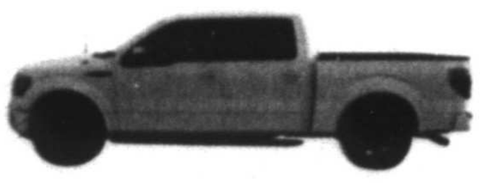
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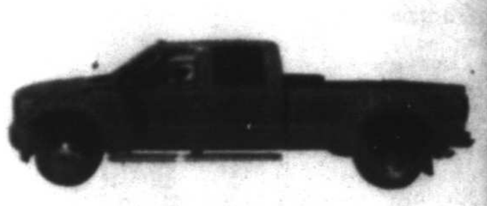
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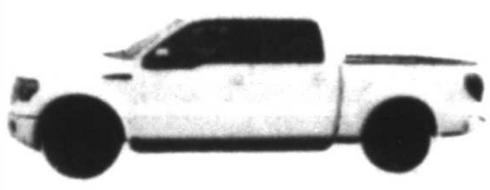
~~Was $56,294~~
NOW $47,995
2015 Ford F-350 DRW
Stk# 41322



~~Was $34,995~~
NOW $28,995
2013 Ford F-150
Stk# 382661



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NOW $44,995
2013 Ford F-250
Stk# 387532



~~Was $34,995~~
NOW $32,995
2013 Ford F-150
Stk# 15392422



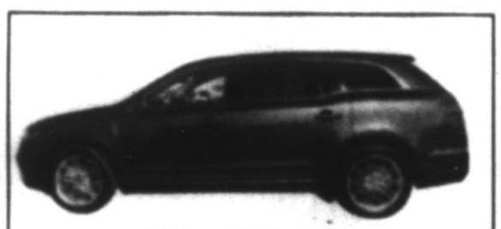
~~Was $54,995~~
NOW $48,495
2012 Ford F-150
Stk# 391801



~~Was $51,995~~
NOW $48,995
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Stk# 41348



~~Was $53,995~~
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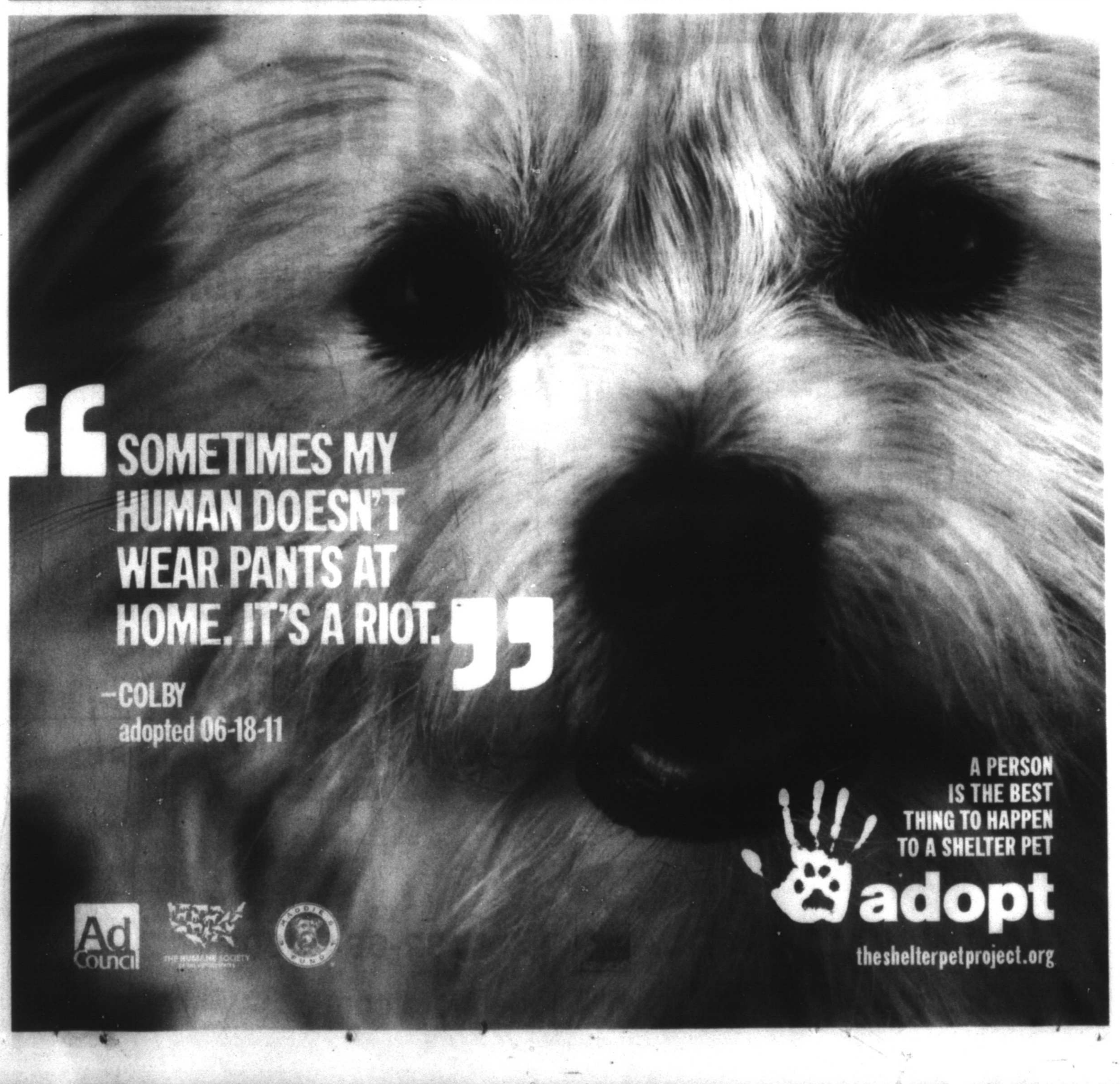
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Site Matters



The results are in. Consumers value and trust the premium-quality content found at newspaper Web sites as well as the advertising on those sites according to a just-released comScore survey.

Newspaper Web Sites continue to be the most used and valued sites for consumers seeking credible and trustworthy local content and advertising online.

Top Online Source 57percent of consumers identified local newspaper Web sites as the top online source for local information, ahead of the totals for all other media.

Source for Local Information Newspaper sites ranked first as a source for local information (29%), local sports (27%), local entertainment (26%) and local classifieds (39%), ahead of both local television Web sites and online portals. And, consumers value local content with 57% indicating that local information is very important.

Trustworthiness of Advertising Consumers agree that their opinion of online advertising is influenced by the type of Web site on which the ad appears. Local newspaper sites ranked first in trustworthiness of advertising.

Current, Credible and Relevant Consumers consider local newspaper Web sites to be the most trusted source of online advertising, with ads that are perceived to be more current, credible and relevant to them.

75 million unique visitors 37% of all active Internet users went to newspaper Web sites in January 2010, accessing more than 3.5 billion pages.

Local Matters, the Content Matters, the Site Matters.

Source: comScore 2010, Nielsen Online

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Ten Reasons to Advertise on a Newspaper Web site

1. Frequency: The online newspaper Web site user spends more than twice as many hours online than the general user. Online newspaper users are three times as likely as general 'Net users to be online during the workday when out of reach of other media-8-11 a.m. is a new "primetime" for media consumption. (Source: "Power Users," 2006, MORI Research)

2. Credibility: Branded content brings a higher quality audience. A study from the Online Publishers Association (OPA) showed that OPA audiences were more like to buy products and services in a number of key categories, including automotive, entertainment, financial, home, travel and business to business.

3. Targeted: If you want to .focus on a particular backyard, advertising in an online newspaper is more personal, and more relevant because it is local. Newspapers also publish a plethora of niche sites (youth, women, movie fans, Hispanics) for virtually any demographic advertisers could possibly hope to reach. "Newspapers know more than ever about their Web audience because of online registration programs and audience segmentation software."

4. Purchasing Power: Eighty-nine percent of newspaper Web site users purchase online compared with 56 percent of general users. Forty percent of online newspaper users have incomes higher than $75,000; 69 percent own their homes. Eighteen percent of online newspaper users have spent more than $2,000 online in the last six months.

5. Content: Excluding e-mail, the most popular online activities and content categories include national and local news, sports, financial information, entertainment news and things-to-do. Fifty-four percent of general Internet users visit online newspapers for local news, compared with 40 percent who visit the local TV station Web site and 20 percent for the local radio station site. Not even Yahoo! can top online newspapers as a local news source. ("Power Users," 2006, MORI Research)

6. Newspaper online audience keeps growing: Nationally, online newspapers keep growing their audiences. In an average month during the first quarter of 2010, more than 72 million visited a newspaper Web site, which is more than 36% of the active Internet universe. (Nielsen Online)

7. High Profile: Online newspapers generate very large gains in Online Ad Awareness among C-level and other higher-management job holders: C-level managers showed a 23 percent increase in Aided Brand Awareness, VP/director-level managers showed a 38 percent increase and other management showed a 37 percent increase following their exposure to an ad campaign in online newspapers (across all industries.) When the brand metric shifts to Message Association, C-level execs showed the largest increase in lift after exposure to campaigns at 88 percent. No management category showed less than a 51 percent increase. (Dynamic Logic's MarketNorms® database, 2006)

8. Reinforcement: Fifty-six percent of online newspaper users also read the newspaper in the past five days. Repetition helps increase brand awareness.

9. Cutting Edge: Newspaper Web site users are more likely (by almost twenty percent) to own some kind of portable electronic device. They are also more interested in receiving advertising and product offers through those devices. Forty percent of online newspaper users are aged 18 to 34. (Source: "Power Users," 2006, MORI Research)

10. Mix: A variety of recent studies have demonstrated the power of online, when included in a mix with traditional media, to elaborate the brand message. When combined, Newspaper print and online products have the highest penetration and most desirable audience of any other local medium.

Call your Advertising Executive or 432-682-5311 today!

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