

# MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2017

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## PREDICTING THE FUTURE

'The Simpsons' showed Disney buying Fox in 1998.

mrt.com



## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Texas A&M Commerce will play in the Division II National Championship today. Get a preview inside.

Page 1C

## Permian Basin loses 3 rigs for total of 397

■ Midland County rig count is 51, an increase of 1

By Trevor Hawes  
thawes@mrt.com

The Permian Basin slipped back below 400 rigs after reaching that mark a week ago for the first time in nearly three years.

### More information

Read Week in Oil.

Page 4A

The nation's most active basin recorded 397 rigs, down three, according to data from Baker Hughes. The largest losses came in Glasscock and Upton counties, which each

lost three rigs. Of note, Reagan County jumped by six rigs to 20.

Reeves, in the heart of the Delaware Basin, led all counties with 63 rigs, up one. Midland County, in the Midland Basin, added one rig for a total of 51.

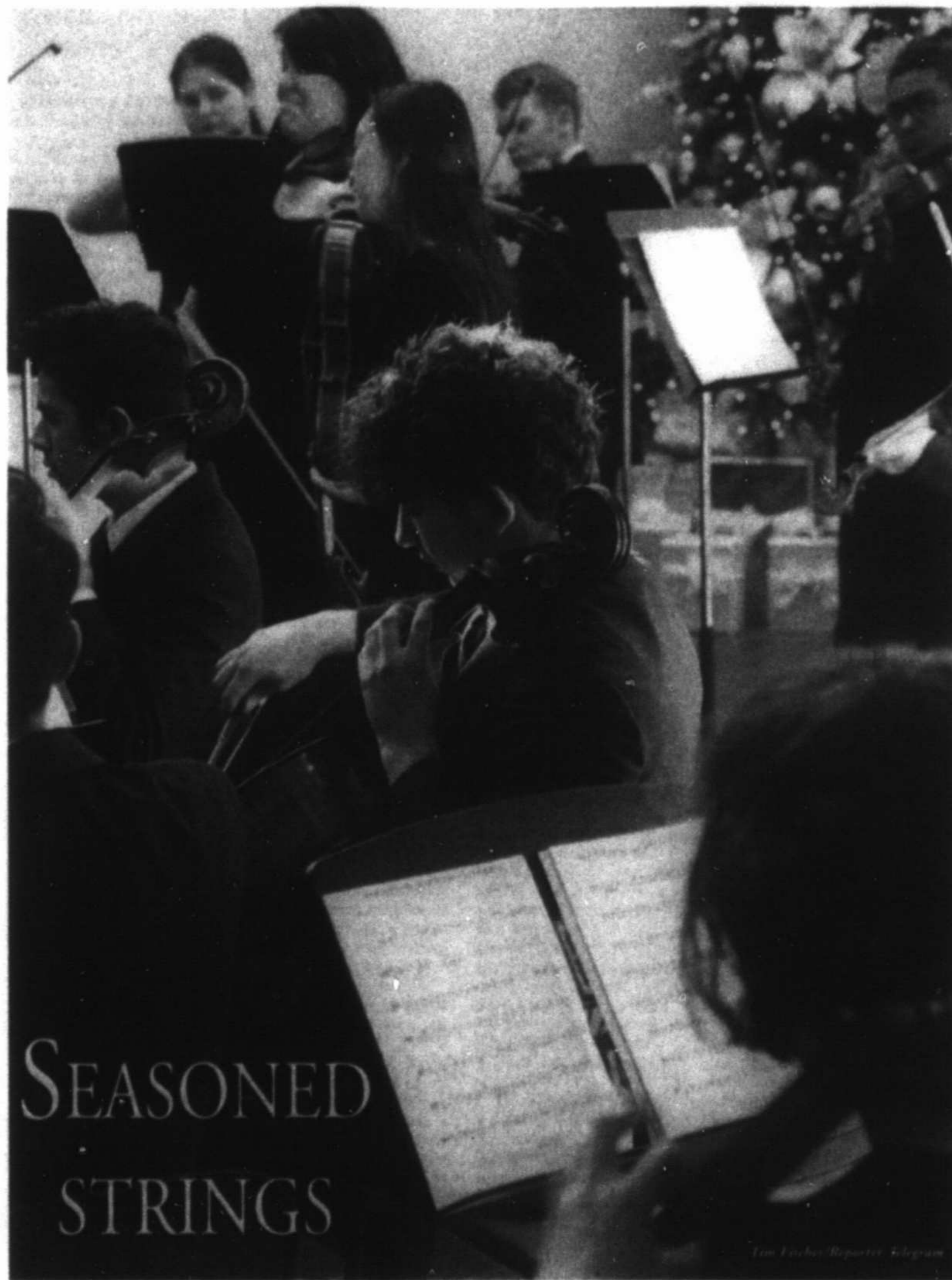
Other counties with double-digit rig counts were Lea, New Mexico (39); Eddy, New Mexico (30); Martin (28); Howard (21); Glasscock (13); Culberson (12); Pecos

(11); and Upton (11).

Railroad Commission District 8 saw five rigs idled, leaving 270. For other areas with activity in the Permian, District 7B held at two, District 7C rose by three to 35, District 8A bumped one higher to 20 and New Mexico fell by two to 70.

The Permian Basin had 258 rigs a year

Please see RIG/4A



## SEASONED STRINGS

Members of the Lee High School orchestra perform holiday tunes Friday at First Capital Bank of Texas, 310 W. Wall St.

## Midland ISD to be part of local program pilot

From staff reports

Midland ISD will be one of 20 school districts/charter systems that will participate in a pilot to develop its own local academic accountability system, according to Texas Education Agency Commissioner Mike Morath.

The TEA will oversee a small-scale pilot program in the 2017-18 academic year, according to a press release. Established by House Bill 22 and passed during the 85th Texas Legislature earlier this year, the local accountability system program allows an independent school district or public school charter to develop plans to evaluate its campuses.

Please see MISD/4A

## UT regents allocate \$9 million for UTPB

From staff reports

The University of Texas System Board of Regents on Friday afternoon approved the allocation of \$9 million over the next three years for the University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

The funds will be generated through the UT System Internal Lending Program designed to launch online degree programs, according to a press release from the Odessa school.

Following a detailed analysis of operations and management, UTPB President Sandra developed a three-year plan to shore up deficiencies and to make investments for the university's future. The plan will include investments in the following:

- strategic enrollment management system;
- business process re-engineering.

Please see UTPB/4A

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Price of oil

\$57.30 ▲ \$0.26

January 2018

The big number

45

million dollars  
That's how much 'Star Wars: The Last Jedi' made opening night.  
Page 7A

Word of the Day:

innervate

Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 5A.

Brought to you daily by



Vol. 89, No. 280

Daily \$2, Sunday \$3

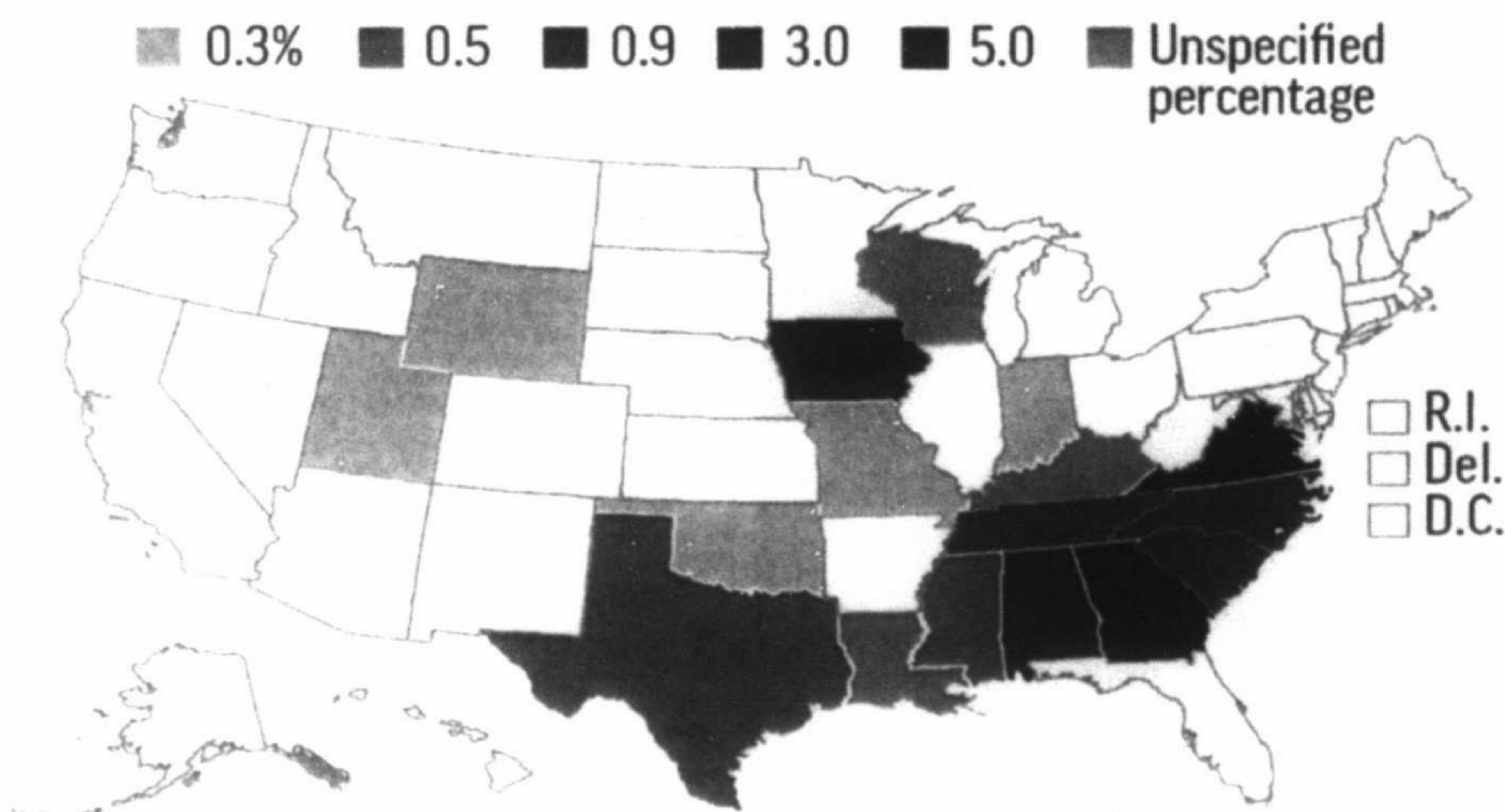


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Classified 1D | Comics 6C | Dear Abby 6A | Lottery 3A | Obituaries 2A | Puzzles 7C | Sports 1C | TV 3C

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## Low-dose THC programs



SOURCE: National Conference of State Legislatures

AP

## Texas among last states to OK medical marijuana

By Paul J. Weber  
and Claudia Lauer  
Associated Press

**MANCHACA** When California rings in the new year with the sale of recreational pot for the first time, Texas will be tiptoeing into its own marijuana milestone: a medical cannabis program so restrictive that doubts swirl over who will even use it.

Texas is the last big state to allow some form of medical marijuana, albeit an oil extract so low in the psychoactive component, THC, that it couldn't get a person high. Though it might seem that Texas policymakers have softened their attitude toward the drug, bringing them more in line with the U.S. population as a whole, they have not. A joint could still land you in jail in Texas, and the state's embrace of medical marijuana comes with a heavy dose of caution.

Among the concerns are the license fees to grow marijuana in Texas — which are the highest in the U.S., at nearly \$500,000 — and that the program is rolling out with just eight participating doctors in a state of 27 million people. And, like other states, access is limited to a small pool of patients who have been diagnosed with intractable epilepsy and tried at least two other treatments first.

"It's heartbreaking. Being able to say, 'Yes, you can get it,' but reading over the whole law there is still some things we have to jump over," said Cristina Ollervidez, 31, who lives near the Texas-Mexico border and is three hours from the closest participating doctor. Her 7-year-old daughter, Lailah, has a type of epilepsy called Lennox-



Eric Gay/Associated Press

Morris Denton, left, and Dalton Edwards look over marijuana plants in a flowering room with sodium grow lights at Compassionate Cultivation on Thursday in Manchaca. The license fees to grow in Texas are the highest in the U.S. at nearly \$500,000 and the program is rolling out with just seven participating doctors in a state of 27 million people. And like other states, access is limited to a small pool of patients.

Gastaut syndrome and is in a wheelchair.

Her daughter isn't listed as having intractable epilepsy but still has days when she gets several seizures.

"Seeing Texas put limitations, I do get that part," Ollervidez said. "But I don't think they did their exact research."

The frustration over access is similar in other states that have also passed restrictive medical marijuana laws. One Georgia legislator goes so far as to have low-dose cannabis oil shipped to his office from Colorado as a workaround to his own bill, which allows people to possess marijuana but doesn't give them a legal way to obtain it.

Texas is similar to more than a dozen states that restrict access to a low-THC cannabis oil. However, Texas — which is 800 miles wide — licensed just three dispensaries,

none of which are in the western half of the state or in fast-growing cities along the border with Mexico. And the Republican who won over skeptical conservatives to pass her law in 2015 is noncommittal about expanding the program.

That leaves Morris Denton, who runs the Compassionate Cultivation dispensary near Austin, looking far down the road.

"If you're willing to take a long-term view and you're willing to suffer a few scars along the way, that success will come," Denton said. "The lessons themselves represent a barrier to entry for others who may come in. But I think it's hard to pinpoint how, where and when to start a legal medical cannabis industry."

Texas has also placed tighter control on marijuana growers. The licensing fee is 80 times more than originally recommended.

weren't going to abuse the cannabis oil.

"There was one sheriff that thought these kids were going to be juvenile delinquents and end up in his jail. And these are really sick kids," Klick said, noting that lawmakers will consider expansion only after they've seen the results of the current framework.

Only four states — Kansas, South Dakota, Nebraska and Idaho — have no form of medical marijuana on the books. Seventeen others, including Texas, allow only low-THC medical cannabis, according to research from the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Kristen Hanson, a program director for NCSL, said Texas is unusual for requiring that a doctor "prescribe" the cannabis oil instead of using the word "referral" like most states. The distinction is blamed for dissuading more Texas doctors from signing up, because under federal law, marijuana is classified as a Schedule I drug with no medical use and therefore can't be prescribed.

Dr. Paul Van Ness, a neurologist at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, is one of the few doctors who have registered with state to participate in the program. He said he supports the restrictive nature of the Texas program, though he concedes the downside is limited access.

He said he already has patients smoking marijuana, some of whom have been arrested because of it. "They didn't belong in jail, but that's what happens in Texas," Van Ness said. "So if they can do it legally, that's a lot safer."

## NATIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### BEAUMONT 3 sentenced in Texas alligator snapping turtles sales case

Two men have been sentenced to federal prison in a scheme to catch alligator snapping turtles in Texas and sell the rare reptiles for up to \$1,000 apiece.

Prosecutors in Beaumont say Travis Leger of Sulphur, Louisiana, was sentenced Friday to 21 months. His half brother, Jason Leckelt of Wilburton, Oklahoma, was sentenced to 16 months.

Both men, plus Rickey Paul Simon of Sulphur, Louisiana, earlier pleaded guilty to conspiracy to illegally traffic the turtles. Simon received probation.

Alligator snapping turtles are the largest freshwater turtles in the world, can weigh 200 pounds and live up to 100 years.

Authorities believe dozens of turtles were caught in Texas and transported to Louisiana. Both states have

laws protecting alligator snapping turtles. Investigators recovered about 30 of the turtles from ponds in Sulphur.

### ANGELTON Alleged serial killer indicted in Texas in fourth death

An alleged serial killer has been indicted in the slaying of a North Texas college student nearly two decades after she went missing.

A Texas grand jury indicted William Lewis Reece late Thursday on a charge of capital murder in the 1997 disappearance and death of 20-year-old University of North Texas student Kelli Cox.

Reece was charged this summer in three other cold-case killings in Texas and Oklahoma. Cox, 19-year-old Tiffany Johnston, 17-year-old Jessica Cain and 12-year-old Laura Smither all disappeared over a four-month period in

1997.

Reece was serving a 60-year sentence in Texas for kidnapping when he led police last year to the graves where Cain and Cox's remains were buried.

Reece has pleaded not guilty in Oklahoma, where prosecutors have said they will seek the death penalty.

### SAN ANTONIO Chain sued for selling gun to Texas church shooter

The family of three people killed in a Texas church shooting has filed a lawsuit seeking \$25 million in damages against a sporting goods chain that sold two firearms to the shooter.

The lawsuit claims Katy, Texas-based Academy Sports & Outdoors was negligent in selling to Devin Patrick Kelley an AR-556 rifle used in the deadly Nov. 5 shooting. The lawsuit was filed Wednesday in San Antonio by the family of Joann

Ward, who along with her two daughters were among the 26 people killed.

In a statement, the sporting goods retailer offered condolences to the victims but said it complied with all laws.

### SAN ANTONIO Kolkhorst chairs Senate hearing on sexual harassment Arthur Hahn

Sen. Lois W. Kolkhorst (R-Brenham), chairwoman of the Texas Senate Committee on Administration

held a public hearing at the state capitol Thursday to review the Senate's current sexual harassment policy.

"The primary goal of today's hearing was to assess the Senate's current policy on sexual harassment," said Kolkhorst. "Sexual harassment is wrong, and let me stress again that the Texas Senate does not tolerate any form of it."

Testimony was given to discuss how the Senate currently conducts sexual harassment prevention training and has for years had a policy for reporting and investigating sexual harassment claims.

## Obituaries



### Robert Orson

Robert Orson, 70, of Andrews passed away on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 in Odessa. Family and friends will gather to celebrate his life at 2:00 PM Monday, December 18, 2017 at McNett Funeral Home Chapel in Andrews. Interment will follow in the Andrews West Cemetery. Robert is survived by his wife, Loretta Orson of Andrews; 2 sons, John "Scooter" Orson and wife, Jennifer, of Andrews and Kenneth Orson and wife, Cindy, of Andrews; 3 daughters, Kim Orson of Andrews, Pam Luther and husband, Glen, of San Angelo, and Christie Orson of Andrews; 1 stepson, James "Jimmy" Garland of Dowagiac, Michigan; 2 brothers, Truman Orson and wife, Julie, of Columbia, Missouri and Brent Riordan of Hobbs, New Mexico; 1 sister, Tressa Bledsoe and husband, Joe, of Odessa; 10 grandchildren; and 1 great granddaughter. Memorials may be sent to the Andrews Food Pantry, PO Box 2023, Andrews, Texas 79714.



### Steven A. Smith

Steven A. Smith, 66, of Midland, passed away December 6, 2017. He was born to Gertrude Smith and the late Arthur Smith on March 27, 1951 in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Steven worked for over 30 years in the oilfield as a land geologist in the West Texas and New Mexico areas. During the oil boom, Steven was self-employed and returned to Morco Geological after the crash.

While a good standing member of Alcoholic Anonymous, he achieved 10 years of sobriety on November 29, 2017. During this time, he sponsored many men provided service work for Turning Point and spoke whenever asked.

Steve was loved by many and loved his fellow mankind. He will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Smith; mother, Gertrude Smith; chosen daughter, Renee Bobet; brother and wife, Jeff and Cathy Smith; grandson, Michael Smith; nieces, Erin Hunt and Sarah Anderson; great niece Paige Hunt; great nephews, Austin Hunt and Griffin Anderson.

He is preceded in death by his son, Ian Smith and father, Arthur Smith.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, December 16, 2017 from 3-5 p.m. at 716 Ohio St. in Midland.

All donations on Steven's behalf can be sent to Hospice of Midland.



The Thinking Man's Film

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The Aztecs used Cocoa seeds as a form of currency.

# TODAY IN MIDLAND

## WORD OF THE DAY

brought to you daily by



### Innervate

[ih-nur-veyt, in-er-veyt]  
verb

1. to communicate nervous energy to; stimulate through nerves.



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**MAIN SWITCHBOARD**  
432-682-5311

**PUBLISHER**  
Jeffrey Shabram 687-8880  
jshabram@mrt.com

**NEWSROOM**  
EDITOR  
Stewart Doreen 687-8856  
sdoreen@mrt.com

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Prices are subject to change. The Midland Reporter-Telegram continues to make a concerted effort to keep the cost of subscriptions at a minimum for our readers. When a price change is necessary, we will notify our subscribers in advance.

### This date in Midland

On Dec. 16, 2000, the Lee football team defeated Austin Westlake, 33-21, at Austin's Royal Memorial Stadium to claim its third-straight Class 5A state football championship.

### Things to do

- Family Films is a healthy holiday celebration with obstacle courses, a trail mix bar and photos with Santa, 7 a.m.-2 p.m., Midland YMCA, 800 N. Big Spring St. midlandymca.org. Open to the community.
- Winter Market by the Midland Downtown Farmers Market, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave.
- Guided Trail Walk, 9 a.m., Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. sibleynaturecenter.org.
- Saturday Movie: "The Polar Express," 2 p.m., Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.
- "Astronaut" dome show in 3D, 4 p.m., Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museum.org.
- Pancakes with Santa by the Knights of Columbus, 6-8 p.m., St. Ann's Catholic Church, 1906 W. Texas Ave.
- Caymus Wine Dinner will feature a four-course meal paired with various Caymus Vineyard labels, 7 p.m., Opa's Table, 223 W. Wall St. \$85. opaistable.com.
- Field Office Christmas Party, 7 p.m.-1 a.m., the Field Office, 3205 W. Industrial Ave.
- "A Place Called Christmas" and "Twelve Days of Christmas," 7-9 p.m., Permian Playhouse, 310 W. 42nd St. Odessa, \$10. permianplayhouse.com.
- "Miracle on 34th Street: The Musical," 7:30 p.m., Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. \$28. mctmidland.org.
- Christian Noddi, Crecer German, Geru Legion, 8 p.m., La Hacienda Event Center, 12610 State Highway 191 \$60. hacendamidland.com.
- Tim Kreitz Band, 9 p.m., The Bar, 606 W. Missouri Ave.
- Truck Stop Gamblers, 9 p.m., the Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St.
- Cody Jinks, Ward Davis at Dos Amigos, Odessa. dosamigos.com.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Young Professionals of Midland hosted an Ugly Sweater Christmas Mixer Thursday at the Blue Door. The group also had a toy drive to collect presents for children at Buckner Home.

## Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 863  
Pick 3 day: 672  
Pick 3 evening: 729  
Pick 3 night: 437  
Daily 4 morning: 5210  
Daily 4 day: 805  
Daily 4 evening: 2881  
Daily 4 night: 9518  
Cash Five: 45 12 16 28  
Triple Chance: 6 10 14 19 20  
27 38 42 47 51

Mega Millions: 4 12 36 44 57  
BB: 19 MP: 4  
All or Nothing morning: 1 2 4  
5 6 10 11 13 19 21 22 24  
All or Nothing day: 3 6 7 8 10  
11 14 15 17 20 21 23  
All or Nothing evening: 1 3 4  
5 10 11 13 19 21 22 23 24  
All or Nothing night: 2 4 5 6 9  
11 12 14 16 18 20 24

## Weather

**Friday's temperatures**  
High: 54  
Low: 29  
Normal high: 58  
Normal low: 31

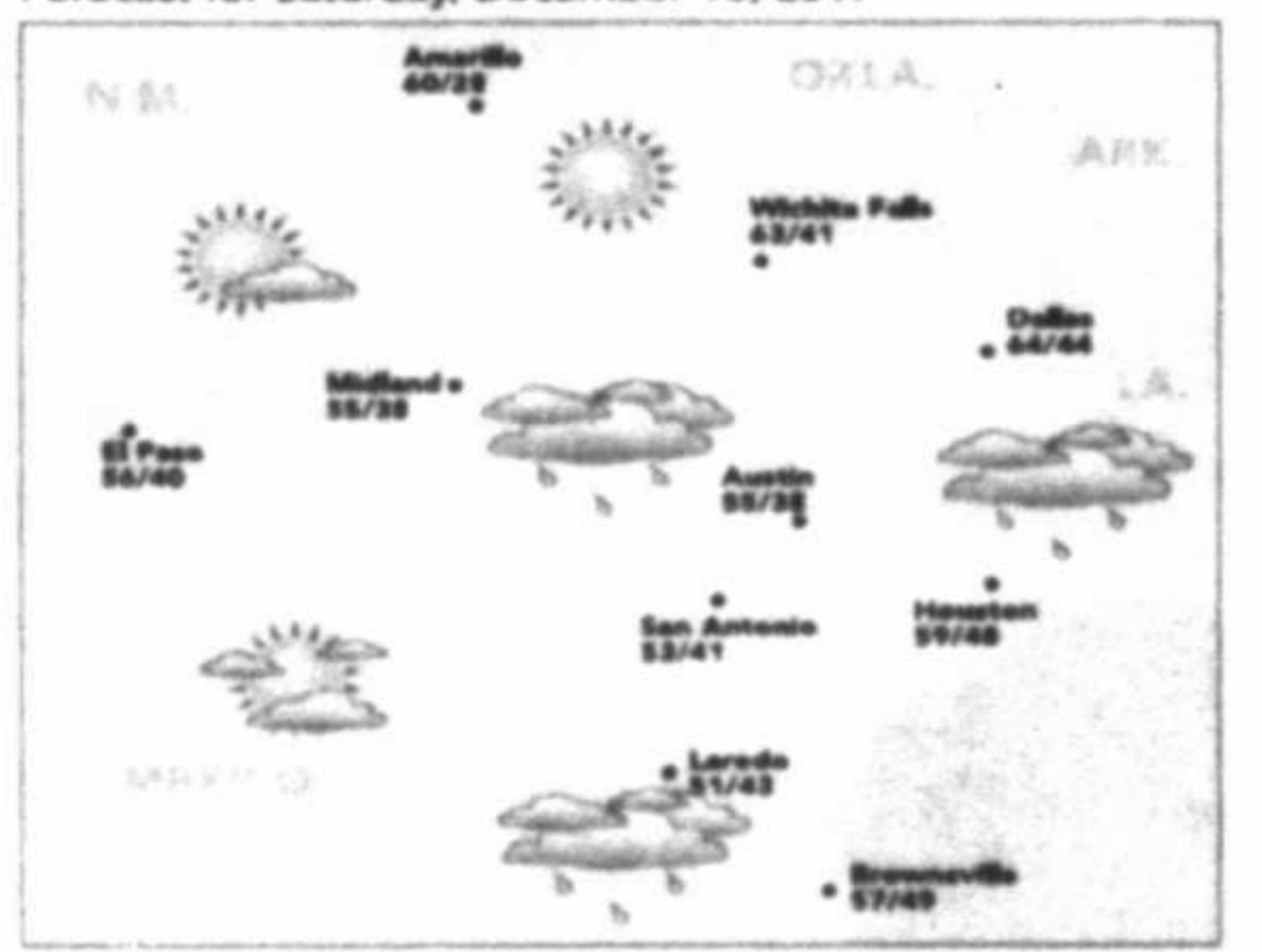
**Dec. 16's records**  
Record high: 81, set in 2010  
Record low: 11, set in 1987

**Precipitation**  
Friday: 0.00 in.  
Thursday: 0.00 in.  
Month total: 0.36 in.  
Year total: 17.7 in.  
Normal total (year to date): 14.3 in.

**Winds**  
Wind speed: 12 mph  
Gust speed: 17 mph

**Today's forecast**  
High: 54

### Forecast for Saturday, December 16, 2017



**Low: 44**  
**Conditions:** Sunny today/partially cloudy tonight  
**Winds:** South 5-15 mph today/south 10-15 mph tonight

**Chance of rain:** None  
**Sunrise:** 7:42 a.m.  
**Sunset:** 5:47 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

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## JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

A baby born today has a Sun and Moon in Sagittarius.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017  
This year you express a unique kind of creativity. Others often seek you out for advice or for help sleuthing through problems. You find interesting ways of resolving the seemingly unsolvable. If you are single, you could meet many different potential suitors. Know that Mr. or Ms. Right could be right around the corner! If you are attached, the two of you happily hop around to different sets of friends with totally diverse interests. You might decide to plan on taking a series of courses together. A fellow SAGITTARIUS adds more excitement to your life!

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**  
★★★★ A thought is likely to go from a fantasy to a materialized concept. You will enjoy the surprises you encounter along the way. You get into what is happening, despite any obstacles that get in your way. Time will reflect the legitimacy of your idea. **Tonight:** Out and about.  
**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
★★★★ Relate on a personal level. Your ability to get your point across to others might not be as powerful as you would like.

State the same core message, perhaps in a different way, in order to help convey your message. Refuse to get uptight. **Tonight:** Throw yourself into the moment.  
**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
★★★★ Communication might be off. Even with the best intentions and a willingness to go over what you are thinking several times, you might not be able to get your message across. Worry less about this glitch for now, and try again another time. **Tonight:** Out among the crowds.  
**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
★★★★ You like being the cook, the baker and the decorator. Though you might want to complain at times, don't. Know that there are alternatives to your lifestyle and choices. Consider playing out the next holiday season differently. **Tonight:** Choose a favorite stress-buster.  
**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
★★★★ You'll want to pull back a bit in order to review an emotional situation. Events seem to occur at a pace that takes your breath away. It might seem as if you are putting out all kinds of fires today. Don't fight the inevitable, just go with the flow. **Tonight:** Squeeze in a nap.  
**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
★★★★ A responsibility calls that could force a change of plans. You might not feel as if you have a choice. You would like to kick back and get into the holiday spirit after a gift-wrapping frenzy and perhaps a lengthy nap. Make a to-do list, if need be. **Tonight:** Hang out under the mistletoe.  
**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
★★★★ You might want to change your choices. This is a workable plan, as long as you don't upset the appetizer for several loved ones. Choose to stay on course, and know that everything will work out in your favor. **Tonight:** Time to head to a favorite local spot for dinner.  
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
★★★★ You will opt to do some last-minute holiday shopping, whether it be for food or for whatever else you might need. If you are in the process of completing your gift list, you might find online buying easier and less of a hassle. **Tonight:** Remember that you have a budget.  
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-**

**Dec. 21)**  
★★★★ Take the lead. You have a lot to do, but you'll help motivate others to pitch in too. You won't mind having a few people join you on your various last-minute errands. You could be very interested in what they share with you. **Tonight:** Get into the playfulness of the moment.  
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
★★★★ You could be overly worried about shopping, gift wrapping and everything else that is important in making your holiday run smoothly. Play it low-key today, especially if you want to keep a big surprise under wraps. **Tonight:** Stop for a favorite dessert on the way home.  
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
★★★★ A friend proves to be a major distraction. You often grumble about this person, but if you are honest with yourself, you enjoy being around him or her. As long as this person is around, try to make the most of the moment. **Tonight:** Spontaneously bring a group of friends together.  
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
★★★★ You are likely to make important choices for you as well as a loved one. You might prefer to be with just this person and no one else. Reach out to a friend at a distance whom you don't often get to see. You will enjoy the conversation the two of you have. **Tonight:** Now be a duo.  
**BORN TODAY**  
Musician Billy Gibbons (1949), anthropologist Margaret Mead (1901), actress Krysten Ritter (1981)

**Attention Readers**  
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**Christmas Day**  
The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed  
Monday, December 25th, 2017

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Tues., Dec 26th Thurs., Dec. 21st, 2pm

**Retail Display Ads**  
**Publishing On: Deadline is:**  
Mon., Dec 25th Thurs., Dec 21st, 2pm  
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## T. Boone Pickens, Mesa awarded \$136 million in lawsuit of West Texas investment

From staff reports

The El Paso court of appeals has awarded T. Boone Pickens and Mesa Petroleum Partners about \$136 million in a lawsuit relating to his investment in a West Texas oil and gas play.

In the final judgment entered Dec. 8, Mesa was awarded approximately \$136 million against Delaware Basin Resources and Baytech of Midland.

In a nearly four-week trial that ended Nov. 23, 2016, the jury unanimously voted in favor of Mesa and found that one of the defendants — J. Cleo Thompson operating company of Dallas — liable for gross negligence and willful misconduct and gave Mesa \$146 million against Delaware Basin resources, Baytech and J. Cleo Thompson.

Mesa had also brought a mandamus action in the El

Paso court of appeals when nearly a year had passed after the trial and original jury verdict, with no final judgment by the court. The El Paso court of appeals issued conditional mandamus, directing the trial judge to enter judgment.

Mesa has also sued Occidental Petroleum to get back its title to 15 percent of the properties; that case is currently pending.

## Family, classmates honor New Mexico school shooting victim

Associated Press

FARMINGTON, N.M. — Hundreds of people gathered Friday to celebrate the life of a 17-year-old boy killed in a shooting rampage earlier this month at a New Mexico high school in the small northern city of Aztec. Family, friends and dozens of fellow classmates

showed up to Pinon Hills Community Church in Farmington to remember Francisco "Paco" Fernandez.

He and Casey Jordan Marquez, also 17, were killed Dec. 7 when a gunman disguised as a student opened fire inside Aztec High School shortly after first period began. Authorities say 21-year-old William

Atchison had planned the attack but that the two victims were not specifically targeted.

Investigators said it's likely more lives could have been lost if Fernandez had not walked into the bathroom where the gunman was hunkered down. The

Please see VICTIM/5A

### Rig count

The following are county-by-county Permian Basin rig counts, with changes in parentheses, for the week ending Dec. 15.

DISTRICT 7B	
Fisher	1
Nolan	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>

DISTRICT 7C	
Irion	2
Reagan	20 (+6)
Tom Green	2
Upton	11 (-3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>35 (+3)</b>

DISTRICT 8	
Andrews	7 (-1)
Crane	2
Culberson	12 (-1)
Ector	2
Glasscock	13 (-3)
Howard	21
Jeff Davis	1
Loving	39
Martin	28 (-1)
Midland	51 (+1)
Mitchell	1
Pecos	11 (-1)
Reeves	63 (+1)
Sterling	1
Ward	9
Winkler	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>270 (-5)</b>

DISTRICT 8A	
Borden	1
Dawson	1
Gaines	3
Garza	2
Scurry	2
Terry	1
Yoakum	6 (+1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>20 (+1)</b>

NEW MEXICO	
Chaves	1
Eddy	30 (-2)
Lea	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>70 (-2)</b>

### Rig

From IA

ago

#### TEXAS & NEW MEXICO

Texas recorded 457 rigs statewide, down two. The Eagle Ford in South Texas was unchanged at 70. The Barnett in North Texas fell by one to four.

Fourteen of the Haynesville's 47 rigs were in East Texas. Half of the Granite Wash's rigs were in the Panhandle.

Texas held at two rigs offshore. New Mexico fell by two rigs to 71. Its lone non-Permian rig was in Sandoval County in the northwestern part of the state.

At this time last year, there were 317 rigs in Texas and 32 in New Mexico.

#### UNITED STATES

Oil rigs nationwide tallied 747, down four, natural gas rigs rose by three to 183. In total, the U.S. had 930 rigs, 19 of which were in the Gulf of Mexico and two of

which were in inland waters. By drilling trajectory, there were 801 horizontal rigs, up five, 60 vertical rigs, down four, and 69 directional rigs, down two. The U.S. had 637 rigs a year ago.

#### MOST ACTIVE

Basins with the most rig activity were the Permian, the Eagle Ford, the Cana Woodford (69), the Marcellus (48) and the Williston (48).

States with the highest rig counts were Texas, Oklahoma (121), New Mexico, Louisiana (62) and North Dakota (47).

#### CANADA & NORTH AMERICA

Canada's rig count rose by 19 to 338, four more than the year-ago count. Oil rigs jumped by 22 to 134. Natural gas rigs were down by three to 104.

The total number of rigs in the North America region rose by 18 this week to 1,168. At this time last year, there were 871 rigs in North America.

### MISD

From IA

The 20 systems include Snyder ISD, the Premier high schools and Richland Collegiate High School. The other ISDs are Alief, Austin, Bullard, Canadian, Clear Creek, Dallas, El Paso, Humble, Jonesboro, Lyford, Point Isabel, San Saba, Sharyland, Spring Branch, Sunnyvale and Waco.

Participating districts will be required to attend four monthly meetings hosted by TEA in the spring of 2018 as part of local plan devel-

opment, the TEA reported. Once a plan receives TEA approval, districts and charter schools may use locally developed domains and indicators in conjunction with the three state-mandated domains to assign overall A through F ratings for each of its campuses. Approved

local accountability systems will be available for use beginning with the 2018-19 school year.

For more information about the local accountability systems established by House Bill 22, visit the TEA website at <https://tea.texas.gov/las.aspx>.



## Price of oil down 0.1 percent this week

By Trevor Hawes  
thawes@mrt.com

The price of oil was down just a tenth of a percent this week as the Christmas holiday approaches and the year winds down.

West Texas Intermediate contracts for January delivery settled at \$57.30 per barrel Friday, up 26 cents (0.46 percent) on the day but down 6 cents (0.1 percent) for the week.

Oil reached its week high Monday (\$57.99) and its low Wednesday (\$56.60). For the year, WTI is up \$4.97 (9.5 percent) and has an average price of \$50.56 per barrel. The year high is \$58.95, and the low is \$42.53.

Commercial crude supplies dropped by 5.1 million barrels to 443 million barrels this week, according to the Energy Information Administration's report released Wednesday. The reporting week was Dec. 8.

After several weeks of withdrawals, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve rose by 200,000 barrels to 669.2 million barrels.

Total motor gasoline stocks rose by 5.7 million barrels to 226.5 million barrels, kerosene-type jet fuel was up by 600,000 barrels to 40.6 million barrels and distillates were down by 1.4 million barrels to 128.1 million barrels.

Domestic crude production was up

slightly. This week, crude production rose by 73,000 barrels per day to 9.78 million barrels per day. Imports jumped by 161,000 barrels per day to 7.363 million barrels per day. Exports plunged by 272,000 barrels per day to 1.086 million barrels per day.

Plains Marketing posted prices were unchanged Friday and were unchanged for the week. The Reporter-Telegram tracks WTI "all other areas" and West Texas sour.

WTI posted fetched \$53.75 per barrel Friday, and sour was priced at \$51. The spread between the two has held at \$2.75 for the past 11 trading days. The spread between WTI futures and WTI posted was \$3.55 on Friday.

Sour is up \$7.80 (18.06 percent) for the year and as an average price of \$43.26 per barrel. It has been priced as high as \$52.15 and as low as \$35.60.

WTI posted has a year-average price of \$47.04 and is up \$5 (10.26 percent) this year. The year high is \$55.50 and the low is \$39.

In other futures trading Friday, February contracts rose by a quarter to \$57.33 per barrel, March was up 23 cents to \$57.24 and April was increased by 19 cents to \$57.12.

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# Huge tax bill heads for passage as GOP senators fall in line

By Stephen Ohlemacher and Marcy Gordon  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After weeks of quarrels, qualms and then eleventh-hour horse-trading, Republicans revealed the details of their huge national tax rewrite late Friday — along with announcements of support that all but guarantee approval to give President Donald Trump the Christmas legislative triumph he's been aching for.

The legislation would slash tax rates for big business and lower levies on the richest Americans in a massive \$1.5 trillion bill that the GOP plans to muscle through Congress next week before its year-end break. Benefits for most other taxpayers would be smaller.

"This is happening. Tax reform under Republican control of Washington is happening," House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin told rank-and-file members in a conference call. "Most critics out there didn't think it could happen. ... And now we're on the doorstep of something truly historic."

According to the 1,097-page bill released late Friday, today's 35 percent rate on corporations would fall to 21 percent, the crown jewel of the measure for many Republicans. Trump and GOP leaders had set 20 percent as their goal, but added a point to free money for other tax cuts that won over wavering lawmakers in final talks.

The legislation represents the first major legislative achievement for the GOP after nearly a full year in control of Congress and the White House. It's the widest-ranging reshaping of the tax code in three decades and is expected to add to the nation's \$20 trillion debt. The tax cuts are projected to add \$1.46 trillion over a decade.

The bill would repeal an important part of President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act — the requirement that all Americans have health insurance or face a penalty — as the GOP looks to unravel a law it failed to repeal and replace this past summer. Only on Friday did Republicans cement the needed support for the overhaul, securing endorsements from wavering senators.

Marco Rubio of Florida relented in his high-profile opposition after negotiators expanded the tax credit that parents can claim for their children. He said he would vote for the measure next week.

Rubio had been holding out for a bigger child credit for low-income families. After he got it, he tweeted that the change was "a solid step toward broader reforms which are both Pro-Growth and Pro-Worker."

Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, the only Republican to vote against the Senate version earlier this month, made the surprise announcement that he would back the legislation. Corker, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has repeatedly warned that the nation's growing debt is the most serious threat to national security.

"I realize this is a bet on our country's enterprising spirit, and that is a bet I am willing to make," Corker said.

The White House said Trump "looks forward to fulfilling the promise he made to the American people to give them a tax cut by the end of the year."

The bill embodies a longstanding Republican philosophy that a substantial tax break for businesses will trigger economic growth and job creation for Americans in a trickle-down economy.

Skeptical Democrats are likely to oppose the legislation unanimously.

"Under this bill, the working class, middle class and upper middle class get skewered while the rich and wealthy corporations make out like bandits," said Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York. "It is just the opposite of what America needs, and Republicans will rue the day they pass this."

The bill would drop today's 39.6 percent top rate on individuals to 37 percent. The standard deduction — used by around two-thirds of households — would be nearly doubled, to \$24,000 for married couples.

The \$1,000-per-child tax deduction would grow to \$2,000, with up to \$1,400 available in IRS refunds for families who owe little or no taxes. Parents would have to provide children's Social Security numbers to

receive the child tax credit, a measure intended to deny the credit to people who are in the U.S. illegally.

Those who itemize would lose some deductions. The deduction that millions use in connection with state and local income, property and sales taxes would be capped at \$10,000.

That's especially important to residents of high-tax states such as New York, New Jersey and California. Deductions for medical expenses that lawmakers once considered eliminating would be retained.

The bill would allow homeowners to deduct interest only on the first \$750,000 of a new mortgage, down from the current limit of \$1 million.

People who inherit fortunes would get a big break.

The bill would double the exemption, meaning the estate tax would apply only to the portion of an estate over \$22 million for married couples.

Members of a House-Senate conference committee signed the final version of the legislation Friday, sending it to the two chambers for final passage next week.

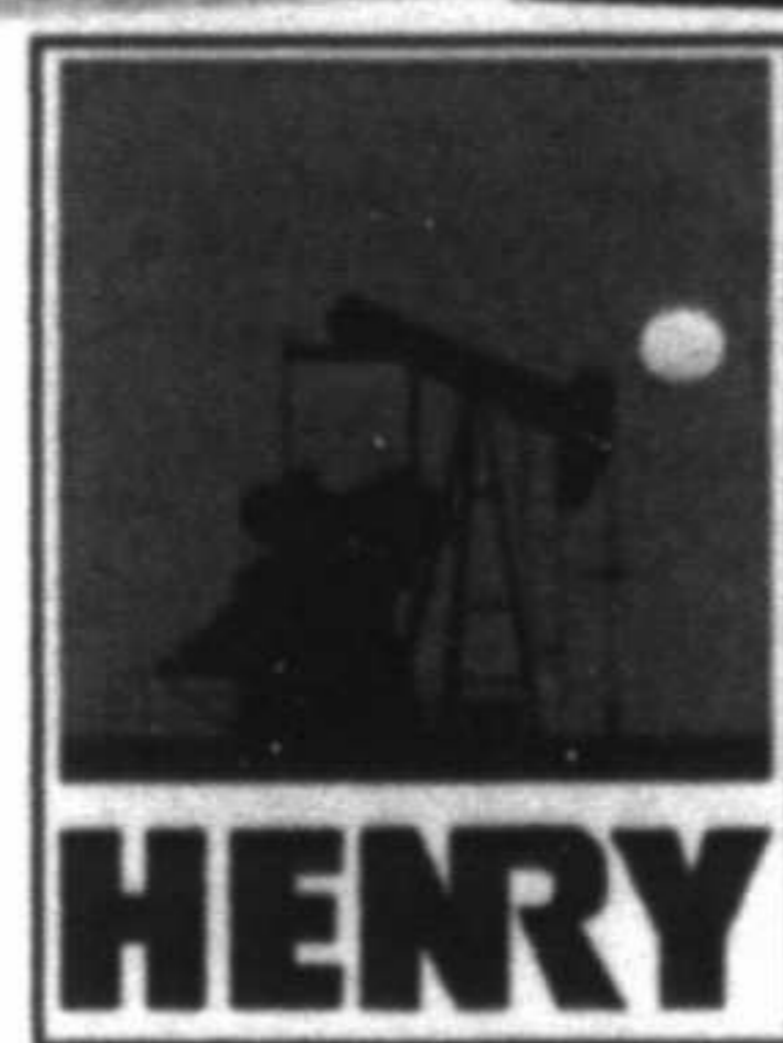
They have been working to blend the different versions passed by the two houses.

Republicans hold a slim 52-48 majority in the Senate, including two ailing senators who have missed votes this past week.

John McCain of Arizona, who is 81, is at a Washington-area military hospital being treated for the side effects of brain cancer treatment, and 80-year-old Thad Cochran of Mississippi had a non-melanoma lesion removed from his nose earlier this week.

GOP leaders are hopeful they will be available next week.

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Mark Thiessen/Associated Press

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus arriving Dec. 5 at Saint Michael, Alaska, a remote island community off Alaska's western coast. The Alaska National Guard visited the Bering Strait community as part of its annual Operation Santa Claus, delivering Santa and Mrs. Claus and presents to rural Alaska communities.

## Sometimes Santa needs a lift. This time, to remote Alaska

By Mark Thiessen  
Associated Press

SAINT MICHAEL, Alaska — It's not easy to get to Saint Michael, Alaska. Even if you're Santa Claus. Luckily, jolly old St. Nick could hitch a ride on a military transport plane to the tiny island community that's closer to Russia than Alaska's largest city, Anchorage.

Santa and Mrs. Claus brought goodies that most Americans take for granted, but come at a high cost in remote parts of the nation's largest state: toys, books, personal hygiene supplies, fresh fruit and even ice cream.

For some children, the toy they received during the visit last week will be the only one they get this year. Others hadn't had real ice cream in years and have never seen Santa Claus in person.

The visit marked the 61st year of the Alaska National Guard's Operation Santa Claus, a community outreach program that tries to bring Kris Kringle to two villages every year if the weather cooperates.

### A MAGICAL VISIT

Like celebrities, Santa and Mrs. Claus, dressed in their red and white suits, waved as they stepped off the plane in the snow-covered Alaska Native village.

Nearly the whole town, which is more than 400 miles west of the nearest mall Santa, packed the school gym and welcomed St. Nick with

### raucous applause

Every child, and even a few elders, got the chance to sit on his lap and whisper what they want for Christmas. Some kids just bawled their eyes out as they stared at Santa.

### SAINT MICHAEL

The approximately 400 people of Yup'ik Eskimo and Russian heritage, who live in the community off Alaska's western coast, subsist on seal, beluga whale, moose, caribou, fish and berries.

Getting to cities like Fairbanks or Anchorage is a major expense, whether to see Santa or gather supplies, because of the state's limited road system.

So Mayor Bobbi Andrews jumped at the chance to host Santa in the town, which was once the farthest north Russian settlement in Alaska in the 19th century, according to a state database of communities.

Saint Michael later boasted a population of nearly 10,000 when it served as an entry point during the 1897 Gold Rush, when miners used the nearby Yukon River to travel to interior Alaska.

### PLANES, PICKUPS AND DOG SLEDS

The Alaska National Guard does the heavy lifting of getting Santa and his helpers to remote villages. Once the plane lands, however, it's up to the community to get people to the event.

In Saint Michael, a passenger van and pickup trucks ferried folks the

2 miles into town. In other villages, the transportation has ranged from a warm vehicle to sitting on a fur-lined dog sled pulled over snowy, bumpy roads by a snowmobile.

### A CHRISTMAS TREAT

Ice cream seems like the wrong thing to bring people living in the frozen north, but residents gobbled it up as fast as Rich Owens could serve it.

The Anchorage ice cream shop owner brought 450 containers of vanilla ice cream and sundae toppings. The dessert is an expensive purchase in Saint Michael, costing about \$17 a gallon.

Joel Heath, 12, hadn't had fresh ice cream in two years, not since a family trip to Anchorage. His sundae towered with chocolate syrup, whipped cream, sprinkles and a cherry.

"It tastes real delicious," he said.

### THE GIFT OF FRUIT

Volunteer elf Deborah Vo remembers being a child when Operation Santa Claus came to the small community of Saint Mary's in the late 1960s or early 1970s. A plane landed on the frozen Andreadfsky River.

"It's like coming full circle," she said. "I was once that little naughty village girl on the banks of the Andreadfsky waiting for Santa Claus."

For Vo, the greatest gift she received that day didn't have to be unwrapped, it had to be perked: fruit — an apple and an orange.

The costs of transporting goods to the Yup'ik village "were pretty high, and if we did get fresh anything, it would come rotten because of the cold."

"Having a fresh apple and a fresh orange was one of the best Christmas presents ever," Vo said.

## MISCONDUCT BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### NEW YORK Mario Batali kicked off ABC amid misconduct allegations

Celebrity chef Mario Batali has been kicked off ABC's "The Chew" amid allegations from several women that he touched them inappropriately.

ABC said that while it was not aware of any inappropriate behavior involving him and the show, the network says "we are committed to a safe work environment and his past behavior violates our standards of conduct."

Batali apologized in a statement Monday, and said that "much of the behavior described does, in fact, match up with ways I have acted."

His representative did not return a message seeking comment Friday.

Batali, who has appeared on "The Chew" since its debut six years ago, oversees several restaurants in a handful of cities.

The Food Network had planned to relaunch his show "Molto Mario" next year, but said Monday it would be put on hold.

### LOS ANGELES More women accuse Dustin Hoffman of sexual misconduct in the '70s and '80s

More women have accused Dustin Hoffman of sexual misconduct in the 1970s and 1980s, stepping forward in two stories published one after the other Thursday by Variety and the Hollywood Reporter.

Also on Thursday, Hoffman's first accuser described how the Variety report came to be.

In an essay for the Los Angeles Times, the accuser, Anna Graham Hunter, wrote about women coming forward to her and said that "the process of bringing sexual harassment stories to light is still a tedious mess."

The actor, now 80, had earlier issued a conditional apology to Hunter, saying that if he had put her in an uncomfortable situation, he was sorry.

He said he didn't remember his interaction with her on the set of TV movie "Death of a Salesman," where she had worked as an intern.

Hoffman attorney Mark A. Neubauer of Carlton Fields Jordan Burt didn't immediately respond to an L.A. Times request on Friday for comment regarding the new allegations but told Variety that the women's stories were "defamatory falsehoods."

The stories include playwright Cori Thomas' account to both outlets about an encounter in 1980 when she was 16.

A friend of Hoffman's daughter Karina, Thomas alleged in both stories that found herself in the actor's hotel room after the three went out for dinner in Manhattan.

Thomas said she was originally to have been picked up at the restaurant by her mother, but after Karina went home to her mother (Hoffman and his wife had separated), the actor changed plans and convinced her to accompany him to his hotel room.

There, Thomas alleged to both outlets, Hoffman took a shower, came out in a towel, dropped it to reveal himself naked, got in bed and asked her to massage his feet.

She said she felt too intimidated to refuse him.

Video editor Melissa Kester also told Variety that Hoffman molested her during an "Ishtar" recording session in 1985, when she was 20. (The Los Angeles Times has not independently corroborated either Thomas's or Kester's account.)

Before Thursday, Hoffman described some of the allegations against him as taken out of context, explaining that on set the cast and crew are a sort of family and any bawdy behavior is intended to break the tension on long days of shooting.

Earlier this month, at a Tribeca Film screening of "Wag the Dog," in a tense panel discussion of allegations that have been leveled against the actor by Hunter and Wendy Riss Gatsiounis, Hoffman accused panel host John Oliver of rushing to judgment.

"Because someone has alleged something, I'm guilty. You push a button. It's all over the world. I'm a predator. I'm this and that and it's not true," Hoffman told Oliver.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

## DISNEYBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### LOS ANGELES 'Star Wars: The Last Jedi' boasts \$45 million opening night

"Star Wars: The Last Jedi" is off to a death star-sized start at the box office. Disney says Friday that the eighth installment in the space franchise has earned an estimated \$45 million from Thursday night showings.

It's the second-highest Thursday night preview tally following the \$57 million start for "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," which kicked off this modern trilogy in 2015.

"The Last Jedi" is expected to net around \$200 million throughout the weekend, which would make it the fourth-biggest opening of all time. It's set to play on 4,232 screens in North America.

### CALIFORNIA Disney-Fox deal may create a new nerdy nirvana

MENLO PARK — The coming union of the Disney and Fox media empires is set to create a new nirvana for fanboys and -girls, one that reunites superheroes and sci-fi

characters long separated by an energy barrier of corporate legalism.

Take, for instance, the fractured world of Marvel superheroes.

For years, the X-Men (Wolverine, Storm, Professor X and the crew) and the Fantastic Four (Thing, Invisible Woman, et al) have battled bad dudes from the studios of 20th Century Fox. Meanwhile Iron Man, Black Widow and other Avengers vanquished villains in another corner of the galaxy run by Disney. Almost never the twain did meet — though that could soon change.

In a related fashion,

rights to the various "Star Wars" films have been scattered all over a galaxy far, far away; those will soon be unified under a powerful Galactic Emperor, well, Magic Kingdom.

Disney's announcement Thursday that it's buying most of movie goliath Fox for \$52.4 billion in stock brings these once disparate franchises together, possibly for as-yet unplanned intergalactic dust-ups.

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## Stepson snubbed by family's habit of selective gift-giving

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I were together for eight years before we married a year ago.

He has a kid from a previous marriage who just turned 11. The boy has been a part of my life since he was 3.

But it wasn't until his father and I were married that my parents began sending him Christmas presents. They don't usually send him birthday gifts.

My husband and I had our own child seven months ago.

Now they're sending a ton of Christmas presents for my biological son, but only a few token gifts for my stepson.

My sister didn't bother buying anything for my stepson or my husband. When I pointed it out to her, she ignored me.

I don't think it's fair that they exclude my stepson. My sister has two girls and I bought gifts for everyone — including her husband — although money was tight. Now I wish I could take everything back.

How can I get them to not shortchange my stepson? Or should I just tell them not to bother sending anyone gifts? — **OUTCAST IN MONTANA**

**DEAR OUTCAST:** It appears your husband may have a less-than-ideal relationship with your mother and your sister.

Before taking any action, discuss this with your husband.

If he agrees, then you are within your rights to tell them the way they are treating your husband and stepson is hurtful.

Say that if it can't be corrected, you prefer gifts no longer be exchanged because the discrimination is blatant and not what these holidays are supposed to be about.

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a

## DEAR ABBY

Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Her column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.



12-year-old girl in seventh grade.

I have this crush and we're friends. I finally got up the courage to tell him I liked him, and he has said nothing about it for the past two days.

My best friend, Sara, tried to ask him why twice at lunch, but he left every time she tried to bring it up.

I know we're only in middle school, but I'm ready.

Should Sara and I confront him together or give him time? I can't do it without Sara because then I would probably run. What should I do? — **GIRL WITH A CRUSH**

**DEAR GIRL WITH A CRUSH:** Twelve-year-old girls in seventh grade may be ready for crushes, but 12-year-old boys in seventh grade may not be.

You have already gotten your message across to him. Forget confronting him and do not involve your friend Sara, or he will run in the opposite direction the minute he sees you coming.

Be patient. It may take some time, but he will develop an interest in girls eventually.

And when he does, you do NOT want him to remember you as the one who embarrassed him in public.

**DEAR ABBY:** How do I treat someone with respect whom I do NOT respect and who does not respect me?

I try to treat everyone courteously; however, it's tough to do when often

the respect only flows one way. — **UNSURE IN CALIFORNIA**

**DEAR UNSURE:** Here's how. First, keep your distance, if that's possible.

And then refrain from showing your disdain by using basic good manners whenever you are forced to be in the person's presence.

## GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

Bidding Quiz

Q 1 — Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:	♠ Q J 6 ♥ K Q 10 7 6 ♦ A 10 3 2 ♣ 5
♠ 10 5 2 ♥ 8 6 5 2 ♦ K Q 7 4 ♣ K 9	SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
Partner opens one no-trump, 15-17, and right-hand opponent passes. What call would you make?	1♥ Pass 3♥ Pass
Q 2 — North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:	*10-11 points, four-card support
♠ A 5 4 ♥ K J 9 6 ♦ K 10 4 ♣ 7 5 4	What call would you make?
Two passes to you in third seat. What call would you make?	Q 4 — Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
Q 3 — East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:	♠ A Q 9 8 5 ♥ K 6 ♦ Void
	♣ A J 10 9 6 2
	SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
	1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass
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# SPORTS

To submit information to the sports department, email [sports@mrt.com](mailto:sports@mrt.com)

Midland Reporter-Telegram | [mrt.com](http://mrt.com) | Saturday, December 16, 2017 | Section B

## Late heroics push Greenwood past Levelland

By Will Korn  
[wkorn@mrt.com](mailto:wkorn@mrt.com)

The Greenwood boys basketball team proved to itself once again Friday night that even if things don't look pretty, it can still find a way to get the job done.

Facing visiting Levelland, the Rangers endured numerous missed shots in the paint, dysfunctional offensive play and they went just 7-for-14 from the foul line.

But behind four quarters of grit, a team-high 15 points and the game-winning floater from sophomore guard Ryan Snodgrass, the Rangers squeezed out a 49-45 victory over the Lobos at the Greenwood High School gym.

Teammate and guard Max

Montes added 10 points, including three timely 3-pointers, to help deliver the result for Greenwood (9-7) which won its seventh consecutive game.

Reid O'Connor paced Levelland (11-3) with 15 points in the loss.

Greenwood first-year head coach Nate Bridges said his team was greatly tested and prevailed with a genuine effort that each player can be proud of. Toughness is becoming a habit for the Rangers, who went 5-0 en route to winning the Glen Rose Tournament championship last weekend.

"It wasn't smooth for us all the way through," Bridges said. "Really until about 1:23 left in the fourth quarter, we had gone for it and grinded for it and it hadn't clicked. But in that last 1:23 - this is what these guys

are getting to (be good at) - they made plays, they capitalize on them and then it's enough to win a ball game. They are getting pretty good at it and I'm proud of them."

That resiliency was especially pronounced right at the end of the first half. Nursing a 26-24 lead with under 15 seconds to play, the Rangers misfired on two shots and grabbed two offensive rebounds before Montes went 1-for-2 at the line after foul.

Following the miss, forward Bram Mathes powered his way inside for another offensive board and, off balance, scored on a short put-back as time expired, pushing the Rangers to a 29-24 halftime lead.

Snodgrass said that level of determination starts in practice

Please see **BOYS/3B**



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Greenwood's Ryan Snodgrass (10) dribbles against Levelland on Friday, at Greenwood High School.

## Lady Lobos prevail



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Greenwood's Ariana Leyva (23) dribbles against Levelland's Natalie Velardez (21) on Saturday, at Greenwood High School.

## No. 2 Levelland uses defense to beat Greenwood

By Christopher Hadorn  
[chadorn@mrt.com](mailto:chadorn@mrt.com)

The Greenwood girls basketball team arguably played one of its best games all season against one of the best teams in the state on Friday night.

The Rangerettes had their moments against No. 2-ranked Levelland, but in the end the Lady Lobos' stifling defense was too much to overcome as Levelland kept Greenwood scoreless for nine minutes in the second half during a 39-31 victory Friday night at the Greenwood High gym.

This was a game that featured two girls basketball teams accustomed to reaching the regional tournament. GHS is coming off consecutive trips to the regional tournament, while the Lady Lobos went

in 2015 and 2017.

Leading 28-26 through three quarters, Levelland (17-0) separated with a 9-0 fourth-quarter run behind three 3-point goals. Lady Lobos senior Paige Royal led the effort with 12 points and 11 rebounds, including a pair of 3s in the fourth quarter.

Greenwood (8-11) was held to one field goal made in the fourth quarter, a 3-pointer by Bradi Good with the outcome in hand with 17 seconds left.

Levelland clamped down on the Rangerettes offense, contesting many of its shots and passes, while forcing pressure with traps.

"They're big," Greenwood sophomore Kenseigh Ellis said. "They're big, fast, long-armed girls. You really had to think

about passing before you made it."

Following a turnover or rebound on defense, the Lady Lobos were aggressive in their transition offense, which accounted for an 8-0 run in the second quarter.

"It's what they do and they believe in it and we knew that coming in," Rangerettes head coach Ginger Hartman said of the Levelland defense. "They run that little 1-3-1 and 2-3 mix. They're really good at it and they trap at the top."

"We had some turnovers, we had some bad passes. We took some shots and we didn't get the rebounds. We knew Levelland would push it (down the court) when that happened and that's what they did."

Despite the loss, Greenwood showed

Please see **GIRLS/3B**

## Check, mates: NHL top lines are expected to do it all

By Stephen Whyno  
*Associated Press*

Tyler Seguin doesn't consider it a challenge. He sees it as an opportunity.

Every time Dallas Stars coach Ken Hitchcock sends Seguin and his linemates over the boards against an opponent's top line, he knows he has a job to do.

"Out-check the other line and let the skill kind of take over," Seguin said. "It's fun."

Fun? Sure. It's also increasingly common in the NHL as coaches seek to put their top lines on the ice against the other team's best forwards to create matchup problems that often lead to goals.

Goodbye to the likes of Bob Gainey and hello to Boston's Patrice Bergeron, Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby and Washington's Nicklas Backstrom. All can help keep the puck out of the net almost as well as they can put it in.

"We're seeing less of the old Don Luce, Craig Ramsey, Brent Peterson lines," said Capitals coach Barry Trotz, referring to defensive-minded forwards of yesteryear. "We have guys like Bergeron; Sid goes up against top guys. So I think you're seeing more of the power against power than we have in the past."

Power against power is the name of the game in hockey today as players such as Bergeron, Crosby, Backstrom and Chicago Blackhawks captain Jonathan Toews embody the kind of top-line stars who can double as shutdown centers. Crosby was so good in that dual role at the 2014 Sochi Olympics that Canada won a gold medal — and he was so dominant offensively the past two seasons that the Penguins won consecutive Stanley Cup championships.

Crosby is well aware of the modern duties of a top-flight center.

"You have more responsibility defensively," he said. "You're covering a lot of space, so it's just something you've got to be aware of."

Before the season, reigning MVP Connor McDavid of Edmonton cited defense and faceoffs as areas he wanted to improve. He already has the

Please see **POWER/2B**



Gene J. Puskar/AP Photo, File

Pittsburgh Penguins' Sidney Crosby (87) works the puck around Toronto Maple Leafs' Nazem Kadri (43) during the third period in 2015 against the Toronto Maple Leafs in Pittsburgh. Kadri has taken on big matchups against Sidney Crosby, Nicklas Backstrom, Connor McDavid and others. Kadri considers it important to make skilled opponents play in their own end.

## Brian Boyle scores twice to help Devils beat Stars 5-2

By Matt Sugam  
*Associated Press*

NEWARK, N.J. — Corey Schneider and the New Jersey Devils rebounded quickly from an overtime loss the night before in Montreal and push aside the Dallas Stars.

Schneider made 28 saves, and Brian Boyle broke a tie with his 100th career goal and added an empty-netter and an assist to help New Jersey beat Dallas 5-2 on Friday night.

"We knew coming in to the game that 35 (Schneider) probably had to be our best player. Coming in on a back-to-back against a rested team, we needed a goaltending performance. Particularly against a team like Dallas," Devils coach John Hynes said.

"It's something that we challenged him a little bit on where you look at the back-

to-backs. ... We need him to be our guy and when there's situations when we're in adversity, we need him to come through, so I thought he was a huge factor for us tonight and a congrats to him on I think answering the challenge."

Steven Santini, Blake Coleman and Nick Lappin also scored for the Devils. Martin Hanzal and Alexander Radulov connected for Dallas.

Midway through Stephen Johns' double-minor for high-sticking, Devils fans booed the team's power-play effort. Boyle responded by knocking in a rebound from the crease off of Will Butcher's shot to give the Devils a 3-2 lead with 3:21 left in the period. John's penalty came at the tail end of John Klingberg spending two minutes in the box for cross-checking Boyle.



Julio Cortes/Associated Press

New Jersey Devils center Brian Boyle (11) and defenseman Sami Vatanen (45) celebrate Boyle's open-net goal during the third period against the Dallas Stars, Friday in Newark, N.J.

Please see **STARS/2B**



COLLEGE BASKETBALL

WOMEN

SOUTHWEST

Houston Baptist 100, Baylor College 85
San Houston St. 57, UALR 55
Texas A&M-CC 71, St. Mary's 55

SOUTH

E. Kentucky 70, Charleston Southern 65
NC A&T 84, Tennessee St. 54
Santander 98, Thomas (GA) 51

PACIFIC

Columbia 112, St. Dakota 103, 207
Stanford 75, Denver 62

MIDWEST

Craigston 87, Mt. Eastern Shore 36
Chicago 76, Des Moines 60

EAST

Mount St. Mary's 89, Washington College 80

NO. 25 Favored

- 1. Virginia (11-0) did not play. Next vs. Hobbs, Friday, Dec. 22.
2. Michigan State (9-1) did not play. Next vs. Oakland, Saturday.
3. Wichita State (8-1) did not play. Next vs. Chattanooga, Saturday.
4. Duke (11-1) did not play. Next vs. Evansville, Wednesday.
5. Arizona State (9-0) did not play. Next vs. Vanderbilt, Sunday.
6. Miami (8-0) did not play. Next at Georgia Tech, Saturday.
7. North Carolina (9-1) did not play. Next at No. 20 Tennessee, Sunday.
8. Kentucky (8-1) did not play. Next vs. Virginia Tech, Saturday.
9. Texas A&M (9-1) did not play. Next vs. Northern Kentucky, Tuesday.
10. Xavier (9-1) did not play. Next vs. UTSA, Saturday.
11. West Virginia (9-1) did not play. Next vs. Coppin State, Wednesday.
12. Gonzaga (8-2) did not play. Next vs. North Dakota, Saturday.
13. Kansas (7-2) did not play. Next at Nebraska, Saturday.
14. TCU (10-0) did not play. Next vs. Texas Southern, Monday.
15. Seton Hall (9-1) did not play. Next at Rutgers, Saturday.
16. Virginia (9-1) did not play. Next vs. Davidson, Saturday.
17. Furman (10-2) did not play. Next vs. Butler, Saturday.
18. Boise State (8-2) did not play. Next vs. Indiana, Saturday.
19. Florida State (9-0) did not play. Next vs. Oklahoma State, Saturday.
20. Tennessee (7-1) did not play. Next vs. No. 7 North Carolina, Sunday.
21. Baylor (9-2) beat Texas Southern 95-68. Next vs. Savannah State, Sunday.
22. Florida (8-3) did not play. Next vs. Clemson, Saturday.
23. Arizona (7-3) did not play. Next at New Mexico, Saturday.
24. South Tech (8-1) did not play. Next vs. Rice, Saturday.
25. Cincinnati (8-2) did not play. Next at UCLA, Saturday.

SCHEDULE

SOUTHWEST

Louisiana Tech at Texas, 2 p.m.
LAMCC at Incarnate Word, 4 p.m.
Marshall at Tulsa, 7 p.m.
San Antonio MSU at UTSA, 8 p.m.
Rice at Texas Tech, 8 p.m.
Troy vs. Arkansas at North Little Rock, Ark. 7 p.m.

SOUTH

Indiana St. at W. Kentucky, noon.
UNC Greensboro at NC State, noon.
Portland University of the Ozarks, 1 p.m.
Kentucky Christian at Liberty, 1 p.m.
Stephen F. Austin at LSU, 1 p.m.
Oklahoma St. vs. Florida St. at Suwannee, 7 p.m.
Virginia Tech at Kentucky, 2 p.m.
Montreat at Coastal Carolina, 2 p.m.
Winthrop at Auburn St., 2 p.m.
Cornell at Longwood, 2 p.m.
Davidson at Virginia, 2 p.m.
SE Louisiana at Louisiana St., 3 p.m.
Pepperdine at Belmont, 3 p.m.
Alabama A&M at UAB, 3:15 p.m.
Texas St. at Mississippi, 3:30 p.m.
SC Louisiana at Jacksonville St., 4 p.m.
Jacksonville at SC State, 4 p.m.
S. Illinois at South Alabama, 4:30 p.m.
Clemson vs. Florida at Suwannee, Fla. 4:30 p.m.
William Carey at Southern Miss, 5 p.m.
LSU-Shreveport vs. Northwestern St. at Shawnee, La., 4 p.m.
Baylor at VCU, 5 p.m.
Middle Tennessee vs. Auburn at Birmingham, Ala., 6 p.m.
Arkansas St. at FAU, 7 p.m.
Ball State at Tennessee, 7 p.m.
Coker at Southern, 7 p.m.
Ohio at Marshall, 8 p.m.
UT Martin at Mississippi St., 8 p.m.
New Orleans at Louisiana-Lafayette, 8 p.m.
Marshall at Murray St., 8 p.m.
Ole Miss at Florida Gulf Coast, 8:15 p.m.
SAB WEST
Cent. Michigan at S. Utah, 2:30 p.m.
Cincinnati at UCLA, 3:30 p.m.
Cal St. Fullerton at California, 4 p.m.
Indiana College at Portland St., 4 p.m.
Georgia Southern at CS Bakersfield, 5 p.m.
LPUJ at Washington St., 6 p.m.
Oregon at Fresno St., 6 p.m.
E. Michigan at Long Beach St., 7 p.m.
UC Irvine at Saint Mary's Coll., 8 p.m.
North Dakota at Gonzaga, 8 p.m.
Arizona at New Mexico, 8 p.m.
Ark. Pine Bluff at Weber St., 8 p.m.
La. Pacific College at Utah St., 9 p.m.
Portland at Seattle, 10 p.m.
UCR at Pacific, 10 p.m.
Texas Southern at Wyoming, 10 p.m.
Providence at Cal Poly, 10 p.m.
North Texas at San Diego, 10:30 p.m.
San Jose State vs. Oregon St. at Portland, Ore. 10:30 p.m.
Utah at BYU, 11 p.m.

MIDWEST

Detroit vs. Michigan at Detroit, Mich., noon.
Butler vs. Purdue at Indianapolis, Ind., noon.
Drexel vs. Iowa at Des Moines, Iowa, 2 p.m.
Northwestern at DePaul, 2 p.m.
Loyola of Chicago at Illinois, 2 p.m.
MVSU at Akron, 2 p.m.
Stetson at Fort Wayne, 2 p.m.
UTSU at Kansas, 2 p.m.
Wright St. at Toledo, 2 p.m.
Oakland vs. Michigan St. at Detroit, Mich., 2:30 p.m.
Iowa State vs. Indiana at Indianapolis, Ind., 2:30 p.m.
Bradley at Chicago St., 3:30 p.m.
Austin Peay at Evansville, 4 p.m.
Oklahoma at Wichita St., 4 p.m.
Iowa vs. Iowa St. at Des Moines, Iowa, 4:30 p.m.
Appalachian St. at Ohio St., 5 p.m.
LNU-Portland at Grand St., 7 p.m.
Georgia St. at Dayton, 7 p.m.
New Mexico St. at Illinois, 8 p.m.
Texas A&M at Rice, 8 p.m.
Kansas at Kansas St., 8 p.m.
SE Missouri at Missouri, 8:30 p.m.

EAST

Seton Hall at Rutgers, noon.
Miami of Ohio at George Washington, noon.
Tennessee at Georgetown, 12:30 p.m.
Robert Morris at Butler, 2 p.m.
McNeese St. at Pittsburgh, 2 p.m.
Georgia at UMass, 3 p.m.
Col. of Charleston at Rhode Island, 4 p.m.
Fairleigh Dickinson at NJIT, 4 p.m.
Wagner at Rider, 4 p.m.
SUNY Maritime at St. Francis Brooklyn, 4 p.m.
Norwood vs. St. Bonaventure at Binghamton, N.Y., 4 p.m.
Drexel at Temple, 5 p.m.
Catholic at Albany (NY), 7 p.m.
Lynchburg State at New Hampshire, 7 p.m.

WOMEN

SOUTH
Col. of Charleston 73, North Florida 69
FAU 85, Georgia St. 70
Gardner-Webb 75, Davidson 65
Harrisburg 85, Georgia Southern 58
Harrisburg 75, Alabama St. 57
North Carolina 81, MVSU 57
North Carolina 84, UNC-Greensboro 63
Ole Miss 75, Akron 55
South Florida 108, Southern 48
Southern Miss 58, San Houston St. 38
Tennessee St. 71, Lipscomb 64
MIDWEST
Cognate 72, St. Cloud 51, 65
Ohio St. 103, DePaul 70
Wabash 95, Indiana-Northwest 59
W. Michigan 85, Kentucky State 50
Harrisburg 85, Chicago 51
PACIFIC
Columbia 88, Air Force 43
San Francisco 95, Sacramento St. 76
Lubbock 88, Idaho 80
EAST
Butler 76, St. Bonaventure 59

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

GIRLS

LEE 63

LUBBOCK - The Lee girls basketball team used a 13-6 run in the third quarter to pull away for a non-district road win at Lubbock Trinity.

Paige Low led three players in double figures with 16 points, Quincy Strambler had 14 and Braydyn Hill chipped in with 10.

LEE 63

LEE 63 LUBBOCK TRINITY 51
Lee 48-31, Kargen Edwards 9, Alaina Green 6, Jacee Morris 2, Brydyn Hill 16, Destiny Jordan 2, Quinn Strambler 14, Maurice Ross 3, Paige Low 16.

NO. 4 MCA 64

MIDLAND HIGH 58

FORT STOCKTON 23

The Midland High girls basketball team dominated in a non-district blowout win against Fort Stockton Friday night at Fort Stockton High School.

The Lady Bulldogs (12-8) held the Fort Stockton Panthers to only six points in the first half. Sadie Govan scored a game-high 12 points, while Tashia DeJell and Zoe Taylor added 10 points each for the Lady Bulldogs.

The Lady Bulldogs next take on Abilene Cooper at 6 p.m., Tuesday, at Midland High School.

MIDLAND HIGH 58

MIDLAND HIGH 58 FORT STOCKTON 23
Midland High - Sadie Govan 12, Tashia DeJell 10, Zoe Taylor 10, Jacee Morris 2, Brydyn Hill 16, Destiny Jordan 2, Quinn Strambler 14, Maurice Ross 3, Paige Low 16.

NO. 4 MCA 64

LAKE VIEW 49

SAN ANGELO - Lela Beattie lit up the scoreboard with 42 points to lead No. 4-ranked Midland Classical past San Angelo Lake View in Friday's non-district game.

Trailing 10-8 through one quarter, the Lady Knights (8-3) outscored the Maidens 22-11 in the second quarter to take a 30-21 lead at halftime and they never looked back.

MIDLAND CLASSICAL 54

MIDLAND CLASSICAL 54 SAN ANGELO LAKE VIEW 49
Midland Classical (8-3) - Kari Kim 6, Hilary Sundstrom 2, Lela Beattie 42, Jenny Cook 6, Melissa Beattie 9.

TRINITY SPLITS AT BUENA VISTA IMPERIAL

The Trinity girls basketball team split a pair of games during Friday's action at the Imperial Buena Vista Tournament.

Behind Rebecca Young's game-high 25 points, Trinity defeated Crane, 38-24. Trinity lost to Iraan, 31-27, as Reagan Long had 11 points and Young added 10.

The Lady Chargers will next play host Buena Vista at 10:30 a.m. today in the consolation championship.

TRINITY 38, CRANE 24

Trinity (7-4) - Reagan Long 7, Rebecca Young 25, Lihan Agar 2, Megan Fox 4, Crane - S. Garcia 5, D. Prew 5, D. Demore 4, D. Wilson 4, I. Garcia 2.

TRINITY 27

Trinity (7-4) - Long 11, Young 16, Fox 4, Garcia 5, Demore 4, Wilson 4, Garcia 2.

GREENWOOD 46, LEVELLND 46

Greenwood (11-3) - Noah Parnow 15, Nathan Sauer 8, Neal O'Connor 15, Brandon Gaultley 8, Kaiti Raza 4, Joel White 8.

GREENWOOD 46, LEVELLND 46

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GIRLS

From IC

it could hold its own at times. In the second quarter, Ellis scored eight of her team's 10 points as the Rangerettes took an 18-17 halftime lead.

Following intermission, Greenwood took a 23-17 lead with 6:20 in the third quarter after a putback by Cassi Mbane and a 3-point goal by Natalie Karcher.

Karcher added a 3 at

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BOYS

MIDLAND HIGH 82

MONTEREY 62

LUBBOCK - Midland High

Midland High - Sadie Govan 12, Tashia DeJell 10, Zoe Taylor 10, Jacee Morris 2, Brydyn Hill 16, Destiny Jordan 2, Quinn Strambler 14, Maurice Ross 3, Paige Low 16.

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GARDEN CITY 45

ROBERT LEE 40

The No. 3-ranked Garden City girls basketball team was victorious in Friday's District 14-1A showdown against Robert Lee at Robert Lee High School.

The Lady Bearkats (18-1, 2-0) shut out the Steers in the first quarter starting the game on a 13-0 run. Lyndee Walker scored a game-high 19 points, while Madison Hastings added 9 for the Lady Kats.

Next the Lady Kats have a non-district matchup against Trent at 5 p.m., Tuesday, at Trent High School.

NO. 3 GARDEN CITY 45, FORT STOCKTON 40

Garden City - Lyndee Walker 19, Madison Hastings 9, Robert Lee 3, Rachel Lee 3, Robert Lee - Jordan Owe 2, Rachel Owe 2, Robert Lee - Jordan Owe 2, Rachel Owe 2.

ROBERT LEE 40

Robert Lee (18-1, 2-0) - Lyndee Walker 19, Madison Hastings 9, Robert Lee 3, Rachel Lee 3, Robert Lee - Jordan Owe 2, Rachel Owe 2, Robert Lee - Jordan Owe 2, Rachel Owe 2.

COLORADO CITY 60

LAMESA 39

The Lady Chargers (13-9) won the fourth quarter helped Colorado City to a blowout win over Lamesa.

Semajie Mason had 16 points to lead Lamesa (8-4).

COLORADO CITY 60, LAMESA 39

Colorado City - Semajie Mason 16, Lamesa - Semajie Mason 16, Lamesa - Semajie Mason 16, Lamesa - Semajie Mason 16.

BOYS

MIDLAND HIGH 82

MONTEREY 62

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THE CHARGES (8-4) DEFEATED

Odesa Latta Rain, 55-49, but lost to Alpine, 57-45. Garret Rosner and Ciro Basza each had 13 points to lead Trinity against Latta Rain.

Trinity will next play host Buena Vista at 12:30 p.m. today in the third place game.

TRINITY 51, LATTER RAIN 49

Trinity (8-4) - Garret Rosner 13, Ciro Basza 13, Greg Shippy 8, Evan Smith 10, Evan Will 8.

ALPINE 57, TRINITY 45

Alpine - Follow 2, Ryan 13, Gonzalez 2, Thomas 6, A. Gonzalez 10, I. Miranda 3, Cordeiro 18, Estrada 2.

LAMESA 70

COLORADO CITY - Buddy Williams erupted for 26 points to help Lamesa hold off Colorado City in a non-district game.

The Golden Tornadoes (10-6) also had double-digit scoring performances from Khalil Smiley with 15 points and Jackson Napper with 14.

LAMESA 70, COLORADO CITY 66

Lamesa (10-6) - Buddy Williams 26, Jordan Deragon 4, Zach Quintana 2, Kaiti Cordeiro 18, Ciro Basza 4, Khalil Smiley 15, Jackson Napper 14.

COLORADO CITY 66

Colorado City - Khalil Smiley 15, Jordan Deragon 4, Zach Quintana 2, Kaiti Cordeiro 18, Ciro Basza 4, Khalil Smiley 15, Jackson Napper 14.

TEXAS HS FOOTBALL PLAYOFF PAIRINGS

CLASS 6A DIVISION I

State Semifinals
Allen (14-0) vs. Round Rock Cedar Ridge (13-1), 1 p.m. Saturday, Waco MFL Arena Stadium.

CLASS 6A DIVISION II

State Semifinals
Waco Mustang (14-0) vs. Longview (13-1), 4 p.m. Saturday, Allen's Eagle Stadium.

CLASS 6A DIVISION III

State Semifinals
Cypress Fairbanks (13-0) vs. Austin Westlake (14-0), 7 p.m. Saturday, Houston's MFL Stadium.

CLASS 6A DIVISION IV

State Semifinals
Denton Ryan (14-0) vs. Dallas Highland Park (13-1), 10 p.m. Saturday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium.

CLASS 6A DIVISION V

State Semifinals
Allen (14-0) vs. Midland Legacy (13-0), 7 p.m. Saturday, Baylor's Perimeter Field.

CLASS 6A DIVISION VI

State Semifinals
College Station (12-0) vs. Austin McCombs (14-0), 7 p.m. Saturday, Houston's MFL Stadium.

CLASS 6A DIVISION VII

State Semifinals
Kerrville vs. Carlsbad, 11 a.m. Dec. 22, Arlington's AT&T Stadium.

CLASS 6A DIVISION VIII

State Semifinals
Carlsbad vs. Waco La Vega 39, San Antonio 28, San Antonio 28.

CLASS 6A DIVISION IX

State Semifinals
Kerrville vs. Carlsbad, 11 a.m. Dec. 22, Arlington's AT&T Stadium.

CLASS 6A DIVISION X

# Top votes split, but Rams' Cooper rolls as No. 1 AP returner

By Schuyler Dixon  
Associated Press

DALLAS — Pharoah Cooper of the Los Angeles Rams and Kansas City's Tyreek Hill split 10 of the 11 first-place votes in The Associated Press kick returner rankings. The overall tally wasn't nearly that close.

Cooper finished with 102 points, 43 ahead of the Chiefs' speedy multipurpose man because Hill was left off two ballots and barely made three others on the voting panel that includes Hall of Fame receiver James Lofton and 10 AP pro football writers.

Hill's diminished role — he is no longer returning kickoffs and isn't in the top 10 in average yards on punt returns — was the difference. The second-year player finished fourth with 59 points, also behind a pair of rookies in runner-up Jamal Agnew of Detroit and Dallas' Ryan Switzer.

"For sheer excitement, he'd be No. 1," wrote AP lead NFL writer Barry Wilner, who is based in New York. "But the Chiefs hardly use him on returns the way they once did. He has only an 8.8-yard average on punt runbacks."

The surprising Rams could be part of the reason Cooper was one of just two returners named on all 11 ballots (Switzer was the other). LA leads the NFC West and at 9-4 has clinched its first winning season since 2003.

Cooper, also a second-year man, had one of just three kickoff returns for touchdowns in the NFL going into Week 15, a 103-yarder in a 27-17 win at AFC South-leading Jacksonville. His 28.3-yard average on kickoff returns leads the league, and he has a solid 11.9-yard average on punt returns.

"Cooper has been a dynamic presence on special teams for the Rams, returning both kickoffs and punts, and establishing himself as

## AP position rankings: Rams' Cooper top returner

During the 2017 NFL regular season, The Associated Press will vote for the top 10 players at a specific position that week.

### WEEK 15



Pharoah Cooper

Contributing writers: Pro Football Hall of Famer James Lofton and AP football writers Simon Butler, Dave Campbell, Schuyler Dixon, Josh Dubow, Howard Fendrich, Rob Meaddi, Arnie Stapleton, Teresa M. Walker, Dennis Wasszak Jr., Barry Wilner

- NFL RETURNER RANKINGS** is
- Pharoah Cooper** (Rams): One of the few to return a kickoff for a touchdown this season and leads with 24 kickoffs returned at least 20 yards. Averages 11.9 yards on punt returns.
  - Jamal Agnew** (Lions): Detroit sorely missed him the past three games. He's an exciting rookie with game-changing ability.
  - Ryan Switzer** (Cowboys): A do-it-all receiver at North Carolina, has begun to show why he was drafted in fourth round this year. Fast and elusive. Has an 83-yard punt return TD.
  - Tyreek Hill** (Chiefs): For sheer excitement, he'd be No. 1. But the Chiefs hardly use him on returns the way they once did; he has only an 8.8-yard average on punt runbacks.
  - Tarik Cohen** (Bears): One of the most electric young players in the NFL, cemented by his ridiculous change-of-direction 61-yard return against San Francisco this month.
  - Tyler Lockett** (Seahawks): He hasn't scored since his rookie year in 2015, but his ability to handle both punts and kickoffs among the league's best is a rare skill.
  - Cordarrelle Patterson** (Raiders): Only returns kicks but forces teams to kick short and he is a major reason Oakland has the best starting field position after kickoffs this season.
  - Dion Lewis** (Patriots): He doesn't do a lot of them, but in his 17 kickoff returns, Lewis has a 26.6-yard average and a TD.
  - Adoree' Jackson** (Titans): Rookie first-round pick averages 21.3 yards on kickoffs and 9.6 on punt returns as well as starting in the secondary.
  - Michael Campanaro** (Ravens): In his fourth season, he's the consummate special teams player who figures to have a lengthy career. He broke a 77-yard punt return this year.

a threat in both cases," New York-based AP writer Dennis Wasszak wrote.

"Big plays and a difference-maker," wrote Lofton Cooper was first or second on 10 of the 11 ballots.

Hill figures to get a few nominations for NFL play of the year — but it wasn't on special teams. The 5-foot-10 dynamo stunned the Cowboys with a touchdown on the final play of the first half in a game Kansas City lost.

The Chiefs were on their 44 with 2 seconds left before halftime when Hill caught a short pass from Alex Smith with most of the Dallas defense playing near the goal line. With three blockers in front, Hill motored around

Orlando Scandrick at the 25, cut behind two blocks from Demarcus Robinson inside the 10 and sidestepped linebacker Anthony Hitchens to finish the stunning TD.

"He's as special a guy as I've ever seen in person," said Jets special teams coordinator Brian Boyer, who worked out Hill before last year's draft. "There is not a guy with more juice than that guy. He's a special, special athlete and his burst, his acceleration, his patience, he has it all."

Agnew, a fifth-round pick, is the only player with two returns for touchdowns this season — both on punts. He got the other first-place vote and had 68 points to Switzer's 60.

"The rookie from San Diego leads the league in punt return average (16.8 yards), longest runback (88 yards) and touchdowns (two), so he's an easy pick," Wilner wrote of Agnew. "Besides, with the lack of kickoff returns, guys who field punts should get priority."

Switzer finished a somewhat surprising third considering he hadn't done much before returning a punt 83 yards for a touchdown two weeks ago. It was a pivotal moment in a win over NFC East rival Washington because it gave quarterback Dak Prescott enough time to get the swelling down on a hand injury and not miss any snaps.

# Denver Broncos still juggling quarterbacks during lost season

By Arnie Stapleton  
Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — Vance Joseph's rookie season in Denver has been full of losses, laments and quarterback switches.

Joseph said Friday that Trevor Siemian's season is over, indicated Brock Osweiler's starting days also might be finished and hinted Paxton Lynch could start at Washington next week.

Siemian was placed on injured reserve Friday after injuring his left shoulder Thursday night at Indianapolis, where Osweiler came in cold and sparked a 25-13 comeback over the Colts with a touchdown run and two TD passes while completing 12 of 17 throws for 194 yards.

That didn't necessarily earn him the starting job for the Broncos (5-9) down the stretch, however.

"I'm not sure. We've got two healthy guys there," Joseph said when asked if Osweiler would start at Washington on Christmas Eve. "We're going to have a staff meeting on Monday

morning and see who's best for us. Paxton being a young guy, we want to see him play more, so that part will have some bearing there. So we'll see."

"Brock played really well last night. He made some big-time throws and his leadership showed. He played with great poise and he took care of the football. That's going to be a long and hard conversation."

So Lynch might get the nod when the Broncos visit Washington (4-10) next week.

At the very least, he could share snaps with Osweiler like in the preseason.

Joseph acknowledged a sort of double standard at quarterback with Lynch, who's been a major disappointment ever since general manager John Elway moved up to select him in the first round of the 2016 NFL draft.

Joseph has been saying that despite Denver's dive, it's still more important to win games now than to focus on getting a better draft position in 2018.

## NFL GLANCE

### Standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE					
East					
W	L	T	PF	PA	
New England	10	3	0	789	369
Buffalo	7	6	0	538	240
Miami	4	7	0	402	238
N.Y. Jets	5	8	0	385	298
North					
W	L	T	PF	PA	
Jacksonville	9	4	0	692	329
Tennessee	8	5	0	615	273
Houston	4	9	0	308	152
Indianapolis	3	11	0	214	225
South					
W	L	T	PF	PA	
Pittsburgh	11	2	0	648	220
Baltimore	7	6	0	538	319
Cincinnati	5	8	0	388	228
Cleveland	0	13	0	0	197
West					
W	L	T	PF	PA	
Kansas City	7	6	0	528	329
L.A. Chargers	7	6	0	538	228
Oakland	6	7	0	482	264
Denver	5	9	0	357	254
NATIONAL CONFERENCE					
East					
W	L	T	PF	PA	
Philadelphia	11	2	0	648	220
Dallas	7	6	0	538	319
Washington	5	8	0	385	298
N.Y. Giants	2	11	0	154	189
South					
W	L	T	PF	PA	
New Orleans	9	4	0	692	329
Carolina	9	4	0	692	329
West					
W	L	T	PF	PA	
Atlanta	8	5	0	615	273
Tampa Bay	4	9	0	308	152

### Scores & Schedule

**Thursday's Score**  
Denver 28, Indianapolis 13

**Today's Games**  
Chicago at Detroit, 8:20 p.m.  
L.A. Chargers at Kansas City, 7:25 p.m.

**Sunday's Games**  
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, noon  
Cincinnati at Minnesota, noon  
Houston at Jacksonville, noon  
Arizona at Washington, noon  
N.Y. Jets at New Orleans, noon  
Miami at Buffalo, noon  
Green Bay at Carolina, noon  
Baltimore at Cleveland, noon  
L.A. Rams at Seattle, 3:05 p.m.  
New England at Pittsburgh, 3:25 p.m.  
Tennessee at San Francisco, 3:25 p.m.  
Dallas at Oakland, 7:30 p.m.

**Monday's Game**  
Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.

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## Smooth on the field, Jeter struggles in front office

By Paul Newberry  
Associated Press

### COMMENTARY

Derek Jeter, The Player, glided through two decades in the Big Apple. His charisma made it all look so effortless, a beloved figure who could seemingly do no wrong, even in the media cauldron that is New York City.

Which makes Derek Jeter, The Baseball Executive, all the more baffling.

How has a guy who rarely took a wrong step during his long career as the Yankees shortstop and captain managed to become Public Enemy No. 1 in South Florida in just a few short months?

Now, this isn't one of those piling-on diatribes against Jeter for overseeing the latest fire sale by the Miami Marlins.

Frankly, he had no real options beyond dumping MVP slugger Giancarlo Stanton and the worst contract in sports history on his former team. Jeter would probably serve his new team well in the long run by unloading a few more top-of-the-line players. (Christian Yelich, anyone?)

What's more surprising is how quickly Jeter has alienated those he desperately needs to win over while he puts the Marlins through a few more excruciating seasons of starting from scratch.

Namely, the ever-dwindling Marlins fans base.

Jeter has made one public-relations misstep after another since taking over as CEO in October, when a \$1.2 billion sale from Jeffrey Loria to the Bruce Sherman-led partnership was approved.

Since a 20-minute introductory news conference, Jeter has essentially declared the Miami media



John Raoux/AP File Photo

Derek Jeter, chief executive officer and part owner of the Miami Marlins, talks with members of the media at the annual baseball general managers' meetings, Nov. 15 in Orlando, Fla. Jeter the player, spent two decades in the Big Apple. Suave, sophisticated and charming, he made it all look so effortless, a beloved figure who could seemingly do no wrong, even in the media cauldron that is New York City, which makes Derek Jeter, the baseball executive, all the more baffling.

to be persona non grata. He did a fluff interview with the team's flagship radio station and a hastily called teleconference during the winter meetings this week after dealing Stanton to the Yankees.

That's it. "One thing that has been consistent with me throughout my career is I do not operate through the media," Jeter said on that call.

Problem is, he needs the media to get out the message he's trying to sell to Marlins fans, who are so jaded at this point that the damage may be irreparable.

If nothing else, Jeter (or anyone not named Loria,

for that matter) should've enjoyed a bit of honeymoon, even if it was his intent to dismantle the roster once again.

All he had to do was make himself accessible, turn on the charm and let everyone know he was in this for the long haul. All he had to do was make it clear that he wasn't Loria Lite, running the Marlins like a cash machine for his personal account.

There would've been grumbles, for sure, but Jeter could've pointed to the World Series champion Houston Astros as his template, a franchise that bottomed out no so long ago with three straight 100-loss seasons but

always with the intent of rebuilding the farm system and setting up something the Marlins have never had in their quarter-century of existence — long-term success.

"If you want to be sustainable as an organization, you have to be good from top to bottom," Jeter said, again from that conference call. "We're going to invest in building this organization the right way so we can year in and year out compete."

But those sage words have been drowned out by Jeter's blunders, from making only a handful of public appearances to skipping out on attending the winter meetings — even though

they were being held in the same state. Instead, Jeter was spotted Monday night in a luxury box at the Dolphins NFL game. He's also turned up in Miami at an NBA game, where he was booed when shown on the video board.

Of course, the Marlins were a damaged product long before Jeter arrived.

This is a franchise that followed up two World Series titles by immediately breaking up the team, and tore up its roster a third time after Loria got a new publicly funded stadium. They'll have to do it again largely because Major League Baseball approved an overpriced sale to a group that had to

scrape together every spare million just to meet Loria's ludicrous asking price.

The Marlins would've been far better served being sold to someone like Dolphins owner Stephen Ross, who has much deeper pockets and was interested until he saw the asking price. Ross likely would've been willing to pay something along the line of \$900 million for the tarnished franchise, but Loria wanted to bleed every last dollar out of South Florida on his way out the door.

As a parting gift, Loria left the new owners with Stanton's ludicrous contract — a \$325 million boondoggle that could run until 2028, when he would be 38 years old, and includes a full no-trade clause. There were only a handful of teams willing to take on a deal that still must pay out at least \$295 million to an injury plagued slugger, and the list was shortened even more when Stanton vetoed a couple of potential suitors.

The Yankees were really the only option.

Jeter has dealt two more All-Stars as well, outfielder Marcell Ozuna and second baseman Dee Gordon, and he's surely not done. Second baseman Starlin Castro, acquired in the Stanton deal, probably won't be around for long. And if Jeter really wants to go all in on this rebuilding project, he'll do his best to deal Yelich, who's got an attractive contract (at least four more years at \$44.5 million) and would likely bring a huge bounty of prospects.

And while he's at it, Jeter needs to work on his PR skills.

No one could've seen that one coming.

### Pete Rose defamation lawsuit dismissed after agreement

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A defamation lawsuit filed by Pete Rose last year against the lawyer who got him kicked out of baseball was dismissed Friday, federal court documents show.

Rose said in the lawsuit that John Dowd damaged his reputation and endorsement deals during a July 2015 interview on an AM radio station in Pennsylvania where he accused Rose of "statutory rape." Rose's lawyers said he "never did any such thing."

On Friday, lawyers for both sides said the parties had reached an agreement.

"Pete Rose and John Dowd have agreed, based on mutual consideration, to the dismissal with prejudice of Mr. Rose's lawsuit against Mr. Dowd. I am not permitted to comment further regarding the resolution of the matter," Dowd's lawyer, David C. Tobin, said in an emailed statement.

Rose's lawyer, Martin Garbus, said by phone Friday he could not comment further.

The lawsuit stated Dowd said during the radio appearance on WCHE-AM in West Chester that Rose associate Michael Bertolini told investigators he "ran young girls" to Rose during spring training, which Dowd called "statutory rape every time." Bertolini's lawyers issued a categorical denial.

As part of the lawsuit, a woman gave testimony for the defense that she had a sexual relationship with Rose in the 1970s, starting when she was 14 or 15 years old.

Rose acknowledged in a statement accompanying that filing that he did have a relationship with the woman, but he said it started when she was 16, the age of consent in Ohio. He also states they never had sex outside Ohio. His lawyer had said the woman's claims were unverified.

### Angels grab All-Star Zack Cozart with \$38M, 3-year deal

By Greg Beacham  
Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — After spending his entire career at shortstop in Cincinnati, Zack Cozart was willing to switch positions for the chance to join the Los Angeles Angels' promising lineup. Cozart was even willing to switch twice.

The All-Star infielder agreed to a \$38 million, three-year contract with the Angels on Friday, also agreeing to play third base in an infield suddenly packed with veteran talent.

"It's just going to be a fun team to be around," Cozart said. "(Left fielder Justin) Upton is already texting me. From what I hear about the clubhouse, it seems like it's my type of team, a bunch of good grinder guys that want to get after it and win."

Cozart gets \$13,666,666 next season and \$13,666,667 in each of the final two years of the deal.

With Gold Glove winner Andrelton Simmons already at shortstop, Angels general manager Billy Eppler initially was interested in signing Cozart to play second base. The free agent said he was amenable to that move, but then Eppler managed to swing a trade to acquire second baseman Ian Kinsler from Detroit on Wednesday.

The Angels maintained their pursuit of Cozart, but now to be their third baseman.

"He said, 'If this is going to help us get into October, I'm all for it,'" Eppler recalled. "That right there made me feel extremely good that not only did we get the right player from an ability standpoint, but we got the right player from a character standpoint."

Cozart has already spoken with retired third baseman Eric Chavez, who now works for the Angels, and he plans to consult former teammate Scott Rolen about moving to the hot corner.

"I've been on some bad teams lately," Cozart said of the Reds, who have lost at least 94 games for three straight years. "When I found out the Angels were interested, that was one of the big



John Minchillo/AP File Photo

Cincinnati Reds' Zack Cozart hits a double off Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Hyun-Jin Ryu in the first inning on June 17 in Cincinnati. All-Star infielder Zack Cozart has agreed to a three-year contract with the Los Angeles Angels. The Angels announced their latest high-profile acquisition Friday. Cozart is coming off an outstanding season with the Cincinnati Reds, his only previous big-league club.

things for me. It should be a really good team to join, so I was on board. When I found out (about playing third base), I was a little shocked because everything was happening so quick. But at the end of the day, I want to win."

Cozart was a first-time All-Star this year, hitting .297 with 24 homers and 63 RBIs — all career bests. The 32-year-old veteran has a .254 average in parts of seven big league seasons.

Cozart's offensive numbers shot up markedly last season, but he and the Angels don't see it as a blip. Cozart said he changed his batting stance last winter, and Eppler believes his overall numbers bear out the long-term improvement, including his impressive hitting against right-handed pitching over the last three seasons.

After finishing 80-82 last season and missing the playoffs for the sixth time in seven years, the Angels have put together a lineup around Mike Trout with offensive potency and an incredible defensive pedigree.

The Angels' probable starters include five Gold Glove winners (catcher Martin Maldonado, Simmons, Kinsler, Albert Pujols and Kole Calhoun) and three more considered well above average with the glove (Upton, Cozart and Trout). Los Angeles already

landed the biggest free-agent prize of the winter when Eppler and owner Arte Moreno persuaded Japanese two-way star Shohei Ohtani to join the club. Ohtani is expected to join the Angels' rotation and to serve as a designated hitter between starts.

Yunel Escobar was the Angels' oft-injured third baseman last year, but their biggest problem areas in recent seasons have been in left field and at second base. Eppler has filled both spots impressively by trading for Kinsler after retaining late-season acquisition Upton last month with a \$106 million, five-year deal.

Luis Valbuena and C.J. Cron could play first base when Pujols is serving as the designated hitter, but it's too early to tell whether either will be with the club when it reports to spring training in February.

Cozart's versatility also will be important if the Angels move to a six-man rotation to benefit Ohtani, who is used to pitching once per week. That means one less roster spot is likely to be available for a position player, and Cozart could be a backup at both middle infield positions.

"If we do go to a six-man and carry 13 pitchers, versatility and flexibility is going to be everything for this roster," Eppler said.



Kathy Willens/AP File Photo

Cleveland Indians' Carlos Santana connects for a two-run home run against the New York Yankees during the fourth inning in Game 4 of baseball's American League Division Series, in New York. Two people familiar with the situation say the Phillies and veteran first baseman Carlos Santana have agreed to a three-year, \$60 million deal. The people spoke Friday, on condition of anonymity because the agreement is contingent on Santana passing a physical. The 31-year-old Santana hit 23 home runs and had 79 RBIs with Cleveland last season, where he had spent all eight years of his career.

### Phillies, 1B Santana agree to \$60M, 3-year deal

By Rob Maaddi  
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Carlos Santana is bringing his big bat and postseason experience to the Philadelphia Phillies.

The 31-year-old first baseman became the first of the offseason's big-name free agents to find a new home, agreeing Friday to a \$60 million, three-year contract with the Philadelphia Phillies, according to two people familiar with the deal.

The people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the agreement is contingent on Santana passing a physical.

Santana became the first to reach a deal among the nine free agents who last month rejected \$17.4 million qualifying offers from their former teams.

Philadelphia also traded shortstop Freddy Galvis to San Diego for minor league pitcher Enyel De Los Santos, and finalized two-year deals with relievers Tommy Hunter (\$18 million) and Pat Neshek (\$16.25 million).

Santana hit 23 home runs with 79 RBIs for Cleveland, where he spent all eight of his big league seasons. He

started as a catcher in 2010 and shifted to first base in 2015.

Santana, who has a .249 career batting average and .445 slugging percentage, is expected to play first base for Philadelphia. Slugger Rhys Hoskins would stay in left field, giving the Phillies a surplus of outfielders to use as trade bait for starting pitching.

Galvis was a finalist for a Gold Glove the past two seasons and hit a career-best 20 homers in 2016. He was the longest-tenured Phillies player. The 28-year-old switch hitter averaged 13 homers, 59 RBIs and 14 steals along with a .253 average over the past three years.

J.P. Crawford, a first-round pick in the 2013 amateur draft, will take over at shortstop.

Hunter was 3-5 with one save and a 2.61 ERA in 61 appearances last season for Tampa Bay, striking out 64 in 58 2/3 innings and holding opponents to a .202 batting average. Neshek was an All-Star for the Phillies this year before he was traded to Colorado. He went 5-3 with one save and a 1.59 ERA in 71 for the Phillies and Rockies.

Hunter gets a \$6 million signing bonus and annual salaries of \$6 million.

# FIFA suspends Brazilian soccer president Marco Polo del Nero

By Stephen Wade and Mauricio Savarese  
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Marco Polo del Nero was suspended as president of Brazil's soccer confederation on Friday, two years after he was indicted in the United States on charges of wire fraud conspiracy and money laundering conspiracy.

FIFA said Del Nero was under an ethics investigation and has been banned for 90 days from all soccer activities.

Del Nero fled Zurich in May 2015 when other FIFA colleagues were arrested. They included Jose Maria Marin, who was at the time the head of the Brazilian confederation, known as the CBF. Marin and two other South American soccer officials have been on trial in New York. Del Nero was indicted on Dec. 2, 2015.

"As many Brazilians that love soccer, my hope is that he is banned for good," soccer great Romario — now a Brazilian federal senator — wrote on his Facebook page. "Del Nero has already had his crimes exposed along with those of other crooks like Jose Maria Marin, who is in jail in the United States,



Felipe Dana/AP File Photo

Brazilian Football Confederation President Marco Polo del Nero listens to questions during a press conference on 2015 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. FIFA announced Friday the provisional suspension of Polo del Nero, while he is under investigation for corruption.

and (former CBF president) Ricardo Teixeira who is still on the loose in Brazil. They all used CBF to get illegally rich."

Del Nero's lawyers said in a statement that he is going to appeal FIFA's suspension. They insisted there was no evidence against him.

The attorneys labeled the ethics committee report "funny investigative speculations." They argued Del Nero took office as CBF president in 2015 and should not be linked to contracts from previous administrations. FIFA failed to ban Del

Nero until Friday. FIFA President Gianni Infantino has been questioned about him in recent days.

Infantino was photographed at last year's Olympics receiving a Brazilian soccer shirt from Del Nero, and reporters questioned him about Del Nero at the World Cup draw this month in Moscow.

"So whatever comes out of these trials, we will deal with it," Infantino said of the U.S. investigation. "We have ethics committees, disciplinary committees. They will deal with these questions.

# Former on-air personality says ESPN was hostile workplace

Associated Press

BRISTOL, Conn. — A former ESPN personality is accusing the network of trying to silence her and other women who assert they were subjected to a sexually hostile work environment.

Adrienne Lawrence made the accusation in a tweet Friday after ESPN published a friendly text message exchange between her and an anchor she had accused of misconduct.

Lawrence, who served a fellowship at ESPN, filed a complaint this summer with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities.

She alleges, among other things, that she was not offered a permanent job at

ESPN after complaining that anchor John Buccigross had sent her unsolicited shirtless photos and used inappropriate nicknames for her.

Those accusations and others were detailed Thursday by the Boston Globe. Buccigross said in a statement to the newspaper that he considered her a friend and was sorry if he offended her.

The network says it investigated Lawrence's complaints and found them without merit.

The Globe says Lawrence asked the Connecticut commission to withdraw her complaint so she could pursue a lawsuit instead. No lawsuits have been filed in the case.

## AP NAIA ALL-AMERICA FOOTBALL TEAM

- FIRST TEAM OFFENSE**
- Quarterback — Trevor Rosen, senior, Southern Oregon  
Running backs — Buike Jenkins, senior, Mississippi; Justin Green, junior, St. Francis, Indiana  
Linebacker — Tom Braligh, senior, Mississippi; Justin Hunter, senior, Saint Xavier; Trey Conroy, sophomore, Pennsylvania; Chris Emke, senior, Central College; Xavier Carter, senior, Pennsylvania  
Tight end — Warren Pae-Evans, sophomore, Kansas Wesleyan  
Wide receiver — Hunter Adams, senior, Dakota Wesleyan; Connor Hill, junior, Mississippi  
All-purpose player — Charles Douthett, senior, Penn. State; Daniel Martinez, senior, Westfield Baptist
- DEFENSE**
- Linebacker — James Fross, senior, Langston; Evan Spitzberg, junior, Saint Thomas; Tom McCray, junior, Northland; Rossan Coleman, sophomore, William Penn  
Linebacker — Cam McDonald, senior, Mississippi; Pawan Harman, junior, St. Francis, Indiana; Thomas Scales, senior, Dickinson State  
Backs — Dallas Price, senior, Siena Heights; Thomas Winkler, senior, Southwestern; Karim Terrence Remy, senior, Concordia, Nebraska; Nate Moore, senior, College of Idaho  
Punter — Derek Smith, senior, Arizona Christian
- SECOND TEAM OFFENSE**
- Quarterback — Dillon Turner, senior, Dakota Wesleyan  
Running backs — JD Woods, freshman, Baker; Jason Katsigaris, sopho-
- more, Northwestern, Iowa  
Linebacker — Avery Lock, senior, Valley City State; Spencer Baaman, senior, Taylor; Garrett Butler, senior, Benedictine; Zac Lawson, senior, Lindsey Wilson; Cameron Mullins, senior, Moreau  
Tight end — J.C. Kosselman, senior, Northwestern, Iowa  
Wide receiver — Lance Jackson, senior, St. Francis, Illinois; LaCoyne Gonzalez, senior, Southwestern, Florida  
All-purpose player — Sam Weighman, senior, Hastings College  
Kicker — Mario Espinoza, senior, Southwestern, Kansas
- DEFENSE**
- Linebacker — Chris O'Leary, senior, St. Ambrose; Sean Rogers, junior, Southern Oregon; Josh Evans, senior, Evangel; Jason Lupton, senior, Mississippi  
Linebacker — Michael Adams, senior, Eastern Oregon; Brent Mueller, junior, Lindsey Wilson; Garrett Updegraff, senior, Kansas Wesleyan  
Backs — Nate McLaurin, junior, Baker; Jay Liggins, junior, Dickinson State  
Coffey Warriner, senior, Doane; Travis McDermott, sophomore, St. Xavier  
Punter — Dorian Higgins, sophomore, Missouri Valley
- Selection panel: Mike Byler, David College; Matt Elmore, Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference; Wally Field, Frontier Conference; Jon DeFriesman, Cumberland, Tennessee; Tim Gossain, Arizona Christian; Nick Hummer, North Star Athletic Association; Jake Kralak, Concordia, Nebraska; Gus Klatz, Saint Francis; Kevin Lamb, Westfield Baptist; Eric Montgomery, Heart of America Athletic Conference; Sean O'Donnell, Robert Morris, Illinois; Mark Potts, Valley City State; Bill Smith, St. Francis, Indiana; Dave Thoma, Kansas Wesleyan; Chris Wells, Mid-South Conference

## TEXAS FISHING REPORT

**CENTRAL**  
AUSTIN: Water stained 57-66 degrees, 0.81 fwh. Black bass are slow to bite on chrome, Rap L, Traps and Texas rigs. Smallmouth are fair to good on red nightcrawlers. Catfish are fair to good on cut bait and nightcrawlers.  
BAKING: Water stained 60-73 degrees. Black bass are fair on chubs and chubworms, white soft plastics, spinnerbaits, and cornbuds. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbaits, chicken liver, and nightcrawlers. Yellow catfish are slow.  
BELTON: Water stained 60-72 degrees, 2.7 fwh. Black bass are slow. Hybrid striped are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.  
BROWNSWOOD: Water stained 67-71 degrees. 1.17 fwh. Black bass are fair on black/blue jugs, crawlers, and minnows. Hybrid striped are slow. White bass are fair on L1 Fishies and cornbuds. Smallmouth are fair on nightcrawlers. Crappie are fair on minnows. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.  
BUCHANAN: Water stained 65-73 degrees. 4.47 fwh. Black bass are fair on minnows and nightcrawlers. Smallmouth are fair on cut bait and nightcrawlers. White bass are fair on L1 Fishies and cornbuds. Hybrid striped are slow. White bass are fair on minnows. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.  
COLUMBI: Water stained 66-70 degrees, 2.37 fwh. Black bass are good on minnows and nightcrawlers. Hybrid striped are good on white stripe jugs. Crappie are fair on minnows and chubworms. Blue jugs, Channel catfish are fair on stinkbaits, nightcrawlers, and frozen shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.  
COLORADO RIVER: All Colorado River State Parks are open to fishing.  
FAYETTE: Water stains Black bass are good on electric blue Carolina rig and plastic worms and spinnerbaits along the outside edge of grass. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbaits and shrimp over hauled holes.  
FRANKLIN: Water stained 67-71 degrees. 0.87 fwh. Black bass are fair on minnows and

supplement soft plastics. Striped bass are fair on olive stripe jugs. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows and blue jugs. Catfish are good on shrimp, stinkbaits, and live minnows.  
GRANGER: Water stained 67-71 degrees. 0.21 fwh. Black bass are fair on cornbuds and soft plastics. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows and blue jugs. Yellow catfish are good on prepared baits. Yellow catfish are slow.  
LBJ: Water stained 60-72 degrees, 0.67 fwh. Black bass are good on PBJ colored Frog, Power jig, pumpkin worms, and green pumpkin tubes. Striped bass are slow. White bass are good on olive Pils Minnow and Spiner Shad. Crappie are fair on minnows in trash piles under hauled docks. Channel catfish are fair on minnows and worms. Yellow and blue catfish are slow.  
MARIETTA: Water stained 69-73 degrees. 2.07 fwh. Black bass are slow. White bass are fair on minnows and L1 Fishies at night. Crappie are slow. Channel catfish are fair on stinkbaits and nightcrawlers. Blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.  
PROCTOR: Water stained 67-71 degrees. 2.87 fwh. Black bass are good on black/blue jugs and chubworms. Hybrid striped are slow. White bass are good on minnows and nightcrawlers. Striped bass are slow. White bass are good on minnows and blue jugs. Yellow catfish are slow. Channel and blue catfish are good on light-colored soft plastics. Striped bass are fair on olive stripe jugs and other baits and minnows.  
SOMERVELL: Water stained 66-70 degrees. 0.37 fwh. Black bass are slow. Hybrid striped are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are fair on light-colored soft plastics. Yellow catfish are slow.  
STILLHOUSE: Water stained 69-73 degrees. 3.87 fwh. Black bass are slow. White bass are fair on minnows and blue jugs. Yellow catfish are slow. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.  
TRAVIS: Water stained 69-73 degrees, 11.57 fwh. Black bass are fair on minnows, blue jugs, and olive stripe jugs. Striped bass are fair on chubworms and olive stripe jugs. White bass are fair on minnows and blue jugs. Channel and blue catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and cut bait. Yellow catfish are slow.  
WALTER: LONG: Water stained 66-70 degrees. 2.07 fwh. Black bass are slow. White bass are slow. Hybrid striped are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are good on minnows and chubworms. Blue jugs, Channel and blue catfish are good on minnows and frozen shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.  
WHITNEY: Water stained 68-72 degrees, 4.07 fwh. Black bass are fair on minnows, white bass are fair on minnows and nightcrawlers. Striped bass are fair on minnows and jugging spools. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are good on shrimp, Bug and stinkbaits.

**SOUTH**  
AUSTIN: Water stained 71-75 degrees, 23.72 fwh. Black bass are fair on cornbuds, minnows, jugs and soft plastics. Striped bass are fair on olive stripe jugs and other baits and minnows.  
CATTI: are good on chubworms over hauled holes. Yellow catfish are good on minnows hauled with live bait. Everyone in a boat must have a Metro fishing license if fishing the Metro area whether fishing or not.  
**WEST**  
ALAN HENRY: Water clear main lake, stained to muddy center. 68 degrees, 4.88 fwh. Black bass are fair on cornbuds and spools. Crappie are good on punch bait and live worms.  
/ FISHHEAD: Water fairly clear. 57-68 degrees. 2.28 fwh. Black bass are fair on Texas rig, Rap L, Traps and jugs. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers.  
COLORADO CITY: 15.27 fwh. After a period of drought, this lake caught water and loading is now allowed. However, it is not currently recommended for fishing due to severe golden-eye damage.  
FT PHANTOM HILL: Water off color. 55-64 degrees. 1.58 fwh. Black bass are fair on shad, nightcrawlers, Texas rig and strip shot rig. Crappie are fair on live minnows. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers.  
HUBBARD CREEK: Water off color. 58-64 degrees. 2.38 fwh. Black bass are fair on Texas rig, white cornbuds and jugs. Crappie are fair on minnows and jugs. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and live worms.  
NASHWORTHY: 58-65 degrees. 1.18 fwh. Black bass are fair on Texas rig and spinnerbaits. No reports on crappie. Catfish are fair on chub and

ports on crappie. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers.  
OAK CREEK: Water stained. 58-65 degrees. 10.57 fwh. Black bass are fair on Texas rig, jugs and strip shot rig. Crappie are fair on minnows and jugs. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers.  
OIL FIVE: Water stained 57-68 degrees. 27.57 fwh. Black bass are fair on Texas rig, jugs and strip shot rig. Crappie are fair on minnows and jugs. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers.  
POSSUM KINGDOM: Water off color. 58-65 degrees. 1.17 fwh. Black bass are slow to bite on strip shot rig. Texas rig and jugs. Crappie are fair on live minnows. White bass are fair on minnows. Injured bass are fair on live shad. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers.  
SPENCER: 50.91 fwh. Catfish are fair on cut bait and nightcrawlers.  
STAMFORD: Water stained. 48-57 degrees. 0.44 fwh. Black bass are fair on Texas rig. Crappie are fair on jugs and live minnows. White bass are fair on live bait and Live George. Blue catfish are fair on cut and live bait.  
SWEETWATER: Water off color. 47-55 degrees. 28.27 fwh. This lake is currently experiencing a fish kill due to golden algae. Boatlifts are monitoring the situation and will post notices as they become available.  
WHITE RIVER: Water stained 53-63 degrees. 21.37 fwh. Black bass are slow. Texas rig. No reports on crappie. Catfish are fair on chub and

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# SPORTS NATION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Saturday, December 16, 2017 | Section C

**TEXAS**  
SPORTS NATION



Sue Ogrocki/Associated Press

Oklahoma tight end Mark Andrews (81) celebrates a touchdown in the second quarter of an NCAA football game against West Virginia, Nov. 25, in Norman, Okla.

## Another bowl season, more debate about the CFP

**W**e saw this coming. The four-team College Football Playoff is in its fourth season and there is already a sizeable crowd that wants to see the field expanded to eight.

The most heated debate for one of the coveted four spots might have occurred this season when Alabama (11-1), which didn't make the SEC title game, was rewarded the last playoff berth over Big Ten champion Ohio State (11-2).

Not only did the Buckeyes have the conference champion distinction, a coveted achievement in college football for the longest time, but their schedule was perceived to be tougher than Bama's, with two wins against opponents that were ranked in the top four at the time.

In the end, OSU couldn't get over the stigma of a 31-point loss to a 7-5 Iowa

**CHRIS HADORN**

chadorn@mrt.com



team, while the Crimson Tide seniors have lost a combined five games by a total of 35 points since 2014.

Ultimately, the selection committee believed Alabama was a better team than Ohio State, and would give defending champion Clemson a tougher challenge, so let's hope they are right for entertainment purposes.

I like the current format at four, and firmly believe that no matter the number

— six, eight, 12, 16 — there will always be critics complaining about a team that was snubbed.

Here's a look at the upcoming semifinal matchups and bowl games of note.

**Rose Bowl:** No. 2 Oklahoma (12-1) vs. No. 3 Georgia (12-1), 4 p.m., Jan. 1

This is a classic Big 12 vs. SEC matchup. OU is the epitome of the high-octane offenses that litter the Big 12, averaging 583.3 total yards and 44.9 points per game. Georgia, on the other hand, is stingy on defense (270.9 total yards/game) and leans on its run (263.5 rush yards/game). That's SEC-style football to a T.

The Sooners have a reputation for not being a big game team in January since their 2000 national title, but Heisman Trophy recipient Baker Mayfield and their offensive firepower will get them through to the Jan. 8 championship game in Atlanta.

**Prediction:** OU 34, Georgia 27

**Sugar Bowl:** No. 1 Clemson (12-1) vs. No. 4 Alabama (11-1), 7:45 p.m., Jan. 1

These two teams are formulating one of all-time non-conference rivalries with their third straight meeting in the playoffs. Although it's hard to pick against Tide coach Nick Saban with a month to prepare, Clemson's vaunted defensive line is a force to be reckoned with and I foresee that Tiger front four making a game-changing play.

**Prediction:** Clemson 20, Alabama 17

**Birmingham Bowl:** Texas Tech (6-6) vs. South Florida (9-2), 11 a.m., Dec. 23

After missing a bowl in 2016, the Red Raiders appear to be genuinely happy to be spending the holidays in "The Magic City", so I expect outgoing senior QB Nic

Please see BOWLS/2C



John Markon/Associated Press

Texas A&M-Commerce quarterback Luis Perez (12) throws under pressure from Harding defender Shedrick Robinson during an NCAA Division II football game Saturday, Dec. 9, in Commerce, Texas.

## West Florida faces TAMU-Commerce for D-II title

**By Dave Skretta**  
Associated Press

**KANSAS CITY, Kan.** — Pete Shinnick sold the first recruits to West Florida on a picturesque campus situated a short swim from Pensacola Bay, an ambitious vision and the opportunity to build something memorable.

He surely didn't sell them on the single-wide trailers for locker rooms.

"I had a desk and a phone and that was about it," Shinnick recalled this week. "No players, no coaches. And I just started selling it. Our guys will get a new locker room and weight room in January, but back then there really wasn't much. We sold the university and we sold the experience."

That was a mere four years ago.

On Saturday, the program that began play just last season and upset top-seeded Indiana University of Pennsylvania in the Division II semifinals will play Texas A&M-Commerce for the national championship.

Hard to imagine for a school founded in the 1960s, plays its home games in a minor league baseball stadium and is better known for men's tennis and women's soccer.

"We went one complete year without coaching or playing football. That was one of the longest professional years of my life," said Shinnick, who also built the North Carolina-Pembroke program when it returned from a five-decade hiatus. "As a football coach you don't have much time in the fall, but that fall I did. But when we started, we felt we had a

Please see D-II/2C

## Mount Union beats Mary Hardin-Baylor 12-0 for D-III title

**By Hank Kurz Jr.**  
Associated Press

**SALEM, Va.** — D'Angelo Fulford hit Justin Hill for a 42-yard touchdown pass early in the fourth quarter and Mount Union won its 13th Division III football national championship with a 12-0 victory over defending champion Mary Hardin-Baylor on Friday night.

The Purple Raiders (15-0) limited Mary Hardin-Baylor to 144 yards. Mount Union led just 3-0 until Fulford found Hill just behind defensive backs Reginald Cole and Jefferson Fritz. It was the 50th scoring pass of the season for the sophomore, and Hill's 20th touchdown catch.

The Crusaders (14-1) had not trailed all season and had their 29-game winning streak snapped. They also were shut out for just the second time in the 20-year history of their program. The only other was a 28-0 loss to Mississippi College on Oct. 17, 1998, the first season Mary Hardin-Baylor fielded a team.

The Purple Raiders took a 3-0 lead on Alex Louthan's 31-yard field goal 1:15 before half-time. The drive was set up by Gabe Brown's interception of Carl Robinson III at the Crusaders 47 yard-line. Brown's interception came one play after Mount Union's Fulford was intercepted by Jefferson Fritz near the goal line.

Fritz picked off Fulford again in the third quarter, giving the Crusaders the ball at their own 31, but four plays later, Louis Berry made a diving interception to get the ball back for Mount Union. They drove to the Crusaders 25, but Jawanza Evans-Morris was stopped for no gain on a fourth-and-1.

Mount Union finished with eight sacks. The shutout was the first in the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl since West Georgia beat Augustana 14-0 in 1982.

REPORTER-TELEGRAM FOOTBALL PREDICTIONS

College Bowl Picks  
Dec. 16- Jan. 1



Chris Hadorn  
Last Week: 15-5  
Season: 205-55  
Percent: 788



Oscar Leffoy  
Last Week: 14-6  
Season: 201-59  
Percent: 773



Evan Winston  
Last Week: 17-3  
Season: 204-56  
Percent: 784



Will Korn  
Last Week: 17-3  
Season: 190-70  
Percent: 730

College

CFP, Georgia vs. Oklahoma  
CFP, Alabama vs. Clemson  
Birmingham Bowl, Texas Tech vs. South Florida  
Texas Bowl, Texas vs. Missouri  
Alamo Bowl, Stanford vs. TCU  
Belk Bowl, Wake Forest vs. Texas A&M  
New Orleans Bowl, Troy vs. North Texas  
Frisco Bowl, Louisiana Tech vs. SMU  
Hawaii Bowl, Fresno State vs. Houston  
Cotton Bowl, USC vs. Ohio State  
Orange Bowl, Miami vs. Wisconsin  
Heart of Dallas Bowl, Utah vs. West Virginia  
Sun Bowl, NC State vs. Arizona State  
Camping World Bowl, Virginia Tech vs. Oklahoma State  
Citrus Bowl, Notre Dame vs. LSU  
Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl, UCF vs. Auburn  
Outback Bowl, Michigan vs. South Carolina  
Fiesta Bowl, Washington vs. Penn State  
Liberty Bowl, Iowa State vs. Memphis  
Cactus Bowl, Kansas State vs. UCLA

Oklahoma  
Clemson  
Texas Tech  
Missouri  
TCU  
Wake Forest  
Troy  
SMU  
Fresno State  
Ohio State  
Wisconsin  
West Virginia  
NC State  
Virginia Tech  
LSU  
Auburn  
Michigan  
Washington  
Iowa State  
UCLA

Georgia  
Clemson  
Texas Tech  
Missouri  
TCU  
Texas A&M  
Troy  
SMU  
Fresno State  
Ohio State  
Miami  
West Virginia  
NC State  
Oklahoma State  
LSU  
Auburn  
Michigan  
Penn State  
Memphis  
Kansas State

Oklahoma  
Alabama  
South Florida  
Texas  
TCU  
Wake Forest  
Troy  
SMU  
Houston  
Ohio State  
Miami  
West Virginia  
NC State  
Oklahoma State  
Notre Dame  
Auburn  
Penn State  
Memphis  
Kansas State

Georgia  
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TCU  
Wake Forest  
North Texas  
SMU  
Houston  
Ohio State  
Wisconsin  
West Virginia  
NC State  
Oklahoma State  
LSU  
Auburn  
Michigan  
Penn State  
Memphis  
Kansas State

COLLEGE BOWL GLANCE

TODAY	Thursday, Dec. 21	Friday, Dec. 22	Saturday, Dec. 23	Sunday, Dec. 24	Monday, Dec. 25	Tuesday, Dec. 26	Wednesday, Dec. 27	Thursday, Dec. 28	Friday, Dec. 29	Saturday, Dec. 30	Sunday, Dec. 31
<p><b>Celebration Bowl</b> At Atlanta NC A&amp;T (11-0) vs. Georgia State (11-1) 11 a.m. (ABC)</p> <p><b>New Orleans Bowl</b> New Orleans North Texas (9-4) vs. Troy (10-2), 12 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Cure Bowl</b> Orlando, Fla. Georgia State (8-5) vs. Western Kentucky (4-4), 3:30 p.m. (CBSN)</p> <p><b>Las Vegas Bowl</b> Boise State (10-3) vs. Oregon (7-5), 2:30 p.m. (ABC)</p> <p><b>New Mexico Bowl</b> Albuquerque Colorado State (7-5) vs. Marshall (7-4), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Camellia Bowl</b> Montgomery, Ala. Arkansas State (7-3) vs. Middle Tennessee (8-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Tuesday, Dec. 19</b> <b>Boysen (P&amp;H) Bowl</b> Auburn (7-4) vs. FAU (10-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Wednesday, Dec. 20</b> <b>Frisco (Texas) Bowl</b> Louisiana Tech (4-6) vs. SMU (7-5), 7 p.m. (ESPN)</p>	<p><b>Gasparilla Bowl</b> At St. Petersburg, Fla. Temple (8-6) vs. FIU (8-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Birmingham Bowl</b> Birmingham Ohio (8-4) vs. UAB (8-4), 11:30 a.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Famous Idaho Potato Bowl</b> Boise Central Michigan (8-4) vs. Wyoming (7-5), 3 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Birmingham (A&amp;I) Bowl</b> Birmingham, Ala. South Florida (8-2) vs. Texas Tech (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Armed Forces Bowl</b> Fort Worth, Texas San Diego State (10-2) vs. Army (9-3), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Dollar General Bowl</b> Mobile, Ala. Appalachian State (8-4) vs. Towson (11-2), 4 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Howard Bowl</b> Homolulu Fresno State (9-4) vs. Houston (7-4), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)</p>	<p><b>Heart of Dallas Bowl</b> West Virginia (7-5) vs. Utah (8-4), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Outback Bowl</b> Detroit Northern Illinois (8-4) vs. Duke (8-4), 4:15 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Cactus Bowl</b> Phoenix Kansas State (7-5) vs. UCLA (8-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Wednesday, Dec. 27</b> <b>Independence Bowl</b> Shreveport, La. Southern Mississippi (8-4) vs. Florida State (8-4), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Platino Bowl</b> Bronx, N.Y. Boston College (7-5) vs. Iowa (7-4), 4:15 p.m. (FOX)</p> <p><b>Father Farms Bowl</b> Santa Clara, Calif. Arizona (7-4) vs. Purdue (8-4), 7:30 p.m. (FOX)</p> <p><b>Texas Bowl</b> Houston Texas (8-4) vs. Missouri (7-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Thursday, Dec. 28</b> <b>Military Bowl</b> Annapolis, Md.</p>	<p><b>Virginia (8-4) vs. Navy (8-4), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)</b></p> <p><b>Camping World Bowl</b> Orlando, Fla. Oklahoma State (9-3) vs. Virginia Tech (9-3), 4:15 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Alamo Bowl</b> San Antonio Stanford (9-4) vs. TCU (10-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Holiday Bowl</b> San Diego Washington State (9-2) vs. Michigan State (9-3), 9 p.m. (PUSH)</p> <p><b>Friday, Dec. 29</b> <b>Bell Bowl</b> Charlotte, N.C. Wake Forest (7-5) vs. Texas A&amp;M (7-5), 12 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Sun Bowl</b> El Paso, Texas NC State (8-4) vs. Arizona State (7-4), 2 p.m. (CBS)</p> <p><b>Music City Bowl</b> Nashville, Tenn. Kentucky (7-4) vs. Northwestern (9-3), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Arizona Bowl</b> Tucson, Ariz. New Mexico State (8-4) vs. Utah State (8-4), 4:30 p.m. (CBSN)</p>	<p><b>Cotton Bowl Classic</b> Arlington, Texas Southern Cal (11-2) vs. Ohio State (11-2), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Saturday, Dec. 30</b> <b>Tadpole Bowl</b> Jacksonville, Fla. Louisville (8-4) vs. Mississippi State (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Liberty Bowl</b> Memphis, Tenn. Iowa State (7-4) vs. Memphis (10-2), 11:30 a.m. (ABC)</p> <p><b>Fiesta Bowl</b> Glendale, Ariz. Washington (10-2) vs. Penn State (10-2), 3 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Orange Bowl</b> Miami Gardens, Fla. Wisconsin (12-1) vs. Miami (10-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Monday, Jan. 1</b> <b>Outback Bowl</b> Tampa, Fla. Michigan (8-4) vs. South Carolina (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Peach Bowl</b> Atlanta UCF (10-0) vs. Auburn (10-3), 11:30 a.m. (ESPN)</p>	<p><b>Citrus Bowl</b> Orlando, Fla. Notre Dame (9-3) vs. LSU (9-3), 12 p.m. (ABC)</p> <p><b>Rose Bowl (CFP Semifinal)</b> Pasadena, Calif. Oklahoma (12-1) vs. Georgia (12-1), 4:10 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Sugar Bowl (CFP Semifinal)</b> New Orleans Clemson (12-1) vs. Alabama (11-1), 7:45 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Monday, Jan. 8</b> <b>College Football Championship</b> Atlanta Rose Bowl winner vs. Sugar Bowl winner, 4 p.m. (ESPN)</p> <p><b>Saturday, Jan. 20</b> <b>East-West Shrine Classic</b> At St. Petersburg, Fla. East vs. West, 1 p.m. (NFLN)</p> <p><b>NFL College Bowl</b> At Canton, Ohio American vs. National, 3 p.m. (PST)</p> <p><b>Saturday, Jan. 27</b> <b>Senior Bowl</b> At Mobile, Ala. North vs. South, 1:30 p.m. (NFLN)</p>						

D-II

From 1C

great university, a great town, and we were looking for the right mix of young men. We set high expectations for them, talked about how good we could be.

The Argonauts spent the 2015 season practicing and playing against each other, then played their inaugural game last year. They wound up winning five games, beating No. 16 Florida Tech along the way.

They were 7-3 this season to qualify for the playoffs, but even then were considered a longshot to advance. But they upset No. 16 Wingate in the opening round, beat West Georgia and West Alabama the next two weeks, then toppled the heavily favored Crimson Hawks on the road.

That earned them a trip to Sporting Park in Kansas City for the national title game.

"People want to know what the formula is and all that," said Shinnick, who spent time earlier in his career on staffs at Arkansas, Clemson and Oregon State.

"I just have great coaches and great players. We have developed a culture that we want and guys are buying in and trusting each other."

The Argonauts are only half of what

makes this year's title game so improbable.

Texas A&M-Commerce has a proud tradition but had fallen on hard times by 2013, when Colby Carthel took over on the heels of back-to-back 1-9 seasons. The former West Texas A&M defensive coordinator quickly built a winning culture at the school situated northeast of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

Texas A&M-Commerce returned to the playoffs two years ago, reached the second round last year and survived a double-overtime quarterfinal against Central Washington to reach this year's title game.

"We kind of started off asking everybody to believe in the vision," Carthel said. "This senior class is leaving here as the all-time winningest class — there's been seven or eight of them that signed on when we were maybe the worst team in the country. They believe in the vision."

"We talked about taking over the Lone Star Conference. We did that. The past year or so, we talked about taking this program to the national level," Carthel said. "We never said we'd win a national title but we said we'd be competing for one year-in and year-out, and that's where we are today."

Even though the programs are relative newcomers to the national stage, they feature All-American talent on opposite sides of the ball.

NEW ORLEANS BOWL CAPSULE

TROY SEEKS 11TH WIN VS NORTH TEXAS IN NEW ORLEANS BOWL

**New Orleans Bowl:** North Texas (9-4) vs. Troy (10-2), 12 p.m. ET, ESPN  
**Line:** Troy by 6 1/2  
**Series Record:** Troy leads 6-2

**WHAT'S AT STAKE**  
Troy, which won the Sun Belt Conference, seeks an 11-victory season for the first time since the Trojans moved from the Football Championship Subdivision (formerly I-AA) to the Football Bowl Subdivision in 2001. Troy also seeks its fourth victory in seven bowl appearances, as well as its second New Orleans Bowl crown.

**KEY MATCHUP**  
UNT QB Mason Fine, who set school records with 3,749 yards and 28 TDs passing, against a play-making Troy defense that racked up 36 sacks and 15 interceptions this season, while allowing fewer than 20 points per game.

**PLAYERS TO WATCH**  
North Texas: Listed at 5-foot-10, 180 pounds, Fine is defying critics who've held his relatively small stature against him. In only his sophomore season, Fine broke a single-season school passing record that stood since 1994 and was named Conference USA offensive player of the year. He is on pace to finish the season with more than 4,000 yards passing.

Troy: Troy DB and KR Marcus Jones was

named Sun Belt freshman of the year after returning three kickoffs and an interception for touchdowns.

**FACTS & FIGURES**  
North Texas appeared in the first four New Orleans Bowls from 2001-2004, but won only one of those games, defeating Cincinnati in 2002. The Mean Green is in its second straight bowl game, having lost Army in the Heart of Dallas Bowl last season. North Texas set records this season for points with 467 (35.9 points per game) and total yards with 6,071 (467 per game). North Texas scored 30-plus points nine times this season. Troy has won 20 games during the past two seasons, a school best for a two-season span. Troy's Neal Brown was named Sun Belt Conference coach of the year. Troy's defense has not allowed a single play as long as 50 yards this season. QB Brandon Silvers ranks second in Trojans history with 10,379 yards passing and third with 67 TDs. RB Jordan Chunn could make Sun Belt history with two more touchdowns, which would give him a conference record 49 in his career. This season, he has scored 10 TDs and averaged about 5 yards per carry.

BOWLS

From 1C

Shimonek and company to give an inspired effort to finish with a winning mark. USF, coached by Texas Tech's old Big 12 foe Charlie Strong, has a capable dual-threat quarterback with Quinton Flowers.

The Texas Tech defense rolls into this matchup coming off a four turn-over performance against rival Texas, and it must be thrilled that its architect, defensive coordinator David Gibbs just committed to the program through 2019 after receiving overtures from Arizona State.

The Red Raiders, who won at historic Legion Field in the 1989 All-American Bowl, will get good performances on both sides of the ball and prevail.

**Prediction:** Texas Tech 31, South Florida 28

**Texas Bowl: Texas (6-6) vs. Missouri (7-5), 8 p.m., Dec. 27**  
The Longhorns will be without NFL-bound left tackle Connor Williams, safety DeShon Elliott and cornerback Holton Hill and also running back Chris Warren, who has opted to transfer. UT faces a Mizzou team on a six-game winning streak, so it would be a huge deal if coach Tom Herman and his players can pull out a win with all the distractions surrounding them.

**Prediction:** Missouri 42, Texas 38

**Alamo Bowl: Stanford (9-4) vs. TCU (10-3), 8**

p.m., Dec. 28

Both teams missed New Year's Six bids after respective losses in their conference title games. The matchup to watch will be TCU's stout rush defense against Stanford RB Bryce Love, a Heisman finalist.

**Prediction:** TCU 27, Stanford 23

**Belk Bowl: Texas A&M (7-5) vs. Wake Forest (7-5), noon, Dec. 29**  
The Aggies will be in an odd predicament, playing out the Kevin Sumlin era under interim head coach Jeff Banks, but knowing that this game is inconsequential with Jimbo Fisher set to take over the reins of the program. On paper, this is a game A&M should win, but the Demon Deacons will be playing in their home state and are probably more thrilled to be here.

**Prediction:** Wake Forest 35, Texas A&M 27

**Cotton Bowl: USC (11-2) vs. Ohio State (11-2), 7:30 p.m., Dec. 29**  
The good news is that the Lone Star State's most revered bowl game will host the best non-playoff matchup. The bad news is this game should be played in Pasadena on New Year's Day, but that's just the college football purist in me talking.

**Prediction:** Ohio State 34, USC 31

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris\_mrtports

FAU, Navy, Miami and Memphis prep for home bowl games

By Tim Reynolds  
Associated Press

BOCA RATON, Fla. — Sometime late Friday afternoon, Florida Atlantic will load up its luggage and head south to the hotel that will house the Conference USA champions for their bowl game preparations.

It'll be a 4-mile drive. The comforts of home await the Owls this weekend as they get ready to play in the Boca Raton Bowl, and they're hardly the only team in America that won't be seeing a new part of the country as part of the postseason perk package.

FAU, Miami, Navy and Memphis are playing bowl games on their home fields, and five other teams — six if Georgia makes the College Football Playoff title game — will play bowls in their home states.

"A chance to stay home is really special, basically to have another home game," said FAU coach Lane Kiffin, whose Owls will essentially "host" Akron in the Boca Raton Bowl.

"From that advantage, it's really neat. Our players obviously at first were like, 'Well, we don't get to go anywhere.' But when they really looked at it, they realize, 'Hey,

we're honored because we're going to the best bowl that there is for our conference.'"

The Boca Raton Bowl is Tuesday, the first of the four de facto home games for some teams in this postseason.

Navy is remaining in Annapolis, Maryland, for its bowl, the Dec. 28 Military Bowl against Virginia. Miami is headed to the Orange Bowl on Dec. 30, where Wisconsin awaits. And Memphis is off to the Liberty Bowl, set to meet Iowa State on Dec. 30.

Memphis had hopes of getting into a New Year's Six bowl. When that didn't happen after a loss to UCF in the American Athletic Conference title game, wide receiver Anthony Miller said going to the Liberty Bowl "was the next-best thing."

"I don't mind," Miller said. "I just love the energy of being at the Liberty Bowl. I love being in Memphis. I love the fans. It's my senior year. It's my last year. I don't think there's a better way that I could end it."

FAU hasn't been to a bowl game since 2008, so its upperclassmen all will attest that being home for a bowl obviously is better than being at home with no games left to play.

Navy had prearranged many of its bowl sites for the last decade or so, though now falls into the AAC mix — and the Military Bowl was thrilled to pit the Midshipmen against the Cavaliers, given how the campuses are roughly 150 miles apart.

Miami ended a decade-long bowl-victory drought last season, rose to No. 2 in the national rankings this season before dropping its final two games and has revealed in how that success re-energized the fan base.

The Hurricanes fell out of CFP contention with losses to Pittsburgh and Clemson, but one last night at Hard Rock Stadium is more than a consolation prize for their seniors.

"It's going to be somewhat of a home game for us," coach Mark Richt said.

"It is our home stadium. Our fans have been phenomenal all year long. It's been one of the best turn-outs of fans, probably in the history of Hard Rock Stadium. ... Even though we are home, in our home city, we know we're going to get a chance to do some things we don't normally get to do that the bowl will provide for us."

Florida International, SMU, Texas, TCU and Wake Forest are also playing in-state bowls. SMU is going only 28

miles to Frisco, Texas, for its game, Wake Forest is going 80 miles to Charlotte, and Texas coach Tom Herman is going back to Houston — his former home.

"I think it's neat," Herman said. "It's a city that my family and myself have called home on a couple of different occasions, at Rice (and) at the University of Houston. ... It is a city that I have a lot of friends and people that I know back there, and I'm excited to bring our team out to Houston to play in front of them."

The last time Wake Forest went to Charlotte for a bowl game, the Demon Deacons brought 30,000 fans.

"We expect that number to increase," athletic director Ron Wellman said.

Miami isn't staying at "home," per se.

The Hurricanes are moving to a resort in Broward County on Christmas night for bowl week, part of the Orange Bowl's contractual obligations. And even though Wisconsin and Akron both know they're playing road games, leaving winter behind for a few days seems like a fair trade-off.

Kiffin doesn't see a downside for his team, either.

"Miami used to want to do what? Go to the Orange Bowl," Kiffin said. "USC and UCLA want to do what? Go to the Rose Bowl. So it can be really special when it's a premier bowl like this."

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**SATURDAY MORNING DECEMBER 16, 2017**

Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program
EMD ABC	6:00	News	WMAA	6:00	News
EMD CBS	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	6:30	6:30 News
EMD FOX	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	7:00	7:00 News
EMD NBC	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	7:30	7:30 News
EMD PBS	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	8:00	8:00 News
EMD UNI	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	8:30	8:30 News
EMD MNT	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	9:00	9:00 News
FLX	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	9:30	9:30 News
HD	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	10:00	10:00 News
HD2	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	10:30	10:30 News
HD3	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	11:00	11:00 News
HD4	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	11:30	11:30 News
HD5	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	12:00	12:00 News
HD6	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	12:30	12:30 News
HD7	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	1:00	1:00 News
HD8	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	1:30	1:30 News
HD9	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	2:00	2:00 News
HD10	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	2:30	2:30 News
HD11	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	3:00	3:00 News
HD12	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	3:30	3:30 News
HD13	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	4:00	4:00 News
HD14	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	4:30	4:30 News
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HD27	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	11:00	11:00 News
HD28	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	11:30	11:30 News
HD29	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	12:00	12:00 News
HD30	6:00	6:00 News	WMAA	12:30	12:30 News

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON DECEMBER 16, 2017**

Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program
EMD ABC	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	12:00	12:00 News
EMD CBS	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	12:30	12:30 News
EMD FOX	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	1:00	1:00 News
EMD NBC	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	1:30	1:30 News
EMD PBS	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	2:00	2:00 News
EMD UNI	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	2:30	2:30 News
EMD MNT	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	3:00	3:00 News
FLX	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	3:30	3:30 News
HD	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	4:00	4:00 News
HD2	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	4:30	4:30 News
HD3	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	5:00	5:00 News
HD4	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	5:30	5:30 News
HD5	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	6:00	6:00 News
HD6	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	6:30	6:30 News
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HD8	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	7:30	7:30 News
HD9	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	8:00	8:00 News
HD10	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	8:30	8:30 News
HD11	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	9:00	9:00 News
HD12	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	9:30	9:30 News
HD13	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	10:00	10:00 News
HD14	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	10:30	10:30 News
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HD16	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	11:30	11:30 News
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HD24	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	3:30	3:30 News
HD25	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	4:00	4:00 News
HD26	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	4:30	4:30 News
HD27	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	5:00	5:00 News
HD28	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	5:30	5:30 News
HD29	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	6:00	6:00 News
HD30	12:00	12:00 News	WMAA	6:30	6:30 News

**SATURDAY PRIME TIME DECEMBER 16, 2017**

Channel	Time	Program	Channel	Time	Program
EMD ABC	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	7:00	7:00 News
EMD CBS	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	7:30	7:30 News
EMD FOX	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	8:00	8:00 News
EMD NBC	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	8:30	8:30 News
EMD PBS	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	9:00	9:00 News
EMD UNI	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	9:30	9:30 News
EMD MNT	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	10:00	10:00 News
FLX	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	10:30	10:30 News
HD	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	11:00	11:00 News
HD2	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	11:30	11:30 News
HD3	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	12:00	12:00 News
HD4	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	12:30	12:30 News
HD5	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	1:00	1:00 News
HD6	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	1:30	1:30 News
HD7	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	2:00	2:00 News
HD8	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	2:30	2:30 News
HD9	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	3:00	3:00 News
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HD14	7:00	7:00 News	WMAA	5:30	5:30 News
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THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of stock market data for the New York Stock Exchange, including columns for Name, Div, Last, and Chg. Lists various stocks and their performance.

Table of stock market data for the New York Stock Exchange, continuing the list of stocks and their performance.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of stock market data for the NASDAQ National Market, listing various technology and growth stocks.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data, including fund names, shares, and percentage changes.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of stock market data for the American Stock Exchange, listing various stocks.

Table of stock market data for the American Stock Exchange, continuing the list of stocks.

A DAY ON WALL STREET



Table of market activity including NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ Most Active, Gainers, and Losers lists.

Table of Diaries for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, showing volume and high/low counts.

INDEXES

Table of various market indexes including 52-Week High/Low, YTD, and YTC data.

PERMIAN BASIN STOCKS

Table of Permi Basin Stocks listing various energy-related companies and their performance.

Read Basin Business and the Oil Report every Sunday to catch up with business news topics in the region.

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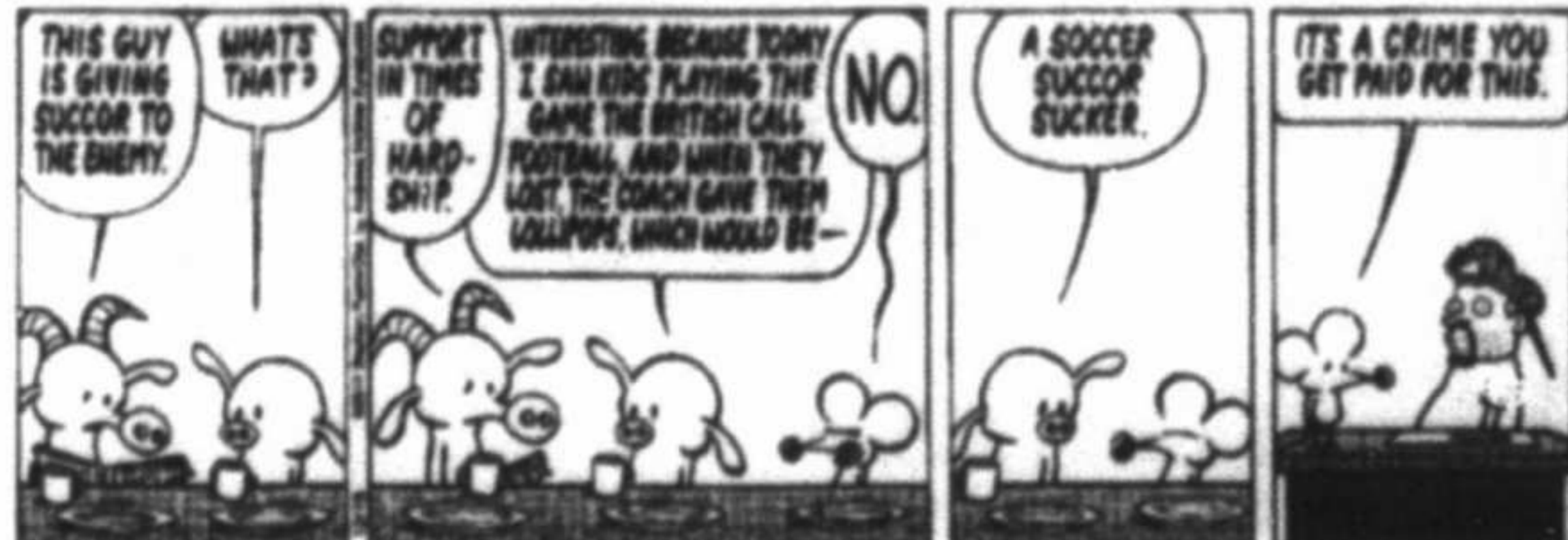
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**Level:**  
1 2  
3 4

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SOLUTION TO FRIDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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

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## DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

1 Overwhelming place for many country folk  
 59 "Is it safe to talk?"  
 60 Calls the game  
 61 Plot markers

**DOWN**

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 2 Large mass  
 3 Modern-day carpe diem  
 4 Went back and forth  
 5 Business issue  
 6 Natural history museum objects  
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 8 Educational placement aids  
 9 Double-stuffed holiday dish  
 10 Pro's call  
 11 Generally unstressed  
 12 Stiff-legged stride  
 13 Twitchy  
 14 Chair accessory  
 21 Big name in aluminum history  
 23 Pilot's ideal outcome?  
 25 MLB stats

29 FedEx Cup seeker  
 30 Subject of the biography "Stormy Weather"  
 31 Notwithstanding  
 32 "Big deal"  
 35 Let out for a time  
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 40 Sail  
 44 Ordinary people

46 One may be educated  
 48 Western Wyoming county  
 49 Revolutionary diplomat Silas  
 50 Opening stakes  
 53 "Oh mah...!"  
 56 "Unlikely!"  
 57 Banded Wonderland wear

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

LAMB FLEABAG TEA  
 ALOE LULLABY HAN  
 MADAMABUTTER EGG  
 KITED SLAMMER  
 SATED SEW TEARY  
 TEHRAN SADSONG  
 ARE SOP RECRUITS  
 REF FURELI GOT  
 TOOKCARE LOB FRY  
 UPATREE NOCLUE  
 ERROR KMS TRUSS  
 DESPOTS PLACE  
 SEE MOONLIGHTSON  
 EVA EPISODE ALDA  
 LES DELAYED NYET

xwordeditor@aol.com 12/16/17

By Peter West © 2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

## JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt

**ACROSS**

1. Lottery  
 5. Proportion  
 6. Pay  
 7. Although

**ANSWER**

RINEWN  
 TRIOA  
 AIRES  
 TBELAI

**DOWN**

1. Distorted  
 2. Untouched  
 3. Caustic, cutting  
 4. Forceful, strong

**ANSWER**

PRAEDW  
 RLANUTA  
 VEEOSRI  
 NPTEOT

How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

CLUE: Put on a new coat  
 CLUE: Coater  
 CLUE: Be relevant to

TRIPLE BONUS  
 The circled letters can be unscrambled to form three different BONUS answers.

I would love to hear from you... You can e-mail me at: DLHoyt@aol.com

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## JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Kurek

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

USIES  
 MIYDL  
 LHIRTL  
 BLAYBF

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

THE PAINTING OF THE MOONSHINER'S EQUIPMENT WAS A ---

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

Answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLOAT HAIRY PULPIT EQUATE  
 Answer: After acing the math test, her parents asked how she did, and she answered — ALL RIGHT

## WUZZLES

Each Wuzzle is a word riddle which creates a disguised word, phrase, name, place, saying, etc. For example, NOON GOOD = GOOD AFTERNOON

3 WUZZLES BOOKLETS  
 "The Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.00), "More of the Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.50), and "Wuzzles for Kids" (\$4.25) are available, postpaid, from Wuzzles, Box 1141, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

WORD PUZZLES BY WOOD TOM

1. Shape - Mass  
 2. THE FAKIH

Print Your Answers Here:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Answers:  
 1. A shapeless mass  
 2. The center of the Earth

Created by Tom Underwood © North America Syndicate, 2017  
[www.wuzzlesking.com](http://www.wuzzlesking.com)

12-16

Answers  
 1. A shapeless mass  
 2. The center of the Earth

WUZZLES

BEST IF USED.

TRASHING ONE EGG WASTES 55 GALLONS OF WATER

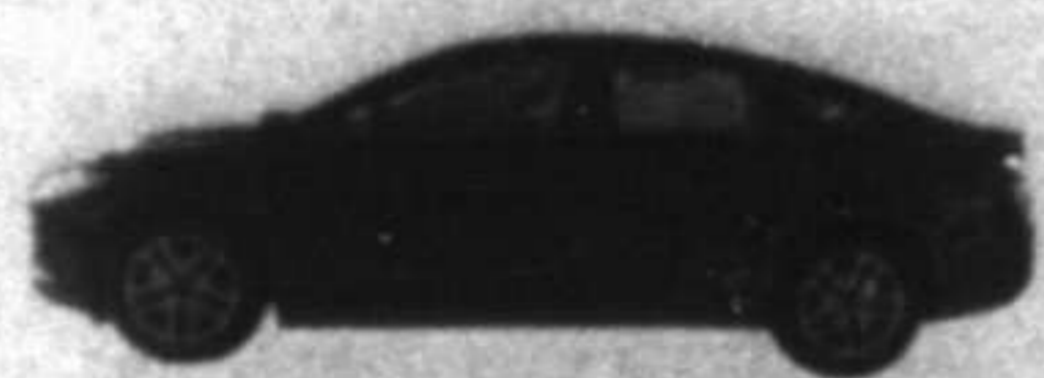
COOK IT. STORE IT. SHARE IT. JUST DON'T WASTE IT.

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# ROGERS



4206 W. WALL - MIDLAND, TX • 432-694-8801



~~Was \$19,995~~  
**NOW \$17,995**

**2016 Ford Fusion**  
8,078 Miles  
Stk# 17318601



~~Was \$33,995~~  
**NOW \$28,995**

**2017 Ford Explorer**  
445 Miles  
Stk# 17312441



~~Was \$22,995~~  
**NOW \$20,995**

**2017 Ford Escape**  
28,059 Miles  
Stk# 1740066



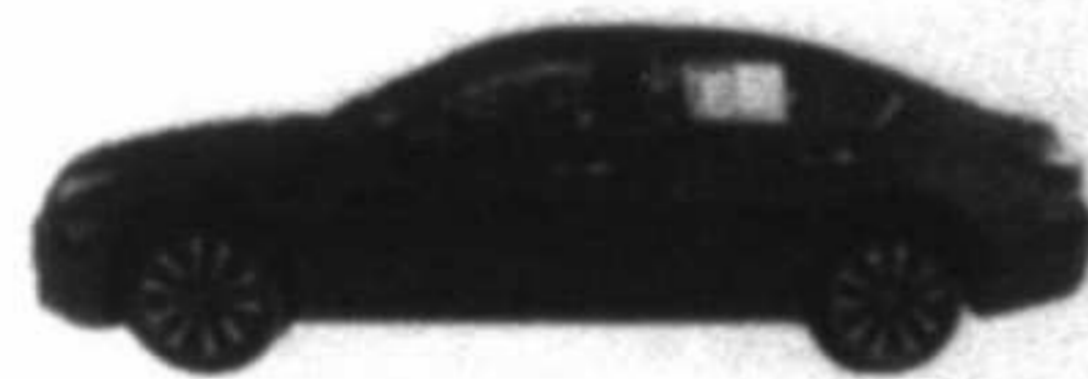
~~Was \$16,995~~  
**NOW \$14,995**

**2016 Toyota Corolla**  
34,242 Miles  
Stk# 1740072



~~Was \$22,995~~  
**NOW \$20,995**

**2017 Nissan Altima**  
33,436 Miles  
Stk# 1740071



~~Was \$22,995~~  
**NOW \$20,995**

**2017 Nissan Altima**  
33,436 Miles  
Stk# 1740071



~~Was \$56,995~~  
**NOW \$51,995**

**2015 Ford F-350**  
34,183 Miles  
Stk# 17304241



~~Was \$53,995~~  
**NOW \$49,995**

**2015 Ford F-250**  
37,994 Miles  
Stk# 17312801



~~Was \$31,995~~  
**NOW \$29,995**

**2013 Ford Expedition**  
62,754 Miles  
Stk# 17304742



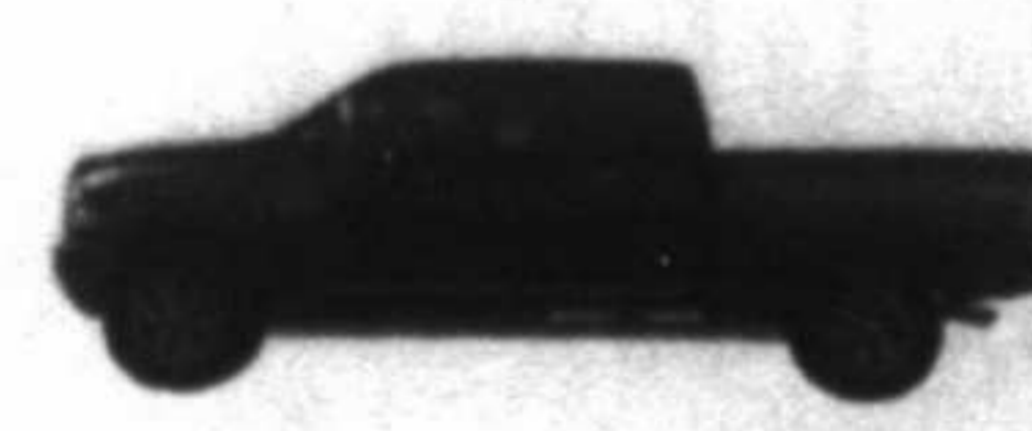
~~Was \$30,995~~  
**NOW \$27,995**

**2015 Ford Mustang GT**  
37,039 Miles  
Stk# 17314351



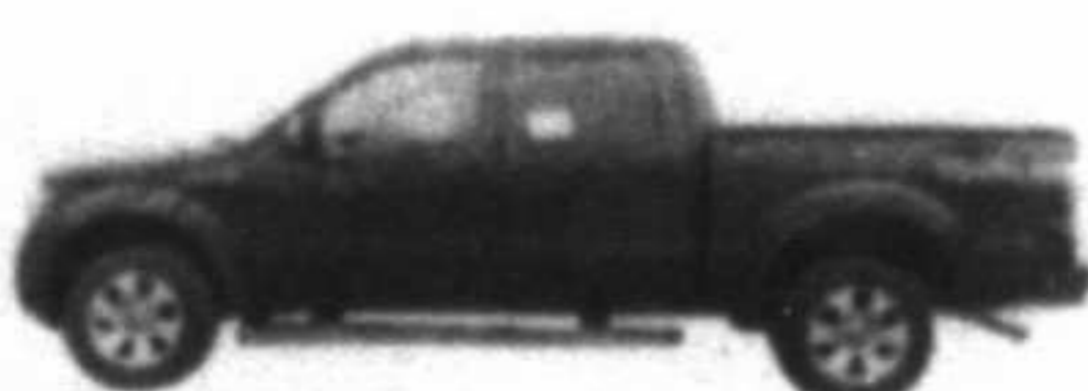
~~Was \$31,995~~  
**NOW \$27,995**

**2015 Ford Mustang GT**  
35,949 Miles  
Stk# 17301321



~~Was \$62,995~~  
**NOW \$59,995**

**2017 Dodge Ram 2500**  
11,161 Miles  
Stk# 17318861



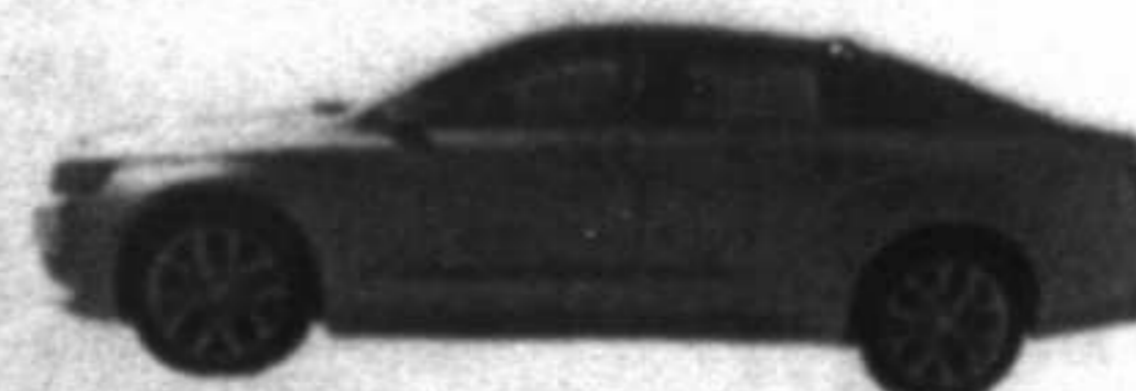
~~Was \$32,995~~  
**NOW \$29,995**

**2014 Ford F-150**  
65,981 Miles  
Stk# 17314353



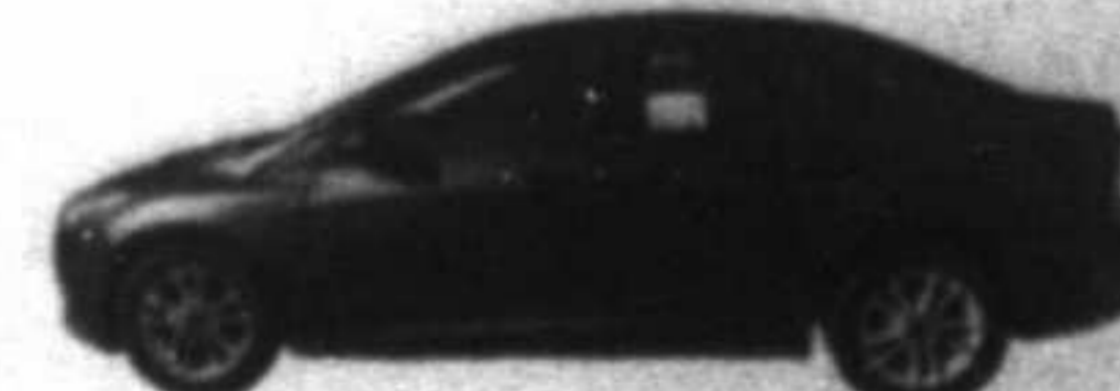
~~Was \$51,995~~  
**NOW \$45,995**

**2015 Ford F-250**  
67,039 Miles  
Stk# 17309691



~~Was \$27,995~~  
**NOW \$23,995**

**2017 Chevrolet Impala**  
22,173 Miles  
Stk# 1740052




~~Was \$15,995~~  
**NOW \$12,995**

**2016 Ford Focus**  
45,394 Miles  
Stk# 1740068

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**Location: Midland, TX**

WellDog is a fast-growing energy services company, with headquarters in Laramie, Wyoming and offices in Denver and Midland. The company also has operations in Australia and China. We are recruiting for the following three positions in the Midland, TX area:

**Sales Manager:** A highly motivated sales manager to drive growth in the Permian Basin.

- Minimum 10 years of proven sales experience in the oil and gas industry.
- Experience in Completions, Production and/or Geoscience preferred
- Excellent communication skills are required.
- Highly motivated and energetic

**Sales Engineer:** An experienced engineer with a desire to support technical sales in the Permian Basin.

- 5-10 years of operational experience with a willingness to learn sales, or 5 years technical sales in the oil and gas industry is required
- Experience in Completions, Production and/or Geoscience preferred
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to generate technical material to support sales and marketing is a plus

**Field Technicians:** From entry level to supervisory roles now open.

- Entry level positions with 1-2 years of experience
- Supervisor position with 5+ years of experience
- Must have regard for the highest levels of safety
- Detail oriented and a desire to get the job done on time, on budget and without any safety issues.

All successful applicants will have demonstrated an ability to work and communicate as a team and pursue WellDog's mission.

We offer excellent compensation, career progression, and the opportunity to contribute to WellDog's continuing success. To apply, e-mail your resume to [careers@welldog.com](mailto:careers@welldog.com) and reference the position for which you are applying.

*WellDog is an equal opportunity employer.*

**CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Clerical Associate**  
Now hiring individual with strong computer skills, billing background helpful. Up to \$16 per hour depending on experience. Contact HR Department at 800-296-2542

**ENERGY AND UTILITIES**

**Design Engineer**  
Natural Gas Services Group has an immediate opening for a Design Engineer. Responsibilities: Software improvement, design equipment, cost estimates, scheduling, client interaction and other duties as assigned. Qualifications: Strong computer skills, cost analysis capabilities, time management skills, and must be detail oriented. Education: Bachelor of Science in Engineering is required. BSME or BSCE preferred. Experience: 5 years of experience in natural gas business or related business. Knowledge of industry codes, piping and vessel codes, industrial drafting standards and symbols, wiring, instrumentation and client interaction are essential. Excellent Salary and Benefit package. For more information or to submit your resume, contact [employment@ngsg.com](mailto:employment@ngsg.com) or call 432-262-2700.

**MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE**

**District Manager**  
The Midland Reporter-Telegram  
The MRT has an opening for a Circulation District Manager. This individual would be responsible for overseeing a delivery force of independent contractors/couriers, as well as performing other duties involved with the delivery and distribution of our newspaper, other contracted products, and niche publications.  
This position requires excellent communication skills, must be able to work flexible hours (largely in the early morning hours including weekends), have reliable transportation. Candidate with previous newspaper delivery experience preferred but not required.  
This is a full time salaried position, eligible for full benefits including health, vision, dental and paid time off with excellent starting salary.  
To apply, please email your resume and cover letter to [hr@midlandreporter.com](mailto:hr@midlandreporter.com). No phone calls please.

**OTHER JOBS**

**BSE BORDER STATES**  
BSE Border States  
Border States Electric - Midland is looking for a City Desk Rep (Counter Sales) & a Delivery Driver/Warehouse Associate to join our growing team.  
Employee Owned - Competitive Benefits - Advancement Opportunities  
Apply online at [careers.borderstates.com](http://careers.borderstates.com) and search for Texas openings.

**RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES**

**BUFFALO WILD WINGS**  
Now hiring all positions. Apply in person from 2-5pm. Buffalo Wild Wings 5107 W. Wadley Ave.

**SKILLED LABOR**

**Commercial Construction Project Superintendents**  
Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring commercial construction project superintendents. Competitive pay plus excellent benefits. Experience in commercial construction a must. Please send resumes to 5205 W. Wadley Ave. Midland, Texas 79707 or email them to Billy Mays at [MidTexofMidland.com](mailto:MidTexofMidland.com). You may also fax your resume to (432) 684-9627.

**OTHER JOBS**

**UINTAH SURVEYOR**  
**Land Survey Crew Chiefs**  
UINTAH is looking to hire in Sandhole, TX | Corbush, NM  
Qualifications:  
• Minimum of 2 years experience with Trimble GPS Surveying Products  
• Experience in Oil and Gas Surveying  
• Experience collecting survey data to support Civil Engineering design projects  
Excellent benefit package and competitive wages  
Apply online at [www.uintah.com](http://www.uintah.com)  
No employment and/or non-employment agency fees and all applicants must have a valid driver's license with an MVR that meets the company's requirements.

**TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS**

**DRIVER NEEDED**  
Hazmat, Tankers & Class A CDL  
Contact Roman Hernandez 432-894-1416  
Fernando Uribe 432-558-0998  
Send Resume to: [Lynne.Garcia@CatalystOilfield.com](mailto:Lynne.Garcia@CatalystOilfield.com)

**Class A CDL Drivers & Leasing Owner/ Operator**  
Total Logistics Corp. is hiring Class A CDL drivers. Multiple positions are available. Must have a clean driving record and be able to pass a DOT drug/alcohol test and physical. Also leasing owner/ operators. Please apply at 2701 Earhart Drive, Midland, TX or call 432-581-8850 between 9-5 M-F for more info.

**LOCAL TRUCK DRIVER CDL A OR B / SHOT CREW MEMBER**

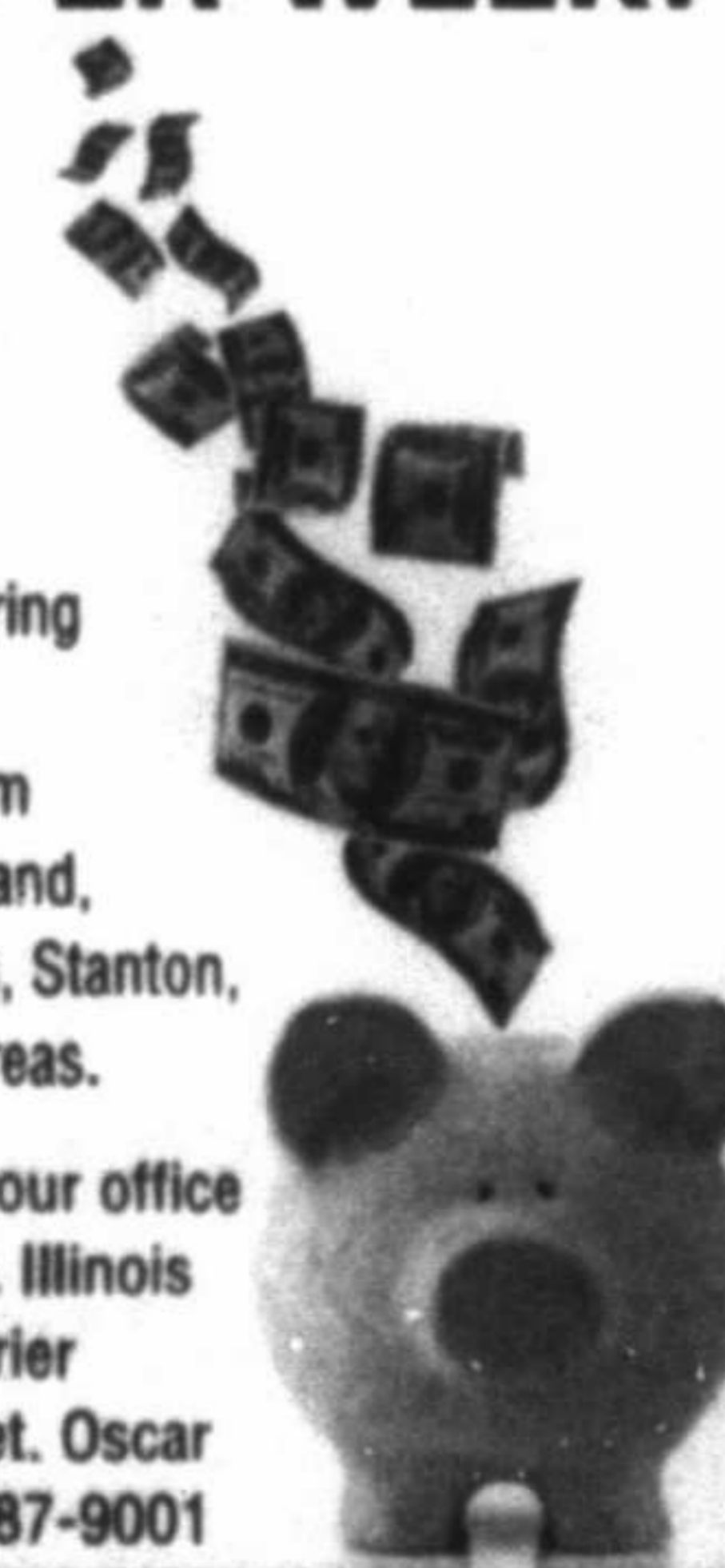
Austin Powder Company is hiring at our Midland, TX location.  
Duties:  
• Operate company vehicles to transport products to and from job sites.  
• Loading/unloading product for delivery, frequent lifting of 40-50 pound product bags or boxes.  
• Perform labor support at job sites and location.  
Qualifications:  
• Class A or B CDL  
• 2+ years' CDL driving experience.  
• HAZMAT, Tanker & Air Brakes endorsements preferred  
• Able to work outside in all weather conditions  
Benefits:  
• Medical / Dental / Vision  
• 401(k) / Profit Sharing  
Apply at [www.austinpowder.com](http://www.austinpowder.com)  
Click on Careers  
Or forward resume to Austin Powder Company, Email: [humanresources@austinpowder.com](mailto:humanresources@austinpowder.com) or Fax: (214) 991-1988  
EEO Employer M/F/V/O/Disabled

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Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone?? Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram in the in the Midland, Odessa, Andrews, Stanton, and Big Spring areas.

Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Oscar Ronquillo 432-687-9001



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State Farm  
Home Office: Bloomington, IL

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS



**Agri-Empresa Transportation, LLC**

6001 West Industrial  
Midland, Texas 79706

*Agri-Empresa Transportation, LLC*

## EXPERIENCED HAZMAT DRIVERS NEEDED

- ★ NEW PAY PLAN ★
- ★ GUARANTEE OF \$1,500/WEEK MINIMUM ★
- ★ CDL-Hazmat & Tanker Endorsements Required ★
- ★ Primarily Working in The Permian Basin ★

*Complete Benefits Package Includes:*

Health-Dental-Vision	Flex Spending	Paid Vacations
Prescription Card	Life Insurance	401K
Short/Long Term Disability		

Contact: Gary Carlisle  
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Midland, Texas 79706  
(432) 694-0778

**Agri-Empresa Transportation, LLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer**

# mrt classifieds

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Legal and Public Notices

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Pursuant to the Decree and Order for Partition by Public Sale entered in Cause No. 7104 in the 118th District Court in Martin County, Texas, the following property will be sold by public auction:

THE SURFACE ONLY OF SECTION 43, BLOCK 37, TOWNSHIP 1 NORTH, TEXAS & PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 233, MARTIN COUNTY, TEXAS, CONTAINING 640.81 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.

Such sale will be for cash, which may also be in the form of certified funds. The public auction will take place in front of the northeast corner of the Martin County Courthouse on the 2nd day of January, 2018 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

For information about the property, please contact Brent Preston at (806) 470-0464.

Legal and Public Notices

Notice on Sale of Personal Property to satisfy a landlords lien for CASH ONLY. Sale date is January 11, 2018

Aztec Storage Center  
500 S Midland DR  
Midland TX 79703  
Time 10:00am

#85 Jose Avalos  
#121 Roberto Galindo  
#192 Erika Lara

Aztec Storage Center  
1131 E 52nd  
Odessa TX 79762  
Time 11:00

#0-83 Jerry Cullison

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF CHATTEE G. YEATMAN, DECEASED.

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of December, 2017, Letters Testamentary were issued to John Karl Griggs as Independent Executor in proceedings in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, in Probate, styled "In the Matter of the Estate of CHATTEE G. YEATMAN, Deceased", being Cause No. P19201 in that Court, and which proceedings are still pending. All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same to John Karl Griggs, c/o Michael T. Morgan, Morgan Leeton, P.C., 400 W. Illinois, Suite 120, Midland, Texas 79701, within the time prescribed by law.

**The Bottom Line**

76 percent of adults have read a daily newspaper in the past five days.

Midland Reporter-Telegram  
MRT  
201 EAST ILLINOIS AVENUE • MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701 • 432-682-6311

**Autos For Sale-Lease**

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2001 TOYOTA Avalon. White. Has engine replacement, new tune up, new car stereo, new tires and rims. Must see! \$4,500. Call (432) 348-0041.

2008 HONDA Accord EXL. gray / leather / brand new tires / great condition. 108K miles, runs great. \$7,950.00. Call (432) 888-2255

CADILLAC 2006 DTS. One owner. 60K actual miles. Garage kept. Have records of all service & oil changes. \$9950. 432-212-1830

NISSAN 2007 Sentra. good condition. 432-230-6298

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROY EDWIN KINSEY, JR., DECEASED.

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Roy Edwin Kinsey, Jr., Deceased, were issued to Kristien Lillian Kinsey Dewesse, who qualified on the 12th day of December, 2017, in Cause No. P19268, County Court, Midland County, Texas, which is still pending, and that Kristien Lillian Kinsey Dewesse now holds such Letters. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same within the time prescribed by law. Claims should be filed to:

Kristien Lillian Kinsey Dewesse  
Independent Executor  
c/o Philip W. McCrory, Esq.  
Kelly, Hart & Hallman LLP  
201 Main Street, Suite 2500  
Fort Worth, Texas 79102

**Fax Your Ad**  
682-6999

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF WAYNE A. PIETTE, DECEASED.

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of December, 2017, Letters Testamentary were issued to Virginia M. Piette as Independent Executrix in proceedings in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, in Probate, styled "In the Matter of the Estate of WAYNE A. PIETTE, Deceased", being Cause No. P19271 in that Court, and which proceedings are still pending. All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same to Virginia M. Piette, c/o Michael T. Morgan, Morgan Leeton, P.C., 400 W. Illinois, Suite 120, Midland, Texas 79701, within the time prescribed by law.

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CHARLES E. DAVIS, Deceased, were issued on December 5, 2017, in Cause No. P19248, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to: RENEE BASHAM

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law

c/o RENEE BASHAM  
4213 Nelson Road,  
Midland, Texas 79707

DATED the 13th day of December, 2017.

Glen G. Haisel  
Attorney for RENEE BASHAM  
State Bar No.: 08805700  
620 N. Grant, Ste. 1100  
Odessa, TX 79701  
Telephone: (432) 332-8090  
Facsimile: (432) 335-8442  
E-mail: glen.haisel@gmail.com

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Sammy Edward Oden, Deceased, were issued on December 12, 2017, in Cause No. P19228, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to: Amber Maritha Bistock.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o Austin L. Ramsey  
308 N. Marientfield, Ste. 700  
Midland, Texas 79701

DATED the 12th day of December, 2017.

/s/ AUSTIN L. RAMSEY  
Austin L. Ramsey  
Attorney for Amber Maritha Bistock  
State Bar No.: 24073484  
300 N. Marientfield Suite 700  
Midland, TX 79701  
Telephone: (432) 683-3361  
Facsimile: (432) 683-2567  
E-mail: aramsey@lawfirm.com

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship of the Person and Estate of Jerome L. Pokrzywnicki, were issued on November 29, 2017, in Cause No. G12817 pending in the County Court at Law of Midland County, Texas, to: Covenant Outreach, LLC, Guardian of the Person and Estate of Jerome L. Pokrzywnicki.

The mailing address of the Guardian is in Taylor County, Texas as follows:

Covenant Outreach, LLC  
c/o S. Clinton Nix  
P.O. Box 59  
Ablene, Texas 79604

All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED November 30, 2017.

BRADBURY & NIX  
P.O. Box 59,  
Ablene, Texas 79604  
Phone: (325) 673-7317  
Fax: (325) 673-3833

By: S. Clinton Nix  
State Bar No. 15043300

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LEE ROY SHANNON, DECEASED.

Notice is hereby given that on the 12th day of December, 2017, Letters Testamentary were issued to Randy Lee Shannon as Independent Executor in proceedings in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, in Probate, styled "In the Matter of the Estate of Lee Roy Shannon, Deceased", being Cause No. P-19248 in that Court, and which proceedings are still pending. All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same to Randy Lee Shannon, c/o Alan H. Meyers, Law Offices of Alan H. Meyers, P.C., 505 N. Big Spring, Suite 104, Midland, Texas 79701, within the time prescribed by law.

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF PHYLLIS LOEENE REAMES, DECEASED.

Notice is hereby given that on the 12th day of December, 2017, Letters Testamentary were issued to Eva Jean Ward as Independent Executrix in proceedings in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, in Probate, styled "In the Matter of the Estate of Phyllis Loetna Reames, Deceased", being Cause No. P-19252 in that Court, and which proceedings are still pending. All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same to Eva Jean Ward, c/o Alan H. Meyers, Law Offices of Alan H. Meyers, P.C., 505 N. Big Spring, Suite 104, Midland, Texas 79701, within the time prescribed by law.

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of HAROLD EUGENE RAGLAND, Deceased, were issued on November 30, 2017, in Docket No. P19182 Pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to: RONALD LEE RAGLAND and NANCY ANN (HINSON) MEADOWS.

The residence of the Co-Independent Administrators is in Hockley County, Texas. The post office address is:

c/o Richard L. Husen  
Attorney at Law  
P. O. Box 1089  
Levelland, Texas 79336

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 30th day of November, 2017

RICHARD L. HUSEN, ATTORNEY AT LAW  
607 8th Street  
P. O. Box 1089  
Levelland, Texas 79336  
(806) 894-3128 phone  
(806) 894-7233 fax  
richard@husenlaw@gmail.com

By Richard L. Husen  
SBN 10323700

Legal and Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Bids(s) will be received until 4:00 P.M., January 10, 2018 to be opened at 4:00 P.M., in the Office of the City Secretary, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 18000620

For: Labor, material, equipment and supervision necessary for the abatement of the Building of the Southwest for the General Services Department.

A pre-bid proposal conference will be held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, 10:00 a.m. local time, at the first floor lobby of the Building of the Southwest, 310 West Texas Avenue, Midland, Texas. All Abatement Contractors are required to attend. Attendance is mandatory.

To receive a copy of the request for bids, please contact the City of Midland Purchasing Office at 432-685-7234 or email us at purchasing@midlandtexas.gov

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division  
City of Midland, Texas

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closing at 2:30pm on Wednesday, December 20th for our Annual Christmas Party.

Merry Christmas AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

MRT Midland Reporter-Telegram

**Attention Readers**

In observance of **Christmas Day**

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed Monday, December 25th, 2017

**Advertising Deadlines**

**Classified Word Ads**

**Publishing On: Deadline is:**

Mon., Dec 25th Fri., Dec 22nd, 4pm

Tues., Dec 26th Fri., Dec 22nd, 4pm

**Classified Display Ads**

**Publishing On: Deadline is:**

Mon., Dec 25th Thurs., Dec 21st, 2pm

Tues., Dec 26th Thurs., Dec. 21st, 2pm

**Retail Display Ads**

**Publishing On: Deadline is:**

Mon., Dec 25th Thurs., Dec 21st, 2pm

Tues., Dec 26th Thurs., Dec 21st, 2pm

**CIRCULATION HOURS**

Customer Service calls will be taken Monday, December 25th from 7 AM-10 AM only



**We Sell**

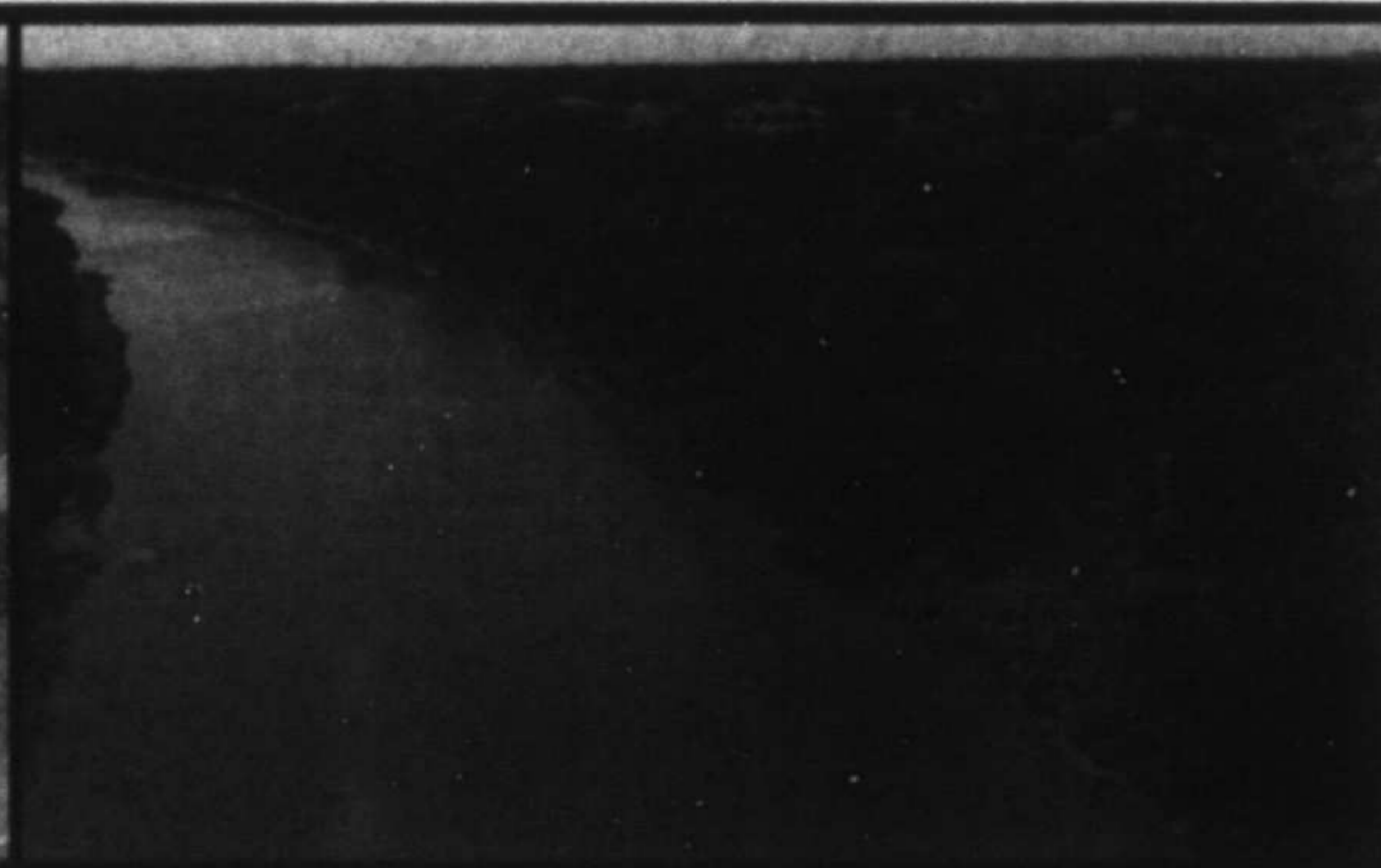
**KNIEPER**  
TEAM  
REAL ESTATE

*Granbury.com*

817-219-0456      30 Minutes from Fort Worth



PRIME LAKEFRONT PROPERTY WITH OVER 200' OF LAKE FRONTAGE and million dollar views. Lots of trees with the lake practically at your back door. This home features a bonus room on the 2nd floor which could be used as a fourth bedroom, game room or home office. Kitchen has all black appliances beautifully accented by granite counter tops & a breakfast bar. Priced at \$475,000



CUSTOM BUILT RIVERFRONT HOME IN GATED COUNTRY CLUB sits high on a bluff & enjoys panoramic views of the Brazos River. This property boasts 3 living areas each with its own heat-pump HVAC system, 20 ft ceilings in front foyer, multi-step crown molding in every room, and a cook's kitchen. Great patio, great location, unlimited golf, enjoy the Brazos River. Priced at \$449,900



GOLF COURSE HOME IN PECAN PLANTATION enjoys beautiful green grass to look at with very little to maintain. Steel framed garden home takes full advantage of the view of the course & pond and boasts a charming wrap around porch for outdoor living at its finest. Luxurious master suite with his & her vanities & separate closets. This one is perfect! Priced at \$329,000



COUNTRY CLUB LIVING FOR AN AFFORDABLE PRICE. Open concept home with tons of recent updates. All New Solid Core Doors (inside & out) all new Graphite Kitchen Appliances, all new Cedar privacy fence with steel posts, new roof & gutters, new water heater, exterior trim is freshly painted. Just across the street from riverfront park. Priced at \$227,900

# Who's Who For Service

You can advertise your business for as little as \$47.00 monthly. Call 682-6222 for details.

<p><b>Accounting/Financial</b></p> <p><b>APPLIANCE REPAIR</b> REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers &amp; Dryers. Free Service Call with Repair. Free Removal. Full Warranty, Very Affordable Prices. M&amp;M Appliances 1007 N Midkiff, Midland Call 432-570-8278</p>	<p><b>APPLIANCE REPAIR</b> REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers &amp; Dryers. Free Service Call with Repair. Free Removal. Full Warranty, Very Affordable Prices. M&amp;M Appliances 1007 N Midkiff, Midland Call 432-570-8278</p>	<p><b>Accounting/Financial</b></p> <p><b>APPLIANCE REPAIR</b> REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers &amp; Dryers. Free Service Call with Repair. Free Removal. Full Warranty, Very Affordable Prices. M&amp;M Appliances 1007 N Midkiff, Midland Call 432-570-8278</p>
<p><b>Home Cleaning</b></p> <p>ALL IN one cleaning done right, also offering private sitting. C.N.A. Nurse and references available. Contact Segura at 432-269-4580</p> <p>Clearing Specialist. Excellent references. Get ready for the holidays! 432-661-8622</p> <p><b>EXPERIENCED HOUSE CLEANING</b> 432-661-0493</p>	<p><b>Home Cleaning</b></p> <p>ALL IN one cleaning done right, also offering private sitting. C.N.A. Nurse and references available. Contact Segura at 432-269-4580</p> <p>Clearing Specialist. Excellent references. Get ready for the holidays! 432-661-8622</p> <p><b>EXPERIENCED HOUSE CLEANING</b> 432-661-0493</p>	<p><b>Home Cleaning</b></p> <p>ALL IN one cleaning done right, also offering private sitting. C.N.A. Nurse and references available. Contact Segura at 432-269-4580</p> <p>Clearing Specialist. Excellent references. Get ready for the holidays! 432-661-8622</p> <p><b>EXPERIENCED HOUSE CLEANING</b> 432-661-0493</p>
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## GARAGE SALES

CALL 682-6222 TODAY!

**Downsizing Sale**  
by Wall St Antiques  
2513 Cimmaron  
Fri. & Sat. 9-12  
Tools, motorcycle lift, leather, clothing, sofa, bar stools, kitchen, decor, patio table & chairs, tables, secretary, trees w/irrig, lots of household misc.

**Moving Sale**  
by Wall St Antiques  
3223 Elms - Midland  
Fri. 9-2 Sat. 9-12  
Kitchenaide refrigerator, whirlpool washer & dryer, dining table & 6 chairs, full bed, armoire, micro fiber sofa, desk, BBQ, TV table, cameras, marble mantle clock set, Goss girls, bike, leather working tools, books, Vanity, Xbox 360, dresser, vintage stereo, vintage records, VHS tapes, seasonal clothing, book shelves, small kitchen appliances, carving jars, vintage dishes, lot of household miscellaneous.

**Garage-Estate-Yard Sale**

**Moving Sale Inside**  
2400 Goodfellow, Midland, Saturday 9am-3:30pm. See estatesales.net. 432-635-4784

**Yard-Garage Sale**

**2918 W. WALL STE. C**  
Saturday. Furniture, shoes, jewelry, knit knick.

**410 EASTWOOD** Friday 8-1, Saturday 8-1. Large VHS collection with player, record collection, rock & country with stereo, DVD's & players, tools, boots, blue jeans, 8 track player & tapes, old radios, bikes & mowers.

**2401 NEELY AVE.** Friday & Saturday 9am-2pm. Christmas, wedding, deep freeze & miscellaneous!

**Saturday Dec. 16th** 8am - 7 at 804 Candelstick Dr. Bikes, toys, gazo pack n play, baby changing table, car seat with stroller, baby and kids clothing, kids shoes, kitchen items + home decor & much more!!!

**The Bottom Line**

As household income, education levels and job responsibility increases, so does readership.

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<p><b>Events and Notices</b></p> <p>General Announcement</p> <p>Thank You Jesus! Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4</p> <p><b>Passenger Cars</b></p> <p>VOLKSWAGEN 2007 Beetle, 79K miles. Good tires, new battery, new fuel pump. Runs well. \$4500. Call Edward 432-352-8938</p> <p><b>Antique and Vintage</b></p> <p>1965 SHELBY Cobra Replica, 1500 miles, custom built small block 427, 528 HP, 5 speed Tremec transmission. \$45,000.00 (432) 661-0233.</p> <p><b>RWD and SUV</b></p> <p>2015 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SPORT 5 4X4, mint condition, clean carfax, white w/ black appearance group by Mopar w/ black 3 piece hard top. 41,000 mi., \$29,900. 432-889-8337</p> <p><b>ORIGINAL PRICE</b> \$49,900, now priced \$8,999! 1999 Lexus LX470 SUV, black, garage kept, regularly serviced. Call after 5pm 432-682-6139</p>	<p><b>Merchandise</b></p> <p>Mix of electronics &amp; Sale</p> <p>LAST MINUTES Christmas Shoppers, Hobby Crafts by Don, wood-on-cross, rifle style pens &amp; assorted knick-knack. 4304 Brookdale Drive - Midland, Sat. 10h &amp; Sun. 17h - all day 432-262-2387</p> <p>OAK, PECAN, Hickory, mesquite, pinon. 432-209-0416 or 325-782-4262</p>	<p><b>Real Estate Rental-Sale</b></p> <p>Residential Rentals</p> <p>Apartment Rent Unfurn</p> <p>ONE BORN APT. Bills paid, \$500/mo, \$100 deposit. Small Trailer, pay electric &amp; bus fare \$350/mo, \$100 deposit. Call 432-296-2023</p> <p>Condo/Thome Rent Unfurn</p> <p>3200 ELMA Drive, Very nice townhome 3 bedroom 3 baths, fireplace, double car garage, sprinkler system, nice trees, gated patio area. \$1,800 per month &amp; \$750 deposit. Call 432-230-0157 or 432-230-3671</p> <p>House Rent Unfurn</p> <p>Brand new remodeled 3 bedroom 1 bath. Modern finishes, 2 car garage, near downtown with view of Midland Memorial. \$1,500/month bills paid, \$1,500 deposit, 2700 W OHIO Call Arvadae at 432-268-6009</p> <p>2 Bedroom, 1 bath Duplex, 401 "A" W Hardy Ave. 79701. \$900/mo, \$1,000 deposit. Call 432-528-7810.</p> <p>3 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 car garage. \$1100/mo. Midland Lease to own. 575-937-9377</p> <p>Residential Sales</p> <p>Home for Sale</p> <p>HOME FOR SALE GARDEN CITY, TX. 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH, WITH 1200 SQ FT METAL BUILDING, 2 CAR GARAGE AND SHOP, ALL ON 3 LOTS. 3250.00 CALL 432-661-2687</p>	<p><b>Residential Sales</b></p> <p>Single Family Homes</p> <p>\$588,000.00 1906 SCR 1133 in Greenwood Subdivision. Gorgeous 4 bedroom, 3 bath with two living areas, office, game room/cinema cave, 3,335 Sq. Ft. Outside features include large covered patio, sprinkler system, fenced yard, three car garage, barn, and a wonderful pool. Large parking pad leads to 24,200 sq ft with overhead door. All of this site on 3 acres in one of Greenwood's finest subdivisions. 432-664-7272.</p> <p>LIQUIDATION OF 2 divorced homes in Midland, TX. 1608 W Kansas &amp; 2612 N Garfield. Call for price. 214-356-6244 Realtor</p> <p><b>Lots and Land</b></p> <p>LAND FOR sale! Midland area, 0.161 acres, 604 N. Lee Street, Midland, TX. 79701. Please call Raul at 505-450-8290</p> <p><b>Ranches</b></p> <p>GREAT 150 Acre Ranch near Christoval, paved road \$1,995 / Ac. Call agent \$12-656-3785, A&amp;G Land Mgt.</p> <p><b>Lots and Land</b></p> <p>500 ACRES +/- Close to Lake Ivy. Lots of deer, turkey and quail. For more information call 806-790-3256.</p> <p><b>Hunting Leases</b></p> <p>HUNTING, RETIREMENT, INVESTMENT PROPERTY. 33-40 ACRES IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES: EDWARDS, KINNEY, CONCHO, COKE AND MENARD. SCENIC VIEWS, NATIVE GAME WITH FREE RANGING EXOTICS IN SOME COUNTIES. STARTING AT \$2.916 DOWN, \$489/MO. CALL VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-676-0720 ranchesreporter@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Lots and Land</b></p> <p>WEST TEXAS TRANS PEGOS AREA, NEAR LAKE ARISTAD. 40-65 ACRES MESQUITE, CEDAR, BRUSH COVER WHITE OAK, JAVELINA, BLUE QUAIL, TURKEY, DOVE. STARTING AT \$2,390 DOWN, \$349/MO. CALL VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 888-285-0199 ranchesreporter@gmail.com</p>
<p><b>Let Classifieds Work for You! Call 432-682-6222</b></p> <p><b>FREDON R12 WANTED</b> Certified buyer pays CASH for cylinders &amp; cans. (312) 291-9169, rbl@regisart.com</p> <p><b>LEGAL NOTICE</b></p> <p>Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 2:00 P.M., January 31, 2018 to be opened at 2:00 P.M., in the City Secretary's Office, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):</p> <p>Bid No. 18000841</p> <p>For: Real Estate Broker Service</p> <p>If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.</p> <p>Purchasing Division City of Midland, Texas</p>	<p><b>Classified CAN</b> 682-6222</p> <p><b>READY-RANCH</b> WWW.READY-RANCH.COM</p> <p>• East County 11,150 ac. +/- of Saddle Creek, 4 houses, gas/water/sewer, 888 &amp; 888, creek, 1000, Midland past made 600 gal tank. \$790,000</p> <p>• 4,712 ac. Saddle Creek, canyon, whitetail and quail. \$1,200,000</p> <p>• 1,771 ac. whitetail, creek, blinds and leaders, great view and high front valley. \$900,000</p> <p>• Borden County 560 ac. over 1 mile SOLD creek, blinds, leaders, electric changes. \$1,200,000</p> <p>• 265 ac. Pecos Creek, New Livingstone, 200 acres owned by 2016. \$1,200,000</p> <p>• Borden County 542 ac. canyon, whitetail, great view, 2000 acres owned by 2016. \$1,200,000</p> <p>• 150 ac. big canyon, 2016. \$1,200,000</p> <p>• Borden County 120 ac. Superior Springs SOLD dirt and whitetail, 1000, creek, 1000, Midland past made 600 gal tank. \$1,200,000</p> <p>(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777 No Realtors - Buy Direct!!! Deal with Landowners that know the Country!!! Owner Financing Available!!!</p>		

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# MRT Homes Gallery

View The Homes Gallery on our website at [mrt.com/homes](http://mrt.com/homes)

**OPEN SAT. 2-3:30**



**1912 FRINGWOOD DR.**  
Pristine 4 bedroom, 3 bath home in Grassland West! Super floorplan, sequestered 4th bedroom, open living area off oversized kitchen w/granite. Gracious formal living & dining! Walk-in closets, laundry room w/irrot sink, extra deep & oversized garage! \$539,900. Shown by Chris Beckett 432-349-7008.

PINE & BECKETT REALTORS 686-7000

**OPEN SAT. 4-5:30**



**6912 SABINE DR.**  
This one pulls out all the stops! Spacious 4 bedroom, 3 bath home that is outstanding! Playroom! Open, light and bright! Kitchen area offers exceptional appointments! Outside Pergola! Shown by Chris Beckett 432-349-7008.

PINE & BECKETT REALTORS 686-7000


**OPEN SAT. 2-3:30**



**3300 MARBLE LN.**  
Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, Rock Point model! High ceilings, open kitchen, dining & breakfast area w/rooftop! Huge kitchen loaded w/ tons of cabinets, Ssg, master bedroom, great entertaining floor plan! Fantastic outdoor grilling area w/concrete counters, Pergola! \$469,900.

PINE & BECKETT REALTORS 686-7000


**OPEN SAT. 1-3**



**3614 SPRINGMONT**  
Midland Magic! Nice working for Dad & grand 4 bedroom, 2 bath family home for Mom. Cozy fireplace, Gourmet granite kitchen, terrific master suite. Double garage. \$230K! Hostess: Jennifer Stebbins, REALTOR.

SIMS & GUESS, REALTORS 432-368-6800

**OPEN SAT. 1-2**



**2904 MOSS AVE. - \$259,499**  
Cute & spacious 30.5 low maintenance townhome across from park! Lots of storage and natural light flows through the courtyard into a bright living with fireplace, built-in & eat bar! Charming kitchen with single storage, butcher block island, double ovens, eat-in area & view of a patio with fountain! Two master bedrooms each with a walk-in closet share a Jack & Jill bath! Master suite has high ceilings, plantation shutters, higher walk-in closets & master separate bath with more storage! For more information contact: Sherry Brumby 432-424-0116 or April Stebbins 432-424-3108.

KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY 520-5151

**OPEN SUN. 2-3**



**5000 CARMEL COURT - \$350,000**  
WOW! Custom built! Beautifully landscaped! Home carved & lots of natural light throughout this open concept with beautiful stone fireplace, tile floors & views of the water & large backyard! Lovely kitchen with island granite, stainless appliances, double ovens, gas cooking & walk-in pantry! Spacious master suite with a jetted tub, dual closets & H&M walk-in closet with built-in! Two master bedrooms each with a walk-in closet share a spacious full bath! For more information contact Bill Lester 432-349-1198 or Cheryl Price at 432-230-1168.

KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY 520-5151



Visit: [www.pbhor.org](http://www.pbhor.org)  
for a complete list of open houses this weekend.

## SELLING HOMES IN MIDLAND?

Advertising in the MRT Homes Gallery is easy!

Just email [mrthomesgallery@mrt.com](mailto:mrthomesgallery@mrt.com) by 2pm 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!



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