

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2018

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BRIDGE STRIKE

Another overpass was hit by a truck.

Page 2A



LEE DEFEATS PERMIAN

Lee High girls basketball defeats Odessa Permian 50-30.

Page 1C

DA: Former MPD officer indicted Tuesday

Christian Abraham was arrested in connection with fatal wreck

By Mary Dearen
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Christian Abraham, the Midland Police Department officer involved in a fatal wreck on Christmas Eve, was arrested Tuesday on manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide charges, according to Midland County District Attorney Laura Nodolf.

Abraham — who bonded out later

Tuesday — was terminated on Monday according to Police Chief Steve Henry.

"We take our profession and duty to serve very seriously," he said in a phone interview.

"Unfortunately, in this situation, Officer Abraham came up short. In turn, his employment was terminated



Abraham

(Monday)."

A Midland County grand jury indicted Abraham on Jan. 17, Nodolf said via email. Criminally negligent homicide is a lesser included offense of manslaughter, she said.

The charges stem from the Dec. 24 wreck at the intersection of Wadley Avenue and Ward Street in which 90-year-old Roy Neely was killed.

The indictment alleges that Neely's death was caused by Abraham "operating

a motor vehicle in a manner unsafe for the conditions of the roadway and by operating a motor vehicle at an unsafe speed and by failing to activate the emergency equipment of the patrol vehicle and by failing to take corrective and evasive action to avoid a collision," Nodolf stated in her email.

Neely was driving a Toyota Prius eastbound on Wadley Avenue at about 11:45 a.m. As he turned north onto Ward

Please see INDICTED/2A

STATE OF OIL AND GAS

Pioneer CEO: Partnership to identify population's needs

By Trevor Hawes
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The oil and gas industry in the Permian Basin is growing, and the population's needs are growing along with it. If tomorrow's problems aren't solved today, the momentum might cease.

Pioneer Natural Resources is spearheading an effort called the Permian Strategic Partnership to develop a plan that addresses a variety of issues in the nation's most-active basin such as educating the workforce of the future, improving health care and constructing roads more suited to the heavy demands of the oil and gas industry.

The partnership involves eight of the top operators and a pair of top service companies in the Permian Basin, Pioneer President and CEO Tim Dove said Tuesday at the Midland Chamber of Commerce's inaugural State of Oil & Gas event. He wouldn't identify all of the companies involved, though Pioneer and Occidental Petroleum have been confirmed as participants.

The event's speaker panel featured Dove; Jody Elliott, president of Occidental Oil & Gas; and Travis Stice, CEO and director of Diamondback Energy, with Steven Pruett, president and CEO of Elevation Resources, serving as moderator.

Dove said the idea of the partnership

Please see NEEDS/2A



Tim Fletcher/Reporter-Telegram

Travis Stice, Director and CEO Diamondback Energy, Jody Elliott, President Oxy Oil & Gas and Tim Dove President and CEO Pioneer Natural Resources, talk with Steven Pruett President and CEO Elevation Resources LLC on Tuesday at the inaugural State of Oil & Gas event put on by the Midland Chamber of Commerce.

Top Permian producers see opportunities for future growth

By Mella McEwen
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Three top Permian Basin producers see the state of the area's oil and gas industry as very solid — and poised to become even healthier.

Tim Dove, president and chief executive officer of Pioneer Natural Resources; Jody Elliott, president of Oxy Oil &

Gas-Domestic; and Travis Stice, chief executive officer and director of Diamondback Energy, addressed the Midland Chamber of Commerce's inaugural "State of Oil and Gas" event Tuesday at the Horseshoe Pavilion.

Moderator Steve Pruett, president and chief executive officer of Elevation Resources, noted for the audience that the three companies have a combined

capitalization of about \$115 billion, "very impressive." The three also account for a million barrels of oil equivalent per day, about 17 percent of Permian Basin daily production and 5 percent of daily U.S. oil and gas production, "very, very impressive."

The three told their audience they see a bright future for the industry, and even forecast an end to the boom-and-bust cycle.

"The boom and bust cycle, I feel, is over," said Dove, who acknowledged that there will be ups and downs but said efficiency gains that continue to drive breakeven prices lower are ending the cycle.

Please see GROWTH/2A

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Price of oil

\$64.47 ▲ \$0.90
March 2018

The big number

2 people are dead and 17 are injured following a school shooting in Kentucky, Page 4A

Word of the Day:

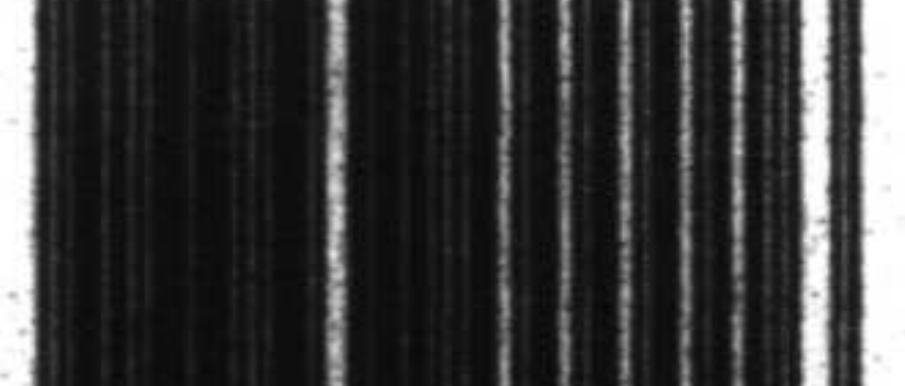
benevolent
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 3A.

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Daily \$2, Sunday \$3



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Business 7C | Classified 1D | Comics 6C | Dear Abby 5C | Lottery 3A | Obituaries 2B | Puzzles 6B | TV 5C

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Driver charged in connection with pedestrian wreck

From staff reports

The driver of a vehicle involved in a pedestrian wreck on Friday is being held on a charge of accident involving personal injury or death, a third-degree felony, according to a press release from the city's spokeswoman.

Elsie Ivelissa Casiano Vazquez was arrested Monday, Elana Ladd said via email. Bond has not yet been set, according to the Midland County Sheriff's Office website.

The pedestrian, a 16-year-old girl who reportedly attends Richard Milburn

Academy, was airlifted to a Lubbock hospital with critical injuries, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article. The Midland Police Department has been told that the girl's condition is improving, Ladd said.

The wreck occurred about 7 a.m. Friday at the intersection of South Lamesa Road and Gist Avenue.

The girl was walking south on Lamesa Road (on the west-side sidewalk) at the intersection of Gist Avenue when she was hit by a Toyota Corolla traveling southbound in the outside lane, according to the previous article.

Another oversize load hits I-20 overpass near Horseshoe

From staff reports

Another oversize load has struck yet another Interstate 20 overpass.

The Texas Department of Transportation Odessa District reported Tuesday that a truck pulling an oversize load hit the Cotton Flat Road overpass that goes over I-20 near the Horseshoe complex. TxDOT officials closed the overpass to evaluate the damage, but the agency said late Tuesday that the bridge would reopen after the beams were wrapped in the evening.

The latest bridge strike

came a little more than a week after a New Mexico man allegedly struck a pair of overpasses on I-20 in eastern Midland and western Stanton.

The Stanton bridge will be closed for weeks or months, according to TxDOT in a previous Reporter-Telegram article. TxDOT attempts to recover repair costs by filing damage claims with responsible parties' insurance companies, Odessa District spokesman Gene Powell said recently.

There have been 13 bridge strikes in the Odessa District since Nov. 1.

According to TxDOT, there have been about 100 bridge strikes of varying degrees over the past seven years. The Cotton Flat overpass was last struck Oct. 23, 2017, three months to the day of Tuesday's incident. It was hit by an oversize load then, as well.

Oversize and overweight load permits are issued by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, not TxDOT. The maximum load height allowed without a permit is 14 feet, according to the agency's website. A route inspection is required when a load height exceeds 18 feet, 11 inches.

STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

SAN ANTONIO

Senator stands trial in fraud case

A Texas state senator is facing fraud charges in connection with his role at a now-defunct oil field services company that federal prosecutors say was a Ponzi scheme.

The federal criminal fraud case against Democratic Sen. Carlos Uresti of San Antonio opened Monday. The nearly dozen charges against Uresti include securities fraud, wire fraud and money laundering. His co-defendant Gary Cain faces nine felony charges and is being tried alongside the lawmaker.

Prosecutors say Uresti pushed a client to invest large portions of a settlement she received in a wrongful death lawsuit in FourWinds Logistics, a fracking sand company that went bankrupt in 2015. Prosecutors say Uresti and Cain lied to investors to make money.

Uresti's attorney says the lawmaker had no knowledge the company's head was squandering money on expenses unrelated to the company's business.

IRVING

Suspect shot by Irving officer on burglary call identified

Police have revealed the identity of a man shot dead by a police officer investigating reports of a car burglary at a Dallas-area apartment complex.

Irving police say 28-year-old Aaron Olivarez Candanoza of Cleveland, Texas, had outstanding warrants on firearms and money laundering charges.

INDICTED

From 1A

Street, his car was hit by a Midland Police Department Crown Victoria being driven by Abraham, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article. After being hit by the police vehicle — which was westbound on Wadley — Neely's car spun around and hit a Ford Expedition that was stopped on Ward facing southbound, according to the article.

Abraham is the fifth MPD officer to have been terminated or to have resigned since September 2016, according to previous Reporter-Telegram articles.

Michael A. Pool was terminated Dec. 21 after his arrest on a charge of official oppression for allegedly mistreating a man in custody during a

prisoner transport. Three other officers resigned between September 2016 through March 2017. Reported offenses were making inappropriate and unwanted comments to a woman, assault and intoxication, according to a previous article.

Another MPD officer who was involved in a wreck — Zach Owens — has been released back to duty, Henry said Tuesday. "Owens cleared the administrative investigation drug test," he said. "He is in a position that he can't drive a car until the administrative investigation is complete. Then, we'll make a determination based on the facts."

The wreck occurred at 7:20 a.m. Jan. 16 at the intersection of Louisiana Avenue and Big Spring Street.

The investigation revealed that Owens was driving a Chevy Tahoe westbound in the middle lane on Louisiana. He attempted to proceed through a red light in the course of making a traffic stop. The vehicle's lights were activated but the siren was not, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article.

A Dodge Challenger was facing southbound on Big Spring in the outside lane. To the left of the Challenger was a pickup, which investigators believe obstructed the Challenger driver's ability to see the Tahoe's lights. The Challenger hit the Tahoe's rear passenger door, and the impact pushed the Tahoe onto the curb of the southwest corner of the intersection. The MPD vehicle flipped and then slid

NEEDS

From 1A

came from his company's own future plans.

"In our company, we have a galvanizing goal that we want to reach 1 million barrels of production by 2026. That's roughly four times where we started," he said. Achieving this will require improvements in many areas. "That means we need to be thinking about technology, innovation and how we affect the workforce."

Pioneer is particularly focused on education. Dove wants children to be taught a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) curriculum beginning at a young age to prepare them for future work in his industry.

"We're going to have to embrace the notion that we're educating a whole new workforce in this new technological sphere," he said. "That needs to start early; that needs to start at Midland Independent School District. I think (MISD Superintendent) Orlando Riddick, from

what I'm reading, is doing a fantastic job trying to change the mentality.

"It should be all the way with a focus on STEM in the schools because those are the types of employees that we're going to need in this industry. STEM-focused people."

These technical fields aren't foreign to the area workforce, given the many engineers, geologists and others in the sciences already employed in the Permian. When asked why the sciences aren't stronger in Midland schools already, Dove said perceptions of the past might be to blame.

"I think what's happened is it has been subject to the vagaries of that occur in a boom-and-bust mentality," he told the Reporter-Telegram. "When things are booming, when things are going really, really well, it seems like the next thing people are worried about is when the next bust is going to come."

Dove posits that booms and busts are the area has known them are essential over because of the many

industry improvements made over the past decade.

"We can look forward and invest into the infrastructure of the Permian Basin with the confidence that we're going to continue to be prosecuted a drilling campaign of significance as an industry. That's what has changed," he said.

The Permian Strategic Partnership is in its very earliest stage, Dove said. He and other CEOs will get together over the next two or three months to develop a view of what the Permian Basin is going to require. Then, input will be solicited from local, state and even federal officials.

All of the effort is to prepare for the future.

"We have needs for the improvement of education, for the medical requirements that each family has, for the road systems to prosecute these large drilling campaigns going forward," Dove said. "There are decades of drilling left to be done, so we need to think decades ahead when it comes to infrastructure needs."



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Travis Stice, Director & CEO Diamondback Energy, Jody Elliott, President Oxy Oil & Gas and Tim Dove President & CEO Pioneer Natural Resources, talk with Steven Pruetz President & CEO Elevation Resources LLC on Tuesday at the inaugural State of Oil & Gas put on by the Midland Chamber of Commerce.

GROWTH

From 1A

Stice agreed there will be cycles, but "I hope these \$26 to \$106 swings, we won't see those in the future."

Elliott noted that his company is an international oil and gas company with assets in the Middle East and Colombia as well as the Permian Basin, where the company has about 2.5 million acres. The Permian contributes half of Oxy's worldwide production, he said. Of that 17 percent cited by Pruetz, he said Oxy is about 12 percent of that number.

"Stacked plays on top of stacked plays on top of stacked plays," he said. "One (benefit) is the geology. The second is the fact we can produce amid low oil prices. That's been attributable to our employees and to what the industry has done with technology."

There are "so many things on the horizon that will take things that are profitable today at \$40 or \$50 a barrel and make them even more profitable," Elliott predicted.

Stice expects Diamondback will increase activity in 2018.

"We have about 200,000 acres, separated by about 100,000 in the Midland Basin and 100,000 in the Delaware. We're operating 10 rigs currently and that rig count is likely to go up this year. We spent \$900 million last year, more or less, and the reason I say the rig count is likely to go up is that we allocate capital within cash flow. With the oil price doing whatever it's doing — at \$63, \$64 a barrel — that generates cash flow so we can use that cash flow to operate rigs and we'll add rigs until we get to around 15 or 18 rigs, which we think is the most efficient number to operate in the Permian Basin. After that, we generate free cash flow and we can have a fun conversation about what to do with free cash flow," he said.

Dove said Pioneer will continue to leverage its legacy position, primarily in the Midland Basin, which he called unparalleled. The company has 800,000 gross acres it operates daily and "that gives us a tremendous footprint and gives us an operational advantage. We spent \$2.6 billion, plus or minus, on Permian Basin operations last year, and we expect to spend a similar amount, or slightly higher, in 2018." The company currently operates 20 drilling rigs and has a goal of producing a million barrels a day by 2026.

It's the tremendous opportunities in the Permian Basin that drew Pioneer back to the area, Dove said.

"We've had operations from the North Slope of Alaska to the southern tip of South America. We returned to our roots. The opportunities presented by the Permian Basin asset base we have, and others have as well, is unparalleled, certainly in the United States and maybe in the world," said Dove. He said the potential amount of resources to be captured is tantamount to Saudi Arabia. The Midland Basin alone is about 7 percent larger than the state of Massachusetts and the Delaware is even larger, he said. "In these areas we have 3,000 to 4,000 feet of shale to execute, 12 or 13 different zones. With that immense amount of inventory, we can drill for decades."

The top 16 producers, including Pioneer, Oxy and Diamondback, will drill an estimated 110,000 wells over the next several years and spend \$1 trillion in the Permian, Dove said.

Said Elliott, "The other exciting thing is the fact that this is not just a resource play but we're only recovering 10 percent of the oil in place. This basin has reinvented itself a number of times, from primary production to, in the 1960s, waterflooding and then to CO2 in the early 1980s. The Permian was on its deathbed at that time. Look what's happening with unconventional plays. The real excitement will be the Permian reinventing itself again. How do we get 20 percent of the oil? How do we get 25 percent recovery? That's where I think there's more excitement left."

Stice said the industry has to continue pushing efficiency and ensuring that margins for investors are maintained.

"To keep efficiency, you have to be better tomorrow than you are today," he said. "These guys are the tip of the spear, pushing technology and allowing us to be more efficient and help establish the manufacturing process."

Dove noted that production growth in non-U.S. and non-OPEC countries has been "zero." That means, he said, the only three areas that can produce the additional oil needed to meet growing demand are Russia, Saudi Arabia, and the Permian Basin.

"We sit here with this opportunity staring us in the face, to take advantage of being one of only three main areas of oil supply," he said.

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 If you were to stretch a Shinky out until it's flat, it would measure 37 feet long.
 All Copco's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

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Benevolent
[buh-nev-uh-luh nt]
adjective

1. characterized by or expressing goodwill or kindly feelings.
2. desiring to help others; charitable.



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- Things to do**
- Storytime at the Library, 10:30 a.m. (birth-2 years), 11:30 a.m. (2-6 years), Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. Tickets required for later sessions due to limited space.
 - Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-8595.
 - Trivia Game Night, 7 p.m., True Texas BBQ, 5407 Andrews Highway. Free.
 - Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment, 8 p.m., Torino's, 3303 N. Midkiff Road. challengeentertainment.com.
- Most viewed at mrt.com**
1. Two charged in connection with home invasion 12,740
 2. Small Bites: Scenes from HTLCO grand opening, Steak 42 plans move to downtown 7,823
 3. Furr's Fresh Buffet apparently has been closed 7,168
 4. \$1.379M Midland home features theater room 4,900
 5. What is that? Unfinished construction soon could be another hotel 4,848
 6. MPD officer placed on leave after wreck 3,526
 7. PHOTOS: Dunbarton Oaks on the market for \$1.379M 3,263
 8. Body found of missing 70-year-old woman 2,931
 9. PHOTOS: Midland County Livestock Association Annual Show 2,792
 10. Furr's Fresh Buffet liquidation auction taking place 2,737
 11. HS BOYS BASKETBALL: Bulldogs use big second half to beat rival Rebels 2,503
 12. Planning & Zoning approves zone change for microbrewery 2,425
 13. Ross Bush pleads guilty to tampering charge 2,418
 14. MPD officer placed on leave after wreck 3,526
 15. MPD to determine if procedure was followed in officer-involved wreck 2,396
 16. PHOTOS: District 2-6A Swimming and Diving Championship 2,156
 17. McCamey, Texas largest solar project is a marriage made under the sun 2,127
 18. Review: Ally Outdoors 2,014

TODAY IN MIDLAND

George W. Bush's art exhibit



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

A reception on Friday at the Museum of the Southwest opened the exhibit "Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors." The paintings by former President George W. Bush will remain at the museum through March 25. Museum hours are 2-5 p.m. Sunday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Candidate forum
A Midland County Republican Party candidate forum will take place from 5:30-7 p.m. Feb. 6 at the Centennial Library, on Loop 250, in the Laura Bush Room. This will be a question and answer for the contested race candidates. Source: Midland County Republican Party

Today in History
Today is Wednesday, Jan. 24, the 24th day of 2018. There are 341 days left in the year.
Today's highlight:
On Jan. 24, 1848, James W. Marshall discovered a gold nugget at Sutter's Mill in northern California, a discovery that led to the gold rush of '49.
On this date:
In A.D. 41, Roman Emperor Caligula, 28, was assassinated by members of the Praetorian Guard after a reign of nearly four years; he was succeeded by his uncle, Claudius.
In 1908, the Boy Scouts movement began in England under the aegis of Robert Baden-Powell. Source: The Associated Press

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 1-5-1
Pick 3 day: 4-7-0
Pick 3 evening: 1-4-2
Pick 3 night: 1-6-8
Daily 4 morning: 8-0-6-1
Daily 4 day: 6-9-9-2
Daily 4 evening: 9-3-2-5
Daily 4 night: 0-8-9-0
Cash Five: 10-13-18-31-32
Triple Chance: 6-7-23-28-36-37-38-42-44-47

Mega Millions: 2-6-30-31-55
BB: 7 Megaplier: 4
All or Nothing morning: 1-2-5-7-8-9-11-14-16-17-20-21
All or Nothing day: 4-8-9-11-15-16-18-19-20-21-22-23
All or Nothing evening: 2-4-5-6-7-10-12-18-19-20-23-24
All or Nothing night: 5-6-7-8-9-13-14-15-16-19-20-21

Weather

Today's temperatures
High.....60
Low.....22
Normal high.....58
Normal low.....31

Jan. 23's records
Record high: 82, set in 1943 and equaled in 1950
Record low: 7, set in 1966

Precipitation
Monday.....0.00 in.
Tuesday.....0.00 in.
Month total.....0.01 in.
Year total.....0.01 in.
Normal total (year to date).....0.38 in.

Winds
Average: 4.3 mph
Highest speed: 13 mph
Highest gust speed: 16 mph

Today's forecast

Forecast for Wednesday, January 24, 2018

High: 60
Low: 30
Conditions: Sunny during the day/clear at night
Winds: 5-10 mph during the day and night
Chance of rain: None
Sunrise: 7:47 a.m.
Sunset: 6:15 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

A baby born today has a Sun in Aquarius and a Moon in Aries if born before 7:39 a.m. Afterward, the Moon will be in Taurus.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018:
This year you could experience unusual tension when assessing what you want and what you have. The real issue is how you choose to deal with any frustration you experience while moving toward your goals. If you are single, you might mistake a friendship for a romance. Take your time getting to know a potential sweetie heater. Let a relationship follow its natural pace. If you are attached, the two of you might feel an innate tension between you, but you will resolve it. Respect your sweetie's differences. TAURUS inadvertently challenges you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Revolutionary thinking might come out of a misunderstanding. Try to stay in the moment. A certain individual could be unusually controlling. Trust your instincts when dealing with this person, and you'll be able to resolve this situation. Tonight: Let the good times roll.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ No matter what goes on, you will be in your element today. You could find yourself caught in a difficult misunderstanding or a power play. Know that if you walk away from the situation, you will come out on top. Do not be intimidated. Tonight: Let others follow your lead.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ If you feel like hunkering down and avoiding a difficult confrontation, give yourself permission to do just that. You simply can't push as hard as you have been and not feel exhausted. Be polite, but defer to others for now. Tonight: Take much-needed personal time.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You could be wondering why you are in your present situation. Focus on what you want from this experience. Trust yourself to stay on top of what you must, and you will succeed. Your smile calms others, as they sense your confidence. Tonight: Where your friends hang out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You might feel challenged by a very controlling person. You can't seem to convince this person of anything, so pretend not to care, or focus on other matters. You will be a lot happier as a result. The other party will get the hint, given some time. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You seem to keep hitting obstacles. Know that one or more of these hurdles is likely to go away on its own. Your endurance counts if you are going to work your way through a hassle. A new love interest could be resistant to your communication style. Tonight: Allow more fun in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your imagination makes others smile and relax. Several friends and/or loved ones could be unusually uptight or difficult right now. The area of concern seems to be your personal life. Give way to the other party. You can make a correction later. Tonight: See what is being offered!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You have a lot on your plate. Adjust plans accordingly, though you could get an earful from someone close to you. Understand that you need to continue heading down your present path. Communication will be difficult but revealing. Tonight: Squeeze in a favorite form of exercise.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Use caution with a money matter. You might wonder whether someone is intentionally trying to confuse you with a discussion regarding a financial matter. If you're considering taking a risk, proceed with caution. Make sure you can afford a loss. Tonight: Get some extra rest.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Your creativity emerges. Whatever doesn't seem to be working right now could change dramatically in the next few days. Let a family member know what is going on. Don't back yourself into a corner; instead, reach out and ask for help. Tonight: Exercise the stress away!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You find that communication is laden with hidden meanings. You even might find someone's words to be a bit painful. Express your feelings, but know that the other party might not be in a position to hear your words. Tension builds as a result. Tonight: Happy at home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ A friend might initiate a long-overdue discussion that you likely have been avoiding. Handle the talk with grace, and try to make as few comments as possible. A friend has a lot of advice. Do what you feel is right. Tonight: Return calls and emails first, then decide.

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Actress Sharon Tate (1943), singer/songwriter Neil Diamond (1941), actress Kristen Schaal (1978)

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Jennifer Lindgren/KTVT Dallas Fort Worth via AP

Law enforcement personnel from the Ellis County Sheriff's Office park outside a high school Monday morning in Italy following an active shooter incident at the school. Sheriff's officials said a boy who is a student at the school was taken into custody.

Girl shot at Texas school 'in good spirits'; boy charged

Associated Press

ITALY — A 15-year-old girl who was wounded in a Texas high school shooting is "in good spirits," and the 16-year-old boy suspected of opening fire in the cafeteria has been charged as a juvenile with aggravated assault, officials said Tuesday.

Italy Independent School District Superintendent Lee Joffe, who visited the girl at a Dallas hospital and spoke to reporters outside Italy High School, said, "It is an amazing demonstration of her strength that she was able to survive this."

In a statement addressed to parents and the community Tuesday, Joffe said the girl, whose name has not been released, was shot multiple times Monday morning at the high school in Italy, south of Dallas.

The teenage boy who was arrested not long after the shooting was charged with two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, the Ellis County district attorney's office announced Tuesday. He was being held at a juvenile detention center, and a preliminary hearing is scheduled for today in juvenile court.

Police have not released the suspect's name and Italy police Chief Michael Taylor did not respond to a request for comment.

Assistant District Attorney Ann Montgomery declined to say whether the boy's case will remain in juvenile court or whether prosecutors will move to charge him as an adult.

Montgomery would not say why the suspect was charged with two counts. Ellis County sheriff's Sgt. Joe Fitzgerald also declined to comment on that.

Cassie Shook, a 17-year-old junior at the school, has told The Associated Press that she was driving up to the building Monday when she saw "the doors fly open and everyone screaming and running out of the building." She said she was angry when she learned who the suspect was because she'd complained about the boy at least twice to school officials, including to a vice principal.

"This could have been avoidable," she said. "There were so many signs."

Shook said she first went to school officials after the boy allegedly made a "hit list" in eighth grade and her name was on it. Then last year, the boy got angry during

a class and threw a pair of scissors at her friend and later threw a computer against a wall, she said. She said the boy was removed from the school but eventually was allowed back.

Tina Haight, whose daughter attends the school, told KDFW-TV in Dallas that she had complained to school administrators after the same boy threw scissors at her daughter in anger.

Joffe has repeatedly said that he can't comment on disciplinary actions involving students. He says that the district "adheres to regulations established by the Texas Education Agency."

"I have confidence that our administration always addresses the Texas education code appropriately," he said.

In his statement Tuesday to parents and the community, Joffe said he understands they have "many questions and concerns." At a news conference Tuesday afternoon at a church that lasted less than five minutes, Joffe said he'd like to help "possibly address some of the concerns" about "conversations and speculation regarding student discipline." He noted though that while he could talk generally about disciplinary procedures, the law prohibits a district from speaking specifically regarding student discipline or any other student incidents.

Shook said the girl who was shot had moved to the school district a few months earlier. She said the girl had briefly dated the suspect, but that she did not know much about her.

Fitzgerald said authorities would inquire about any dating history involving the two as part of the investigation. The sergeant also said officials know where the handgun used in the shooting was obtained. He declined to publicly reveal that information.

School resumed Tuesday. Agents with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives searched the building for weapons and explosive devices before students arrived. Joffe said law enforcement officers would be on campus through the day.

"It was an extra assurance for us to be ready for our students today," he said.

Italy, a town of about 2,000 people that dubs itself "The Biggest Little Town In Texas," is about 40 miles south of Dallas.

Sheriff: Remains of 5 missing gas rig workers recovered

By Sean Murphy
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Officials on Tuesday recovered the remains of five gas rig workers who had been missing since a fiery explosion in eastern Oklahoma a day earlier.

Pittsburg County Sheriff Chris Morris said once the natural gas drilling rig was stabilized following the blast and subsequent fires, employees from the state medical examiner's office went into the wreckage and recovered the bodies in about two hours.

"The bodies were located in the area where they were presumed to be working in, what they call the 'dog house,'" Morris said, referring to a room on the rig floor that generally serves as an office for the drilling crew.

He said state and federal investigators will work with the companies involved to determine how Monday's blast occurred.

An initial incident report into the explosion indicates there was an uncontrolled release of gas that caught fire and that a worker at the scene tried unsuccessfully to shut down the well.

The report, released Tuesday by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, which regulates oil and gas operations in the state, is

just an initial assessment, said agency spokesman Matt Skinner.

"The investigation is ongoing, and there will undoubtedly be more added to the report," Skinner said.

The workers who were killed include three from Oklahoma — Matt Smith of McAlester, Parker Waldridge of Crescent and Roger Cunningham from Seminole — and two from other states, Josh Ray of Fort Worth, and Cody Risk of Wellington, Colorado.

Morris, whose office was responsible for notifying the families of the workers who were killed, said it has been a difficult two days for everyone involved.

"I think you can imagine, they're not doing well," Morris said. "No law enforcement officer likes to do that. The family not knowing and feeling empty about where their loved ones are, it's a tough situation."

Three of the workers were employed by Houston-based Patterson-UTI Energy Inc. Company President and CEO Andy Hendricks pledged a full investigation into the explosion.

"We want to learn from this," Hendricks said. "We don't want this to happen again for anybody in our industry."

The explosion at the drilling site near Quinton, about 100 miles southeast of

Tulsa, sent plumes of black smoke into the air and left a derrick crumpled on the ground. For much of Monday, emergency officials were unable to get near the rig because the fire was still burning. The fire was extinguished Monday night.

Authorities said 16 people who were on the site at the time of the blast escaped without major injuries. One person was airlifted to a hospital.

Nationwide, there were 101 oil and gas-related fatalities in 14 states in 2014, the most recent year for which data is available from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. Most of those occurred in Texas, Oklahoma and North Dakota, all of which have robust industry activity.

Most fatal incidents involved workers from servicing companies, but drilling companies accounted for 27 fatalities, the second most of any oil and gas industry group, according to the study.

A total of 15 workers were killed in Oklahoma while working in mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction jobs in 2014, including six that involved transportation incidents, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Stephen Lance Dennea/Associated Press

Shannon Duffy walks her daughter Lyra, center and son Kalestin, right, out of Marshall North Middle School on Tuesday near Palma, Ky. after a school shooting at Marshall County High school. The students of the high school in nearby Draffenville were transported to the middle school to be picked up by family members after a shooting at the high school.

Two dead, 17 injured in Kentucky school shooting; suspect held

By Kristin M. Hall
and Dylan Lovan
Associated Press

BENTON, Ky. — A 15-year-old student killed two classmates and hit a dozen others with gunfire Tuesday, methodically firing a handgun inside a crowded atrium at his rural Kentucky high school.

"He was determined. He knew what he was doing," said Alexandria Caporali, who grabbed her stunned friend and ran into a classroom as their classmates hit the floor.

"It was one right after another — bang, bang, bang, bang, bang," she added. "You could see his arm jerking as he was pulling the trigger."

He kept firing, she said, until he ran out of ammunition and took off running, trying to get away. Police arrested their suspect moments later, leading him away in handcuffs to be charged with murder and attempted murder. Authorities did not identify the gunman responsible for the nation's first fatal school shooting of 2018, nor did they release any details about a motive.

Kentucky State Police Lt. Michael Webb said detectives are looking into his home and background.

"He was apprehended by the sheriff's department here on site, at the school, thankfully before any more lives could be taken," Webb said.

Seventeen students were injured, 12 of them hit with bullets and five others hurt in the scramble as hundreds of students fled for their lives from Marshall County High School. Many jumped into cars, or ran across fields and down the highway, some not stopping until they reached a McDonald's restaurant more than a mile away. Parents left their cars on both sides of an adjacent road, desperately trying to find their teenagers.

"No one screamed. It was almost completely silent as people just ran," said Caporali, 16. She said most students knew what to do because they are drilled throughout the year on how to respond to an active shooter at school. The two fatalities were

15 years old: Bailey Nicole Holt died at the scene, and Preston Ryan Cope died later at a hospital, Kentucky State Police Commissioner Richard Sanders said. Cope was among six young men flown about 120 miles to Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. Sanders said the five others were in critical condition Tuesday night.

The attack marked the year's first fatal school shooting, 23 days into 2018, according to data compiled by the Gun Violence Archive, which relies on media reports and other information. The anti-violence group Everytown for Gun Safety has counted at least 283 shootings at schools since 2013.

Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin and several people in Benton said they couldn't believe a mass shooting would happen in their small, close-knit town. But many such shootings across the nation have happened in rural communities.

Marshall County High School is about 30 minutes from Heath High School in Paducah, Kentucky, where a 1997 mass shooting killed three and injured five. Michael Carneal, then 14, opened fire there about two years before the fatal attack at Columbine High School in Colorado, ushering in an era when mass school shootings have become much more common.

Meanwhile, in the small North Texas town of Italy, a 15-year-old girl was recovering Tuesday after police said she was shot by a 16-year-old classmate in her high school cafeteria on Monday, sending dozens of students scrambling for safety. Police in Louisiana, meanwhile, are investigating shots fired Monday as students gathered outside their charter school.

"It's horrifying that we can no longer call school shootings 'unimaginable' because the reality is they happen with alarming frequency," said former Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, who survived being shot in the head in 2011. She called on Congress to strengthen gun laws.

Tuesday's shooting, mo-

ments before classes would have begun, disrupted some happy moments in the noisy "commons" area at the center of the school, where several hallways meet and students gather between classes.

Lexie Waymon, 16, said she and a friend were talking about the next basketball game, makeup and eyelashes when gunshots pierced the air.

"I blacked out. I couldn't move. I got up and I tried to run, but I fell. I heard someone hit the ground. It was so close to me," Waymon said. "I just heard it and then I just, everything was black for a good minute. Like, I could not see anything. I just froze and did not know what to do. Then I got up and I ran."

Her friend, Bailey Culp, told the AP in a text message that they were joking and laughing until they heard a loud bang that sounded like someone's books hitting the floor.

"That's what I expected it to be, until I saw a body drop on the ground," Culp wrote. "There was bullets flying everywhere. I ran straight out the door and headed to the highway as fast as I could."

Waymon did not stop running either, not even when she called her mom to tell her what happened. She made it to the McDonald's, her chest hurting, struggling to breathe. "All I could keep thinking was, 'I can't believe this is happening. I cannot believe this is happening,'" she said.

It was chaotic outside the school as parents and students rushed around trying to find each other, said Dusty Kornbacher, who owns a nearby floral shop. "All the parking lots were full with parents and kids hugging each other and crying and nobody really knowing what was going on," she said.

"They was running and crying and screaming," said Mitchell Garland, who provided shelter to between 50 and 100 students inside his nearby business. "Everyone is just scared. Just terrified for their kids," he added. "We're a small town and we know a lot of the kids."



Ryan Harman/The Paducah Sun via AP

Stan Collins of Benton, second from left, holds a candle Tuesday during a vigil at Impact Church in Benton, Ky. The vigil was held for victims of the Marshall County High School shooting earlier in the day.

Gu

By L
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The gun biggest an week just site where 58 concern rise Las V tober usin of weapon bump sto mimic ful
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Gun industry converges near Las Vegas mass shooting site

By Lisa Marie Pane
Associated Press

The gun industry is holding its biggest annual trade show this week just a few miles from the site where a gunman slaughtered 58 concertgoers outside his high-rise Las Vegas hotel room in October using a display case worth of weapons, many fitted with bump stocks that enabled them to mimic fully automatic fire.

Gun control advocates, meanwhile, pointed to the irony of the location and planned a protest to renew calls for tighter gun sale regulations, including expanded background checks.

"We're trying to show the connection between the industry that makes all the money and the damage that their products cause," Lee Goodman, an organizer with Chicago-based Peaceful Communities, said Tuesday. His organization advocates for a rewrite of the constitutional Second Amendment right to own guns.

What exactly will be among the thousands of products crammed into the exhibition spaces at the National Shooting Sports Foundation's SHOT Show convention, running Tuesday through Friday, will be a bit of a mystery, shielded from the public and, this year, members of the general-interest media.

One thing is known: Slide Fire, the leading manufacturer of bump stocks, a once-obscure product that attracted intense attention in the aftermath of the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, won't be among the exhibitors.

The Texas-based company hasn't said why it's not on the roster of more than 1,700 exhibitors, although it was last year. It didn't return messages seeking comment. The company also isn't on the list of those attending this year's National Rifle Association annual meeting or other prominent gun trade shows.

In the aftermath of the Las Vegas massacre Oct. 1, Slide Fire had so much trouble keeping up with demand it temporarily stopped taking orders for the product. It has since resumed.

"From purely a public relations standpoint, it wouldn't be a surprise at all if bump stocks just sort of disappeared this year," said Robert Spitzer, chairman of



AP file photo

Michael Kiefer, of DeFuniak Springs, Fla., checks out a display of rifles Jan. 17, 2013 at the Rock River Arms booth during the 35th annual SHOT Show in Las Vegas. The largest gun industry trade show will be taking place in Las Vegas Jan. 23-26 just a few miles from where a gunman carried out the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

political science at the State University of New York at Cortland and an expert on firearms and the Second Amendment. "That's a PR no-brainer."

Still, the convention floor is likely to have plenty of other devices that gun-control advocates have taken aim at in recent years: accessories that make it easier to carry a firearm, shoot it or reduce the noise it makes.

On the list of products they oppose are "trigger cranks," which, like bump stocks, make it easier to fire a long gun rapidly, and "assault pistols," which look remarkably like short-barreled AR- and AK-style firearms but skirt certain federal restrictions because they aren't designed to be shot from the shoulder.

"For a person from the general public, I think the thing that would startle them the most about the SHOT Show ... is just the sheer scope and the vastness of this show," said David Chipman, a former agent with the federal agency that regulates firearms and now a senior policy

adviser with the gun safety organization founded by former Rep. Gabby Giffords, who was gravely wounded in a shooting in 2012.

SHOT Show has been held for 40 years, half that time in Las Vegas, and this year's gathering was scheduled well before the bloodshed last fall. It will have some 13 miles of aisles featuring products from more than 1,700 companies. More than 65,000 visitors are expected at the gathering, a place where connections are made and deals worth millions are struck.

The general public is not allowed to roam the aisles; the only people who can attend are those with direct ties to the industry: manufacturers and dealers of firearms or associated products. Although a few reporters from general-interest news organizations attended in recent years, NSSF this year restricted access to about 2,500 journalists from trade publications and media.

The show's location and timing 3 1/2 months after Stephen Paddock's murderous attack have

heightened awareness of the event.

"The gun industry has not been responsible and responsive to addressing the gun violence issue in America," said Po Murray, chairwoman of the Newtown Action Alliance, in the Connecticut town where 20 children and six educators died in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in December 2012.

Kristin Brown, co-president of the Brady Campaign and Center to Prevent Gun Violence in Washington, D.C., accused events like the SHOT show of adding to the national problem of weapons and violence.

"We're allowing it to exist," Brown said, "and we're doing almost nothing to address the loopholes in the law that allow private sales to happen at gun shows and over the internet."

Brown also called donation-based compensation for the hundreds of Las Vegas shooting dead and injured inadequate.

"We do almost nothing for victims, whose only fault in this

case was to attend a concert," she said.

Goodman planned a protest Wednesday outside the Sands Expo Convention Center at the Venetian resort, and a 3-mile walk to the outdoor festival venue near the Mandalay Bay resort, from which Paddock fired thousands of rounds from assault-style weapons into a crowd of 22,000 attending a country music concert.

Michael Bazinet, NSSF director of public affairs, said that while those attending are well aware of the tragedy that occurred nearby, "they also know that legal gun ownership and the lawful commerce of arms is something quite removed from the act of an individual such as this. And that's not to diminish the tragedy at all. But people come to the show do make that distinction."

The show comes as the gun industry's fortunes have waned after nearly a decade of unprecedented sales. No longer concerned about the federal government restricting gun rights, Americans have scaled back their firearm-buying sprees.

When SHOT Show, which stands for Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade, was launched, its emphasis was on hunting and the outdoors. Over the decades, it has evolved and grown and now has huge sections devoted to the law enforcement and military community. No sales are allowed at the show, firing pins are removed from all guns on display, and there is no live ammunition.

There are so many companies that want to exhibit, there isn't enough space. The waiting list is several hundred names long.

Kevin Michalowski, executive editor of Concealed Carry Magazine, has been going to SHOT Show for more than a decade and said he doesn't anticipate this year's event will have a different feel from other years. He said it's a close-knit industry accustomed to being put under the microscope by the media and by gun-control advocates.

"This is not just a group of redneck gun owners as are often portrayed by the mainstream media. This is serious business," he said. "Millions and millions of dollars are exchanged, and it helps the economies of many, many states, it helps the economy of the U.S."

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, January 24, 2018 | Page 6A

Democrats got rolled and can blame Obama

■ If Obama really wanted to pass either the Dream Act or comprehensive immigration reform, he could have, because Republicans were powerless to stop him

The government shutdown is over. Democrats finally realized that closing the government over illegal immigration was a losing political battle. They created a needless crisis and got rolled. So who is to blame for their current predicament? Along with Charles Schumer and Nancy Pelosi, Democrats can put the blame squarely on the man who could have legalized the "dreamers" when he had the chance: Barack Obama.

During his 2008 campaign, Obama promised in a conversation with Univision anchor Jorge Ramos to make passing immigration reform one of his first legislative priorities, and even set a timetable. "I cannot guarantee that it is going to be in the first 100 days," he said. "But what I can guarantee is that we will have in the first year an immigration bill that I strongly support and that I'm promoting. And I want to move that forward as quickly as possible."

If he had wanted to act, he could have. Obama's party controlled the House, and Democrats had a 60-vote filibuster-proof

MARC A. THIESSEN

Special to the Washington Post



majority. If Obama really wanted to pass either the Dream Act or comprehensive immigration reform, Republicans were powerless to stop him. But he didn't do it.

In a 2012 interview, Ramos called Obama on it. "At the beginning of your governing, you had control of both chambers of Congress, and yet you did not introduce immigration reform. And before I continue, I want for you to acknowledge that you did not keep your promise." Obama objected that he had made his promise "before the economy was on the verge of collapse. ... And so my first priority was making sure that we prevented us from going into a Great Depression." Ramos was having none of it. "It was a promise, Mr. President. ... And a promise is a promise. And with all due respect, you didn't keep that promise."

Obama's excuse was weak. In the midst of dealing with the economic crisis, he championed Obamacare and got other

legislation passed. If passing immigration reform had been a real priority, he could have done it. And if he had, there would be no immigration impasse today.

Of course, Obama was not alone in failing to act. Who was in charge of the issue on Capitol Hill? On the Senate side, none other than Schumer, D-N.Y. In 2009, Schumer succeeded Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., as chairman of the Senate Judiciary subcommittee on immigration. In that role, the New York Times reported, "Mr. Schumer would take the point in pushing for passage of a new bill." But Schumer didn't push. Neither did Pelosi, D-Calif., who was speaker of the House at the time and had the power to bring immigration legislation to the floor at will. And Obama also did not push because, according to the Times, the president "does not intend to get out in front of any proposal until there is a strong bipartisan commitment to pass it." Funny, he did not wait for a "strong bipartisan commitment" before pushing Obamacare. But apparently immigration was not a priority.

By the time Obama got around to immigration legislation, Republicans had retaken the House. After failing to act when he had the votes, in 2012 Obama announced he would implement Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, an

unlawful executive action to effectively legalize the presence of illegal immigrants who had arrived in the United States as children. The Post's editorial board correctly called it an "unprecedented" move that "flies in the face of congressional intent," adding that "Republicans' failure to address immigration ... does not justify Mr. Obama's massive unilateral act." Even "Saturday Night Live" skewered Obama's executive action.

President Trump was right to reverse Obama's unconstitutional decision. He had no choice. He also said at the time he supported letting DACA recipients stay, set a deadline of March 5 for a legislative solution and added that he would be willing to give Congress even more time if necessary. "Congress now has 6 months to legalize DACA," Trump tweeted on Sept. 5. "If they can't, I will revisit the issue!"

In other words, there was no crisis for DACA recipients. This was, as Obama said when Republicans shut down the government in 2013, a "manufactured crisis" — one that Obama helped manufacture with his broken immigration promises. For once, Democrats were the ones making unreasonable demands. And now Democrats will have to pay the political price. If they don't like it, they can only blame themselves and Obama.

OUR VIEW

I-14 legislation makes sense for Midland, West Texas

Quality transportation opportunities mean so much to a community. The ability to travel safely and conveniently is a quality-of-life measure that often is overlooked.

With that being said, we were excited to hear that Congressman Mike Conaway introduced legislation that would include expanding Interstate 14 through San Angelo and to Midland.

Road travel is a way of life for many in West Texas. Good roads are a blessing. Better roads mean the difference between white-knuckling a commute and driving comfortably. We saw this with improvements to State Highway 349 going to Lamesa and State Highway 158 to Garden City. The expansion of those roads to two lanes each way has made the difference for travelers. The expanded roads have provided relief for motorists facing the truck traffic that has become a constant because of the booming economy.

We expect more benefits for our community when I-14 and its motto "Connecting the Rest to the West" are more than proposed legislation.

"This expansion through San Angelo to Midland will not only provide a safer route for travelers and economic boon in the area," Conaway said in a press release. "but will also directly connect the Permian Basin — one of the top oil and gas producing regions in the world — with one of the largest ports in the country. Allowing our producers to more quickly and safely move their products to market will further shore up our nation's energy independence."

An I-14 through Midland-Odessa promises easier transportation opportunities to Central Texas and Corpus Christi and the rest of the Texas Gulf Coast.

There is still work to be done. We hope all Texas representatives and senators get on board and support the legislation Conaway has introduced. There has been another I-14 route talked about, but local leaders have said a route through San Angelo and then Midland-Odessa will be about \$200 million cheaper.

When talking about transportation issues, we have to thank the Midland-Odessa Transportation Alliance (MOTRAN) for its efforts on a proposed I-14 and their efforts on making other regional road measures a reality.

The Reporter-Telegram repeatedly has said transportation infrastructure has to be a priority for this community. We also have said we often can't depend on Austin or Washington to help out, but when they can, we should take advantage of that help. This is one of those opportunities. Midland-Odessa could be in a position of having two federally designated interstates coming through the area. That is something to embrace.

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Shutdown shows the resistance's limits

■ Schumer forgot that the rest of the country doesn't regard Trump with the deep disdain and abiding alarm of the coasts and the major metropolitan areas

Chuck Schumer started a government shutdown he couldn't finish.

The New York Democrat, among the shrewdest operators in national politics, stumbled badly because he succumbed to the siren song of the anti-Trump resistance. He believed that any charge could be made to stick to President Donald Trump, no matter how implausible, and chose the dictates of an inflamed Democratic base over common sense.

His embarrassing climbdown after a short, mostly weekend shutdown shows the limits of the resistance. Yes, an anti-Trump midterm wave appears to be building, and Democratic activists — marching in the streets by the tens of thousands and badgering Republicans at town hall meetings — are energized. But this doesn't mean that Democrats can act with impunity so long as they are fighting under an anti-Trump banner.

Schumer sought to attach an extraneous matter, an amnesty for so-called Dreamers, on a must-pass government funding bill and, when Democrats inevitably didn't get what they wanted, blame President Trump for the ensuing government shutdown. This effort depended on gravity-defying spin that proved sustainable for less than three days.

The fact is that the Republican House handily passed a bill to keep the government open, with the support of the Republican president. Almost every Republican in the Senate voted to pass that bill through the upper chamber — where it required a supermajority of 60 and therefore some Democratic votes — while almost every Democrat in the Senate opposed it. Republican leaders said they didn't want a shutdown and urged Democrats not to force one.

It was always going to be true that people, even reporters, were going to notice all this.

The press wasn't hostile to the Democrats over the shutdown, but it wasn't uniformly compliant, either. The left objected to a headline on a New York Times news alert right after the shutdown vote on Friday night: "Senate Democrats blocked passage of a stopgap spending bill to the keep the government open." It's not clear how a remotely honest news writer could have described it any other way.

If the media couldn't be counted to be on board,

neither could everyone in the party. In what is a persistent temptation for Democrats, Schumer forgot that the rest of the country doesn't regard Trump with the deep disdain and abiding alarm of the coasts and the major metropolitan areas. The party still has senators in red states that the president won handily who can't afford to indulge in anti-Trump flights of fancy. Five of them defected on the initial shutdown vote, and more would have broken with Schumer if the shutdown had endured.

When Schumer was forced to buckle, it outraged a base that believes Trump needs to be resisted on all fronts and chased from office as soon as possible, and considers anything less the work of quislings.

Nancy Pelosi didn't back the deal to reopen the government, and the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus said of Senate Democrats: "They are getting their butts kicked." The co-founder of the Progressive Change Campaign Committee pronounced it a "cave." The political director of CREDO, a progressive advocacy group, called Schumer "the worst negotiator in Washington."

He's not the worst negotiator, but he acted in flagrant disregard of the first and most important rule for winning a government shutdown — don't be the one to shut down the government — and paid a price.

It's only a tactical defeat, and perhaps a temporary one. In exchange for Democratic votes for a temporary funding measure, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell promised to hold votes in coming weeks on DACA and other immigration measures. There's still a good chance that Democrats can force a bad DACA deal, given that the GOP is divided on immigration and President Trump might be tempted to sign up for anything as long as there's notional funding for a wall.

So, Schumer lives to fight another day, but can only do it shrewdly if he's more realistic than the resistance.

RICH LOWRY

King Features Syndicate



From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



A moment for moderates: Senators hope deal builds goodwill

By Matthew Daly and Richard Lardner
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Centrists in the Senate are celebrating their work to reopen the government after a three-day shutdown. They hope to build on their momentum to address a host of issues beyond immigration, including health care and disaster relief.

About 20 moderate senators met in the office of Maine Republican Sen. Susan Collins over several days and helped broker an agreement to pass a stopgap spending measure keeping the government open until Feb. 8.

Now the senators say they want to leverage that goodwill and return the Senate to its historic role as a deliberative body that produces bipartisan legislation. Despite their optimism, lawmakers face the weight of heavy expectations and the knowledge that past attempts to forge centrist solutions on immigration and other thorny issues have been thwarted by the vocal bases of both parties.

Senators have dubbed the informal group the Common Sense Caucus, but "hopefully it'll grow large enough that we'll eventually call it the United States Senate," said Sen. Angus King of Maine, an independent who is one of the group's informal leaders.

King has been here before. Five years ago, he was part of a similar but smaller group that worked to end a 2013 government shutdown. That group dissipated after the government reopened, but King and others say the new effort has a chance to stick around.

"I think what's different is a number of us have said, 'Let's keep this going. Let's not make this a shutdown-only event,'" King said in an interview. "Let's talk about some things we can do to improve how this place works."

If they can stay united, the group could be a crucial voting bloc in the closely divided Senate, King and other senators said.

"I think everybody's looking for that middle," said Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va.

"Everybody has input. Everybody trusts everybody in that room."

Success in the Senate is far from guaranteed. Movement in the Republican-controlled House — where the 2013 immigration bill died without a vote — is even less certain, but senators said they are forging ahead.

"For the first time, we at least have some hope," said Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla. "And that's because

you've got a bipartisan group of senators that want to get something done."

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, sees the group as a "safe space" where lawmakers can exchange ideas, regardless of party.

"I hope we can kind of be an incubator of good ideas — common sense ideas," she said. "Our job is to keep government working."

The three-day shutdown ended with new assurances from Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., that the Senate would consider immigration proposals in the coming weeks.

"We now have a window of opportunity to show we can work together and build a bipartisan consensus that produces a product worthy of time on the (Senate) floor," said Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., one of the leaders of the bipartisan group.

In language repeated by other senators, Coons said the shutdown crisis provides an opening to "let the Senate be the Senate" and allow free-flowing debate on immigration and other issues.

The concept does not extend to the House or President Donald Trump's White House — both of which are likely to be formidable obstacles on immigration — but those problems can be addressed later, Coons and other senators said.

"If President Trump would let the Senate be the Senate and work for the next three weeks, I think he'd be encouraged and surprised at how positive the results could be," Coons said.

Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz. was equally upbeat.

Flake, who has been pushing a bipartisan immigration solution for months, said he is optimistic that the spirit of cooperation born in Collins' office — dubbed Little Switzerland by senators — will extend to the debate on immigration and beyond.

"It will be nice to see a process on the Senate floor that we haven't seen in a long time," since a comprehensive immigration bill was approved in 2013, Flake said. "We went through regular order and dealt with amendments and everybody had their say. This will be much like that."

Until now, a solution on immigration has been held back in part by uncertainty over what Trump will accept, Flake said. While lawmakers still are not sure what Trump wants on immigration, they are moving forward anyway.

"I hope the president will say, 'Here's what we need,' but if not, we'll pass something and see if the president likes it," Flake said.

Schumer takes back wall offer in immigration push

By Andrew Taylor and Jill Colvin
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer on Tuesday pulled back an offer of \$25 billion for President Donald Trump's long-promised southern border wall, as lawmakers scrambled to figure out how to push a deal to protect 700,000 or more so-called Dreamer immigrants from deportation.

Schumer had made the offer last Friday in a last-ditch effort to head off a government shutdown, then came scalding criticism from his party's liberal activist base that Democrats had given up too easily in reopening the government without more concrete promises on immigration.

"We're going to have to start on a new basis, and the wall offer's off the table," Schumer, D-N.Y., told reporters Tuesday.

The shutdown battle — settled mostly on Trump's terms — complicated the already difficult search for an immigration pact: GOP hardliners appeared emboldened, while Democrats absorbed withering criticism from progressives. Neither development seemed likely to push the combatants toward the compromises needed to produce a bill that can pass both the tea party-driven House and the more pragmatic Senate.

Still, there were fresh signs of a willingness to keep hunting for a solution, with a flurry of meetings on Capitol Hill and an assessment from White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders that "I don't think they're that far apart."

Sen. John Cornyn said he'd been to three meetings Tuesday about immigration. "I know there's a lot of skepticism around here and not much trust," he said, "but I do believe that there is a bona fide bipartisan concern about getting this done."

Even if the Senate can come up



Frank Franklin II/Associated Press

Protestors gather Tuesday at Grand Army Plaza near the home of Sen. Charles Schumer in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

with the votes to pass a plan, Democrats fear there is little chance such a bill would gain the support of House Republicans.

"There were no commitments made in the House" as legislators worked to end the government shutdown, House GOP Whip Steve Scalise of Louisiana said Monday, warning against any "amnesty" measure.

Trump weighed in Tuesday via Twitter: "Nobody knows for sure that the Republicans & Democrats will be able to reach a deal on DACA by February 8, but everyone will be trying...with a big additional focus put on Military Strength and Border Security. The Dems have just learned that a Shutdown is not the answer!"

Cornyn, the No. 2 Senate Republican, said Schumer had promised a \$25 billion figure for the wall and other border security measures, though not all of that would have been immediate funding. He called Schumer's withdrawal of the offer "a step backward."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has committed to trying to reach a deal on immigration and key budget issues by Feb. 8, though Cornyn said Monday that "strikes me as highly difficult."

Instead, the Senate appeared more likely to start a freewheeling debate next month.

"Whoever gets 60 votes wins," said McConnell.

And it remained unclear precisely who was taking the lead in the negotiating.

"If you had a tattoo for every group that's forming, you'd have an arm full of them," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., who was working to bring together a new bipartisan group of senators to reach an agreement.

The retreat by Democrats brought

an end to the three-day government shutdown, but roiled immigration activists who blasted Democrats for caving to Republicans with nothing gained by the promise of a Senate vote.

"Once again, Dreamers are left behind," said Rep. Adriano Espaillat, D-N.Y.

Trump last year announced that he was ending the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, but gave Congress until March 5 to come up with a legislative fix. With the clock ticking, Trump appeared to agree to a pair of deals with Democrats, then backed out and demanded more money for a border wall. He also sought an overhaul of the legal immigration system to prevent immigrants from sponsoring their family members and an end to a visa lottery aimed at expanding diversity.

On the House side, the Republican Study Committee, a group of more than 150 lawmakers, announced its support for a bill written by Reps. Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., Raúl Labrador, R-Idaho, and Michael McCaul. Their plan would offer DACA recipients a three-year renewal of legal status, allowing them to continue to live and work in the country with no special path to citizenship. It also contains a host of stringent features that are anathema to Democrats, including reducing legal immigration by 25 percent, adding border patrol agents and denying certain funding to cities that refuse to cooperate with federal immigration authorities.

The White House endorsed that bill, and it appeared to be gaining traction among conservatives. NumbersUSA, a group that advocates for reduced immigration, announcing its support Tuesday.

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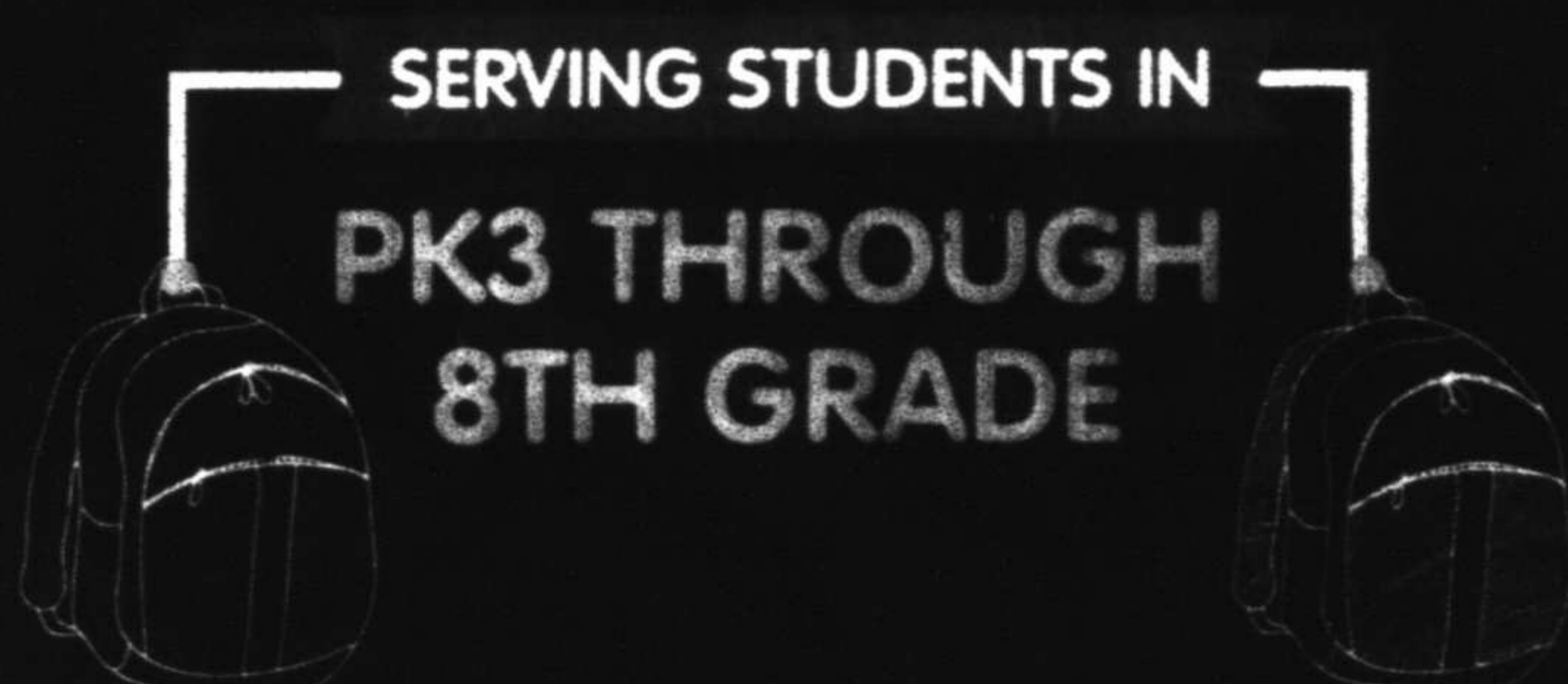
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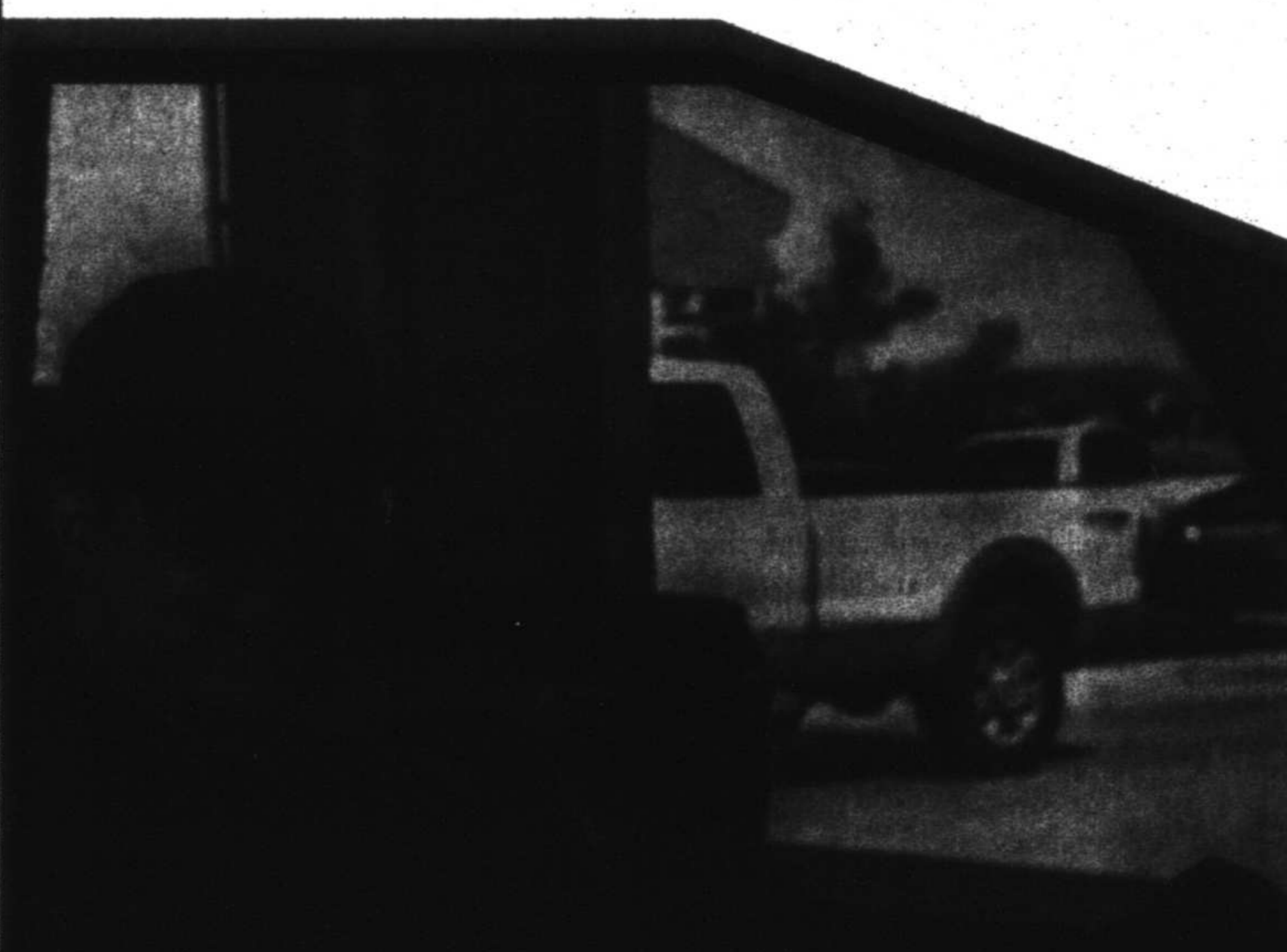
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HEALTH+ WELLNESS



midland memorial hospital

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, January 24, 2018 | Section B

Midland Health reports 7 flu-related deaths

From staff reports

Seven people who were inpatients at Midland Memorial Hospital have died since October after testing positive for the flu, according to information provided to the Reporter-Telegram.

Val Sparks, infection preventionist at Midland Health, said the hospital has been following all flu-positive patients and that the deaths were from Oct. 1 through Monday. Those patients were between 68 and 88 years old and had underlying diseases or complications from the virus, according to Sparks.

She wants elderly people to know they

Related content

MISD: January flu case estimate tops last month's number

Page 2B

can get the flu even if they were vaccinated this season. For those who haven't received a vaccine, she said they are still recommended.

Sparks also suggests people practice good hand washing and avoid physical contact with others.

The hospital is continuing to see flu

patients in its emergency room and as inpatients, according to Sparks. Last week, 167 emergency room patients were positive for the flu — a number that includes cases for the two types of seasonal influenza viruses.

Symptoms of the virus include fever or chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue and vomiting or diarrhea, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. MMH recommends people with flu symptoms see their primary care physician and to visit the emergency room if they experience complications associated with pneumonia.

To help prevent the spread of the virus, the hospital this season has discouraged people with flu-like symptoms and children younger than age 14 from visiting patients. The hospital is also providing face masks and disinfecting spaces.

MMH hasn't reported any pediatric deaths related to flu during the 2017-18 season. Nationwide, 30 influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported, according to the CDC. Sparks said of concern are children who have underlying diseases, such as diabetes or asthma.

"We worry about those kids more than normal, healthy kids with good immune systems," she said.

Artwork auction



Courtesy photo

William Gray, left, and his brother, Whitten Gray, attend a previous American Cancer Society party. Each year ACS hosts kids who are fighting cancer or who have fought the disease.

Party planned for children fighting cancer

From staff reports

An upcoming event will give children who have undergone cancer treatment the chance to participate in a night of activities. This year's American Cancer Society party continues the tradition of hosting families of local children who are cancer survivors or are fighting cancer.

"The child is definitely the one who has gone through the most," said Sharla Gray, American Cancer Society volunteer and event chairperson. "But also, the family has gone through hardship and emotions,

so we want to give them something that's fun."

At the event on Saturday, children who have fought cancer have the opportunity to make their mark on a project. They will be invited to outline their handprints on a bench before the shapes are traced into the wooden material. Gray said the item is scheduled to be auctioned at Round Up, an American Cancer Society fundraiser held in April.

For this weekend's event, programming is 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Museum of the Southwest. The annual party will be held

at the Blakemore Planetarium, and Gray said the schedule includes a space-related show that appeals to all ages. Food will be served during the night, and the event is set to feature sports references.

"The theme for this year is Team Up Against Cancer," Gray said. "So for our community volunteers, we're asking for student athletes."

The guest list for the event is open to families with children 18 and younger who have fought or are fighting cancer. Those interested in attending should contact sharla_gray@sbcglobal.net.

ERs experience longer wait times during flu season

Texas Hospital Association

Texas hospitals, like others across the country, are experiencing a high volume of patients because of the seasonal flu and are taking necessary steps to ensure patients receive appropriate care.

As a result, wait times in many emergency departments are longer than normal as patients arrive in higher volumes.

In some cases, Texas hospitals are being forced to transfer patients to other facilities because they are at capacity.

"Hospital emergency departments are intended for those experiencing life-threatening, serious and acute conditions and are staffed by highly trained nurses and physicians," said Ted Shaw, Texas Hospital Association president/CEO. "While these emergency teams are certainly capable of providing this care, patients and their families might experience a long wait and should consider the care of a primary physician."

Patients with minor, flu-like symptoms are encouraged to consult their health insurance providers to locate the most convenient in-network clinician, or contact their primary care providers directly for appointments, guidance and treatment.

On average, each flu season, Texas physicians see about 2 to 3 percent of patients with flu-like symptoms; at the peak of flu season, that number can reach 6 percent. This year, the percentage already tops 13 percent.

"Hospitals not only are seeing more cases of flu, but also are reporting a higher number of flu patients with critical conditions this winter," said Cyndy Dunlap, vice president of clinical initiatives and quality at THA. "The use of best practices for the prevention of the flu cannot be stressed enough for ourselves, our families and our co-workers."

The Texas Department of State Health Services recommends the following for avoiding the flu:

- **Wash your hands:** Wash your hands often. Scrub for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- **Cover your cough:** Use a tissue to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. No tissue around? Your sleeve will do.
- **Stay home:** If you get sick, stay home until you're well so you don't spread your germs. Steer clear of others who are sick.
- **Get your shot:** Protect yourself and others by getting vaccinated. Use the Flu Vaccine Finder to find where to get a flu shot in your area. Many primary care providers around the state are still offering the flu vaccine. Visit www.flu.gov to find a location to be vaccinated.

Cigarette alternative faces FDA scrutiny

Device developed by Philip Morris International heats tobacco without burning it

By Matthew Perrone
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A device that heats tobacco without burning it reduces some of the harmful chemicals in traditional cigarettes, but

Related content

Do e-cigarettes help or harm? Report says matter is not clear yet

Page 2B

government scientists said it's unclear if that translates into lower rates of disease for smokers who switch.

U.S. regulators published a mixed review Monday of the closely watched cigarette



Philip Morris via AP

This undated image provided by Philip Morris in January 2018 shows the company's IQOS product. The device heats tobacco sticks but stops short of burning them, an approach that Philip Morris says reduces exposure to tar and other toxic byproducts of burning cigarettes.

alternative from Philip Morris International. The company hopes to

market the electronic device as the first "reduced-risk"

Please see FDA/6B

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Obituaries



Frank L. Savage, Jr.

Frank L. Savage, Jr. went to be with our Lord and Savior on January 21, 2018.

Frank was born on September 23, 1947 in Port Townsend, Washington and is preceded in death by his mother, Margaret Savage, and father, Frank Savage, Sr.

The family moved to Midland in 1961 where Frank attended school in there until he enlisted in the United States Army in 1967; he went on to do two tours in the Vietnam War. Upon his return from the war, he came back to Midland and began his life after his service to our country.

He is survived by his sisters, Dianne Mathews and Suzanne Foy of Houston; sons, Jeff and Brian of Midland; and his three grandchildren, Emily, Maddisyn, and Gabreyelle Savage of Midland.

Frank was well known in town for being involved with the Little League baseball program and with Midland Independent School District as a Security Guard. He then he went on to be the director of the Midland High School Youth Center.

Frank never met a stranger and always was willing to give the shirt off his back. He was a coach, mentor, and great confidant to many people and he will be missed.

There will be a visitation on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at Ellis Funeral Home from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A funeral service will be held in the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 26, 2018. Burial will follow at Fairview

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Glenn Alan Brunson

1944 - 2018

Glenn Alan Brunson of Richards, Texas passed away on January 17, 2018.

Visitation will be 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Friday, January 26, 2018 at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home of Huntsville.

Funeral services will be at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at the Union Grove Baptist Church of Richards.

Full obituary at www.shmf.com.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
MRT.com

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



Louis Joseph Beique

Louis Joseph Beique, 95, of Midland, Texas, passed away Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at his home.

The family will be accepting guests from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at The Branch at NPW, with a Remembrance and Rosary Service following at 6:30 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel.

Funeral Mass will be at 3:00 p.m., Friday, January 26, 2018 at St. Stephen's Catholic Church.

Louis was born on December 19, 1922 in Montreal Quebec, Canada, to Eugene R. and Maria (Emond) Beique. Louis joined the Royal Canadian Air Force at the beginning of World War II, saw action as a submarine hunter over the Atlantic Ocean and began his long association as an aviator, piloting both powered and unpowered aircraft for many years to come.

After the war, Louis attended McGill University (Montreal), and graduated with a degree in Geophysics in 1949. He began his career as a mining geologist and survived several mining "mishaps." It was during his recovery after one of these mishaps that he met and married the love of his life, Renee Demers, on May 5, 1951. He vowed to never go underground again and changed his direction to petroleum geology. After a round-about journey including Montana and the Dakotas, Western Canada, Texas, and France, Louis and Renee settled for good in Midland, Texas.

Louis enjoyed a successful career finding and "geopysching" for oil and gas. There they learned to love a city filled with friends, all from "somewhere else," many of whom became their extended family. Louis never forgot his roots and returned to Canada with his family almost every summer to visit relatives and enjoy the beauty of the Laurentian Mountains.

Louis was known for his generosity, giving his time and resources to his family, his church, and many charities.

Louis is survived by Renee, his wife of 66 years; his son, Louis Ferguson and wife Denise; daughter, Susanne Beique; son, Marc Beique and wife Kathy; son, Jean-Michel and wife Dana; and son, Paul Beique and partner Maria. He is also survived by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Louis was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers, Charles and Rene.

We will miss him dearly, cherish the life that we shared with this good Catholic and find comfort knowing that the angels will carry him to his place in Heaven.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be directed to the Kelsey Logan Angel Fund or the charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under

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

Nalley-Pickle & Welch
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(432) 550-5800

Margaret Bost Braden Johnson

Margaret Bost Braden Johnson was born in Robstown, Texas July 20, 1923 and passed away January 18, 2018 in Midland, Texas.

Margaret was a very dedicated Bible scholar and teacher for many years. In high school, Margaret excelled in state tennis. After attending business college, she was the Executive Secretary to the President of Celanese Corp in Corpus Christi, Texas. Later in life, she and her husband began a shrimping business in the waters along the Texas gulf coast.

Margaret was preceded in death by husbands Gilbert Braden and Jimmy Johnson, and by three brothers and one sister.

She is survived by her very devoted brother, Fred Bost; sister-in-law, Lou Bost; niece, Tina Hood; and by four nephews.

The family would like to thank the caring, helpful staff of Senior Care, Midland.

A private memorial is set for a later date.



Ralph Junior Webb

Ralph Junior Webb, son, husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away January 21, 2018.

Ralph was born on May 17, 1929 to Loyd and Dortha Webb in Everton, Arkansas.

Ralph married the love of his life, Patsy Joel Thomas, on June 10, 1950. He worked at the GMC Dealership before he enlisted in the United States Army. Ralph fought in the Korean War from 1950-1953. Upon his return, Ralph and Patsy moved to Texas in 1957 and he then worked at Sears for 17 years. Ralph bought Midland Frame & Wheel in 1974 and worked there until he retired.

Ralph and Patsy were involved in the West Texas Antique Car Club of America beginning in 1959 as charter members, as well as being involved in the Tall City Road Riders. They joined Calvary Assembly of God in 1961.

Ralph is survived by his wife, Patsy, and their four children, David Webb and wife Gale, Brenda Holmes and husband Dwayne, and Lloyd Webb and wife Teresa, all of Midland, and Bryan Webb and Kelly Hughes of Aurora, Colorado.

He is also survived by his grandkids, Mandy Gregg and husband Jace, Matt Webb and wife Arica, Stefan Holmes and wife Christina, Braden Holmes and wife Sara, Alec Holmes and wife Dezi, and Rani Webb and Braz Webb. Great-grandkids include Westin Webb, Fiona Webb, Connor Gregg, and

Ella Gregg.

The family wishes to thank all of the nurses on the 5th and 7th floors of Midland Memorial Hospital.

Pallbearers include Stefan Holmes, Braden Holmes, Alec Holmes, Jace Gregg, Matt Webb, Braz Webb, and Rani Webb.

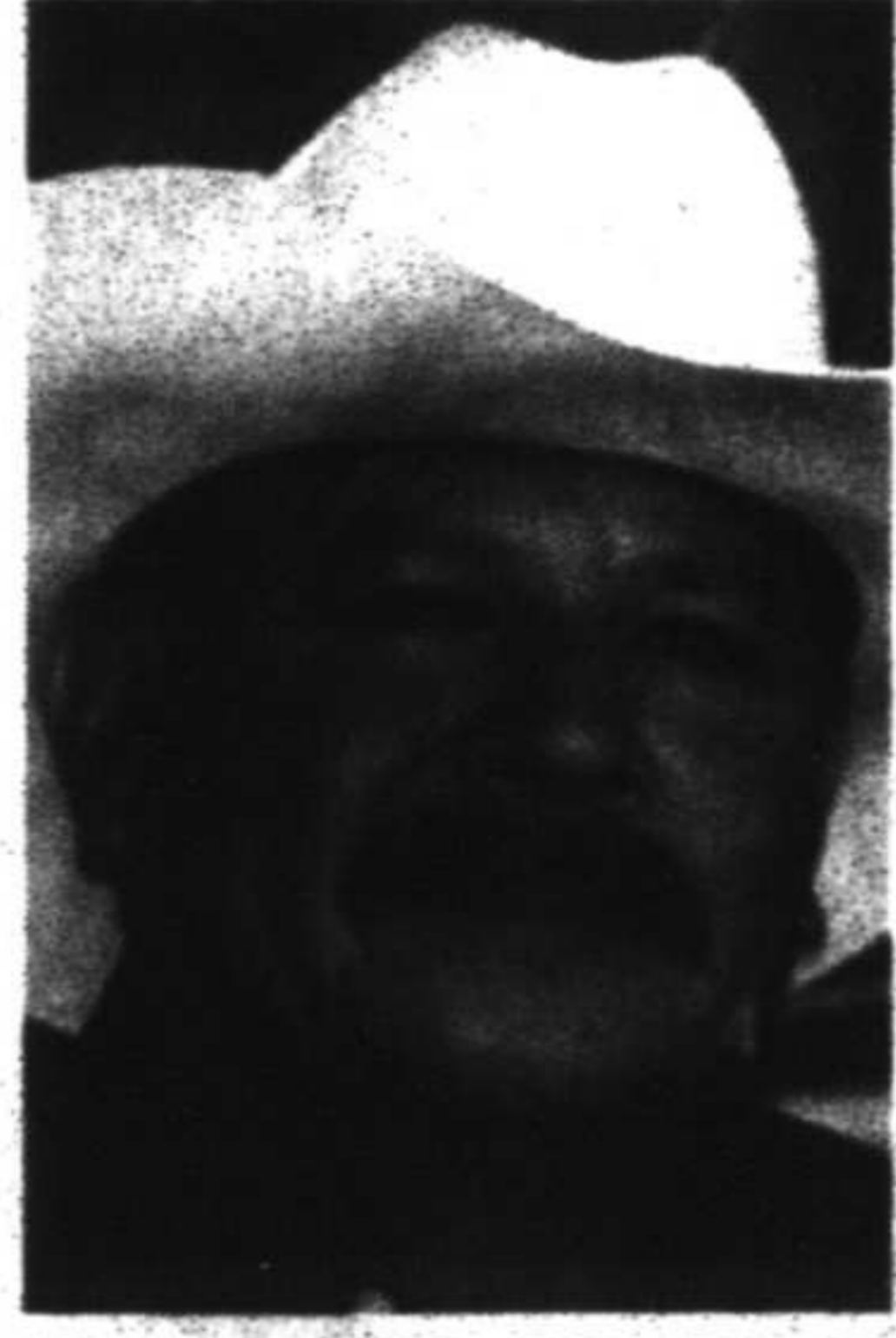
There will be a visitation held at Ellis Funeral Home on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A funeral service will be held Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel officiated by Reverend Butch Thomas, Reverend Brad Smith, and Reverend Gayle Reeves. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Online condolences may be offered at www.ellisfunerals.com.

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Robert "Bobby" Luna

Robert "Bobby" Luna, 51, of Midland, Texas, passed away Sunday, January 21, 2018 in Midland.

Bobby was born April 7, 1966 to Richard and Janie Luna in Lamesa, Texas. He attended Lamesa High School from which he graduated.

Bobby met the love of his life and best friend, Mary, in 1998. They began their life together with his children on July 1, 1999. He was a loving and caring father who loved his children with all his heart. Bobby was a volunteer for the Lamesa Fire Department and the EMS in Lamesa, where he was a certified CPR instructor. He also coached his son Landan's Little League team, a memory he cherished till his passing.

Bobby worked for TXU/Oncor for 33 years, starting with TXU in Lamesa and later transferring to Midland where he worked until his passing.

A unique soul who loved spending time on his boat with family. He had an amazing heart with a humble spirit who would do anything for anyone. He was a loving Pops who loved his grandchildren very much. He was the best Pops.

Bobby is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Maria and Ascension Luna, and his maternal grandparents, Jose and Eufemia Garcia.

Bobby is survived by his loving wife, Mary; children, LaRissa McAlpine and her husband, Steven of Seminole; son, Landan Luna and Bailey Bryan of Little Rock, Arkansas; grandchildren, Jett, Liam, and Rylie; parents, Richard and Janie Luna of Lamesa; brother, Sam Luna and wife, Sabrina of Lubbock, Texas; sisters, Laura Rodriguez and husband, Carlos, Leticia Rodriguez and husband, LeRoy all of Midland; nieces and nephews, Lane Luna, Hanna Luna, Hallie Luna of Lubbock, Derek Rodriguez, Denise Ro-

driguez, Gabby Rodriguez, and Christian Rodriguez, all of Midland; and his great-nieces, Alyssa Rodriguez and Gia Lara of Midland.

Rosary will be at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, January 25, 2018 at San Miguel Catholic Church in Midland.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 1:00 p.m., Friday, January 26, 2018 at San Miguel Catholic Church in Midland, with Father Patrick Akpanobong officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Odessa.

Pallbearers will be Sam Luna, Lane Luna, Carlos Rodriguez, Derek Rodriguez, LeRoy Rodriguez, and Christian Rodriguez.

Honorary pallbearer will be Vickie Cordova.

Arrangements are entrusted to Sunset Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home of Odessa.

To send family condolences please sign his guestbook at www.sunsetodessa.com.

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Bessie Louise Guthrie

Bessie Louise Guthrie was called home on January 18, 2018. She was born September 25, 1935 to Joseph Marvin and Florence Manuel Franks in Midland, Texas.

Bessie loved her family, cherished her children, and adored her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She loved to play Skipbo with anyone that was up for the challenge, at any time, for any occasion. With a heart of gold, Bessie always cared for others before herself. She was a wonderful wife, sister, and aunt. She lived a full and successful life and will be missed dearly by all the many whose lives and hearts she touched.

Bessie was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph Marvin and Florence Manuel Franks, and her husband, John P. Guthrie.

She is survived by her two sons, Lloyd Horrell (Dorothy) and Marvin Guthrie (Annamarie) of Midland, Texas; her daughter, Opal Patterson (Jeff) of Brunsville, Minnesota; sister, Ila Marie North of Crane, Texas; eight grandchildren, Phillip and Daniel Horrell, Marjorie, Thiana, Tiffany, and Chrystal Rogers, Ashley Jackson, and Johnathan Paterson; nine great-grandchildren, Zachary, Joshua, Jearemie, Jazmin, Alexandria, Brayden, Tianna, Theia and Don Franks, all of Midland; her nephew, Bill Franks of Lubbock, Texas; and niece, Carol Traweek of Dallas, Texas.

Viewing will be Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home & Chapel from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Funeral service will be Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home

& Chapel with Pastor Robby Murphy officiating an interment followed at Resthaven Memorial Park.

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

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

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin
Funeral Home
2508 N. Big Spring - Midland, TX - (432) 682-3700

Death Notices

Alfredo Trevino

Funeral services for Alfredo Trevino are pending at Jackie Warren Funeral Home. Alfredo Trevino died January 21, 2018 in Midland, Texas.

Beulah May Wray

Beulah May Wray, 87 of Midland, passed away on Saturday, January 20, 2018.

No services will be held. She is survived by two sons, George Wray and Dallas Wray; four daughters, Tina Worthington, Connie Wray, Louise Nye, and Cheryl Wray; and by one sister.

Billie Jane Lewis

Billie Jane Lewis, 71, of Midland, passed away Saturday, January 14, 2018.

A memorial service will be Saturday, January 27, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at Greater Ideal Baptist Church.

She is survived by five sons, Glen C. Lee, Lynn C. Lee, Barry W. Lee, Terry L. Lee, and Billy D. Watkins; two daughters, Sherry Y. Lee and Tammy D. Nobles; and by one brother and seven sisters.

James William Burton

Funeral service for James William Burton, 72 of Midland are pending at Jackie Warren Funeral Home. James William Burton died January 21, at his residence.

Jimmy C. Jones

Funeral service for Jimmy C. Jones, 75 of Midland are pending at Jackie Warren Funeral Home. Jimmy C. Jones died January 21, 2018, at a local hospital.

Richard Anthony Olgin

Richard Anthony Olgin, 32, of Lubbock, Texas, passed away Saturday, January 20, 2018.

Viewing will be from 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 24, 2018.

Rosary will be at 7:00 p.m., also on Wednesday night at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home Chapel.

A funeral service has been set for Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish & Shrine. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

He is survived by his two sons, Joshua Olgin and Anthony Olgin; his parents, Joe and Mary Olgin, Jr.; and Victoria Olgin; and by two brothers, one sister, and one step-sister.

Rosemary M. Castillon

Funeral service for Rosemary M. Castillon, 53, of Midland are pending at Jackie Warren Funeral Home. Rosemary Castillon died January 21, 2018, at a local hospital.

It's often hard to discern between cold, flu, allergies

Baylor College of Medicine

A runny or stuffy nose can be a symptom of the flu, a cold or allergies, and it can be hard to discern which one you have. So how do you know what's really going on with your nose?

"More than likely the problem is probably being caused by a virus, especially if there is a defined start date of symptoms, but if your runny nose or congestion is lingering, it could be allergies," said Isabel Valdez, a physician assistant and instructor of family and community medicine at Baylor College of Medicine. "If your runny nose is accompanied by a fever or body aches, then you might have the flu."

FLU

A big indicator that a person might have the flu is when symptoms such as body aches, fevers,

chills, nausea, an upset stomach or night sweats suddenly start occurring, Valdez said. Usually high fever, above 101 degrees, signals that you might have the flu.

Also, there is a finite ending to having the flu, and you should be done experiencing symptoms after about one to two weeks.

Valdez emphasized that getting the flu shot is an extremely important step to take to protect yourself from contracting the flu.

"The flu shot is there to protect you. You want to get the flu shot so that you can launch an immune response to the real infection if you are exposed to the flu," she said. "Also, if you do contract influenza, it will hopefully help you get over the illness quicker."

COLD

Valdez explained that a big difference between the flu and a cold

is that a cold will most likely not give you a high fever and/or body aches.

Fevers signaling a cold are generally low-grade, between 99 and 100 degrees.

These fevers also do not typically last as long in someone who has a cold as opposed to the flu. In addition, a cold or a virus operates on a schedule, which means people will typically have a sore throat at the beginning, then they get congestion for a few days, and then as the congestion starts to clear, they develop a cough that lasts for a few days.

One myth that Valdez said people should know about is that mucus color does not necessarily signal an infection.

"Everybody thinks that if they have green mucus, they need an antibiotic but that's not necessarily the case. A lot of the time, you can start

Please see FLU/4B

MISD: January flu case estimate tops last month's number

From staff reports

Midland ISD estimates the district had 260 flu cases in January, an increase from 215 in December, according to figures sent to the Reporter-Telegram Thursday. Imo Jean Douglas, health services supervisor, said this month's number is gathered from parent-reported cases, and absences have varied with each one.

The estimates are higher in comparison to December 2016 and January 2017. But Douglas said via email that it's difficult to draw a direct correlation because of unique peak times for each flu season.

To minimize the transmission of the disease, district staff members have used hygienic practices and wiped down hard surfaces. Douglas said students must be fever-free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school.

Single word can represent personal statement of resolve

No matter how 2017 may have ended for you, the expectation may be that this year will provide more positive opportunities and good fortune. Some feel that this can be achieved by making resolutions at the beginning of the new year.

By definition, a resolution implies a firm resolve, making a decision or determination to do something. These resolutions are made with the good intentions of becoming a better person or improving one's circumstances. Some of us hold true to our pledges of change, while other individuals become discouraged and give up after a short span of time. For some folks, the commitment seems a waste of time, so therefore, no resolutions are even considered.

Nevertheless, I am going to challenge you, to look inward for not just a statement of resolve but to adopt one word

RAYLENE WEAVER

Centers



that might represent a personal statement that reaches deeper emotionally and more to the heart of what may include vowing to lose weight, drinking fewer sodas or watching less Netflix. What would be your word for 2018? I asked several individuals to share their thoughts with me, and now I would like to pass a few of their words on to you.

■ "Hope ... it keeps us grounded or we would be lost, it's imperative for survival.

■ "Choices ... of which you have control."
■ "Positive ... you are powerful when you are positive and even more so when positivity is shared with others."

■ "Wander ... taking the road less traveled."

■ "Contentment ... finding happiness and peace in what we have, not constantly searching for more or better."

■ "Shalom ... peace."
■ "Successful ... wanting to be successful in the goals set for this year."

■ "Perseverance ... don't give up, stay live, keep living."

■ "Better ... feels that every year gets better."

And for me: joy ... choosing to express joy more and seeking it out when joy seems to be smothered by the obstacles of life.

A couple of books I have in my library are, "Live Your Joy" by Bonnie St. John and "The Joy in Loving" by Mother Teresa. Bonnie writes that joyous moments and experiences are tied to confidence, hope, positivity, authenticity, humility, friendship, resilience and faith. Mother Teresa's daily "joy" quotes inspire her readers that life can be more richly lived by choosing joy.

I believe that this can also be expressed well by sharing the quote on a plaque that I received from a dear friend on my birthday. "Joyful Girl. Permission granted to trust the journey, embrace your truth, leap fearlessly, let go and unleash your joy! Practice courage, every single day and say yes to growing, healing, play and abundance. Celebrate and honor your beautiful, tender, strong, joy-filled story." This year ... what will your word be?

Girl unknowingly brings THC-laced gummies to school

■ Candy that Albuquerque fifth-grader shared with classmates was her parents' medical marijuana, administrator says

By Kristine Phillips
The Washington Post

A 9-year-old Albuquerque, New Mexico girl gave gummies to fellow students — only to realize later they were not ordinary candies.

The candies had apparently been laced with tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the chemical responsible for how marijuana affects the brain, and were being used by the girl's parents as medical marijuana. Kristi Del Curto, dean of elementary students at Albuquerque School of Excellence, told the Albuquerque Journal the fifth-grader found the box of gummies at home and shared the candy with friends at the school cafeteria one morning.

"She thought she was sharing candy, and if you saw the picture on the box, it did look like candy," Del Curto told the paper.

The student later felt dizzy during class and was sent to the school nurse. After school officials determined the fifth-grader had eaten THC-laced gummies, students were asked over the school's public address system who else had the candies, the paper reported. Del Curto said five other students had gummies. Some did not seem to have been affected, and some others were "giggly," she said. The student who brought the candies felt ill after eating five.

One student told KRQE News 13 she immediately realized they were not ordinary candies after she ate one and started feeling dizzy. Paramedics were later called to check on the students.

School officials informed parents of the incident, which happened a little more than a week ago, according to the school's Facebook page. "We would like to

remind all students and parents to be cautious about food/drink sharing ... and we would like our community to be alert with drugs and any edibles that may or could be in different formats," the school wrote. "We kindly ask our parents and community members not to talk explicitly about drugs/medicine when students are present."

Twenty-nine states or territories, including the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico, allow the use of marijuana for medical purposes. New Mexico became the 12th state to allow medical cannabis in 2007.

Eight states and D.C. have legalized recreational use of marijuana, but New Mexico is not one of them.

Edibles, or food products laced with cannabis extract, have become a popular way to sell marijuana, and many are sold online, though interstate transport is illegal. In Colorado, for example, edibles accounted for 45 percent of all cannabis sales, according to a paper published in the U.S. National Library of Medicine.

Edibles come in different forms, such as candies, gummies, chocolates, baked goods and beverages. They are largely considered a safer way to consume marijuana because they do not pose the harmful risks of smoking, though little research is available on how effective edibles are compared with other methods of ingestion. Edible products also account for majority of hospital visits, likely because users who do not realize the delayed effects consume higher-than-recommended amounts, the paper says.

Del Curto told local media the gummies came in a box labeled "Incredibles." The company's website says it sells different flavors of THC gummy candies. Recreational ones contain 100 milligrams of THC, while medicinal ones have 300 milligrams.

Do e-cigarettes help or harm? Report says matter is not clear yet

By Matthew Perrone
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Electronic cigarettes could be a boon to public health or a major liability, depending on whether they help Americans quit smoking or encourage more young people to try traditional cigarettes, a new report concludes.

The report issued Tuesday wrestles with the potential benefits and harms of the vapor-emitting devices which have been sold in the U.S. for more than a decade. But those effects may not be known for decades, in part, because of how slowly illnesses caused by smoking emerge.

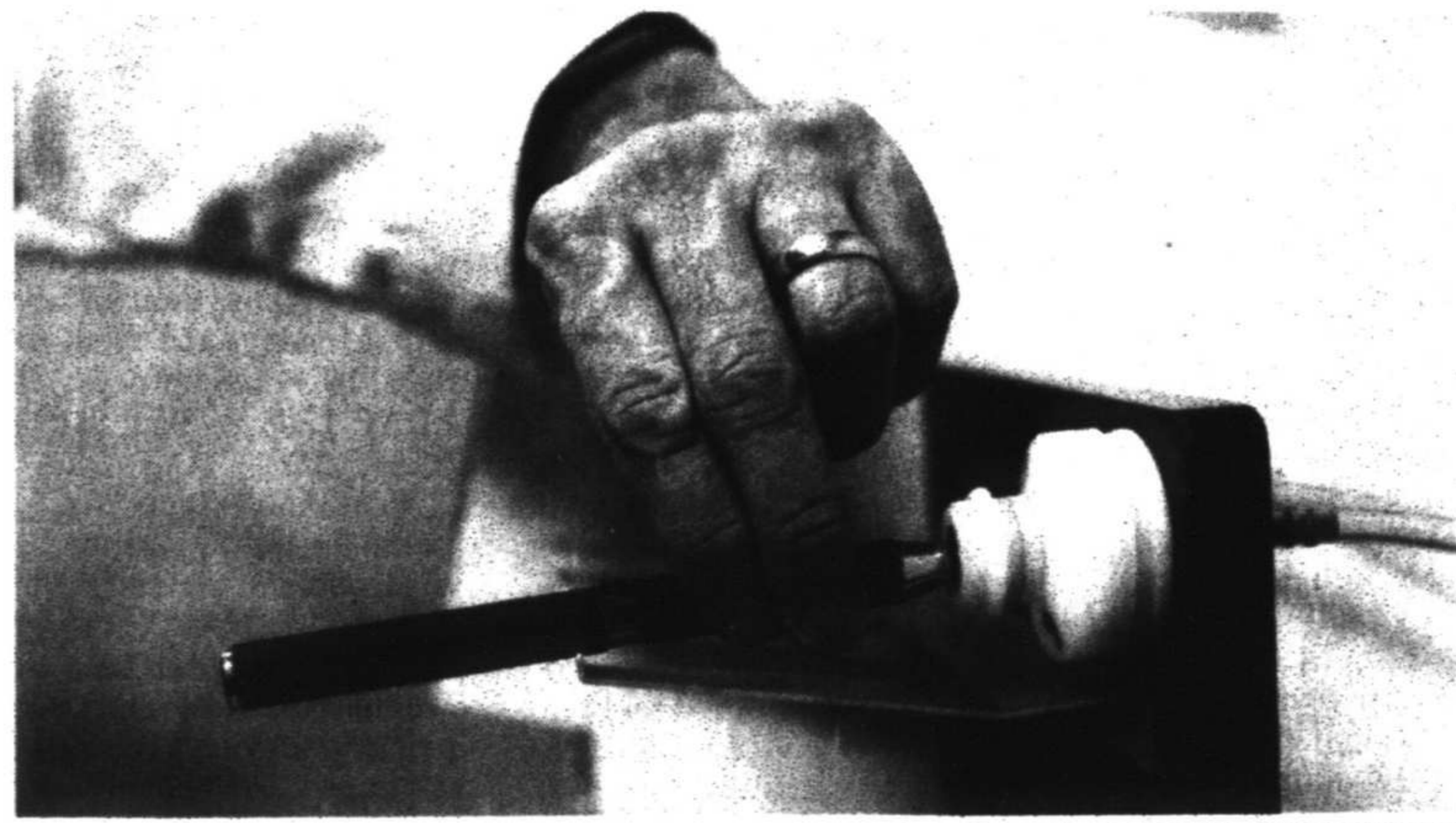
"In some circumstances, such as their use by non-smoking adolescents and young adults, their adverse effects clearly warrant concern," said David Eaton, of the University of Washington, who headed the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine committee that studied the issue. "In other cases, such as when adult smokers use them to quit smoking, they offer an opportunity to reduce smoking-related illness."

There are no long-term studies on the health consequences of e-cigarettes and little consensus on whether they are effective in helping smokers quit, according to the report requested by the Food and Drug Administration.

The experts found "substantial" evidence that young people who use e-cigarettes are more likely to try cigarettes. On the other hand, experts found only "limited evidence" that cigarettes are effective tools to help adult smokers quit.

The committee's review of more than 800 studies yielded many findings that were largely in line with prior assessments by other researchers. For instance, the panel found "conclusive evidence" that most e-cigarettes contain numerous chemicals that can be toxic. However, there was equally strong evidence that e-cigarettes contain fewer toxicants and at lower levels than regular cigarettes.

E-cigarettes have been sold in the U.S. since at least 2007. Most devices heat a liquid nicotine solution



Branden Camp/Associated Press

A doctor holds an e-cigarette in a smoking lab at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Nov. 10, 2016 in Atlanta. An exhaustive government report issued Tuesday wrestles with the potential benefits and harms of the vapor-emitting devices, which remain unclear more than a decade after their introduction in the U.S.

into vapor and have been promoted to smokers as a less dangerous alternative since they don't have all the chemicals, tar or smoke of regular cigarettes. E-cigarettes and similar vaping devices have grown into a \$4 billion-dollar U.S. industry

with thousands of varieties of flavors and customizable products available in specialty shops and online.

The FDA gained authority to regulate the devices in 2016 after years of push-back from the industry. But last year the agency said it

would delay the deadline for manufacturers to submit their devices for review until 2022.

The decision was blasted by anti-smoking advocates who say some e-cigarette manufacturers target kids with candy and fruit flavors.

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HEALTHBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Community garden plots available

The Midland Health Community Garden is now accepting applications for the spring and summer seasons. Plots are available to rent for \$16 per season. To download an application, visit midlandhealth.org/garden or email midlandhealthgarden@gmail.com.

Stress management is class topic

Stress management and relaxation techniques is the topic of the Lifestyle Medicine Center's weekly class, which is 6 p.m. Thursday at Midland Memorial West Campus Dining Room.

Classes are open to the public and patients of the Lifestyle Medicine Center. Each class is \$5. To register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

- Upcoming classes are: Feb. 1 — Plant-based Grocery Store Tour
- Feb. 8 — Understanding Glycemic Index and Macronutrients
- Feb. 22 — Resolving Conflict and Finding Purpose
- March 1 — Meal Planning and Cooking Demonstration
- March 8 — Benefits of Physical Activity
- March 22 — Plant-based Nutrition and Diabetes
- March 29 — Meditation and Finding Balance

Conference on aging is planned

Midland College is partnering with various nonprofit agencies to offer the annual West Texas Conference on Aging. The conference is 8 a.m.-4 p.m. March 6 at Golf Course Road Church of Christ, 3500 W. Golf Course Road. Early registration fee of \$50 is available until Feb. 23; after that date, registration is \$75. Seven Continuing Education Units

(CEUs) are available to health care professionals. Registration is available online at www.midland.edu/agingconference or by phone, 681-6354. For more information, contact Kimberly Daw at 681-6338 or kdaw@midland.edu.

Heart institute to sponsor seminar

The Heart Institute of Midland Memorial Hospital is sponsoring its annual Radiology & Cardiovascular Imaging Seminar in recognition of American Heart Month. The seminar, set for Feb. 3, is for registered radiological technologists and registered nurses. Other topics will also include peripheral vascular diseases, mammography and electrophysiology studies of the heart.

For more information, contact Tonya Dawson at 432-221-1626 or tonya.dawson@midlandhealth.org.

- Midland Health events
 - Babycare/Infant CPR, 6 p.m. Monday, Midland Memorial Hospital; Amber Cunningham, 221-3283, childbirtheducation@midlandhealth.org; \$10 fee; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.
 - Birthplace Tour, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Midland Memorial Hospital; Amber Cunningham, 221-3283, childbirtheducation@midlandhealth.org; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

Weekly support groups & hotlines (subject to change)

- TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Christian Church of Midland, 2609 Neely Ave. 694-8643.
- Overeaters Anonymous; 3 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, St. Stephen's Catholic Church. 553-1031.
- Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the

consequences of sexual abuse meets Tuesdays. Child care available; House of Hope, 570-5935.

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

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

- Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.
- Serenity Group, 8 p.m. daily, 3101 N. "A" St., Building C; 685-3100. 710 Group, 7 a.m., noon and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 710 Ohio Ave.; 682-8162.
- Alpha Omega, 8 p.m. Tuesdays and 11 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays, 311 S. Pecos St.

- 12-Step Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays; PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St., 553-7220.
- Al-Anon (support group for family members of alcoholics), Serenity Group 3101 N. "A" St. Bldg. C. noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

- Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2926.
- Laundry Group, 8 p.m. daily and noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 104 N. Marshall St.

- Xodus Group, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St., 634-7609.
- CODA Group, 12-step program for relationships, 7 p.m. Fridays and Sundays, PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St., 599-4490.
- La Hacienda Alumni, support group for former patients, 7 p.m. Thursdays,

PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St. 553-7220.

Finding a doctor

Access to a primary care provider is one mission of Midland Health. Residents who need help finding a physician or setting up an appointment can call 221-3627 (221-DOCS).

Hope Chest

Hope Chest is a program that provides support for women during their pregnancy and after their baby is born.

Hope Chest allows mothers and mothers-to-be to earn necessities such as diapers, wipes, clothing and car seats through a point system.

Points are earned by attending prenatal appointments and childbirth classes, and once the baby is born, moms continue to earn points at pediatrician visits until the child turns 2.

The program office is at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus. For more information or to enroll in the program, call 221-1150. To make a monetary donation or donate brand new baby items to Hope Chest, call the March of Dimes office at 416-7310.

How sick are you?

Midland Memorial Hospital offers a nurse triage program "68-NURSE." The program is designed to help people determine whether their health situation warrants a trip to the emergency room. Midland residents can call the line by dialing 686-8773.

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

room ... or just staying home.

MMH payment options

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

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

Source: Midland Memorial Hospital

Help line for long-term or disabled care

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

For more information, call 855-937-2372.

Contact your Hospital District representative

Midland Memorial Hospital 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland, Texas, 79701

Phone: 221-1111
Website: www.midland-memorial.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidlandMemorialHospital
Twitter: twitter.com/MidlandMemorial
President Russell Meyers 221-1584

Directors — District 1: Tracie Greene, District 2: Dwain Tomlin, District 3: Larry Mercer, District 4: Cressinda Hyatt, District 5: Cari Chaplin, District 6: Jeffrey Beard

Flu

From 2B

the day with yellow-green mucus when you have a virus but as long as that mucus gets lighter in color and thinner in consistency as the day progresses then you don't need antibiotics."

ALLERGIES

A signal that you have allergies is when your mucus is clear as opposed to yellow or green, Valdez said. The mucus also tends to be a little bit runnier.


Changes in weather can bring on allergies because there are more irritants in the environment that people may come in contact with, she said. These irritants might cause mild allergies with symptoms including a stuffy nose, scratchy throat or feeling pressure around the eyes. Mild allergies can be taken care of with over-the-counter allergy medications, antihistamines and nasal sprays.

Valdez added that exposure to excessive heat can cause issues with your nose. If you are exposing your nose to too much heat, like when the heater is running nearly continually during cold weather, the heat can dry out the mucosa in your nostrils, causing irritations. Excessive exposure to heat also can cause the mouth and throat to feel dryer because the heat is soaking up moisture that the body needs.


"Sometimes if people dry out their noses too much, this can lead to them having little nose bleeds or when they blow their nose they will notice blood in the mucus and, again, this is because the mucosa inside their nostrils gets so dry and fragile from the heat that little blood vessels will pop," Valdez said. "Usually if this happens, I recommend that patients start to use a nasal saline spray to moisturize their nostrils."

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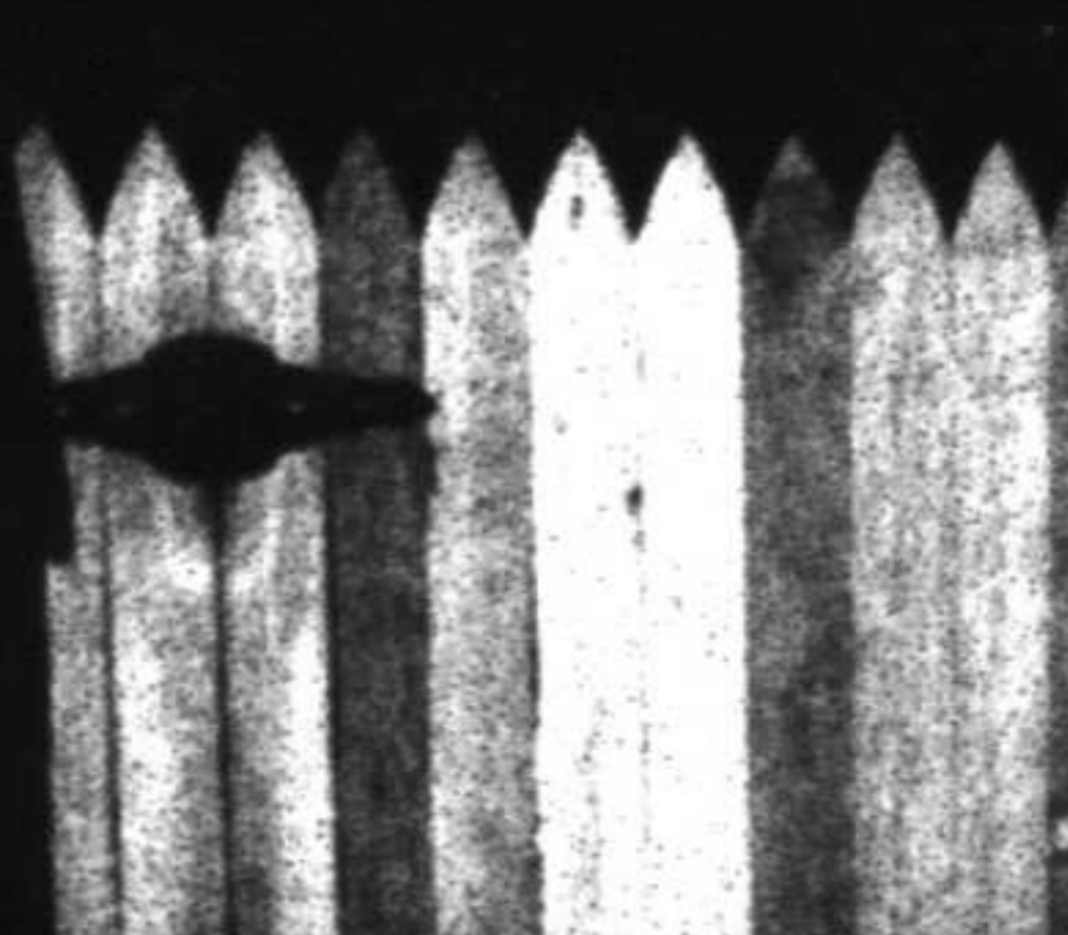
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FDA

From 1B

sanctioned by the U.S. government.

Philip Morris' penlike device, called iQOS, is already sold in more than 30 countries, including Canada, Japan and the United Kingdom. But Philip Morris and its U.S. partner, Altria, need the permission of the Food and Drug Administration to sell it in the U.S.

iQOS heats strips of Marlboro-branded tobacco but stops short of burning them, producing a tobacco vapor that includes nicotine. This is different from e-cigarettes, which don't use tobacco at all but instead vaporize liquid usually containing nicotine. Nicotine is what makes cigarettes addictive.

Philip Morris believes its product is closer to the taste and experience of traditional cigarettes, making it more attractive to smokers and reducing their contact with tar and other toxic byproducts of burning cigarettes.

Company scientists will present their studies and marketing plan to a panel of FDA advisers this week. The panel's recommendation, expected Thursday, is non-binding: the FDA will make the ultimate decision on the device later this year.

A greenlight from FDA would mark a major milestone in efforts by both the industry and government to provide less harmful tobacco products to smokers who can't or won't quit cigarettes. Despite decades of tax hikes, smoking bans and campaigns, about 15 percent of U.S. adults smoke.

The FDA review paints a mixed picture of the potential benefits of the iQOS "heat-not-burn" approach.

Levels of certain harmful chemicals were between 55 and 99 percent lower in the vapor produced by iQOS than in cigarette smoke. But animal and laboratory studies submitted by the company also suggested the chemicals could still be toxic and contribute to precancerous growths. A company study in mice

could help clarify the cancer risk, but the FDA said the results would not be available until later this year.

Under a 2009 law, the FDA gained authority to regulate a number of aspects of the tobacco industry. The same law allows the agency to scientifically review and permit sales of new products shown to be less dangerous than what's currently available. But the FDA has not yet allowed any company to advertise a "reduced-risk" tobacco product.

To meet FDA requirements, a company must show that the product will improve the health of individual users and the overall population. Additionally, the product should not appeal to non-smokers or interfere with smokers looking to quit.

Report: Health care usage down, while spending is up

By Carolyn Y. Johnson
The Washington Post

Americans who get health insurance through their jobs are not using more medical care than they were five years ago, but they are spending more because of soaring medical prices, according to a new report.

Health spending for the more than 150 million people who receive insurance through their employers was \$5,407 per person in 2016. That is a 4.6 percent increase over 2015, even though people's use of almost every broad category of care dropped or stayed the same over a five-year period, according to a new analysis from the Health Care Cost Institute, a nonprofit funded by the insurance industry.

The report, built on

claims data from 39 million people who receive insurance through their employers, found especially sharp increases in the prices of emergency room visits, surgeries and drugs administered in doctors' offices.

The number of emergency room visits increased by 2 percent between 2012 and 2016. Meanwhile, the average price of those visits soared 31 percent, to \$1,917. Admissions to the hospital for surgery dropped 16 percent over that period, but the average price increased to \$41,702, or a 30 percent jump. The price of physician-administered drugs, such as infusions for chemotherapy, increased by 42 percent.

Utilization of brand-name prescription drugs dropped, but overall spending increased because of price

increases, according to the data — which does not take into account rebates and coupons. For example, utilization of brand name drugs for skin diseases dropped by 42 percent, but prices increased by 165 percent.

"The health-care cost curve, at least for the employer-sponsored insurance population, seems to be trending in the wrong direction again," said Niall Brennan, institute president. "The cumulative change over a five-year period basically highlights, very starkly, that working Americans are using or consuming the same or less health care, yet the prices they're paying for that health care are going way up."

Consumers were somewhat insulated from these price increases, with out-of-pocket spending growing

slower than overall spending. People were particularly protected from increases in spending on prescription drugs, according to the study, with the out-of-pocket costs of drugs falling by \$27 per person cumulatively over the five years.

Since health care premiums are paid both by workers and their employers, the increased costs hit people indirectly even when they are not paying out-of-pocket.

The study raises more questions than it answers. Researchers found a striking drop-off in visits to primary care physicians, accompanied by a large jump in visits to specialists. That trend appears to go against a core health restructuring goal for people to seek care in low-cost settings to reduce the unnecessary use of high-cost services.



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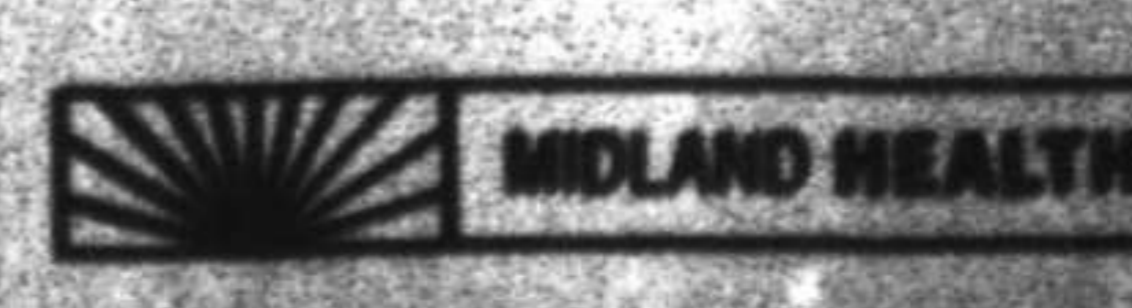
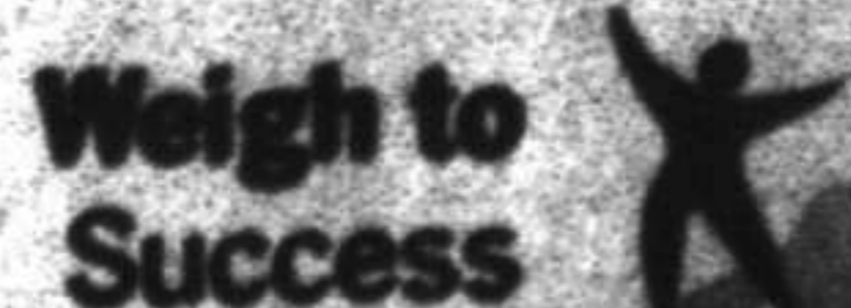
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No. 14 Texas Tech has big rally to beat Oklahoma State

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

LUBBOCK— Keenan Evans reiterated a message to his Texas Tech teammates after the senior struggled shooting the ball in a couple of big losses by the No. 14 Red Raiders.

"I was going to be that guy that set the tone, whether it was aggressive on offense, or aggressive on defense," Evans said. "I was trying to be that guy that was kind of everywhere ... just making tough plays and trying to get us going in any way possible."

Evans scored 22 of his 26 points after halftime Tuesday night, and Texas Tech rallied from a 15-point deficit to beat Oklahoma State 75-75 and avoid a third straight loss.

Evans hit a 3-pointer with 3:52 left that put the Red Raiders ahead to stay. That came only 40 seconds after his rebound and assist to Jarrett Culver, whose breakaway dunk gave Texas Tech (16-4, 5-3 Big 12) its first lead since the first half, and before a jumper by Lindy Waters put the Cowboys ahead one last time.

"He's a terrific player. I'm not surprised that he played well at all. Good players go through things like that for a couple of games," Oklahoma State coach Mike Boynton said. "He's not going to let that keep him down."

Culver, the freshman guard playing in his hometown, finished with 25 points and four 3-pointers.

Jeffrey Carroll had 16 points for Oklahoma State (13-7, 3-5), which was coming off an over-

time win three days earlier over then-No. 4 Oklahoma. And the Cowboys still had a 14-point lead with 15 minutes left.

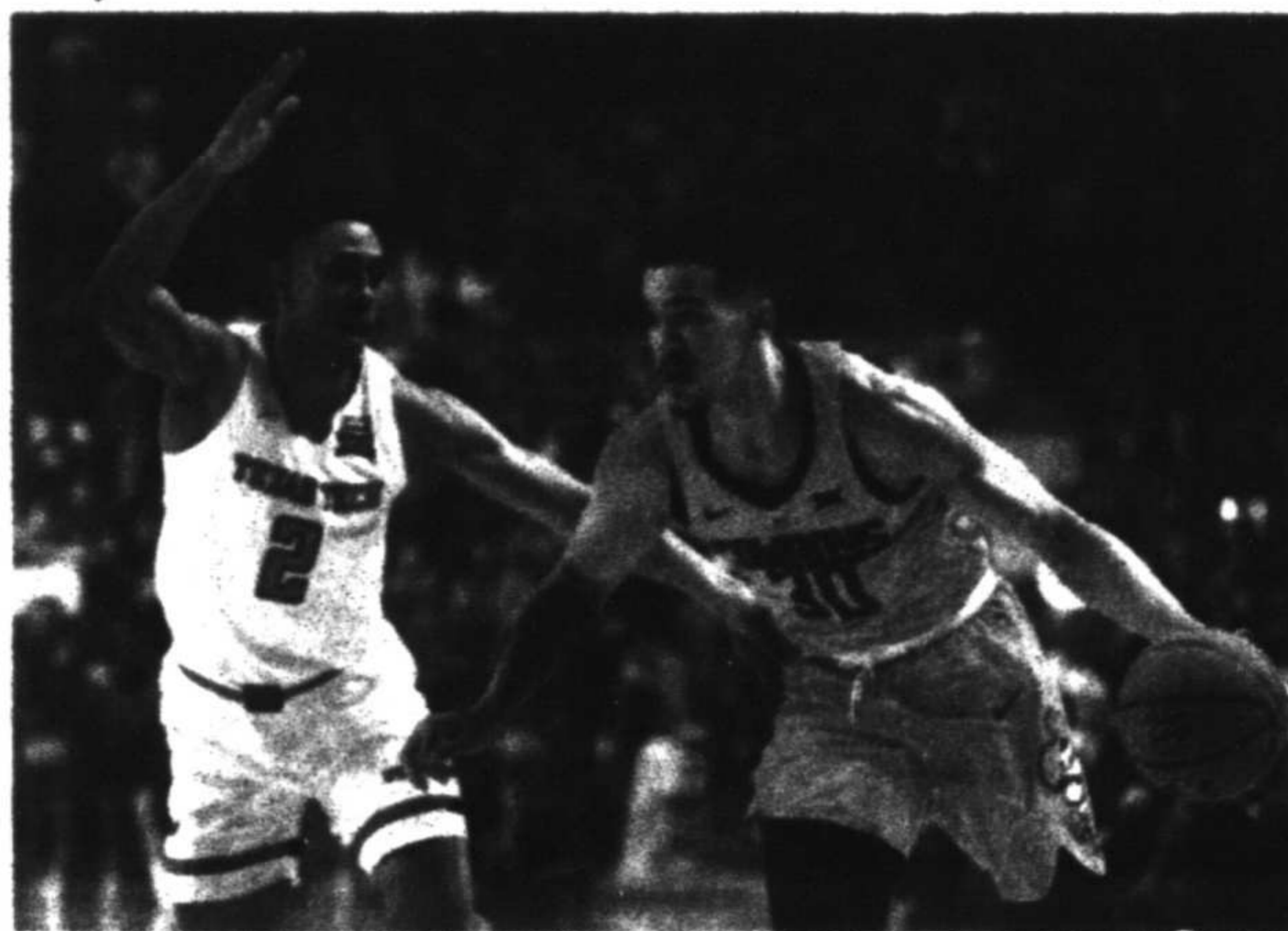
Evans was a combined 5-of-20 shooting, 2-of-13 on 3-pointers, as Tech lost twice on the road last week. After making 1 of 4 shots before halftime against the Cowboys, he was 6 of 9 in the second half.

"Keenan didn't play any different tonight than he has been. He's a great shooter," Tech coach Chris Beard said. "He's remained aggressive."

Big picture

Oklahoma State: The Cowboys have lost all four of their true road games, all in Big 12 play. At

Please see TECH/2C



Brad Tollefson/Associated Press

Oklahoma State's Jeffrey Carroll (30) drives the ball around Texas Tech's Zhaire Smith (2) during the first half Tuesday, in Lubbock.

Tough down the stretch



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Braydyn Hill (10) dribbles the ball down the court against Permian on Tuesday, at Chaparral Center.

Lady Rebels finish off Permian with late run

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

Head coach Alfred Acosta said his Lee girls basketball team was focused on finishing entering Tuesday's District 2-6A game against Odessa Permian.

The Lady Rebels did just that by leaving the Lady Panthers in the dust during a lopsided fourth quarter at Chaparral Center.

Behind a 15-3 fourth quarter run, Lee rolled to a 50-30 victory over Permian to snap a two-game losing streak in the second-half opener of district play.

The fourth-place Lady Rebels (14-14, 3-3 in District 2-6A) swept the season series over the fifth-place Lady Panthers (11-14, 1-5 in District 2-6A), while picking up a game on third-place Midland

High (20-11, 4-2).

Lee, which held off a Permian rally in a 42-41 win in both teams' first meeting, went on a game-defining 13-0 run to start the fourth quarter, while keeping the Lady Panthers off the scoreboard for nearly six minutes.

The Lady Rebels, who struggled scoring in their last two defeats, had three players score in double figures, as Braydyn Hill put up a team-high 12 points, while seniors Quinci Strambler and Alaysha Green each contributed with 10.

"The emphasis this week was closing games out, continuing to battle even when things aren't going our way," Acosta said. "I think our girls did a really good job. Hey, some things didn't go our way offensively. We missed some easy ones. But the girls turned around, came

back and defended like they're supposed to. There was definitely some growth tonight."

One area where Lee overwhelmed Permian was on the glass by winning the rebounding category by a 37-23 margin.

Strambler grabbed 12 rebounds to post a double-double. Paige Low had eight rebounds for the Lady Rebels, while teammate Mackenzie Ross tallied seven.

"The girls were tired of beating each other up in practice," Acosta said. "It was time to beat on another team. That was really the big emphasis just going in. It has been for the last couple of weeks. (Tuesday) we really did a good job of making sure we were the ones coming down with the rebounds. I'm very proud

Please see GIRLS/3C

Permian too much for Rebels in blowout

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

The No. 17-ranked Odessa Permian boys basketball team trotted its vaunted pressure defense and a 13-game winning streak into Chaparral Center Tuesday night.

The Panthers flashed the instinct, athleticism and aggressiveness that has vaulted them to among the state's best squads. Permian constantly trapped and harassed Lee ball handlers, jumped passing lanes and forced off-balanced, contested shots in a stellar defensive effort that carried it to a 65-37 District 2-6A victory over the Rebels.

Permian (22-3, 4-0 in District 2-6A) senior guard Javorian Miller led all scorers with 21 points, while Derrick Wright and Jalyn White added nine and eight points, respectively.

Loic Fouonji and Cevonte Eaden each scored nine points for the Rebels (7-19, 0-4 in District 2-6A), who dropped their ninth consecutive game since Dec. 28.

Though the Panthers' defense immediately made its mark, the Rebels hung tough through a physical first half that featured just eight fouls. Permian found some life in the open floor with 11 points in transition, boosted by a seven-point quarter from Miller.

But Lee stayed within striking distance and cut the deficit down to a manageable seven points following a trey on the wing by Jordan Lopez. Miller answered with a strong jump stop move and layup just before the halftime buzzer to hand the Panthers a 31-22 lead heading into the locker rooms.

Rebels head coach Justin Boswell said his team was trying to find a way to disrupt any groove the Panthers might settle into early. Through the first 16 minutes they did so by using a variety of screens and rolls to the basket, keeping the Panthers' defense on its toes.

To aid the cause, the Rebels shot a respectable 9 for 20 from the field in the first half.

"We missed a layup and they got one before the buzzer, but that was our game plan coming into tonight, get to shorten the game, not let them get into a rhythm," Boswell said. "We did a pretty good job of that in the first half."

Added Permian head coach Tim Thomas: "I thought (Lee) played well

Please see BOYS/3C



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Loic Fouonji (21) drives to the basket against Permian's Zach McGee (20) on Tuesday, at Chaparral Center.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

Figure Skating
Four Continents: Free Dance, 10:30 p.m., OLYHD
Four Continents: Men's Short Program, 5 a.m., OLYHD
Golf
Web.com: Bahamas Great Abaco Classic, Final Round, 1 p.m., GOLF
EPGA: Omega Dubai Desert Classic, 1st Round, 10 p.m., GOLF
Men's College Basketball
Marquette at Xavier, 5:30 p.m., FS1
Boston College at Syracuse, 6 p.m., ESPN
South Carolina at Florida, 6 p.m., SEC
Nebraska at Rutgers, 6 p.m., BTN
St. Joseph's at St. Bonaventure, 6 p.m., CBSN
Louisville at Miami-FL, 7 p.m., ESPN2
DePaul at Georgetown, 7:30 p.m., FS1
Stanford at USC, 8 p.m., ESPN
Auburn at Missouri, 8 p.m., SEC
Indiana at Illinois, 8 p.m., BTN
Temple at Cincinnati, 8 p.m., CBSN
San Jose State at Boise State, 9 p.m., ATTSW+
Nevada at Wyoming, 10 p.m., ESPN
Colorado State at San Diego State, 10 p.m., CBSN
Men's Soccer
EFL Semifinal, Leg 2: Arsenal vs. Chelsea, 1:55 p.m., ESPNDEP
Brazil: Corinthians vs. Ferroviaria, 3:30 p.m., GoTV
Copa MX: Tampico Madero FC vs. Atlas, 6:50 p.m., ES-

PNDEP
Copa MX: Santos Laguna vs. Pachuca, 6:55 p.m., UDN
Copa MX: Monterrey vs. Correcaminos UAT, 9 p.m., UDN
National Basketball Association
Houston at Dallas, 7 p.m., ESPN, FSSW
San Antonio at Memphis, 7 p.m., FSSWSA
Boston at LA Clippers, 9:30 p.m., ESPN, ESPNDEP
NBA G-League
Austin at Agua Caliente, 9 p.m., ELVN
National Hockey League
Toronto at Chicago, 7 p.m., NBCSN
Tennis
Australian Open, 6 p.m., TENNIS
Australian Open, Women's Semifinals, 9 p.m., ESPN2
Australian Open, 1 a.m., TENNIS
Australian Open, Men's 1st Semifinal, 2:30 a.m., ESPN, ESPNDEP
Women's College Basketball
UConn at Memphis, Noon, SNY
Kansas at Oklahoma, 6 p.m., FSSW+, FCSC
Iowa State at Oklahoma State, 8 p.m., FSSW+
Radio
National Basketball Association
Houston at Dallas, 7 p.m., KBST 1490 AM (Big Spring)
San Antonio at Memphis, 7 p.m., KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring)
Women's College Basketball
Texas Tech at West Virginia, 6 p.m., KPET 105.1 FM/690 AM (Lamesa)

Alexander Radulov has 2 goals, assist as Stars beat Florida Panthers 6-1

Associated Press

DALLAS — Alexander Radulov had two goals and an assist to lead the Dallas Stars to a 6-1 victory over the Florida Panthers in a penalty-filled game on Tuesday night. Devin Shore had a goal and an assist, and Jamie Benn, Mattias Janmark and Tykier Pitlick also scored for Dallas, which improved to 4-0-1 in its last five games. Ben Bishop finished with 33 saves. Aaron Ekblad scored for the Panthers, and rookie Harri Sateri had 30 saves after James Reimer was injured just 3:48 into the game. Reimer stopped all three shots he faced before leaving.

Florida, mired in a 2-5-2 slump, lost three players during the game. In addition to Reimer, Alexander Petrovic and Micheal Haley were ejected after receiving game misconducts. Radulov scored on the power play in the second period and on a breakaway in the third, and assisted on Benn's second-period goal. Radulov and Benn extended their points streaks to eight games. They each have 20 goals this season. Shore scored on the power play during a first period that included four fights and 18 penalties totaling 84 minutes. Shore's goal with 4:15 remaining came after the last fight of the period. From the slot, he deflected a shot by John Klingberg past Sateri.

Benn's goal came from low in the right circle at 6:43 of the second. Radulov took a pass from Jason Spezza just to the right of the goal to beat Sateri on the power play at 9:57. The Panthers cut their deficit to 3-1 when Ekblad scored with 4:13 left in the middle period. Janmark and Pitlick also had third-period goals for Dallas — with Pitlick's coming 20 seconds after Radulov's second goal. The Stars outscored the last two opponents 13-2. NOTES: Reimer left after he fell in the goal mouth behind Stars LW Antoine Roussel. Panthers D Keith Yandle went after Roussel, and both were assessed major penalties for fighting. Barely two minutes later, Haley fought with Faksa. They each received a major penalty, and Haley was assessed another two minutes for instigating and a 10-minute misconduct. A minor penalty and two misconducts in the second period gave Haley 39 penalty minutes in the game and increased his season total to 131, most in the NHL. The penalty parade continued with simultaneous fights at 14:25: Faksa, who had only 16 PIM in his first 47 games, against Derek MacKenzie and Dallas rookie D Dillon Heatherington vs. Petrovic. Heatherington also received a game misconduct.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Associated Press

NO. 12 OKLAHOMA 85 NO. 5 KANSAS 80
NORMAN, Okla. — Trae Young had 26 points and nine assists, and No. 12 Oklahoma rallied to beat No. 5 Kansas 85-80 on Tuesday night. Young, the nation's leader in scoring and assists, struggled with efficiency in losses to Kansas State and Oklahoma State last week. Against Kansas, the freshman point guard made 7 of 9 field goals and 10 of 12 free throws. Christian James scored 15 points and Brady Manek added 14 for the Sooners (15-4, 5-3 Big 12), who won their 13th straight at home. Svi Mykhailiuk scored 24 points and Malik Newman added 20 for Kansas (16-4, 6-2), which had won five straight. Devonte' Graham, Kansas' leading scorer, finished with 11 points on 4-of-19 shooting. Kansas led for most of the second half, but James' 3-pointer with 1:09 remaining on an assist from Young put the Sooners up 82-80. Manek later drained a 3-pointer, also on an assist from Young, to make it 85-80 with 25 seconds to play. Oklahoma effectively limited Kansas center Udoka Azubuike. The 7-footer scored nine points, all in the second half. He played with foul trouble and made just 1 of 7 free throws. Oklahoma drew the second foul on Azubuike with 10:14 left in the first half and Kansas leading 19-13. The Soon-

ers went on a 13-4 run in the next three minutes to take the lead. The Sooners led 43-41 at halftime. Young took just four shots and had six assists before the break, and he didn't attempt a 3-pointer. Newman led Kansas with 15 points in the half and Mykhailiuk added 11. Graham was held to 7 points on 2 for 9 shooting before the break. Kansas took the lead in the opening minutes of the second half. Azubuike made three consecutive buckets during one stretch to give Kansas a 55-47 lead. Oklahoma intentionally fouled Azubuike, a 41-percent free throw shooter coming in, several times. He missed all five of his free throws in the final 3:37 to help the Sooners get back into the game.

LSU 77 TEXAS A&M 65
BATON ROUGE, La. — Duop Reath scored 21, Tremont Waters added 15 points and LSU snapped a three-game skid with a 77-65 victory over Texas A&M on Tuesday night. One game after scoring 31 in a loss at Vanderbilt, Reath made nine of 14 shots and also grabbed eight rebounds. He scored the game's first four points and helped LSU (12-7, 3-4 Southeastern Conference) build an early double-digit lead in a wire-to-wire victory. Waters also had nine assists and eight steals for LSU, and his highlights included two breakaway layups he created with

HS BASEBALL BRIEF

LEE RANKED NO. 8 IN THSBCA PRESEASON POLL

The Lee baseball team is ranked No. 8 in the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association preseason poll, released Tuesday. It's the Rebels' highest ranking since the end of the 2016 season, when they finished in the top 10 of the final Class 6A THSBCA poll following their run to the regional final.

Lee was 14-17 overall last year and has three players who have signed with NCAA Division I programs. San Antonio Reagan is ranked No. 1, followed by Deer Park, Southlake Carroll, Rockwall, Lake Travis, Cy Ranch and Round Rock at No. 7. Katy and San Antonio Churchill round out the top 10. Lee opens its 2018 season on Thursday, Feb. 22 at the Lewisville Tournament.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BASEBALL — Suspended Houston RHP Dean Deetz 80 games after testing positive for Dehydrochloromethyltestosterone, a performance-enhancing substance, in violation of Major League Baseball's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program. Suspended Houston minor league 1B Jonathan Singleton (Corpus Christi-Texas) 100 games after a third positive test for a drug of abuse in violation of the Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Signed OF Curtis Branson to a one-year contract.
NEW YORK METS — Promoted Brian Chalko to transfer named Jim Cavallin director of performance and sports science, and Joseph Gola assistant trainer. Agreed to terms with INF Ty Kelly on a minor league contract.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Promoted Jason Walters to vice president of communications.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Signed WR Cayleb Jones to a reserve-future contract.
Arena Football League
AFL — Announced Albany Empire as the name for the new Albany, N.Y. team.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
BUFFALO SABRES — Recalled D Matt Tenney from Rochester (AHL).

DETROIT RED WINGS — Assigned D Joe Hellebust and C Dominic Targion to Grand Rapids (AHL).
ECHL — Suspended Indy's Garrett Clarke two games and fined him an undisclosed amount for his actions during a Jan. 21 game at Kalamazoo.
SOCCER
Major League Soccer
COLORADO RAPIDS — Named Ene Patel director of player personnel.
PORTLAND TIMBERS — Acquired the MLS Homegrown Player rights for M Erik Williamson from D.C. United for \$100,000 General Allocation Money in 2018. \$100,000 Targeted Allocation Money in 2019, a 2018 international spot and a natural second-round pick in the 2020 MLS SuperDraft.
SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC — Loaned M Aaron Kovar to Los Angeles FC.
National Women's Soccer League
WASHINGTON SPIRIT — Acquired G Aubrey Bledsoe and a 2019 first-round draft pick from Orlando for D Sheina Zadorsky.
United Soccer League
ATL UTD 2 — Named Rob Valentino assistant coach.
OTTAWA FURY FC — Signed D Colin Fahey.
WEIGHTLIFTING
USADA — Announced weightlifter Alyssa Travis accepted a four-year sanction for an anti-doping rule violation due to her refusal to provide a sample during an out-of-competition test on December 3, 2017.

NFL GLANCE

Table with NFL game results and standings for Wild-card Playoffs, Conference Championships, and Super Bowl.

NBA GLANCE

Table with NBA standings for Eastern Conference, Pacific Division, and Western Conference.

NHL GLANCE

Table with NHL standings for Eastern Conference, Pacific Division, and Western Conference.

TECH

From 1C

home, they have won their last three games in overtime or on the final shot in regulation. Texas Tech: After a tough week on the road, the Red Raiders got a much-needed boost with an impressive comeback after halftime. They made only one of 12 field goals in the final 10 minutes of the first half, but made 15 of 28 after halftime, including 6 of 9 3-pointers.

Taking a punch

"Every game, you're going to get punched, the other team is going to go on runs, and you've got to respond," Beard said. "Tonight, above all, what I'm most proud of is just the grit, the composure. I didn't think there was much panic out there, even when we were trying so hard to play well and we just weren't."

Even though the Red Raiders are out of the Top 10 for the first time in three weeks, they are still among the nation's top 15 teams for three straight weeks for the first time since 1995-96.

Before the break

Carroll had a go-ahead bank shot with 5:50 left in the first half that started a half-ending 18-5 run that put Oklahoma State up 37-25. Carroll had a 3-pointer

36 seconds after that as part of eight straight points for the Cowboys.

Up next

Oklahoma State plays at Arkansas on Saturday in the Big 12/SEC Challenge. Texas Tech also steps out of conference play for one of the early games Saturday in the Big 12/SEC Challenge, at South Carolina, a Final Four team last season.

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MHS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

MHS BOYS ROLL PAST FRENSHIP WITH TORRID 4TH WOLFFORTH - The Midland High boys basketball team rolled to a 71-53 victory over Wolfforth Frenship in District 2-6A play Tuesday behind a 26-14 fourth-quarter run.

The Bulldogs (11-14, 2-2 in District 2-6A) moved into a third place tie with Amarillo Tascosa with the win, one game ahead of the fifth-place Tigers (13-14, 1-3).

"It's a very big win," MHS head coach Shan Hooker said. "We needed that one."

Rayshad Chambers led the Bulldogs with 14 points, followed by 13 from teammate Jordan Riley and 10 points from Rahkeem Petterson. Trailing Frenship 14-9 after one quarter, MHS went on a 16-8 run in the second quarter to take a 25-22 halftime lead.

The Bulldogs followed with a torrid second half, outscoring the Tigers 46-31 after intermission.

"We turned up the defensive pressure more in the second half and were able to execute our offense better than we did in the first half," Hooker said. "We moved the ball, shared the ball."

Frenship's Calaway Dykes led all scorers with 22 points. MHS hosts first-place Permian (22-3, 4-0) at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Chaparral Center.

MIDLAND HIGH 71, WOLFFORTH FRENSHIP 53 Midland High (11-14, 2-2 in District 2-6A) - Demetri Williams 7, Daniel Elliott 2, Rahkeem Petterson 10, Neil Rodriguez 4, Duce Warren 6, Gage Warren 9, Jordan Riley 13, Rayshad Chambers 14, Suddin Saeed 6

SLOW START DOOMS MHS GIRLS AT FRENSHIP WOLFFORTH - The Wolfforth Frenship girls basketball team raced out to an early lead and never looked back during a 58-42 victory over Midland High in a matchup of District 2-6A first-place teams Tuesday.

The Lady Bulldogs (20-11, 4-2 in District 2-6A) dropped to third place in the standings behind co-leaders Frenship (24-6, 5-1) and Amarillo Tascosa (18-10, 5-1).

The Lady Tigers soared to a 14-6 lead after one quarter and held a 25-15 advantage at halftime.

"They shot the ball well," MHS head coach Wes Torres said of Frenship. "They got off the fast start. We struggled to hit shots tonight and a lot of that was due to their defensive pressure. I was proud of the effort. Our girls played their hearts out."

The Lady Dawgs had three players score in double figures, as Taysha Rushton had a team-high 14 points, Quay Webster contributed with 12 and Jurnee Williams had 10.

The Lady Tigers also had three in double digits with Cassandra Awatt leading the way with 14 points, Abre Godfrey providing 12 and Maci Maddox chipping in with 11.

WOLFFORTH FRENSHIP 58, MIDLAND HIGH 42 Midland High (20-11, 4-2 in District 2-6A) - Taysha Rushton 14, Quay Webster 12, Jurnee Williams 10, Maya Duarte 6

Frenship (24-6, 5-1) - Cassandra Awatt 14, Abre Godfrey 12, Maci Maddox 11, Addison Wilson 6, Ashton Beales 6, Kaitelin Heise 5, Diamond Washington 2, Haleigh Elliott 2

Late goal lifts Lee over SA Lake View

From staff reports Briana Baeza scored an unassisted goal off with 12 minutes left in the contest to lift the Lee girls soccer team to a 1-0 victory over San Angelo Lake View at Grande Communications Stadium on Tuesday night.

Goalkeeper Jenna McEnaney had eight saves in the shutout victory for the Lady Rebels (7-2).

Lee coach Mark Hinshaw said his team played good defense and added his team did a very good job of keeping the ball away from Lake View, especially in the first half.

"Lake View has some quality skill players and we were just able to withstand their attack," he said. Lee next hosts Lubbock Cooper at 5 p.m. Friday.

Drama club: Cavaliers hold meeting to vent frustration

By Tom Withers Associated Press Cleveland's drama club is acting up again. Frustrated by their recent poor play in a season when their NBA title hopes seem to be slipping away, the Cavaliers held an emotional pre-practice meeting on Monday in hopes of clearing the air.

They've lost 10 of 14 and dropped to third in the Eastern Conference behind Boston and Toronto. With an embarrassing defeat to Oklahoma City on national TV still lingering, the Cavs decided it was time to address their troubled state before leaving for Tuesday's game at San Antonio.

"We aired any grievances we had and we're going to move forward," said center Kevin Love, who regretted that the meeting was leaked publicly.

"Hopefully we'll be better for it, we have been in the past." Chaos is nothing new for the Cavaliers, who have had similar blowups in recent years yet managed to overcome any differences and went to the Finals the past three years.

Love has been in the middle of controversy before, and after he missed two days with an illness, it was presumed he was involved in Monday's discussion.

"Did I feel like a target?" he said at Tuesday's shoot-around. "I think everybody, most people, were a target. We're trying to figure this thing out. People hold themselves to a very high standard on this team and we're a team that can compete at the highest level. So, for us, it's not about me."

"I'm not going to make it about myself. I'm sure with other guys, it's the same thing. The biggest thing is moving forward. For me, the thing I've always done is kept my mouth shut, I continue to work hard and try to do best for the Cavs. That's all I can do tonight and moving forward these last 35, 40 games and overall just try to help this team."

Amid all the chaos, Love was named a reserve for next month's NBA All-Star Game later in the day. While he wants to move on from the team's latest turbulence, there may be some unresolved issues.

When the team arrived at San Antonio's AT&T Center, Love was the first player off the bus and he walked into the arena by himself wearing headphones and carrying a coffee cup. His teammates trailed in behind him.

Although Love is averaging 18.6 points and 9.4 rebounds, there always seems to be a sense that he should be doing more. He's been the scapegoat before, so the latest uproar surrounding the team doesn't surprise him.

MHS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

GIRLS GREENWOOD 48, PECOS 38 PECOS - The Greenwood girls basketball team stayed undefeated in District 4-4A thanks to a 22-point third quarter against Pecos.

Kaitlan Keel led the Rangerettes (16-14, 5-0) with a game-high 15 points and Brady Good added 10 in the win.

GREENWOOD 48, PECOS 38 Greenwood (16-14, 5-0) - Kaitlan Keel 15, Katelyn Ellis 2, Ariana Leyva 4, Casey Mebane 8, Brady Good 10

Pecos (3-2 in District 4-4A) - Patino 3, Reyes 3, Jasso 9, Burleson 13, Terry 6, Meierhoff 2

MCA 65, AB. CHRISTIAN 18 ABILENE - No. 3 ranked Midland Classical Academy opened TAPPS 1-3A play with a convincing win over Abilene Christian.

Leia Beattie scored a game-high 28 points and Lizabelle Russell added 14 for the Lady Knights (15-8, 1-0), which held ACHS to a combined one point in the first and fourth quarters.

MCA (15-8, 1-0) - Korik Kirk 7, Laine Beattie 28, Lizabelle Russell 14, Kenna Sawyer 2, Jenny Coca 8, Malena Beattie 5

Abilene Christian (0-1) - Bruton 2, Wade 4, Phelps 2, McNeal 5, Straughn 3, Ice 2

MCA 17, 12, 22, 14-65 ACHS 1, 12, 5, 0-18 Free throws - MCA 2-4, ACHS 3-6, 3-point goals - MCA 5 (Kirk)

MILES 47 MILES - Forsan remained unbeaten in District 7-2A play with a 21-point win over Miles.

Kobe Richardson led the Buffaloes (20-3, 7-0 in District 7-2A) with 19 points, Bryce Hergert added 18 and Garrett Evans scored 10.

Forsan (20-3, 7-0 in District 7-2A) - Bryce Hergert 18, Aaron Gutierrez 3, Kobe Richardson 19, Ehren Hilgert 2, Zane Riffe 8, Jaeden Cessar 8

Miles (3-4 in District 7-2A) - Edgar Carbajal 9, Andrew Vega 2, Kaeli Knatz 3, Dillon Wilson 6, Silin Hoffman 3, Tanner Gilbert 24

LAMESA 62, BROWNFIELD 60 BROWNFIELD - Lamesa edged Brownfield for its first District 2-4A victory.

Buddy Williams had 15 points and Ryan Aguilar and Jordan Derington each had 14 for the Golden Tornados (17-10, 1-3).

Lamesa (17-10, 1-3) - Ryan Aguilar 14, Buddy Williams 15, Jordan Derington 14, Zachary Quintanilla 2, Victor Barajas 8, James Rodriguez 1, Jackson Napper 8

Brownfield (10-13, 0-3) - Ryan Aguilar 14, Buddy Williams 15, Jordan Derington 14, Zachary Quintanilla 2, Victor Barajas 8, James Rodriguez 1, Jackson Napper 8

Sines 17 Lamesa 19, 18, 18, 20-62 Brownfield 9, 13, 18, 20-60 Free throws - Lamesa 14-23, Brownfield 16-25, 3-point goals - Lamesa 6 (Aguilar 3, Williams 3), Brownfield 2 (Sines, Muniz)

NBA ROUNDUP

SPURS 114, CAVS 102 SAN ANTONIO - LeBron James became the youngest player ever with 30,000 career points, but LaMarcus Aldridge scored 30 points to lift the San Antonio Spurs over the slumping Cleveland Cavaliers 114-102 on Tuesday night.

James had 28 points while becoming the seventh member of the 30,000-point club, yet he couldn't keep the Cavaliers from dropping their 10th in 13 games.

Spurs point guard Dejounte Murray - friend and mentee of James - had 19 points, 10 rebounds and seven steals in his second start since replacing a healthy Tony Parker. Murray scored for a tip follow and then rose to disrupt James' driving layup, which led to a 3-pointer by Danny Green that gave the Spurs a 105-94 lead with 4:20 remaining.

After missing his first two midrange jumpers and a pair of free throws, James made two driving layups and a 20-footer, and then rose above Danny Green for a 19-foot jumper with one second remaining in the first quarter to reach the mark. The shot put Cleveland up 29-25.

At 33 years and 24 days, James is the youngest player to get 30,000. Bryant was 34 years and 104 days when he got there.

THUNDER 109, NETS 108 OKLAHOMA CITY - Russell Westbrook made a go-ahead layup with 3.3 seconds left to help Oklahoma City rally from a 15-point second-half deficit and beat Brooklyn.

The lead changed hands six times in the final 2:23. Brooklyn went ahead 108-107 on a driving layup by Spencer Dinwiddie with 7.8 seconds left, but Westbrook answered with his own. After three timeouts, Dinwiddie missed a 3-point attempt at the buzzer, with the Thunder's Andre Roberson guarding him closely. Westbrook had 32 points and Paul George had 28 with nine rebounds. George was left off the NBA All-Star roster earlier in the day. Joe Harris led the Nets with 19 points while Dinwiddie and DeMarre Carroll had 13 each. The Nets ended a two-game winning streak, matching their longest of the season.

KINGS 105, MAGIC 99 ORLANDO, Fla. - Garrett Temple scored 19 of his career-high 34 points in the fourth quarter to lift Sacramento over Orlando. Willie Cauley-Stein had 21 points and nine rebounds and Buddy Hield added 13 points for the Kings, who stopped an eight-game losing streak. Temple accounted for all of Sacramento's points during a 17-6 run.

Warriors, Wolves, Wizards each get 2 NBA All-Star reserves

By Brian Mahoney Associated Press NEW YORK - Stephen Curry will be able to stock his All-Star roster with plenty of Golden State teammates.

Klay Thompson and Draymond Green were chosen as reserves Tuesday, giving the defending NBA champions a record-tying four All-Stars for the second straight year.

The Minnesota Timberwolves and Washington Wizards also had two reserves selected, and they will go into the pool of players that Curry and fellow captain LeBron James can draft to combine the teams for the Feb. 18 game in Los Angeles. Their rosters will be unveiled Thursday, though the selection process won't be televised.

Minnesota's Jimmy Butler and Karl-Anthony Towns were chosen from the Western Conference, along with Oklahoma City's Russell Westbrook, San Antonio's LaMarcus Aldridge and Portland's Damian Lillard.

Besides Washington's John Wall and Bradley Beal, the rest of the Eastern Conference reserves were Boston's Al Horford, Cleveland's Kevin Love, New York's Kristaps Porzingis, Toronto's Kyle Lowry and Indiana's Victor Oladipo.

The starters were announced last week. Curry and the Warriors' Kevin Durant joined Houston's James Harden and New Orleans' Anthony Davis and DeMarcus Cousins from the West, while the East players besides James were Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo, Boston's Kyrie Irving, Toronto's DeMar DeRozan and Philadelphia's Joel Embiid.

James and Curry earned the captain spots by being the leading vote-getters in fan balloting in each conference. They will not have to stick to conference affiliation when drafting their teams. James will have the first pick after receiving the most total votes. After the starters are chosen, Curry will have the first pick among the reserves.

Boys

From 1C

in the first half. They're young, they're short-handed, what have you, but I thought they gave us some problems early in the halfgame."

But the Panthers took the floor with a new level of intensity to start the third quarter.

Permian opened the period on an 8-0 run and held Lee scoreless until a layup by Eaden with 1:27 to play in the third. The Panthers continued to anticipate passes and turn the Rebels over, fueling their transition offense as they outscored Lee 14-4 to extend the lead going into the fourth.

at halftime, in the third quarter especially, when we kind of locked in," Thomas said. "We want to get out and run and we want to be good enough, if teams get back, to execute in halfcourt. I thought the transition kind of got us going, got us some separation. The most important thing is our defense and I thought the kids played very unselfishly offensively."

Miller said breaking the game wide open came down to simple execution.

"We just tried to come out and execute the game plan," Miller said. "The first half was a little rough and we kind of didn't do that. But at halftime, coach got us to regroup and we went out and just tried to play with that fire and intensity, try to get some stops."

"(We want to) make it tough, make (the opposition) shoot some shots, you don't normally shoot, make the shots they usually do make tough."

Permian grew its lead to as many as 28 points in the fourth and didn't let up despite the lead.

"You've got to credit Permian - they are extremely physical and tough and that's the way the game was played (Tuesday)," Boswell said.

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

NO. 17 ODESSA PERMIAN 66, LEE 37 Permian (22-3, 4-0 in District 2-6A) - Jordan Miller 21, Nelson Potts 2, Elgin White 3, Henderson White 5, David Hight 3, Tyreek Henderson 6, Zach McGee 7, John White 8, Coby Tomasco 4

GIRLS

From 1C

of the ladies' effort." Permian took a 15-14 lead with 4:11 to play in the second quarter when Klarissa Cruz made a putback and added a free throw on a 3-point play.

But Lee was able to finish the second quarter on a 9-0 run, turning rebounds on both the offensive and defensive side into converted buckets.

Strambler scored on a 3-pointer and added a putback during the run, which gave Lee a 23-15 halftime lead.

"As a team, we all did what we were supposed to do to accomplish this win as we did tonight," Strambler said. "It was just a big team effort that we needed to come out here and be together on one page on the court and go out here and take care of business."

After being held to 20 points in their first three quarters in a 54-33 loss to Frenship last Friday, the Lady Rebels turned the tide in Tuesday's win by scoring 20 points in the last 10 minutes.

Green said the offensive turnaround started with a positive, fearless mindset.

District 2-6A Girls Basketball Standings Table with columns for District, Overall, W, L, T

Tuesday's scores table listing game results and scores

Friday's games table listing game results and scores

Lee vs. Permian game summary table

Permian vs. Lee game summary table

Lee vs. Permian game summary table

Injured Nadal out of Australian Open; Cilic into semifinals

By John Pye
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — One point after his medical timeout in the fourth set, Rafael Nadal went to the rear of the court to squat and do a knee-raise, trying to stretch out his injured right leg.

Three games later — one point after his subsequent visit from the trainer — Nadal had to delay Marin Cilic's serve while trying to walk out the pain at the start of the fifth set.

After limping and wincing through two more games, and after failing to fend off a sixth break point, the 16-time major champion was out of the Australian Open.

The sixth-seeded Cilic advanced to his first semifinal in Australia since 2010 with a 3-6, 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-2, 2-0 victory Tuesday. He will next play 49th-ranked Kyle Edmund, who beat third-ranked Grigor Dimitrov 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 to reach a Grand Slam semifinal for the first time.

"Tough moments — not (for) the first time here," Nadal said. "I'm a positive person, but today is an opportunity lost to be in a semifinal for a Grand Slam and fight for an important title for me."

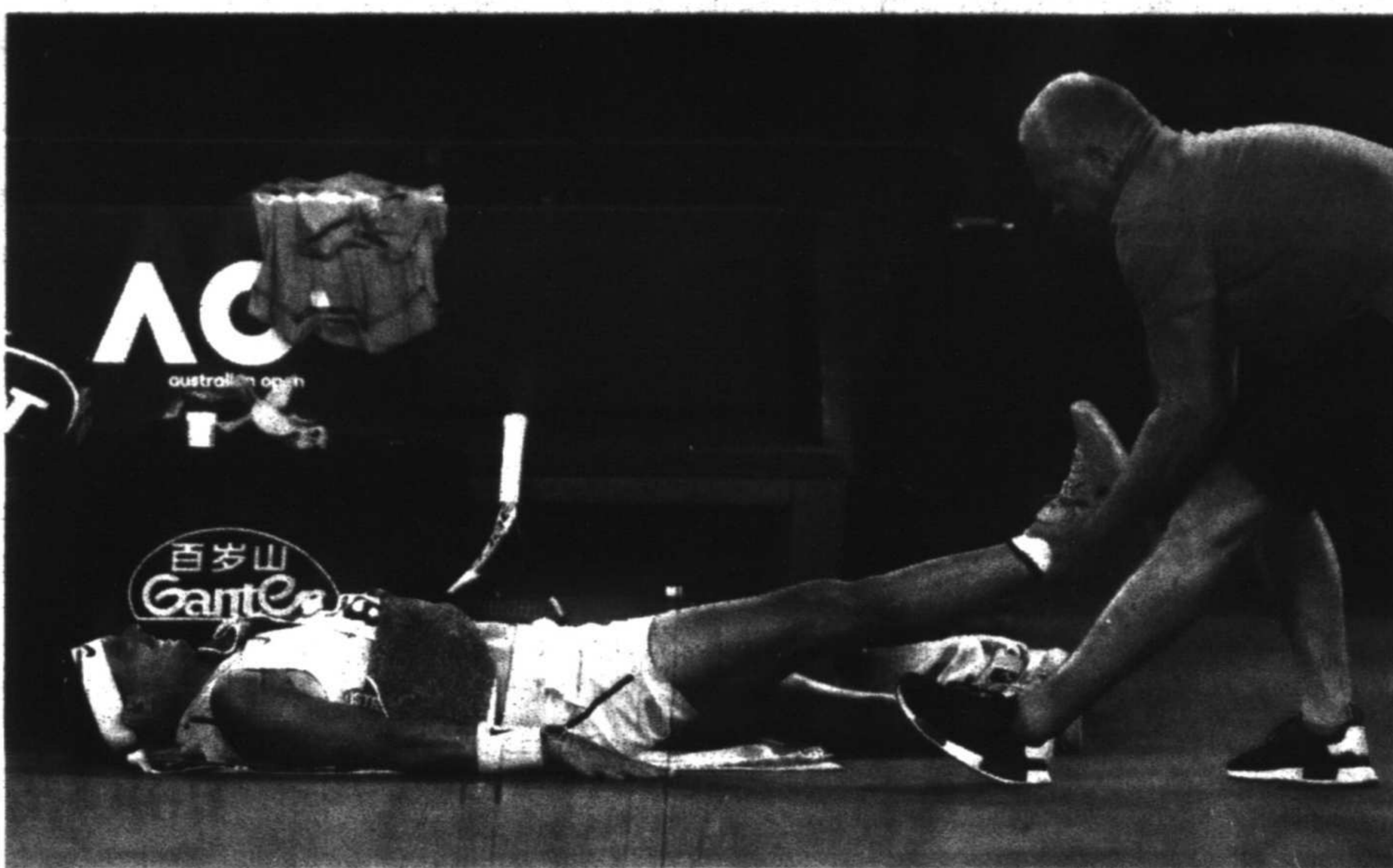
"It's really tough to accept." Injuries to star players dominated headlines before the tournament. Five-time Australian Open finalist Andy Murray withdrew so he could have surgery on his hip. Nadal (right knee), six-time champion Novak Djokovic (right elbow) and 2014 champion Stan Wawrinka (left knee) left their fitness decisions to the eve of the tournament — it's no surprise they are all out of the tournament.

There are limits to human endurance, and Nadal found his on Tuesday.

"Somebody who is running the tour should think (a) little bit about what's going on. Too many people getting injured," said Nadal, who was still limping and grimacing at a post-match news conference. "I don't know if they have to think a little bit about the health of the players."

"I don't know if we keep playing in this very, very hard surfaces what's going to happen in the future with our lives."

Nadal said the timing and the number of tournaments on the schedule and the proliferation of hardcourts are concerns. Other



Rafael Nadal receives treatment from a trainer during his quarterfinal against Marin Cilic at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia on Tuesday.

players have expressed similar views.

Last year's Australian Open was one for the ages, with Roger Federer returning from a six-month injury layoff and beating Nadal in five sets in the final, and Serena Williams beating her sister, Venus, for the women's title. Serena opted not to defend her title, deciding she hadn't had enough time to recover from giving birth to her first child in September. Venus Williams lost in the first round.

This year's Australian Open is shaping up more as one of discovery. On the women's side, Angelique Kerber was the only major champion to reach the quarterfinals.

No. 35-ranked Elise Mertens upset fourth-seeded Elina Svitolina 6-4, 6-0 to extend her winning streak to 10 matches, becoming the first Belgian since Kim Clijsters in 2012 to reach the semifinals.

Up next for her is second-ranked Caroline Wozniacki, who finished off a 6-0, 6-7 (3), 6-2 win over Carla Suarez Navarro after 1:30 a.m.

Wozniacki, who is still chasing her first Grand Slam title, can also return to No. 1 for the first time in six years depending on results in Melbourne.

The second-ranked Federer is still in contention for his 20th major, with a quarterfinal against Tomas Berdych on Wednesday.

On Federer's side of the draw, 58th-ranked Hyeon Chung and 97th-ranked Tenny Sandgren are playing for a spot in the semifinals.

Cilic against Edmund was an unlikely pairing on the top half of the men's draw. Edmund had never played in a major quarterfinal, had never won five consecutive matches at tour level, had lost both of his previous matches against Dimitrov and had never beaten a top-five player.

He checked all those boxes on Rod Laver Arena.

"I am loving it right now, just the way I'm playing," Edmund said. "My first Grand Slam semifinal. First time I played on one of the biggest courts in the world. To beat a quality of player like Grigor. They're great feelings. So, yeah, I just try to enjoy it as much as possible."

Nadal left dejected. It was the second time he had to retire during an Australian Open quarterfinal — the previous time was against Murray in 2010.

He said he felt muscle pain in his upper right leg in the third set against Cilic but played through it. In the fourth set, chasing a drop shot, he felt the pain get worse "but didn't realize how bad."

He had an injury timeout at 4-1 down in the fourth set, and another at the end of the set.

After Cilic broke his serve, the 31-year-old Spaniard went to

shake hands with the umpire and his opponent, and angrily hurled his headband into his equipment bag.

Nadal said he would have medical scans Wednesday to determine the exact location and extent of the injury, which he could only describe as being high on his right leg but not in the hip.

Nadal had a delayed start to the season because of an injured right knee but appeared to be in good form through the first four rounds. He now hasn't won back-to-back Australian Open quarterfinal matches since 2008 and '09, the year he won his only Australian title.

"Unbelievable performance from both of us and really unfortunate for Rafa," said Cilic, who had only beaten Nadal once in their previous six matches. "He's such an unbelievable competitor. He always gives his best ... it's very unfortunate for him to finish this way."

MELBOURNE — Results Tuesday from the Australian Open at Melbourne Park (seedings in parentheses):

Men's Singles Quarterfinal

Marin Cilic (6), Croatia, def. Rafael Nadal (1), Spain, 3-6, 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-2, 0-2

Kyle Edmund, Britain, def. Grigor Dimitrov (3), Bulgaria, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4

Women's Singles Quarterfinal

Elise Mertens, Belgium, def. Elina Svitolina (4), Ukraine, 6-4, 6-0

Men's Doubles Quarterfinal

Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany and Ben McLachlan, Japan, def. Lukasz Kubot, Poland and Marcelo Melo (1), Brazil, 6-4, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (5)

Bob Bryan, United States and Mike Bryan (6), United States, def. Asam-Ul-Haq Qureshi, Pakistan and Marcin Matkowski (15), Poland, 6-1, 6-4

Women's Doubles Quarterfinal

Katrina Mladenovic, France and Tímea Babos (5), Hungary, def. Yang-Jui Chen, Taiwan and Andrea Sestini Hlavackova (7), Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-4, 7-6 (8)

Shuai Peng, China and Su-Wei Hsieh (8), Taiwan, def. Barbora Strycova, Czech Republic and Lucie Safarova (4), Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-4

Monica Niculescu, Romania and Irina Bogu (10), Romania, def. Vania King, United States and Jennifer Brady, United States, 4-6, 6-2, 6-0

Ekaterina Makarova, Russia and Gabriela Dabrowski (8), Canada, 0-6, 6-1, 7-6 (2)

Mixed Doubles Second Round

Marcelo Demoliner, Brazil and Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez, Spain, def. Michael Venus, New Zealand and Hao-Ching Chan, Taiwan, 6-2, 6-1

Rohan Bopanna, India and Tímea Babos, Hungary, def. Franko Skugor, Croatia and Vania King, United States, 6-4, 6-4

Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France and Andrea Sestini Hlavackova, Czech Republic, def. Marcel Granollers, Spain and Nadia Pietrangeli, Ukraine, 6-2, 7-5

Gabriele Dabrowski, Canada and Mate Pavic, Croatia, def. Jean-Julien Rojer, Netherlands and Demi Schuurs, Netherlands, 6-1, 6-3

Junior Men's Singles Second Round

Timothy Slatov (1), Russia, def. Stefan Storch, Austria, 6-1, 6-2

Yanki Erel, Turkey, def. Dalibor Srna, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-0

Aidan Michugh, Britain, def. James Floyd Angala, France, 6-2, 3-6, 7-6

Ornith Steiner (14), Czech Republic, def. Alexander Cmelak, Australia, 6-3, 6-7, 6-3

Sebastian Korda (7), United States, def. Adrian Panescu, Bulgaria, 6-2, 6-1

Philp Herring, South Africa, def. Thiago Seyboth Wild (9), Brazil, 6-4, 6-4

Hugo Gaston (5), France, def. Jayce Lyons, United States, 6-3, 7-6

Alsey Zakharenko (12), Russia, def. Nick Hardt, Dominican Republic, 6-3, 6-4

Junior Women's Singles Second Round

Xin Yu Wang (1), China, def. Peyton Stearns, United States, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4

Manaracha Sawangkehaew, Thailand, def. Victoria Demtchenko, Ukraine, 6-3, 6-4

Dalayna Hewitt, United States, def. Moyuka Uchijima, Japan, 6-3, 6-3

Anber Marshall, Australia, def. Alina Chiriac, Russia, 6-2, 6-4

Elyse Bolton (12), United States, def. Hirami Sato, Japan, 6-4, 6-1

Cara Burak, France, def. Joana Garland (8), Taiwan, 6-3, 6-1

Kamilla Rakhimova (16), Russia, def. Victoria Moravayova, Slovakia, 6-0, 6-2

En Shuo Liang (2), Taiwan, def. Anri Nagata, Japan, 6-2, 6-1

Junior Men's Doubles Second Round

Philp Herring, South Africa and Andrew Paulson, Czech Republic, def. Thiago Seyboth Wild, Brazil and Sebastian Baez (1), Argentina, 2-6, 7-6, 14-12

Hendri Squam, Germany and Rudolf Molleker, Germany, def. Sergey Fomin, Uzbekistan and Jayce Lyons, United States, 7-5, 6-2

Noki Tajima, Japan and Alsey Zakharenko (3), Russia, def. Alexander Cmelak, Australia and Jayden Court, Australia, 6-4, 6-3

Thiago Agustín Tirant, Argentina and Filip Cristian Jianu, Romania, def. Juan Manuel Cerundolo, Argentina and Tristan Boyer (5), United States, 6-2, 6-4

Ornith Steiner, Czech Republic and Tomas Machac (6), Czech Republic, def. Andrew Fenty, United States and William Woodiel, United States, 6-4, 7-5

Aidan Michugh, Britain and Timothy Slatov (4), Russia, def. Damien Wenger, Switzerland and James Floyd Angala, France, 6-4, 7-6

Hugo Gaston, France and Clément Tabur (7), France, def. Chun-Hsin Tseng, Taiwan and Wojciech Marek, Poland, 6-4, 6-2

Nicolas Pietrangeli, Colombia and Sebastian Korda (2), United States, def. Sidarth Bhatia, India and Christian Doder, China, Malaysia, 6-4, 6-4

Junior Women's Doubles Second Round

En Shuo Liang, Taiwan and Xin Yu Wang (1), China, def. Kamilla Rakhimova, Russia and Alina Chiriac, Russia, 6-2, 6-3

Dalayna Hewitt, United States and Peyton Stearns, United States, def. Daniela Vismane, Latvia and Georgia Tsopelas (8), Bulgaria, 6-3, 6-0

Yuki Naito, Japan and Mito Sato (3), Japan, def. Victoria Moravayova, Slovakia and Nikola Radovic, Slovenia, 7-6, 6-3

Gabriella Da Silva Fick, Australia and Ivana Popovic, Australia, def. Hong Yi Cozy Wong, Hong Kong and Valentina Ivanov, New Zealand, 7-6, 6-4

Viola Apeah, Australia and Luka Radovic (7), Switzerland, def. Seda Nahirman, Burundi and Elisabetta Coccioppini, Italy, 6-4, 6-2

Louderline Berchelt, France and Maria Kawamura, Japan, def. Sotkany Park, Republic of Korea and Manaracha Sawangkehaew, Thailand, 6-4, 6-4

Megan Smith, Australia and Olive Goodrich, Australia, def. Clara Burel, France and Qinwen Zheng (8), China, 6-3, 6-0

Simona Walterr, Switzerland and Xinyi Wang (2), China, def. Rina Galgo, Japan and Alessa Noei, United States, 6-2, 6-3

Ex-gymnast to doctor: 'You didn't heal me. You only hurt me'

By Ed White and Mike Householder
Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. — A former elite gymnast said Tuesday that a sports doctor who treated Olympic athletes overlooked what turned out to be a broken leg while he molested her in the basement of his home, one of the latest victims to testify at a Michigan sentencing hearing for Larry Nassar.

Isabell Hutchins practiced for weeks at a Lansing-area gymnastics club and even competed at national events despite acute leg pain as a teen in 2011. She said Nassar did nothing to encourage her to get help and instead molested her during late-night appointments at his home.

"You were never a real doctor. You did not heal me. You only hurt me," Hutchins told Nassar, who was seated a few feet away in the Ingham County courtroom as the sentencing phase reached a sixth day.

Nassar, 54, has admitted sexually assaulting athletes when he was employed by Michigan State University and USA Gymnastics, which is the sport's national governing organization and trains Olympians. His accusers have described going to Nassar with injuries to their backs, pelvic, hamstrings and even ankles. They have said that he molested them under the guise that what he was doing involved legitimate medical procedures that would relieve their pain.

Meanwhile, a senior member of Michigan State's governing board said university President Lou Anna Simon will not be forced out over the Nassar scandal — "period." Joel Ferguson said she's been the best leader in his 30 years as a trustee.

"There's so many more things going on at the university than just this Nassar thing," Ferguson told radio station WVFN.

He suggested victims who are suing Michigan State will be compensated for the acts of a "pervert." A former federal prosecutor hired by the school has said there's no evidence that campus officials knew what Nassar was doing, although some victims said they complained years ago.

Nassar pleaded guilty to assaulting seven people in Ingham County, but the sentencing hearing has been open to anyone who said they were a victim. Almost 160 women or girls have asked to speak or have a statement read on their behalf. Under a plea deal, he faces a minimum of 25 to 40 years behind bars, although the actual sentence could be much higher.

He already has been sentenced to 60 years in federal prison for child pornography crimes.

Before Judge Rosemarie Aquilina entered court, Nassar settled into a chair next to his lawyer and shook his head while reading a piece of paper.

The mother of a victim, Anne Swinehart, said she had a message for critics who are following the story. "Quit shaming and blaming the parents," she said. "Trust me, you would not have known, and you would not have done anything differently. So stop."

The judge continued her practice of praising each speaker. She also tried to ease Swinehart's feelings about letting her daughter down.

"The red flags may have been there, but they were designed to be hidden. Leave the blame here with him," Aquilina said of Nassar.

Edgar Martinez rockets up Hall of Fame ballot as DHs gain respect

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Edgar Martinez is rocketing up the Hall of Fame ballot, boosted 13 years after his final swing by new-age statistical analyses and campaigning.

His percentage of the vote more than doubled from 2015 to last year, and he is projected to be around the 75 percent needed for election when this year's voting is announced Wednesday. He could become only the second Hall of Famer who was primarily a designated hitter.

"I think it's kind of like relief pitchers: Once the first couple started to get in, people had to accept the fact that they're part of the game now," said MLB.com's Tracy Ringolsby, who voted for Martinez for the first time this year. "You can't get around them. You can't ignore it. And so, you have to give them consideration."

Martinez received 25.2 percent in 2014, when Frank Thomas became the first player elected after spending the majority of his career as DH, a position instituted in 1973. Martinez rose to 27 percent the following year, 43.4 percent in 2016 and 58.6 percent last year. He is on 77 percent of the 226 ballots obtained by Ryan Thibodaux and posted on his Hall of Fame vote-tracker.

Chipper Jones, Jim Thome and Vladimir Guerrero are likely to be overwhelming picks, and Trevor Hoffman could get in, too, after a near-miss last year.

Roger Clemens and Barry Bonds are both tracking at 63.9 percent in the sixth ballot appearance for each. That is up about 4 percent from their vote-tracker percentage last year, when



Elaine Thompson/AP file photo

In this Jan. 24, 2017, file photo, Seattle Mariners former designated hitter Edgar Martinez smiles as he speaks at a news conference announcing the retirement by the team of his jersey number 11, in Seattle. Martinez is rocketing up the Hall of Fame ballot, boosted 13 years after his final swing by new-age statistical analyses and campaigning.

Clemens finished at 54.1 percent and Bonds at 53.8. Martinez's Hall chances have been aided by Ryan M. Spaeder, a 28-year-old fan from Virginia who sent statistical analyses to about 250 voters. Martinez is making the ninth of the 10 appearances he is allowed on the Baseball Writers' Association of America ballot.

"We now have tools to evaluate players that we didn't have even 10 years ago, and it's easy now to compare Edgar, not just to other DHs but to other hitters, both of his era and all eras," former ESPN reporter Jayson Stark said. "He measures up against all of them."

A seven-time All-Star, Martinez was a designated hitter in 1,412 of 2,055 career regular-season games. During an 18-season big league career spent entirely with Seattle, he won two AL batting titles, earned seven All-Star selections and finished with a .312 average and 309 homers.

Paul Molitor, elected to the Hall in 2004, was a DH in 1,174 of 2,683 games. Thomas DHed in 1,310 of 2,322.

"People are taking a different look about the DH, and they're looking more about sabermetric numbers and taking into consideration all those numbers and it seems to be helping," Martinez said last year.

Seattle distributed a 15-page look at his career to potential voters. Spaeder has compared Martinez to Hall of Famers, pointing out an on-base percentage (.418) superior to Stan Musial's, an OPS (.933) above Frank Robinson's and a slugging percentage (.515) greater than Willie McCovey's. His Weighted Runs Above Average led to an additional 54 Mariners wins, Jack Moore pointed out on Fangraphs in 2009. Spaeder said he assisted on Jonah Keri's campaign for Tim Lincecum, elected in his final ballot appearance last year after starting at 24.3 percent.

"He invited me to Tim Raines' Hall of Fame dinner," Spaeder said.

Jones and Thome would raise to 54 the total of players elected in their first year of eligibility. An eight-time All-Star, Jones won the 1999 NL MVP and the 2008 NL batting

title. He batted .303 with 2,726 hits and 468 home runs in 19 seasons with the Atlanta Braves. Thome was a five-time All-Star who hit 612 home runs, eighth on the career list, over 22 seasons.

Hoffman fell five votes short last year, when Jeff Bagwell, Raines and Ivan Rodriguez were elected. Hoffman is making his third appearance and is bidding to become only the sixth pitcher in the Hall who was primarily a reliever, after Hoyt Wilhelm (1985), Rollie Fingers (1992), Dennis Eckersley (2004), Bruce Sutter (2006) and Goose Gosage (2008). Relievers and DHs get a boost when Mariano Rivera becomes eligible next year and David Ortiz in 2022.

Hoffman's 601 saves trail only Rivera's 652, and he is at 78.3 percent on the vote-tracker, which estimates there are 424 total ballots. Guerrero is at 94.8 percent in his second appearance after falling 17 votes short last year. Jones is at 98.3 and Thome at 93.

Guerrero was a nine-time All-Star and the 2004 AL MVP with the Anaheim Angels. He hit .318 with 449 homers and 1,496 RBIs in 16 big league seasons. Roy Halladay also will be on the 2019 ballot. The retired pitcher died Nov. 7 at age 40 when a plane he was piloting crashed off Florida.

Voters must have been members of the BBWAA for 10 consecutive years and their ballots were due Jan. 24. Anyone elected will be inducted into the Hall at Cooperstown on July 29 along with pitcher Jack Morris and shortstop Alan Trammell, who were voted in last month by the Hall's Modern Era committee, which considered former players and executives whose contributions to baseball were most significant from 1970-87.



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WEDNESDAY PRIME TIME JANUARY 24, 2018

Channel	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Goldberg	Am. Housewife	Modern Family	Am. Housewife	Match Game	News	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(35) News Nightline	(35) News Nightline	(35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	The Amazing Race	Gotta Put Your Sole Into It	Criminal Minds	CBS 7 News	(35) The Late Show	(35) J. Cordem	(35) The Late Show	(35) J. Cordem	(35) The Late Show	(35) J. Cordem
KWWT CW	MASH "Heroes"	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Mama's Family	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Meddling Medium"	Twilight Zone	Met Your Mother
KPEJ FOX	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	The X-Files	The X-Files	9-1-1 "World Day Ever"	Fox 24 News	TMZ	Mom	Modern Family	Modern "The Kiss"	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother
KMLM IND	Shepherd's Heart	Update News	Creation Magazine	Light of the Southwest	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Contrappasso"	Chicago P.D. "The Thing About Heroes"	NewsWest 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 (N)
KWES NBC	NewsWest 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 Now	The Blacklist	Nature "Animal Misfits"	Nova	S.Deed "Scanning the Pyramids" (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)
KPBT PBS	PBS NewsHour (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)	Nature "Animal Misfits"	Nova	Papa a Toda Madre	Caer en Tentacion	Noticias Tejas	Noticiero nocturno	Contacto Deportivo	Game	Game	Game
KUPB UNI	La rosa de Guadalupe	El Rico y Lazaro	Dateline NBC	Dateline NBC	Mike & M. Mike & M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Game	Game	Game	Game	Game
KOSA MNT	Last Man	Last Man	Dateline NBC	Dateline NBC	Mike & M. Mike & M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Game	Game	Game	Game	Game
FLIX	340 575 165	(3:30) C Good Advice	(1:30) C My Best Friend's Girl Gets Cook.	C Splash (24, Feb) Tom Hanks	C Survival Island							
HBO	300 550 14 14	Movie News (N)	Mosaic (N)	C The Zookeeper's Wife Jessica Chastain	Divorce (40) Mosaic	Movie						
HBO2	302 551 15 101 23	(1:10) Mosaic	C Morgan (16, Dra) Kate Mara	HighMain	Crashing (38) C Deepwater Horizon	Movie						
HBO3	304 552 16 102	(1:10) C Wish I Was Here Zach Braff	C Everything, Everything	(40) C Why Him? (16, Com) James Franco	(14) C The Blair Witch Project	(14) C Out: Orig...						
MAX	380 557 17 120 24	(4:30) C 15 Minutes Robert De Niro	C Watchmen (28, Act) Billy Crudup, Malin Akerman	(40) C The Blair Witch Project	(14) C Out: Orig...							
MAX2	382 558 18 122	(5:30) C 15 Minutes Robert De Niro	C Watchmen (28, Act) Billy Crudup, Malin Akerman	(40) C The Blair Witch Project	(14) C Out: Orig...							
PLEX	384 559 19 123	(5:30) C 15 Minutes Robert De Niro	C Watchmen (28, Act) Billy Crudup, Malin Akerman	(40) C The Blair Witch Project	(14) C Out: Orig...							
SHOW	320 565 19 140 25	(4:30) C The Mist	The Ch "Ghosts"	C The Girl on the Train Emily Blunt	(15) C The Ch "Ghosts"	(15) C The Ch "Ghosts"						
THWC	336 573 22 155 26	(1:10) C All Things M...	C The Band's Visit	C The Band's Visit	C The Band's Visit	C The Band's Visit						
ABE	27 58 28 35 47	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Rooster & Butch "Hide the Bull" (N)	(45) Rooster & Butch "A Fishful of Sweat"	(45) S. Wars	(35) S. Wars	(35) S. Wars	(35) S. Wars
AMC	40 74 23 42 51	(4:30) C Mr. & Mrs. S...	C A Bronx Tale (93, Dra) Robert De Niro	C A Bronx Tale (93, Dra) Robert De Niro	C A Bronx Tale (93, Dra) Robert De Niro	C A Bronx Tale (93, Dra) Robert De Niro						
BET	58 - 40	C Big Momma's House 2 (06, Comedy) Nia Long, Martin Lawrence	C Big Momma's House 2 (06, Comedy) Nia Long, Martin Lawrence	C Big Momma's House 2 (06, Comedy) Nia Long, Martin Lawrence	C Big Momma's House 2 (06, Comedy) Nia Long, Martin Lawrence	C Big Momma's House 2 (06, Comedy) Nia Long, Martin Lawrence						
BRAVO	65 76 41	Housewives NJ	Housewives NJ	Housewives NJ	Housewives NJ	Housewives NJ	Relative Success (N)	Watch (N)	Housewives NJ	Success		
CNBC	46 52 39 72	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Billion Buyer (N)	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank		
CNN	43 50 51 30 56	OutFront	A. Cooper 360	Cuomo Prime Time	CNN Tonight	CNN Tonight	FastLoud As Outlaws	(45) Street Outlaws	(45) Street Outlaws	(45) Street Outlaws		
DISC	50 60 31 24 42	Street Outlaws	Street Outlaws	Street Outlaws	Street Outlaws	Street Outlaws	FastLoud As Outlaws	(45) Street Outlaws	(45) Street Outlaws	(45) Street Outlaws		
DISNEY	56 64 38 25 36	Bunk'd Raven's S...	Underc. StuckMid.	Bizaard. Bizaard.	Bunk'd Jessie	Underc. StuckMid.	Underc. GoodLuck	Underc. GoodLuck	Underc. GoodLuck	Underc. GoodLuck		
ESPN	32 35 48 31 30	NBA Countdown (L)	NBA Basketball Houston Rockets at Dallas Mavericks (L)	NBA Basketball Houston Rockets at Dallas Mavericks (L)	NBA Basketball Houston Rockets at Dallas Mavericks (L)	NBA Basketball Houston Rockets at Dallas Mavericks (L)	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Los Angeles Clippers (L)	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Los Angeles Clippers (L)	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Los Angeles Clippers (L)	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Los Angeles Clippers (L)		
ESPN2	34 36 49 32 31	SportsCenter (N)	NCAA Basketball Louisville at Miami (L)	ITF Tennis Australian Open Women's Semifinal Site: Melbourne Park (L)	ITF Tennis Australian Open Women's Semifinal Site: Melbourne Park (L)	ITF Tennis Australian Open Women's Semifinal Site: Melbourne Park (L)	Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson	Tucker Carlson		
FNC	45 48 53 23 55	The Story	Tucker Carlson	Hannity	The Ingraham Angle	Fox News @ Night	Game "Spiciest"	Game "Spiciest"	Game "Spiciest"	Game "Spiciest"		
FOOD	64 70 27 68 54	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Game	Game "Spiciest" (N)	Guy's Game	Game "Spiciest" (N)	Game "Spiciest" (N)	Game "Spiciest" (N)	Game "Spiciest" (N)	Game "Spiciest" (N)		
FREEFORM	53 63 34 42 33	(4:30) C Drumline	Grown (N) Alone (N)	C Hercules (97, Ann) Yula Dizon	The 700 Club	C National Lampo...						
FSSW	37 38 50 45 29	Mavericks Insider	Mavs Live Pregame (L)	NBA Basketball Houston Rockets at Dallas Mavericks Site: American Airlines Center - Dallas, Texas (L)	Gianni Versace (N)	(15) Gianni Versace						
FX	31 56 59 64 69	(3:30) C Maza Banner: The Search Trials Dyan O'Brien	F. House Full House	F. House Full House	Middle Middle	Middle Middle	G. Girls G. Girls	G. Girls G. Girls	G. Girls G. Girls	G. Girls G. Girls		
HALLMARK	54 71 58 34	F. House Full House	F. House Full House	Property Brothers	Property Brothers (N)	Knighfall "IV" (N)	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Property Brothers		
HGTV	63 69 26 48 44	Buying and Selling	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Property Brothers (N)	Knighfall "IV" (N)	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Property Brothers	Property Brothers		
HISTORY	71 59 29 50 43	Pawn S. Pawn Star	Vikings	Vikings	Vikings (N)	Knighfall "IV" (N)	Knighfall "IV" (N)	Knighfall "IV" (N)	Knighfall "IV" (N)	Knighfall "IV" (N)		
LIFETIME	28 30 25 28 48	Little Women: Atlanta "Skinny Minnie"	Women ATL (N)	(50) LW Atlanta	LW Atlanta "Juicy's Got Talent" (N)	LW Atlanta "Road Trippin" 1/2 (N)	LitWomen (N) (15) Little Women	(50) LW Atlanta	(50) LW Atlanta	(50) LW Atlanta		
MSNBC	47 53 49 73	Hardball (N)	All in (N)	Rachel Maddow (N)	The Last Word (N)	The 11th Hour (N)	Rachel Maddow	Rachel Maddow	Rachel Maddow	Rachel Maddow		
NBCSN	38 43	NHL Live! (L)	NHL Hockey Toronto vs Chicago (L)	NHL Hockey Toronto vs Chicago (L)	NHL Hockey Toronto vs Chicago (L)	NHL Hockey Toronto vs Chicago (L)	(45) NHL Overtime (L) Sport	(45) NHL Overtime (L) Sport	(45) NHL Overtime (L) Sport	(45) NHL Overtime (L) Sport		
NICK	55 - 39 34 37	Paradise Sponge	F. House F. House	F. House F. House	F. House F. House	F. House F. House	Fresh F. Friends	Friends Friends	Friends Friends	Friends Friends		
SPIKE	30 - 55 53 58	Movie	C John Wick (14, Act) Keanu Reeves	The Magicians (N)	Waco (N)	Happy!	(45) G.I. Joe: Retaliation (13, Act) Channing Tatum	(45) G.I. Joe: Retaliation (13, Act) Channing Tatum	(45) G.I. Joe: Retaliation (13, Act) Channing Tatum	(45) G.I. Joe: Retaliation (13, Act) Channing Tatum		
SYFY	66 82 41 57 67	(3:30) C Pirates of the Caribbean: On Str...	The Magicians (N)	The Magicians (N)	The Magicians (N)	The Magicians (N)	C The Negro Soldier	C Trouble in Paradise	Movie	Movie		
TBS	25 33 44 66 41	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan (N)	Conan (N)	Conan (N)	Conan (N)		
TCM	41 75 24 63 66	(3:30) C The Shop A...	C The Learning Tree Alec Clark	C The Negro Soldier	C Trouble in Paradise	Movie						
TELE	20 - 10 20	Caso cerrado (N)	José José, el prínci	Sangre de mi Tierra (N)	Señora acero (N)	Al rojo	Futurales	Sangre de mi Tierra	Sangre de mi Tierra	Sangre de mi Tierra		
TLC	51 61 32 38 52	My 600-lb Life "Janine's Story" 2/2	My 600-lb Life "Alicia's Story" Alicia feels her addition to food will kill her.	My 600-lb Life "Alicia's Story" Alicia feels her addition to food will kill her.	My 600-lb Life "Alicia's Story" Alicia feels her addition to food will kill her.	My 600-lb Life "Alicia's Story" Alicia feels her addition to food will kill her.	The Alienist "The Boy on the Bridge"	The Alienist "The Boy on the Bridge"	The Alienist "The Boy on the Bridge"	The Alienist "The Boy on the Bridge"		
TWT	24 34 40 26 50	(3:30) C The Hangover Part II	Librarians "And Some Dude Named Jeff" (N)	C Spider-Man 3 (07, Act) Tobey Maguire, Peter's dark side surfaces after he comes in contact with a black suit from another world.	Queens Queens	Queens Queens	Queens Queens	Queens Queens	Queens Queens	Queens Queens		
TYLAND	49 - 35 54 35	MASH M*A*S*H	Loves Ray Loves Ray	Mom	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Unholy Alliance"	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Unholy Alliance"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Game"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Game"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Game"	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Game"		
USA	26 55 42 27 49	NCIS "The Artful Dodger"	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops		
WGN	19 85	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops		

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Online guide helps parents recognize child depression

DEAR ABBY: Seeing a child you love struggle with depression is such a helpless feeling. Parents wonder how to talk to them as they withdraw from the people and activities that used to bring them joy. You just want them to feel better again.

Many times, parents tell themselves it's just a phase their child will grow out of, but one in five teens is affected by depression. It's important for parents to know that children even younger can become depressed, and that girls are twice as likely as boys to experience it. Depressed kids are more likely to abuse alcohol and other drugs and are at greater risk for attempting suicide.

To help concerned parents reach out to their hurting children, USA.gov has created the free online-only Kids and Depression guide at www.usa.gov/features/kids-and-depression. The guide's sound, compassionate advice helps parents, grandparents and teachers recognize symptoms and risk factors in young people. It explains treatment options, including counseling and medication. And it also includes age-appropriate information about depression that parents can share with their children, elementary age through college.

Abby, thank you for the love you show your readers, and for sharing this potentially lifesaving guide with them. — **NANCY TYLER, SENIOR EDITOR, USA.GOV**

DEAR NANCY: You're welcome. I'm glad your wife because I receive many letters from worried parents and depressed young people. I know the online guide will provide important information they will find useful.

Risk factors for depression in young people include stressful life events, such as a family member's divorce or death, bullying, trouble with school or friends, low self-esteem, or a disability or chronic illness. Symptoms of depression that last two weeks or more are significant. They may include sensitivity to criticism and outbursts of anger, sadness, headaches or stomachaches, changes in sleep or eating habits, lower grades and withdrawal from people and activities.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, in 2015, 3 million kids aged 12 to 17 experienced a major depressive episode in the past year. Because, as you stated, depression can be a significant factor in suicide attempts, the guide provides information to help parents recognize the warning signs of suicidal thoughts in their children.

If you think your child might be suicidal, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling (800) 273-8255. It offers confidential help 24 hours a day.

GOREN BRIDGE
With Bob Jones

Magical spot cards

North-South vulnerable, North deals

NORTH
♠ A 3
♥ A Q J 6
♦ A 5
♣ A Q 10 7 5

WEST
♠ K 6 2
♥ 7 4 3
♦ Q 7
♣ K J 4 3 2

EAST
♠ Q 10 7 5
♥ 9 5 2
♦ J 10 4 2
♣ 9 8

SOUTH
♠ J 9 8 4
♥ K 10 8
♦ K 9 8 6 3
♣ 6

The bidding:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
2♠ Pass 2♥ Pass
3♠ Pass 3♦ Pass
3♥ Pass 4♥ Pass
6♥ All pass
*Exactly two controls — one ace or two kings

Opening lead: Two of ♠

The actual auction is unknown to us. We offer the auction above. West was the late Bobby Richman. Richman was from Cleveland, but made his life in Australia. He became one of the most colorful and beloved characters on the Aussie bridge scene, not to mention one of their finest players.

Declarer won the opening spade lead with dummy's ace, led a diamond to his king, and a club to dummy's queen for a successful finesse. The ace of clubs and another club saw East show out and South ruff with the eight of hearts. There were five side-suit tricks and declarer would succeed if he could score seven trump tricks on a cross-ruff. The battle was on to prevent dummy from scoring a trick with the six of hearts.

South crossed to the ace of diamonds, ruffed another club with the 10 of hearts, and led another diamond. Richman ruffed this with the seven of hearts, dummy over-ruffing with the jack. The last club was ruffed with the king of hearts, leaving a four-card ending. Dummy had the spade three and the ace-queen-six of hearts. East had the spade queen and the nine-five-three of hearts.

South led a diamond. Richman had to ruff or dummy's spade would have been discarded, forcing East to give dummy the six of hearts. Dummy over-ruffed with the queen, and East smartly under-ruffed! Had he shed his spade instead, the ensuing spade lead would have end-played him. Dummy's spade was led, and Richman overtook East's queen with the king. Any lead from him at this point would ensure the nine of hearts as a trick for the defense.

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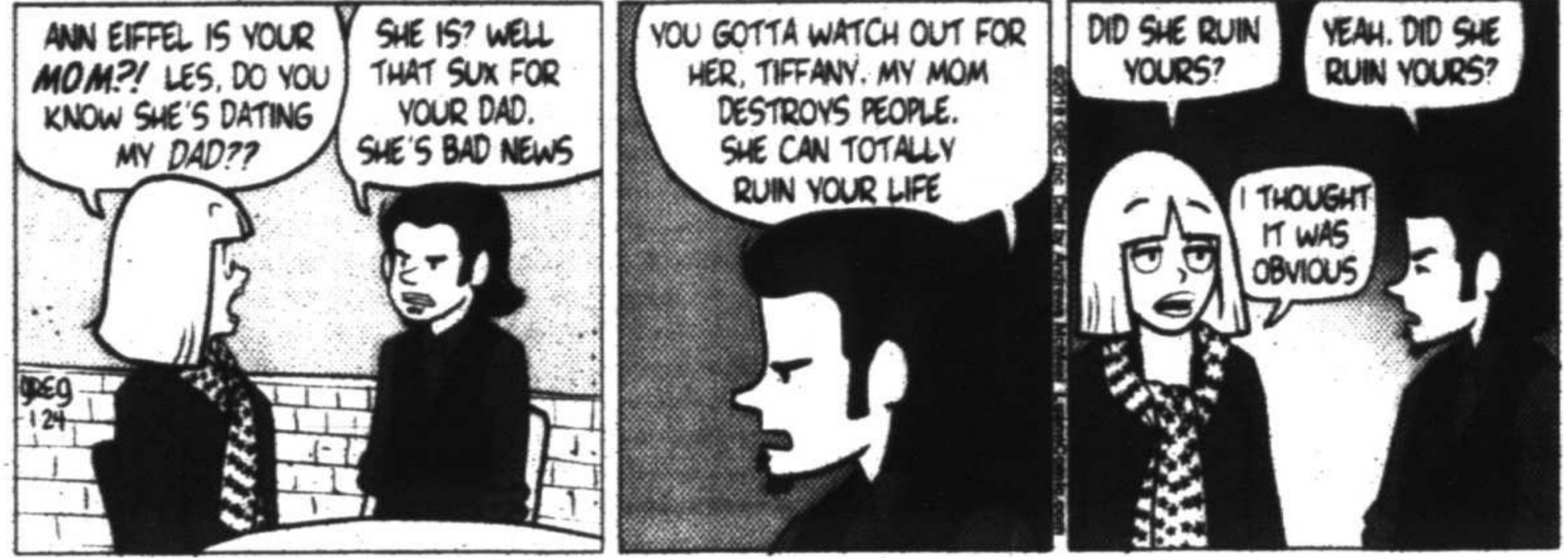
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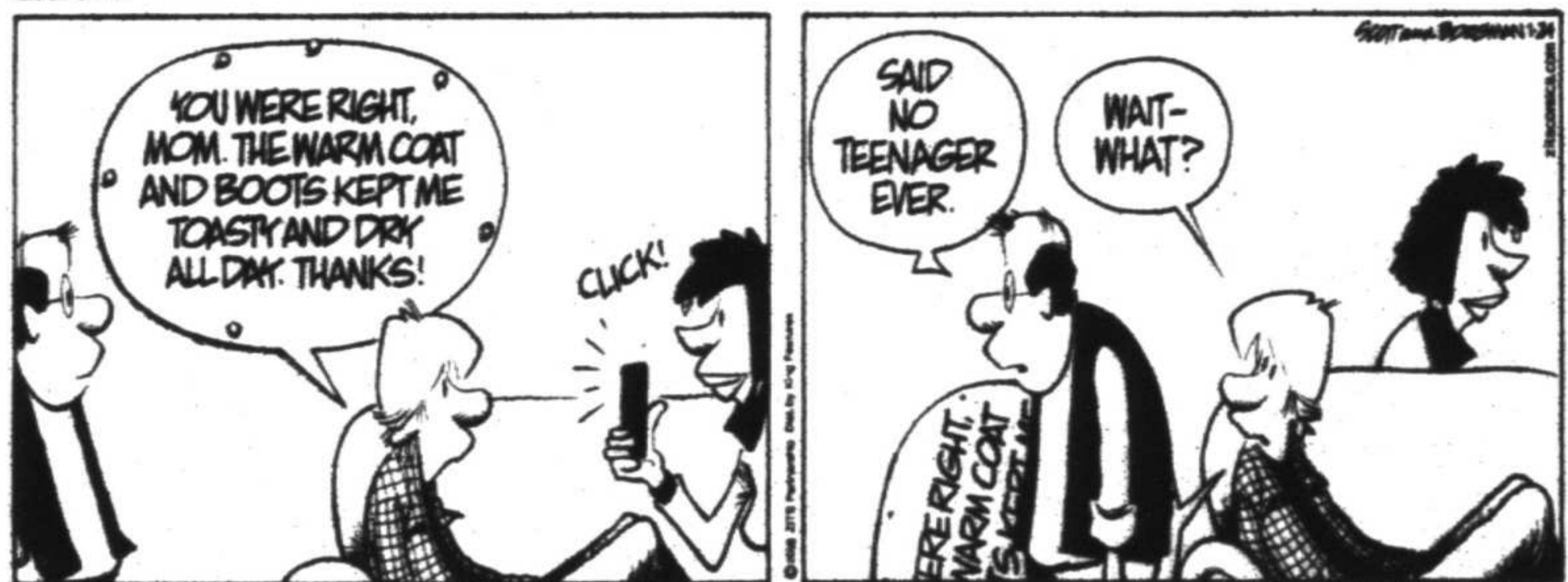
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BETLE BAILEY



ZITS



CLASSIC PEANUTS



BABY BLUES



SHOE



MUTTS



GARFIELD



CLOSE TO HOME



DENNIS THE MENACE



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



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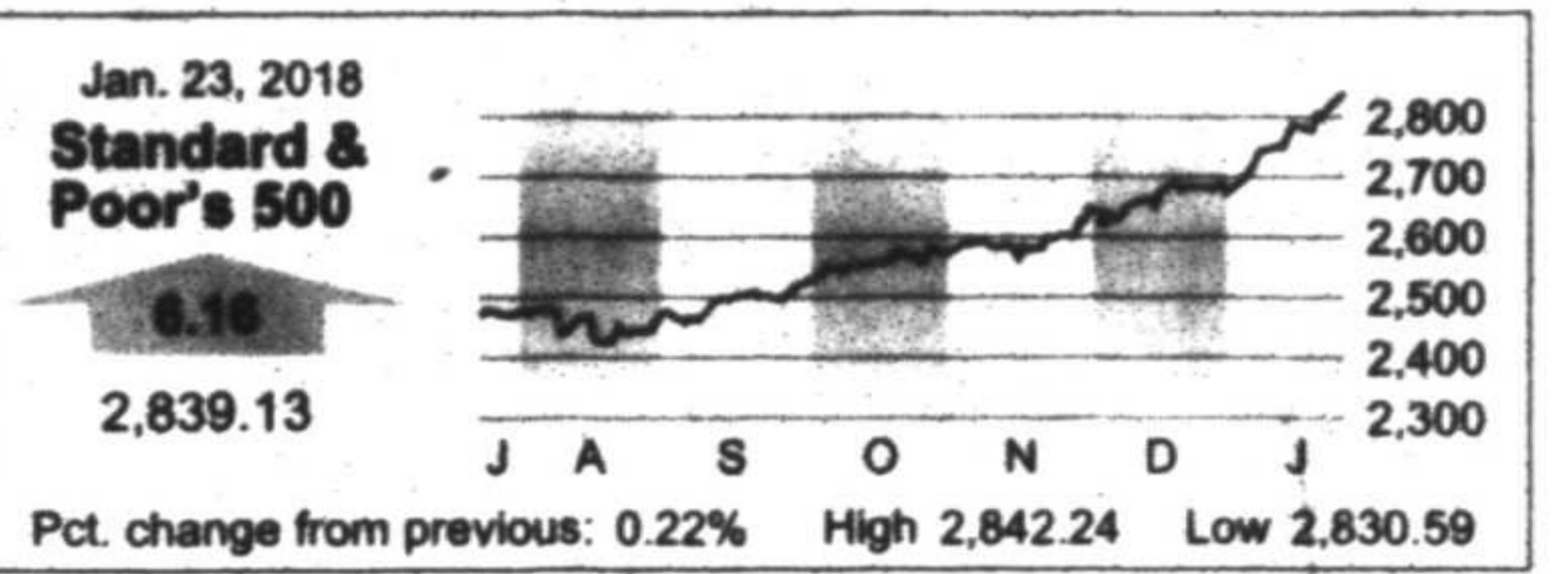
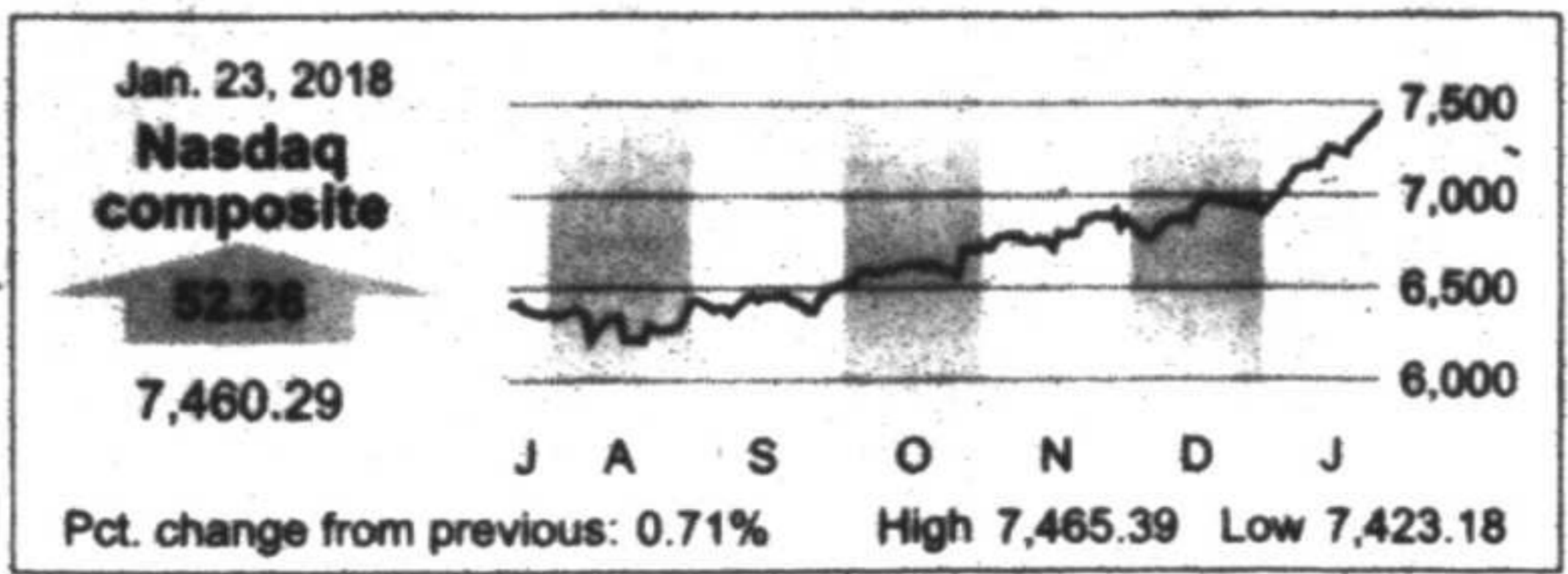
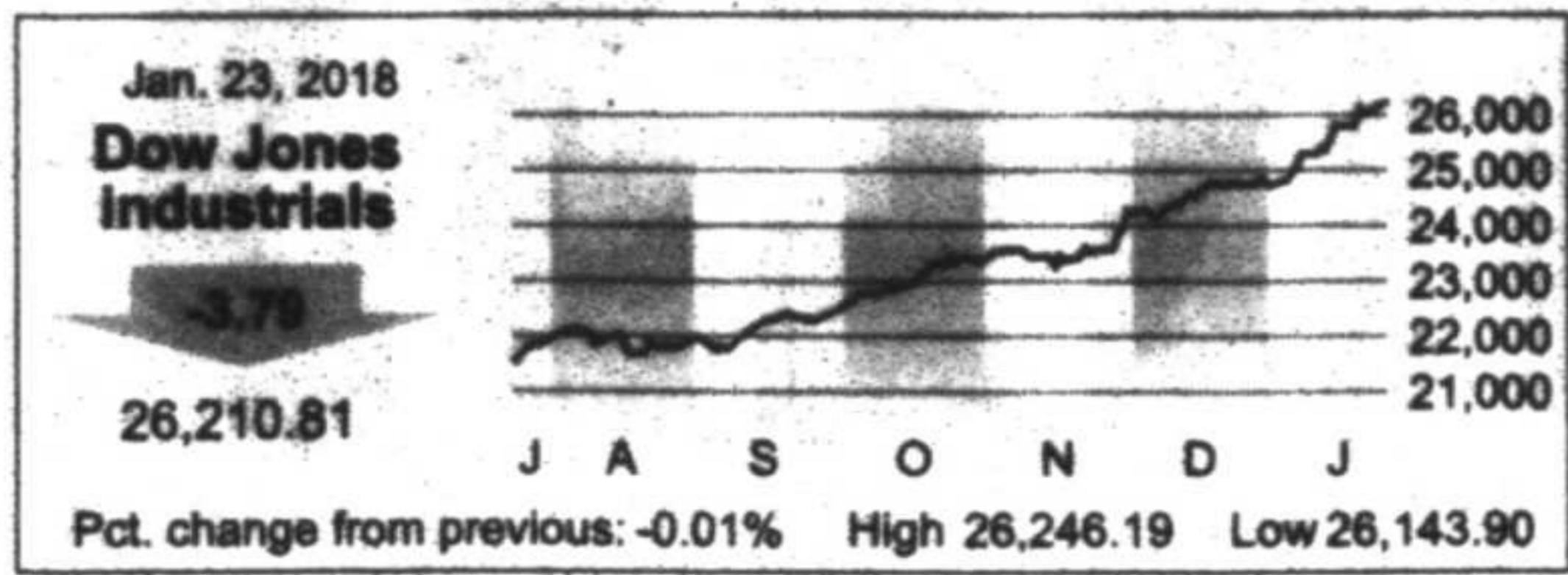
DILBERT



BUSINESS & OIL

Midland Reporter-Telegraph | mrt.com | Wednesday, January 24, 2018 | Page 7C

A DAY ON WALL STREET



OIL PRICES

FUTURES	
Tuesday:	\$64.47
Previous:	\$63.66
POSTED	
Tuesday:	\$61.00
Previous:	\$60.25
WEST TEXAS SOUR	
Tuesday:	\$58.65
Previous:	\$57.90
NATURAL GAS	
Tuesday:	\$3.444
Previous:	\$3.224

Tesla proposes big payout if Elon Musk meets lofty goals

Associated Press

Elon Musk is known for his bold predictions on electric and self-driving cars. Now his pay could depend on whether those predictions come true.

Under a new all-or-nothing pay package, Musk would remain at Tesla Inc. for the next decade and see his compensation tied to ambitious growth targets.

The proposal, revealed Tuesday in a regulatory filing, requires that Tesla grow in \$50 billion leaps, to a staggering \$650 billion market capitalization.

The electric car maker, based in Palo Alto, California, is worth less than \$60 billion today. Tesla must hit a series of escalating revenue and adjusted profit targets, only after which Musk would vest stock options worth 1 percent of company shares. He would get no other guaranteed compensation.

The pay package, developed over the last six months by Tesla's board, still needs the approval of Tesla shareholders, who will vote on it at a special meeting in late March. Musk and his brother Kimbal, who is a Tesla board member, will recuse themselves from the vote.

If the goals are reached, Tesla would be one of the biggest companies in America. The \$650 billion benchmark would make Tesla the fourth-most valuable U.S. company, behind only Apple Inc., Alphabet Inc., and Amazon.com Inc. based on current valuations. It would be larger than Microsoft Corp., and would exceed the current combined valuation of the world's top eight publicly-traded auto companies.

The pay scheme would also catapult Musk into the ranks of the world's richest people. Musk's stock options could be worth up to \$55.8 billion if he meets the company's goals. He also would own a 28 percent stake in Tesla, which would be worth \$182 billion. Forbes' current richest billionaire, Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates, is worth \$86 billion.

Musk has long had ambitious plans for Tesla. In a 2015 earnings call with analysts and media, he predicted Tesla could match Apple in total value by 2025.

Musk's growth plans were laid out in a 2016 blog post he titled "Master Plan, Part

Deux." Tesla plans to expand from electric cars and SUVs to trucks — including a semi due out in 2019 — and buses. It will continue to work on autonomous vehicle technology and plans to enter the car-sharing business, letting Tesla owners share their cars when they're not using them and running Tesla-owned fleets in cities.

The company, which bought solar panel maker SolarCity Corp. in 2016, also plans to expand its solar panel and energy storage businesses. Tesla is making solar panels and roof tiles at its factory in Buffalo, New York, which will help the company blunt any impact from President Donald Trump's recent 30-percent tariff on imported solar panels and cell modules.

The plans are ambitious, but that's nothing new for Tesla. Under a 2012 agreement, Musk's stock options vested only if the Tesla's market cap continued to rise in \$4 billion increments. The company also had to hit matching operational milestones, including vehicle production targets and developmental milestones tied to the Model X and Model 3 programs. Tesla wound up reaching all of the market cap milestones and nine of the 10 operational milestones, falling short only of its goal to have four consecutive quarters with 30-percent gross margins.

When that pay package was created, the company was worth just \$3.2 billion. Its market cap at the end of last year was 17 times that amount. That's why the new goals may not be that far-fetched, says Michael Ramsey, an analyst with Gartner who follows Tesla. "To this point, it has been dangerous to predict failure for Tesla or Elon," he said.

Adam Jonas, an analyst with Morgan Stanley who follows Tesla, thinks plan is partly a marketing tool as the competition for electric and autonomous vehicle talent heats up.

Jonas added that Musk — who owns 21.9 percent of Tesla shares — is already "all-in" on the company, so he sees the incentive package as more for investor confidence than for Musk's personal benefit.

In order to vest shares when milestones are reached, Musk must stay on as CEO or serve as both executive chairman and chief product officer.

Apple poised to expand into speaker market

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Apple is finally ready to launch its attempt to compete with the internet-connected speakers made by Amazon and Google with the release of its long-awaited HomePod.

Pre-orders for the HomePod will begin Friday in the U.S., U.K. and Australia, two weeks before the speaker goes on sale in stores for \$349.

Apple had intended to release the HomePod last month during the holiday shopping season, but delayed its debut to refine the

product.

Both Amazon's Echo and Google's Home speakers have been expanding their reach into people's homes since Apple announced the HomePod last June. Amazon and Google also are selling their speakers for substantially less, with streamlined versions of their devices available for below \$50.

Like its rivals, the HomePod includes a voice-activated assistant to help people manage their homes and the rest of their lives. Apple relies on Siri to process commands while Amazon leans on Alexa and Google features the eponymous Assistant.

Tech and consumer-focused companies rise; Netflix leaps

NEW YORK — Technology and consumer-focused companies led U.S. stocks to more records Tuesday. Netflix, at the center of both groups, soared after saying it gained more than 8 million subscribers at the end of 2017.

Bond prices rose and yields fell after the Bank of Japan said it isn't cutting back its stimulus programs. Yields had reached long-time highs, and the decline helped high-dividend companies like utilities and real estate investment trusts. Health care and household goods companies fell after Johnson & Johnson and Procter & Gamble gave disappointing quarterly reports.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 6.16 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,839.13. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 3.79 points to 26,210.81. The 30-stock index was pulled lower by Johnson & Johnson and Procter & Gamble's losses. The Nasdaq composite jumped 52.26 points, or 0.7 percent, to 7,460.29. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks rose 5.54 points, or 0.3 percent, to 1,610.71.

Metal prices are mixed

Gold rose \$4.80 to \$1,336.70 an ounce. Silver lost 8 cents to \$16.91 an ounce. Copper fell 9 cents to \$3.11 a pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Company	Closing Price	Change
Concho Resources (CXO)	\$160.53	Up 0.12
Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)	\$6.94	Up 0.88
Diamondback Energy (FANG)	\$132.31	Up 0.10
Legacy Reserves (LGCY)	\$2.25	Up 0.02
Mexco Energy (MXC)	\$4.33	Down 0.06
Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)	\$28.80	Unchanged
ProPetro Holdings (PUMP)	\$22.49	Up 0.38
RSP Permian (RSP)	\$41.96	Down 0.79
Ring Energy (REI)	\$15.20	Down 0.27
Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)	\$25.62	Down 0.13

NYSE							
MOST ACTIVE (BY VOL)		GAINERS (BY % CHG)					
Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
GenElec	1205376	16.80	+72	Zymetra	11.85	+1.81	+15.0
S&P500ETF	15489283.24	+57		RealMed	100.35	+12.84	+14.7
ISHMWA	612853	50.86	+23	RAIT pA	15.20	+1.32	+11.1
SPDR Fnd	608552	29.81	+0.2	RAIT pC	17.50	+1.71	+10.8
BlotMn	562976	31.92	-0.2	RAIT pB	15.82	+1.44	+10.0
LOSERS (BY % CHG)		DIARY					
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Advanced	1,797		
Petum	7.93	-2.86	-36.5	Declined	1,086		
Comg	2.01	-27	-11.8	Unchanged	125		
NewOrLd	80.10	-8.04	-9.9	Total Issues	3,018		
PLURSH	34.51	-3.21	-9.3	New High	301		
OnlyR	5.42	-0.49	-9.1	New Low	35		
Volume		3,489,908,992					
AMEX							
MOST ACTIVE (BY VOL)		GAINERS (BY % CHG)					
Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	%Chg			
22ndCenry	148214	3.96	-21	-5.3			
Wald	72848	3.91	+22	+5.6			
SGold	62279	3.15	+12	+3.8			
ISHMWA	41105	38.06	+37	+9.7			
NDyn	3835	1.56	-0.7	-4.5			
LOSERS (BY % CHG)		DIARY					
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Advanced	175		
Dawr	4.72	-0.2	-4.2	Declined	196		
Teleg	2.40	-20	-7.8	Unchanged	23		
LinEn	4.68	-31	-6.2	Total Issues	334		
Protem	2.18	-13	-5.8	New High	16		
AmpPm	2.74	-16	-5.5	New Low	3		
Volume		128,082,594					
NASDAQ							
MOST ACTIVE (BY VOL)		GAINERS (BY % CHG)					
Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	%Chg			
Micro	410343	43.95	+1.07	+2.4			
PvSts	300304	109.51	+1.39	+1.3			
Apple	323948	177.04	+0.4	+0.2			
Netflix	278367	250.29	+22.71	+9.1			
Facebook	253337	189.25	+3.98	+2.1			
LOSERS (BY % CHG)		DIARY					
Name	Last	Chg	%Chg	Advanced	1,855		
Obalon	3.46	-1.73	-50.3	Declined	1,294		
Proton	2.05	-43	-17.2	Unchanged	205		
TymTch	5.15	-93	-18.3	Total Issues	3,024		
Magne	2.83	-40	-12.2	New High	389		
Arndg	2.14	-28	-11.6	New Low	22		
Volume		2,095,641,738					

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg	Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg	Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg	Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg									
AK Steel	18	6.30	+0.8	+11.3	Comcast	53	21	42.44	-0.5	-1.1	Intel	1.00	29	46.06	+0.1	-2	Planet	2.76	23	80.05	-2.84	-3.1	Torchmark	80	20	82.77	-0.1	+2.3				
AT&T	2.00	14	37.19	-0.9	-2.3	ConAgra	85	20	37.72	-0.5	-1.4	InterDig	1.40	11	79.00	+0.5	+3.7	RangeR	0.8	19	17.33	-0.74	-4.1	TruCent	1.80	20	26.10	+2.8	+4.3			
Alcoa	84	2.87	-0.4	-13.9	Conoco	85	20	37.72	-0.5	-1.4	ISHJapan	...	...	64.49	+4.1	+7.6	RussSol	...	...	1.53	+3.8	+3.4	22ndCenry	...	...	3.98	-2.1	-4.1	
SubStn	1.35	...	18.84	+1.8	+9.7	GenCorp	1.00	88	59.47	-0.9	-1.5	RealUnit	...	...	14.90	-2.2	+1.7	Regent	80	24	22.67	-2.7	-1.5	Tyler	...	...	22.75	-5.7	+5.2
AMT	12.94	+3.0	+23.9	Cracker	4.00	31	175.59	+2.0	+1.2	JDOm	27	45.18	-0.8	+1.1	Region	30	20	19.36	+2.0	+12.0	Tyler	199.07	+1.39	+12.4		
AmerBio	26	+0.3	+94.0	Cracker	5.05	+1.8	+3.7	JPMorg	2.24	18	114.21	-1.2	+6.8	RiteAid	2.32	+0.3	+17.8	UnidArm	26	14.99	+4.4	+3.9		
Albma	54	192.28	+2.6	+1.5	Cracker	...	...	15	16.89	+1.9	+8.8	Johns	3.95	39	141.89	-8.31	+1.5	Rowan	40	10	15.83	-3.7	+1.1	UBSI	1.38	19	38.70	-0.8	+8.8	
AgriMPL	1.35	...	11.80	...	+0.4	Cracker	...	...	5.05	+1.8	+3.7	KindMorg	50	29	19.45	-1.0	+7.5	RoyDGNIA	3.76	...	71.02	-0.2	+6.5	US Off	...	...	12.97	+1.9	+8.0
Alcoa	...	...	76.57	+2.6	+3.5	DTE	3.20	20	104.87	+1.2	+1.1	KindMorg	...	...	19.45	-1.0	+7.5	SpdDJA	3.80	...	261.90	-0.8	+8.9	USSteel	20	...	40.06	+7.5	+13.8
Amgen	...	...	4.44	+0.7	+15.7	Devone	3.0	51	44.82	-0.8	-1.8	Kross	...	...	4.54	+2.2	+5.1	SP500ETF	4.13	...	283.24	+5.7	+8.1	Valo SA	29	...	12.70	-0.2	+3.8
Amgen	...	...	5.71	...	+9.9	DTE	...	...	18.88	+2.2	+2.5	Legacy	...	...	2.25	+0.2	+9.8	SpdOGE	7.9	...	39.83	+1.4	+7.1	Valo EA	2.00	26	96.89	-2.6	+7.4
Amgen	...	...	191.89	-3.4	+19.4	DTE	...	...	3.07	-2.1	-3.4	Lulys	...	...	3.11	+1.6	+17.8	Sabn	2.51	23	48.25	+1.5	+10.4	VanE JGld	...	...	24.08	+3.8	+3.7
Amgen	...	...	89.34	+2.2	+15.5	DTE	...	...	193.81	-0.9	-0.7	Mantho	...	...	19.22	-0.6	+15.5	Sander	1.28	11	138.12	-1.7	-1.9	VanE JGld	...	...	35.03	+5.2	+2.6
Amgen	...	...	47.77	+1.1	+15.1	EDG Reaso	37	...	117.84	+1.8	+1.8	Mell	...	...	17.76	+1.67	+15.5	Schling	2.00	54	79.21	-5.8	+17.5	Verizon	2.38	11	53.23	-2.3	-6
Amgen	177.04	+0.4	+2.4	Engron	58.16	+4.1	+8.1	McDrid	4.04	30	178.81	+6.0	+2.7	Straus	0.41	32	5.68	+0.3	+6.0	Vipac	33	15.99	-0.1	+36.4		
Amgen	67.79	+0.8	+11.8	Engron	32	31.88	+0.9	+2.8	Merck	1.99	16	61.70	+4.5	+9.8	Smuler	3.12	17	128.04	+8.6	+3.1	Valent	1.80	42	134.88	+1.88	+5.1		
Amgen	...	...	10.35	+1.0	+4.2	Engron	...	...	8.89	-2.7	+13.0	Merck	...	...	64.89	+5.5	+7.8	Smuler	...	...	14.25	+0.8	-2.5	WEC Eng	2.21	21	63.58	+5.7	+4.3
Amgen	82.29	+0.9	+4.2	Engron	7.16	-0.2	+7.2	Merck	54	48.89	+5.5	+7.8	Smuler	14.25	+0.8	-2.5	WEC Eng	2.21	21	63.58	+5.7	+4.3
Amgen	122.10	-0.7	+4.2	Engron	29.39	-0.1	+10.9	Merck	43.3	-0.8	+10.2	Smuler	5.54	+2.5	-7	WEC Eng	1.60	15	77.02	-3.6	+1.1	
Amgen	49.84	-1.6	+8.9	Engron	3.08	+0.5	+15.8	Merck	8	49.95	+1.07	+6.9	Smuler	5.54	+2.5	-7	WEC Eng	1.60	15	77.02	-3.6	+1.1
Amgen	49.84	-1.6	+8.9	Engron	3.08	+0.5	+15.8	Merck	8	49.95	+1.07	+6.9	Smuler	5.54	+2.5	-7	WEC Eng	1.60	15	77.02	-3.6	+1.1
Amgen	122.10	-0.7	+4.2	Engron	3.08	+0.5	+15.8	Merck	8	49.95	+1.07	+6.9	Smuler	5.54	+2.5	-7	WEC Eng	1.60	15	77.02	-3.6	+1.1
Amgen	49.84	-1.6	+8.9	Engron	3.08	+0.5	+15.8	Merck	8	49.95	+1.07	+6.9	Smuler	5.54	+2.5	-7	WEC Eng	1.60	15	77.02	-3.6	+1.1
Amgen	49.84	-1.6	+8.9	Engron	3.08	+0.5	+15.8	Merck	8	49.95	+1.07	+6.9	Smuler	5.54	+2.5	-7	WEC Eng	1.60	15	77.02	-3.6	+1.1
Amgen	122.10	-0.7	+4.2	Engron	3.08	+0.5	+15.8	Merck	8	49.95	+1.07	+6.9	Smuler	5.54	+2.5	-7	WEC Eng	1.60	15	77.02	-3.6	+1.1
Amgen																														


LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Please send resume to reinaric@sbglobal.net

CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

Office/Clerical PT Person
Office/Clerical PT Clerical Person needed from Monday-Friday, \$350.00 weekly. Computer skills are a must. Need to be detail oriented, possess good customer service skills, some cash & items handling skills. Must be able to do little errands. Apply Email: billywilliams0028@gmail.com or Call 432-210-7942

CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITIES

Contractors w/ Plumbing Construction Exp.
Power Plumbing, Inc. is searching for contractors with plumbing construction experience. All candidates must live locally and be registered as a Section 3 resident or be Section 3 owned business. Power Plumbing acknowledges that the Construction of this project is subject to the Section 3 plan of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Please call: Power Plumbing, Inc. Attn: Lea S. 281-213-6919

CASHIER / CLERK WANTED

MIDLAND CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT is accepting applications for the position of Cashier/Clerk. Previous cashiering experience required. Also required is use of a 10-key calculator, Excel software and the ability to learn other computer software. Should have strong interpersonal skills, be a team player and dependable. Qualified applicants may send resume to:

Midland Central Appraisal District
Attn.: Human Resources
PO Box 908002
Midland, TX 79708-0002

Deadline for accepting applications is February 9, 2018

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Downhole Tool Service Technicians
Additional Oilwell Varco now hiring Downhole Tool Service Technicians. Competitive pay and benefits. Apply in person or submit resume online at nov.com/careers or 8301 Groening Road, Odessa, TX. (Near the H & P yard). 432-563-1173

Experienced Field Operator

West Texas Gas looking for experienced field operator in the Benedum/ Wilshe area. Individuals need to have an understanding of natural gas compression, operations of a gas facility, natural gas pipelines including high and low pressure systems and operations. Knowledge with Texas 811 and ONECALLS is preferred. Please send all resume to nwoodcock@wtggas.com or Fax them to (432)693-2132.

Plant Employee

Quality- conscious full time plant employee needed for busy manufacturing facility. Must be able to work Saturdays. Prospect must have a valid driver license or ID and be able to pass a pre employment physical and drug test. Excellent benefits including 401K, medical, life, dental and vision. Please call 432-617-0242 or apply Monday through Friday 9am-4pm or apply at Composite Lining Systems, 7812 W. Business 20, Midland, Texas.

Producer Accounting Analyst

Oil & Gas energy firm in Midland, TX, is looking for a Producer Accounting Analyst position. Duties include data preparation and monthly settlement for Permian area Gas Processing plants. Candidate must have excellent computer and communication skills. College degree required. PGAS and TIPS experience preferred. Competitive benefits including health insurance, 401K and Cafeteria Plan. Mail resume to Producer Accounting, 211 N. Colorado, Midland, TX. 79701 or email to jfergusar@westtexasgas.com.

HEALTH CARE

Front Office & Clinical Positions
Reamik Orthodontics is hiring! We are looking for just the right people to join our growing team. Front office and clinical positions available. If you are a positive, reliable, hardworking person and are looking for a long term position in the orthodontic field, please bring your resume to either our Odessa or Midland location. Odessa: 3631 E 52nd St Midland: 4810 W Loop 250 N.

OTHER JOBS

EARN UP TO \$500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone?? Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram 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

OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE
Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 6pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person. \$11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk - Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NOPHONECALLS PLEASE

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE
Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 9 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person. \$11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk - Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NOPHONECALLS PLEASE

RETAILERS

Full Time Cashier
Health Food Store is taking applications for energetic and friendly full-time cashiers. Pleasant work environment, friendly customers, caring management, generous employee discount and paid vacations. Apply in person Monday through Friday only 9am to 5pm at Natural Foods Market, 2311 W. Wadley, Midland, TX

Full Time Manager & Cashiers
Smoker's Outlet has openings for Manager Trainers & Cashiers. Full-time & Part-time positions available, must have own transportation. Apply in person Mon-Fri 8-5 5000 E University Ste 11, Odessa, TX

SALES JOBS

OUTSIDE SALES REPRESENTATIVE
The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers.

Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to: Granderson@hearstnp.com
Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

SALES JOBS

DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST

MRT Media Group is seeking a Digital and Social Media Recruitment Specialist for TexasBackToWork.com. This is an exciting opportunity for an energetic, enthusiastic and career-minded individual with a passion to grow their career in a multi-media and recruitment sales industry. Must be a self-starter with excellent attention to detail, spelling/grammar/punctuation, great time management and a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, and the opportunity to advance your career with an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

Must have a valid driver's license and insurance. Background check / drug screen required.

DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST

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If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to: Granderson@hearstnp.com
Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

SKILLED LABOR

FIELD TECHNICIAN
Tanklogix is currently hiring for the position of "Field Technician". Electrical experience is required. Automation experience is preferred. Competitive pay and benefits. Applicants must successfully pass an electrical competency exam, along with a drug screen and background. Apply and test in person at 12200 W. Hwy 80 E, Odessa, TX.

Electrical Apprentice
Immediate Opening for Electrical Apprentice with sign on BONUS!! Please Call 432-967-1998

Licensed Electrician & Apprentice
Licensed Electrician & Apprentice needed to work West Texas area. 40-50 hrs/ wk guaranteed. Please apply at tripleelectric44@gmail.com or fax resume 575-397-0358

POLY PIPE LABORERS
Now hiring Poly Pipe Laborers, must pass physical and drug test. Please apply online at www.bigdoo.com.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Qualified CDL Drivers
We are growing! Seeking qualified CDL drivers! HAZMAT, Tanker and Air Brake endorsements preferred. Drivers must have a current medical card. Pre-employment drug screen will be required. Send resumes to Colby@colbyservices.com

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"PROFESSIONAL CDL-HAZMAT DRIVER W/ TANKER ENDORSEMENT" - 2 Yrs CDL Driving Experience w/ 1 Yr Tanker Experience" Good Driving Record Required" Must Be Over 23 Yrs Old" MUST PASS BACKGROUND CHECK" Great Benefit package offered. Apply Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm @ 2833 I-20, South Service Rd, Stanton TX or Call 432-458-3446

DRIVER NEEDED
Truck Treaters
Hazmat, Tankers & Class A CDL
Call Fernando Uribe 432-556-0966

18 Wheel Drivers, need CDL
Call Roman Hernandez 432-894-1416

Send Resume to: Lydia.Garcia@CatalystOilfield.com

DRIVERS & SPOOLERS
JW Enterprise is looking for Drivers & Spoolers with Class A CDL. Must have good driving record and pass drug screen. Competitive wages and on the job training for spooling. Pay DOE. Apply in person @ 4204 FM 1208, Midland, TX. 79706.

Mechanic Class A CDL Mixer Drivers
Local concrete company now hiring Class A CDL Mixer Drivers. To apply or for more information call 432-694-1584, also hiring Diesel Mechanics w/ tools.

NEED ROAD WINCH, GIN TRUCK CDL DRIVERS
Please apply in person at 2832 E. Pearl St. Odessa, TX. Benefits available.

Midland Reporter-Telegram Media Group

Our goal is to be the premier media provider in the community. Let our team of experts work with you to develop a results-driven, first rate digital and print marketing strategy for your business.



DIGITAL MARKETING SERVICES

MRT Media Group has an extensive offering of digital promotional tools that produce measurable results for today's online marketing arena. We offer marketing solutions through digital channels such as search engines, websites, social media, email, and mobile apps.

MAGAZINE MARKETING SERVICES

MRT Media Group has an extensive line of Magazine publications offering a variety of local content and specialized categories to fit all your needs. We offer MRT Business Insider, Midland Magazine, Discover Midland, MRT All American and MRT Oil Report.

PRINT MARKETING SERVICES

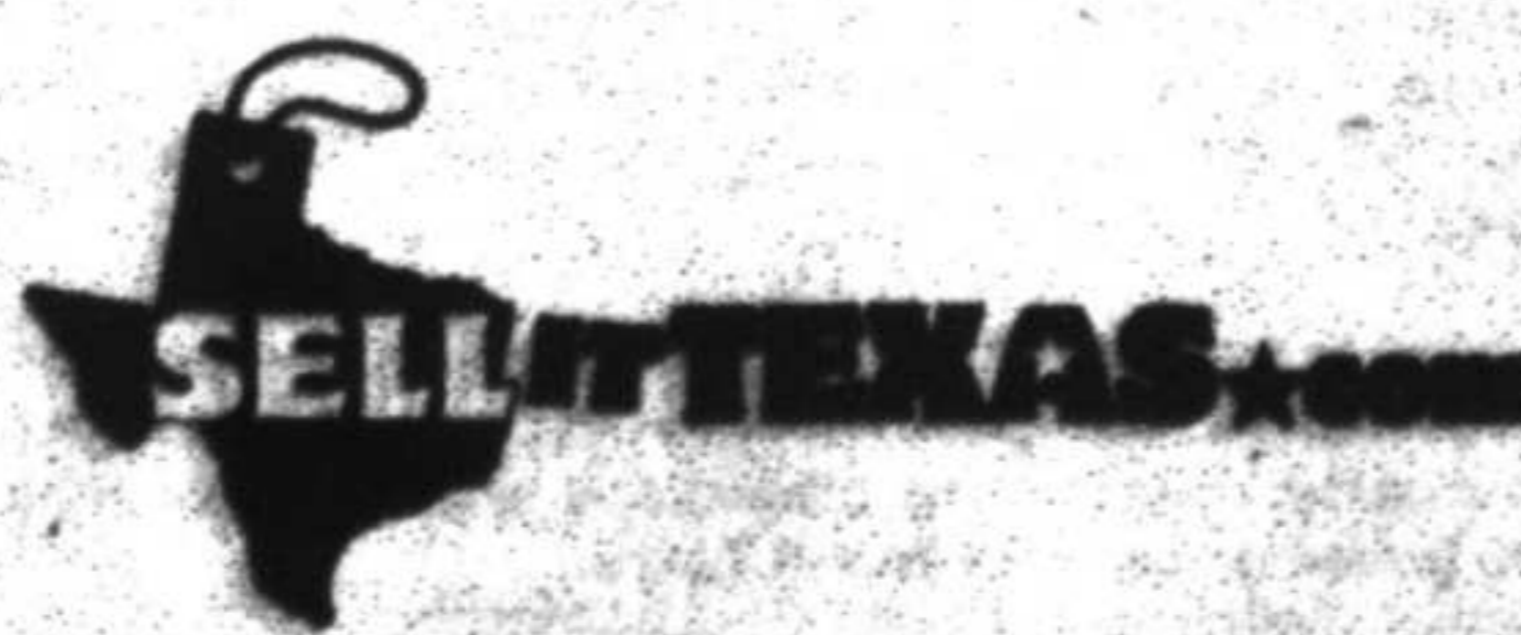
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Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT WEATHER MODIFICATION OPERATIONS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS

Date of the first of three weekly publications of this notice: 1/17/2018, in the Midland Reporter-Telegram published in Midland County, Texas.

1. Notice is hereby given that the West Texas Weather Modification Association has filed an application with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) for a State permit to conduct weather modification operations to change, or attempt to change, the natural development of clouds for the purpose, objective, period, and by the method summarized herein below.
2. The West Texas Weather Modification Association holds a valid Texas weather-modification license, issued by the State of Texas on August 31, 2017, for Fiscal Year 2018 which began on September 1, 2018.
3. The purpose of the proposed weather-modification operation is to augment rainfall for agricultural and water resources and to suppress hail within the target area of the West Texas Weather Modification Association. The requested period of the permit is 4 months from the date of issuance of the permit.
4. The proposed weather-modification operation is to be carried out in both an operational area and a target area, to cause the intended effect(s) to occur only in the target area. The operational area is composed of the target area as well as the following counties: Howard, Mitchell, Coke, Runnels, Concho, Menard, Kimble, Edwards, Val Verde, Terrell, Pecos, Crane, Midland, Martin.
5. The area to be affected by the proposed weather-modification operation is the target area. The target area is that area contained within the following boundary (boundaries): Glasscock, Sterling, Reagan, Irion, Tom Green, Crockett, Scheicher, and Sutton.
6. The methods and materials to be used in conducting this operation are summarized herein. A meteorologist licensed by the TDLR to conduct weather-modification operations will select suitable clouds for seeding using a weather-radar system, as well as standard analytical and weather-forecasting procedures, to guide aircraft to release cloud-condensation nuclei either at cloud base or at cloud top to promote the growth and development of the precipitation process within the clouds and/or suppress the formation of hail within the clouds. The aircraft will be equipped with flare racks or generators to dispense appropriate materials, either glaciogenic or hygroscopic or a combination of the two, into those clouds deemed suitable for seeding.
7. Persons interested in knowing more about the technical aspects of the proposed weather-modification operation should contact George Bomar, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR), P. O. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711 (512/936-4313); george.bomar@tdlr.texas.gov.
8. A public meeting on this application may be called by mailing letters, or petitions, that specifically request a meeting to the Executive Director, TDLR, P. O. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711. The letter or petition must contain (1) the signature, full name, phone number, and mailing address, including physical address and name of county, of each person requesting the meeting; (2) a statement that each person is at least 18 years of age and that he/she resides or owns property in either the operational or target areas; and (3) a description of each person's interest and how that interest would be adversely impacted by the proposed seeding operation. Requests for a meeting must be mailed and postmarked to the TDLR within 30 days after the date of first publication of the Notice of Intention, which is required by State rules to be published in newspapers of general circulation in the affected counties once a week for three consecutive weeks. If at least 25 eligible persons make appropriate written requests for a meeting, the TDLR will schedule a public meeting within the area where the operation is to be conducted. Public notice stating the time, place, subject, and legal authority of the public meeting shall be provided at least 20 days prior to the meeting. Since the application includes hail suppression as an objective, persons living in the affected area and eligible may petition for, and cause, an election, or elections, to be held; the results of such election(s), as certified and submitted by the respective county commissioners court, will be evaluated before the Department issues any permit.
9. Individual members of the public who wish to inquire about the information contained in this notice, or to inquire about other agency licensing and permitting procedures, may call the TDLR at (800) 803-9202 or access the following website: www.tdlr.texas.gov.

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE THAT THE MIDLAND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION DISTRICT,

In compliance with Chapter 772, Subchapter D of Health & Safety Code and Sections 116.021 through 116.155 of the Local Government Code of Texas, HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that said District, at a meeting of the Board of Managers at 8:00 a.m., February 8th, 2018, will consider applications for and award a depository contract with one or more banks in Midland County for deposit of the District's public funds.

Any banking corporation, association, or individual banker desiring to be designated as the District Depository shall make and deliver to the Director of Communications, 1110 W Wall St, Midland, Texas, on or before February 1st, 2018, at 11:00 a.m., an application to be designated as such depository. The application must state the amount of the bank's paid-up capital stock and permanent surplus, and be accompanied by: (1) a statement showing the financial condition of the bank on the date of the application; and (2) a certified check in the amount of \$6,388 (representing at least one-half percent of the District's anticipated revenue for this calendar year). Said check to be returned following signing of contract.

Dated in Midland, Texas this 8th day of January 2018.

Pat Moore, Chairman
Board of Managers of the
Midland Emergency Communication District
1110 W Wall St
Midland, TX 79701

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BID

Midland County Hospital District is Requesting Proposals for:
Data Center Core Network and Services
for
Midland Memorial Hospital.

Specifications may be secured at Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital located at 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland TX 79701 on or after Wednesday, January 24th, 2018.

All proposals must be received in the Department of Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital by 12 Noon, Tuesday, February 12th, 2018.

All proposals must be sealed and labeled "RFP #1241-012418"

Under no circumstances will faxed proposals from bidders be accepted.

All proposals must be price protected until February 12th, 2018.

All proposals will remain confidential until after an award has been made. Offerors will then be allowed to review the proposals in the purchasing office according to the policy and procedures of Midland Memorial Hospital. Midland County Hospital District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive formalities.

Bids shall be addressed to:
Amy Jean Fultz
Director of Supply Chain
Midland County Hospital District
Midland Memorial Hospital
400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway
Midland, Texas 79701
Amy.fultz@midlandhealth.org

Estate Sales

The Antiques Barn Estate Sales Services
6 Opal Circle - Odessa, 79762
Thurs - Fri 9-3 & Sat 9-1
View photos and details at EstateSales.net

ESTATE SALE
BY JOSEPH AND TEAM
3304 Stanolind Ct - Midland
Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 2 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

For pictures go to
<https://www.estatesales.net/TX/Midland/79707/1776234>

24.29 AC. N. OF SAN ANGELO IN COKE COUNTY, MESQUITE, CEDAR COVER, DEER, HOGS, QUAIL & DOVE. \$3,334 DOWN, \$552/MO. CALL VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesllc.com

46.64 AC VAL VERDE COUNTY, N. OF COMSTOCK, W. TX BRUSH COUNTRY, DEER, JAVELINA, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. NEAR LAKE AMISTAD. \$2,554 DOWN, \$423/MO. CALL VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterprisesllc.com

Residential Sales
Single Family Homes

FOR SALE 17 acres in Nogal Canyon and a home with a spacious living area with a rock fireplace. Property also includes, a courtyard, guest house, barn, shop, two entrances, fully fenced property. Seller will include a 140 acre lot in Ancho with an acceptable offer for this Nogal, NM property. \$299,000. Please check out the video: www.211nogalcanyon.com Offered by Darlen Ross Associate Broker Pinnacle Real Estate 931 Hwy 48 Alt, NM 88312 575-336-7711 Office 575-973-0117 cell.

Lot and Land
Acreage

43.5 ACRES for sale between Midland and Odessa near Gardendale off of FM1788. Property located in Andrews. Ector and Midland counties. 3 phase power and well water available. \$435,000. Will consider subdividing into 10 acre lot for \$150,000.00. Call for details. Jeff Winemiller 717-226-3535

Commercial
YARD/BUILD TO SUIT FOR LEASE 5 ACRES, FENCED 2 AC CALCH-ED. \$2350/MONTH JUST EAST OF MIDLAND 432-664-7764

Office Building and 10 secure acres for lease. Great location. Cloverdale Road 432-634-2403

FOR SALE: Great Investment Property. 4 Unit apartment complex Located West of Downtown Midland. 100% leased. \$275,000.00. Please call Harold Corbett to schedule a viewing. 432-889-5841

Classified CAN 682-6222

Legal and Public Notices

CANYON TOWER Public Notice Posting:

Notice is hereby given that, Xcel Energy is considering the placement of a cell site at Interstate 27 Service Rd, Canyon, TX 79015, Randall County. The site will consist of the installation of an approximately 250-ft tall self-support tower and associated equipment. Anyone with concerns about substantial effects of this site on historic properties is invited to submit comments in writing to the following address: "ADW Communications Services, Inc., 14360 N 87th St, Ste 145, Scottsdale, AZ 85260, Attn: Nicole Filtman". You may also call (480) 291-8820 or if you prefer to email your comments, send them to nfiltman@adwcomm.com. Specific information regarding the project is available for viewing at the Canyon Area Central Library, located at 1601 3rd Ave, Canyon, TX 79015 during normal business hours. Comments must be received by February 28, 2018.

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Request for Proposals will be received until 11:00 AM local time, February 7, 2018, in the Purchasing Office, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following:

Request for Proposals for the development of City-owned property for a development project for the City of Midland.

To receive a copy of the RFP, please contact the City of Midland Purchasing Office at 432-682-7234 or email us at purchasing@midlandtexas.gov. Proposals must be submitted no later than February 7, 2018 at 11:00 AM local time to the Purchasing Office, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

City of Midland, Texas

Notice of Application for Commercial Brine Mining Injection Well Permit

R.D.S. Ranch-Water Svs, Inc., 2280 Linda Avenue, Suite 201, Odessa, Texas 79763 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a brine mining injection well permit to inject water into a non-productive salt formation, produce the resulting brine solution, and create a subsurface cavern.

The applicant proposes to perform brine mining from the Salado formation in the Ryan Leases, Well No. 1. The proposed injection well is located 6.2 miles SE of Midland, TX in the Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, in Midland County. The fluids will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 1,800 feet to 2,670 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12957, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6795).

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call 432-682-6222

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Fax Your Ad 682-6999

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

APACHE CORPORATION, 363 Veterans Airport Lane, Suite 3000, Midland, Texas 79705 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of fluids into a formation, which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Devonian, Fusselman, Simpson, and Ellenburger Formations, Elliott A Lease, Well Number: 4. The proposed disposal well is located 11.1 miles Northeast from Flarkin, Texas in the Spraberry (Trend Area) R 40 Exc Field, in Upton County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 10,506'-11,800'.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Codes, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil & Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12957, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2957 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

LOST DIAMOND wedding band & diamond necklace. Reward. 432-628-3223

2010 JAGUAR XF premium 4 door sedan, white, excellent condition. 79K miles. \$13,000. 432-683-4391 or 432-687-4632

IMMACULATE BEAUTY 2008 Mercedes Benz E350, \$15,000. 432-770-8217

TOYOTA 2000 Avalon 172,350 K miles. \$3,500. Good condition. 432-638-7378

BUICK 1995 Riviera pearlcoat diamond white, with red painted Landau top. SE prestige option package, 1 owner, 91,094 miles, garaged since new. \$9,500 firm. 432-218-8881

Merchandise Miscellaneous 4 Sale

Pets Animals Cats

15-FOOT CIRCULAR trampoline in good condition. If interested, call 352-0605

Medical Equipment Invsicare hospital bed \$500. Medline wheelchair \$130. Drive walker \$60. Drive walker/transporter wheelchair \$100. All in excellent condition. 432-202-3273

Fender Super Reverb Guller Amp Silverface, SN A741922 (1974) 4 Fender speakers. Amp repaired with proper tubes Jan-15; little use since then. Good condition. \$1200.00 Ph. 432-831-8512 Midland.

EFFICIENCY APARTMENT located behind 907 W. Dakota. \$700 monthly, utilities paid \$300 deposit. Call Melissa 432-280-9787.

Row fax TC10 Treadclimber. Used for total of 10 hours since purchase. Like brand new. Excellent condition. Time to shed those new year pounds. Asking \$795.00. \$2,200 brand new.

*****GUN BROKER*** Midland Homebased Feb. 3rd & 4th 806-253-1352 midlandgunshow.com**

OAK, PEGAN, Hickory, Mesquite, Pinon. 432-209-0416 or 325-782-4882

432-682-6222 or fax to 432-682-6999

16.5 ACRES available for lease between Midland and Odessa near Gardendale off of FM1788. Property located in Andrews, Ector and Midland counties. 3 phase power and well water available. Lease all 16.5 acres or by acre. Call for details. Jeff Winemiller 717-226-3535

Real Estate Rental Sale

FOR SALE

Classified CAN 682-6222

FEATURED RANCHES FOR SALE

36,460 wooded acres in Sandford County, New Mexico - The terrain varies from high elevated ponderosa pine mesas to lower wide valley bottoms. This scenic ranch has the perfect "land of enchantment" charm. The property is well watered with extra nice improvements and the ranch receives over 100 cfm permits. One-half minerals. \$550 per acre.

18,666 acres located in Terrell County, Texas - This outstanding hunting ranch is located north of Sanderson. Big Canyon runs through the ranch creating a combination of limestone hills, ridges, valley bottoms and upland plateaus. The ranch features both mule deer and whitetail, and in recent years, elk have migrated to the property. Classified Minerals. \$525 per acre.

25,785 acres located in Ector County, Texas - This ranch is located near Powell in the heart of the Permian Basin. It has proven fire sand reserves on the east side of the Marathon Sandhills. The property has access off I-20 with extensive railroad frontage. There are three new Carlini Aquifer water wells. Sand test results, survey and other pertinent information is available. Because of the proven fire sand availability, this ranch has great upside potential. \$1,047 per acre.

14,389 acres located in Pecos and Brewster Counties - The terrain varies from wide, productive valley bottoms to rocky limestone hills and mountains. Extensive brush work has been done on portions of the ranch and approximately 4,000 acres are established to their grass pastures. Excellent hunting, including elk. Classified Minerals. \$650 per acre.

7,288 acres located in Pecos County, Texas - The terrain is gently sloping on portions of the ranch, transitioning to rugged limestone hills, ridges and deep canyons. The property is well known for producing large whitetail and mule deer, with elk now common. Classified Minerals. \$530 per acre.

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Steve Rickey. 432-853-2859.</p> <p>Concrete BRICK, BLOCK & Stone Work. 45 years experience. References. Max 432-661-8899</p> <p>CONCRETE OVERLAY SOLUTIONS: Crack repair, resurfacing, stamp overlay, new welcome. By Manny Ribera. Cell 432-967-3710 mRiberaConstruction.com Video: https://youtu.be/BLIUKSdQDg</p> <p>For all your concrete needs, driveways, sidewalks, new slabs house or garage additions. Call Danny @ 432-894-0702</p> <p>JS Concrete Slabs, curbs, driveways, patios, Stamp concrete. Free Estimates. Bonded & Insured. Juan Sanchez, owner. 432-413-0924</p> <p>Electrical ALL YOUR electrical needs met. Call G&S Electric. 32 years experience. 432-685-0659. Tecl # 22541</p>	<p>Home Services & Home Improvement Electrical LAING ELECTRIC. 432-413-5880. Licensed and insured. TECL 18544. Always appreciated!</p> <p>Fences ABC CONSTRUCTION Wood, chain link, block, gates & repairs are my specialty. Native Midlander building since 1979. Call Lonnie 432-528-5262</p> <p>AMH FENCING A rating on Angie's List. Residential fence, builder and repair. Reliable, professional, and quick response. Local for 12 years. 432-254-9207</p> <p>Fireplaces-Firewood ERIC'S FIREWOOD, 1/4 cord \$100, 1/2 cord \$200, full cord \$400, stacked & delivered. Thank you. 432-934-6198.</p> <p>FIREWOOD BY Midland Fireman. Oak, Pinon, Mesquite firewood. Full, half and quarter cords. Free delivery. Also, Tree Trimming services and firewood racks for sale. Call 432-557-2897, 209-1131.</p>	<p>Gutters-Downspouts PATIO CLEANING UPSCALE PATIO & CLEANING SERVICE Professional Patio, Window & Gutter Cleaning, will haul off old patio furniture. Spring Clean Your Patio's Now. Free estimate with an appointment. Call Rick Sanders @ 432-296-0723 email: upscalepatiocleaning@gmail.com web: www.upscalepatiocleaning.com</p> <p>Handyman Services Total Handyman Services A through Z and total remodel and room addition by native Midlander Manny Ribera (432) 967-3710 mRiberaConstruction.com Video: https://youtu.be/BLIUKSdQDg</p> <p>Home Services & Home Improvement Painting-Wallpaper PRECISE PAINTING FEMALE PAINTER: Interior/exterior, residential, very professional, takes pride in her work, very dependable & affordable. FREE Estimates. 432-250-4643</p> <p>Heat-Air Condition ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service. Service all brands. 683-2679 TALCB005482.</p> <p>Painting-Wallpaper CRC INTERIOR and Exterior Painting Remodeling, fencing & fabrication. Clayton R. Cross. 432-770-6595. 1st ESTIMATE FREE.</p> <p>Remodeling-Repair PAINTING, SHEET rock, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor & bath. Periman Maintenance 432-697-5417</p>	<p>Accounting-Financial APPLIANCE REPAIR REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers & Dryers. Free Service Call with Repair. Free Removal. Full Warranty, Very Affordable Prices. M&M Appliances 1007 N Midkiff, Midland Call 432-570-8278</p> <p>Landscape and Tree Maintenance AFFORDABLE TREE shrub pruning, removal, sprinkler repairs. Licensed & Insured. Call Williams Tree Lawn Sprinkler 561-8802, 638-6163.</p> <p>Arbor Max Solutions Professional Landscape & TreeCare. Schedule your fall feeding starting in Sept. Taylor Maxwell Degreed Certified Arborist TX3606A 432-528-1737</p> <p>DAVID'S TREE & LAWN SERVICE Trimming trees & shrubs, leaf clean ups, mowing and more! Please call to make appointment 432-349-0694 www.facebook.com/davidstreeslawnservice</p>	<p>Remodeling-Repair LEONARD & SONS PAINTING & REMODELING General Contractor All types of painting interior and exterior, new construction, drywall and texture, brick motor repair, kitchen and bath remodeling, wood and tile floors. Custom work over 35 yrs + exp. Call 432-438-9913 Free Estimates. Follow us on Facebook</p> <p>Landscape and Tree Maintenance GENERAL YARD Fall clean-up, mulching, tree & shrub trimming/pruning, planting, winter prepping & many more services. 432-853-8897</p> <p>LEYVA LAWN CARE Trees & Lawns. Professional & Efficient 432-250-9470 Free Estimates.</p> <p>LONE STAR HANDY-MAN Lawn care service and flower bed clean up, trim hedges, raking leaves, wood fence & gates repairs, and planting flower beds Call 432-889-9233 after hours Mon-Sat 11:30 am-6:30 pm</p>	<p>Miscellaneous Services WATER TREATMENT Culligan of West Texas Residential & Commercial FREE WATER ANALYSIS 563-2690</p> <p>We buy homes in any area in any condition. Call the Scott Williams Team of Realtors 432-689-7770.</p> <p>Pet Services THE HOWLIDAY INN DOG SUITES 2008 N. Torrance Ave. Odessa, TX. 79761 432-381-1949 - Javier Vigil</p> <p>EDDIE'S LAWN SERVICE Cut and Trim Yards, Trees and Bushes. Clean up yards & rake leaves. Free Estimates. Call 432-638-5559</p> <p>Miscellaneous Services Attention Truckers! The Burrito Lady is open from 6am-1pm Mon-Sat Fresh Made to Order Call In's Welcome 325-456-0156 318 S Main St Eden, Tx</p> <p>ELAINE'S MASSAGE THERAPY! Come in and relax. Get help with your back neck shoulder pain. Call or txt 432-258-0844. Gift certificates available!</p>	<p>MURPHY'S LAWN CARE Mowing, edging, trimming, Hedge/shrub trimming, clean-ups. Bill or Maryann. (432)887-2131</p> <p>RAUL'S LAWN Services. Lawn mowing, edging, shrub trimming. Free estimates. Reasonable. Call Raul @ 432-254-6384.</p> <p>STRACENER IRRIGATION Sprinkler Systems Repairs & Installations License #4933 Call (432) 561-9525</p>	<p>Fax Your Ad 682-6999</p>
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