MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

HEALTH + WELLNESS

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RANK AND FOOTBALL

What happens if Clemson loses to North Carolina and Stanford wins? Read about what might happen inside, along with other coverage of the college football top four playoff rankings.

Page 1C

County residents continue to shirk jury duty

District clerk: Out of 900 people summoned, only 158 appeared

By Brandon Mulder
bmulder@mrt.com

More than 80 percent of Midland County residents who were called for jury duty on Monday ignored their summonses, Midland County officials said Tuesday.

Of the 900 people summoned to the court, only 158 showed up — a 17.5 percent response rate, according to Midland County District Clerk Ross Bush.

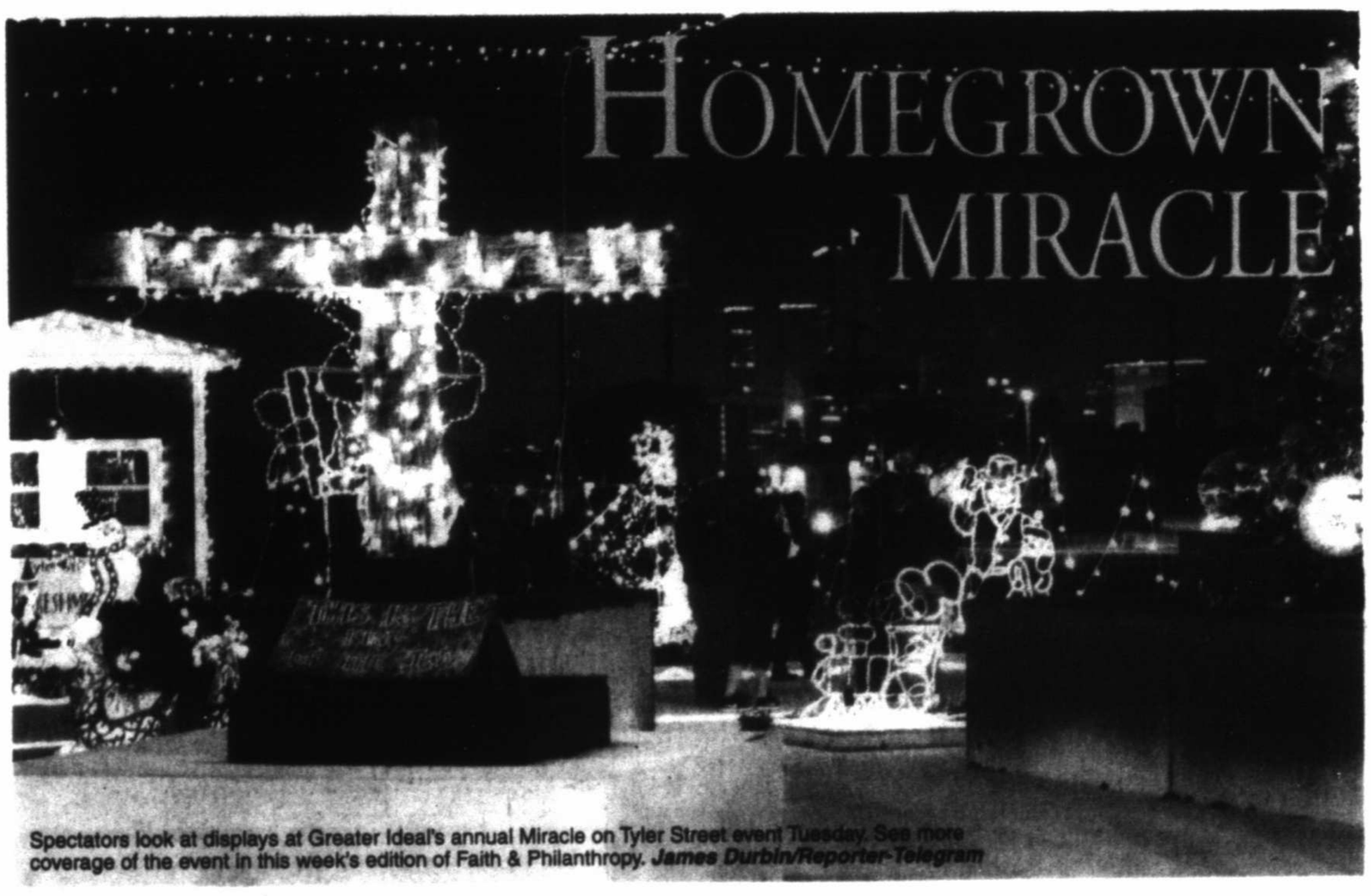
Low turnout for jury selection has long plagued Midland County courts. In the five years Bush has been in office, response rates have been steadily below 20 percent. In early 2015, Bush raised the number of mailed summonses — or, as he likes to call them, "invitations" — from 750 to 900. Yet, the increase only ran up the county's postage bill. Four trials were scheduled for Monday, and each trial required 60 to 70 people to be part of the jury pool during voir dire. A total of 276 potential jurors were needed, and, because the pool was short 118 people, two of the trials had to be postponed, Bush said.

These kind of postponements can easily run up the cost of each trial, he said.

"There's more to a trial than just what people might see," Bush said. "The district attorney, the defense and all their witnesses, specialists or nurses who might be taking off from work to come and testify, you have to pay for these people to come back."

Trial delays result in additional expenses — ranging from the time court-appointed attorneys and prosecutors must

Please see **TURNOUT**/4A



Spectators look at displays at Greater Ideal's annual Miracle on Tyler Street event Tuesday. See more coverage of the event in this week's edition of Faith & Philanthropy. *James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram*

TBRB: Midland taxing entities' total debt payments drop by $50 million

From staff reports

The Texas Bond Review Board is reporting the total debt payments of Midland's five taxing entities dropped by more than $50 million in fiscal year 2015.

Midland's taxing entities are claiming more than $816 million in total debt payments as of Aug. 31. The Review Board's website showed that Midland County — Midland Junior College, the city of Midland, Midland Hospital District and Midland ISD — owed $524,544,052 in principal and $291,646,081 in interest payments. In 2014's report, the TBRB showed the entities owed a combined $547.5 million in principal payments and $866.2 million in total payments. In 2013's report, the five entities owed a combined $469 million in principal payments and $714 million in total payments.

Please see **PAYMENTS**/4A

By the numbers

(Based on numbers fiscal year end of Aug. 31, 2015)

	Principal	Interest	Total payments
City of Midland	$129,095,000	$58,214,143	$187,309,143
Midland College	$37,579,052	$11,126,018	$48,705,070
Midland County	$18,140,000	$6,861,759	$25,001,759
Hospital District	$105,050,000	$62,132,661	$167,182,661
Midland ISD	$234,680,000	$153,311,000	$387,991,500

Midland County Freshwater District

Principal	$226,431,160
Interest	$253,233,309
Total payments	$479,664,469

Total payments

2015	$816,190,133
2014	$866,264,330
2013	$714,250,764
2012	$668,583,590

Previous years

	2014	2013	2012
Midland County	$26,767,878	$36,978,565	$39,512,416
Midland College	$52,911,613	$57,100,429	$61,275,106
City of Midland	$202,184,080	$174,691,713	$204,101,268
Hospital District	$177,246,866	$187,304,339	$197,434,830
Midland ISD	$407,154,093	$258,175,718	$166,259,970

TxDOT proposes changed location for I-20 ramp

By Cassie Burton
cburton@mrt.com

Some residents on the west side of town sounded off on an Interstate 20 project about 15 years in the making Tuesday.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Midland-Odessa Transportation Network (MOTRAN) hosted a public meeting at the Horseshoe Pavilion about a proposed I-20 industrial ramp. The area in question stretches between Farm-to-Market Road 1788 and Loop 250.

More information

Residents of Midland or Midland County should submit feedback at proposed ramps on I-20 between Farm-to-Market Road 1788 and Loop 250 to Gene Powell of TxDOT at Gene.Powell@txdot.gov or by mail at 3901 East US Highway 80, Odessa, TX 79761. Mail should be postmarked no later than Dec. 15.

The Federal Highway Administration approved interchanges on I-20 in 2000 at Faudree Road, Park Road (County Road 1300), East Airport Road (CR 1260) and Scharbauer Road (east of CR 1250). A new proposal that is part of the city of Midland's master plan would place an interchange at County Road 1250 instead of Scharbauer because Scharbauer ends sooner than the county road, according to Gene Powell, public information officer for TxDOT's Odessa offices.

The plan would put access ramps at Airport Road and CR 1250, but "it's not a done deal about where the location is," Powell said. "That's why we are having a public meeting. These projects, when they're being built, are a real inconvenience, and they have a chance of really impacting traffic flow in different areas. So we want people all along that corridor to have a say."

Please see **PROPOSAL**/4A

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WTI Futures	$41.85 ▲	$0.20
WTI Posted	$38.25 ▲	$0.25
WTS Posted	$33.80 ▼	$1.30
Natural Gas	$2.231 ▼	$0.004
Gasoline	$1.909 ▲	$0.018

The big number
Airport boardings have declined
13.7 percent
in October. See more numbers inside on Page 4A.

Today in Sports
See coverage of local high school basketball. Page 1C

Coming Thursday
See what's going on around town in Weekender.

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Gov. Abbott makes little progress on Cuba business trip

By Michael Weissenstein
Associated Press

HAVANA — Gov. Greg Abbott enjoyed dinner and a private concert in Havana but made little progress in finding opportunities for Texas businesses on the second day of a three-day trip to Cuba.

The Republican was at least the third U.S. governor to travel to Cuba since the declaration of detente with the U.S. last year. He appeared to be trying to maintain a low profile, announcing the trip at the last minute and declining to speak with international media based in Cuba.

According to the pool report by a Texas-based reporter traveling with Abbott, the governor dined and watched a concert at one of the capital's high-end private restaurants Monday evening but was told by Cuban officials Tuesday that there were little opportunities for businesses from his state on the island at the moment.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo of New York announced several deals with Cuban state enterprises when he was here last April, but in recent months Cuban officials have been using visits by U.S. politicians as opportunities to advocate for Congress to lift the half-century-old trade embargo on Cuba.

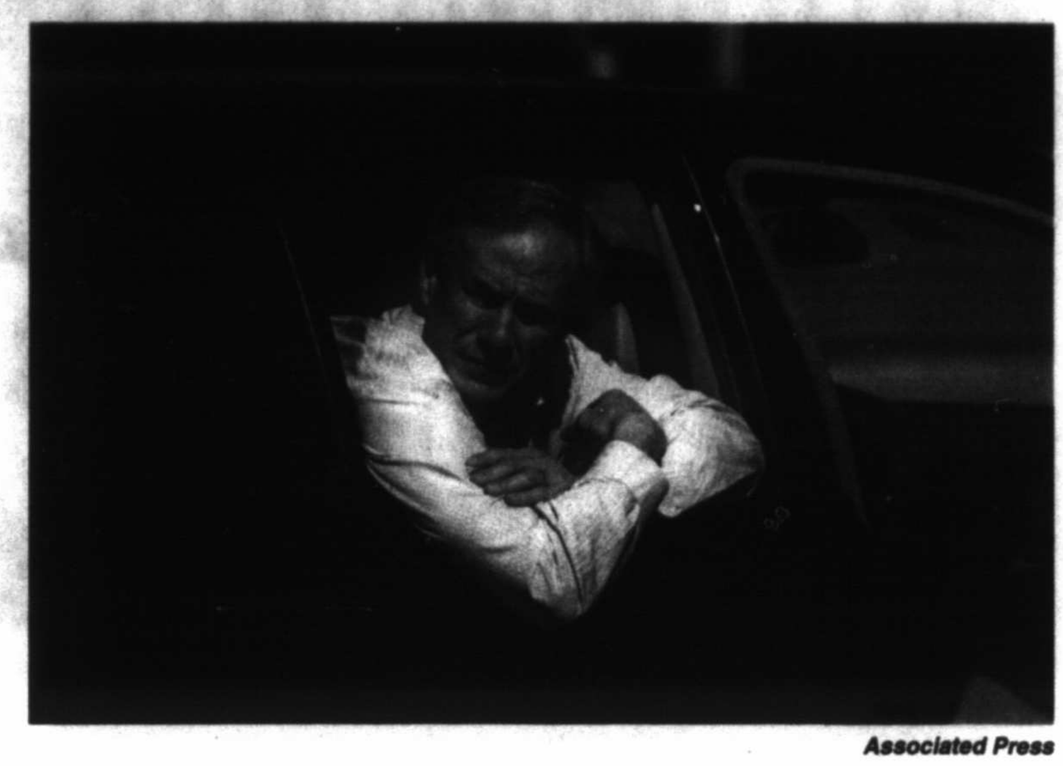
There has been little response from Congress, leaving Cuba-U.S. trade frozen in almost every area except tourism, which has flooded Cuban businesses with hundreds of millions of dollars in new revenue but has yet to generate many returns for American firms.

After arriving Monday, Abbott and his delegation enjoyed a meal in the high-end Miramar neighborhood that began with mojitos and ended with flan and espresso, according to the pool report.

On Tuesday, they traveled to Cuba's new Mariel port and free trade zone, where they were told by Cuban officials that the embargo meant there was no opportunity for U.S. businesses to invest there.

Abbott told the officials that "Texas has an abundance of (rice and other products) and a very easy ability to export from Texas to Cuba," according to the pool report.

The port officials responded that Cuba would buy rice from other sources, primarily Vietnam, until the U.S. allowed the communist island to buy on credit, a measure currently prohibited by the embargo.



Associated Press

Gov. Greg Abbott looks out from a car Tuesday during his visit to the Special Development Zone of Mariel, within the Mariel free trade zone in the Bay of Mariel, Cuba. Abbott is on a two-day visit to Cuba with a business delegation looking to reintroduce Texas agricultural products to a growing Cuban market.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

LUBBOCK

Police investigating vandalism at Islamic student center

Lubbock police say they continue to investigate vandalism at an Islamic student center near Texas Tech University.

Lt. Ray Mendoza said Tuesday that the criminal mischief report could become a hate crime investigation if evidence shows the Islamic Cultural & Student Center, two blocks from the university, was targeted because of its religious affiliation.

The incident occurred late Nov. 23 or early Nov. 24. One of two glass front doors was smashed and outside light fixtures were broken.

Mendoza said no suspects have been identified.

Imam Samer Altabaa of the Islamic Center of the South Plains said he believes the incident should be treated as a hate crime because nothing inside the center — a TV, computer printers and bicycles — was stolen.

The student mosque is associated with Altabaa's center.

FORT STOCKTON

Gas explosion at cabin leaves 3 hunters hurt

Three deer hunters have been hurt in a gas explosion at a West Texas cabin as they tried to light the burner on a water heater.

Pecos County Sheriff Cliff Harris said Tuesday that the men were taken to a hospital for treatment of injuries not believed to be life-threatening.

The accident severely damaged the cabin on a ranch 40 miles west of Fort Stockton. Two other hunters weren't hurt.

The sheriff said the men hunted on Monday, returned to the cabin and there was no hot water for a shower.

The men tried to light the burner. Harris said a gas leak under the house, associated with a propane tank line, led to the blast. There was no fire.

Names of the men weren't released.

SAN ANTONIO

Trooper fired, allegedly propositioned driver for sex

A Texas trooper has been fired after being accused of stopping a driver for speeding and offering her $300 to have sex with him.

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Tuesday announced the dismissal of Christopher Champion just hours after his arrest and release.

The 31-year-old Champion was arrested Monday night in San Antonio on charges of misdemeanor soliciting prostitution and official oppression.

Online Bexar County jail records don't list bond or an attorney to speak for Champion, who joined DPS in 2008 and was stationed in San Antonio.

Investigators say Champion on Sept. 17 stopped a woman on Interstate 35, allegedly tried to solicit sex and then used her cellphone to text himself to get her contact information.

She left without getting a ticket but contacted Texas Rangers.

AMARILLO

Husband, wife found dead at their office

Amarillo police say a husband and wife have been found shot to death at their media office.

Police say no suspects were being sought following the deaths of 22-year-olds David and Kendal Gisch. Autopsies were ordered.

The bodies were discovered Monday morning at GischMedia, a web design company. Police did not immediately say who located the bodies in the office complex or who was responsible for the gunfire.

Lt. Erick Bohannon said the couple died of gunshot wounds to their upper bodies.

EL PASO

Man arrested in slaying of father was on probation

Court documents show that an El Paso man arrested in the shooting death of his father over the weekend was on probation after attacking his parents last year.

The El Paso Times reported that court documents obtained Monday show that 37-year-old Steven Apilado was on community supervision after pleading guilty to a misdemeanor charge of assault causing bodily injury in last year's attack.

According to an indictment, Steven Apilado allegedly hit his mother on the head with a firearm and beat his father last year.

Officials with the El Paso County Sheriff's office said that, on Saturday night, Apilado allegedly shot and killed his father, Vincent Apilado, at the family's home. Steven Apilado remained jailed Monday on $1 million bond. Jail records did not list an attorney.

Activists demand video in fatal 2014 police shooting

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Activists are demanding the release of video they believe shows the fatal shooting of an unarmed black man by a Houston police officer.

Houston police spokesman John Cannon said the video is among evidence in the investigation into the killing of 26-year-old Jordan Baker nearly two years ago, but police have not confirmed that any video shows Baker's death.

"We believe that there's something in that video that they're hiding that they don't want the public to see," said Deric Muhammad, a Houston activist who led a group that gathered Monday outside Houston Police Department headquarters to call for the video's release.

Baker was killed in January 2014 by Juventino Castro. The Houston police officer, who is Hispanic, was off duty but in uniform working a security job at a strip mall that had been the scene of several robberies.

Police at the time said Castro attempted to stop Baker, who briefly struggled with the officer and began running. At some point, Baker put his hands in his waistband, crouched down, charged the officer and told him he was not going to jail, police said.

Castro fired once, striking Baker.

"We've only heard one side of the story and that is the story of the officer," Muhammad said. "In that video could be Jordan Baker's voice. In that video could be the missing components of the truth that we know nothing about.

"If there's nothing on the video for us to see, then just release it."

A grand jury last December declined to indict the 10-year officer, citing a lack of evidence.

The police department said it won't release any evidence now because of possible civil litigation and on advice from the city attorney.

"A representative for Jordan Baker's estate has filed a claim with the city secretary seeking monetary damages," the department said in a statement.

Baker's mother has contended her son wrongly was profiled by the officer as a criminal wearing a hoodie. The Harris County District Attorney's Office has said other than Castro, no one else saw the shooting.

Oil port seeks customers for planned crude loading facility

Associated Press

FORT FOURCHON, La. — The Louisiana Offshore Oil Port is seeking customers for a planned service that will send crude to Texas refineries.

The project is intended to bring back the market that was cut off when the Houston-to-Houma pipeline was reversed two years ago, LOOP spokesman Terrance R. Coleman told The Advocate.

The pipeline began sending oil from Texas to Louisiana in 2013. During the previous 33 years, the pipeline sent oil from Louisiana to Texas.

The new project would re-establish LOOP's reach, giving the Gulf of Mexico crudes a bigger market, Coleman said. LOOP believes there is demand for the Gulf's medium-sour crudes, which have a higher sulfur content.

LOOP has seen the number of foreign tankers offloading crude at its deepwater port fall, along with U.S. imports.

Earlier this year, LOOP began selling storage space to traders who needed a place to park their crude while waiting for prices to recover. The facility also is adding 1.1 million barrels of storage capacity at Clovelly, giving LOOP 10.1 million barrels of above-ground storage. The facility also can store 60 million barrels underground.

Coleman said there is a limit to how much sweet crude the refiners can run, and LOOP believes that will create demand for the medium-sour crude flowing into LOOP from fields in the Gulf.

The oil port is seeking commitments from prospective shippers to use the facility's proposed marine vessel crude oil loading services. The new services would connect LOOP's Clovelly Hub in Galliano to its deepwater port, which is 17 miles offshore from Port Fourchon.

The proposed marine vessel loading services could begin service in 2018.

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MAIN SWITCHBOARD
432-682-5311

PUBLISHER
Jeffrey Shabram 687-8880
jshabram@mrt.com

NEWSROOM
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Stewart Doreen 687-8856
sdoreen@mrt.com

■ MANAGING EDITOR
Mary Dearen 687-8852
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■ OIL EDITOR
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mmcewen@mrt.com

■ PHOTO EDITOR
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tfischer@mrt.com

■ FEATURES EDITOR
Rich Lopez 687-8859
jrlopez@mrt.com

■ ONLINE EDITOR
Mercedes Cordero 687-8850
mcordero@mrt.com

■ GOVERNMENT REPORTER
Cassie Burton 687-8851
cburton@mrt.com

■ GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS
Erin Stone 687-8870
estone@mrt.com

■ GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS
Brandon Mulder 687-8872
bmulder@mrt.com

■ FEATURES WRITER
Trent Johnson 687-8817
tsjohnson@mrt.com

■ SPORTS WRITER
Will Korn 687-8866
wkorn@mrt.com

■ SPORTS WRITER
Chris Hadorn 687-8846
chardorn@mrt.com

■ PHOTOGRAPHER
James Durbin 687-8833
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AP file photo

Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush tours the grounds of the Alamo on Sept. 2 following a news conference in San Antonio. Bush and his little-known but powerful agency, Texas' General Land Office, joined a lawsuit Tuesday suing the federal government for what the suit calls an unconstitutional seizure of land.

Bush's agency joins lawsuit alleging federal land overreach

By Will Weissert
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Land Commissioner George P. Bush and his little-known but powerful agency, Texas' General Land Office, joined a lawsuit Tuesday suing the federal government for what the suit calls an unconstitutional seizure of land.

Filed last month by seven landowning families, the lawsuit accuses the federal Bureau of Land Management of a "blatant land grab" involving a 116-mile tract along the Red River that marks the border between Texas and Oklahoma, but whose waters have shifted for decades — raising ownership and demarcation questions.

"Unfortunately, with this president and with this bureaucracy composed of unelected folks, we can't leave this to chance," Bush — whose grandfather and uncle were president and whose father, Jeb, is seeking the 2016 GOP White House nomination — told The Associated Press.

If the Bureau of Land Management gets its way, 113 acres of public land could fall under federal control and, unchecked, the agency could set a precedent that jeopardizes Texas' entire 13 million acres of public territory, Bush said.

The lawsuit, which his office joined in a motion filed in U.S. District Court in Wichita Falls, "sends a clear message that the federal government shouldn't be in the business of seeking to claim ownership over the state's assets," he said.

Three Texas counties and a county sheriff's office also have filed motions to join.

In 2009, Bush's office argues, the Bureau of Land Management published a survey asserting federal ownership of a small portion of land south of a Red River boundary that was defined by a 1923 U.S. Supreme Court ruling. Then the bureau published a 2014 map indicating its intent to use the same method applied in the 2009 survey to a 116-mile stretch of Red River land, the office said.

The Bureau of Land Management says it is committed to "working with adjacent landowners, counties and other stakeholders through our ongoing planning process to properly identify the extent of federal holdings in the Red River."

"We share the interest of all parties in clarifying ownership and identifying appropriate management alternatives," spokeswoman Donna Hummel said in a statement.

Gov. Greg Abbott has praised the families bringing the lawsuit "for standing up against the federal government's brazen attempt to take private property from Texans."

Bush's office says it's suing as if it were a private landholder. It administers Texas' public lands and collects royalties from energy firms that lease them for oil and natural gas exploration — revenue which helps cover some public education costs.

No oil and gas exploration is taking place on the land in question, making placing a dollar value on it difficult. Bush said it's too early to say what joining the suit might cost his agency.

He also shrugged off questions about the political optics of seeking to sue the Obama administration in the midst of his father's presidential campaign.

"Probably my most important responsibility is to generate as much revenue for the school children of Texas in an environmentally responsible way," Bush said. "And when this entity comes and challenges that authority, I have to respond."

Indicted Texas AG asks judge to toss charges

By Paul J. Weber
Associated Press

McKINNEY — Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton returned to court Tuesday on securities fraud charges that have troubled his first year in office and will likely drag well into 2016 unless a judge now sides with his long list of reasons to throw out the case.

Paxton, a conservative Republican who was indicted in July, entered the suburban Dallas courthouse flanked by his wife and greeted by more than a dozen supporters, one of whom clutched a Bible in the gallery. They huddled in the hallway to pray for the tea party favorite during the first significant hearing since Paxton was booked and quickly released this summer.

The state's top prosecutor has pleaded not guilty to charges of deceiving wealthy investors in 2011, when he was still a state legislator. Paxton sat quietly at the defense table while his platoon of high-powered attorneys tried persuading a judge to dismiss the charges, accusing secret grand jury proceedings of being compromised and questioning whether special prosecutors understood complex securities law.

State District Judge George Gallagher did not indicate when he would rule.

"One law for him, one law for everybody else. That's their argument," special prosecutor Ken Schaffer said.

One Paxton supporter in the gallery clapped when Schaffer alluded to Paxton filing six lawsuits against the Obama administration since taking office in January.

Paxton, 52, has sustained support within his conservative base despite the criminal charges. Other top Texas Republican leaders — including Gov. Greg Abbott, Paxton's predecessor as attorney general — have not publicly criticized Paxton and have urged the legal system to play out.

"I have confidence in this process, the people of this county and the truth," Paxton told reporters before leaving the courthouse in his hometown of McKinney.

Most serious are accusations that Paxton encouraged investors, including a fellow Texas lawmaker, to pump money into the tech startup Servergy Inc. without telling them that he was being compensated by the company. If convicted, he faces five to 99 years in prison.

Schaffer, usually a Houston defense attorney whose high-profile clients have included actress Farrah Fawcett and former Texas tycoon Allen Stanford, cast a long stare at Paxton and pointed his finger while chastising him for allegedly violating the very securities law that the former state representative voted to amend. Paxton kept looking straight ahead.

Taken up by the Texas Legislature in the wake of the Enron scandal, the law made it a felony to act as an investment adviser representative without registering with state regulators. Last year, in the middle of an intense Republican primary race, Paxton admitted to violating the law and paid a $1,000 fine.

One securities lawyer told the Texas Lawbook, an industry publication, in August that the admission made it a "slam dunk case" for prosecutors. The attorney was Bill Mateja — whom Paxton has since hired.

Mateja told the court he didn't know then what he knows now, which is that Paxton would not have needed to register because he was covered under federal securities law. Special prosecutors pushed back but said that, regardless, a jury should decide at trial and not a judge beforehand.

But Paxton's attorneys say the indictments were tainted from the start. They accused a judge of improperly picking the grand jury by asking for volunteers — during a time when the investigation into Paxton was getting intense publicity — and potentially interfering with deliberations.

"Unless this grand jury was living in a cave in Bora Bora, they must have had some idea what they were sitting on," Paxton attorney Dan Cogdell said.

Special prosecutors asked the judge to reject Paxton's request for transcripts and recordings from the grand jury proceedings.

LOCALBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Man arrested for alleged sexual abuse of a child

A 41-year-old man was arrested Thanksgiving day for alleged indecent sexual contact with a minor, according to court documents.

Mark Odin Chambers, of Cortez, Colorado, was being held Tuesday on a $75,000 bond for a second-degree felony charge of indecency with a child by sexual contact.

Two children reported the alleged abuse on Jan. 27, according to Chambers' arrest affidavit.

One of the children, a 15-year-old girl, said Chambers began abusing her when she was 6, and the abuse stopped when she was about 8, according to the affidavit.

She said Chambers usually would abuse her when he was intoxicated and that when she would tell him to stop he would yell at her, according to the affidavit.

The affidavit doesn't include information about the second child.

If convicted of a second-degree felony, Chambers could face up to 20 years in prison.

MCSO: Man found dead on home's front porch

A 32-year-old man was found dead Tuesday morning lying on a porch at a residence on West County Road 54, according to Midland County Sheriff Gary Painter.

Justin Martin was pronounced dead at 10:45 a.m. by Justice of the Peace David Cobos. His body is being taken to Tarrant County for an autopsy.

Martin's body was discovered by his grandmother, who told county officials that he had been drinking heavily the night before. The exact cause of death is under investigation, Painter said.

DAILY PROMISE BROUGHT TO YOU BY
HENRY
Jeremiah 23:23
"Am I a God who is near," declares the Lord, "and not a God far off?"

Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Airport numbers

Enplanements
(people boarding an airplane)

October 2015 43,140
October 2014 50,003
Percent difference ..... -13.7
October 2013 45,286
October 2012 42,244
October 2011 40,503
October 2010 41,601
October 2009 35,518
Year to date: 43,140 (13.7 percent decrease from 2014-15)

Total passengers

October 2015 85,855
October 2014 98,305
Percent difference ..... -12.7
October 2013 89,366
Year to date: 85,855 (12.7 percent decrease from 2014-15)

Fuel sales
(in gallons)

October 2015 656,212
October 2014 648,038
Percent difference 1.3
October 2013 676,555
Year to date: 656,212 (1.3 percent increase from 2014-15)

Parking revenues

October 2015 ..... $302,880
October 2014 ..... $327,997
Percent difference ..... -7.7
October 2013 ..... $214,637
October 2012 ..... $198,042
October 2011 ..... $205,628
October 2010 ..... $182,733
Year to date: $302,880 (7.7 percent decrease from 2014-15)

Things to do

■ Storytime for preschool, 10:30 a.m., Barnes and Noble . barnesandnoble.com.

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

Club meetings, support groups today

■ Coffee Break for Men, 9 a.m., HospiceMidland 911 W. Texas Ave., 682-2855.

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

■ Midland Downtown Lions Club, noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, 200 Plaza St.

Weather report for November

■ Average high: 66.9
■ Average low: 42.8
■ Average temperature: 54.8
■ Typical average for November: 52.9
■ Precipitation: 1.61 inches
■ Average precipitation for November: 0.69 of an inch
■ Days of measureable rain: six

Source: National Weather Service

Community calendar

Midland Archeological Society will meet 7 p.m. Thursday at Sibley Nature Center.

The speaker will be Evans Turpin of Iraan, who is a charter member of the Iraan Archeological Society, a member of the Texas Archeological Society and Pecos County Historical Commission and is a volunteer archeology steward for the Texas Historical Commission. His presentation will be on pictograph icons in West Texas.

Christmas Parade

The city's Parks and Recreation Division is now accepting entries for the 2015 Christmas Parade, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 12 in downtown Midland. The theme is "Into the Future: Christmas 2115."

Registration forms are available at the MLK Jr. Community Center, 2300 Butternut Lane; Parks & Recreation Division office, 2701 W. Elizabeth; or at www.midlandtexas.gov/Christmas. Completed forms may be dropped off or mailed to the MLK Jr. Community Center, emailed to Joey Jolly at jajolly@midlandtexas.gov or faxed with the subject line "Christmas Parade" to 685-7380.

For more information, call 685-7379.

Correction

Military sexual trauma is not a diagnosis, but can be a cause of a diagnosis of post traumatic stress disorder.

A story in the Nov. 22 edition was incorrect.

The Reporter-Telegram regrets the error.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 9-6-3
Pick 3 day: 1-2-7
Pick 3 evening: 6-0-9
Pick 3 night: 0-0-8
Daily 4 morning: 3-3-0-7
Daily 4 day: 1-0-9-2
Daily 4 evening: 9-3-0-1
Daily 4 night: 1-0-8-7
Cash Five: 3-4-16-23-35
Mega Millions: 5-7-25-50-59 MB: 12 Megaplier: 5
All or Nothing morning: 1-3-4-7-9-10-12-16-18-21-22-24
All or Nothing day: 2-3-5-7-10-12-16-17-19-21-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 1-2-6-8-9-10-12-16-18-19-22-24
All or Nothing night: 1-2-4-6-8-11-12-13-16-19-21-23

Today in history

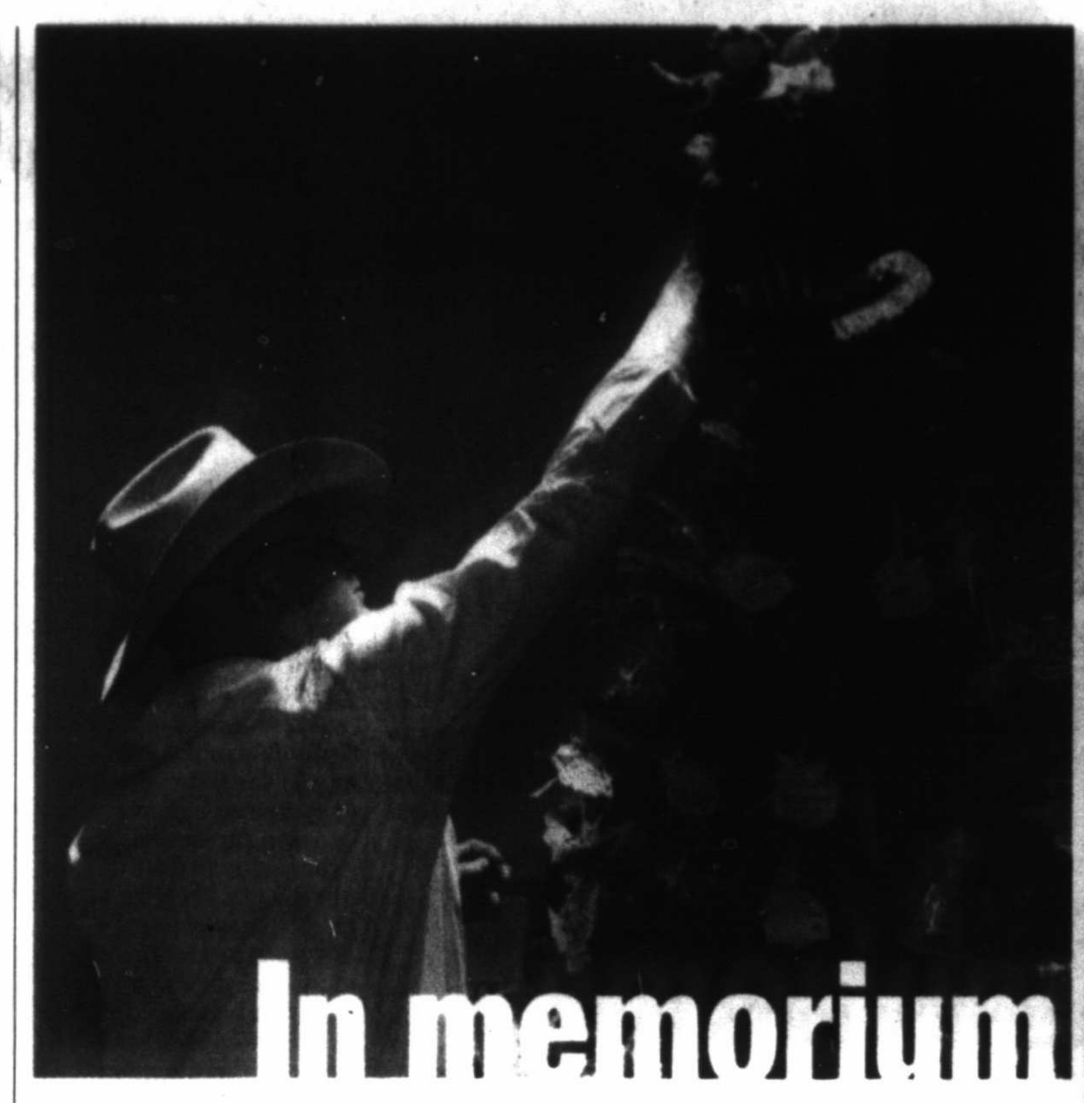
Today is Wednesday, Dec. 2, the 336th day of 2015. There are 29 days left in the year.

On this date:

In 1961, Cuban leader Fidel Castro declared himself a Marxist-Leninist; he eventually would lead Cuba to Communism.

In 1970, the newly created Environmental Protection Agency opened its doors; its first director was William D. Ruckelshaus.

In 1982, in the first operation of its kind, doctors at the University of Utah Medical Center implanted a permanent artificial heart in the chest of retired dentist Dr. Barney Clark, who lived 112 days with the device.



CLOCKWISE: Sheriff Gary Painter places an angel with the badge number of Deputy Mike Naylor on top of the Victims Memorial Tree on Tuesday during a ceremony to light the tree at the Midland County Public Library Centennial branch. Faye Higgins Hodges looks over the names of angels on the Victims Memorial Tree. Lydia Frescas reads information about the Victims Memorial Tree.

Photos by Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

US sending new special ops force to fight Islamic State

By Deb Riechmann
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military will deploy a new special operations force to Iraq to step up the fight against Islamic State militants who are unleashing violence and are determined to hold territory they have seized in Iraq and Syria, Defense Secretary Ash Carter told Congress on Tuesday.

The introduction of the assault force puts U.S. combat troops on the ground in a more permanent role in Iraq and Syria for the first time in the year-plus fight against IS. It comes as Republicans have called for more U.S. boots on the ground, while war-weary Americans stand divided about the prospect of greater military involvement.

Carter, who testified alongside Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, faced skeptical lawmakers who argued that the U.S. needs to be more forceful in countering the threat from IS, credited with attacks in Paris and Beirut and the downing of a Russian airliner.

Carter told the House Armed Services Committee that over time, the special operations force will be able to conduct raids, free hostages, gather intelligence and capture IS leaders. Carter said that will improve intelligence and generate more targets for attacks.

There currently are about 3,300 U.S. troops in Iraq, and President Barack Obama had previously announced he was sending fewer than 50 special operations forces to Syria.

Carter said the number in the new expeditionary force will be "larger" than 50. He said it will be a "standing" force, meaning it will be stationed in Iraq. He said it would focus on helping Iraq defend its borders and build its security forces, but also would be in position to conduct unilateral operations into Syria.

"This is an important capability because it takes advantage of what we're good at," Carter said. "We're good at intelligence, we're good at mobility, we're good at surprise. We have the long reach that no one else has. And it puts everybody on notice in Syria. You don't know at night who's going to be coming in the window. And that's the sensation that we want all of ISIL's leadership and followers to have."

According to a U.S. official, the force could total up to a couple hundred troops, including the assault teams, aviation units and other support units. It would likely be based in Irbil. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the individual was not authorized to publicly discuss military planning.

Obama has set the maximum number of U.S. troops at 3,550, but it was not clear whether the president will increase that number to accommodate the force, or whether the teams would have to be built within the current limit.

Polling after the attacks in Paris and Beirut found Americans divided over sending U.S. ground troops to fight IS. A Gallup survey said 47 percent of Americans favored sending more ground troops to Iraq and Syria and 46 percent were opposed.

Republican Sen. John McCain called the move a "belated step forward" in the fight against IS. Democratic Sen. Chris Murphy warned that "the slow buildup of U.S. combat soldiers inside Syria and Iraq risks repeating the mistake of the Iraq War — believing that extremism can be defeated by U.S. troops absent local political and military capacity."

Carter said the force might be American-only, but more likely would be mixed with Kurdish troops or others who are fighting the militants. He said the new force would conduct operations similar to two conducted earlier this year.

In October, U.S. special operations troops and Iraqi forces raided a compound in northern Iraq, freeing about 70 Iraqi prisoners who were facing execution. One U.S. service member was killed in the raid, the first American combat death in Iraq since the U.S. began its campaign against IS in August 2014.

In May, a Delta Force raid in Syria killed IS financier Abu Sayyaf, yielding intelligence about the group's structure and finances. His wife, held in Iraq, has been cooperating with interrogators.

Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, the chairman of the committee, said the U.S. military effort must be bolstered and directed by the military and not "White House aides micromanaging" military operations.

"If we're going to be serious about ISIS, the president needs to assign the military a clear mission and then allow the military to carry it out," Thornberry said, using another acronym for the militant network.

Rep. Adam Smith of Washington state, the top Democrat on the committee, said the group needs to be defeated, not just contained. He said IS gains strength by claiming to be fighting against Western aggression.

"If all we have is Western aggression, we will never win," he said.

Carter said air strikes in recent weeks have destroyed IS oil wells, processing facilities and nearly 400 oil tanker-trucks. Dunford said about 43 percent of the revenue that IS derives from oil has been affected by the recent strikes and said the U.S. also is targeting cement and other industries from which IS draws funds.

Carter said U.S-backed local forces in Syria are engaging IS fighters in the last remaining pocket of access between Syria and Turkey to the north. The U.S. also is helping a coalition of Syrian Arabs in northeastern Syria, fighting alongside Kurdish forces, that has pushed IS out of the town of al-Hawl and at least 347 square miles of surrounding territory.

PAYMENTS

From 1A

The city of Midland's total debt payments decreased from $204.1 million to $187.3 million. Midland ISD's debt decreased from $407.1 million to $387.9 million.

The Texas Bond Review Board also reported that the Midland County Fresh Water Supply District No. 1 decreased its total payments from $486.3 million to $479.6 million. Those bonds are related to the construction of the T-Bar Ranch pipeline from Winkler County to Midland and the pipeline from Clearwater Ranch to T-Bar.

Jay Edwards, general manager of the fresh water district, has said previously the debt will be paid off in 30 years — or earlier if the city's water demand increases. The city provides the district a monthly payment for delivering T-Bar water at a rate $2.78 per thousand gallons at an average of 10 million gallons per day, according to previous Reporter-Telegram articles. The monthly payments are then put into a trustee bank. In turn, the bank makes a payment on the interest every six months and a payment on the principal every 12 months.

PROPOSAL

From 1A

Regulations require that proposals to federal interstates not enacted within eight years of approval must be re-evaluated and approved again. The changes have not become a question of whether they are needed but rather where they they are located.

County and city residents near the area were informed of the meeting by MOTRAN and TxDOT. Some of the questions and concerns that residents raised dealt with the number of ramp lanes and the project area. They said traffic flow is impacted beyond the borders of the current proposal by the changes and construction.

A presentation given by TxDOT officials said the proposed project's purpose would be to improve access to the industrialized area serviced by CR 1250. It would also reduce congestion at the north frontage road intersections of I-20 at Loop 250 and 1788 by alleviating the "freight component" of traffic.

Congestion has increased at I-20 and West Loop 250 interchange and State Highway 349 and FM 1788 interchange because of unanticipated growth. That area has both residential and commercial properties and mixes commuter traffic with freight traffic. "While plans are in place to mitigate this congestion, additional measures are needed to address the continued growth," state officials wrote.

Residents could submit feedback at the meeting or contact Powell about concerns, questions and input on the project until Dec. 15. The next phase of the project is to conduct surveys and design schematics until the next public meeting, which is likely happen in February or March.

Follow Cassie on Twitter at @Cassie_Burton51

TURNOUT

From 1A

dedicate to a delayed case, to the extra days the county jail must house inmates at more than $80 a day, he said.

But there are limited options for addressing the problem of people not showing up jury duty.

Last year, district judges held a show-cause hearing, summoning absent jurors before a three-judge panel to provide reasons for why they did not appear. Fines were levied between $100 and $1,000, Bush said. The county collected more than $80,000 in fines, but the consequence had little effect on raising the response rate, he said.

Another option would be to send sheriff's deputies to make arrests on contempt of court charges, which can be punishable by up to 180 days in jail.

"If you don't pursue and admonish people for not coming — other than a fine — you're beating your head against the wall," Bush said. "I know that we're elected officials, and I'm not advocating that we put anyone in jail, but I guarantee you: put them in handcuffs, and people will know we're serious."

It's an option that has yet to be used by the district judges, who have the sole power to enact fines or arrests for skipping jury duty, but law enforcement officials would duly oblige.

"Just give us the paperwork, and we'll go out and get them," Midland County Sheriff Gary Painter said.

However, the four elected district judges might balk at issuing warrants for arrest. Such a harsh action could breed ill-will among the electorate at a time when many officials anticipate running in future elections, according to Bush and Midland County Judge Mike Bradford.

"It's a harsh action, but it supports the seriousness of any community trying to deliver justice, and you can't deliver justice without a jury in most cases," Bradford said. "It used to be you could rely on the individual's integrity and sense of public service. If they have the right to vote, they have the obligation to jury service if they're qualified. That has kind of changed."

The issue is not unique to Midland County. Counties across the state have experienced similar trends. Some have found solutions in cutting-edge software programs that are able to reach out to residents beyond traditional snail-mail methods, Bush said. Midland County has purchased and implemented two software packages to help streamline summoning, but to no avail, according to Bradford.

"We're all looking for that mixture that will deliver a larger jury pool," he said. "We've bought software in the past, and it didn't do a thing."

In the meantime, Bush and the district judges will continue pleading.

"I'd love to receive phone calls saying why you can't be there. I'd rather have that than just a no-show," Bush said. "I don't shirk my responsibilities as an elected official. I wish people would not shirk their responsibility to give our citizens their day in court."

Planned Parenthood shooting renews focus on domestic terror

By Eric Tucker and Sadie Gurman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The man accused of killing three people at a Colorado Planned Parenthood clinic brought several guns, ammunition and propane tanks officials say he assembled around a car.

For hours, he holed up inside the clinic, unleashing a fusillade that wounded nine others, scattering post-Thanksgiving shoppers who had to hide inside surrounding buildings for six hours until police were able to arrest him.

To some in the community, the attack resembled an act of domestic terrorism, sparking a debate over what to call Robert Lewis Dear's rampage even before he was taken into custody.

But the legal system may not resolve that question.

Dear faces state charges of first-degree murder, and the federal criminal code has no specific, catchall charge for domestic terrorism. Federal prosecutors bringing charges for ideologically motivated violence generally turn to other statutes — such as those for firearms, explosives, hate crimes or murder — to cover offenses that could arguably be labeled as terror. The punishment may be the same, but often without the branding more typically associated with international terrorism.

"There has long been some interest in defining acts of domestic terrorism as terrorism. It's become quite a partisan issue," said William Yeomans, who spent more than two decades in the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division.

But given the number of laws already available to federal prosecutors, he added, "Whether it's domestic terrorism or not, it doesn't really matter."

Police have refused to detail a motive in the Friday killings of one police officer and two civilians at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, though one law enforcement official said Dear said "no more baby parts" during rambling comments after his arrest.

Dear used a rifle in the shooting. He also brought other firearms and ammunition, according to a law enforcement official with knowledge of the case who was not authorized to talk publicly and did so on condition of anonymity.

The Justice Department has said it's reviewing the case. Federal officials have the option of filing charges, but they haven't said whether they will do so. Among their potential avenues is a 1994 law known as the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, which makes it a crime to injure or intimidate abortion clinic patients and employees.

Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper has called the killings a "form of terrorism" and Planned Parenthood has said witnesses believe the gunman was motivated by opposition to abortion. But Dear has been described by acquaintances as a loner who once gave neighbors anti-Obama literature but never any indication he would target a clinic.

Colorado Springs Mayor John Suthers, a former U.S. attorney, said Colorado laws can ably address the shooting. Federal law defines domestic terrorism as dangerous acts that take place inside the U.S. intended to intimidate the public or coerce government policy or conduct — a description meant to encompass, among others, anti-government anarchists, white supremacists and animal-rights activists.

In the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, for instance, Timothy McVeigh was charged with conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction, malicious destruction of federal property and the murders of law enforcement officials. A Florida man in 2010 was sentenced to 10 years in prison on charges of arson and damaging a reproductive health facility after firebombing an abortion clinic.

While the Justice Department consistently charges individuals who look to join organizations like the Islamic State group with providing material support for a foreign terror organization, there's no comparable statute for prosecuting domestic crimes motivated by extremist ideologies and no catchall "domestic terrorism" charge or offense in the federal criminal code.

That lack of clarity can make it hard to count how many domestic terror prosecutions there have been, or differentiate that crime from other illegal activity, according to a 2013 congressional report.

"Individuals considered to be domestic terrorists by federal law enforcement may be charged under nonterrorism statutes, making it difficult to grasp from the public record exactly how extensive this threat is," the report said.

The issue arose most recently in July when the Justice Department brought federal hate crime charges against Dylann Roof in the massacre a month earlier at a black church in Charleston, South Carolina.

Asked about the absence of domestic terrorism charges, Attorney General Loretta Lynch replied, "Well, as you know, there is no specific domestic terrorism statute." But she did describe hate crimes as "the original domestic terrorism."

The Justice Department in the last year has repeatedly stressed that it takes domestic terrorism as seriously as it does international terrorism. Last year, it revived a domestic terrorism task force that had fallen into disuse after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks as the government shifted focus to international terrorism. More recently, officials appointed a new domestic terrorism counsel to coordinate the flow of information.

Heidi Beirich, director of the intelligence project at the Southern Poverty Law Center, said Dear "should be charged with crimes that take him away forever" and that the federal government has many tools to do just that.

But, she added, "I think it's very important for the government to call a terrorist, a terrorist. I think a reluctance to do that is a terrible thing."

Associated Press

Colorado Springs shooting suspect, Robert Dear, right, appears via video before Judge Gilbert Martinez with public defender Dan King Monday at the El Paso County Criminal Justice Center for this first court appearance, where he was told he faces first degree murder charges, in Colorado Springs, Colo. The man accused of killing three people at a Colorado Planned Parenthood clinic brought several guns, ammunition and propane tanks that he assembled around a car. To some in the community, the attack resembled an act of domestic terrorism, sparking a debate over what to call Robert Lewis Dear's rampage even before he was taken into custody.

"I think it's very important for the government to call a terrorist, a terrorist. I think a reluctance to do that is a terrible thing."

Heidi Beirich, director of the intelligence project at the Southern Poverty Law Center

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5:45 - 6:45 p.m.
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6:30 p.m.
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Politicos, pundits shouldn't contribute to rhetoric

■ There's no point in guessing motivation of suspect in Planned Parenthood shootings

KATHLEEN PARKER
Washington Post Writers Group

Predictably, the killing rampage at a Colorado Springs Planned Parenthood facility has prompted a political scrimmage of the usual sort.

From the pro-choice front, we hear that pro-lifers and Republican rhetoric made the killer do it. Or, at least, they created an environment in which a deranged person might become unhinged.

From the pro-life trenches, we hear, *There they go again, blaming the messenger*, apparently referring to a series of undercover videos in which Planned Parenthood employees, including doctors, casually discussed collecting and delivering "fetal tissue," aka intact organs from pre-term babies, for medical research.

"No more baby parts," the alleged killer reportedly said upon his arrest after three people were fatally shot and nine others wounded.

Suspect Robert Lewis Dear, 57, has been consistently described in the media and by others as "deranged," the basis of which is his appearance. Photos showed Dear appearing to be in a disheveled state, to put it kindly. Otherwise, derangement is the only plausible explanation to sane people. How else could a person do such a thing?

Meanwhile, the usual questions have kept us busy: Do we need more rational gun control? (Yes.) Are we doing enough about the mentally ill? (No.) Do we need to tame our rhetoric? (Tricky.)

Whose voices would we stifle? (I'm making a list.) But, how?

Mostly, we want to understand what happened so that we can prevent the next incident. But in a free country, can we ever fully protect ourselves from the murderous intent of the truly insane, the drug addled, or a rage that topples reason?

What is murder's tipping point?

While responsible writers and commentators have avoided making a cause-and-effect argument, a consensus has congealed around the idea that though the rhetoric didn't cause the action, it contributed to it, probably. Dear, in other words, either watched, read or heard about the videos in question, perhaps from Republican presidential candidates and, being deranged, simply went ballistic. Unforgettable was the description Carly Fiorina offered during a debate of a live, aborted fetus that, one might infer, was subsequently murdered for its innards.

The image she described exists, apparently, but it wasn't from any of Planned Parenthood's facilities.

The videos in question are certainly controversial, and accomplished what they were intended to do — to make vividly real the sometimes-brutal reality of abortion, though the vast majority of abortions are first-term. This is no consolation to people who morally object to terminating a pregnancy at any point in gestation, as we know from 40 years of divisive debate. To people who oppose abortion, exposing the casual harvesting of body parts was simply another layer of banality attached to the already horrific.

It isn't necessary to resort to hyperbole or inexactitude, as some have done, to bestir an ethical conundrum in many a moral mind. Even the liberally pro-choice Hillary Clinton described the videos as "disturbing" when she first became aware of them — and before she was schooled by her pro-choice supporters. Clinton did make an honorable recommendation to study fetal-tissue procurement from abortion across the board. This would eliminate some of the political jockeying and place the issue in the bioethical realm where it belongs.

Meanwhile, as abhorrent as we find the shooter's actions, we should tread carefully in assigning broader blame. One man may have heard fiery rhetoric and decided to kill people, but 322 million other Americans went about their day as usual. The rationale we seek for mass killings may ultimately be elusive because a variety of variables are usually in play.

In time, perhaps the suspect will provide answers, which we can parse in search of helpful insights. So far, he's been unhelpful. Saying "no more baby parts" may suggest a motive, but it is also nonsensical. There will be more baby parts as long as there are abortions. By his comment alone, one suspects that Dear is either mentally incompetent, drunk, on drugs or off his meds, or all of the above.

Divining motivations, a provocative pastime to be sure, is probably best left to psychoanalysts and jurors as facts emerge. In the meantime, politicos and pundits would do well to resist the urge to contribute their own overheated rhetoric to the dynamic. Speech may be free, but it ain't cheap.

GUEST VIEW

Decision about excessive force was the police chief's call to make

Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

Many local and area residents have watched the police video of the July 29 arrest of Jose Escarcega, who had seriously injured Lubbock Police Department Cpl. Ryan Durret while attempting to drive away in the officer's patrol car.

A police officer kicked Escarcega in the face and punched him several more times while the suspect was sitting on the ground, according to the tape made from the dashboard camera of a police vehicle. LPD launched a weeks-long internal affairs investigation. Not surprisingly, the administrative conclusion was reached that Sgt. Mike Jordan, who was the first backup officer on the scene and the one who kicked Escarcega, and Officer Tye Edwards used excessive force when making the arrest.

Police Chief Greg Stevens said both officers admitted their mistakes, took responsibility for their actions and voluntarily accepted suspensions. Jordan's was a 30-day suspension and Edwards a 16-day suspension, both without pay.

Although the officers violated department procedure with the excessive force, Stevens said he concluded they didn't violate any criminal laws.

"They used more force than what they need to use. But it simply didn't arise to the level of criminal conduct," he said.

It was a difficult decision that involved reviews of the videos from the scene and the interviews with police officers and other witnesses who were there, according to the chief.

"I don't mind telling you there was a debate about that," Stevens said.

The key consideration was what the officers perceived when they arrived, he said.

The officers answered calls from Durret requesting assistance, and they found Durret on the ground and still holding the left arm of the suspect.

Police administrators should avoid making evaluations after the fact from the perspective of the safety of an air-conditioned office, during the daylight and with no threat around, Stevens said.

He has a point. Monday morning quarterbacking is unfair enough when it involves a decision made in a football game. Evaluating the actions of a police officer in a potentially hazardous situation at night must give the officer the benefit of considering what was being experienced at that moment.

Stevens has worked in internal affairs during his career and arrested police officers who broke the law. If that were the case here, he would have had no reservation about presenting the case to the criminal district attorney's office, he said.

The department must learn from mistakes, the chief said. In this instance, it likely will involve additional training about excessive force.

"What hopefully comes out of this is for officers to look at other situations and assess whether the subject is continuing to be a threat and whether they need a more measured amount of force," Stevens said.

When asked by a member of the A-J editorial board if he considered consulting Criminal District Attorney Matt Powell about the matter, Stevens said he didn't. It's the police chief's call to make and effectively could put the CDA on the spot to make a decision for him, he said.

The police investigation was thorough, and Stevens' decision about whether the elements of a criminal offense were present was reasoned, under the circumstances. His intention for the department to learn from it and improve future procedures is positive.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
A Hearst newspaper

Abortion foes connect with unstable

■ Often-violent imagery is unwittingly giving the unhinged some perverse sense of justification

DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

Though we do not know everything about Robert Lewis Dear, the alleged killer in the Colorado Planned Parenthood shooting, it's probably safe to say he's not a transgender liberal.

Ted Cruz, however, isn't so sure. "The media promptly wants to blame him on the pro-life movement when at this point there's very little evidence to indicate that," the Republican presidential candidate said in Iowa on Sunday afternoon.

Um, but what about the law enforcement official telling The Washington Post and others that Dear (who distributed anti-Obama pamphlets, according to a neighbor) explained the shooting by saying "no more baby parts"?

"It's also reported that he was registered as an independent and as a woman and a transgendered leftist activist," Cruz countered, apparently referring to a voter list identifying him as female. "If that's what he is, I don't think it's fair to blame on the rhetoric on the left. This is a murderer."

In one sense, I agree with Cruz. The anti-abortion movement did not kill those three people in Colorado Springs. But it's a different matter to ask whether the often-violent imagery used by conservative leaders on abortion is unwittingly giving the unhinged some perverse sense of justification to contemplate the unspeakable.

Just days before the shooting, Cruz trumpeted an endorsement from an anti-abortion activist who once called killing an abortion doctor a "justifiable defensive action" and who leads a group, Operation Rescue, where a colleague did prison time for a conspiracy to bomb an abortion clinic.

The activist whose endorsement Cruz celebrated, Troy Newman, is also on the board of the Center for Medical Progress, which made the surreptitious Planned Parenthood videos that prompted Cruz and many other conservatives to accuse the organization of selling "baby parts" — the phrase Dear allegedly used. The videos, including footage from a Planned Parenthood in Denver, not far from Colorado Springs, were followed by a wave of threats and smaller attacks on the organization's facilities.

There will always be the irrational and the unstable. But when political leaders turn disagreements into all-out war, demonize opponents as enemies and accuse those on the other side of being subhuman killers, the unbalanced can hear messages that were never intended.

Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, who has flirted with the idea of using federal troops to block access to abortion, dismissed the Supreme Court's authority and said that we should "protect children instead of rip up their body parts and sell them like they're parts to a Buick."

Rival Carly Fiorina said, incorrectly, that the Planned Parenthood videos showed "a fully formed fetus on the table, its heart beating, its legs kicking, while someone says, 'We have to keep it alive to harvest its brain.'"

Chris Christie talked of "the systematic murder of children in the womb to preserve their body parts," while Marco Rubio asked on Twitter: "Where is all the outrage over the Planned Parenthood dead babies?"

Leading conservative commentators Bill O'Reilly, Sean Hannity and Rush Limbaugh have likened Planned Parenthood practices to those of the Nazis, and Emily's List, an abortion-rights political group, has tracked violent or apocalyptic images served up by presidential candidates: Rand Paul said he doesn't think "civilization can long endure" with abortion rights; Ben Carson likened those who have abortions to slave owners; Huckabee talked about the "holocaust" of abortion and compared the morality of Planned Parenthood to that of the Islamic State; and Rubio spoke of people being "pushed into abortions so that those tissues can be harvested and sold for a profit."

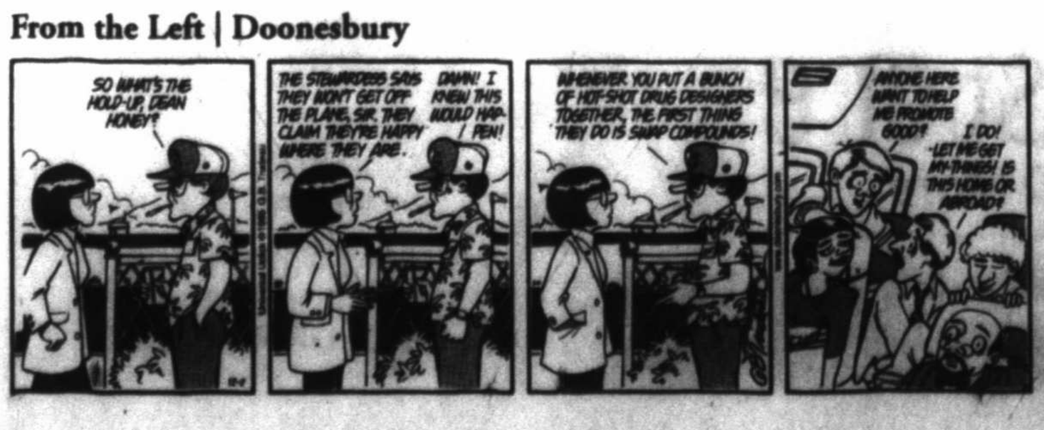
After the Colorado shooting, Donald Trump condemned the killing but, asked by NBC's Chuck Todd if he could "understand why people might react this way" to the Planned Parenthood videos, replied: "Well, there's tremendous — there's tremendous dislike, I can say that."

And of course there's Cruz, who said Planned Parenthood committed "multiple felonies" and who recently signed a letter with other GOP lawmakers saying (falsely) that Margaret Sanger, a founder of the group that became Planned Parenthood, sought the "extermination" of black people.

Newman, the Operation Rescue official whose endorsement Cruz touted, has called women who have abortions "murderesses." He said societal responsibility "rightly involves executing convicted murderers, including abortionists, for their crimes in order to expunge bloodguilt from the land."

Newman and his organization say they are peaceful and law-abiding. That may be so. But in an environment where such a man and message are embraced by a top-tier presidential candidate, we shouldn't be surprised if people with a few screws loose get other ideas.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Voters wonder if Cruz can heal Washington's bitter divisions

By Julie Pace
Associated Press

AP file photo

Presidential candidate, Sen. Ted Cruz speaks in Orlando, Fla., on Nov. 13. In the last two presidential elections, Iowa Republican Sharon Gilbert complained that her party's nominees were too moderate. This time around, the 73-year-old Gilbert wants to send a staunch conservative into the general election, and she thinks Cruz might be that candidate. But Gilbert has a nagging feeling that Cruz's hard-line views and combative style might keep him from getting anything done in Washington, a city where he's frustrated his own party's congressional leaders as much, if not more, than Democrats.

CLINTON, Iowa — Iowa Republican Sharon Gilbert thinks her party veered off course in the past two presidential elections by nominating candidates who were too moderate.

This time around, the 73-year-old Gilbert wants to send a staunch conservative into the general election, and she thinks Sen. Ted Cruz might be that candidate. But she also has a nagging feeling that Cruz's hardline views and combative style might keep him from getting anything done in Washington, a city where he's frustrated his own party's congressional leaders as much as — if not more than — the Democrats.

"I know he's very far to the right, but I hope that he could work with both sides," said Gilbert, who attended a town hall event with Cruz in her hometown of Clinton. "We don't know that now because he's been against Washington."

It's a central question of Cruz's campaign as he gains momentum in the Republican primary: Can the uncompromising conservative unite a polarized nation and work with what he's derisively called Washington's "cartel" of career politicians, lobbyists and special interests?

Asked by a voter this week how he'd persuade Washington to follow his lead, Cruz said he planned to remake the way the nation's capital works instead of trying to succeed within the current system.

"You do it with the power of the people," he told the crowd gathered in a cavernous packaging factory in Clinton. He compared his campaign to a "grass-roots tidal wave" and said he'd emerge from the general election "with a mandate from the people."

Cruz says his approach is modeled after Republican hero Ronald Reagan's after the 1980 election. Yet, his remarks are laced with echoes of President Barack Obama, one of the senator's most frequent foils on the campaign trail.

Obama campaigned in 2008 on a pledge to bring change to Washington, propelled by a grass-roots campaign and the power of millions of Americans. But the president's term has been marred by near-constant confrontation with Republicans on both domestic and foreign policy, a government shutdown and numerous other fights that put the nation at the brink of default or interruptions in federal services.

Some Iowa Republicans wonder if Cruz — who like Obama is running for president midway through his first term in the Senate — could do much better.

"I'm not completely sold on him as somebody who can unify this country," said Ron Mann, a 65-year-old Republican from Bettendorf who attended a jam-packed town hall with Cruz Monday evening. Mann used to live in Texas and voted for Cruz when he ran for Senate in 2012. Now an Iowa resident, Mann is leaning toward Florida Sen. Marco Rubio.

Republican voters have long debated whether it's better to nominate a hard-line conservative who can rally the party's base or a more moderate candidate with broader general election appeal. The party's last two nominees — former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and Arizona Sen. John McCain — fell into the latter category, and some GOP voters blame their defeats on an inability to energize conservatives.

Since arriving in the Senate three years ago, Cruz has cultivated a reputation as an unbending conservative with an attention-grabbing style. He was the driver of the 2013 government shutdown, staging a 21-hour filibuster in the effort to defund Obama's signature health care law and rallying House Republicans to block government funding that included spending on "Obamacare."

Cruz's strategy was derided by Republican leaders, who believed the public blamed the party for a shutdown that ultimately did nothing to advance the senator's health care goals. The shutdown also contributed to a belief among some GOP leaders that Cruz is a self-promoter with no party loyalty.

"Ted Cruz makes Donald Trump look like a consensus builder when you consider his total inability to work with anybody of either party during his tenure in the Senate," said Josh Holmes, a former adviser to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, the Kentucky Republican who has clashed frequently with Cruz. "If you consistently have trouble getting three senators of your own party to stand with you, it's pretty tough to explain how you're the candidate who can accomplish conservative reform."

Cruz wears his tense relationship with Republican leaders as a badge of honor. Still, his campaign advisers say the senator does have a track record of finding common ground with both Republicans and Democrats. Aides cite his work with New York Democratic Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand on military sexual assault reforms and his partnership with Iowa Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley on gun legislation.

Bonnie Temperley of Clinton has Cruz on her short list of candidates for the Iowa caucuses, now just two months away. She, too, hopes he can ease Washington's partisan gridlock — but not if it means shedding his conservative credentials.

"I want him to work with the other side, but not cave and be so worried about what people are going to think about Republicans," said Temperley, who is also considering caucusing for Ben Carson, the retired neurosurgeon. "We have to stand for something."

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The only domestic animal not mentioned in the Bible is the cat.

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France, Germany, Canada call on world to put price on carbon

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

LE BOURGET, France — One of the smartest ways to fight global warming is putting a price on carbon dioxide pollution, according to key world leaders at the international climate summit, including U.S. President Barack Obama.

Either a tax on carbon dioxide emissions or putting a price on carbon and trading carbon pollution like pork bellies, will help use capitalism to get closer to a day when the world isn't adding heat-trapping gases to the atmosphere, said leaders of France, Germany, Canada, Chile, Mexico and Ethiopia, as well as heads of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development on Monday.

"I have long believed that the most elegant way to drive innovation and to reduce carbon emissions is to put a price on it," Obama added at a Tuesday news conference in Paris. "Obviously I'm not under any illusion that this Congress will impose something like this."

The number of countries, provinces, states or cities putting a price on carbon has tripled in the past year and is now at 40, including some U.S. states, said World Bank Group President Jim Young Kim said Monday. Kim and others pointed to straight carbon taxes in British Columbia, Sweden and France as examples of what works.

Economists have known since 1923 that "smart economics puts a tax on bad things and not on good things," said World Resources Institute President Andrew Steer, a former Wharton economist who wasn't part of the multination initiative on carbon pricing. He compared it to taxing cigarettes to reducing consumption, although other methods of trading carbon pollution credits aren't quite the same, he added.

Obama called it something out of "an Econ 101 textbook."

"We simply cannot afford to continue polluting the planet at the current pace," World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim said. "Carbon pricing is critical for reducing emissions, preserving our environment and protecting the most vulnerable."

New Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said British Columbia's "world class" carbon tax proves such a device doesn't harm the economy.

There are already costs — called externalities — to burning fossil fuels in terms of public health and deaths, costs that the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized, said Wesleyan University economist Gary Yohe, who was not part of the Paris event.

"Cheap and dirty energy is not cheap for the planet or the health of our people," Chilean President Michelle Bachelet said at the Paris climate summit. "When green taxes are incorporated into our climate policies, we can harness market forces that can lead to profound changes in our emissions patterns."

Obama says parts of climate deal must be legally binding

PARIS — President Barack Obama said Tuesday that parts of the global warming deal being negotiated in Paris should be legally binding on the participating countries, setting up a potential fight with Republicans at home.

Obama's stand won praise at the U.N. climate conference from those who want a strong agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the burning of coal, oil and gas. But it could rile conservatives in Washington, especially if he tries to put the deal into effect without seeking congressional approval.

The Obama administration has pledged during the international talks to reduce U.S. emissions by up to 28 percent by 2025. But inscribing the emissions target in the Paris deal would probably require Obama to submit the pact to Congress, where it would be unlikely to win ratification. Many Republicans doubt global warming is real or fear that stringent pollution controls could kill jobs.

So the administration is looking to keep the targets out while including binding procedures on when and how countries should review their targets and raise them if possible.

"Although the targets themselves may not have the force of treaties, the process, the procedures that ensure transparency and periodic reviews, that needs to be legally binding," Obama said in Paris, "and that's going to be critical."

The White House previously said parts of the deal should be legally binding, but this is the first time Obama has said it himself and spelled out which ones.

Associated Press

Associated Press

From the left, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, French President Francois Hollande, Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff, and Chilean President Michelle Bachelet attend the "Mission Innovation: Accelerating the Clean Energy Revolution" meeting Monday at the COP2, United Nations Climate Change Conference, in Le Bourget, north of Paris.

"Cheap and dirty energy is not cheap for the planet or the health of our people. When green taxes are incorporated into our climate policies, we can harness market forces that can lead to profound changes in our emissions patterns."

Chilean President Michelle Bachelet

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EVENT INSIDE

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When it comes to wellness, lead your children by example

IMO JEAN DOUGLAS
Health Services supervisor for Midland ISD

From the time our children arrive in our lives, we begin teaching them.

We teach them to say "please" and "thank you;" we teach them to make their beds; we teach them to feed their pets; and to do their best in school. Often, we teach them by our examples. Like little sponges, they absorb everything they see, hear and experience — ask any parent who has heard a child repeat a phrase or conversation word for word.

We also teach them by what we choose not to do. As we make decisions about our own health, our children (whether 3 or 33) are learning. I thought about this the other day as I sat in my doctor's office. He had informed me that I needed to be more diligent about my check-ups. Skip a well check for one of my kids? Never. Skip a check up for me ... well, like many parents, I tend to put my own health needs on the back burner.

It draws to mind the example that the flight attendant always gives about the oxygen masks when you fly: "If you are traveling with a child or someone who requires assistance, secure your mask first and then assist the other person." If I don't take care of me, I won't be available to take care of them. Doctors and nurses often see this. Parents and guardians are not able to care for their kids if they are not in good health and have not tended to their own health needs.

Kids might get the idea that health is not a priority if we skip our check-ups, dental appointments and eye exams. If we opt for fast-food fixes rather than eating our fruits and vegetables, they learn that this is how dinner should be. As we sit on the sofa and watch television, rather than playing in the front yard with them or walking around the block, they learn that physical activity is not important. On the other hand, they learn to brush and floss their teeth as they watch us do so, and they learn to move their bodies if they see mom, dad, aunt, uncle or grandmother going for a walk or playing ball. They are learning from and absorbing each health choice we make.

We can help them learn good health habits by caring for ourselves, and model good care for them. Talk to your kids about health appointments, and why they are important. Schedule a dental or vision check-up if it has been a while, and teach them so that health is a priority in their schedule, from the morning walk to the annual exam. Maintain health insurance and teach older kids how to navigate that system. High school-aged kids can make health appointments with mom or dad's guidance and coaching. For kids with chronic health conditions, teach them about their care plan and help them form habits that will prepare them for the future. Teach kids about different avenues that provide care — from the primary care office to the ER, and how and when to use each one.

Talk to your family about why self care is important, and lead by example. Call today to schedule your well check, mammogram, dental appointment or vision check-up. Your kids will thank you.

Imo Jean Douglas is Health Services supervisor for Midland ISD.

Want to know more?

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- https://yourtexasbenefits.com/ssp/SSPHome/ssphome.jsp
- employer's benefits office

If employer offers health insurance, contact your benefits office to explore your options.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides list of schedules for recommended preventative measures for adults at www.cdc.gov/prevention

SPIN FOR ZEN

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Participants in the RPM class ride stationary bikes Tuesday at the YMCA.

New cases of diabetes decline across nation

■ Rate in Texas remains on the rise

By Sabrina Tavernise
N.Y. Times News Group

EUTAW, Ala. — After decades of relentless rise, the number of new cases of diabetes in the United States has finally started to decline.

The rate of new cases fell by about a fifth from 2008 to 2014, according to researchers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the first sustained decline since the disease started to explode in this country about 25 years ago.

The drop has been gradual and for a number of years was not big enough to be statistically meaningful. But new data for 2014 released Tuesday serves as a robust confirmation that the decline is real, officials said. There were 1.4 million new cases of diabetes in 2014, down from 1.7 million in 2008.

According to CDC surveillance data, in Texas, the rate of new cases of diabetes in adults age 18 to 76 dropped from 10.5 per 1,000 in 2008 to 8.7 per 1,000 in 2010. But by 2013, the rate had crept back up to 9.8 per 1,000.

The overall percentage of adults in Texas diagnosed with diabetes continues to rise, from 10.0 percent in 2008 to 10.9 percent in 2013.

In 2013, only Louisiana (11.8 per 1,000) and Arkansas (10.9 per 1,000) had higher rates of new diabetes diagnosis than Texas (9.8 per 1,000).

"It seems pretty clear that incidence rates have now actually started to drop," said Dr. Edward Gregg, one of the CDC's top diabetes researchers. "Initially it was a little surprising because I had become so used to seeing increases everywhere we looked."

Please see **DIABETES**/3B

HEALTH BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

MISD to host mental health conference

The Midland ISD Office of Guidance and Counseling will host the Permian Basin Mental Health Conference from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Jan. 29 and 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 30 at First Baptist Church. Registratio and breakfast begins one hour before the start time each day.

The goal of the conference — sponsored by Chevron and the Midland ISD Education Foundation — is to provide participants with tools and strategies to aid in the prevention of suicide and to gain an understanding of the mental health spectrum.

For more information, call the Office of Guidance and Counseling at 240-1552. To register, visit http://bit.ly/1HF0hSn.

Source: MISD

Walking club

The Midland Walkabout Volkssport Club meets 6 p.m. Monday at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel. Guest speaker is to be Austin Harris, owner of Run This Way.

The club has monthly 5K or 10K walks at locations within a 50-mile radius of Midland.

To RSVP for the meeting, contact Gary Petersen at 697-4310 or gpetersen3@suddenlink.net.

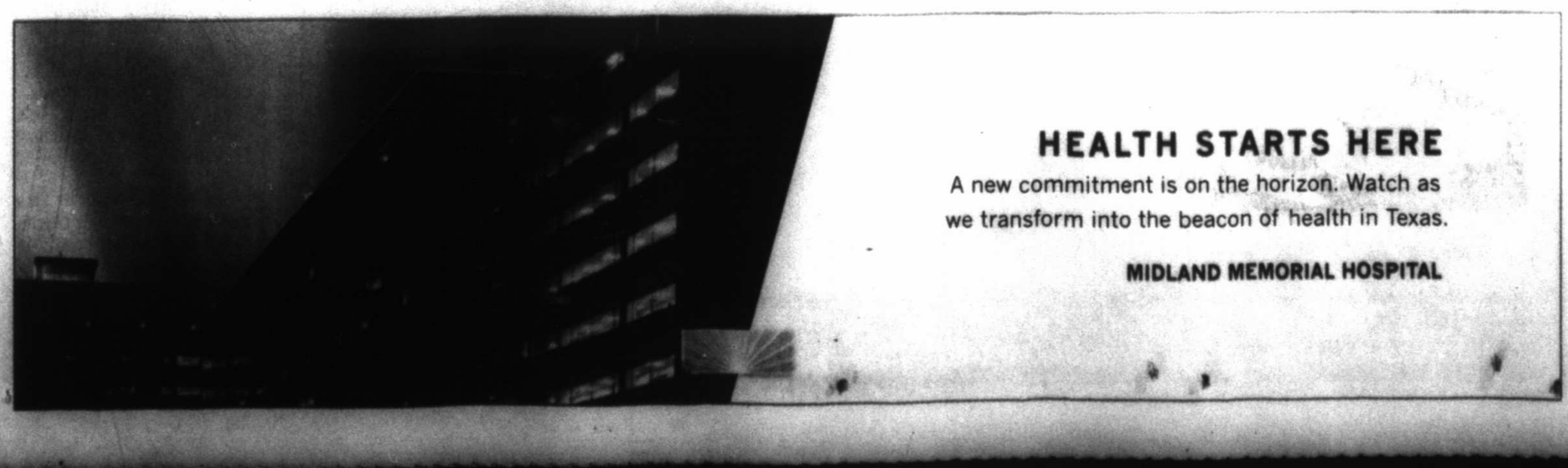
Classes

- How to Survive Sepsis: Update to "Crushing" the current sepsis recommendations, noon to 1 p.m., today, Midland Memorial Hospital Conference Center — Rooms C & D.
- Becoming a Mom: Class 6, 6:30-7:30 p.m., today, Midland Memorial West Campus, 4214 Andrews Hwy.
- Weigh to Success Support Group meeting, 4-5 p.m., Thursday.

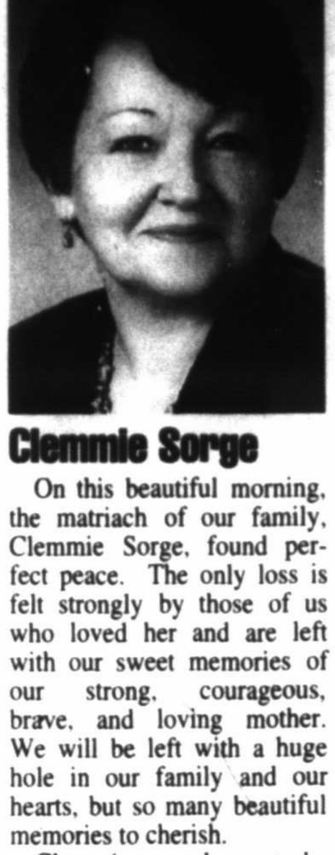
Support groups this week

- Coffee Break for Men, 9 a.m. today, HospiceMidland 911 W. Texas Ave., 682-2855.
- New Beginnings cancer support group, 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Texas Oncology — Allison Cancer Center, 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Suite 100, 218-8714, fatima@giftsofhopemidland.org.
- Midland Parkinson Support Group, 6:30 p.m. Monday, Health-South Rehabilitation Hospital, 699-6640.

Please see **BRIEFS**/3B



Obituaries



Clemmie Sorge

On this beautiful morning, the matriach of our family, Clemmie Sorge, found perfect peace. The only loss is felt strongly by those of us who loved her and are left with our sweet memories of our strong, courageous, brave, and loving mother. We will be left with a huge hole in our family and our hearts, but so many beautiful memories to cherish.

Clemmie went home to be with her Lord December 1, 2015. She was born December 17, 1941 to Cecil Monroe Driskill and Dolly Ethel Moody in Colgate, Oklahoma. She lived a long and happy life in Midland, Texas where she enjoyed taking her grandchildren to play bingo and was always on the move traveling with her late husband, Jerry Sorge. Her passion was her work where she was able to assist her clients by placing them in the homes of their dreams. Many of her clients became like family over the years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband of 43 years, a sister, a brother, a son, a grandson and a great-grand son.

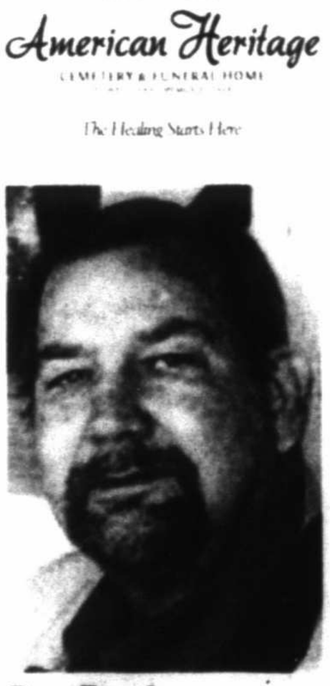
Clemmie is survived by four sisters, Junaita Webb, Mary Williams, Velma Mckinney, Virgil Ball and Edna Parks; four children, Deborah Dimmig and her husband, Marc of Midland; Sean Sorge and his wife, Samantha of Ft. Worth; Sandra James and Rhonda Parsons both of Midland; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Viewing will be held Wednesday, December 2, 2015 beginning at 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at American Heritage and again on Thursday, December 3, 2015 beginning at 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., prior to the service.

A celebration of life will be held Thursday, December 3, 2015, 11:00 a.m. at American Heritage, 4100 N. FM 1788, Midland.

In lieu of florals donations may be made in Clemmie's name to Hospice of Midland. Arrangements are entrusted to American Heritage Cemetery and Funeral Home. Online condolences may be posted at *thehealingstartshere.com.*

American Heritage
CEMETERY & FUNERAL HOME
The Healing Starts Here



Dan Ford

Danny Mack Ford, age 63, passed away on November 27, 2015 at his home in Flint, Texas with family surrounding him.

He was born on October 13, 1952 in Altus, Oklahoma to Glen and Maxine Ford. After moving to Odessa, Texas he graduated from Permian High School in 1971. Learning the family business of installing and repairing garage doors, Dan worked with his father and even ran his own business until 1985 when he switched careers and worked for Executive Leasing until 1997 when he retired.

Dan married Constance Albert Perkins in 1986 in Odessa, Texas. They were married for 29 years. Dan and Connie were members of Golf Course Road Church of Christ and then Shiloh Road Church of Christ when they moved to Flint, Texas in 2012.

He loved cars, especially Buicks and enjoyed racing the cars he restored. One of his most memorable trips was when he was invited to take his 1972 Buick Skylark Convertible on the Cross Country Hot Rod Power Tour. He also enjoyed fishing and spending time with his Grandsons.

Dan is preceded in death by his mother, Maxine Ford.

Dan is survived by his wife, Connie Ford; his daughter, Deanna Keese and husband Scott; grandchildren, Lucas and Noah Keese; step-son, Mick Perkins; step-granddaughter, Lennon Loralei; father, Glen Ford; sister, Sandra Patrick and husband Bruce; brothers, Larry Ford, Monte Ford and his wife Kathy; and many other relatives.

Visitation will be at Sunset Memorial Funeral Home from 5:00pm-7:00pm, Thursday, December 3, 2015.

Funeral Services will be at 10:00am, Friday, December 4, 2015 at Sunset Funeral Home Chapel with Tim Baugh officiating.

In lieu of flowers the family requests first and foremost that everyone choose to be an organ donor and let your loved ones know your wishes as well. Any memorial donations may be made to Kenya Widows & Orphans Ministries, at *kwoministries.org/donate.*

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

SUNSET MEMORIAL
GARDENS & FUNERAL HOME

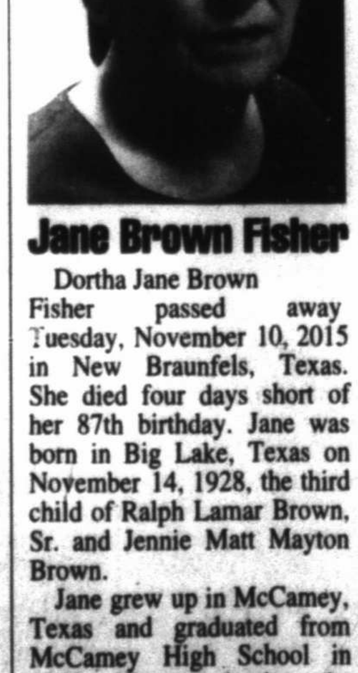
David Depew

David Depew received his angel wings on November 3, 2015.

David is preceded in death by his parents, Dan and Ruby Timberlake.

Survivors include his wife, Betty; his daughter, Carrie Galvan; and granddaughter, Jordyn Galvan. He served as Social Studies Consultant and assistant principal for ECISD. Prior to that, David had worked as a consultant for Region 18 Education Service Center and had taught for MISD. After living and working in Midland and Odessa, he recently moved to Richardson, Texas.

A memorial service will be held December 5, at 1:00 p.m. at Chapel Hill Baptist Church, 1820 E. 52nd St. in Odessa. Online condolences can be made on Facebook at *www.facebook.com/groups/DavidDepew.*



Jane Brown Fisher

Dortha Jane Brown Fisher passed away Tuesday, November 10, 2015 in New Braunfels, Texas. She died four days short of her 87th birthday. Jane was born in Big Lake, Texas on November 14, 1928, the third child of Ralph Lamar Brown, Sr. and Jennie Matt Mayton Brown.

Jane grew up in McCamey, Texas and graduated from McCamey High School in 1946. After graduation she went to Springfield, Mo. to train as a manager for Western Union. She returned to McCamey as manager of the office there and met the love of her life George H. (Bud) Fisher. They were married on September 21, 1953 in Kerrville, Texas and were married for 41 years until his death in 1994.

Jane is survived by a sister, Frances Nell Brown Sites of Midland, Texas, her children, Sheri Fisher Stevens (Mickey) of McCamey, Texas, Carolyn Jane Fisher O'Grady (Bill) of Austin, Texas, Buddy Brown Fisher (Torey) of Abilene, Texas and Robyn Sue Fisher Marchesini (Roberto) of New Braunfels, Texas, nine grandchildren numerous great grandchildren and friends. She will be greatly missed by those who loved her.

Jane is predeceased by her husband Bud Fisher, her parents, her brother Ralph Brown, Jr., her brother-in-law Tom Sites and a son, George Michael Fisher of Austin, Texas.

A memorial service is scheduled for Friday, December 4, 2015 at 2:00 PM in the Chapel of First Baptist Church of Midland with Rev. David Johnson presiding.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be directed to the Star of Hope Mission, 6807 Ardmore Street, Houston, Texas 77054 or the Martha Adams Scholarship Fund of the First Baptist Church of Midland or a charity of your choice.

Mark J. Austin

Revelation 1:8New King James Version (NKJV)
"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

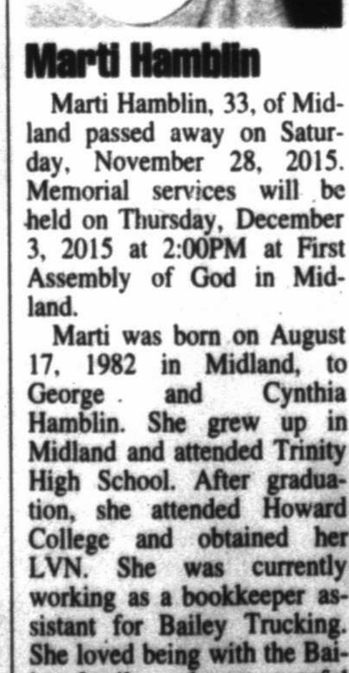
Mark J. Austin, 62, of Stanton, went to be with his Heavenly Father on Friday, November 27, 2015 at Midland Memorial Hospital. The family will receive friends on Friday, December 4, 2015 from 5:00-7:00 pm at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland.

Mark was born on July 2, 1953 to Robert James Austin and Jerry Austin in Odessa. He graduated from Fort Stockton High School and then went on to college at the College of Sequoias, Midland College and the University of Texas at the Permian Basin. Mark served our country in the Marine Corps as a Sergeant from August 9, 1971 to August 8, 1975. He married the love of his life, Pamela Pogue on January 4, 1982. Mark worked for Pioneer Resources as an Operations Foreman until his passing. He enjoyed reading his Bible, hiking with his family, rocks and minerals, guns, knives, spending time with his dogs, horses, and most of all his grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials be donated to the Wounded Warrior Project, PO BOX 758517, Topeka, KS 66675.

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

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



Marti Hamblin

Marti Hamblin, 33, of Midland passed away on Saturday, November 28, 2015. Memorial services will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2015 at 2:00PM at First Assembly of God in Midland.

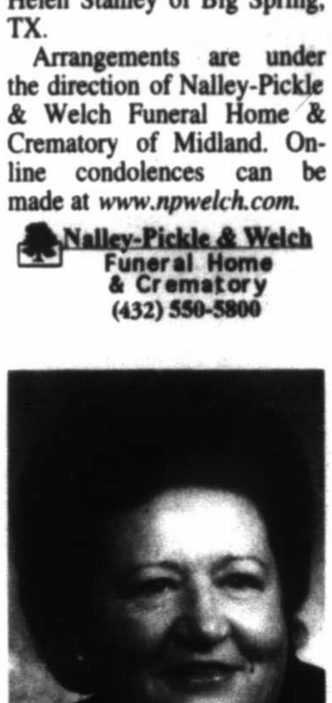
Marti was born on August 17, 1982 in Midland, to George and Cynthia Hamblin. She grew up in Midland and attended Trinity High School. After graduation, she attended Howard College and obtained her LVN. She was currently working as a bookkeeper assistant for Bailey Trucking. She loved being with the Bailey family and was grateful for all that they did for her. Marti attended First Assembly of God where she enjoyed ministering to others.

She is survived by her mom, Cindy Kellough, and her husband, Ron, of Midland; sister, Christina McMillian, and her husband, Scott, of Midland; brother, Brandon Hamblin, and his wife, Misty, of Midland; her grandmother, Martha Hamblin, of Midland; numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She is preceded in death by her father, George Hamblin; grandfather, Clyde Hamblin; and grandparents, John and Helen Stanley of Big Spring, TX.

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

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



Ruth Geraldine Padgett

Ruth Geraldine Padgett, 95, of Midland, entered into the gates of Heaven on November 30, 2015.

Geraldine was born in Norman, Oklahoma in Osage County on July 26, 1920 to Clarence L. Allen and Lottie Bell Allen.

Geraldine worked for Southwestern Bell for 33 years until her retirement. She had a record of perfect attendance while at Southwestern Bell. Geraldine went to work for Greenwood School District driving a school bus and retired from the district after 10 years. She impacted many children's lives and enjoyed being with children.

Geraldine was a founding member of over 50 years at Greenwood Baptist Church in Midland. She was a devout Christian and dedicated her life to serving the Lord.

Geraldine was active and served in numerous positions with The Community Workers of America. She also served numerous years as a poll judge during election campaigns. She always advocated the importance of voting and having your voice heard. Geraldine had been involved in many community organizations including the "Just Say No to Drugs" campaign in Greenwood. She was involved in the churches women's Bible study class and vacation Bible school.

Geraldine is preceded in death by her father Clarence L. Allen and mother Lottie Bell Allen; brothers, Clarence R. Allen, Bill R. Allen and O.D. Allen; sisters Amy Rheton and Ida Scott.

She is survived by her sister Lorraine Maroney; her loving sons Ross Padgett and Russ Padgett; daughters Uvonne Morgan, Jimmiell Dill, Jackie Haun; grandchildren Jerod Padgett, Jeremiah Padgett, Lauren Padgett, Jaime Smith, Kelli Betner, Heather Haun-Granado, James Cameron Haun, Eddie Morgan, Carrie Gilbert, Roger Morgan, Warren Dill, Brandon Dill, Julia Chisolm, Jacquelyn Dill, Jessica McDowell; several great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Ellis Funeral Home on Wednesday, December 2, 2015. The Funeral Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 3, 2015 at Greenwood Baptist Church of Midland followed by a private family burial service at Mary Neal Cemetery in Mary Neal, Texas at 3:00 p.m.

The family of Geraldine Padgett wishes to thank Odessa Regional Medical Center, Midland Memorial Hospital and staff, Hospice of Midland, loving friends Stephen A. House, Connie Pecore, Vicki Lindsey, and Jan Tenney for their ongoing love and support.

Geraldine will be remembered for her strength, determination and work ethic and, most of all, for the love she had for her children and family.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-3535

Teodora Cervantez

Teodora Ramos Cervantes of Midland Texas, died November 27, 2015 under the care of Vitas Hospice care in Carrollton, Texas, surrounded by her loving family after a lengthy illness. She was 82. She was born April 9, 1933 in El Mulato, Mexico to the late Geronimo Larez Ramos and Adela Salcido Ramos. After losing her mother at a very young age she grew up with her siblings in and around Presidio, Texas. She later met and married Ramon A. Cervantes in 1954 in San Carlos, Mexico. They moved to Midland in 1962 and raised 5 children.

Survivors include Carmen (Ruben) Sanchez, Wylie Texas, Irma Hinojosa, Olivia Edmondson, and Ramon (Anna) Cervantes, all from Midland, along with 14 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great grandchildre; three sisters, Paula Ramos Solis (Pecos, Texas), Baselisa Ramos Navarette (Carlsbad, New Mexico) and Adela Ramos (Arlington, Texas); Brother, Victor (Mague) Ramos of Midland, Texas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, Ramon A Cervantes; one daughter, Sylvia Carrasco; and three brothers, Juan, Eugenio and Elateuterio Ramos.

Pallbearers are Ramon Cervantes, Manuel Solis, Gustavo Perez, Javier Almodova, Juan David Cano, Angel Amesquita and Mark Perez. Honorary Pallbearers are great-grandsons, Justin Sanchez and Jacob Almodova.

Visitation will be Tuesday, December 1st from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm and Wednesday, December 2nd from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm followed by a Rosary at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, December 2nd both at Heavenly Gate Funeral Home Chapel. Funeral Mass will take place at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church on Thursday, December 3rd at 11:00 am. Interment will follow at Resthaven North.

The family asks to join them at the Guadalupe Church parish hall for a luncheon following the service.

Funeral service is under the direction of Heavenly Gate Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to: pipkin@nts-online.net or you can visit our website at *lewallengarciapipkinfh.com*

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

Thomas L. Vannaman

Thomas L. Vannaman (Tom), 81 years old of Midland, Texas, passed away on November 26, 2015.

Tom was born in Ft. Worth, Texas on July 18, 1934 to George and Ellen Vannaman. He graduated from Midland High School and continued on to receive a business degree from The University of Texas, a MS in Hotel, Motel, Restaurant management from Michigan State University, and an A.B.D. from George Washington State University in Industrial Management. Tom was married to Martha Stone on June 9, 1956; they were married for 59.5 years.

Tom was a Commander in the Naval Supply Corp officer for 22 years. After he retired, he became an instructor at Midland College teaching business course for another 20 years. He enjoyed his computer, reading, teaching concealed handgun classes, but his four-footed friends, Gracie, Ziggy, and Tasha were a great delight to him. He was also involved in the Masons here in Midland.

Tom is preceded in death by his father George and mother Ellen.

Tom is survived by his wife, Martha; his children, Valerie, Tom Jr. and spouse Tammy, and Tim and spouse Renae Vannaman. His grandchildren include Kimberley, Alyssa, Thomas, Olga, and Josh Vannaman. In addition, Tom is survived by his sister Ann Wemple, her husband Fred, his niece Janie G. Sims, and nephew Edward Griswold.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Ellis Funeral Home. The graveside service will be on Thursday, December 3, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at Resthaven Memorial Park, with Kathryn Boren officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to Lone Star Sanctuary for Animals, P.O. Box 50426, Midland, Texas 79710.

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-3535

Virginia Glenn

Virginia Foertsch Glenn died quietly in her sleep the morning of November 28, 2015.

Virginia was born November 13, 1932 at home, with her blind grandmother and eight year old sister in attendance. Her sister Pat always claimed the date was easy to remember because it could have been a Friday the 13th. Born in Chicago, she lived on the South Side of Chicago in the Morgan Park neighborhood before leaving for college. She attended Ripon College in Wisconsin for two years before transferring to the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana campus, where she earned a BS in Recreation.

While attending U of I she met Sidney Glenn while on a double blind date - unfortunately, he was not her date! The man responsible for introducing them later entered the priesthood. They were married in Chicago, September of 1954. The wedding was briefly delayed by the German submarine, U-505, which was being transported to the Museum of Science and Industry. After Sidney completed graduate school in Syracuse, he began his career as a geologist with a major oil company. This career moved the family from South America to North Africa before their return to the United States.

Virginia worked part time in retail, as well as being a full time homemaker. In later years she became a successful investor. She was active in the community. Her volunteer work for MHMR eventually got the whole family involved. Her family involvement with City of Midland Swim Team drew her into a position on the board. She shared a name and a near birthday with 2 close friends, also from the Midwest. Much like the Three Musketeers, the Three Ginnys had many adventures. She loved to golf, loved playing bridge with her friends, and loved to read. With her good friend Sam Guyton, she hosted an annual St. Patrick's Day party for 50 years.

She is survived by her three children, Margo Glenn-Lewis and her husband Michael Glenn-Lewis of Davis, CA; Kelly Glenn Stout of Midland, TX; and Sidney Glenn and his wife Laura

Obituaries

Morrison Glenn of Winnetka, IL. She has five grandchildren, Virginia Mary Stout, Kaycee Sidney Stout, Madeleine Jane Glenn, Sidney Miles Glenn and Jessica Sue Glenn, and one great grandchild, Mathew Glenn Stout-Martin.

There will be a Rosary at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home on Friday, December 4, 2015 at 7:00 pm. Services will be held Saturday, December 5, 2015 at 9:00 am, St. Ann's Catholic Church, followed by graveside services at Resthaven Memorial Park. A life celebration and lunch is scheduled to begin at noon. It will take place at the Petroleum Club in Midland.

The family would like to thank Hospice of Midland, and in particular Christy Hill and Terri Parker for all the help and support they have given us. We are also thankful for caregivers Michelle Garcia, Harry Caldwell and Lisa Bonner, who made our mother's life easier.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice of Midland; The Kelsey Logan Angel Fund (PO Box 5072, Midland TX 79704), or Midland Children's Rehabilitation.

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

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

Death Notices

Bobby J. Crues

Bobby J. Crues passed away on November 30, 2015. He was born in Plainview, Texas on October 7, 1935. Online condolences may be offered at *www.ellisfunerals.com*

Gordon James Gaines

Gordon James Gaines, 86, of Midland passed away Monday, November 30, 2015 in Midland.

Services are pending with Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors.

Herbert "Red" McCarty

Herbert (Red) McCarty, 89, of Midland, Texas, passed away Sunday, November 29, 2015.

Viewing will be 11:00am - 5:00pm Thursday, December 3, 2015 and 9:00am - 11:00am Friday, December 4, 2015 at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home. A graveside service will also be Friday, December 4th at 1:00pm at Serenity Gardens.

He is survived by two sons, Dan McCarty and Allan McCarty; two daughters, Sandra Daniel and Peggy Cox; one brother, eleven grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, 4 great-great-grandchildren.

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

Jimmy Dean Parker

Jimmy Dean Parker, age 83, of Odessa, TX passed away on November 30, 2015 in Odessa.

He is survived by his loving wife, Joyce Parker; daughters, Teri Shull and Shana Parker; son, David Parker; one brother, four grandchildren, and 11 great grandchildren.

Visitation will be at 6:00-8:00 pm, Friday, December 4, 2015 at Sunset Funeral Home.

Funeral Services will be at 10:00 am, Saturday, December 5, 2015 at Bethel Assembly of God, 319 E. 42nd St, Odessa. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens.

Arrangements are under the direction of Sunset Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home.

Juan Manuel Gonzalez

Juan Manuel Gonzalez, was born and passed away on November 25, 2015 in Midland, Texas. He is survived by his mother and father, Adriana Andrea Gonzalez and Omar Garza; four brothers; two sisters. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 11:00 a.m., followed immediately by a burial at American Heritage Cemetery & Funeral Home, 4100 N. FM-1788, Midland, Texas, 79707.

Larry Junior Johnson

Larry Junior Johnson, 68, of Midland, passed away on Monday, November 30, 2015. Services are pending at a later date.

Survivors include wife, Cynthia Johnson; children, Rachel Johnson, Brian Johnson, and Kallena Abalos; and three grandchildren.

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

Narvie Hill

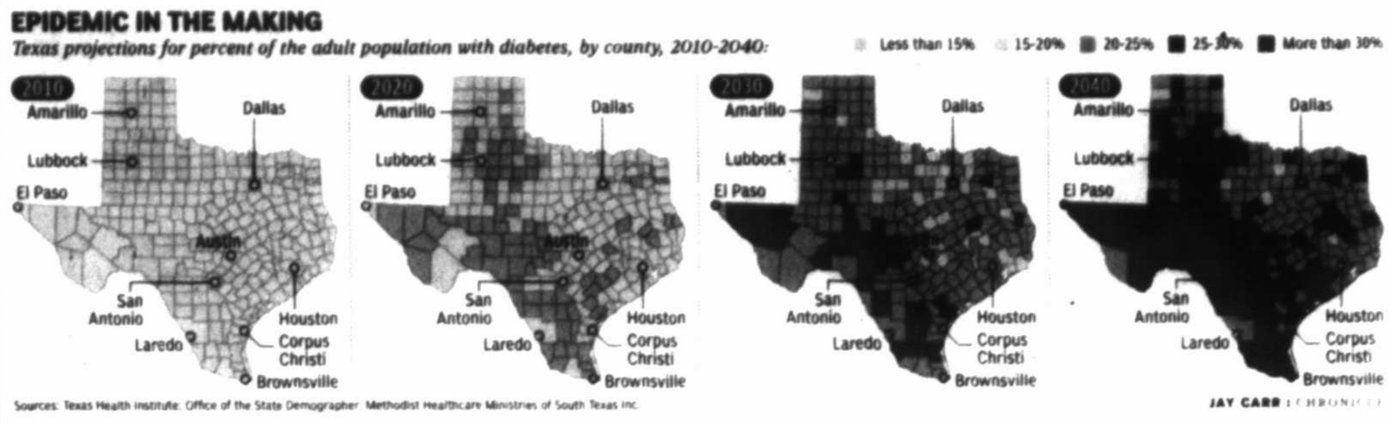
Funeral Services for Narvie Hill, 84, of Midland are pending at Jackie Warren Funeral Home. Narvie Hill died Novemeber 25, 2015 at a local hospital.

Tom Gordon Newman

Tom Gordon Newman, 72, of Midland, passed away on Sunday, November 29, 2015. A memorial service will be held 2:00 pm, Friday, December 4, 2015 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland.

Survivors include wife, Ann Newman; daughters, Ashley Gotovac and Caaren Wooliscroft; and son, Ted Newman.

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



DIABETES

From 1B

Eating habits change

Experts said they do not know whether efforts to prevent diabetes have finally started to work, or if the disease has simply peaked in the population. But they said the shift tracks with the nascent progress that has been reported recently in the health of Americans.

There is growing evidence that eating habits, after decades of deterioration, have finally begun to improve. The amount of soda Americans drink has declined by about a quarter since the late 1990s, and the average number of daily calories children and adults consume also has fallen.

Physical activity has started to rise and once-surging rates of obesity, a major driver of Type 2 diabetes, the most common form of the disease, have flattened. Type 1 diabetes, often diagnosed in childhood and adolescence and not usually associated with excess body weight, was also included in the data.

Experts cautioned that the portion of Americans with diabetes was still more than double what it was in the early 1990s. They said progress had been uneven. Educated Americans have seen improvements, for example, while the rates for the less educated have flattened but not declined.

The number of new cases is dropping for whites, the 2014 data show, but the change has not been statistically significant for blacks or Hispanics, though both show a downward trend.

Still, the shift represents a profound change in one of the most vexing health problems in the United States. Diabetes afflicts 1 in every 10 American adults and is the country's leading cause of blindness, limb amputations and kidney dialysis.

"It's not yet time to have a parade," said Dr. David Nathan, director of the Diabetes Center and Clinical Research Center at Massachusetts General Hospital. But he said, "It has finally entered into the consciousness of our population that the sedentary lifestyle is a real problem, that increased body weight is a real problem."

Even here in Alabama, which has the highest prevalence of diabetes in the country, the rate of new cases has begun to taper. According to figures for 2013, the most recent available by state, 12.7 percent of Alabama's residents had the disease.

Haven't 'made a dent'

Dr. Monika Safford, an internist School of Medicine, at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, who has conducted random trials with community health workers in the Black Belt, found patients lost weight and improved blood pressure but had no change in glucose.

"Individually there have been some successes, but as an epidemic, I don't think we've made a dent," said Dr. Roseanne Cook, a physician at the Pine Apple Health Center.

Others detect a meaningful shift in people's attitudes.

When Kim Catlin, a nurse with the Bryan Whitfield Memorial Hospital in Demopolis, began preaching better health in church basements and health centers in rural Alabama in 2007, she was met with blank stares.

"There was no education about it. I mean nothing," she recalled. "It was, 'Blood sugar, what? Blood pressure who?' They didn't know what these things were."

Now, she said, "people are more conscious of what they are eating. They are more active."

Scientists debate boundaries, ethics of human gene editing

By Lauran Neergaard
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Rewriting your DNA is getting closer to reality: A revolutionary technology is opening new frontiers for genetic engineering — a promise of cures for intractable diseases along with anxiety about designer babies.

Hundreds of scientists and ethicists from around the world are gathering in Washington this week to debate the boundaries of human gene editing, amid worry that the fast-moving research may outpace safety and ethics scrutiny.

It's a question that gained urgency after Chinese researchers made the first attempt at editing genes in human embryos, a laboratory experiment that didn't work well but did raise the prospect of one day altering human heredity — passing modified DNA to future generations.

"This is a technology that could have profound implications for permanent alteration of the human genome," molecular biologist Jennifer Doudna of the University of California, Berkeley, wrote in the journal Nature on the eve of the international summit.

Doudna co-invented the most-used gene-editing tool, and her calls for scientists, policymakers and the public to determine the right balance in how it's eventually used led to this week's gathering.

At issue are tools to edit precisely genes inside living cells, finding specific sections of DNA to slice and repair or replace much like a biological version of cut-and-paste software. There are a few methods but one with the wonky name CRISPR-Cas9 is so fast, cheap and simple for biologists to use that research is booming.

Scientists are engineering animals with humanlike disorders to unravel the gene defects that fuel them. They're building stronger immune cells, and developing potential treatments for muscular dystrophy, sickle cell disease and cancer. They're trying to grow transplantable human organs inside pigs. They're even hatching mutant mosquitoes designed to be incapable of spreading malaria, and exploring ways to wipe out invasive species.

As for that preliminary embryo research, it's nowhere near ready for real-world use, but there's controversy over whether and how to continue such experiments to see if it eventually will work.

On one side are scientists who say the ultimate goal is to prevent mom and dad from passing devastating diseases to their children.

"This technology is poised to transform preventive medicine," Harvard geneticist George Church wrote in Nature.

BRIEFS

From 1B

■ Midland Memorial Hospital's Better Breathing Club meets 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Midland Memorial Hospital Scharbauer Tower meeting room. Don at 221-4864 or Joanna at 682-4229.

■ The Knot Adoption Support Group, 11:30 a.m. Dec. 9, First Presbyterian Church; Kathy Hagler, Kathy@WTIE.net

■ Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.

■ Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2926.

■ Overeaters Anonymous; noon Wednesdays and 4:30 p.m. Sundays; B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 553-1031.

■ Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the consequences of sexual abuse meets Tuesdays. Child care available; House of Hope, 570-5935.

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

Note: To make corrections to this listing, submit information to news@mrt.com

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.

Contact your Hospital District representative

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

NYC's salt warning rule set to take effect at chains

Associated Press

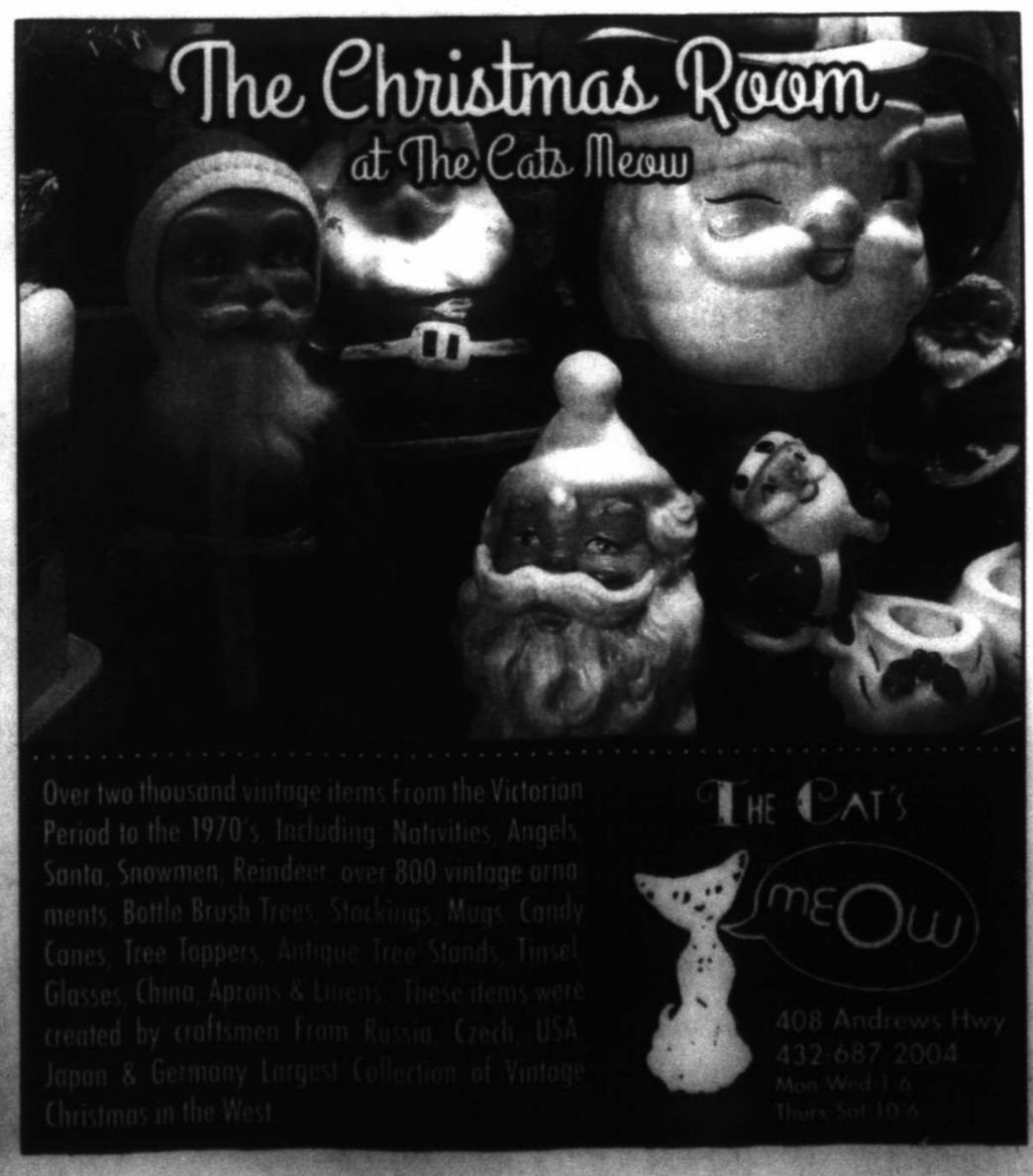
NEW YORK — New York City begins a new era in nutritional warnings this week when chain restaurants will have to start putting a special symbol on highly salty dishes.

The first-of-its-kind rule, which went into effect Tuesday, will require a salt-shaker emblem on some sandwiches, salads and other menu items that top the recommended daily limit of 2,300 milligrams — about a teaspoon — of sodium.

It's the latest in a series of novel nutritional moves by the nation's biggest city, and it comes as health advocates, federal regulators and some in the food industry are trying to get Americans to cut down on salt. Experts said most Americans consume too much salt, raising their risks of high blood pressure and heart problems. But the plan faces opposition and a potential court challenge from restaurant groups and salt producers, who said the city is going overboard.

"When you see this warning label, you know that that item has more than the total amount of sodium that you should consume in a single day," city Health Commissioner Dr. Mary Bassett said Monday at an Applebee's in Times Square as 40 of the chain's New York City-area locations announced they had added the labels ahead of the deadline.

DID YOU WORK AT TIDWELL MOBILE HOMES?
If you or someone you know worked at TIDWELL MOBILE HOMES in Midland, TX or MIDLAND FRAME & WHEEL in Midland, TX during the 1960's, 1970's or 1980's it is important that you contact me today.
Please call Tera at: 866-292-2044



Regulatory inaction persists despite 'Wild West' of laboratory testing

By Ellen Gabler
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

ATLANTA — A federal advisory committee at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has again taken no action after discussing concerns about a growing category of medical tests described by one member as the "Wild West" of lab testing.

Federal regulators said during a meeting recently they don't have the authority or resources to address the tests that have long-standing quality issues, yet are increasingly used in doctor's offices, emergency rooms and retail clinics across the country.

Health care decisions are frequently based on medical tests that are essentially waived from oversight and regulation. Thousands of the "waived tests" have been developed to quickly and cheaply detect conditions including influenza, Hepatitis C, HIV and Lyme disease, among others.

The tests are supposed to be foolproof — no training or qualifications are required for those who do them — but the tests are often done incorrectly, which can lead to wrong results and serious harm to patients, a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel investigation found.

Waived testing "does fall through the cracks. I think we all agree," Karen Dyer, director of the division of laboratory services for the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which oversees clinical laboratory testing, said at the meeting.

A director with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Alberto Gutierrez, acknowledged a "weakness in the system" that prevents regulators from being able to track how many patients are harmed.

Some members of the advisory committee — which is made up of 20 doctors, lab professionals, scientists and public health regulators from around the country — also expressed frustration at their collective inability to make well-thought-out recommendations on any issue, including the ever-expanding sector of waived tests.

The percentage of facilities dedicated to waived tests has gone from 20 percent in 1992 to more than 70 percent of the country's 250,000 labs. A two-year license costs $150.

By law, facilities that do the tests cannot be routinely inspected by government regulators. Up to 2 percent can be scheduled for "educational visits" each year.

"That's basically all we can do," Dyer told the advisory group. "We would really like to look at doing more. We are limited by law."

The advisory group — which meets twice a year and is supposed to provide guidance on clinical laboratory issues to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services — has discussed waived testing during at least 30 of its past 50 meetings.

"When the topic keeps coming up, you feel like you aren't doing the job," said Qian-Yun Zhang, a member of the advisory group, and laboratory medical director at the University of New Mexico's University Hospital. "I don't think we have a solution."

Zhang was concerned at the dismal performance of labs doing waived tests. Dyer's presentation to the committee showed 52 percent of labs in a government spot check last year were not in compliance with policies meant to ensure safe, quality care.

Dyer said the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid will now send education and training material to all labs that apply for the $150 license to do waived tests.

The Journal Sentinel investigation found that only a few thousand of those 180,000 labs had received materials. Even when more do, it's unclear if that will address the problem.

"Education just gives you the potential for doing the right thing. It doesn't monitor actual practice," said Barbara Zehnbauer, director of the CDC's division of laboratory systems, which is also involved with the advisory group.

The only requirement for doing waived tests is to follow the manufacturer's instructions. But studies have shown that often doesn't happen.

The Journal Sentinel found that health regulators, trade organizations and manufacturers have talked for years about needing more comprehensive studies to quantify problems with waived tests. The groups say they can't take significant action to address problems until more data is gathered. Yet there are no plans to gather the data.

Gutierrez, the director of the FDA's center for devices and radiological health, said during the meeting that the only data that is gathered is "passively" collected by the FDA, which accepts complaints and problems from manufacturers and health care professionals, many of whom would not think to report problems.

"We don't get a lot of information," he said.

The advisory group discussed having the FDA improve its post-market surveillance of waived tests, or requiring manufacturers to develop measurable performance standards for people using their tests.

But no specific action was taken and committee members seemed unclear as to what regulators could do about the problem.

"It would appear that there is no authority vested in any federal authority to do what you are asking to be done," said Burton Wilcke, the chairman of the committee and an assistant professor in the department of medical and radiation sciences at the University of Vermont.

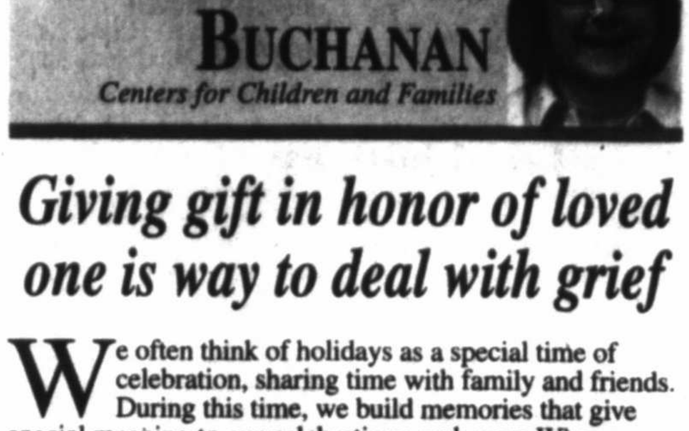
"I think that may be the problem: Nobody actually owns the problem," said Hardeep Singh, another committee member, who runs the quality and informatics program at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Houston.

On a broader scale, members of the committee who have grown frustrated with its lack of action asked regulators to rethink the two-day meeting, where members often seem confused about what they are asked to vote on after quick discussions, and uninformed about various topics.

"It just seems like it's not working in 15-minute aliquots, twice a year," said Richard D. Press, a professor and director of molecular pathology at Oregon Health & Sciences University.

Regulators from the CDC who help coordinate the meeting said they would try to address the problems.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency



Giving gift in honor of loved one is way to deal with grief

We often think of holidays as a special time of celebration, sharing time with family and friends. During this time, we build memories that give special meaning to our celebrations each year. When we have lost a loved one, holidays magnify the loss. Grief transcends our thoughts and feelings, making it hard to imagine getting through the holidays. There are some things to keep in mind in order to cope.

■ **Decide what you can handle.**
If you are normally in charge of organizing the holiday family dinner, it is OK to delegate that responsibility this year. It is OK to communicate that you are not in the holiday spirit as a reminder to others around you that it is natural to feel sadness. You can decide to either stay in your current environment or go somewhere else for the holiday. Plan to be with people with whom you feel comfortable and enjoy.

■ **Take care of yourself.**
Holidays can be physically and emotionally draining so it is important to eat well, exercise and get plenty of sleep.

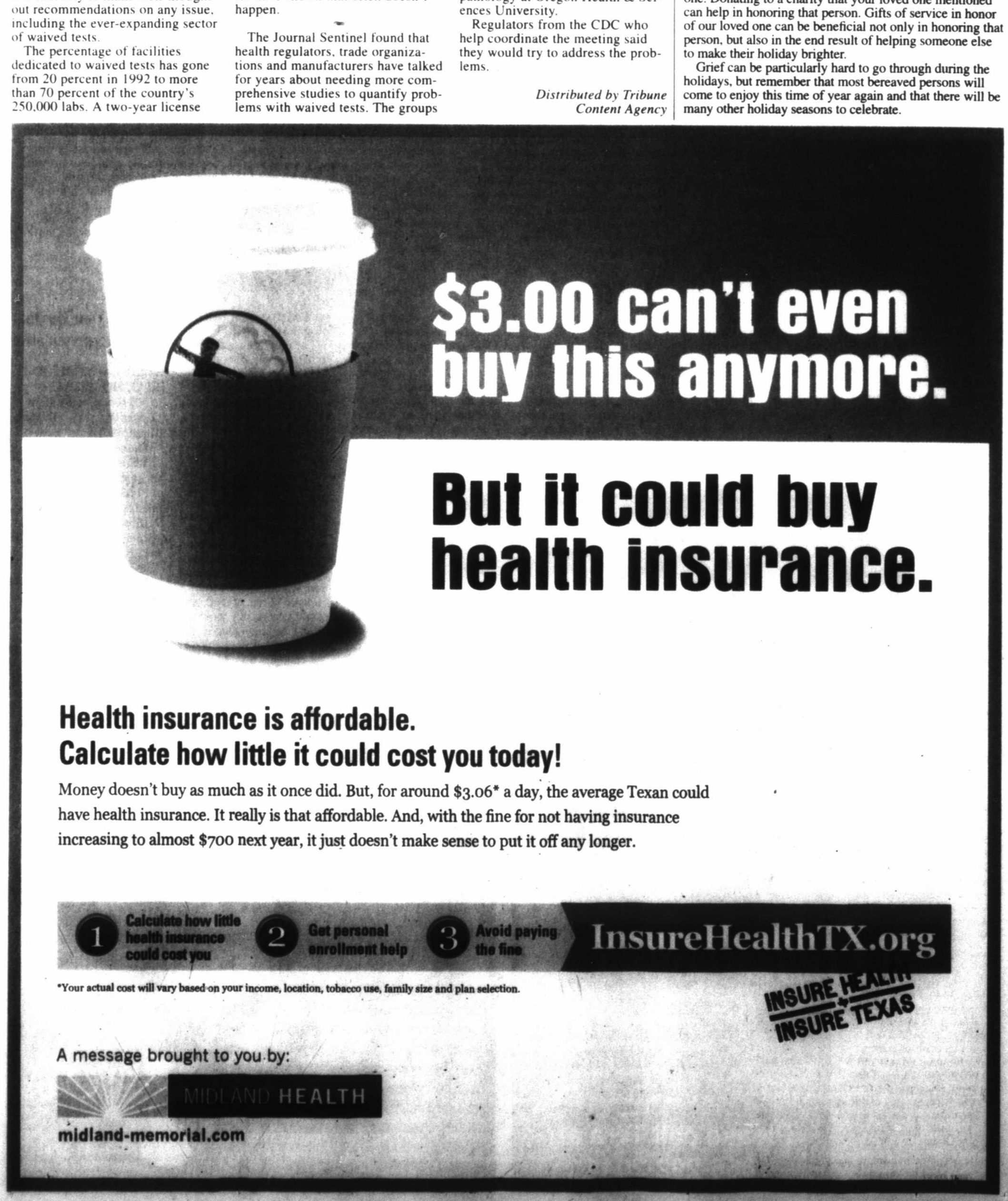
■ **Acknowledge and express feelings.**
The loss of a loved one can change our experience of the holidays. Allow yourself to cry without apologizing. This also might allow other family members who have been internalizing their feelings to express their feelings. Allow friends and family to comfort you.

■ **Shopping can be difficult.**
If you plan to do shopping, get organized by making a list. You might find it difficult to be in the stores around others who are laughing and enjoying this time, when you do not feel that way yourself. Consider doing your shopping online this year. Allow others to help you.

■ **Consider priorities.**
If the thought of the ways in which you have celebrated in the past (with sending greeting cards, holiday baking, decorating, family dinners) becomes overwhelming, reconsider what you will do this year. There is no set way to celebrate the holidays. Give yourself permission to celebrate differently this year. If you have children, it is important to keep some of your family traditions, but you might decide to share more of the tasks with them and ask for help from other family members.

■ **Give a gift in honor of your loved one.**
When grieving, we are searching for meaning in our loss. Consider donating a gift in the memory of your loved one. Donating to a charity that your loved one mentioned can help in honoring that person. Gifts of service in honor of our loved one can be beneficial not only in honoring that person, but also in the end result of helping someone else to make their holiday brighter.

Grief can be particularly hard to go through during the holidays, but remember that most bereaved persons will come to enjoy this time of year again and that there will be many other holiday seasons to celebrate.



TODAY: Sunny	THURSDAY: Sunny	FRIDAY: Sunny	SATURDAY: Sunny	SUNDAY: Mostly sunny	MONDAY: Sunny
High: 59 Low: 29	High: 61 Low: 31	High: 60 Low: 38	High: 59 Low: 39	High: 63 Low: 35	High: 66 Low: 37

Local forecast

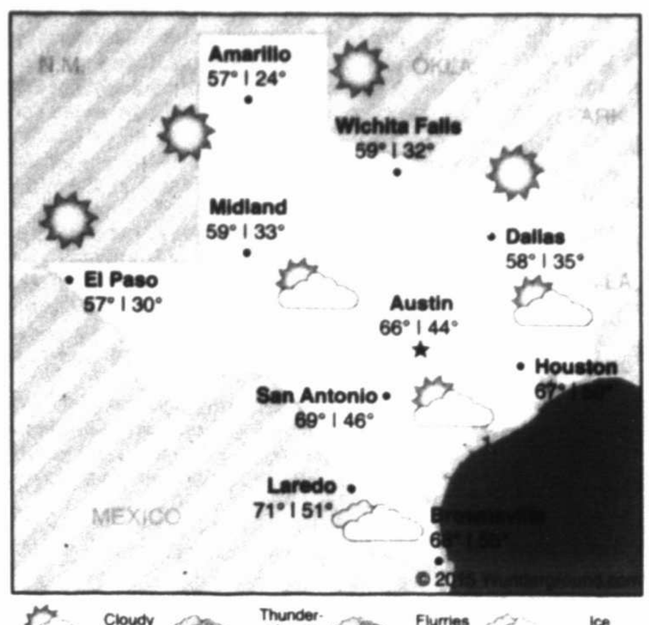
There is no rain in the seven-day forecast, according to the National Weather Service. High temperatures will drop toward the end of the week, while low temperatures are expected to rise.

The record high for Dec. 1 is 80 set in 2007 and 2012. The record low is 19 set in 1979. On Dec. 1 of last year, the high was 54 and the low was 26.

Weather recap

A low pressure system moved across the central third of the country Tuesday, while a cold front approached the Northwest.

An area of low pressure moved northeastward over the northern Plains and the upper Midwest. This system ushered light to moderate snow over the central and northern Plains, as well as the eastern edge of the central Rockies. In addition, a mixture of rain and snow affected the upper Mississippi Valley. Winter weather advisories were issued for northern Nebraska, South Dakota, southeast North Dakota, northwest Iowa, Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin. Valentine, Neb., reported a midday total of 8.6 inches of snow. Hope, N.D., reported a total of 4.4 inches of snow.



Precipitation

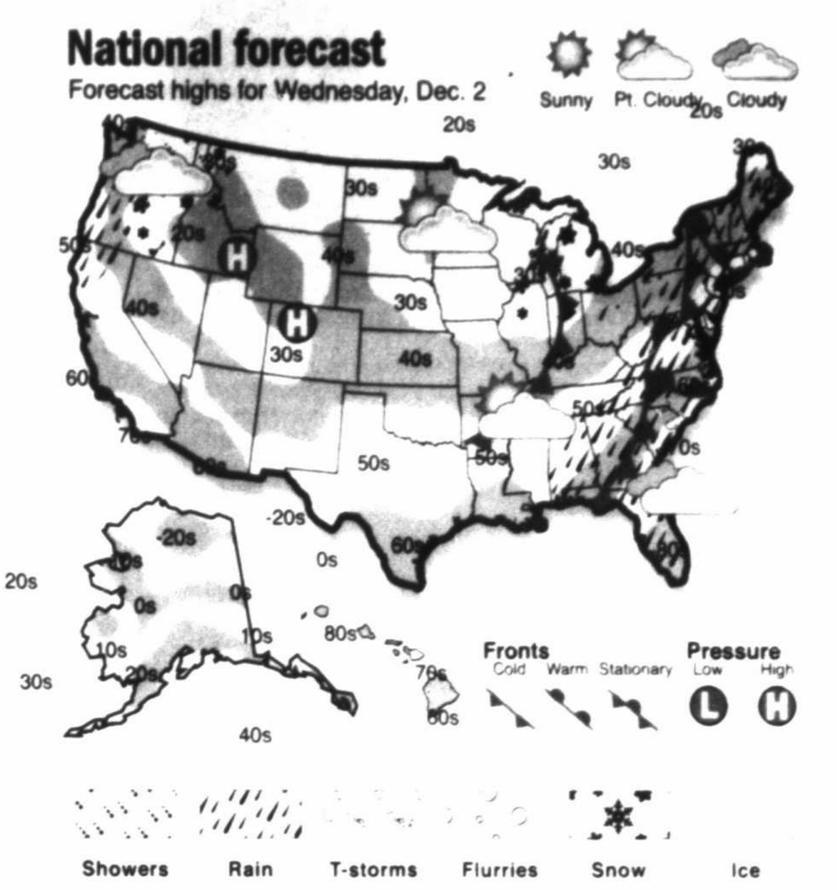
Monday	0.00 in.
Tuesday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.00 in.
Year total	21.39 in.
Normal total (year to date)	14.02 in.

Tuesday's temperatures

High	61
Low	36
Normal high	61
Normal low	33
Sunrise	7:32 a.m.
Sunset	5:44 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Wednesday, Dec. 2



Man wants his girlfriend to stay dressed for bed

DEAR ABBY

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

DEAR ABBY: I have dated a lot of women over the years — including actresses, beauty contest winners and models. Every one of them, except my current live-in, "Amanda," would dress up in lingerie when I asked them to.

Amanda adamantly refuses. She says if I love her, I should be turned on whether she's nude or wearing lingerie. Part of the problem is she's not in the best shape, and the lingerie would hide that.

I have tried bargaining with her, but she won't agree. She doesn't understand why I'm not chasing her around all the time. I have tried to explain that I don't find a tummy sexy. She just calls me Shallow Hal. Advice? — HAL IN NEW YORK

DEAR HAL: I'd love to know what attracted you to Amanda in the first place, because your "type" seems to have always been women who are arm candy. Sadly, taut bodies don't always last. At some point, age, pregnancies and the pull of gravity can cause them to sag. By the way, with the exception of pregnancy, this can affect men as well as women.

Bottom line: If physical perfection is what you need to feel aroused, then you and Amanda may be a mismatch because NOBODY'S perfect. (And this includes you.)

DEAR ABBY: I have started using an effective coping skill when I get upset about something or someone at work. I "vent" in a personal email to myself and send it to my home email address.

Well, today I got upset with my office buddy, so I sent myself an email. But instead of it going to my home, I mistakenly sent it to her and it hurt her feelings. I never meant for her or anyone else to read it. The technique keeps me from staying angry at work. As soon as I realized what I had done, I sent her an apology and we talked about it afterward.

I feel terrible about hurting her, because she is a sweet person, and it was a complete misunderstanding on my part. She told me she accepted my apology. What else can I do for her, or should I just learn my lesson? —FLUBBED IT IN FLORIDA

DEAR FLUBBED: I think your apology was enough. However, because it hasn't assuaged your guilt, consider asking if you can treat her to lunch. And in the future, look twice before hitting "send." Better yet, go "old school" and write your thoughts in a notebook you keep in your purse.

DEAR ABBY: I am scheduled to attend a wedding later this month. Well, I just found out the groom's uncle is not a real minister, and that he purchased his minister's license online.

I think it is very disrespectful to people who take religion seriously and to real ministers who spend years studying in order to be ordained. There's nothing wrong with having a judge preside over the ceremony, but to have a fake minister preside makes the whole ceremony a fraud.

If I say anything, I know it will cause hurt feelings, so I'm keeping my mouth shut. Am I an old fuddy-duddy? — SILENT IN SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

DEAR SILENT: You are entitled to your feelings, but if this uncle is the person the happy couple wants to officiate, you shouldn't judge. If their choice makes you uncomfortable, stay home.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Make it easy

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ Q 4 2
♥ Q 10 8 2
♦ A K 7
♣ Q 9 8

WEST
♠ 7
♥ A 9 5 3
♦ Q 8 2
♣ A 10 7 4 3

EAST
♠ 10 9 6 3
♥ K J
♦ 10 6 5
♣ J 6 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A K J 8 5
♥ 7 6 4
♦ J 9 4 3
♣ K

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Dbl	Redbl	2♣
Pass	Pass	4♠	All pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♣

Had South's king of clubs value been located in any other suit, we would all agree with his opening bid decision. The singleton king, however, makes this a threadbare opening bid. North routinely forced to game, and South had his hands full. He would need some help from the defense, and East was not in a helpful mood.

East made his first excellent play by dropping his jack of clubs under partner's ace at trick one. West read this correctly, as a suit preference signal asking for a shift to the higher ranking of the two remaining suits, excluding the trump suit. West shifted to the three of hearts at trick two; declarer played the 10 from dummy, and the spotlight was on East once again.

Regardless of a pair's opening lead agreements, the focus changes when the dummy is visible. Most good players use "attitude" leads after trick one where the lead of a low card in a new suit shows strength in that suit and a high lead shows weakness. East was sure, from West's lead of the three-spot, that West had underled the ace of hearts. Rather than winning this trick cheaply with the jack, East won the trick with his king of hearts and returned the jack. West quickly won with his ace and gave partner a heart ruff to defeat the contract.

Careful defense might have prevailed anyway, but give East high marks for his enterprising play.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2015:

This year you tend to be the source of your own problems. Often you worry too much and create scenarios that aren't set in reality — they have more to do with what you fear. You will be in the limelight more often than not. Others will judge your performance often. If you are single, you meet people with ease. Be careful before criticizing someone, as a similar quality lies in you. If you are attached, make time for your significant other. Your sweetie's presence makes a big difference in your life. VIRGO is fussy and not necessarily complimentary to you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★ Focus on the details, even if you are distracted or are going over a certain scenario in your mind. Check what you do twice in order to avoid a problem. Tension develops over a potential trip or opportunity. Someone else will be envious. Tonight: Choose a relaxing activity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ Despite present pressure, there are many ways to accomplish your goals. You tend to see what others don't. Your creativity works continuously on an issue until you find a good solution. A partner could be challenging you. Tonight: Be nice, even if someone is grumpy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ You have a lot to discuss, but unfortunately your preferred audience is not available. You might feel as though you have hit an obstacle. Work with someone who can give you feedback right now, even if his or her comments seem critical. Tonight: Happy to cocoon.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ You share much more than you realize just with your expressions. How you deal with this matter could change radically if you would just relax. Understanding is likely to evolve to a new level. You also might see a new path. Tonight: Share your vision with others.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Curb a tendency to worry too much. Sometimes, when you push as hard as you can, you lose your perspective. Recheck whatever you are doing, as a lot of confusion surrounds you. A new friend could be the cause of some distraction, even if it is pleasant. Tonight: Order in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ You can determine more of what you desire. Maintain your detail-oriented perspective, even if your mind begins to wander to bigger ideas. A family member whom you don't often see weighs heavily on your mind. Tonight: Speak with this person.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★ Listen to your inner voice, and you'll know what needs to happen. You might feel as if you don't want to discuss a certain a situation, and you could become much more irritated than you realize. The other party also might be closing down. Tonight: Think before jumping to a conclusion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Zero in on what must occur and/or be completed. You might have several meetings, in which your priorities will become clearer. You could feel as if your reserves are not as strong or dynamic as you want them to be. Time is on your side. Tonight: Catch up on friends' news.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ Pressure builds to an unanticipated level, and you easily might feel overwhelmed. Make it OK to dive right in and clear out as much as possible. You will feel better once you accomplish what you can. You could be crankier than you realize. Tonight: Could be a late one.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Take an overview, and you'll be pleased with the results. You could be working through details in your head. You hardly will even notice others. Spending could get wildly out of control if you are not careful. Tonight: Treat your mind to a game or a favorite TV series.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ One-on-one relating seems to be fraught with hazards. You might put your foot in your mouth and say the wrong thing. Remain as sensitive as you can to others' needs, but don't bankrupt yourself and give everything away. Tonight: Opt to be with a favorite person.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ Others seem cranky, and you probably are right. You could witness a lot of fussing and changes happening around you. You also might not feel that you are getting the complete story from someone. This person is relating as much as he or she is aware of. Tonight: Call it a day.

BORN TODAY

Tennis player Monica Seles (1973), singer Britney Spears (1981), U.S. Sen. Harry Reid (1939)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 "Mamma Mia!" group
5 Tunes
10 Fundamentals
14 Talking iPhone feature
15 Destroyer destroyer
16 Messy stuff
17 __ smasher
18 "I'm innocent!"
19 Hindu deity
20 High-speed war plane maneuver
22 Hunter's device
23 Gets close to
24 Cheat, in a way
25 Seasonal malady
27 Find work
30 Shakespearean fairy queen
33 Large-leafed tree
35 Batman portrayer Kilmer
36 Skating commentator Lipinski
37 Passionate
38 Dishes for company
40 Eagerly excited
41 Golfer Ballesteros
42 Furrow maker
43 Ruling period
45 Charlemagne's realm: Abbr.
46 Avant-garde
48 Low or no follower
49 Insert for a 6-Down
51 Shoot well under par, in golf lingo
53 Syria's Bashar al-__
55 Focuses even harder ... and a hint to the starts of the answers to starred clues
59 Letters after phis
60 "The Planets" composer
61 Texter's "If you ask me"
62 Adorable
63 Wipe off
64 Dismissed, with "off"
65 "Until next time," in texts
66 Oscar's roommate
67 Tolkien's Treebeard et al.

DOWN

1 PDQ
2 __-Honey
3 *Rhode Island school
4 Pop singer Mann
5 "Like Southern California beaches
6 Duck player in "Peter and the Wolf"
7 Punishment with a grounding
8 Risk, e.g.
9 Canonized Mlle.
10 Feel the same way
11 "Title female "trying to make a devil out of me," in a Santana hit
12 "¿__ está?"
13 Fix, as a pet
21 Blow one's top
22 Cotillion honoree
24 *One of two cold atmospheric cyclones
25 Jiffy
26 Iron-rich meat
28 Miller's "__ From the Bridge"
29 First calendar pg.
31 Food court attraction
32 Something to pick lox for
34 '50s political monogram
36 Label
39 "__ so?"
44 Fish caught in pots
46 Author Buntline
47 Tennis great Andre
50 Studio piece
52 "Swan Lake" swan
53 Customer holding: Abbr.
54 Closed
55 Produced, as fruit
56 Tel Aviv airline
57 Smidgen
58 Quiet yeses
60 Celeb with a mansion

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

W	O	O	D	Y		G	A	R	B		C	A	L	
I	N	D	E	E	D		U	R	D	U		O	S	A
S	E	E	M	T	O		S	T	A	R	D	U	S	T
H	A	S		R	U	S	E		L	E	G	I	T	
		I	M	A	G	E	R		A	C	A	S	E	
M	I	D	N	I	G	H	T	I	N	P	A	R	I	S
O	N	I	C	E			S	E	I					
B	A	N	A	N	A	S		S	L	E	E	P	E	R
				M	E	S				B	A	S	S	O
M	I	G	H	T	Y	A	P	H	R	O	D	I	T	E
O	N	L	O	W		M	O	R	O	N	S			
O	H	A	R	E		L	U	S	T			C	O	T
M	E	M	O	R	I	E	S		O	R	I	O	L	E
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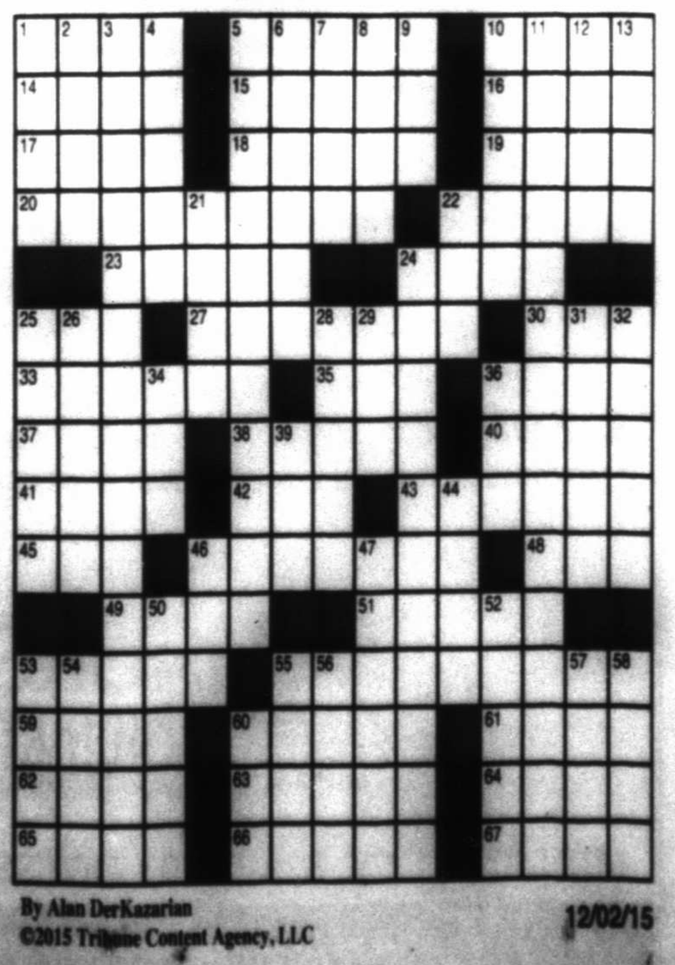
xwordeditor@aol.com 12/02/15



By Alan Der Kazarian
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12/02/15

Rusty Schramm/The Temple Daily Telegram via AP

Temple High School freshman Ashli Taylor reacts in shock as Dr. Robert Goldstein, a transplant surgeon from Baylor Scott & White in Dallas, makes a surprise visit for her at the school in Temple on Monday. Fourteen years ago, Goldstein removed part of Ashli's mother's liver, which was then transplanted into Ashli, who was less than a year old and had congenital cirrhosis of the liver.

Dallas surgeon meets transplant patient in Temple

By Janice Gibbs
Temple Daily Telegram

TEMPLE — Students in Brad Billeaudeaux's Temple High theater arts class on Monday witnessed the power of words when Dr. Robert Goldstein, a transplant surgeon from Baylor Scott & White in Dallas, came to the class to meet Ashli Taylor.

Fourteen years ago, Goldstein removed part of Ashli's mother's liver, which was then transplanted into Ashli, who was less than a year old and had congenital cirrhosis of the liver.

The Temple Daily Telegram reported not long after Ashli was born, she began showing symptoms of liver disease and eventually a biopsy revealed the seriousness of the situation.

On June 21, 2001, she was placed on the National Organ Transplant List and her health continued to decline.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Ashli and her mother, Crystal Pope-Taylor, were on their way to Houston to see another physician. They received a call from "Nanna" telling them to turn around because the country was under attack.

Two other calls came in: Ashli needed to be hospitalized because of an infection and another announcing a liver for transplant was available. However, the organ was in another state and needed to be flown in, but all flights were grounded after the terrorist attacks.

Pope-Taylor immediately began to pursue becoming a living donor to her daughter.

Ashli, 15, shared that story in her letter to Goldstein.

"You probably have no idea who I am, but you had a great impact in my life," she wrote to Goldstein. "I know you've had a lot of patients over the years and they appreciate your work. But my parents' lives would be totally different if it weren't for you, especially my mom."

The letter began as a class assignment from Billeaudeaux to write about anything.

"All of you have incredible stories to tell and this class is a vehicle for that," Billeaudeaux said. "Y'all have power in your words."

That's when Goldstein walked into the classroom, followed by Pope-Taylor.

"Ashli, I'm your mom's surgeon," he said. "You wrote me a letter and it was amazing."

The things you do and say have an effect, Goldstein told the class.

"It had been 14 years and out of the blue you get a letter like this and I can't tell you what this means," he said. "The words moved everybody in the office."

Goldstein has performed hundreds of surgeries and much of the time the surgeons are not aware of where that patient ends up.

Goldstein removed part of the left side of the Pope-Taylor's liver at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, which was then sent to Children's Medical Center of Dallas, where it was transplanted into Ashli.

"We made an impact on her, but Ashli made more of an impact on us," he said. "This is why we spend the hours doing what we do, because when you see something like this, it's incredible."

"I was not expecting this at all, but I'm really grateful," Ashli said of Goldstein's visit.

Sept. 11, 2001, was the worst day ever, Pope-Taylor said.

"Looking at what was going on in the country was awful, but when it hit me personally and could mean my child might not survive, it was a whole other ballgame," she said. "When it's your child, you do whatever is needed."

Ashli's health is great and she has never shown any signs of organ rejection, her mother said.

Early on, Ashli's parents had been told their daughter might lag behind developmentally and physically because she had been ill for so long, but she caught up quickly and has excelled. Ashli is in all Advanced Placement classes and is active in the band, choir, theater arts and is considering pursuing a degree in music when she goes to college.

Officials: Health survey needs to slim down

By Mike Stobbe
Associated Press

NEW YORK — When the government launched what would become most influential survey to monitor the nation's public health, there were just 75 questions — and 95 percent of those asked agreed to sit for it.

But that was nearly 60 years ago, and the National Health Interview Survey has mushroomed along with the government and its interests. There are now 1,200 potential questions, and the average family takes more than 90 minutes to complete the survey.

Not surprisingly, the refusal rate has gone up, as well: Thirty percent are refusing to take part. And that has raised concerns that the survey — conducted in people's homes — has gotten too big.

"If you tell them it's going to take an hour and it could be longer... right away people are going to say no," said Joseph Paysen, who oversees the survey in the New York City area.

These and other issues have prompted plans for dramatic changes. But as government officials embark on a redesign, they're contending with bureaucratic obstacles and pleas from researchers who want more questions asked, not less.

"They're kind of in a hard place," observed James Lepkowski, a survey research expert at the University of Michigan.

U.S. Census Bureau workers conduct the survey every year, on behalf of another federal agency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It's a $30 million annual project, and somewhere around 50,000 people answer the survey's questions each year.

Their answers have shaped our understanding of topics ranging from how common arthritis is to how many people get X-rays to what proportion of U.S. children suffers seizures. The survey's responses also are the foundation of how we measure the nation's progress (or backslide) on problems like obesity and smoking.

Tellingly, the CDC recently added questions to it about use of electronic cigarettes — even though other surveys already asked about that subject — because the agency wants a new, unimpeachable statistical baseline on the controversial topic.

"It's been kind of the gold standard" for continuous, nationally-representative information on the American public's health, said Lynn Blewett, a University of Minnesota expert on health data.

The survey has been a crucial source of health information for a long time.

In the 1800s and early 1900s, infectious diseases ranked as the nation's leading causes of death, so most government health statistics involved births, deaths, and germ illnesses. But with the development of germ-fighting antibiotics and other advances, illnesses like heart disease and cancer became the top killers, and new kinds of statistics were needed.

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a law creating the health interview survey. The purpose was to learn how common chronic illnesses and disabilities were, and to learn about the characteristics and behaviors of people who had them. The survey began in 1957. It was placed under the CDC's umbrella in 1987.

The survey's data became the basis for measuring the nation's progress in fighting disease. It spurred funding for a CDC arthritis program, and shaped the agency's policy on cervical cancer screening. It was the first federal household survey to track the growing popularity of cell phones. And it's been a primary measuring stick for how many people are gaining health insurance under the 2010 Affordable Care Act, better known as Obamacare.

But now it's just one data source in a crowded field. The CDC has conducted or funded hundreds of surveys designed to improve researchers' understanding of peoples' health and health behaviors. That includes roughly 20 ongoing surveys of all or parts of the U.S. public. Many are focused on specific topics, like HIV or teen smoking.

Meanwhile, people are being approached for political polls or other surveys, or asked for personal information by businesses trying to sell them things. Bombarded by so many solicitations, "you're not trusting" when approached to be part of the government health survey, said Susan Cochran, a UCLA researcher who works with the survey data.

That uneasiness, coupled with people's busy schedules, means more and more potential participants decline. It's not just the health interview survey that's affected — response rates have been declining for surveys in general.

No one's talking about doing away with the health interview survey, but there have been proposals to merge it with other government health surveys.

But researchers and advocacy groups have been sharply opposed to the idea. Indeed, many of them want the survey to get bigger, not slimmer.

"I'm concerned about mental health," Vickie Mays, a UCLA researcher who works with survey data. A more comprehensive, ongoing set of questions on that topic is needed to better understand the nation's psychological well-being, she said.

Each survey also has a constituency within CDC, some located in at CDC headquarters in Atlanta and some at a CDC sub-agency — the National Center for Health Statistics — in Hyattsville, Maryland.

"They have these silos," Lepkowski said.

The CDC's budget has been relatively flat over the last decade, and in some years, the health interview survey has had to cut back the number of people interviewed, even though smaller samples can weaken the accuracy of a survey's findings. The survey benefited from an extra $5 million to $7 million a year after passage of the Affordable Care Act, engineered by Obama administration officials eager to demonstrate the law's impact. But that added money is ending and survey administrators expect a more modest budget moving forward.

The CDC is currently soliciting public comment for a redesigned survey that's to be used starting in 2018.

The last such redesign was in 1997, after the survey had crept up to a two-hour experience.

Paysen — the New York supervisor who works for the Census Bureau — has watched families go through the health interview survey in recent years, and he has detected frustration with what seemed to them to be redundant questions.

"The shorter it is," Paysen said, "the easier it will be."

Questions on survey

NEW YORK — As federal health officials work on a redesign of the National Health Interview Survey, it's interesting to look back on the clever queries that built its reputation.

It started in 1957 with 75 questions. Perhaps the most famous one was: "Overall, how would you rate your health — excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?"

The point was to ask people to talk about their health in their own terms. Later research showed that how a person answered that kind of question was a great predictor of their future health, said James Lepkowski, a survey research expert at the University of Michigan.

"It set a standard for other health surveys," he said.

The survey is currently going through an overhaul, meant in part to address its monstrous size — it contains 1,200 possible questions — but also to refine its measure of the nation's health.

Some examples of questions over the years:

- Can you see well enough to read ordinary newspaper print with glasses? (From the 1963 survey.)
- During the past three months, did anyone in the family have a chest X-ray? (1970)
- Were you ever advised by a doctor, nurse, or other medical person to use less salt? (1974)
- During the last 12 months, did anyone in the house have frequent constipation? (1984)
- Have you ever had your blood tested for the AIDS virus infection? (1989)
- When riding in a car, does your child wear a seat belt all or most of the time, some of the time, once in a while, or never? (1991)
- During the past six months, was your child nervous or clingy in new situations? (2001)
- Do you have difficulty walking a third of a mile on level ground, that would be five football fields or five city blocks, when using your walking aids? (2014)

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Oklahoma is safely at No. 3 spot in CFP rankings

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press

Oklahoma is No. 3 in the College Football Playoff selection committee rankings, putting the Sooners safely in position to be in the final four with their season completed.

The Sooners locked up the Big 12 championship with a blowout victory at Oklahoma State on Saturday.

Clemson is still No. 1 and Alabama remained No. 2. Both the Tigers (12-0) and Crimson Tide (11-1) head into their conference championship games Saturday needing just a victory to lock up a playoff spot.

"The committee debated long and hard about the No. 1 and No. 2 teams," committee chairman Jeff Long said.

The top seed gets to play closest to home, so for Clemson a semifinal game at the Orange Bowl in Miami is also on the line against North Carolina in the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game. The Tar Heels (11-1) are No. 10.

Iowa is No. 4 (12-0) and Michigan State (11-1) is No. 5, setting up a playoff play-in game in Saturday's Big Ten title game.

Hoping for an upset by the Tar Heels against Clemson or Florida against Alabama in the Southeastern Conference title game is No. 6 Ohio State (11-1) and No. 7 Stanford (10-2).

The Buckeyes' season is over. The Cardinal can win the Pac-12 championship Saturday by beating Southern California for the second time this year.

What happens if ...

■ Clemson loses to North Carolina and Stanford wins?

The most intriguing possible debate for the selection committee. It would put Ohio State back in play and the committee would have to slice and dice the resumes of the Tar Heels, trying to make a huge jump after winning a title, the Cardinal, a two-loss conference champion with a top-10 win against Notre Dame, and the defending national champion Buckeyes.

■ Alabama loses to Florida?

The SEC is out. The Gators dropped to No. 18 after losing 27-2 and an upset will almost certainly reflect poorly on the Crimson Tide.

Please see **RANKINGS**/8C

Playoff rankings

	Record
1. Clemson	12-0
2. Alabama	11-1
3. Oklahoma	11-1
4. Iowa	12-0
5. Michigan St.	11-1
6. Ohio St.	11-1
7. Stanford	10-2
8. Notre Dame	10-2
9. Florida St.	10-2
10. North Carolina	11-1
11. TCU	10-2
12. Baylor	9-2
13. Ole Miss	9-3
14. Northwestern	10-2
15. Michigan	9-3
16. Oregon	9-3
17. Oklahoma St.	10-2
18. Florida	10-2
19. Houston	11-1
20. Southern Cal	8-4
21. LSU	8-3
22. Temple	10-2
23. Navy	9-2
24. Utah	9-3
25. Tennessee	8-4

The College Football Playoff Selection Committee will issue weekly rankings each Tuesday, with the final rankings being announced Sunday, Dec. 6 at 11 a.m. The playoff semifinals will match the No. 1 seed vs. the No. 4 seed, and No. 2 will face No. 3. The semifinals will be hosted at the Orange Bowl and Cotton Bowl on Dec. 31, 2015. The championship game will be on Jan. 11, 2016 at Glendale, Ariz.

Experience beats youth

Young Rebels have tough time hanging with Coronado

Mustangs	89
Rebels	47

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

Lee boys head basketball coach Chris Packer knows he has a young team that still has many lessons to learn this season. The Rebels fully realized that fact in their home opener on Tuesday, as they suffered an 89-47 blowout loss at the hands of Lubbock Coronado at the Lee High School gym.

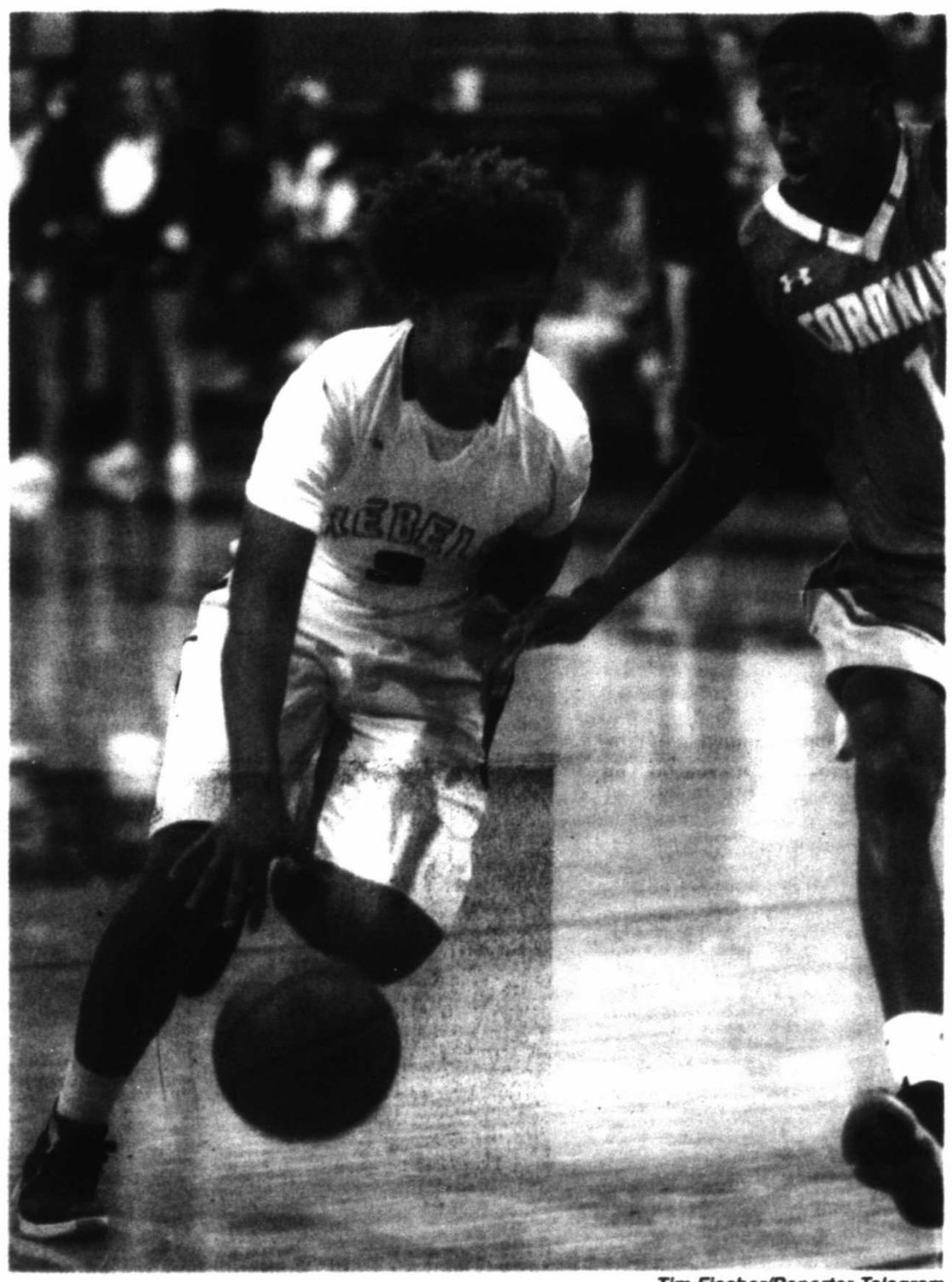
One of those lessons is the importance of doing everything else well when shots aren't falling. Lee relied heavily on the 3-pointer, as it hoisted 26 shots from distance in the loss. But the Rebels (0-5) only converted seven of those, and Packer said he noticed his players' energy levels drop quite a bit with all the misfires.

As a result, Coronado (4-0) out-hustled and out-rebounded the Rebels for most of the 32 minutes and scored a flurry of easy baskets in transition.

"We can't let missing shots dictate how we play the rest of the game," Packer said. "That's what I saw a lot of tonight. That's it. Real good teams will expose that, 'He's hanging his head, that's a layup.' That's how scores get up like that. Young guys hate losing, but they have to learn that lesson. They've got to go through some pain to learn."

One Rebel who had a hot hand from the outside throughout the game was freshman guard Avery Chambers, who sunk four shots from beyond the arc.

But even he was quick to acknowledge that he and his teammates need to be much better about playing a complete basketball game, even if they struggle to shoot the ball.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Avery Chambers tries to drive around Lubbock Coronado's Jarrett Culver on Tuesday at the Lee High gym.

"We've just got to get back," said Chambers, who co-led Lee with 14 points. "We can't let out heads hang down when we miss shots. It's going to happen, it's part of the game. When we get back, we've got to keep our heads up and play defense and we've got to keep pushing and pushing."

Using a tight man-to-man defense, the Mustangs stifled Lee over the first few minutes of the contest. The Rebels had difficulty creating quality shots and also coughed up the ball several times. On the other end, Coronado got up and down the floor and shot a much higher percentage from all areas.

The Mustangs hit nine of their first 11 shots in the opening quarter and then started the second frame on a 9-2 run. A smooth, flowing offense paired with excellent ball security staked Coronado to a 37-23 halftime lead.

Lee's over-reliance on the outside shot continued in the second half as the Rebels were held scoreless for the first 4:17 of the third quarter. By then, the Mustangs had already stretched their lead to 32 points.

Things weren't much better for the Rebels in the fourth quarter. Coronado's reserves got in on the action with more easy scoring opportunities off of missed Rebel shots.

Despite the forgettable result, Packer said he's continuing to have patience with his team and he believes things will improve with time and experience.

"It's all growth right now."

Please see **REBELS**/3C

Francis' team-first mentality leading Chaps

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Midland College men's basketball coach Jordan Dreiling said that sophomore guard Daeshon Francis is about more than just leading his team in scoring.

The 6-foot-4 transfer from Wisconsin-Green Bay is leading the Chaparrals in scoring with 17.2 points per game and is usually called up to defend the best player on the other team.

Francis

But Dreiling said Francis still brings a lot more than that to the table each and every day.

"He instinctive, he's talented, he's really athletic, but his greatest attribute is his will," Dreiling said. "He's as tough as a dude as I've gotten to coach. I think that is contagious. That makes other guys kind of follow that lead. He's definitely one of our leaders, and he's a really great piece to a good team."

Francis said he's not one of those players who buys into rankings or anything like that, and believes in going 100 percent every time.

"Whenever I'm out there on the court, I'm not doing it for me," he said. "It's for the other men; it's for my family. When I'm out there, I just try to leave it all because any day could be your last."

Francis looks to lead the Chaparrals (12-1) into Western Junior College Athletic Conference play at 7:30 p.m. today against at 6-4 South Plains College, a team that played for a national championship last season.

"I think me and the guys are clicking, so conference is a time where everybody needs to be locked in," Francis said. "Especially me coming from a conference last year that was very serious. I know when conference time comes, it's time to get locked in."

He added that having that experience at an NCAA Division I program, has really helped him be a leader for the Chaps this season.

"I was the youngest one, and I was the sixth man," said Francis of his freshman year at Wisconsin-Green Bay. "It was a veteran team, there were all juniors and seniors. I felt I gained a lot of leadership abilities and my basketball IQ increased as well. I just try to share that every day with my teammates, so they can figure things out instead of finding things out the hard way."

As a freshman, Francis helped Wisconsin-Green Bay to a 24-9 record and a trip to the National Invitational Tournament, averaging 4.5 points and 2.1 rebounds off the bench.

But after a coaching change in the offseason, Francis didn't believe he would mesh with the new coaching staff and made the tough decision to transfer. In order not to sit out a year by transferring to another Division I program, Francis and his high school coach in Indianapolis decided junior college would be his best route. After narrowing it down to Vincennes College in Indiana, South Plains, Odessa College and Midland College, Francis decided to sign with the Chaparrals because Midland felt more like home.

"Me and my family are about trust," Francis said. "Just by talking with coach Jordan, you can really trust him, and that's a big thing."

Dreiling said assistant coach Sam Waniewski did a good job in recruiting Francis and getting to know the player's family.

"He was one of the pieces we really had to have," Dreiling said.

Francis admitted that it was a bit of a transition coming to Midland, but added that in the end it was one of the best

Please see **CHAPS**/4C

Dixon prepares to lead Lady Chaps in WJCAC

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Like most junior college players, Sierra Dixon developed a grew as a leader from her freshman season on the Midland College women's basketball team.

Playing behind Tajanay Veiga, who's now at Southern Miss, Dixon used last year to learn from a veteran guard and absorb as much knowledge as possible.

Now, Dixon, a 5-foot-5 sophomore guard out from Pittsburg, California, has become more of a leader and a mentor to the younger players on the Lady Chaparrals roster.

Now, it's her turn to tell the younger players what it takes to succeed at this level and succeed in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference. MC (12-2) begins league play at 5:45 p.m. today when it travels to Levelland to face South Plains College (8-3).

"Especially the freshmen coming in and not knowing anything what conference play is like — they need a sophomore to tell them how it is," Dixon said. "I just tell them that you can't take it for granted.

"I'm not quiet like I was last year," she added. "I'm more encouraging and making sure my teammates are on the same page, which was a weakness of mine last year. I was learning from (Veiga) last year. She carried the team. I learned from her and coach telling me that I should want to become a leader."

Having won three straight and playing some good competition along the way has Dixon feeling confident about her team's chances in the WJCAC.

"I think we can definitely make a statement, knowing that this team is better than last year," she said. "As long as we keep doing what we're doing, play like

MRT file photo

Midland College's Sierra Dixon (11) drives to the hoop past Mesa's Taylor Reed (30) on Nov. 19 at Chaparral Center.

Please see **LADY CHAPS**/4C

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV

GOLF

European PGA: Australian PGA Championship, 1st Round, 7 p.m., GOLF

European PGA: Nedbank Golf Challenge, 1st Round, 2 a.m., GOLF

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Butler at Cincinnati, 6 p.m., CBSSN

Sacred Heart at Connecticut, 6 p.m., SNY

Louisville at Michigan State, 6:15 p.m., ESPN

Wisconsin at Syracuse, 6:15 p.m., ESPN2

Penn State at Boston College, 6:15 p.m., ESPNU

Texas Southern at Mississippi State, 7 p.m., SEC

Grambling at Marquette, 7 p.m., FS2

Fort Lewis at Colorado, 7 p.m., P12/P12 Mtn

Tulsa at Oklahoma State, 7 p.m., FCSC

SMU at TCU, 7 p.m., FSSW/FCSA

Murray State at Houston, 7 p.m., ESPN3

FGCU at Texas A&M, 7 p.m., SEC+

Arizona State at Creighton, 8 p.m., CBSSN

Sam Houston State at Texas Tech, 8 p.m., FSSW+/FCSP

Wyoming at Denver, 8 p.m., ROOT+

Indiana at Duke, 8:15 p.m., ESPN

Notre Dame at Illinois, 8:15 p.m., ESPN2

Florida State at Iowa, 8:15 p.m., ESPNU

Prairie View A&M at Baylor, 8:30 p.m., FSSW+

Prairie View A&M at Baylor, 9 p.m., FCSC

BYU at Utah, 9 p.m., P12/P12 Mtn

Loyola Marymount at Oregon State, 9 p.m., P12 OR

Gonzaga at Washington State, 10 p.m., FS1

MEN'S SOCCER

Copa del Rey: FC Barcelona vs CF Villanovense, 12:50 p.m., beIN2

Capital One Cup: Southampton vs Liverpool, 1:50 p.m., beIN

Superliga Portugesa: CF Uniao da Madeira vs FC Porto, 2 p.m., UDN

Copa del Rey: Cadiz CF vs Real Madrid CF, 2:50 p.m., beIN2

Copa do Brasil: Palmeiras vs Santos, 5:50 p.m., beIN/beIN2

Copa Sudamericana: CA Huracan vs Independiente Santa Fe, 6:30 p.m., FXDEP

NBA

Milwaukee at San Antonio, 6:30 p.m., FSSWSA

New Orleans at Houston, 7 p.m., NBAtv

Indiana at LA Clippers, 9:30 p.m., NBAtv

National Hockey League

NY Rangers at NY Islanders, 7 p.m., NBCSN

Tampa Bay at Anaheim, 11 p.m., NHL

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Syracuse at Maryland, 6 p.m., BTN

Rice at Baylor, 6 p.m., FSSW+/FCSP

Connecticut at DePaul, 6:30 p.m., FS1

Mississippi State at Texas, 7 p.m., LHN

WHAT'S ON DECK

Junior college

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Midland College at South Plains College, 7:45 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Midland College at South Plains College, 5:45 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

BOSTON RED SOX — Assigned 2B Josh Rutledge outright to Pawtucket (IL).

CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with RHP Joba Chamberlain on a minor league contract.

LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Agreed to terms with OF Rafael Ortega on a one-year contract.

MINNESOTA TWINS — Agreed to terms with 1B/DH Byung Ho Park on a four-year contract. Named Stu Cliburn pitching coach, Chad Allen hitting coach and Dax Fiore strength and conditioning coach of Rochester (IL). Ivan Arteaga pitching coach, Tommy Watkins hitting coach and Coty Greene strength and conditioning coach of Chattanooga (SL). Henry Bonilla pitching coach of Fort Myers (FSL). J.P Martinez pitching coach, Brian Dinkelman coach and Steve Taylor trainer of Cedar Rapids (MWL), and Cibney Bello pitching coach of the GCL Twins.

National League

ATLANTA BRAVES — Agreed to terms with RHP Jim Johnson on a one-year contract.

CINCINNATI REDS — Agreed to terms with RHPs Tim Melville, Dayan Diaz and J.C. Ramirez and 1B/OF Brandon Allen on minor league contracts.

COLORADO ROCKIES — Assigned 1B Wilin Rosario outright to Albuquerque (PCL).

LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Joe Wieland on a one-year contract.

MIAMI MARLINS — Agreed to terms with OF Justin Maxwell on a minor league contract.

American Association

GARY SOUTHSHORE RAILCATS — Signed RHP Fernando Gonzalez.

WINNIPEG GOLDEYES — Signed OF Josh Romanski.

Can-Am League

NEW JERSEY JACKALS — Traded OF Leandro Castro to Laredo (AA) for RHP Matt Loosen.

Frontier League

FLORENCE FREEDOM — Signed OFs Zach Burling and Andrew Godbold, 2B Daniel Fraga, INFs Mason Salazar and Travis Weaver and C Isaac Weinrich to contract extensions.

NORMAL CORNBELTERS — Signed RHP Michael Schreiss to a contract extension.

TRAVERSE CITY BEACH BUMS — Signed C Jake Rhodes to a contract extension.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

DETROIT PISTONS — Fined Detroit G Reggie Jackson $25,000 for directing inappropriate language toward a fan.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

ARIZONA CARDINALS — Placed RB Chris Johnson on injured reserve/designated for return. Released QB Robert Nelson Jr. Signed CB Corey White. Released TE Brandon Bostick from the practice squad. Signed RB Kerwynn Williams from the practice squad and S D.J. Swearinger to the practice squad.

BALTIMORE RAVENS — Waived WR Chuck Jacobs. Placed TE Chase Ford on injured reserve. Signed WR Daniel Brown and G Kaleb Johnson from the practice squad.

BUFFALO BILLS — Placed DT Kyle Williams on injured reserve. Signed DT TJ. Barnes, DE Lavar Edwards and LB Kevin Reddick. Signed LB A.J. Tarpley to the practice squad.

CAROLINA PANTHERS — Released LS Danny Aiken. Signed DB Cortland Finnegan.

DALLAS COWBOYS — Released S Tim Scott from the practice squad.

DENVER BRONCOS — Waived TE Richard Gordon. Signed S Josh Bush.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Signed C Daniel Munyer to the practice squad.

MIAMI DOLPHINS — Waived-injured DT C.J. Mosley. Waived LB James-Michael Johnson. Re-signed OL Jacques McClendon.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Released LB Terrance Plummer from the practice squad. Signed S John Lowdermilk to the practice squad.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Placed DL Trey Flowers on injured reserve. Claimed RB Trey Williams off waivers from Dallas. Signed WR Damians Johnson. Re-signed WR Austin Hill to the practice squad.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Placed G Geoff Schwartz on injured reserve. Signed G Adam Gettis from Oakland's practice squad.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Released C Drew Nowak. Released DE Julius Warmsley from the practice squad. Signed TE Chase Coffman. Signed WR Deshon Foxx and DT Justin Hamilton to the practice squad.

Arena Football League

ORLANDO PREDATORS — Agreed to terms with DL Darryl Cato-Bishop.

Canadian Football League

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Signed LB John Rush and PK Billy Pavlopoulos.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

FLORIDA PANTHERS — Recalled D Josh Brown from Manchester (ECHL) to Portland (AHL).

NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Recalled F Cody Bass from Milwaukee (AHL).

NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Reassigned LW Ben Johnson from Albany (AHL) to Adirondack (ECHL).

NEW YORK RANGERS — Assigned F Jayson Megna to Hartford (AHL).

American Hockey League

IOWA WILD — Returned F Andrew Yogan to Cincinnati (ECHL).

LEHIGH VALLEY PHANTOMS — Recalled F Geoff Walker from Reading (ECHL).

MILWAUKEE ADMIRALS — Signed F Vinny Saponari to a professional tryout agreement.

PROVIDENCE BRUINS — Returned F Rob Bordson to Adirondack (ECHL).

SPRINGFIELD FALCONS — Recalled G Tyler Beskorowany from Norfolk (ECHL).

WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON PENGUINS — Assigned G Brian Foster to Wheeling (ECHL).

ECHL

ALASKA ACES — Added G Drew O'Connell as emergency backup. Traded F Dean Chelios and D Landon Oslanski to Wichita for F Anthony Deluca and a 7th round draft pick.

ATLANTA GLADIATORS — Signed D Matt Register. Traded D Zach Yuen to Idaho for D Cole Martin.

BRAMPTON BEAST — Loaned F Luke Pither to St. John's (AHL).

ELMIRA JACKALS — Released F Matt Harlow.

GREENVILLE SWAMP RABBITS — Loaned F Darian Dziurzynski to Binghamton (AHL).

MANCHESTER MONARCHS — Loaned D/F Tony Turgeon to Portland (AHL).

NORFOLK ADMIRALS — Released F Peter MacIntyre. Signed F Quinn Smith.

ORLANDO SOLAR BEARS — Traded F Scott Tanski to Reading for future considerations.

COLLEGE

TEXAS TECH — Fired co-defensive coordinator and defensive line coach Mike Smith, secondary coach Kevin Curtis and outside linebackers coach Trey Haverty.

UCF — Named Scott Frost football coach.

SPORTS ODDS

College Football			
Friday			
Bowling Green	7½	11½ (70½)	N Illinois
Saturday			
at BAYLOR	20½	20½ (68½)	Texas
at GEORGIA SOUTHERN	22	21 (60½)	Georgia St
at ARKANSAS ST	21½	25½ (69½)	Texas State
at LOUISIANA-MONROE	OFF	OFF (OFF)	New Mexico St
West Virginia	5½	6½ (57½)	at KANSAS ST
Appalachian St	16½	18 (58)	at SOUTH ALABAMA
at LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE	1½	PK (56½)	Troy
at W KENTUCKY	8	7 (72)	Southern Miss
at HOUSTON	6	7 (56½)	Temple
Stanford	4	4½ (60½)	SOUTHERN CAL
Alabama	12	17 (39½)	Florida
Clemson	6½	5 (66½)	North Carolina
Michigan St	3	3½ (52½)	Iowa
at SAN DIEGO ST	6½	6½ (51)	Air Force
NFL			
Thursday			
Green Bay	5	3 (47)	at DETROIT
Sunday			
at CHICAGO	7½	7 (43)	San Francisco
Cincinnati	7	7 (43½)	at CLEVELAND
at TENNESSEE	2½	2½ (43½)	Jacksonville
at BUFFALO	6½	3 (41½)	Houston
at MIAMI	6½	4½ (43½)	Baltimore
Carolina	4½	7 (50)	at NEW ORLEANS
Seattle	1	PK (41½)	at MINNESOTA
Arizona	6	5½ (43)	at ST. LOUIS
at TAMPA BAY	+1½	2 (46)	Atlanta
NY Jets	+1	2½ (45½)	at NY GIANTS
Denver	6½	4 (43½)	at SAN DIEGO
Kansas City	2½	3 (44)	at OAKLAND
at NEW ENGLAND	10	9½ (48)	Philadelphia
at PITTSBURGH	6	7 (OFF)	Indianapolis
Monday			
at WASHINGTON	3½	4½ (41½)	Dallas

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AP source: Red Sox agree to 7-year, $217M deal with pitcher David Price

By Jimmy Golen
Associated Press

BOSTON — The Boston Red Sox and AL Cy Young runner-up David Price have agreed to terms on a seven-year free-agent deal worth $217 million, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Tuesday night because the deal — the largest ever for a pitcher — is pending a physical. It is expected to be announced on Friday, the person told the AP.

A left-hander who was the AL's top pitcher in 2012 and the runner-up twice in seven full major league seasons, Price has a 3.09 ERA with 1,372 strikeouts and 104 wins. He went 18-5 with a 2.45 ERA in 2015, striking out 225.

Choosing the Red Sox reunites Price with president of baseball operations Dave Dombrowski, who until this August was the Detroit Tigers' general manager. Dombrowski has had a hand in all three of Price's moves the past two years.

After spending his entire career in Tampa Bay, Price was acquired by Detroit at the 2014 trade deadline. A year later, the Tigers traded him to the Blue Jays at the July 31 non-waiver deadline and Price helped Toronto reach the playoffs for the first time since 1993.

Now he will try to help turn around a team that has finished last in the AL East in three of the last four seasons. (The Red Sox won the World Series in 2013.) On its way to a 78-84, last-place finish in 2015, Boston brought in Dombrowski and he quickly went to work rebuilding the once-proud ballclub.

Dombrowski traded a package of prospects to San Diego for closer Craig Kimbrel last month.

And this week he got someone Kimbrel can save games for.

Price bolsters a rotation that has lacked an ace since the Red Sox balked at the asking price for Jon Lester, who signed a six-year, $155 million deal with the Chicago Cubs. Twelve different pitchers started at least one game for the Red Sox in 2015.

Price joins a rotation that, barring injuries and trades, is expected to include Wade Miley, Rick Porcello, Eduardo Rodriguez and Clay Buchholz. Joe Kelly, Steven Wright and Henry Owens could bolster the bullpen, fill in as starters or serve as trade bait.

Dodgers welcome Dave Roberts back as manager

By Beth Harris
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Dave Roberts was welcomed back to the Los Angeles Dodgers on Tuesday as the first minority manager in franchise history.

"This is my dream job," he said during a news conference at Dodger Stadium attended by first baseman Adrian Gonzalez, former manager Tom Lasorda, and Dodger greats Don Newcombe and Maury Wills.

Co-owner Magic Johnson handed Roberts a No. 30 jersey that he hastily buttoned up over his blue dress shirt and blue-and-white striped tie. Roberts took his new Dodger hat and bent the brim before donning it.

Roberts said he was so focused on landing the job that he didn't realize the magnitude of being the club's first minority manager. His father is black and his mother is Japanese.

"There's a lot of people that paved the way for me to ultimately have this opportunity," he said. "That isn't taken lightly."

Asked about the lack of minorities managing in baseball, Roberts said, "I have no idea. I'm very, very fortunate that it's me."

The 43-year-old former center fielder for the Dodgers was born in Okinawa, Japan, where his father was based with the Marines.

Roberts comes from the rival San Diego Padres, where he was bench coach the last two seasons.

He takes over a team that won three consecutive NL West titles under Don Mattingly, who mutually parted ways with the team last month and a week later became manager of the Miami Marlins. The Dodgers haven't won a World Series since 1988 despite having baseball's highest payroll last season.

"I don't succumb to pressure," Roberts said. "People should have expectations and goals. The goal is to be great."

The Dodgers lost 3-2 to the New York Mets in a decisive Game 5 of the NL Division Series this year, having made the postseason in three straight years for the first time in franchise history.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PAIRINGS

CLASS 6A DIVISION I

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Denton Ryan (13-0) vs. Allen (13-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

Region II

State Quarterfinals

Humble Atascocita (12-1) vs. Austin Westlake (12-1), 3 p.m. Saturday, Cypress' Berry Center

Region III

State Quarterfinals

Galena Park North Shore (10-3) vs. Dickinson (12-1), 1 p.m. Saturday, Pasadena's Veterans Stadium

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

Converse Judson (12-1) vs. Smithson Valley (10-3), 1 p.m. Saturday, San Antonio's Alamo Stadium

CLASS 6A DIVISION II

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Denton Guyer (10-3) vs. Mansfield (11-2), 1 p.m. Saturday, Southlake's Dragon Stadium

Region II

State Quarterfinals

Rockwall (10-3) vs. Lake Travis (13-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, College Station's Kyle Field

Region III

State Quarterfinals

Katy (13-0) vs. Manvel (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Houston's NRG Stadium

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

Cibolo Steele (13-0) vs. Schertz Clemens (11-2), 4 p.m. Saturday, San Antonio's Alamodome

CLASS 5A DIVISION I

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Canyon Randall (12-1) vs. Aledo (12-1), 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

Region II

State Quarterfinals

Longview (11-2) vs. Mansfield Lake Ridge (13-0), 9 p.m. Saturday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

Region III

State Quarterfinals

Temple (12-1) vs. Richmond George Ranch (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Hewitt

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

Austin Vandegrift (11-2) vs. Cedar Park Vista Ridge (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Round Rock's Reeves Athletic Complex

CLASS 5A DIVISION II

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Everman (9-4) vs. Lake Dallas (11-2), 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

Region II

State Quarterfinals

Frisco Lone Star (12-1) vs. Lancaster (10-3), 5:30 p.m. Friday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

Region III

State Quarterfinals

Fort Bend Ridge Point (10-3) vs. Angleton (8-5), noon Saturday, San Antonio's Alamodome

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

Cedar Park (13-0) vs. CC Calallen (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, San Antonio's Alamodome

CLASS 4A DIVISION I

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Brownwood (11-2) vs. Abilene Wylie (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, San Angelo Stadium

Region II

State Quarterfinals

Argyle (12-1) vs. Texarkana Liberty-Eylau (12-1), 9 p.m. Friday, Arlington's AT&T Stadium

Region III

State Quarterfinals

Silsbee (11-2) vs. Carthage (10-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Tyler's Rose Stadium

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

Waco La Vega (13-0) vs. China Spring (12-1), 7 p.m. Thursday, Baylor's McLane Stadium

CLASS 4A DIVISION II

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Krum (8-5) vs. Celina (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Denton's Apogee Stadium

Region II

State Quarterfinals

Gilmer (13-0) vs. Atlanta (9-4), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Longview's Pirate Stadium

Region III

State Quarterfinals

West Orange-Stark (12-1) vs. Bellville (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Porter

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

Cuero (8-5) vs. Sinton (12-0), 8 p.m. Saturday, San Antonio's Alamodome

CLASS 3A DIVISION I

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Shallowater (10-2) vs. Brock (13-0), 6 p.m. Saturday, Sweetwater

Region II

State Quarterfinals

Sunnyvale (12-1) vs. Mineola (12-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Royse City

Region III

State Quarterfinals

Cameron Yoe (12-1) vs. Teague (11-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Waco ISD Stadium

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

Mathis (11-2) vs. Hitchcock (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, College Station's Kyle Field

CLASS 3A DIVISION II

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Idalou (12-0) vs. Henrietta (12-1), 7 p.m. Friday, Clyde

Region II

State Quarterfinals

New London West Rusk (12-1) vs. Waskom (13-0), Friday, Longview's Lobo Stadium

Region III

State Quarterfinals

Crockett (10-3) vs. Franklin (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Madisonville

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

East Bernard (11-2) vs. Boling (12-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sugar Land's Mercer Stadium

CLASS 2A DIVISION I

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Canadian (13-0) vs. Stratford (12-1), 2 p.m. Saturday, Amarillo's Bivins Stadium

Region II

State Quarterfinals

Tolar (9-4) vs. Crawford (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Glen Rose

Region III

State Quarterfinals

Shelbyville (12-0) vs. Lovelady (13-0), 7 p.m. Friday, Nacogdoches

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

Refugio (11-2) vs. Shiner (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, San Antonio's Alamo Stadium

CLASS 2A DIVISION II

Region I

State Quarterfinals

Memphis (7-6) vs. Seagraves (12-1), 2 p.m. Saturday, Lubbock's Lowrey Field

Region II

State Quarterfinals

Irsan (13-0) vs. Albany (12-1), 7 p.m. Friday, Big Spring

Region III

State Quarterfinals

Muenster (12-1) vs. Tenaha (8-5), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Forney

Region IV

State Quarterfinals

Bremond (13-0) vs. Bruni (12-1), 7 p.m. Friday, Converse

CLASS 1A SIX-MAN DIVISION I

State Semifinals

Borden County (13-0) vs. Crowell (9-3), 6 p.m., Friday, Abilene

Zephyr (11-2) vs. Abbott (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Hico

CLASS 1A SIX-MAN DIVISION II

State Semifinals

Follett (11-1) vs. Imperial Buena Vista (13-0), 4 p.m. Saturday, Wolfforth

Guthrie (11-2) vs. Richland Springs (13-0), TBD

Monahan, Flames beat Stars in shootout

Associated Press

CALGARY, Alberta — Sean Monahan had the clinching goal in the shootout and two assists in regulation, helping the Calgary Flames rally for a 4-3 victory over the Dallas Stars on Tuesday night.

Monahan's shootout goal was the last of three on Antti Niemi, with Joe Colborne and Johnny Gaudreau also finding the net.

Patrick Sharp scored in the shootout for the Stars, who were eliminated on Monahan's goal because Tyler Seguin hit the post on Dallas' initial shot.

Gaudreau, Mikael Backlund and Dougie Hamilton scored in regulation for Calgary, which kicked off a five-game homestand with its fifth win in a row at the Scotiabank Saddledome.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	26	19	4	3	41	90	57
Detroit	25	13	8	4	30	61	64
Ottawa	24	12	7	5	29	78	72
Boston	22	13	8	1	27	73	64
Florida	24	11	9	4	26	63	60
Tampa Bay	25	11	11	3	25	59	58
Buffalo	25	10	12	3	23	58	67
Toronto	24	9	11	5	21	56	66

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y Rangers	25	17	6	2	36	74	53
Washington	23	17	5	1	35	75	51
N.Y Islanders	25	13	8	4	30	72	62
Pittsburgh	23	13	8	2	28	52	54
New Jersey	24	12	10	2	26	57	59
Philadelphia	25	10	10	5	25	49	67
Carolina	24	8	12	4	20	50	70
Columbus	26	10	16	0	20	61	78

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	25	19	5	1	39	86	66
St. Louis	25	15	7	3	33	66	61
Nashville	24	13	7	4	30	64	62
Chicago	25	13	9	3	29	68	64
Minnesota	23	12	7	4	28	65	62
Winnipeg	25	11	12	2	24	67	80
Colorado	25	10	14	1	21	73	76

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	23	14	8	1	29	58	50
San Jose	23	14	9	0	28	66	58
Arizona	24	13	10	1	27	67	70
Vancouver	25	9	9	7	25	69	69
Anaheim	25	9	11	5	23	51	65
Calgary	25	9	14	2	20	60	90
Edmonton	25	8	15	2	18	62	77

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

Scores & schedule

Tuesday's Scores

Detroit 5, Buffalo 4, SO
Calgary 4, Dallas 3, SO
Colorado 2, New Jersey 1
Montreal 2, Columbus 1
Philadelphia 4, Ottawa 2
Florida 3, St. Louis 1
Nashville 5, Arizona 2
Minnesota 2, Chicago 1
Vancouver at Los Angeles, late
Pittsburgh at San Jose, late

Today's Games

Toronto at Winnipeg, 6:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Boston at Edmonton, 8:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Anaheim, 9:30 p.m.

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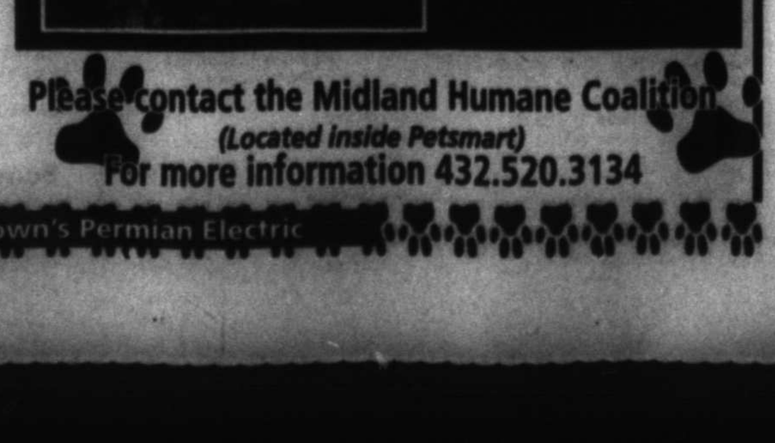
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Greenwood rallies to beat Lubbock Cooper

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

On Tuesday night, the Greenwood girls basketball team had a chance to measure itself in the early season while playing up against a formidable Class 5A opponent.

Payne

Lubbock Cooper, ranked No. 21 in the TABC Class 5A poll, provided a litmus test for a Rangerettes squad that was ranked No. 23 in the TABC Class 4A rankings.

GHS rose to the challenge as it rallied to beat the visiting Lady Pirates, 53-50, at Greenwood High School.

Trailing 37-24 at one point in the third quarter, the Rangerettes (6-4) played impressive defense in the second half, finishing the contest on a 17-9 run in the fourth quarter.

Cooper was held to only 17 points after halftime after leading 33-24 at the intermission.

"The biggest thing that turned the tide, we started playing better defense on them and our defense was leading the fast breaks and we were able to lay the ball up," GHS head coach Quint Anthony said. "That's what we want to stress. We want to be a defensive-type team where we can stop people from scoring and take advantage of it when we get rebounds and stuff like that."

Anthony raved about his team's height before the season started, but the Lady Pirates were able to not only match Greenwood with their length, but their taller players — Jacey Hise, Sarah Doherty and Brynlee Hill — brought athleticism to the table and could dribble.

However, the Rangerettes were able to prevail against Cooper's taller players as senior posts Calie Rose Gilbert and Layne Banks controlled the glass in the second half.

Gilbert registered a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

"It's hard whenever they're taller than you," Gilbert said. "I just try and post them up the best I can and block them out whenever the ball goes up.

"It was really tough because you never know when they're going to just foul you or block you, you just got to go up strong every single time."

Anthony said the Rangerettes are growing on the court in the early going as they boast seven sophomores on the roster.

One sophomore that emerged in the win was shooting guard Natalee Karcher, who recorded a team-high five steals.

Greenwood point guard Caity Payne, a sophomore as well, shined by scoring a team-high 13 points.

Midway through the fourth stanza, GHS took the lead for good at 45-43 when Payne cut to the basket from the perimeter and scored on an easy layup after receiving a pass in the key from Sydnee Jordan.

In addition to directing Greenwood's offense, Payne showed her scrappiness by making eight rebounds.

This season Payne is filling the point guard role of Amanda Bell, the 2014-15 District 4-4A MVP who graduated last summer and is now playing at West Texas A&M.

"Amanda is a great player and it's a lot of shoes to fill but I am trying my hardest and working every day in practice just like everybody else," Payne said.

Anthony said that Payne is constantly getting better, a good sign as Greenwood heads to the Kennedale Tournament this Thursday.

"This is a big step for us as a team," Anthony said. "We didn't play very well last Tuesday and we have worked more on our mental state than we have anything the last couple days. I think it paid off tonight. I couldn't be prouder of these girls."

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

GREENWOOD 53, LUBBOCK COOPER 50

Lubbock Cooper (6-4) — Cody Chisum 4, Lalie Douglas 1, Jacey Hise 14, Hollie Windham 10, Sarah Doherty 11, Brynlee Hill 6, Kelsey Kelley 4
Greenwood (6-4) — Caity Payne 13, Natalee Karcher 3, Blake Thompson 2, Layne Banks 5, Sydnee Jordan 4, Ariana Leyva 4, Cassi Mecane 2, Cylie Mebane 8, Faith Duran 2, Callie Rose Gilbert 10

Cooper	11	22	8	9	— 50
Greenwood	12	12	12	17	— 53

Free throws — Cooper 16-24, Greenwood 12-19, 3-point goals — Cooper 2 (Doherty 2), Greenwood 1 (Payne). Total fouls — Cooper 17, Greenwood 19. Fouled out — Hill, Gilbert.
Next: Greenwood at Kennedale Tournament Thursday

TOP25ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NO. 4 KANSAS 94 LOYOLA 61

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Wayne Selden Jr. sliced down the lane, saw the defense collapse and whipped a pass behind his back, hoping against everything that Cheick Diallo would be there to catch it.

Not only was he there, Diallo was ready to flush it.

In his much-anticipated debut for fourth-ranked Kansas, the 6-foot-9 freshman from Mali had a trio of highlight-reel dunks Tuesday night. He finished with 13 points, six rebounds and three blocks while helping the Jayhawks overcome a first-half malaise for a 94-61 victory over Loyola.

"At first, I don't know what I was doing. I was so excited. I turned the ball over so easily," said Diallo, who was the subject of an exhaustive eligibility inquiry by the NCAA. "I was so excited, I didn't know what I was doing. At the end of the game, I was playing so good."

Yes, he sure looked like he knew what he was doing on Selden's nifty pass.

NO. 9 NORTH CAROLINA 89 NO. 2 MARYLAND

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Marcus Paige scored 20 points in his season debut following a hand injury to help No. 9 North Carolina beat No. 2 Maryland 89-81 on Tuesday night in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge.

Brice Johnson added 16 points for the Tar Heels (6-1), who shot 53 percent and repeatedly capitalized on Terrapins miscues to hang on in a tough matchup.

Trimble finished with 23 points and 12 assists to lead Maryland (6-1), which shot 51 percent but committed 22 turnovers that UNC converted into 21 points.

This was the headlining matchup for the interconference series, pitting two Atlantic Coast Conference charter members with Final Four aspirations.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Tuesday's scores

MEN

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas 117, Northwestern St. 78
Oklahoma Christian 104, Dallas Christian 82
Texas 80, Texas-Arlington 73, OT
UALR 79, Cent. Arkansas 73

SOUTH

Belmont 105, Lipscomb 89
Davidson 109, Charlotte 74
East Carolina 74, FAU 46
Florida 76, Richmond 56
Furman 99, Piedmont 38
Georgia 86, Oakland 82
Georgia Tech 77, Wofford 61
Memphis 94, Louisiana Tech 68
Michigan 66, NC State 59
Mount Olive 98, Southern Wesleyan 56
Nicholls St. 80, Louisiana College 62
Northwestern St. 81, Virginia Tech 79, OT
Queens, NC) 87, Johnson C. Smith 77
SE Louisiana 101, Loyola, NO 65
Samford 77, Jacksonville St. 71
Sewanee 66, Covenant 57
Troy 69, Southern Miss. 59
UAB 64, Georgia St. 57
W. Kentucky 86, E. Kentucky 84
William & Mary 55, Old Dominion 48
Winston-Salem 63, Glenville St. 59

FAR WEST

Montana St. 76, Utah Valley 72
New Mexico 91, Cal. Poly 75
Weber St. 95, Pacific (Ore.) 57

MIDWEST

Ball St. 61, IUPUI 58
Bethel (Minn.) 64, Northwestern (Minn.) 42
Crown (Minn.) 111, Oak Hills 91
E. Illinois 68, Indiana St. 62
E. Michigan 80, Nebraska-Omaha 70
Evansville 88, Alabama St. 56
Indiana Wesleyan 91, Spring Arbor 77
Kansas 94, Loyola (Md.) 61
Lakeland 84, Concordia (Wis.) 82
Miami 77, Nebraska 72, OT
Milwaukee Engineering 80, Edgewood 57
Minn. St.-Moorhead 86, Jamestown 74
Missouri 88, Arkansas St. 78
North Dakota 78, Waldorf 58
Ohio 85, Marshall 70
St. Olaf 69, Augsburg 65
UMKC 74, UT Martin 70
Utah St. 69, Missouri St. 68
Virginia 64, Ohio St. 58
Wis.-Lutheran 81, Marian (Wis.) 71
Wis.-Oshkosh 93, Viterbo 76
Wis.-Superior 79, Wis.-Stout 71
Wright St. 68, Albion 50

EAST

Albany (NY) 58, Quinnipiac 54
Binghamton 69, Colgate 50
Cornell 81, Siena 80
Delaware 70, Bradley 47
Duquesne 91, MVSU 77
Georgetown 68, Md.-Eastern Shore 49
Iona 101, Fairfield 77
Mount St. Mary's 81, American U. 56
Purdue 72, Pittsburgh 59
SUNY-Canton 79, Utica 58
Swarthmore 84, Washington, Md. 54
Villanova 86, Saint Joseph's 72

WOMEN

SOUTHWEST

North Texas 60, SMU 57
Texas A&M-CC 49, Texas Pan American 47
Valley 46
Texas-Arlington 67, Stephen F. Austin 63

SOUTH

Barton 68, Converse 63
Berea 93, WVU Tech 69
Campbell 83, Coastal Carolina 70
Charleston Southern 54, Winthrop 51
Emory 71, Sewanee 48
Florida 72, South Alabama 60
Furman 69, Richmond 62
High Point 79, Longwood 68
Jacksonville 90, Edward Waters 51
Jacksonville St. 67, Alcorn St. 65
Kentucky Christian 83, Alice Lloyd 81
LSU 86, Texas Southern 36
Limestone 80, Erskine 71
Loyola NO 81, Southern, NO 62
MVSU 72, Blue Mountain 67
McNeese St. 73, Louisiana College 59
Mount Olive 78, Southern Wesleyan 49
SC.-Upstate 84, UNC-Greensboro 61
Samford 54, Alabama A&M 30
Southern Miss. 69, Tennessee Tech 57
Tennessee St. 75, Lane 44
Troy 104, Nicholls St. 51
William & Mary 85, Delaware St. 59

FAR WEST

N. Arizona 91, NM Highlands 43
N. Colorado 74, Utah St. 60
S. Utah 67, CS Northridge 65

MIDWEST

Butler 65, TCU 53
E. Michigan 77, Oral Roberts 69
IUPUI 68, Indiana St. 43
Oakland 78, Dartmouth 60
SIU-Edwardsville 65, Illinois St. 57
Wis.-Oshkosh 79, Viterbo 32

EAST

Albany (NY) 71, Providence 58
Brown 67, Rhode Island 63
Columbia 82, St. Francis (Pa.) 78
Mass.-Lowell 70, Boston U. 57
St. Bonaventure 73, Stony Brook 68, 2OT
Swarthmore 61, Washington (Md.) 49
Yale 62, Manhattan 36

Today's schedules

MEN

SOUTHWEST

Murray St. at Houston, 7 p.m.
Texas Rio Grande Valley at Lamar, 7 p.m.
Tulsa at Oklahoma St., 7 p.m.
SMU at TCU, 7 p.m.
Florida Gulf Coast at Texas A&M, 7 p.m.
Austin Peay at Texas A&M-CC, 7 p.m.
UTSA at Texas St., 7 p.m.
Rice at Houston Baptist, 7:30 p.m.
Sam Houston St. at Texas Tech, 8 p.m.
Prairie View at Baylor, 8:30 p.m.

SOUTH

SC.-Upstate at Clemson, 6 p.m.
Auburn at Coastal Carolina, 6 p.m.
Longwood at High Point, 6 p.m.
Florida Memorial at Jacksonville, 6 p.m.
Florida A&M at Kennesaw St., 6 p.m.
Hiwassee at Mercer, 6 p.m.
Mercy at Norfolk St., 6 p.m.
Gardner-Webb at Presbyterian, 6 p.m.
Coker at UNC Wilmington, 6 p.m.
Cent. Pennsylvania at VMI, 6 p.m.
Wintrop at Charleston Southern, 6:30 p.m.
UNC Greensboro at NC A&T, 6:30 p.m.
North Florida at LSU, 7 p.m.
Texas Southern at Mississippi St., 7 p.m.
Georgia Southern at Savannah St., 7 p.m.
UCF at Stetson, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Tulane, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Vanderbilt, 7 p.m.
ETSU at Tennessee Tech, 7:05 p.m.
Fla. at Jackson St., 7:30 p.m.
VCU at Middle Tennessee, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Duke, 8:15 p.m.

FAR WEST

Fort Lewis at Colorado, 7 p.m.
The Citadel at Air Force, 8 p.m.
Willamette at Boise St., 8 p.m.
Wyoming at Denver, 8 p.m.
Hampton at N. Arizona, 8 p.m.
UTEP at New Mexico St., 9 p.m.
Loyola Marymount at Oregon St., 9 p.m.
Portland at Portland St., 9:30 p.m.
Bethesda at San Diego, 10 p.m.
BYU at Utah, 9 p.m.
Sacramento St. at UC Davis, 9:05 p.m.
CS Bakersfield at Idaho, 10 p.m.
Gonzaga at Washington St., 10 p.m.
Ariz. Pine Bluff at Hawaii, 11 p.m.

MIDWEST

Butler at Cincinnati, 6 p.m.
Cleveland St. at Toledo, 6 p.m.
Robert Morris at Youngstown St., 6 p.m.
Louisville at Michigan St., 6:15 p.m.
Coppin St. at Akron, 7 p.m.
UMBC at Bowling Green, 7 p.m.
DePaul at Chicago St., 7 p.m.
Grambling St. at Marquette, 7 p.m.
Chicago St. at N. Illinois, 7 p.m.
Wayne (Neb.) at S. Dakota St., 7 p.m.
SE Missouri at S. Illinois, 7 p.m.
Morehead St. at Saint Louis, 7 p.m.
Arizona St. at Creighton, 8 p.m.
Notre Dame at Illinois, 8:15 p.m.
Florida St. at Iowa, 8:15 p.m.

EAST

CCSU at Brown, 6 p.m.
Columbia at Bucknell, 6 p.m.
St. Bonaventure at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
Vermont at Canisius, 6 p.m.
St. John's at Fordham, 6 p.m.
Seton Hall at George Washington, 6 p.m.
Hofstra at La Salle, 6 p.m.
St. Francis Brooklyn at Lafayette, 6 p.m.
Army at Maine, 6 p.m.
Harvard at Northeastern, 6 p.m.
Navy at Penn St., 6 p.m.
Hartford at Providence, 6 p.m.
Holy Cross at Rhode Island, 6 p.m.
St. Peter's at Rider, 6 p.m.
Lehigh at St. Francis (Pa.), 6 p.m.
Fairleigh Dickinson at Temple, 6 p.m.
George Mason at Towson, 6 p.m.
Sacred Heart at UConn at the X, Center Hartford, Conn., 6 p.m.
Boston U. at UMass, 6 p.m.
Bryant at Yale, 6 p.m.
Penn St. at Boston College, 6:15 p.m.
Wisconsin at Syracuse, 6:15 p.m.
Morgan St. at Wagner, 6:30 p.m.

WOMEN

SOUTHWEST

New Mexico at UTEP, 6:15 p.m.
Trinity, Texas at Houston Baptist, 5:30 p.m.
Abilene Christian at Texas Tech, 5:30 p.m.
Rice at Baylor, 6 p.m.
Missouri St. at Arkansas, 7 p.m.
UALR at Oklahoma, 7 p.m.
Mississippi St. at Texas, 7 p.m.
Grambling St. at Tulsa, 7 p.m.

SOUTH

Loyola (Md.) at Old Dominion, 10 a.m.
North Greenville at N.C. A&T, 4:30 p.m.
UCF at Stetson, 4:30 p.m.
Bowie St. at Copper St., 5 p.m.
Mount St. Mary's at Md.-Eastern Shore, 5 p.m.
Northwestern St. at North Carolina, 5 p.m.
Georgia Southern at Savannah St., 5 p.m.
Appalachian St. at Coll. of Charleston, 5:30 p.m.
Fisk at Jackson St., 5:30 p.m.
Alabama at U. Mass., 1:30 p.m.
N.C. Central at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
S.C. State at Clemson, 6 p.m.
SE Louisiana at Florida A&M, 6 p.m.
Liberty at Gardner-Webb, 6 p.m.
Georgetown at George Mason, 6 p.m.
Mercer at Georgia, 6 p.m.
La Salle at Howard, 6 p.m.
Syracuse at Maryland, 6 p.m.
Illinois at Miami, 6 p.m.
W. Kentucky at Mississippi, 6 p.m.
S. Illinois at Murray St., 6 p.m.
Kentucky at N. Kentucky, 6 p.m.
Davidson at Radford, 6 p.m.
ETSU at Tennessee, 6 p.m.
Iowa at Virginia, 6 p.m.
UNC Wilmington at VCU, 6 p.m.
Wisconsin at Wake Forest, 6 p.m.
Belmont at Lipscomb, 6:30 p.m.
Prairie View at Louisiana Tech, 6:30 p.m.
Saint Louis at Memphis, 7 p.m.

FAR WEST

BYU at BYU-Hawaii, 3 p.m.
NW Christian at Idaho, 7:30 p.m.
New Mexico St. at Arizona, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Colorado St., 8 p.m.
CS Bakersfield at Fresno St., 9 p.m.
Long Beach St. at Pacific, 9 p.m.
Cal Poly at Pepperdine, 9 p.m.
Portland at Washington, 9 p.m.

MIDWEST

Dayton at Toledo, 10 a.m.
Rochester (Mich.) at Akron, 5 p.m.
Evansville at Bowling Green, 5 p.m.
Cincinnati at Detroit, 6 p.m.
W. Illinois at E. Illinois, 6 p.m.
Georgia Tech at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Cleveland St. at Kent St., 6 p.m.
Ohio St. at Notre Dame, 6 p.m.
UConn at DePaul, 6:30 p.m.
Bradley at Chicago St., 7 p.m.
Creighton at Kansas, 7 p.m.
W. Michigan at Loyola of Chicago, 7 p.m.
SE Missouri at Missouri St., 7 p.m.
Iowa St. at N. Iowa, 7 p.m.
Miami (Ohio) at Valparaiso, 7 p.m.

EAST

Saint Joseph's at Lehigh, 10 a.m.
Youngstown St. at Bucknell, 3:30 p.m.
UMass at Bryant, 4 p.m.
Villanova at Temple, 4 p.m.
NJIT at Wagner, 4 p.m.
Towson at Cornell, 6 p.m.
Iona at Fairfield, 6 p.m.
CCSU at Hartford, 6 p.m.
Colby at Maine, 6 p.m.
LIU Brooklyn at Navy, 6 p.m.
Northeastern at New Hampshire, 6 p.m.
Morgan St. at Robert Morris, 6 p.m.
American at UMBC, 6 p.m.
Morehead St. at West Virginia, 6 p.m.
Vermont at Holy Cross, 6:05 p.m.

HSBASKETBALLROUNDUP

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Girls

WALL 67
MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 25

WALL — The Wall girls basketball team used a 45-10 run over the second and third quarters to sprint past Midland Christian on Tuesday in non-district action.

Blaire Neatherlin and Megan Ashton co-led the Lady Mustangs with six points each in the loss. MCS missed 15 of its 20 free throws in the game.

WALL 67, MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 25

Midland Christian (5-5) — McKenzie Fryer 3, Megan Ashton 6, Kayla Ackerman 3, Daniella Anastasio 5, Blaire Neatherlin 6, Avery McKinney 2
Wall — Lloyd 4, Petite 3, Mann 6, Alexander 6, Carr 8, Phillips 13, Gully 9, Christie 13, Moorman 5

MCS	6	2	8	9—25
Wall	6	22	23	16—67

Free throws — MCS 5-20, Wall 4-10. 3-point goals — MCS 1 (Anastasio), Wall 6 (Petite, Alexander 2, Carr 2, Moorman). Total fouls — MCS 10, Wall 16. Fouled out — none
Next: MCS at Monahans Tournament, TBA, Thursday

STANTON 63
PLAINS 51

PLAINS — Laci Long and Alyssa Peterson each had a game-high 15 points to lead Stanton to a non-district win over Plains.

Miranda Myrick added 11 points for the Lady Buffaloes (5-2).

STANTON 63, PLAINS 51

Stanton (5-2) — Maggie Allred 4, Laci Long 15, Page Grabiel 8, Monica Garza 3, Miranda Myrick 11, Alyssa Peterson 15, Ashlyn Mauldin 7
Plains (2-3) — B. Garcia 3, Sienna Sosa 13, B. Mare 3, Davis 9, Leos 1, Sol Sosa 11, M. Davis 9, Gallido 2

Stanton	17	12	14	20—63
Plains	9	17	10	15—51

Free throws — Stanton 25-45, Plains 12-23. 3-point goals — Stanton 4 (Long, Grabel, Garza, Peterson), Plains 5 (Garcia, Sienna Sosa, Sol Sosa, Mare, M. Davis). Total fouls — Stanton 18, Plains 29. Fouled out — Peterson, Sienna Sosa, Sol Sosa, M. Davis, Guerra
Next game: Stanton at Denver City Tournament, Thursday

NO. 3 GARDEN CITY 74
REAGAN COUNTY 31

GARDEN CITY — Hope Haffmann scored a game-high 25 points to lead No. 3 Garden City to a blowout victory over Reagan County.

Ashlyn Koenning added 14 points and Payton Hastings had 11 for the Lady Bearkats (6-1)

Garden City 74, Reagan County 31

Garden City (6-1) — Hope Haffmann 25, Bethany Matschek 6, Kortney Haffmann 2, Payton Hastings 11, Madison Hastings 8, Carlie Holingsworth 8, Ashlyn Koenning 14
Reagan County — Armstrong 8, Goodloe 1, Sweeney 1, Armstrong 5, Spurgin 6, Hernandez 3, Esquivel 3, Jaramillo 4

Garden City	26	14	25	9—74
Reagan County	9	6	2	14—31

Free throws — GC 16-20, RC 9-18. 3-point goals — GC 4 (H. Haffmann, Koenning 2, Matschek)
Next: Garden at Water Valley, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 8

ODESSA PERMIAN 72
ANDREWS 46

ODESSA — Four Lady Panthers scored in double figures during their 26-point win over the visiting Lady Mustangs at Permian High School on Thursday night.

Midyla Alvidrez led Andrews (1-4) with 18 points in the defeat, while teammate Taylor Bailey finished close behind with 16 points.

ODESSA PERMIAN 72, ANDREWS 46

Andrews (1-4) — Myranda Bejarano 0, Taylor Bailey 16, Kataya Bazan 0, Rae Johnson 0, Laura Olivas 0, Rylee Diaz 4, Lauren Hall 0, Mikyla Alvidrez 18, Belle Madrilez 0, Janey Leach 8
Permian — R. Jones 12, T. Fleming 13, K. Bledsoe 0, K. Ramzy 14, A. Kirk 14, K. Claxton 5, J. Nguyen 4, T. Lynch 0, M. Comer 10, A. Maywin 0

Andrews	7	12	16	11—46
Permian	21	21	14	15—72

Free throws — Andrews 4-10, Permian 9-22. 3-point goals — Andrews 4 (Alvidrez 3, Bailey 1), Permian 3 (Jones 2, Fleming 1). Total Fouls — Andrews 14, Permian 14

NO. 7 MCA 53
FORSAN 46, OT

FORSAN — Alissa Beattie scored 29 points to propel Midland Classical (4-1) to an overtime win over the Lady Buffaloes in Howard County.

MCA outscored Forsan, 11-4, in the overtime period to seal the victory.

Delanie Griffin finished second on MCA with 12 points, while junior Kendall Phillips chipped in with a team-high 12 points for the Lady Buffaloes.

MIDLAND CLASSICAL 53, FORSAN 46, OT

Midland Classical (4-1) — Alissa Beattie 29, Delanie Griffin 12, Ellen Haest 2, Lizabelle Russell 1, Makenna Beattie 9
Forsan — Lindsey Boeker 3, Madi Romen 7, Rhian Cunningham 3, Chasidy Grantham 6, Kendall Phillips 12, Kaylee Kemper 7, Jenna Evans 8

MCA	6	11	10	15	—11
Forsan	10	9	11	12	—4

Free throws — MCA 10-19, Forsan 14-23. 3-point goals — MCA 3 (A. Beattie), Forsan 3 (Roman 1, Phillips 2). Total fouls — MCA 16, Forsan 18.
Next: MCA at Monahans Tournament, Thursday

Boys

NO. 11 ABILENE WYLIE 56
MIDLAND HIGH 35

ABILENE — Midland High (0-3) could not keep pace with Wylie (3-0) after leading 15-14 after one quarter.

Wylie, the No. 11-ranked program in the TABC Class 4A rankings, outscored MHS 42-20 over the final three periods to win by a 21-point margin.

Jamel Jones led Midland High with 11 points, the only MHS player with double figures.

Midland High will travel to San Antonio to take place in the South San Tournament starting Thursday.

ABILENE WYLIE 56, MIDLAND HIGH 35

Midland High (0-3) — Jamel Jones 11, Andrew Norwood 7, Dillon Springer 6, Javonan Grimes 5, Shawn Rivers 3, Camran Rock 3
Wylie (3-0) — Dylan Isenhower 11, Chris Henderson 12, Casey Jeter 4, Stephen Lopez 8, Kade Brasell 2, Jeremy Ayers 6, Nick Boone 1, Evan Hoffmann 5, Kyler Christian 2, Kyle Roberts 5

MHS	15	7	4	9—35
Wylie	14	18	10	14—56

Free throws — Midland High 10-18, Wylie 2-6. 3-point goals — Midland High 1 (Rock), Wylie 8 (Lopez 2, Isenhower 1, Hoffmann 1, Henderson 4)
Next: Midland High at South San Antonio Tournament, Thursday

MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 78
DENVER CITY 52

Daniel Venzant poured in a game-high 29 points to lead Midland Christian to a blowout non-district victory over Denver City Tuesday night at the McGraw Events Center.

The Mustangs (5-3) also got 14 points from Bryce Waters and 12 from Jordan Riley.

MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 78, DENVER CITY 52

Denver City (0-1) — Cade Patterson 17, Damian Gutierrez 5, Edwin Villegas 6, Matthew Delarosa 4, Estevan Mendoza 10, Efron Villegas 4, Jesus Villalobos 6
Midland Christian (5-3) — Daniel Venzant 29, Ryne Rogers 3, Bryce Waters 14, Silas Crews 5, Jordan Riley 12, Colton Snively 2, Westin Elliott 8, Brett Thomason 2, Luke Watson 3

Denver City	14	13	9	16—52
Midland	11	21	18	28—78

Free throws — DC 13-21, MCS 9-12. 3-point goals — DC 1 (Gutierrez), MCS 9 (Venzant 3, Rogers, Waters 3, Riley, Watson). Total fouls — DC 12, MCS 18. Fouled out — None.
Next game: Midland Christian vs. OKC Storm North at Brock Tournament, noon Thursday

GRADY 69
COAHOMA 51

COAHOMA — No. 2-ranked Grady outscored Coahoma 39-25 in the second half to beat the Bulldogs in a non-district contest.

Kyler Franks had 17 points and Austin Sosa had 13 for Coahoma.

Grady improved to 4-0 on the year.

GRADY 69, COAHOMA 51

Grady (4-0) — Kyle Garza 9, Braeden Jones 11, Devynn Smith 2, Andrue Robles 2, Short 27, Alejandro Jimenez 3, Boydston 3, Cole Avery 12
Coahoma (3-2) — Adam Clark 5, Heath Britton 2, Austin Sosa 13, Mason Moore 6, Kyler Franks 17, Jon Bermea 4, Cade Ramsey 4

Grady	19	19	21	10	—69
Coahoma	18	8	5	20	—51

Free throws — Grady 12-20, Coahoma 7-15. 3-point goals — Grady 6 (Jones 2, Short 2, Jimenez, Boydston), Coahoma 7 (Sosa 2, Moore 2, Franks 2, Bermea). Total fouls — Grady 20, Coahoma 21. Fouled out — Clark, Franks, Ramsey
Next: Coahoma at Sweetwater, 6 p.m. Friday

NO. 9 MCA 56

FORSAN 41

FORSAN — The Midland Classical Academy boys got a game-high 19 points from Blake Gladson to run past Forsan on Tuesday in non-district action.

Heath Gladson tacked on 16 points for the Knights, which led, 31-23 at halftime.

No. 9 MCA 56, RANKIN 41

MCA (4-2) — Conrey Echols 6, Garrett Sparks 8, Heath Gladson 16, Blake Gladson 19, Marshall McCray 3, Cole Miller 2, Cade Miller 2, Cannon Echols 2, Kevin Giffin 3, Josh Rabe 3
Forsan — J. Evans 3, G. Evans 7, Cervantes 7, Mikeska 6, Valdez 8, W. Park 4, I. Park 4, McVee 2

MCA	21	10	16	9—56
Forsan	14	9	4	14—41

Free throws — MCA 3-6, Forsan 6-12. 3-point goals — MCA 5 (Echols 2, H. Gladson 2, B. Gladson), Forsan 1 (J. Evans). Total fouls — MCA 14, Forsan 10. Fouled out — none
Next: MCA vs. Reagan County at Rankin Tournament, 2 p.m. Thursday

LUBBOCK COOPER 55
GREENWOOD 43

Lubbock Cooper outscored Greenwood 29-21 in the second half to win by a double-digit margin at Greenwood High.

GHS (0-4) played a competitive first half, trailing Cooper by a narrow 26-22 margin at halftime.

Sammy Magallan led the Rangers with 18 points, while teammate Blake Eliott turned in a 17-point performance.

Greenwood resumes play Thursday with a pair of games versus Kermit and Littlefield at the Denver City Tournament.

LUBBOCK COOPER 55, GREENWOOD 43

Cooper (2-1) — Jarret Doege 8, AJ. Perez 3, Reagan Schulte 2, Conner Cowen 9, Braden Buckley 6, Trey Vasquez 6, Tanner Best 15
Pa Amah Murphy 4, Dusty Folsom 2
Greenwood — Sammy Magallan 18
Tyler James 1, Kelley Cooper 2, Seth Keeton 3, Blake Cain 2, Blake Elliott 17

Cooper	17	9	14	15—55
Greenwood	6	16	9	12—43

Free throws — Cooper 14-21, Greenwood 11-13. 3-point goals — Cooper 5 (Vasquez 2, Buckley 2, Doege 1), Greenwood 8 (Elliott 4, Keeton 1, Magallan 3). Total fouls — Cooper 12, Greenwood 19
Next: Greenwood vs. Kermit, 2 p.m. Thursday, Greenwood vs. Littlefield, 8 p.m. Thursday, in Denver City Tournament

OTHER AREA BOX
KERMIT 58, LAMESA 53

Kermit — Workman 27, Abalos 16, Porras 10, Hernandez 5, Melindez 4, Dingle 4
Lamesa (2-1) — Edwards 16, D. Smiley 12, Maxwell 6, Cunningham 5, Alexander 5, K. Smiley 4, Rodriguez 2, Darrington 2, Hunter 1

Kermit	8	21	18	19	—58
Lamesa	13	9	12	19	—53

Free throws — Kermit 25-34, Lamesa 13-25. 3-point goals — Kermit 5 (Abalos 4, Melinonz), Lamesa 4 (Edwards 2, D. Smiley, Cunningham). Total fouls — Kermit 18, Lamesa 27. Fouled out — Maxwell, Hunter
Next: Lubbock All-Saints at Lamesa, 2 p.m. Thursday

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NETS 94
SUNS 91

NEW YORK — Brook Lopez scored 23 points and the Brooklyn Nets beat the Phoenix Suns 94-91 on Tuesday night for their fourth straight home victory.

Brooklyn reserves Shane Larkin and Wayne Ellington each had 11 points and both made a basket in the brief flurry that helped the Nets win consecutive games for the first time this season. Jarrett Jack also scored 11 and added eight assists.

Brandon Knight scored 26 points and Eric Bledsoe had 17 for the Suns, who had a long dry spell from the field in the fourth quarter after leading by nine earlier in the period, then botched their final possession trailing by three with 4 seconds remaining.

76ERS 103
LAKERS 91

PHILADELPHIA — Kobe Bryant won over the fans — he just couldn't beat the previously winless Philadelphia 76ers.

With the spotlight on Bryant during the final game of his career in his hometown, the Sixers stole the show and defeated the Los Angeles Lakers 103-91 on Tuesday night for their first victory of the season.

GRIZZLIES 113
PELICANS 104

NEW ORLEANS — Marc Gasol scored a career-high 38 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, and the Memphis Grizzlies beat the New Orleans Pelicans 113-104 on Tuesday night.

WIZARDS 97
CAVALIERS 85

CLEVELAND — John Wall scored a season-high 35 points and the Washington Wizards handed the Cleveland Cavaliers their first home loss of the season, 97-85 on Tuesday night.

MAGIC 96
TIMBERWOLVES 93

MINNEAPOLIS — Nikola Vucevic had 18 points, 12 rebounds and four assists, and the Orlando Magic won their fourth straight game with a 96-93 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Tuesday night.

Elfrid Payton had 14 points, eight rebounds and five assists and Andrew Nicholson scored 15 for the Magic (10-8), who have won four straight for the first time since December 2012.

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	11	7	.611	—
Boston	10	8	.556	1
New York	8	10	.444	3
Brooklyn	5	13	.278	6
Philadelphia	3	15	.167	8½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	10	6	.625	—
Atlanta	12	8	.600	—
Charlotte	10	7	.588	½
Orlando	10	8	.556	1
Washington	7	9	.467	3½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	13	5	.722	—
Indiana	11	5	.688	1
Chicago	10	5	.667	1½
Detroit	8	9	.500	4
Milwaukee	7	11	.389	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	14	4	.778	—
Memphis	11	8	.579	3½
Dallas	10	8	.556	4
Houston	7	11	.389	7
New Orleans	4	14	.222	10

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	11	7	.611	—
Utah	8	8	.500	2
Minnesota	8	10	.444	3
Portland	7	11	.389	4
Denver	6	12	.333	5

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	19	0	1.000	—
L.A. Clippers	10	8	.556	8½
Phoenix	8	10	.444	10½
Sacramento	7	12	.368	12
L.A. Lakers	2	15	.118	16

Scores & schedule

Tuesday's Games
Washington 97, Cleveland 85

Philadelphia 103, L.A. Lakers 91
Brooklyn 94, Phoenix 91
Orlando 96, Minnesota 93
Memphis 113, New Orleans 104
Dallas at Portland, late

Today's Games
L.A. Lakers at Washington, 6 p.m.
Golden State at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
Phoenix at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Denver at Chicago, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Houston, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 8:30 p.m.

REBELS

From 1C

Packer said. "I hate losing, but that (Coronado) was a good team. We're going to get better and continue to grow."

James Lydia added 14 points for the Rebels, while Taye Britt pitched in seven. Coronado guard Blake Tunzon poured in a game-high 19 points for Coronado.

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

LUBBOCK CORONADO 69, LEE 47

Coronado (4-0) — Jarrett Culver 20, Christian Hayes 4, David Patton 2, J.J. Culver 11, Kaleb Washington 5, Blake Tunzon 19, Zach Stapp 13, Blair Cartwright 6, Desmond Gardner 2, Emarse 9

CHAPS

From 1C

decisions he's ever made.

"There's not much to do, which is a good thing because it's hard to find trouble unless you're looking for it," he said.

Francis and the Chaps now look to keep their 12-game winning streak going and get WJCAC play off to a great start.

"Everybody on the team seems to wants to do better for the other man than themselves," he said. "When you have a team like that, it makes it hard to get beat. Everybody right now understands their roles. Once you perfect your role, the sky's the limit for your team."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

Men's WJCAC standings

Team	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
Midland College	0	0	12	1
Odessa College	0	0	10	2
Clarendon College	0	0	9	2
Frank Phillips	0	0	10	3
New Mexico JC	0	0	9	3
Howard College	0	0	8	4
Western Texas	0	0	7	4
South Plains	0	0	8	4

Today's Games
Midland College at South Plains College; New Mexico Junior College at Odessa College; Howard College at Clarendon College; Frank Phillips College at New Mexico Military Institute; Western Texas College is open

Midland College at South Plains College

When/where: 7:30 p.m., Texan Dome, Levelland

Records: Midland College 12-1, 0-0 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference; South Plains 6-4, 0-0

Notes & Quotes: MC is riding a 12-game winning streak heading into the WJCAC opener. ... The Chaparrals are also coming off winning The Native American Classic in Arizona over the weekend as they defeated United Tribes Technical (106-77), Tohono O'odham (77-74) and Glendale College (95-72) over the weekend. ... MC coach Jordan Dreiling said the team really bonded on the road and its attitude was phenomenal in some tough environments. "I thought everybody encouraged each other really well and had each other's backs throughout," Dreiling said. "We're off to the start we wanted." ... Dreiling said despite South Plains' record, the Texans have been playing really good basketball the last couple of weeks. "They certainly didn't get off to the start they wanted, they have four losses, but they don't have a bad loss," Dreiling said. "I think they ironed things out and we're going to get an incredible test on the road. We're just going to keep getting better and think about what we need to do as team and not worry so much about everyone else's situation." ... The Texans are led by 6-foot-5 Che Bob, a Hutchinson CC transfer, who's averaging 17.5 ppg. Dreiling said 6-9 sophomore forward Marlon Jones (9.8 ppg) is another player to keep on eye on because of his experience playing in the WJCAC.

Next: Clarendon College at Midland College, 3:45 p.m. Saturday; South Plains College at Frank Phillips College, 3:45 p.m. Saturday

LADY CHAPS

From 1C

we should and make sure we're rebounding and talking on defense, just playing together, we'll be pretty good."

Dixon has had a good sophomore season so far, averaging 12.2 points per game and she has made 40 3-pointers this season, which is third best in the NJCAA.

But head coach Ron Jones has challenged Dixon to become a better all-around player.

"Something we have focused on with her is not just to be a scorer but to be a complete player, a rebounder, somebody who makes few mistakes on defense, things like that," Jones said. "She's one of the guards who's really increased her rebounding."

Dixon said she understands the improvements she's had to make and has already noticed a difference by getting more involved on the boards.

"Coach got on to me about making sure that as long if I out-rebound and out-box somebody then my overall game will flow more than it ever has," she said. "Being a rebounder has actually opened up a lot of things for me and my teammates.

"(This year) I think I'm more energized, I'm more passionate about (the game). Each time I'm learning new things, and by rebounding it just added more to my game."

Dixon and Jones agree that by the guards getting more involved with rebounding, has helped the Lady Chaps improve over the last few games.

"I think we have definitely improved with the guards rebounding, which has opened a lot of opportunities with our baskets," she said. "We've improved a lot just talking to each other and knowing that we have to be accountable for things we do as individuals. Once we're accountable, we know what to do to make this team stronger."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

Women's WJCAC standings

Team	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
Midland College	0	0	12	2
New Mexico JC	0	0	12	2
Odessa College	0	0	10	2
Western Texas	0	0	10	2
Howard College	0	0	10	3
South Plains	0	0	8	3
Frank Phillips	0	0	4	4
Clarendon College	0	0	5	8

Today's Games
Midland College at South Plains College; New Mexico Junior College at Odessa College; Howard College at Clarendon College; Frank Phillips College and Western Texas College are open

No. 20 Midland College at South Plains College

When/where: 5:45 p.m., Texan Dome, Levelland

Records: Midland College 12-2, 0-0 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference; South Plains 8-3, 0-0

Notes & quotes: Midland College has won three straight games, including two over the weekend at the Sonic Thanksgiving Classic in Odessa. MC defeated Cisco College (67-56) and Phoenix College (72-54). "I thought our energy was good and our guard rebounding improved a lot," Jones said. "We came up with some game accountability goals for our team and individuals that they have to meet. I think it was on their minds, so the guards, especially, got a lot of extra rebounds and extra possessions that way." ... Jones said he expect South Plains to be as tough as always on its home court. "They're very competitive, very athletic and we've got ourselves ready to go," Jones said. "I think our biggest challenge is just being consistent with our energy. When we match or exceed our opponents' intensity and we rebound like we should and take care of the ball, most nights we go out we should win." ...The all-freshmen Lady Texans have four players averaging in double figures, led by 5-foot-7 G Aliezza Brown with 18.1 ppg, while 5-8 F Taylor Holley is averaging 12.6 ppg. Guard Elizabeth Cera and 6-1 F Yanina Inkina are averaging just more than 10 points per game. ... Sophomore P Wainatia Wright leads MC with 16.6 points and 9.9 rebounds per game.

Next: Clarendon College at Midland College, 2 p.m. Saturday; South Plains College at Frank Phillips College, 2 p.m. Saturday

Former Sul Ross State volleyball coach Lynn dies

Associated Press

ALPINE — Billie Lynn, a former national champion volleyball coach at Sul Ross State, has died in New Mexico following a lengthy illness.

The school announced Tuesday that Lynn died Thanksgiving Day in Carlsbad, New Mexico, where she lived. Lynn was 86. She had cancer.

A graveside service was planned Friday in Carlsbad.

Lynn guided the Lady Lobos to back-to-back national titles. Her teams, in the 1969-70 and 1970-71 seasons, won the first two Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Volleyball National Championships.

Lynn was the mother of former Tennessee volleyball coach Sandy Lynn, who died in 2001 as a result of a fall while hiking near Carlsbad.

Column: Two icons near the end, as Father Time wins again

TIM DAHLBERG
AP sports columnist

One played into the final hours of the Thanksgiving weekend, laughing when a 3-pointer that would have kept his team in the game hit nothing but air.

The other stood at the same time on the sidelines on a snowy night in Denver, watching a much younger replacement help his team find a way to hand the New England Patriots their first loss of the year.

Kobe Bryant was going somewhat willingly, finally accepting that after 20 years of long nights on the hardwood neither his body nor his team were going to miraculously recover anytime in the near future. He could afford to laugh at himself because his future is clear after years of injuries and aborted comebacks.

Peyton Manning put his best game face on, but had to know his time is coming, if not here already. The Denver Broncos seem smitten with their new quarterback, and even if Manning recovers from his foot injury there's no guarantee he will get back on the field.

Both are in an awkward dance with Father Time that neither will win. Bryant, though at least has the consolation of going out on his own terms.

It's not a bad way to end a great career. Bryant is still getting paid an NBA-high $25 million to showcase his declining skills, and his immediate future includes a trip around the league where he will surely be serenaded by adoring crowds.

It's a farewell tour he will enjoy, even if there has been little to enjoy while watching Bryant and the hapless Lakers this year.

For Manning, there will be no sentimental swing around the league. There rarely is in the NFL, where you're only judged on your last game and there's always someone waiting in line to take your place.

Two iconic players. Two very different sports.

A season that began with some promise for Manning went south quickly when he was sidelined with a partially torn tendon in his foot. It's the kind of thing that happens to an aging player, and there were already plenty of indications Manning was nearing the end before he was unceremoniously ushered to the sidelines to cheer his teammates on.

It got worse Sunday night as he watched in the snow when Brock Osweiler led the kind of comeback the Broncos were used to getting from Manning. It came against the undefeated Patriots in prime time on NBC, and it may have sealed Manning's fate.

Nothing personal, just the way the NFL does business. One day you're breaking the NFL's all-time passing record, the next you're wondering if you still have a job.

Manning's victory lap will likely be from the bench. There's no public outcry from the Broncos faithful for him to return, and the offense favored by new coach Gary Kubiak doesn't suit his pass-happy talents.

If this is the end for Manning, he'll leave a conflicted legacy. Yes, he's the most prolific passer of all time, but with just one Super Bowl title in 18 years he doesn't even own the most rings in his family.

Both Bryant and Manning had great careers, yet both wanted more. They desperately chased it even as the years began to run out and their bodies began letting them down.

In the end they, like so many before them, couldn't find a way to beat Father Time.

LeBron on Kobe: 'I wanted to be just like him'

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — When he was a kid, LeBron James looked up on his bedroom wall where Kobe Bryant hung in reverence.

"I wanted to be just like him, man," James said Tuesday.

Two days after Bryant announced he would retire after this season, James expressed his gratitude and love for the U.S. Olympic teammate who pushed him to greatness and will leave the NBA as one of its most celebrated players.

Following Cleveland's morning shootaround before playing Washington James spent several minutes reflecting on Bryant's career and the impact he had on the Cavaliers star.

"We've always competed against one another and we always wanted to dethrone each other," James said. "But we always had that mutual respect because we knew how much we put into the game. I've always voiced my opinion about Kobe, how great Kobe is, and obviously there will never be another one of him in our league. Ever."

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THE ULTIMATE FOOTBALL CONTEST

A 'GRAND PRIZE' WEEKLY IN POWER POINTS CONTEST

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will carry this season's POWER POINTS Football Contest, which features a weekly grand prize of $1,000.

Along with other newspapers in the South region, the Midland Reporter-Telegram will publish the contest for 17 weeks, beginning September 6th. Entry forms publish every Sunday and Monday in the sports section.

In addition to the $1,000 regional grand prize, a local prize of a $50 gift card from Domino's Pizza will be awarded each week.

In POWER POINTS, the object of the game is to amass as many of the 136 possible points each week as you can. Contestants select winners from each week's list of games – mostly NFL action but with a smattering of top regional college games. Contestants pick their winners and plot them along a weighted point scale according to their confidence in them. Your highest-confidence pick goes on the 16-point line, your lowest-confidence pick on the 1-point line.

The contestant regionally who tallies the most of the 136 points each week wins $1,000. The local contestant who tallies the most of the 136 points is the local winner.

To enter the contest, drop off your entries at Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, Texas.

Weekly deadline for entry is 2 p.m. on Thursdays.

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52 FACES OF COMMUNITY

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PRESENTED BY CHEVRON ASPO THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY PRIME TIME — DECEMBER 2, 2015

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

		G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
BROADCAST	KMID ABC	3	3	4	3*	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Middle (N)	Goldberg (N)	Modern Family (N)	Black-ish (N)	Nashville "Three's a Crowd" (N)		KMID News	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
	KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	Survivor: Second Chances - Cambodia		Criminal Minds "Internal Affairs" (N)		Code Black "Cardiac Support" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert	(:35) J.Corden	
	KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	MacGyver "The Madonna"		Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Blind Man's Bluff"		McMillan and Wife
	KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Rosewood (N)		Empire "Et Tu, Brute?" (N)		TMZ	2 Broke Girls	Modern Family	Two and Half Men	Met Your Mother	Hot in Cleveland
	KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Mani Erfan	House Call	Update News	Israel Inspired	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Walking	Somebody Cares	Marvin Wilson	Biblical
	KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsWest 9 at 6 p.m.		Christmas Rockefeller (N)		Grinch Christmas	SNL Christmas fan-favorite	A compilation of holiday sketches.		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
	KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Nature "Jungle Eagles"		Nova "Extreme Cave Diving"		Held Hostage		Charlie Rose (N)		World News	Tavis Smiley
	KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Muchacha Italiana viene a casarse		Antes muerta que lichita		Pasion y poder		Yo no creo en los hombres		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
	KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Fam.Feud	Fam. Feud	Closer "Out of Focus"		The Closer		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Office	Access H.
PREMIUM	FLIX	340	575			165	(5:15) ★★ The Englis...		★★ Serendipity John Cusack.		(:35) ★★ Up Close and Personal					(:40) ★★ Critical Care		
	HBO	300	550	14		14	(5:20) ★★ The Theory of Everything		Real Sports		Get On		The Leftovers			★★ Fifty Shades of Grey		
	HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	Movie	(:45) The Latin Explosion			★★ Exodus: Gods and Kings ('14, Dra) Christian Bale.					Kareem: Minority of One		
	HBO5	304	552	16		102	Movie	★ The Judge ('14, Dra) Robert Duvall, Robert Downey Jr..					Girls	Girls	★ Blended ('14, Com) Adam Sandler.			
	MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:40) ★★ Face/Off ('97, Act) John Travolta.		The Knick				★★ Lucy Scarlett Johansson.		★ Sexual Wish List (2014, Adult)			
	MAX2	382	558	18	122		(:55) ★★ The Mexican Juke Roberts.						★ Ouija-('14, Hor) Olivia Cooke.		★★ Joe Dirt David Spade.	(:05) ★ Final Desti...		
	PLEX			96			(5:20) ★ Mixed Nuts		★★★★ The Buddy Holly Story				★★ Let It Ride Richard Dreyfuss.		(:35) ★★ Trojan War			
	SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	(4:45) ★ The Butler		Spymasters: CIA in the Crosshairs				Homeland		The Affair "209"		Inside the NFL	
	TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:00) ★ Last Vegas		★ The Lovers ('15, Act) Josh Hartnett.				★★ Judge Dredd			(:40) ★★★ Rounders		
CABLE	A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Duck Dynasty "Till Duck Do Us Part"		Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty "John Luke Gets Hitched"		Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty
	AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(4:30) ★★ Last Holiday		★★ Jingle All the Way				★★ Jingle All the Way				★ Are We There ...	
	BET	58	-		40		(5:00) ★ Good Deeds Tyler Perry.				Being Mary Jane		#TheWestbrooks (N)		#TheWestbrooks		Wendy Williams	
	BRAVO	65	76		41		Million Dollar List	Million Dollar List			Million Listing (N)		Top Chef (N)		(:15) Watch	(:45) Top Chef "Stop the Presses"		
	CNBC	46	52		39	72	Jay Leno's Garage		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Jay Leno Garage (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
	CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		This Is Life (N)		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360		This Is Life	
	DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Alaskan Bush People		Bush People (N)		Racing Extinction (P) (N)			(:35) Racing Extinction			(:10) Bush People	
	DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Friends	Liv Maddie	Bunk'd	Liv/Mad	Friends Whenever		Underc.	Austin	Jessie	Girl M.	So Raven	McGuire
	ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	Jimmy V /(:15) NCAA Basketball				(:15) NCAA Basketb. Big-10/ ACC Challenge (L)				(:15) SportsCenter			
	ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	Valvano /(:15) NCAA Basketball				(:15) NCAA Basketb. Big-10/ ACC Challenge (L)				(:15) Basketball (L)		NBA	NFL Live
	FAMILY	53	63	34	42	33	(5:00) ★ How The Grinch Stole...		(:45) ★★★ The Santa Clause ('94, Com) Tim Allen.						The 700 Club		★★ Snow	
	FNC	45	48	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
	FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Cutthroat Kitchen		Cutthroat Kitchen		Cutthroat (N)		Diners (N)	M. Diners	M. Diners	M. Diners	Cutthroat Kitchen	
	FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Cowboys (N)	Cowboys Legends	NCAA Basketball Southern Methodist University vs. TCU (L)				NCAA Basketball Vir. C./M.T. St. (L)		Adams' New Zealand		WPT Poker Borgata Classic	
	FX	31	56	59	64	69	Movie	★★★★ The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2					Amer. Horror (N)		(:05) Amer. Horror		(:10) Amer. Horror	
	HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	(5:00) ★ 12 Gifts of...		★ Northpole ('14, Dra) Tiffani Thiessen.				★ Matchmaker Santa		Lacey Chabert.		★ The Most Wond...	
	HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Property Brothers		Prop.Brothers (N)		Prop.Brothers (N)		H.Hunt	House (N)	Property Brothers		Prop.Brothers	
	HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers (N)		(:05) Christmas (N)		(:05) C'Mas "The 60s"		American Pickers	
	LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	(5:00) ★ The Real St. Nick Torrey DeVitto.		★ A Gift Wrapped Christmas ('15, Dra) Travis Milne, Meredith Hagner.				★★★★ Crazy for Christmas ('05, Dra) Howard Hesseman, Andrea Roth.				★ A Gift Wrapped Christmas	
	MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow	
	NBCSN	38	43				NHL Live! (L)		NHL Hockey New York Rangers at New York Islanders (L)					Overtime	NFLTP (N)	Football	Boxing	
	NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Talia (N)	Thunder	Nicky "Go Hollywood"		F.House	F.House	F.House		Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
	SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Movie	★★ The Fast and the Furious ('01, Act) Vin Diesel.					★★★★ Walking Tall				★ The Fast & the F.	
	SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:30) ★★★ Underworld Kate Beckinsale.						★★ Underworld: Evolution			★★ Underworld: Rise of the Lycans		
	TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Seinfeld	Seinf. "The Fix-Up"	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan (N)		2 Broke Girls	Conan
	TCM	41	75	24	63	66	Movie	MGM Par.	★ To Be Announced		★★★★ Guys and Dolls ('55, Mus) Marlon Brando.					(:45) ★★★★★ Pal Joey		
	TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		Celia		Bajo el mismo cielo		Señora acero		Al rojo	(:35) Titular.	Bajo el mismo cielo	
	TLC	51	61	32	38	52	My 600-lb Life "Ashley's Story"		My 600-lb Life "Christina's Story"		My 600-lb Life "Marla's Story"		My 600-lb Life "Bettie Jo's Story"		My 600-lb Life "Ashley's Story"		My 600-lb Life "Christina's Story"	
	TNT	24	34	40	26	50	Castle "Little Girl Lost"		★★ Limitless (2011, Mystery) Anna Friel, Bradley Cooper.				★★★★ Red (2010, Action) Mary-Louise Parker, John Malkovich, Bruce Willis.				CSI: NY "Cavallino Rampante"	
	TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	FactsLife	FactsLife	FactsLife	(:50) Ray	(:25) Loves Ray		Younger	Younger	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
	USA	26	55	42	27	49	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Vanity's Bonfire"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Lessons Learned"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Dreams Deferred"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Presumed Guilty"		Modern "Pilot"	Modern Family	Chrisley Knows	Donny!
	WGN	19	85				Person of Interest "Reasonable Doubt"		Person of Interest "Razgovor"		Person of Interest "Mors Praerpatura"		Person of Interest "Reasonable Doubt"		Manhattan "Human Error"	(:05) Met Mother	Met Your Mother	

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Tiger Woods has no timetable on healing or playing

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

NASSAU, Bahamas — Tiger Woods painted a bleak picture Tuesday on when he can return to golf or even get back to doing anything more than just walking.

Woods

Woods had two back surgeries in a span of 18 months followed by what he described only as another "procedure" in the same area last month. He has not started rehabilitation and does not know when his back will allow for that.

"The hardest part for me is there's really nothing I can look forward to, nothing I can build toward," Woods said. "It's just taking it literally just day by day and week by week and time by time."

Woods is at the Hero World Challenge as the tournament host, not one of the 18 players at Albany Golf Club. The only time he touched a club was to pose for a photo, and he leaned on it while talking to Justin Rose and Zach Johnson on the putting green.

A month away from turning 40, the smile did come as easily for Woods.

He has not competed since Aug. 23 at the Wyndham Championship in Greensboro, North Carolina, where he attracted record crowds in his first appearance and played his best golf of a bad year. He went into the final round two shots behind and tied for 10th.

He didn't realize that would be his last event of the year, and last tournament for longer than he knows.

"Was it a surprise? Yeah," Woods said. "Because as I was alluding to that week and subsequent weeks, I felt my hip was killing me and I didn't think it was coming from my back. We worked out in the trailer each and every day and just tried to loosen up my hip. And OK, fine, we went out and played. But I didn't feel any back discomfort.

"Come to find out it wasn't my hip, it was coming from my back."

He had another microdiscectomy Sept. 16 and then he revealed Oct. 30 another "procedure," which he said was in the same spot. Asked the degree to which he can function, Woods said, "I walk. I walk and I walk some more."

Woods, who has spent 683 weeks at No. 1 in the world ranking, is now at No. 400, his lowest as a professional. He has not won since the Bridgestone Invitational in 2013, when he was the PGA Tour player of the year.

And now he can't even begin to imagine when he might play again.

"I have no answer for that, and neither does my surgeon or my physios," he said. "There is no timetable."

GOLF GLANCE

PGA TOUR
HERO WORLD CHALLENGE
Site: Albany, Bahamas.
Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
Course: Albany (7,400 yards, par 72).
Purse: $3.5 million. Winner's share: $1 million.
Television: Golf Channel (Thursday-Friday, noon-3 p.m., 3:30-6:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 4:30-7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 5-10 p.m.) and NBC (Saturday, 1:30-4 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4 p.m.).
Field: Paul Casey, Rickie Fowler, Bill Haas, J.B. Holmes, Billy Horschel, Dustin Johnson, Zach Johnson, Chris Kirk, Brooks Koepka, Matt Kuchar, Anirban Lahiri, Hideki Matsuyama, Patrick Reed, Justin Rose, Adam Scott, Jordan Spieth, Jimmy Walker, Bubba Watson.
Last year: Spieth won by a record 10 strokes, finishing at 26-under 262 at Isleworth in Florida. Tournament host Tiger Woods tied for last in the 18-man field.
Notes: The top-ranked Spieth and Scott tied for second last week in the Australian Open. Spieth won the Masters and U.S. Open, led the PGA Tour with the victories, took the FedEx Cup and was awarded the player of the year. The 22-year-old Texan made a tour-record $12,030,465, earned a $10 million bonus for the FedEx Cup and won the Vardon Trophy for lowest adjusted scoring average. ... The Albany resort is owned by the Tavistock Group. Woods and Ernie Els. Els designed the course. ... The Franklin Templeton Shootout is next week in Naples, Florida.
Online: http://www.pgatour.com

EUROPEAN TOUR/SUNSHINE TOUR
HEIDBANE GOLF CHALLENGE
Site: Sun City, South Africa.
Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
Course: Gary Player Country Club (7,831 yards, par 72).
Purse: $6.5 million. Winner's share: $1.25 million.
Television: Golf Channel (Thursday-Friday, 2-9 a.m.; Saturday, 2-9 a.m.; 1:30-4 p.m.; Sunday, 2-9 a.m., 1-4 p.m.).
Last year: England's Danny Willett closed with a 6-under 66 for a four-stroke victory.
Last week: South Africa's Charl Schwartzel won the Alfred Dunhill Championship for the fourth time, beating France's Gregory Bourdy by four strokes at Leopard Creek.
Notes: Schwartzel and Willett are in the field. ... Americans Keegan Bradley, Webb Simpson, Ryan Palmer, Robert Streb and Scott Piercy are playing. ... The November 2016 event will be part of the European Tour's Finals Series.
Online: http://www.europeantour.com
Sunshine Tour site: http://sunshinetour.com

PGA TOUR OF AUSTRALASIA/EUROPEAN TOUR
AUSTRALIAN PGA CHAMPIONSHIP
Site: Gold Coast, Australia.
Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
Course: RACV Royal Pines Resort (7,384 yards, par 72).
Purse: $1.27 million. Winner's share: $228,730.
Television: Golf Channel (Wednesday-Thursday, 7 p.m.-2 a.m.; Friday-Saturday, 7 p.m.-midnight).
Last year: Australia's Greg Chalmers won with a par when Adam Scott three-putted for bogey on the seventh hole of a playoff. Webb Simpson was eliminated on the third extra hole.
Last week: Australia's Matt Jones won the Australian Open at The Australian in Sydney, beating top-ranked Jordan Spieth and Adam Scott by a stroke.
Notes: American Brandt Snedeker is in the field. ... The event moved to Royal Pines in 2013 after part of the Coolum course was turned into a dinosaur theme park.
Online: http://championship.pga.org.au
PGA Tour of Australasia site: http://www.pgatour.com.au
European Tour site: http://www.europeantour.com

OTHER TOURNAMENTS
MEN
CHAMPIONS TOUR: Champions Tour Qualifying Tournament, through Friday, TPC Scottsdale, Champions Course, Scottsdale, Arizona. Online: http://www.pgatour.com
JAPAN GOLF TOUR: Golf Nippon Series JT Cup, Thursday-Sunday, Tokyo Yomiuri Country Club, Tokyo. Online: http://www.jgto.org
ASIAN TOUR: Ho Tram Open, Thursday-Sunday, The Bluffs Ho Tram Strip, Ho Tram, Vietnam. Online: http://www.asiantour.com
PGA TOUR LATINOAMERICA: PGA Tour Latinoamerica Tour Championship, Thursday-Sunday, Dorado Beach Resort, Dorado, Puerto Rico. Online: http://www.pgatourla.com
WOMEN
LPGA TOUR: LPGA Tour Qualifying Tournament, Wednesday-Sunday, LPGA International, Jones Course, Hills Course, Daytona Beach, Florida. Online: http://www.lpga.com
JAPAN LPGA TOUR/LADIES EUROPEAN TOUR: The Queens, Friday-Sunday, Miyazaki Country Club, Aichi, Japan. Television: Golf Channel (Saturday-Sunday, 1-3 a.m.). Online: http://www.lpga.or.jp and http://www.ladieseuropeantour.com

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

Each set of letters below is arranged alphabetically, and the ? is in the correct alphabetical position. Figure out what letter the ? represents, and then rearrange the letters to spell a six-letter word. For example, in DL?PRUY the ? could be an L, M, N, O or P. Here it represents an O, which can be combined with the other letters to spell PROUDLY. We've given you the first letter to get you started.

A C ? S T W
S _ _ _ _ _

B H I O P ?
B _ _ _ _ _ _

B C ? L O T
B _ _ _ _ _ _

Yesterday's Answer: BARHOP, PATCHY, PROMPT, POETRY

12.2

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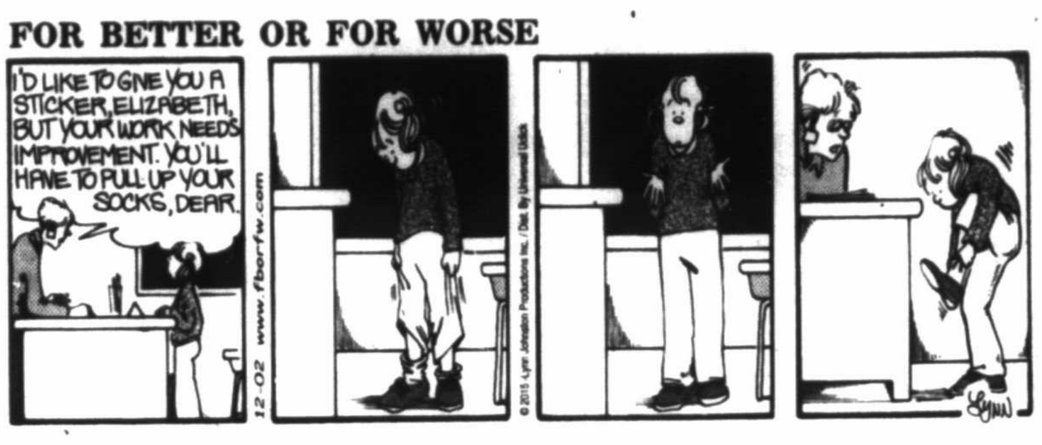


FUNKY WINKERBEAN

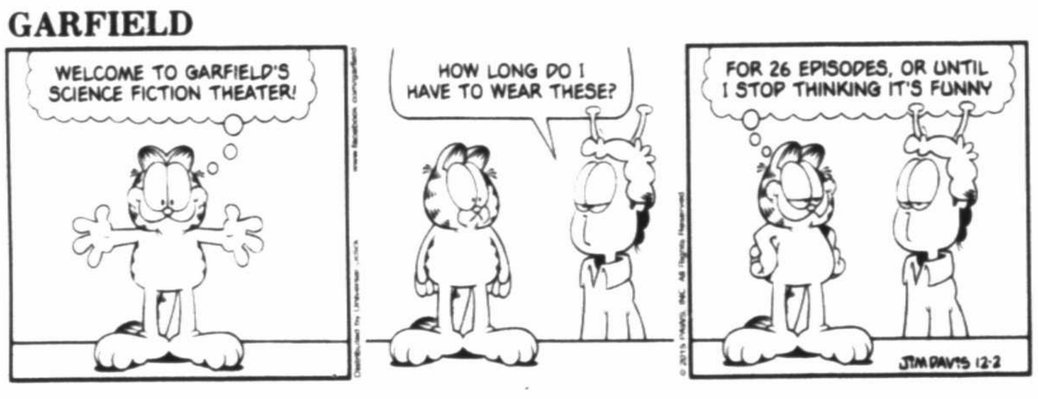
BLONDIE

BEETLE BAILEY

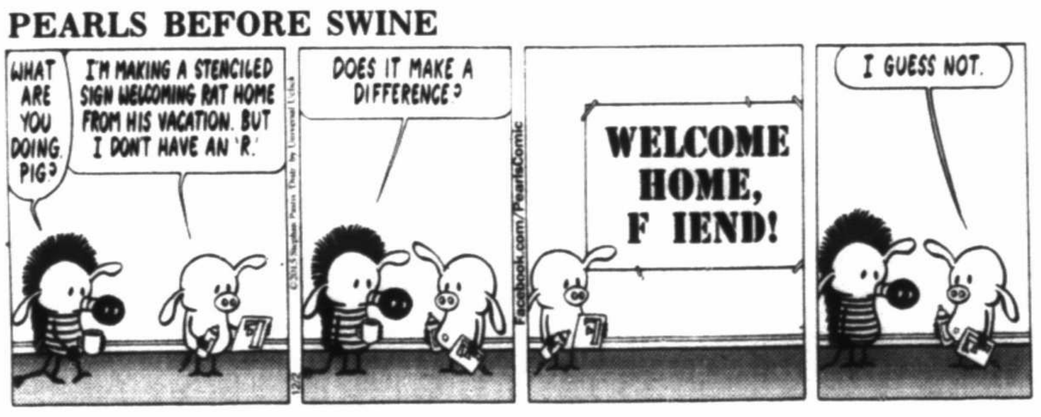
CLASSIC PEANUTS

SHOE

GARFIELD

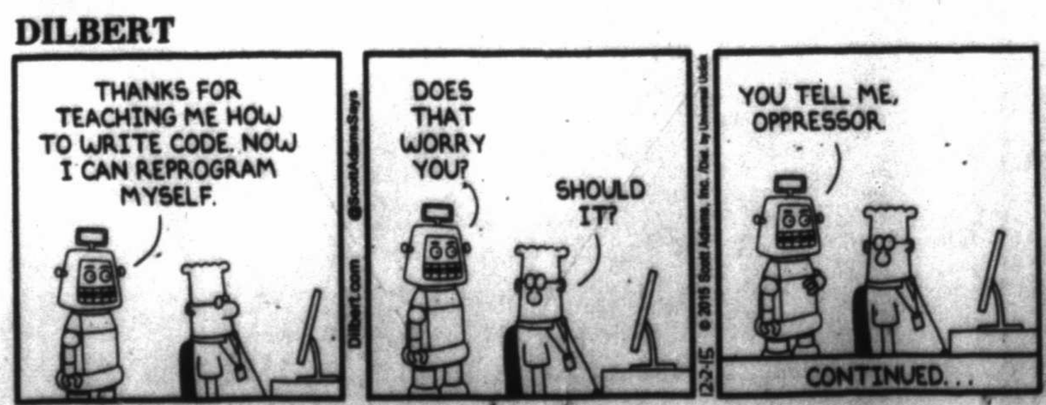


PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID

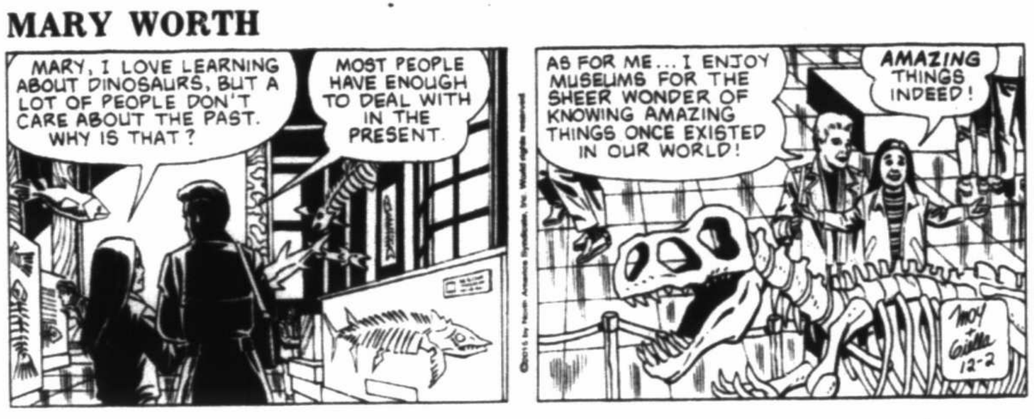
DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

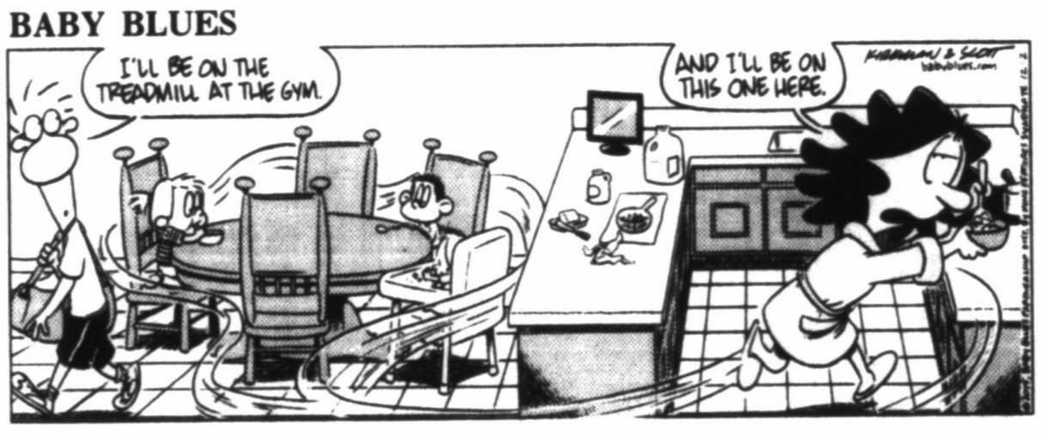
LUANN

MARY WORTH



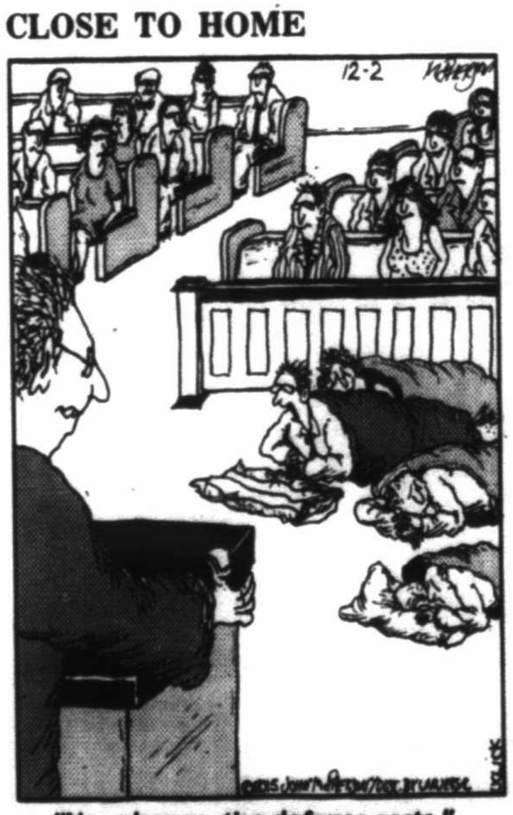
ZITS

BABY BLUES



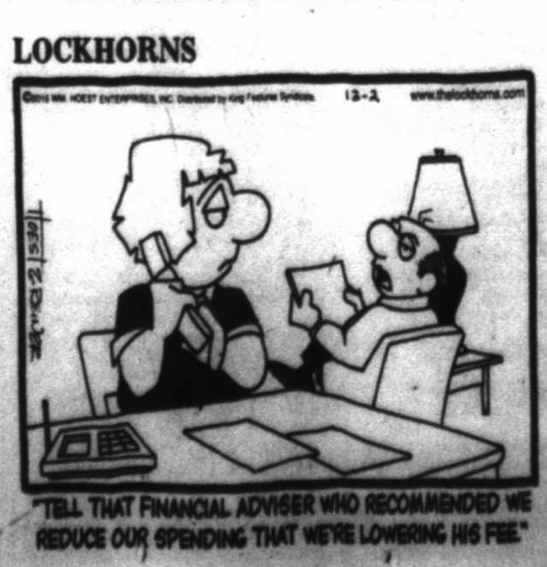
MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME



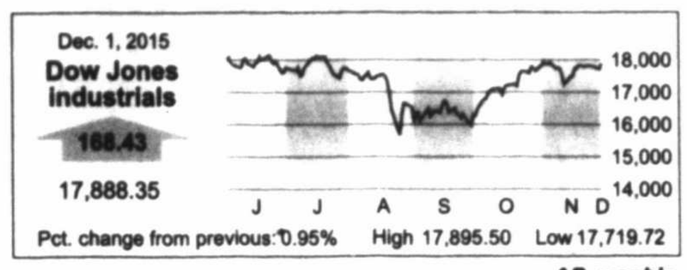
DENNIS THE MENACE

LOCKHORNS

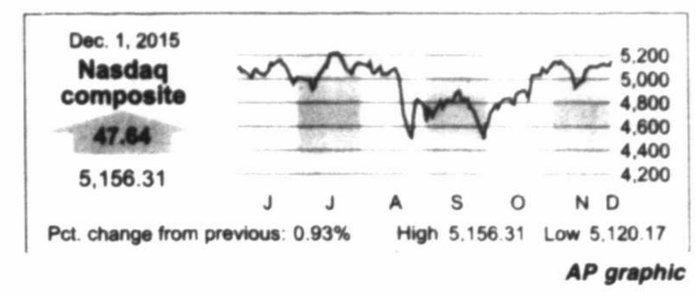


FAMILY CIRCUS

A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



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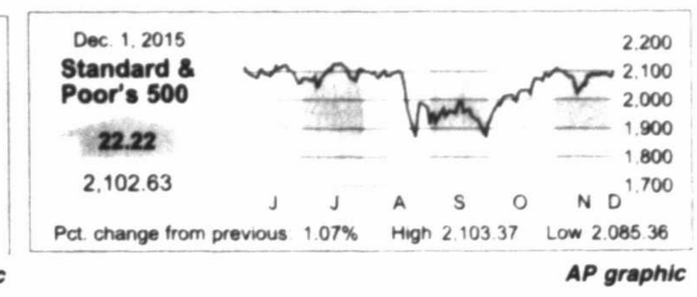

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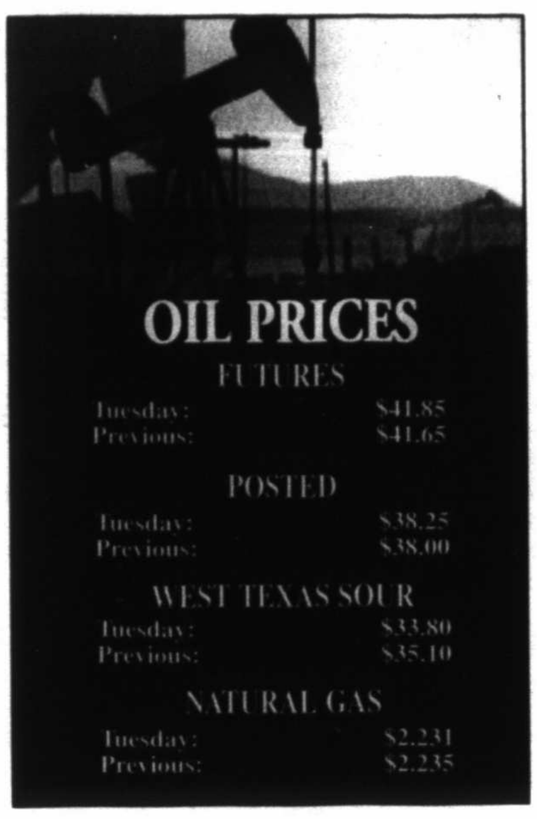

Gulf oil spill: Judge fines minority owner $159M

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — A federal judge says a minority owner of the well that spewed 130 million gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico in 2010 must pay $159.5 million in Clean Water Act fines.

Judge Carl Barbier noted in Monday's opinion that prosecutors wanted significantly more than $1 billion but significantly less than the maximum $3.5 billion.

In a statement, Anadarko Petroleum Corp. of Houston said it's pleased the penalty is less than what prosecutors requested, but it might appeal.

Justice Department spokesman Wyn Hornbuckle said in an email that the department is pleased Anadarko is being held accountable.

Anadarko owned 25 percent of the Macondo well but had no say in its operations.

Operator and majority owner BP PLC settled environmental damage claims this year for $20 billion.

The Macondo well exploded in April 2010, killing 11 workers.

US auto sales hit 14-year high in November

Associated Press

DETROIT — November used to be a slow month for U.S. car sales. Not anymore.

Black Friday promotions — some of which began well before Thanksgiving — pushed last month's sales to a 14-year high of 1.3 million, just short of a record for the month. Sales were up 1.4 percent from last November, according to Autodata Corp.

General Motors' sales rose 1.5 percent, while Toyota and Fiat Chrysler each saw 3 percent sales gains. Hyundai's sales jumped 12 percent, while Nissan's were up 4 percent. Ford's sales were flat.

Honda's sales fell 5 percent, hurt by lower CR-V sales. But the biggest sales decline was at Volkswagen. VW's U.S. sales plummeted almost 25 percent, hurt by the company's admission that its diesel vehicles cheated on emissions tests.

November was a notoriously slow sales month until about five years ago, when car dealers joined other retailers in promoting Black Friday, according to Edmunds analyst Jessica Caldwell. Now, like Amazon, Wal-Mart and others, dealers start advertising Black Friday deals as early as Halloween. Jeep offered zero percent financing for up to 75 months. GM teased savings of up to 20 percent of for its Buick, Chevrolet and GMC brands. Hyundai offered an extra $500 on the Sonata sedan between Nov. 20 and Nov. 30.

Ford's U.S. sales chief Mark LaNeve said sales got progressively stronger in November, and the last day of the month was one of the best this year.

Deals can be dangerous for the auto industry because they cut into profits and lower vehicles' resale value. Incentives have been creeping upward since 2011; in November, they rose an estimated $172 over last year to $3,066 per vehicle, according to the car buying site TrueCar.com.

But Eric Lyman, vice president for industry insights at TrueCar, says the gradual increase isn't a worrisome trend for the industry. For one thing, companies are making more profit per vehicle than they used to because they're selling more expensive SUVs and trucks. The average sale price of a vehicle last month was $32,966, up 1 percent from the previous month.

Automakers are also trying to capture as many sales as they can in the boom years before sales inevitably slow. Rising interest rates, higher gas prices and other factors are all expected to stall auto sales sometime in the next few years.

"It's kind of like, make hay while the sun shines," Lyman said.

And the sun is certainly shining. Last week, sales forecasting firm LMC Automotive said sales are now likely to reach a record 17.5 million in 2015.

For November, automakers said:

■ GM's sales rose 1.5 percent to 229,296. Chevrolet and Cadillac brand sales were up but fell at Buick and GMC. Sales of GM's best-seller, the Silverado pickup, rose 5 percent.

■ Toyota's sales rose 3 percent to 189,517. In a sign of the impact of lower gas prices, sales of the RAV4 SUV jumped nearly 30 percent while Prius hybrid sales were down 10 percent.

■ Ford's sales were up less than 1 percent to 187,794. A 10-percent increase in F-Series pickup sales couldn't overcome lower sales of key vehicles like the Escape SUV and Fusion sedan.

■ FCA's sales rose 3 percent to 175,974, powered by a 20-percent increase in Jeep sales. Ram truck sales rose 1 percent. Dodge, Fiat and Chrysler sales all fell.

■ Honda's sales fell 5 percent to 115,441. The company was hurt by an 18-percent decline in sales at its Acura luxury brand.

■ Nissan's sales rose 4 percent to 107,083. Truck and SUV sales jumped 15 percent, but Leaf electric car sales dropped 60 percent.

■ Hyundai's sales rose 12 percent to 60,007. Sales of its newly redesigned Tucson SUV nearly doubled over last November.

Stocks advance

Stocks started off December on a strong note, helped by improving economic data from Japan and Europe as well as hopes that the European Central Bank will expand its stimulus program.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 168.43 points, or 1 percent, to 17,888.35. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 22.22 points, or 1.1 percent, to 2,102.63 and the Nasdaq composite rose 47.64 points, or 0.9 percent, to 5,156.31.

Financial stocks were among the biggest gainers, helped by the prospect of higher interest rates. Banks are more profitable when interest rates rise because they can charge more to lend. JPMorgan Chase rose 93 cents, or 1.4 percent, to $67.61. Goldman Sachs rose $3.05, or 1.6 percent, to $193.07 and Bank of America rose 38 cents, or 2.2 percent, to $17.81.

Investors are keyed into both the European Central Bank and the Federal Reserve this month.

"As it has been most of this year, central banks are still running the show," said Samantha Azzarello, global market strategist at J.P. Morgan Funds.

Gold drops

Gold fell $1.80, or 0.2 percent, to $1,063.50 an ounce; silver was roughly unchanged at $14.08 an ounce and copper rose two cents, or 1 percent, to $2.072 a pound.

NYSE

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
SunEdison	950468	3.49	+.30
S&P500ETF	915356	210.68	+1.99
BkofAm	729501	17.81	+.38
iShEMkts	543795	34.25	+.26
GenElec	531811	30.17	+.23

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Acorn rs	19.20	+16.73	+677.3
Infoblox	18.35	+3.31	+22.0
VinceHldg	5.80	+.62	+12.0
ValeantPh	98.78	+6.82	+9.8
AssocCap n	33.20	+2.97	+9.8

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NQ Mobile	3.49	-.72	-17.1
JoyGlbl	13.33	-2.02	-13.2
MPLX LP	37.83	-5.11	-11.9
EnduroRT	3.20	-.38	-10.6
Metaldyn n	20.30	-2.22	-9.9

Diary

Advanced	2,213
Declined	924
Unchanged	83
Total issues	3,220
New Highs	107
New Lows	52
Volume	3,592,207,238

Amex

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
B2gold g	46594	1.15	+.05
NwGold g	39520	2.36	+.15
Globalstar	24344	2.15	-.03
CheniereEn	23992	46.72	-.83
VimetX	22878	3.07	+.47

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
VimetX	3.07	+.47	+18.1
EnviroStr	3.72	+.25	+7.2
NwGold g	2.36	+.15	+6.8
IssuerDir	6.41	+.41	+6.8
IDI rs	9.61	+.61	+6.8

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
YumaE pfA	4.20	-1.55	-27.0
StrPathCm	10.84	-1.16	-9.7
Gastar pfB	12.24	-1.31	-9.7
SnchzEP rs	14.00	-1.49	-9.6
AvalonHld	2.13	-.21	-9.0

Diary

Advanced	226
Declined	150
Unchanged	28
Total issues	404
New Highs	3
New Lows	9
Volume	70,571,058

Nasdaq

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Microsoft	383918	55.22	+.87
Apple Inc	333153	117.34	-.96
TerraFmP	311478	9.15	+2.25
Cisco	302494	27.57	+.32
PwShs QQQ	265045	115.16	+1.14

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
GigaTr h	2.58	+1.47	+132.4
DehaierMd	3.04	+1.34	+78.8
KingtoneW	4.38	+1.39	+46.5
GlobeImmu	4.63	+1.21	+35.4
DeltaTch n	2.23	+.57	+34.3

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Repros wtB	2.31	-5.19	-69.2
BonTon	2.14	-.54	-20.1
TrovaGn wt	3.39	-.83	-19.6
Identive rt	2.49	-.46	-15.6
OneGpHosp	2.68	-.47	-14.9

Diary

Advanced	1,620
Declined	1,178
Unchanged	175
Total issues	2,973
New Highs	120
New Lows	62
Volume	1,952,552,950

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $58.00 Up 1.59

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $111.91 Up 2.47

Dawson Operating (DWSN)
Closing Price $4.55 Up 0.12

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $78.20 Up 0.18

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $2.95 Down 0.17

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $2.44 Unchanged

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $23.35 Up 0.13

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $28.02 Down 0.36

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $10.08 Up 0.11

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $15.78 Up 0.53

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc	1.88	37	33.77	+.10	+.5
Abraxas	...	7	1.32	...	-55.1
AdaDvreEq	.92a	...	13.05	+.06	-4.6
Alcoa	.12	15	9.48	+.12	-40.0
Alibaba	...	53	84.00	-.08	-19.2
AlonUSA	.60	11	17.83	+.24	+40.7
AlpAlerMLP	1.19e	...	12.08	-.18	-31.1
Ambev	.45e	...	4.81	+.04	-22.0
Amgen	3.16	19	161.96	+.88	+1.7
Anadarko	1.00	...	60.50	+.80	-26.7
Apache	1.00	...	48.15	-.05	-21.6
Apple Inc	2.08	13	117.34	-.96	+6.3
ApldMatl	.40	17	19.18	+.41	-23.0
Archrock	.60	33	10.88	+.31	-44.8
AsecntSol	...	...	.15	+.04	-85.7
ATMOS	1.68f	20	62.59	+.28	+12.3
AutoDats	2.12f	28	87.56	+1.30	+5.0
BP PLC	2.40	...	34.77	+.17	-8.8
BabeCClinv	1.20	...	17.29	+.34	+8.8
BakrHu	.58	...	54.76	+.86	-2.3
BcoBrad s	.44e	...	5.36	...	-51.9
BkofAm	.20	13	17.81	+.38	-4
B IPVixST	...	...	17.98	-.92	-42.9
BarrickG	.08	21	7.60	+.26	-29.3
BasicEnSv	...	...	4.01	+.02	-42.8
BerkHa A	...	19204945.00	+3585.00		-9.3
BillHillsCp	1.62	28	43.09	+.17	-18.8
BrltlySq	1.48	66	68.26	+1.25	+15.6
BrownFA	1.36f	36	114.37	+1.16	+30.3
BrownFB	1.36f	32	103.89	+1.09	+18.3
CVS Health	1.40	21	95.45	+1.36	-.9
Cameron	...	18	68.93	+.84	+38.0
Caterpillar	3.08	14	71.56	-1.09	-21.8
Celestic g	...	14	11.37	+.09	-3.2
Cemex	.40t	...	6.25	-.05	-36.2
CntryLink	2.16	20	27.03	+.10	-31.7
ChesEng	...	...	5.51	+.24	-71.8
Chevron	4.28	20	92.48	+1.16	-17.8
Chicos	.31	53	12.18	+.16	-25.0
Cimarex	.84	...	122.29	+3.27	+15.4
Cisco	.84	15	27.57	+.32	-.2
ClayEng	...	...	66.00	+1.89	-9.1
CocaCola	1.32	27	42.89	+.27	+1.6
ColgPalm	1.52	24	68.83	+.16	-4.9
ConAgra	1.00	27	40.89	-.04	+12.7
ConchoRes	...	67	111.91	+2.47	+12.2
ConocoPhil	2.96	61	54.61	+.56	-20.9
ConsolEngy	.04	...	8.65	+.77	-74.4
CrackerB	4.40a	18	124.27	-1.65	-11.7
CSVLgNG rs	...	...	2.56	+.01	-87.1
CSVLgCrd rs	...	...	...	6.79	...
-86.1					
CSVeltVST	...	...	31.15	+1.30	...
CSVixSh rs	...	...	5.52	-.44	-80.0
CrosTim	1.55e	8	15.77	-.19	-8.9
Cummins	3.90	10	92.41	-7.96	-35.9
DCP Mid	3.12	13	24.63	-.77	-45.8
DTE	2.92f	15	80.67	+.18	-6.6
Dataram	...	...	1.02	...	-40.0
DevonE	.96	...	46.49	+.48	-24.0
Disney	1.32f	22	116.39	+1.92	+22.5
DowChm	1.84f	14	53.42	+1.29	+17.1
eBay s	...	16	29.05	-.54	+24.6
EDG Resrcs	.67	...	84.06	+.62	-8.7
EmpDist	1.04	17	22.94	+.17	-22.9
Energen	.08	...	59.60	+.31	-6.5
EgyTrEq s	1.14f	21	19.14	+.20	-33.3
EngyTslr	4.22f	...	37.48	-.73	-42.3
EnPro	.80	...	51.32	+1.18	-18.2
EntProdPt	1.54f	20	25.20	-.19	-30.2
Ericsson	.39e	...	9.53	-.16	-21.2
ExxonMbl	2.92	17	81.89	+.23	-11.4
Facebook	...	...	107.12	+2.86	+37.3
FordM	.60	12	14.56	+.23	-6.1
FreeSea hrs	...	...	.03	...	-99.9
FrptMcM	.20a	...	8.33	+.15	-64.3
GATXr	1.52	9	46.74	+.44	-18.8
GabelMulT	.54e	...	8.15	+.06	-16.6
GAInv	1.15e	...	32.82	+.17	-7.1
GenElec	.92	...	30.17	+.23	+19.4
GenMotors	1.44	13	36.26	+.06	+3.9
GigaTr h	...	...	2.58	+1.47	+80.4
GtBasGs f	...	...	.21	-.01	-91.6
GtPlainEn	1.08f	20	27.11	+.12	-4.6
HP Inc	.50	...	12.74	+.20	-30.1
HalconRes	...	...	.59	-.02	-69.7
Halliblrtn	.72	59	40.49	+.73	+2.7
Hertz	...	...	15.48	-.38	-37.9
HP Ent n	.22	...	15.61	+.75	-5.7
iShBrazil	1.03e	...	22.58	+.06	-38.3
iShJapan	.13e	...	12.57	+.19	+11.8
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	37.63	+.18	-9.6
iShEMkts	.84e	...	34.25	+.26	-12.8
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	61.29	+.64	+.7
iShR2K	1.68e	...	119.89	+.79	+.2
Intel	.96	15	35.09	+.32	-3.3
InterDig	.80	20	52.92	+.23	...
ItauUnibH	.40e	...	7.14	+.07	-39.6
JD.com	...	...	31.50	+.82	+36.1
JPMorgCh	1.76	12	67.61	+.93	+8.7
JohnJn	3.00	19	102.36	+1.12	-2.1
JoyGlbl	.80	5	13.33	-2.02	-71.3
KimbClk	3.52	64	121.13	+1.98	+4.8
KindMorg	2.04f	42	22.42	-1.15	-47.0
LegacyRes	.60m	...	2.95	-.17	-74.2
Lullys	...	...	4.78	...	+5.1
MktVGold	.12e	...	14.16	+.40	-23.0
McDnlds	3.56f	24	114.45	+.29	+22.1
Merck	1.84f	15	54.57	+1.56	-3.9
MerltMed	...	33	19.70	+.33	+13.7
MexcoEn	...	...	...	...	-55.1
MicronT	...	7	16.55	+.62	-52.7
Microsoft	1.44f	37	55.22	+.87	+18.9
MorgStan	.60	12	35.27	+.97	-9.1
Nabors	.24	...	10.37	+.26	-20.1
NatGrid	3.35e	...	69.71	+.26	-1.3
NOilVarco	1.84	10	37.72	+.38	-42.4
NetElem h	...	...	.42	+.18	-63.0
Netflix s	...	...	125.37	+2.04	+156.9
NvMdAd	.79e	...	13.42	+.01	-1.8
NvPMI	.78e	...	13.37	+.03	-4.3
NuvPt	.82a	...	13.71	+.02	-1.1
NSTPI3	.55e	...	14.08	+.04	-1.1
NTXQI	.55e	...	13.94	+.01	-3.6
OcciPet	3.00	33	76.69	+1.10	-4.9
Oracle	.60	18	39.23	+.28	-12.8
ParTech	...	...	7.39	+.40	+17.1
ParkDril	...	...	2.71	-.04	-11.7
PetMDI	.40	...	16.20	-.02	-2.4
PayPal n	...	...	35.17	-.09	-4.2
PennaRE	.84	...	21.70	+.14	-7.5
Primian	.40e	10	6.28	-.17	-34.2
Petrobras	...	...	4.74	-.03	-35.1
Pfizer	1.12	25	33.62	+.85	+7.9
PioNtrl	.08	29	149.25	+4.50	+.3
PlainsAAP	2.80f	14	24.66	-.12	-51.9
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	115.16	+1.14	+11.5
Praxair	2.86	21	112.03	-.77	-13.5
PrmEgy	...	25	53.80	+.30	-26.0
PUVixST rs	...	...	24.64	-2.23	-80.4
ProctGam	2.65	27	75.94	+1.10	-16.6
RangeRs	16	17	28.55	-.03	-46.6
RegionsFn	24	15	10.25	+.11	-2.9
Rowan	40	...	20.46	+.13	-12.3
RoyDShllA	3.76	12	50.10	+.34	-25.2
SpdrDJIA	3.90e	...	178.81	+1.58	+.5
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	210.68	+1.99	+2.5
SpdrLehHY	2.12	...	35.33	-.03	-8.5
SabnR	3.24e	10	33.26	+.32	-7.0
SanderFm	.88a	6	71.75	-3.06	-14.6
SandRidge	...	...	.32	+.01	-82.6
Schlmbrg	2.00	26	78.17	+1.02	-8.5
SiriusXM	...	42	4.16	+.05	+18.9
Smucker	2.68	34	120.81	-.38	+19.6
SwstnEngy	...	...	8.91	-.10	-67.4
Sprint	...	...	3.63	-.02	-12.5
SP Engy	1.98e	...	68.56	+.54	-13.4
SPDR Fncl	.44e	...	24.83	+.27	+.4
SP Util	1.55e	...	43.16	+.34	-8.6
SunEdison	...	...	3.49	+.30	-82.1
SunocoLog	1.83f	...	27.89	+.02	-33.2
TelefEsp	1.03e	...	12.30	+.03	-13.4
TerraFmP	1.40f	...	9.15	+2.25	-70.4
Tesoro	2.90	.9	117.81	+2.64	+58.5
3M Co	4.10	20	156.90	+.32	-4.5
Torchmark	.54	15	61.19	+.57	+13.0
TriContl	.80e	...	20.58	+.14	-3.9
Twitter	...	...	25.53	+.13	-28.8
TylerTech	...	85	176.80	-1.64	+61.5
UBSI	1.32f	21	42.36	+.24	+13.1
US OilFd	...	...	12.95	+.02	-36.4
Vale SA	.29e	...	3.36	-.01	-58.9
Vale SA pf	.29e	...	2.73	+.05	-62.4
ValeantPh	...	56	98.78	+6.82	-31.0
ValeroE	2.00f	8	72.57	+.71	+46.6
VangEmg	1.10e	...	34.24	+.20	-14.4
VulcanM	.40	79	103.72	+1.05	+57.8
WEC Engy	1.83	19	49.91	+.59	-5.4
WalgBoots	1.44	26	83.99	-.04	+10.2
WellsFargo	1.50	13	55.71	+.61	+1.6
WstnRefin	1.52f	8	46.30	+1.04	+22.6
WhitingPet	...	...	16.55	+.04	-49.8
WmsCos	2.56	67	36.66	+.10	-18.4
XcelEngy	1.28	19	38.97	+.31	+.1
Xerox	.28	37	10.69	+.14	-22.9

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
18,351.36	15,370.33	Dow Jones Industrials	17,888.35	+168.43	+.95	+.37	+.05
9,257.44	7,452.70	Dow Jones Transportation	8,204.27	+102.82	+1.27	-10.24	-9.44
657.17	539.96	Dow Jones Utilities	567.30	+4.17	+.74	-8.22	-6.15
11,254.87	9,509.59	NYSE Composite	10,519.59	+110.01	+1.06	-2.95	-3.84
5,231.94	4,292.14	Nasdaq Composite	5,156.31	+47.64	+.93	+8.87	+8.42
2,134.72	1,867.01	S&P 500	2,102.63	+22.22	+1.07	+2.12	+1.75
1,551.28	1,344.80	S&P Midcap	1,473.14	+11.33	+.78	+1.43	+2.83
22,537.15	19,619.26	Wilshire 5000	21,866.86	+208.11	+.96	+.91	+.93
1,296.00	1,078.63	Russell 2000	1,204.15	+8.05	+.51	-.05	+3.05

Even King Solomon could not get Goodell off the hook

JIM LITKE
AP sports columnist

Counting the decade before he became commissioner, Roger Goodell has been working to put an NFL franchise back in Los Angeles and inside a new stadium for as long as it took 100,000 slave laborers to build the Great Pyramid of Giza.

So how's the construction project going?

Funny you should ask.

The hot-button issue of Goodell's tenure as commissioner is finally front and center as the league's 32 teams meet Tuesday in Dallas — but only because a trio of owners forced his hand. The St. Louis Rams, San Diego Chargers and Oakland Raiders want to relocate to Los Angeles in time to usher in the 2016 season, and they want deadlines set before they depart Dallas to decide the issue by the time the Super Bowl rolls around. A vote later than that likely puts off any move to Los Angeles until 2017.

Rams owner Stan Kroenke wants to build and largely finance his stadium on a site he owns in Inglewood. Chargers owner Dean Spanos and Raiders boss Mark Davis plan to share and also bear most of the costs for a stadium at a site they own just down the road in Carson. The competing bids have already divided the league's owners like few issues before. Neither side can likely muster the two-thirds majority of owners — 24 — needed for approval. Both, however, appear to have enough votes to block the other.

The stalemate has already damaged the three teams trying to leave and efforts by the cities trying to keep them. At the moment, King Solomon couldn't craft a solution to make them all whole again. Worse, the owners might just do what they've done every other time someone inquired about the "NFL vacancy" sign hanging in the nation's second-largest market for the last 20 years: Schedule another meeting and continue counting their money.

So despite the millions spent on those campaigns to date, any one of the franchises, or all three, could leave the meetings empty-handed and find an even-angrier fan base awaiting their return.

At this point, it's fair to ask how we got here.

Goodell was tasked by his predecessor, Paul Tagliabue, with finding a replacement for Los Angeles shortly after the Raiders and Rams (then based in Anaheim) both played their last regular-season games there on Christmas Eve, 1994. Plenty happened in the interim; none of it resulted in one shovel of dirt being overturned so far.

Goodell became commissioner in 2006 and eventually handed off the Los Angeles project to aide Eric Grubman. Proposals to develop a handful of sites from a range of deep-pocketed developers came and went. The league nixed them all, in large part because cities in California repeatedly refused to add sizeable public subsidies to the mix, even as the league was blackmailing other cities across the NFL map into doing just that.

A decade ago, a reputable study found the average NFL stadium received 65 percent of its funding from the public, and the league didn't want to set a dangerous precedent. And for a while, using the L.A. market as a stalking horse worked to perfection.

In the two decades since the NFL left town, 28 of the league's 32 teams have either put up new stadiums or completed significant renovations on old ones. An informal count by the Los Angeles Times tallied up 18 instances where owners like Robert Irsay of the Colts and Ziggy Wilf of the Vikings parked their private jets — conspicuous by the giant team logos painted on the side — at L.A.-area airports as implied threats to move there, while they wrung concessions for better stadium deals from taxpayers back home. What's different now is that the battle for L.A. has become an intramural struggle.

The York family, which owns the San Francisco 49ers, was the first to "crack the DaVinci code" — as one observer put it — and showed their brethren the way. They built a gleaming new $1.2-billion palace in Santa Clara with just $70 million in public subsidies, offsetting the construction costs through a combination of factors — low-cost loans, personal seat licenses, sponsorships, etc.

Now, the Rams and the Chargers-Raiders combo are demanding the chance to take a similar risk, and that's in addition to ponying up a relocation fee between $500-600 million. Whichever side eventually loses the fight — and depending on which scenario you believe, there could be one, two or zero teams in the Los Angeles by this time next year — won't go back home and just fold their hands.

Nothing will be settled on the cheap. Nothing less than the future financial health of the NFL is hanging in the balance.

So never mind the previous screwups of Goodell's not-so-distinguished reign: "Deflategate," "Bountygate" and "Spygate," as well as his bungling of domestic-abuse cases involving Ray Rice, Adrian Peterson and Greg Hardy. If he gets this decision wrong, those don't even make the first paragraph of his professional obit.

NFL owners' meetings could yield progress in L.A. relocation

By Greg Beacham
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The NFL's owners could take a significant step toward the league's return to Los Angeles this week.

Or they could decide to take another big step back.

Nobody seems certain of the next move in this exhausting dance when the full ownership convenes Wednesday for its annual meetings at a luxury resort outside Dallas.

While nothing is expected to be resolved this week, the NFL might set a date for that resolution by scheduling a relocation vote for early next year. On the other hand, the league also might emerge with a consensus to delay this entire debate for yet another year.

The owners' gathering, which begins with committee meetings Tuesday, will be dominated by discussion of the empty Los Angeles market and the three teams vying to occupy it: the St. Louis Rams, the San Diego Chargers and the Oakland Raiders.

Although the clubs aren't scheduled to make presentations, their competing stadium proposals for Inglewood and Carson are likely to be analyzed at length. The Rams' historic ties to L.A., the Chargers' exhaustive failures to get a San Diego stadium and the Raiders' combination of both factors will be examined and debated.

Behind the meeting's closed doors, league executives are expected to continue their attempts to broker a deal on L.A. without forcing the owners into a potentially messy public vote.

If they're successful, the league could even set a date for that vote, providing an endpoint to this multiyear, multibillion-dollar negotiation that has dominated football talk in four cities.

Commissioner Roger Goodell has said he would prefer to decide in a special meeting in January or right after the Super Bowl in February.

Other owners have publicly suggested a vote would be feasible in March, even if it fuels the possibility that a decision on L.A.'s fate will be postponed for yet another year.

Although more delays could further erode all three current fan bases, shifting any moves to the 2017 season also could allow the NFL to make sure it has exhausted every option in a spurned city.

St. Louis would have a chance to fine-tune its public funding deal for a new arena, and San Diego could make progress on its perpetually stalled attempts. A delay also might boost the teams' relocation efforts by giving more time to vocal opponents of the stadium plans — and there are many in each city.

Los Angeles has been without an NFL team for almost 21 years. A entire generation of Angelenos has grown up without a team, while the NFL has been deprived of the bountiful revenue opportunities amid the five-county area's 18 million people.

With three eager contestants and no clear direction, the owners' meeting is a chance for the prominent backers of each relocation movement to exchange ideas in person.

Carolina's Jerry Richardson has been among the most active advocates of the Chargers' right to move after years of failed stadium negotiations with San Diego, while Dallas' Jerry Jones backs Rams owner Stan Kroenke's plans to build a landmark multipurpose stadium complex that would provide a West Coast hub for the entire NFL operation.

The Raiders, who have large and passionate fan bases in every corner of California, have agreed to team up with the Chargers on the Carson project, but they could end up as a partner in either stadium, depending on the results of negotiations. The NFL also could force the Rams and the Chargers to work together in Inglewood, although the Chargers' owners appear decidedly uninterested in being the junior partner in that complex.

AP file photo

On Aug. 17, Los Angeles Raiders fans cheer outside a hotel where former NFL executive Carmen Policy, not seen, introduced a proposed new $1.7-billion NFL football stadium to members of the Los Angeles Sports Council, in downtown Los Angeles. The NFL's owners could take a significant step toward the league's return to Los Angeles this week.

NFL GLANCE

Standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	1	0	.909	347	212
N.Y. Jets	6	5	0	.545	272	229
Buffalo	5	6	0	.455	266	257
Miami	4	7	0	.364	225	287
South						
Indianapolis	6	5	0	.545	249	260
Houston	6	5	0	.545	232	234
Jacksonville	4	7	0	.364	236	269
Tennessee	2	9	0	.182	203	257
North						
Cincinnati	9	2	0	.818	297	193
Pittsburgh	6	5	0	.545	269	230
Baltimore	4	7	0	.364	259	276
Cleveland	2	9	0	.182	213	310
West						
Denver	9	2	0	.818	252	207
Kansas City	6	5	0	.545	267	220
Oakland	5	6	0	.455	264	280
San Diego	3	8	0	.273	244	307

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	5	6	0	.455	241	267
N.Y. Giants	5	6	0	.455	287	273
Philadelphia	4	7	0	.364	243	274
Dallas	3	8	0	.273	204	281
South						
Carolina	11	0	0	1.000	332	205
Atlanta	6	5	0	.545	260	234
Tampa Bay	5	6	0	.455	248	279
New Orleans	4	7	0	.364	281	339
North						
Minnesota	8	3	0	.727	231	194
Green Bay	7	4	0	.636	282	215
Chicago	5	6	0	.455	231	264
Detroit	4	7	0	.364	230	288
West						
Arizona	9	2	0	.818	355	229
Seattle	8	5	0	.545	267	222
St. Louis	4	7	0	.364	185	230
San Francisco	3	8	0	.273	152	271

Scores & schedule

Monday's Scores
Baltimore 33, Cleveland 27

Thursday's Games
Green Bay at Detroit, 7:25 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Arizona at St. Louis, noon
Seattle at Minnesota, noon
Jacksonville at Tennessee, noon
San Francisco at Chicago, noon
N.Y. Jets at N.Y. Giants, noon
Atlanta at Tampa Bay, noon
Houston at Buffalo, noon
Baltimore at Miami, noon
Cincinnati at Cleveland, noon
Denver at San Diego, 3:05 p.m.
Kansas City at Oakland, 3:05 p.m.
Carolina at New Orleans, 3:25 p.m.
Philadelphia at New England, 3:25 p.m.
Indianapolis at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 7
Dallas at Washington, 7:30 p.m.

3 Texas Tech defensive coaches, former Red Raiders fired

By Betsy Blaney
Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Texas Tech fired three defensive assistant coaches Tuesday, all of them former players with the Red Raiders.

Mike Smith was co-defensive coordinator and defensive line coach, Kevin Curtis coached the secondary and Trey Haverty handled outside linebackers. All had been on the staff since coach Kliff Kingsbury, a former Red Raiders quarterback, arrived in 2013.

The move comes about a year after Kingsbury hired defensive coordinator David Gibbs away from Houston. Gibbs took over for Smith, who became interim defensive coordinator when Matt Wallerstedt resigned in September 2014.

The Red Raiders' defense fared poorly this season. After 12 games, they ranked 125th in total defense, giving up 540.2 yards per game. They rank 124th in giving up 42 points per game.

Texas Tech improved from 4-8 last year to 7-5 this season.

It was unclear whether Gibbs and Kingsbury would hire anyone to fill the spots before Texas Tech's bowl game. The Red Raiders are off this week and await a bowl selection Sunday.

In the release, Kingsbury said he appreciated what Smith, Curtis and Haverty did the past three seasons.

"All three are great Red Raiders and we wish them the very best," he said.

The departures leave just one of the five former Red Raiders that Kingsbury brought on as coaches when he was hired. Eric Morris remains the offensive coordinator.

CFBNEWS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

GEORGIA

Alabama's Kirby Smart to become UGA's new coach

ATHENS — Barring a last-minute snag in negotiations, Alabama's Kirby Smart will become Georgia's new football coach. An announcement could come as soon as Sunday or Monday.

Smart, 39, is the Crimson Tide's defensive coordinator. He is from Bainbridge and was a UGA letterman (1995-98) and team captain as a senior.

He has worked at Alabama for nine seasons, helping the Tide win three national championships, with the team on the verge of another appearance in the College Football Playoff. The No. 2-ranked Tide will face Florida in the SEC Championship game Saturday. It won't be until after Smart fulfills his duties in that game that an announcement would be made, people familiar with the negotiation told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Smart will bring in his own staff, but is expected to retain defensive line coach Tracy Rocker.

Smart became the highest-paid defensive coordinator in the country in June when he received a $150,000-a-year raise to $1.5 million. He has three years left on a four-year deal that includes a buyout thought to be in the range of $500,000.

Smart is considered a healing choice for the Bulldogs. Georgia's fan base has been divided since Sunday, when athletic director Greg McGarity fired 15-year head coach Mark Richt. Richt was the fifth-winningest active coach in Division I football and had won an average of 9.6 games per season.

CALIFORNIA

AP source: Missouri interviews Cal coach Sonny Dykes

BERKELEY — California coach Sonny Dykes is interviewing for the vacancy at Missouri following Gary Pinkel's recent retirement, a person close to the situation confirmed Tuesday.

The person spoke condition of anonymity because neither school had announced the interview. The interview was first reported by Yahoo Sports.

Missouri has begun searching for Pinkel's replacement after he announced his retirement last month. Pinkel has been diagnosed with lymphoma and said he wanted to get away from the grind of football.

Missouri athletic director Mack Rhoades interviewed Dykes last year when he was searching for a new coach at Houston and is now taking another look at him.

Dykes has two years remaining on his contract at Cal and the two sides have exchanged numbers on a possible extension. Cal is currently waiting for a response from Dykes' camp to its last proposal.

Cal athletic director Michael Williams did not take over the full-time job until last spring and did not hire Dykes, who was brought on during Sandy Barbour's tenure as athletic director.

Dykes has a 13-23 record in three seasons with the Golden Bears. Cal has shown improvement each season going from one win in Dykes' first year in 2013 to five last year to a 7-5 record this season.

Dykes also has been integral in improved academic performance for the Cal football team after it posted one of the lowest graduation rates in the country late in the tenure of previous coach Jeff Tedford. The school has increased admissions standards since Dykes arrived, eliminating some potential recruits from consideration.

While the Bears improved each year under Dykes, they also have failed to win a single game in 12 tries against their three in-state Pac-12 rivals — Stanford, UCLA and Southern California — or against Pac-12 North powerhouse Oregon.

Cal got off to a 5-0 start this season behind star quarterback Jared Goff before losing four straight games in conference play. The Bears won two of their final three regular season games, including a dramatic comeback against Arizona State last week, to become bowl eligible for the first time since 2011.

RANKINGS

From 1C

even though it nearly moved into the top spot this week.

Group of five

The American Athletic Conference championship game between Houston and Temple should also send the winner to a New Year's Six bowl game, probably the Peach Bowl.

The Cougars (11-1) will host the AAC title game and are No. 19 in the new rankings. The Owls (10-2) are No. 22.

The only other team from the Group of Five conferences — Mountain West, Sun Belt, Mid-American and Conference USA — is Navy at No. 23, which is also from the American.

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Midland-based Independent E&P seeks accounting clerk. Prefer AP, Admin & O & G experience. Pay DOE, insurance & 401(K). Resumes: davidp@petroplexenergy.com

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT & PUBLISHING

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is accepting résumés for a full-time Copy Editor/Page Designer position on our Universal Desk.

The right candidate should have a knack for grammar, punctuation and Associated Press style but also can find inconsistencies in stories and isn't afraid to ask questions. He or she also should have an eye for page design.

This is a great opportunity for anyone who wants to make a difference in the newspaper industry and who wants to perfect his or her craft at copy editing and page design.

A bachelor's degree in journalism or English, two years of editing experience, InDesign or Quark knowledge and proficiency in AP style are preferred. Recent college graduates and those who are graduating soon are encouraged to apply. Time on a universal desk and experience editing sports copy are pluses.

The Reporter-Telegram is part of Hearst and offers a competitive salary and benefits.

If you are interested in our copy editor/page designer position, please email a cover letter, résumé, your best design samples and three references in PDF or Word format to Trevor Hawes, Assistant Managing Editor, at thawes@mrt.com. You can also mail a hard copy submission to Midland Reporter-Telegram, Attn.: Trevor Hawes, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

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E/O/E

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P. O. Box 60423
Midland, Texas 79711-0423
Fax 432-563-0388

BOBBY COX Companies, Inc.

Drug Screening Required EOE

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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.

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We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, a cell phone allowance and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

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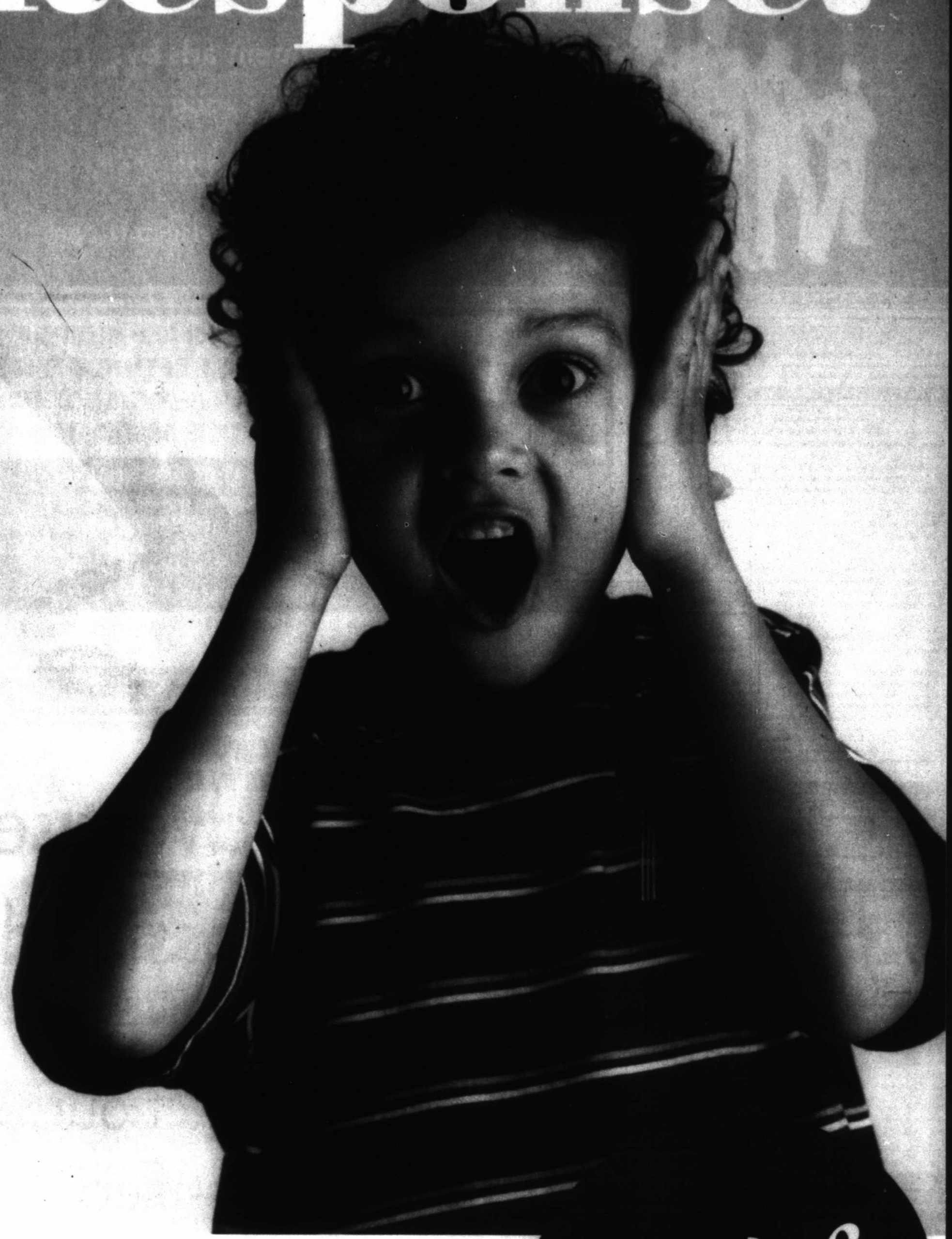

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR EXCEPTION TO SWR 26/27 SURFACE COMMINGLING PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that Diamondback E&P LLC (RRC P-5 # 217012) has filed with the Texas Railroad Commission the following P-17 Application for the exception to SWR 26 and/or 27 to surface commingle production from oil and gas leases: Calverley well #4 in the Dewey Lake (Atoka) Field (RRC Lease # 43317); Calverley wells 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 8 in the Spraberry (Trend Area) Field (RRC Lease #43318) and Calverley 18 well # 1 in the Garden City, S. (Wolfcamp) Field (RRC Lease # 44836). All wells are in Midland County, Texas. This application is for off lease storage, common separation, common storage and casinghead gas metering by allocation by well test. Production will be allocated by W-10 Tests. Any royalty interest owners who have not received written notification, please consider this your Notice of Application. If you have objections to the issuance of this permit, you may submit a letter to P-17 Department, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711. Unless the Railroad Commission receives a protest to this application, the Commission may issue a permit within 21 days following the date of last publication.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

City of Midland will hold a Public Vehicle Auction at Action Wrecker Service, Inc., 1109 S. Midland Dr. on Saturday, December 5, 2015. Gates open at 8:00 AM. Auction begins at 10:00 AM. All vehicles will be sold to the highest bidder. Full payment is due at the time of purchase. Buyer has five days to remove vehicles from impound lot. For more information visit www.actionwrecker.com or contact Acton Wrecker Service Inc., 1109 S Midland Drive, Midland, TX (432) 697-8697.

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE FOR BIDS

The School Land Board, the Board for Lease of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept., and the General Land Office (GLO), will hold an online sealed bid Oil, Gas, and Other Minerals Lease Sale at EnergyNet.com. Bids received will be presented at the GLO in Austin, Texas on January 5, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. For more information call (832) 403-3122 or (512) 475-1512, write to Mineral Leasing, Rm. 840, 1700 N. Congress, Austin, Texas 78701, or visit www.energynet.com, or www.glo.texas.gov.

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Vickie Lee Chester, Deceased, were issued on November 10, 2015, in Cause No. P-18,347, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to: Ben Chester Independent Administrator.

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

c/o: **Nancy M. Perry**
The Perry Law Firm
P.O. Box 60380
Midland, Texas 79711

DATED the 30th day of November, 2015.

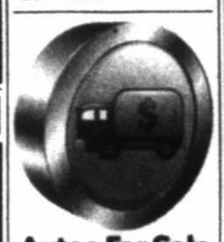
/s/ Nancy M. Perry
Nancy M. Perry
Attorney for Ben Chester
State Bar No.: 15803650
P.O. Box 60380
Midland, Texas 79711
Telephone: (432) 561-5379
Facsimile: (432) 242-2900
E-mail: nperry@perrylawtexas.com

General Announcements

BETTER READ
Mark Berryhill.com
Ministering for Christ

LOST DOG
★Reward★
Female, White/Tan in Midland, TX. Missing since 11-16-15. Please contact 432-978-3113

REWARD!! MISSING blue leopard catahoula female 40# with bright orange collar from Brookdale Ave in Midland since 10-31-2015. Kai is a working dog so may have covered alot of ground. Please call Paula Lockhart 830-234-3592



Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

06 VOLK NEW BEETLE 2DR TDI DSG CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

12 FORD F-150 2WD SUPERCREW 145" P CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

12 TOYOTA 4 RUNNER RWD 4DR V6 SR5 CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

12 VOLK PASSAY 4DR SDN 2.5 L AUTO CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

12 VOLKS BEETLE 2DR CPE AUTO 2.5L CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit *www.sudoku.org.uk*

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

12/2/15

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Passenger Cars

13 FIAT 500 2DR CONV POP SILVER EA CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

13 FIAT 500 2DR HB POP SILVER EAB CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

13 FIAT 500 2DR HB POP WHITE EAB CALL JARED 432-258-2263

13 FORD FOCUS 4DR SDN TITANUM BLACK CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

13 VOLKS BEETLE CON 2DR AUTO 2.5L WHITE CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

13 VOLKS JETTA SEDA 4DR MAN TDI CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

13 VOLK TOUAREG 4DR TDI SPORT CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

14 CHEVY CRUZ 4DR SDN AUTO 1LT WHITE CALL JARED 432-258-2268

14 FORD MUSTANG 2DR CONV V6 BLACK CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

14 VOLK JETTA SEDA 4DR AUTO CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

14 VOLK PASSAT 4DR SDN 1.8T AUTO CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

14 VOLKS BEETLE COU 2DR AUTO 1.8T CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

14 VOLK TOUAREG 4DR 3.6L SPORT CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

15 CHEVY TAHOE 2WD 4DR LT SILVER L8 CALL JARED 432-258-2269

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15 DODGE JOURNEY FWD 4DR SXT BLACK CALL JARED 432-258-2263

16 VOLKS BEETLE COU 2DR AUTO 1.8T CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

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FORD 2012 Escape XLT 3L/V6, backup camera, heated leather seats, dual zone heat and AC, 66k miles $15500 432-250-8192

YUKON 2010 SLT package with sunroof & rear entertainment. 65K miles. Asking $21,900. Call 432-934-7676

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FOR SALE 1965 Piper Cherokee 180-C. 3672 TT; 1467 SMOH; C/S Hartzell Prop; Always hangered; Garmin ACRA 696 GPS with XM weather; GDL-39 ADS-B; Speed Mods. Complete log books. $35,000. 432-684-3725 H; 432-528-9797 C.

RVs

RV PARK spaces between Midland & Stanton: quiet, clean, & safe. Adults only please. $325 plus electricity. 432-238-3937.

RV SPACES for rent, in N.E. Midland off Loop 250. Clean, quite & fenced Call 432-894-8234.

Recreational Vehicles

☆ 2014 ROYAL Traveler 5th wheel, 40', 3 slide outs, 2 AC's, tri axle, rollout awning, 2 bedrooms, sleeps 6, washer & dryer. Loaded. Must sell $32,000 OBO. 303-944-4160

2015 43' fifth wheel, 3 slideouts, 3 AC's, washer & dryer, 2 bedrooms, bunks, sleeps 6, fireplace, lots of storage. Non smoking no pets. Loaded. Must sell. $35,000 OBO or trade. 432-934-5147

2015 WILDWOOD 36' 2 bedroom, 2 slideouts, central air, awning, microwave, large 2-door refrigerator, large bathroom lots of storage, power jacks. Clean, no smokers. $23,900. Midland 701-213-9811

FLEETWOOD 1999 WILDERNESS Ultra-Lite RV, 21' x 7', sleeps 8, everything works great, including equalizer hitch, swaybar, external gray water tank. For more info call 432-664-9415 or 432-664-9409

ROYAL TRAVEL 2014 5th wheel, 37 feet, 3 slides, 2 AC's, washer & dryer, electric awning, fireplace, fully loaded!! Asking $37,500, will deliver. 806-470-2414.

SALEM 2005 travel trailer 34', fiberglass, 2 slide outs, 2 AC's, self contained sleeps 6, very clean. NS. $11,000 OBO 432-234-5090

Garage -Estate & Yard Sales

Estate Sales

3300 WINDSOR-MIDLAND. Estate Sale. Fri. Dec. 4th 9am-4pm, Sat. Dec. 5th 8am-12pm. LOTS of Items- Everything must go! TV's, furniture, king bedroom set, Christmas decor, artwork, clothing, books, home decor and much much more...and don't forget the tools!! Come see what treasure is waiting for you!!

Yard & Garage Sales

79705

2811 METZ Drive Sat. 8am - 3pm. Moving sale! Everything must go! Three couches, 2 TV cabinets, 1 king size tempurpedic bed, kitchen table w 6 chairs, recliner and misc. items!

Merchandise

Free Stuff

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!

Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

Home Items

NEW TODAY!

8 PIECE leather sectional brown sofa w/ coffee and end table $1,350. Bowflex revolution XP $900. 432-553-4812

Miscellaneous for Sale

TWO PLOTS in Resthaven Cemetery, Gethsemane 93 #'s 3 & 4, $2,500 each. Email if interested danosh5@aol.com

Miscellaneous for Sale

FOR SALE Auction #2016-002 An online auction of Midland College surplus property will be held by Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. The auction will begin on Monday, November 23, 2015 and close on Friday, December 4, 2015. Items will be available for viewing and bidding on the auctioneer's website: http://www.renebates.com. The College will be auctioning tables, desks, chairs, stairwell lift, tankless water heaters, steamer, lawn sprayers, etc. For additional information, contact Barbara Fennell, Director of Purchasing, (432) 686-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all auction bids. For a complete list of instructions, or to participate in the online auction go to http://www.renebates.com.

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FOR SALE KIMBALL 5' Baby Grand Piano. Ebony black, great condition $2500. Call 432-250-2096.

Sporting Goods

Salomon Snow Blades 99. Like new, used once with Nordica boots size 9, $300. 432-520-7403.

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon, 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262

Animals & Pets

Pets

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Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR EXCEPTION TO SWR 26/27 SURFACE COMMINGLING PERMIT

Notice is hereby given that Diamondback E&P LLC (RRC P-5 # 217012) has filed with the Texas Railroad Commission the following P-17 Application for the exception to SWR 26 and/or 27 to surface commingle production from oil and gas leases: ST S-ST RR D well 504H (RRC Lease # 45319); ST S-ST RR E well 501LS (Drilling Permit # 804896) and ST S-ST RR F # 502LS (RRC Drilling Permit # 787043). All wells are in the Spraberry (Trend Area) Field in Midland County, Texas. This application is for off lease storage, common separation, common storage and casinghead gas metering by allocation by well test. Production will be allocated by W-10 Tests. Any royalty interest owners who have not received written notification, please consider this your Notice of Application. If you have objections to the issuance of this permit, you may submit a letter to P-17 Department, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711. Unless the Railroad Commission receives a protest to this application, the Commission may issue a permit within 21 days following the date of last publication.

ANNUAL FUR SHOW & SALE
THE CATS MEOW - 408 Andrews Hwy
(432) 687-2004 - Midland, Texas
Nov. 30 - Dec. 5. Mon. - Wed. 1pm - 6pm. Thurs. - Sat. 10am - 6 pm.

Over 120 Furs to pick from. From the 1940's to current. Huge variety of Furs including Full Length Fox in Champagne, Blue, Wheat & Silver; Full Length Mink in Black, Mahogany & Autumn Haze, Full Length Fitch, Ranch Mink Stroller, Stoles in Mink, Russian Squirrel, Fox & Sable, Jackets and Fingertip length coats in Fox, Mink, Sheared Beaver, Lynx, Russian Broadtail & Coyote in a wide range of color sizes and styles. Sable & Fox Scarves, Silver Fox Wrap, Corduroy Cut Minks in White, Black and Champagne. We already have over 70 in stock in the shop and will bring the others in from Dallas on Monday afternoon Nov. 30th. Marilyn Harris, Fur Specialist from Dallas will be in the shop Nov. 26-28th. Buy a Fabulous fur at a fraction of the original cost. Visa, MC, Amex accepted.

General Announcements

General Announcements

Passenger Cars

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2005 Ranger X Cab STX Automatic $8,950	2002 Ford Super Crew King Ranch $10,950	2010 Chevy Equinox $12,950	2012 Ford Taurus SE Family Sedan $12,950	2012 Dodge Journey SXT 3rd Row $13,950
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2013 Chevy Malibu IT $15,950	2010 Nissan Rogue SL AWD, Sunroof, Leather $16,950	2014 Dodge Challenger $19,950	2014 Chrysler Town & Country Van $19,950	2015 Chevy Camaro LT $21,950
2013 GMC Sierra Texas Edition $24,950	2011 Chevrolet Crew Cab Texas Edition, 1 Owner, 15k Miles $29,950	2014 Chevy Crew Cab 4x4 $29,950	2013 Ford Super Crew Texas Edition $29,950	2014 Chevrolet High Country Crew Loaded $42,950

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Passenger Cars

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WWW.UNITEDAUTOSALESMIDLAND.COM

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1998 Dodge Dakota	Bright White	$6,995	2011 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	Sheer Silver	$21,995
2006 Ford Escape	Blazing Copper	$8,995	2010 Ford Expedition	Tuxedo Black	$21,995
2006 Nissan Xterra	Silver Lightning	$9,995	2011 Cadillac CTS	Tuscan Bronze	$22,995
2006 Lincoln Zephyr	Black	$11,995	2001 Chevrolet Corvette	Torch Red	$22,975
2007 Mini Cooper	Sparkling Silver	$11,995	2008 GMC Sierra 1500	Onyx Black	$22,995
2007 Cadillac DTS	Cognac Frost	$12,995	2009 Mercedes-Benz C-Class	Pewter Meta	$22,995
2009 Toyota Camry	Barcelona Red	$12,995	2009 Toyota Tacoma	Super White	$23,995
2012 Chevrolet Impala	Black Granite	$12,995	2010 RAM 1500	Inferno Red	$23,995
2004 Pontiac GTO	Cosmos Purpler	$13,995	2010 Jeep Wrangler	Natural Green	$25,995
2013 Hyundai Elantra	Black Noir	$13,995	2011 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	Victory Red	$26,995
2008 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4x4	Summit White	$13,995	2012 Chevrolet Camaro	Ashen Gray	$27,995
2008 Toyota Tundra	Radiant Red	$13,995	2012 Cadillac CTS	Black Raven	$28,495
2013 Ford Focus	Race Red	$14,495	2011 Jeep Wrangler	Black	$30,995
2013 Chrysler 200	Tungsten	$15,995	2011 Jeep Wrangler	Deep Cherry Red	$31,995
2008 GMC Acadia	White Diamon	$16,995	2013 Subaru Impreza WRX	Satin White	$35,995
2010 Chevrolet Colorado	Black	$17,995	2008 Ford F-150 SD	White	$36,995

YEAR END CLOSE OUT SALE IN PROGRESS NOW!!!

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Real Estate Rentals & Sales

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Roommates

ROOMATE- Female, no pets, children, or criminal history. Student or older. 1608 Shell. Mary 664-9087.

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Furnished

2901 W ILLINOIS, 1600sft 2BD/2BA Remodeled Executive Patio apartment with covered parking. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

1 BED/1 BATH APT. Single person, all bills paid. 432-425-7044

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Apartments for Rent Furnished

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2 BD/1.5 bath Townhouse, no pets, all new tile downstairs, utility room, all appliances, small backyard and front yard. $1,000/dep,$1,350/mo 432-699-4420 or 432-553-8397

Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Furnished

BEAUTIFUL TOWNHOUSE for rent. 3 bed/2bath. $2100/mo $1000 deposit. 3221 Golf Course Rd. Call 432-853-3677

CONDO for rent. next to Midland Park Mall. 2BR/2BA, washer & dryer connections. patio & fireplace. $1,150/mo, $1,000 deposit includes water. Call 432-312-2586.

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Houses for Rent Furnished

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Houses for Rent Unfurnished

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Houses for Rent Unfurnished

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3 BED/2BATH, 2 car. Fireplace, patio, fence, near Cuthbert & Midland Dr. $1,950/mo, $1,800 deposit. Non-smoking, no pets w/out approval. 432-631-7833. Avail. Jan 1

3 BED/2 bath, 2 car garage. Newly updated, fireplace, patio, fence. Near Princeton & Garfield. $2,100/mo with $2,00 deposit. Non-smoking. 432-631-7833. No pets without approval.

504 Holmsley, Cute 2BR/1BA, Hardwood and Travertine tile floors, nice backyard, near down town, $1,500/mo. 1,500/dep. 432-664-4776

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Houses for Sale

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Residential Rentals

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

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Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

12206 WCR 58 4 bd. 4 ½ bath on 4 acres. **REDUCED $465K.** call Amber Broker Associate for the Scott Williams Team of Realtors 432-238-9916

2403 METZ Place: 5 bd, 3 1/2 bath, 2 lvg. areas, dining room and office. Great location close to Emerson Elementary and Goddard Jr. High. For more info please call 432-352-1218

3527 GULF, 3BD/2BA, Newly Remodeled, fireplace, 2000+ sf. Large backyard. $219,000. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

3608 SINCLAIR 2939sf. 4BD/3BA., fireplace. Water well, Remodeled. $249,000 Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Commercial

FOR LEASE: 5405 E. Hwy. 80. Located on East 80, quick access to HWY 80, I-20, loop 250. 2400 sq. ft. shop with office, 4 overhead doors, washrack, 1.75 acre yard, water, sewer, 2 cantilever gates, security fence. 664-2715

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Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

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4412 TANNER 3bed/2bath, double garage. $1,500 mo, $1,500 dep. 432-978-2074.

4723 SPRING meadow in. #6. Stunning patio home 2 bedroom 2 1/2 bath $269,000. Call Amber Broker Associate for the Scott Williams Team of Realtors. 432-238-9916

4803 B. HARVARD CUTE 2 bed/ 1 bath. One carport, new paint and carpet, fenced yard, outside storage, no smoking, no pets. $1100 mo. 432-620-9222 or 432-425-2739.

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Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

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Lots & Land

Acreage

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Lots & Land

Acreage

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