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Midland Reporter-Telegram
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MONDAY
DECEMBER 5, 2011
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Vol. 83, No. 269

Police stress caution during holiday season

MPD offers tips to area residents for shopping and driving

By James Cannon
Staff Writer

The holiday shopping season is now in full force and the Midland Police Department is urging residents to remain vigilant of their surroundings and stay safe.

During December there will be an increased level of patrol officers around the heavy shopping districts in Midland and on the roads at night looking for drunken drivers.

"We're increasing our numbers to keep citizens safe during the holidays," Deputy Chief Jeff Darr told the Reporter-Telegram.

Although he said parking lot muggings are rare, criminals tend to pray on distracted shoppers.

Darr urged shoppers to always be vigilant of their surroundings and to avoid walking alone at night to their cars with multiple bags. Darr suggested people lock gifts in the trunk, so passersby won't know the contents of the vehicle and stressed that people make sure they lock their vehicles.

Most of the holiday safety tips are common sense, he admitted, but added people would be surprised how many disregard basic safety rules.

He said if people see anything suspicious they should move toward large groups of people or find officers to distract potential criminals.

MPD will have the mobile command unit at various locations beginning Dec. 17, including the Midland Park Mall, Walmart and Kohl's Department Stores. Officers also will be patrolling shopping areas with ATVs throughout the month.

"The command center will be a large advertisement for police presence," Darr said. Also, he added, it will make filing holiday-related crime reports easier on officers.

Night detectives will be patrolling shopping centers and the citizen's patrol wil be in the area in unmarked cars keeping a vigilant eye. He said his department is focused on two main goals: Shopper safety and traffic congestion because of the increased number of people in the shopping districts.

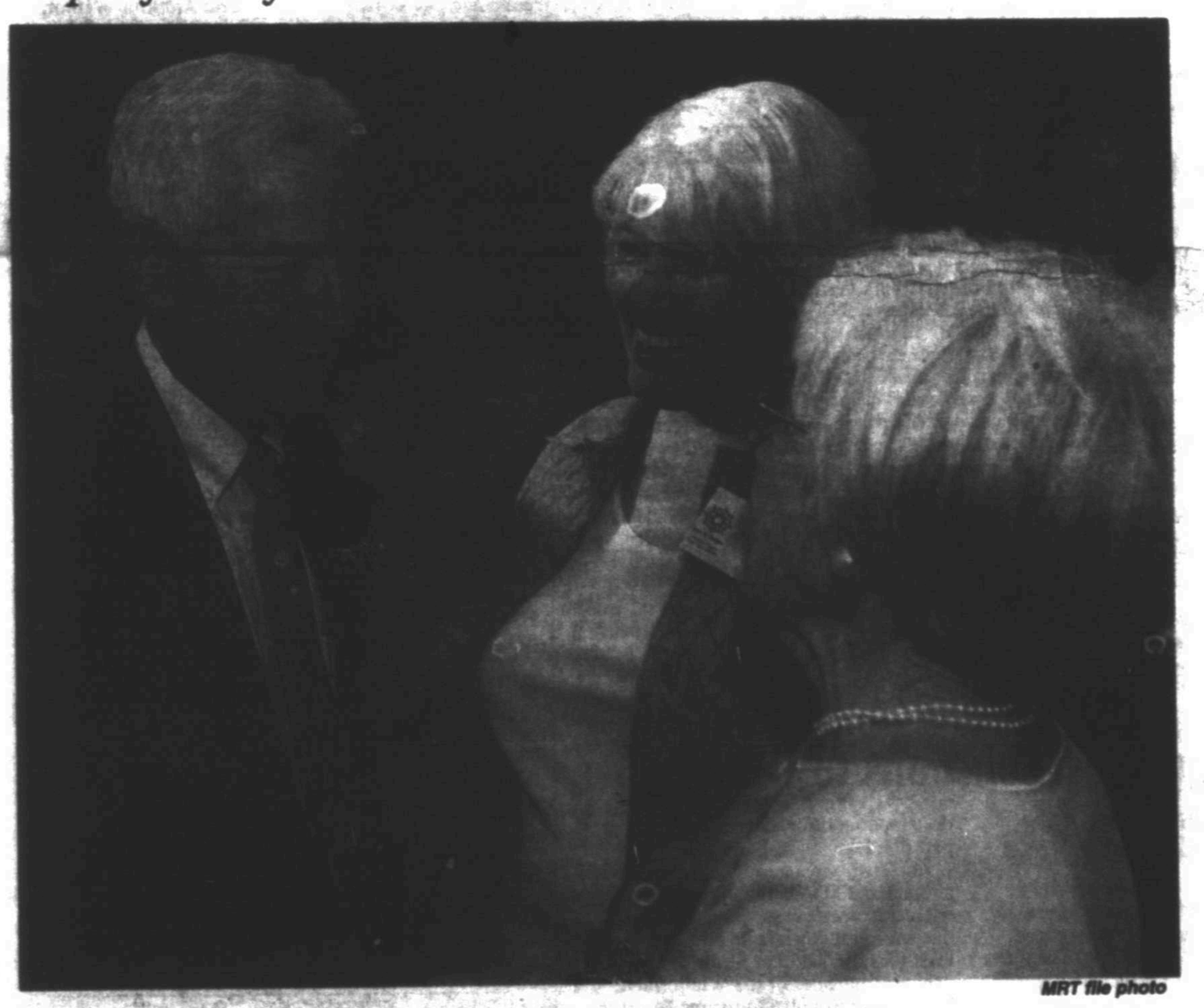
The Police Department also will have an increased presence on the roadways, especially near the shopping areas to help alleviate traffic congestion and to assist motorist who become involved in minor collisions.

Aside from assisting consumers and protecting shoppers, Darr said there will be more officers on the road

Please see **TIPS**/4A

CASA DE AMIGOS HERO

A profile of Lael Cordes-Pitts, executive director



MRT file photo

Jim Henry talks with Lael Cordes-Pitts and Kathryn Tyra at a campaign kick-off event at Casa de Amigos in this 2008 file photo.

Executive director of Casa de Amigos to leave after 26 years

By Kathleen Thurber
Staff Writer

Change is good.

That's what Jim Henry told Lael Cordes-Pitts before he offered her the job of executive director at the Henry Foundation nearly a month ago.

It's a motto Cordes-Pitts has repeated to herself as she looks forward to the transition from executive director at Casa de Amigos to her position at the Henry Foundation that will start in February. And while it's one those around her at Casa de Amigos also have embraced, her resignation from the nonprofit she's helped to shape over the last 26.5 years also is a bit bittersweet.

"What I've always said about Lael is corporate America missed a good opportunity and the nonprofit community gained one," said Dinah Doggett, volunteer services coordinator. "She is just so intelligent, but she's always had the social worker heart. You combine the two and that's what made her so valuable here at Casa de Amigos."

Cordes-Pitts announced to the Casa de Amigos Board last week that she'll be leaving her post. Jim and Paula Henry have long been involved at Casa and, having watched Cordes-Pitts' methods of exemplifying her Christian beliefs through actions, knew she was the one they wanted to lead their own efforts.

"She is just an exceptional lady," Jim Henry said. "Always organized and an exceptionally good Christian."

Cordes-Pitts moved to Midland in the 1980s after graduating with her master's degree in social work from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. At the time, she'd accepted a position with Lutheran Social Services and hoped to stay in West Texas for just a few years.

Then, she met her husband and, after receiving the position at Casa de Amigos, decided to make the Permian Basin home.

"When I started here in 1985 as the Lutheran pastor's daughter, the oldest of seven, I viewed this work as social ministry," Cordes-Pitts said, sitting in the conference room one recent morning at Casa. "I've felt like it's the right place for my gifts and skills. There's never a dull moment."

When she joined Casa de Amigos, it had an annual budget of about $184,000 and a staff of 10 to 12.

As she prepares to leave, it now has an annual budget of about $1.5 million and a full-time staff of 30.

In the mornings, she said, smiling as

Please see **CORDES-PITTS**/4A

DIFFERENCE MAKERS

Every day, often out of the limelight, people are making a difference in our community.

Difference Makers is a bi-weekly profile written by readers that acknowledges those who work to make the Permian Basin a better place.

If you would like to profile a Difference Maker, please contact Editor Stewart Doreen at 687-8866 or send a submission to sdoreen@mrt.com. Please keep submissions to no longer than 500 words.

MISD helping kids 'Learn to Laugh Again'

By Meredith Moriak
Staff Writer

Midland ISD launched a new program aimed at helping teenagers deal with grief and cope with losses called "Learn to Laugh Again" in its high schools last month.

The voluntary student grief groups are held twice a month during lunch and set up as an open forum where students can talk with their peers or adults willing to listen, said Deborah Acosta, the MISD staff member responsible for creating the groups.

The confidential meetings don't have a rigid structure, but are meant to be a time for students to voice their frustrations and ask advice, Acosta said.

"I think they honestly feel they need someone to say, 'I'll listen to you,'" Acosta said. "That's what we're doing. We're not preaching to them, we're just letting them speak and listening."

As the district's drop-out prevention/recovery and at-risk coordinator, Acosta said she has seen a lot of students who struggle in school because they're dealing with emotional issues, such as divorce or the loss of a friend or family member.

As a result of the United Way of Midland's 2010 "The Whole Child: A New Direction in Education" grant, all MISD teachers and counselors received training from the Rays of Hope Children's Grief Centre to learn how to

Please see **MISD**/4A

John McCain: Hispanic vote 'up for grabs'

By Anne Flaherty
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sen. John McCain said Sunday that the potentially powerful Hispanic vote in the upcoming presidential election remains "up for grabs" because neither President Barack Obama nor Republicans have convinced these voters that they are on their side.

The one-time GOP presidential hopeful, whose own 2008 candidacy was shaped in part by immigration, said that large Hispanic populations in his home state of Arizona and elsewhere are listening carefully to what Republican candidates have to say on immigration and could become a "major factor" in 2012.

"I think that the Republican party has to discuss this issue in as humane way as possible," he said. He later added, "the enthusiasm on the part of

Please see **HISPANIC**/4A

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weddings@mrt.com

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By email: Letters@mrt.com
Letters must have name, phone number and address. Limit: 350 words.

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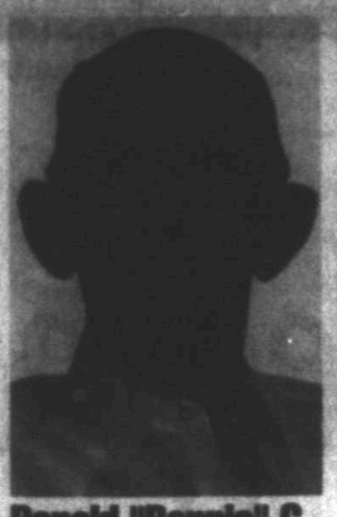
Obituaries



Ronald "Ronnie" G. Branch

Ronald "Ronnie" G. Branch, 72, passed away December 4, 2011 at home, surrounded by his loving family. He was born August 31, 1939 in Midland, Texas, the elder of two children of Guy Z. and Thelma Lesley Branch. He was a member of Westway Church of Christ. He attended Midland High School and spent most of his life in Midland.

Ronnie was an electrician for over 50 years, apprenticing under other family electricians. He worked for Capp Electric of Midland for many years. Following his independent and entrepreneurial spirit, He founded the Branch Electric Company in 1987, retiring in 2007. Ronnie was highly regarded and recognized as a master by his peers; he worked on many commercial projects in Midland including Midland Memorial Hospital. Ronnie was truly the personification of hard work, integrity and character.

On, December 26, 1958, Ronnie married Margaret Ruth Matney. They had three daughters: Pamela Bostic, Suzanne "Suzie" Sparks and Rhonda Branch all of Midland, Texas; four grandchildren Sarah Bostic and Colton Bostic of Odessa, Texas; Richard Sparks, III of St Marys, Georgia, Marissa Branch of Midland, Texas; and sister Linda Lillis of Midland, Texas. He was preceded in death by his wife in 1985 and his parents. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and brother.

The family suggest memorials be made to Hospice Midland, 911 W. Texas, Midland, Texas 79701 or Westway Church of Christ, 1701 Hughes Street, Midland, Texas 79705 or your favorite charity.

Visitation with the family will be from 6:00 to 8:00 pm December 6 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Graveside services will be at 11:00 am December 7 at Resthaven Memorial Park Cemetery in Midland with Kevin Fox of Westway Church of Christ officiating.

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

Wesley Shane Lindsey

Shane Lindsey, 40, of Stamford, passed away, Saturday, December 3, 2011 in Midland. Funeral services will be at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at the Trinity Baptist Church in Stamford with Dr. Robert Wingrove officiating. Burial will be at the New Hope Cemetery under the direction of Tankersley Funeral Home. The family will be receiving friends at the funeral home on Monday, from 5 until 7 p.m.

Shane was born September 21, 1971 in Stamford to Hollis and Caron Lindsey Cantu. He was raised in Stamford and graduated Stamford High School in 1991 and then attended Lincoln Tech in Arlington, Texas, where he graduated with Directors honors. He worked as a fleet analyst for the City of Abilene for several years before beginning his current occupation as a crane operator with Marks Crane Service in Odessa, TX. Shane loved the great outdoors and working on cars. He never met a stranger, a friend to all. His special love was for his children and family.

Survivors include his mother and step father, Caron and Carlos Cantu of Stamford, 3 children, Ashley Lindsey of Abilene, Branson Lindsey of Odessa, and Hunter Lindsey of Anson, 1 brother, Cody Lindsey and wife Rebecca of Odessa, TX, 2 half-brothers, Josh Lindsey and wife Casey of Aspermont, and John Armstrong of Dickinson, TX, 1 half-sister, Sue Shaw and husband Pat of Brenham, TX, and many nieces and nephews and other family.

Online condolences may be viewed at www.tankersleyfuneralhome.com

Death Notices

Genovova Avila

Genoveva Avila, 74 of Midland, died December 3, 2011.

Survivors: Husband Desiderio B. Avila of Presidio, sons Jesus Avila of Ojinaga, Chihuahau, Desiderio H. Avila, Fermin Avila and Adrian Avila all of Midland; daughter Valentina Vega of Ojinaga, Chihuahua; one brother Manuel Herrera of Midland; two sisters Ricarda Luna of Midland, and Maria Anchondo of Juarez; twelve grandchildren, two great grandchildren and numerous nephews, nieces and cousins.

Viewing will be held today at 12:00pm to 9:00pm, with a prayer service at 6:30pm at the Lewallen- Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home Chapel.

Arrangements by Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home, pipkin@ntsonline.net.

Kay Lyn Gentry

Kay Lyn Gentry, 55, passed away on Saturday, December 3, 2011 at Midland Memorial Hospital. The family will receive friends on Monday, December 5, 2011 from 6:00-8:00 PM at the funeral home. Memorial services will be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 11:00 AM at First Christian Church in Midland.

Survivors include daughter, Amy Gentry; mother, Patsy Pickle; and brothers, Max and Mark Pickle.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland.

Pamela Poindexter Sodd

Pamela Poindexter Sodd of Odessa, age 65, passed away Thursday, December 1, 2011. She is the daughter of the late Jack and Frances Poindexter. She is survived by her husband of 30 years, Michael Sodd; one son, Kyle Sodd of Seminole, TX; two daughters, Amber Nicole Burns of Amarillo, TX and Mandy Sodd of Ruidoso, NM; two brothers, Robert Poindexter of Orlando, FL and Victor Macdermit of Hunterville, AL; five grandchildren.

Arrangements are under direction of American Heritage at West Texas Memorial Park.

Thelma Reece

Thelma Reece, 94, of Garland, Texas died December 2, 2011 at her home.

Graveside services 2:00 PM December 6, 2011 at Andrews West Cemetery directed by McNett Funeral Home in Andrews.

Preceded by her husband, Forest Reece.

She is survived by her sons, Forest Reece of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Ron Reece of Midland, Texas; her daughter Angela Reece Wilson of Garland; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

W. Cecil Bybee

W. Cecil Bybee, 78, passed away Friday, December 2, 2011. Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

GUILTYPLEAS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Guilty pleas accepted and sentences imposed Nov. 21-25 by District Judges George D. Gilles, Robin Malone Darr and Rodney W. Satterwhite:

Johnny Romero Alonzo, 28, failure to comply with sex offender registration requirements, two years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Gregory Keith Beauchamp, 35, indecency with a child, two years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Anthony Christian Diaz, 26, burglary of a habitation, 10 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice suspended for five years on probation, $1,000 fine and pay $3,450 in restitution.

Shea Lynn Hall, 21, theft, two years on probation.

Cali Amber Hayes, 26, burglary of a habitation, three years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

William Matthew Kuykendall, possession of heroin, two years on probation, $750 fine and pay $140 in restitution.

Earney Lee Maker Jr., 36, terroristic threat, six years on probation, $1,500 fine and attend a treatment program.

Gilbert Martinez Jr., 36, injury to a child, seven years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice suspended for five years on probation, $1,500 fine and attend a treatment program.

Howard Marti Parra, 24, possession of cocaine, five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Christopher Anthony Ramirez, 20, burglary of a building and burglary of a habitation, 180 days state jail, five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and pay $31,800 in restitution.

Teodoro Silva Jr., 18, possession of cocaine, two years on probation, $500 fine, attend a treatment program and pay $140 in restitution.

David Urias Suchil, 36, theft, two years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Damon Antoine Warren, 34, forgery, 10 months state jail.

Daniel Ray Wilkins, 37, theft by repetition, six months state jail.

George Javier Zapta, 20, aggravated assault upon a public servant with a deadly weapon, five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

***

Guilty pleas accepted and sentences imposed Nov. 28-Dec. 2 by District Judges George D. Gilles, Robin Malone Darr, John G. Hyde and Rodney W. Satterwhite:

Lee Brito, 21, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, four years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Derrick Devante Goodley, 19, attempted burglary of a habitation, five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Samuel Gwynn Hardee, 28, aggravated assault and evading arrest and detention in a motor vehicle, six years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Kiaisha Nigel Haynes, 22, possession of cocaine, four years on probation, $1,000 fine, attend a treatment program and pay $140 in restitution.

Kevin Ray Marcellino, 19, burglary of a habitation, 10 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice suspended for 10 years on probation and attend a treatment program.

Rubina Ada Ramirez, 26, assault family violence, two years on probation, $1,250 fine, 15 days Midland County Jail and attend anger management classes.

Cesar Osvaldo Santos, 19, assault upon a public servant, 10 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice suspended for five years and $1,000 fine.

Zachary Rodriguez Soto, 19, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, two years state jail suspended for five years on probation and pay $21,800 in restitution.

Baldemar Subealdea, 45, felony driving while intoxicated, four years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and driver's license suspended for 365 days.

Eric Anthony Watson, 26, burglary of a habitation, 10 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice suspended for five years on probation, attend a treatment program, $1,500 fine and pay $16,660 in restitution.

Noel Yntante Zamora, 41, theft, five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Source: Midland County District Attorney's Office.

FELONYARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Philip E. Courtney, 40, of Midland, was arrested Saturday by Midland County deputies on charges of forgery of a financial instrument and credit or debit card abuse.

Patricia A. Esparza, 36, of Midland, was arrested Saturday by Midland County deputies on a charge of credit or debit card abuse.

John E. Holmes, 49, of Midland, was arrested Saturday by Midland police on a charge of aggravated sexual assault.

Christopher B. House, 28, of Midland, was arrested Saturday by Midland police on a charge of obstruction or retaliation.

Ernest Molinar Jr., 47, of Midland, was arrested Saturday by Midland police on a charge of possession of a controlled substance between 1 and 4 grams.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

Towns find fast solutions to water woes

By Ramit Plushnick-Mati
Associated Press

GROESBECK — In a tranquil state park in Central Texas, workers are busily piecing together massive yellow pipes that spell salvation for this city. The pipes run along a park road, slither between trees, cross a street to avoid an ancient cemetery, hug a state-owned easement and then land at a treatment plant.

Without it, what everyone fears most would come true: The water will stop running.

This $250,000 pipeline project will bring water from a rock quarry seven miles away to Groesbeck by Tuesday — the date that state officials monitoring the drought said the town would run out of water, finally sucked dry by Texas' historic drought. But it is only a six-month supply. That's enough time, Mayor Jackie Livingston hopes, to find a permanent solution.

"We will do anything, anything short of hauling water," Livingston said.

Imperiled towns around Texas are finding short-term solutions to water supply problems brought on by the drought, some just in time to avert a crisis. But finding a permanent solution is tricky, and in many cases, expensive. That makes the plight of finding water doubly difficult: Even if they could find a fix, they also have to find the cash to pay for it.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality says there are 11 towns with enough water to last six months or less. It is working to find quick fixes that cost tens of thousands — sometimes millions — of dollars for a few months of water. They hope that is long enough to find and complete longer-term projects, many of which these cash-strapped communities had delayed for years.

For the West Texas town of Robert Lee, there is a $1.35 million price tag to tap into the nearby town's water supply with a pipeline. A neighborhood near the Louisiana border will pay $50,000 to drop a pump off a bridge into a deeper part of a lake.

An Austin-area community has paid about $10,000 to build a temporary barge to float a pipe over a water-filled hole that saved the town from hauling water, at least for now, said Pat Mulligan, president and manager of the Windermere Oaks Water Supply Company. But if the lake that supplies the area drops another six feet, they will have to haul in water by truck. Then, water bills will increase about 300 percent and residents in the 230-home subdivision could pay $300 a month for water — up from about $120.

Mulligan hopes the hole will supply water for a year.

"We're at the mercy of the gods," he said.

The state is treating the drought much as it would a hurricane, said Linda Brookins, director of the TCEQ water supply division. Officials contact towns every week. They hold urgent meetings. Experts walk rivers and reservoirs. Others help with grant and loan applications. Many are surprised to learn many state grants are only available for permanent solutions, and so are forced to take separate loans to fund temporary projects.

"The last thing we want is to see people run out of water," Brookins said.

In Groesbeck, water troubles began this summer. Fort Parker Lake, once a grand reservoir, has been relegated to a series of mud banks and puddles.

It happened quickly: During a 90-day stretch of little rain and triple-degree heat, the town used 54 million gallons of water. Some 271 million gallons — an 18-month supply — evaporated.

"Sucked it out of the rivers and lakes," Livingston sighs.

The day the lake got to a crisis point, alarming officials that it could actually go dry, the pitter-patter of rain interrupted a City Council meeting — just as state officials granted permission to lay pipe through the park. The pipeline company needed four days, and the work will be done just before Tuesday.

TEXASROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

DENTON

Man dead at Occupy campsite on North Texas campus

An official at the University of North Texas said a man has been found dead at a campsite on the school's campus where Occupy Denton protesters have been gathering.

The Dallas Morning News reported that university spokesman Buddy Price said officers from the school's police department found the man's body Saturday after someone called authorities. Price said no one else was at the encampment when police arrived.

He told the newspaper the man is believed to have been a member of the Occupy Denton encampment.

FORT WORTH

Squatters occupy houses worth more than $8 million

One person moved into a dead neighbor's house. Another came from Memphis, Tenn., to Fort Worth to lay claim to a $2.7 million mansion.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported its study of Tarrant County documents showed squatters have claimed and looted other people's houses with a total value exceeding $8 million.

They're exploiting a loophole in a state law that allows squatters to claim property if no owner is on hand to challenge the claim. Squatters are claiming houses they claim are abandoned by filing affidavits of adverse possession with county clerks.

Law enforcement officials said they're stumped by some of the squatters' schemes.

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ACROSSTHENATION

FROM WIRE REPORTS

KENTUCKY

Pastor overturns ban on interracial couples

PIKEVILLE — The pastor of an eastern Kentucky church whose members had voted to bar mixed-race couples from joining the congregation said that decision has been declared null and void.

Stacy Stepp is pastor of the Gulnare Free Will Baptist Church in Pike County. Stepp told the Associated Press on Sunday that the church body can't pass new bylaws if they run contrary to local, state or national laws. He said the proposal that was approved in a 9-6 vote last week was discriminatory, therefore it couldn't be adopted.

Stepp said about 30 people who attended church services Sunday voted on a new resolution that welcomes "believers into our fellowship regardless of race, creed or color."

MICHIGAN

Ex-Miss USA arrested on drunk driving charge

HIGHLAND PARK — A lawyer for ex-Miss USA Rima Fakih said police in the Detroit enclave of Highland Park arrested his client on a drunken driving charge.

Doraid Elder told the Detroit Free Press that Fakih is "very saddened and very apologetic for the situation that she is in right now."

Elder said police arrested Fakih early Saturday.

The 26-year-old Fakih was born in Lebanon. She was raised in New York and moved to Michigan in 2003. Her family lives in the Detroit suburb of Dearborn.

She won the Miss USA Pageant in May 2010. Her reign ended June 19.

She was the first Miss Michigan to win the title since 1993 and the first Arab American winner ever.

INDIANA

Stolen Santa returned to man with $100, note

UNIONVILLE — A southern Indiana man has gotten an early Christmas gift: A 16-foot-tall inflatable Santa Claus stolen from his yard has been returned with $100 and a note of apology.

Jason McClaren told the Herald-Times that someone returned the deflated Santa to his Unionville yard early Saturday in a trash bag that also contained the money and note.

He said the anonymous note made it clear that the person who returned the Santa wasn't the thief who took it and two 6-foot tall penguins this past week. The penguin decorations still are missing.

The typed note states: "Returning your property is the right thing to do, and apologies for the thief who took it in the first place."

McClaren said he plans to use the $100 to buy more decorations.

NEW MEXICO

Report: Thieves target toilet paper at diner

ALBUQUERQUE — A New Mexico restaurant employee said he's now seen it all, after three men left his diner with rolls of toilet paper and were nabbed in the parking lot by police.

Burgers, Dogs and Wings employee Josh Flannery-Stewart told KOAT-TV in Albuquerque that he was immediately suspicious of the men when they came in Saturday because they weren't talking and appeared "messed up."

The three went into the bathroom and emerged carrying about a dozen rolls of toilet paper. They got in a car in the parking lot, but didn't get far.

Albuquerque police apparently already had the trio under surveillance and quickly surrounded the car and arrested them.

The toilet paper was returned to its rightful owner.

LOS ANGELES

'Twilight' stays bright but Hollywood snoozes

The latest "Twilight" movie cast the longest shadow with $16.9 million for a third-straight No. 1 finish during one of the year's slowest weekends at the box office.

Business was dismal, with box-office tracker Hollywood.com estimating Sunday that domestic revenues totaled just $82 million. That puts it barely ahead of Hollywood's worst haul of the year, when revenues were $81.5 million over the second weekend in September.

Once studios release final numbers Monday, this past weekend could come in as the worst of the year if revenues finish even lower.

Cuts to slow delivery of first-class mail

By Hope Yen
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Facing bankruptcy, the U.S. Postal Service is pushing ahead with unprecedented cuts to first-class mail next spring that will slow delivery and, for the first time in 40 years, eliminate the chance for stamped letters to arrive the next day.

The estimated $3 billion in reductions, to be announced in broader detail today, are part of a wide-ranging effort by the cash-strapped Postal Service to quickly trim costs, seeing no immediate help from Congress.

The changes would provide short-term relief, but ultimately could prove counterproductive, pushing more of America's business onto the Internet. They could slow everything from check payments to Netflix's DVDs-by-mail, add costs to mail-order prescription drugs, and threaten the existence of newspapers and time-sensitive magazines delivered by postal carrier to far-flung suburban and rural communities.

That birthday card mailed first-class to Mom also could arrive a day or two late, if people don't plan ahead.

"It's a potentially major change, but I don't think consumers are focused on it and it won't register until the service goes away," said Jim Corridore, analyst with S&P Capital IQ, who tracks the shipping industry. "Over time, to the extent the customer service experience gets worse, it will only increase the shift away from mail to alternatives. There's almost nothing you can't do online that you can do by mail."

The cuts, now being finalized, would close roughly 250 of the nearly 500 mail processing centers across the country as early as next March. Because the consolidations typically would lengthen the distance mail travels from post office to processing center, the agency also would lower delivery standards for first-class mail that have been in place since 1971.

Currently, first-class mail is supposed to be delivered to homes and businesses within the continental U.S. in one day to three days. That will lengthen to two days to three days, meaning mailers no longer could expect next-day delivery in surrounding communities. Periodicals could take between two days and nine days.

About 42 percent of first-class mail is now delivered the following day. An additional 27 percent arrives in two days, about 31 percent in three days and less than 1 percent in four days to five days. Following the change next spring, about 51 percent of all first-class mail is expected to arrive in two days, with most of the remainder delivered in three days.

The consolidation of mail processing centers is in addition to the planned closing of about 3,700 local post offices. In all, roughly 100,000 postal employees could be cut as a result of the various closures, resulting in savings of up to $6.5 billion a year.

Expressing urgency to reduce costs, Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said in an interview that the agency has to act while waiting for Congress to grant it authority to reduce delivery to five days a week, raise stamp prices and reduce health care and other labor costs.

The Postal Service, an independent agency of government, does not receive tax money, but is subject to congressional control on large aspects of its operations. The changes in first-class mail delivery can go into place without permission from Congress.

After five years in the red, the post office faces imminent default this month on a $5.5 billion annual payment to the Treasury for retiree health benefits. It is projected to have a record loss of $14.1 billion next year amid steady declines in first-class mail volume. Donahoe has said the agency must make cuts of $20 billion by 2015 to be profitable.

It already has announced a 1-cent increase in first-class mail to 45 cents beginning Jan. 22.

"We have a business model that is failing. You can't continue to run red ink and not make changes," Donahoe said. "We know our business, and we listen to our customers. Customers are looking for affordable and consistent mail service, and they do not want us to take tax money."

Separate bills that have passed House and Senate committees would give the Postal Service more authority and liquidity to stave off immediate bankruptcy. But prospects are somewhat dim for final congressional action on those bills anytime soon, especially if the measures are seen in an election year as promoting layoffs and cuts to neighborhood post offices.

Technically, the Postal Service must await an advisory opinion from the independent Postal Regulatory Commission before it can begin closing local post offices and processing centers. But such opinions are nonbinding, and Donahoe is making clear the agency will proceed with reductions once the opinion is released next March.

"The things I have control over here at the Postal Service, we have to do," he said, describing the cuts as a necessary business decision. "If we do nothing, we will have a death spiral."

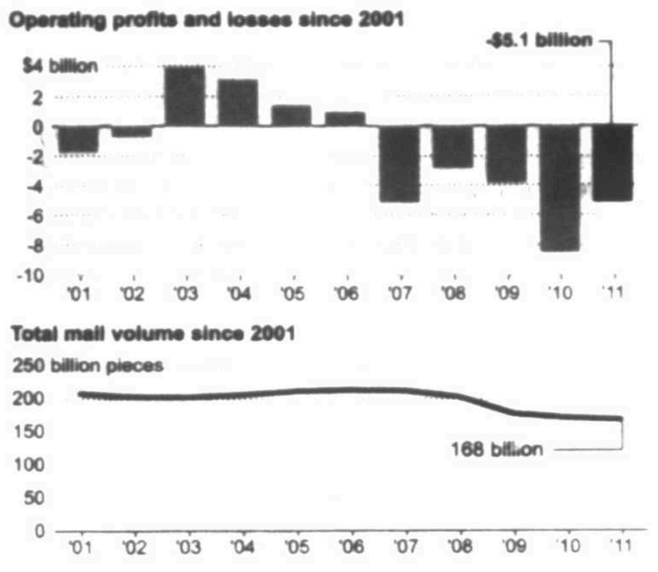
The Postal Service initially announced in September it was studying the possibility of closing the processing centers and published a notice in the Federal Register seeking comments. Within 30 days, the plan elicited nearly 4,400 public comments, mostly in opposition.

Among them:

- Small-town mayors and legislators in states including Illinois, Missouri, Ohio and Pennsylvania cited the economic harm if postal offices were to close, eliminating jobs and reducing service. Small-business owners in many other states also were worried.
- ESPN The Magazine and Crain Communications, which prints some 27 trade and consumer publications, said delays to first-class delivery could ruin the value of their news. Their magazines are typically printed at week's end with mail arrival timed for weekend sports events or the Monday start of the work week. Newspapers, already struggling in the Internet age, also could suffer.

Postal woes grow as volume sinks

Steep operating losses from increased online competition and high overhead costs are leading the cash-strapped U.S. Postal Service to cut spending to avert bankruptcy.



SOURCE U.S. Postal Service AP

Curiosities
Antiques • Collectibles • Gifts
Shop Late!
(till 8pm)
Thursday 12/8

30 DAYS OF SHOPPING
Shopping Challenge!
30 Stores in 30 Days!
DAY 10
THE Pennyrich®
311 Dodson Street Midland, TX 79701
Hours: M-F 10-5:30 & Saturday 12-5
432-683-1045
"Woman's beauty begins with proper foundation"
Where shopping pays off!

Jewelry Trunk Show!
De'Carol of Ruidoso
Thursday & Friday
December 8 & 9
the Boutique

Garden & View Poinsettias
Potted and Grown Locally Not in West Texas
Many Sizes!

Fun Facts Sponsored by
FRANKLIN FOLIAGE
LANDSCAPING
"Serving West Texas Since 1981"
Landscape & Water Features that Conserve Water, Outdoor Rooms, Low Voltage Lighting Systems
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www.franklinfoliage.com
Christmas Eve in Japan is a good day to eat fried chicken and strawberry shortcake.
The Christmas abbreviation Xmas is thought by some to be sacrilegious, but in fact the first letter of the Greek word for Christ in ciki, which is X.

Give Some
DIAMONDS
Holiday Diamonds
Get Some!
Jenkins
Jewelry & Luggage
432-699-5166

Are You Concerned About Your Water?
I've had your whole-house water system for just over a year. The benefits are unbelievable. Squeaky clean hair, less laundry detergent and cleaner clothes, not to mention tasty, healthy and safe drinking water. I couldn't be more pleased with your product or with your kind and professional services.
Thank you for providing this great water system.
Heidi S., Midland, TX
Good Technologies
Healthy Water Systems
Call for Free Estimate: 432-699-2312
www.GoodTechnologies.Biz
"Buy A Filter Or Be A Filter"

THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM'S
2011 Holiday Songbook
A holiday staple. Lyrics to over 35 richly illustrated holiday classics, sponsored by the Midland business community.
Neighborhood caroling, church and school sing-alongs or family by the fire. Be sure to get yours for free in your Sunday edition of the Midland Reporter-Telegram!
Oh, you better watch out...
For Midland's 2011 Holiday Songbook in your Sunday Paper!
DECEMBER 18TH
Midland Reporter-Telegram
Delivering Midland every day

CORDES-PITTS

From 1A

she recounted her experiences, it's not uncommon to see dozens of senior citizens participating in activities in one section of the community center. Later in the day, the nonprofit starts to look like a school as it's overrun with children receiving homework help and attending after-school programs.

At other times, adults filter in for GED and English language classes or for assistance with social services or health and dental issues.

"I think Casa's very good at recognizing needs in the community," she said.

The community center is now about three times the size it was when Cordes-Pitts joined the organization. That was done, in part, with an expansion spurred by a more than $800,000 donation from Jim and Paula Henry.

Programs also have grown, both through the continued focus on Casa's four service areas, as well as through partnerships.

The nonprofit works with Midland Independent School District, Legal Aid of West Texas, Community and Senior Services and others.

A mother of three, Cordes-Pitts said she occasionally thought about doing something else, but never wanted to close the door on the great opportunity she already was pursuing at Casa de Amigos.

Paul Brooks, now education director at Casa de Amigos, was on the board and hiring committee when Cordes-Pitts was selected and said her leadership has been what's kept the nonprofit on track in its mission of helping people help themselves.

"She really kept us together through hard times. There were times when we didn't even know where we were going to get our next dollar," Brooks said. "She was well-known in the community and represented Casa well. What's kept us going is the reputation that we have. You could have a lot of money and still not do well."

As executive director, one of Cordes-Pitts main focuses was on fundraising and, especially in recent years, on establishing an endowment to ensure the nonprofit can flourish in the years to come.

At the Henry Foundation, she'll get to be on the other side and advise the Henrys, as well as the foundation's committee on where to give.

"The fact that I'm going to still be able to help Casa personally and professionally made it a little easier to let go," she said. "It's good. Just like Jim Henry said, change is good."

Kathleen Thurber can be reached at kthurber@mrt.com.

HISPANIC

From 1A

Hispanics for President Obama is dramatically less than it was in 2008, because he has not fulfilled his campaign promises either. So I view the Hispanic vote up for grabs."

McCain comment, on CNN's "State of the Union," is a warning to the GOP primary candidates who have mostly embraced a hardline on immigration, lest they be accused of supporting any kind of "amnesty" for the some 12 million illegal immigrants estimated to be living in the U.S. Newt Gingrich was most recently attacked by his opponents for saying he would grant legal status to those with longstanding family and community ties; he has since endorsed a South Carolina law that allows police to demand a person's immigration status.

McCain said he believes the Hispanic vote could sway Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico. The key, he said, was for Republicans to address immigration in a humane and pragmatic way that every voter could appreciate. More specifically, McCain said, GOP presidential candidates should find a way to address the status of illegal immigrants already in the country while finding a way to secure the border to deter others from crossing the border.

"It's a careful balance of addressing this issue, which I think the majority of Hispanics would appreciate. . . . We have to have empathy. We have to have concern. We have to have a plan," he said.

In 2008, McCain watched his own standing in the election suffer when he backed a plan to give some illegal immigrants an eventual path to citizenship.

Gingrich has challenged his GOP opponents to come up with their own plans for dealing with the millions inside the U.S. illegally.

"What is it that you're going to do? Are you really going to go in and advocate ripping people out of their families?" he said.

In 2008, Mitt Romney had supported the idea of allowing some illegal immigrants to sign up for permanent residency or citizenship. More recently, he has said it would be a "mistake" for the GOP to allow anyone to "jump ahead of the line" and characterized Gingrich's approach as a "doorway" to amnesty.

In the interview Sunday, McCain declined to comment on the position of individual candidates. "I respect the views of the voters," he said.

MISD

From 1A

work with students experiencing grief and loss.

The new lunchtime support groups are an extension of the grant, Acosta said.

"We found something that allows them to use their voice and tell us what they're dealing with in a non-threatening way," Acosta said. "We want to give them a time to speak up and share what they need to share."

As students move through the many stages of grief, Acosta said it is often difficult for them to accept what happened. By talking about what they're feeling, it can often help them move through the final stage, she said.

"It's a time where the students can recognize they're not alone and that whatever they're going through, they don't have to go at it alone," Acosta said.

Though some teachers may suggest students attend meetings, they are completely voluntary and are not used as an academic or behavioral trade-off, Acosta said.

"It has to be completely voluntary for it to work how we want it to work," she said.

Though only a few meetings have been held among the district's freshmen and high school campuses, Acosta said they've already seen students open up and express their emotions.

"We let them know they're welcome to share everything and anything, but if anything is shared that is hurting them or others, we will be reporting it," Acosta said.

As time progresses, Lee High School collegiate coach Naomi Dominguez said she thinks Learn to Laugh Again will serve a fundamental need in the schools.

"They get to express what they're feeling and what they're going through," she said. "I think that in the future it will be good for the kids."

Launched on freshman and high school campuses in November, Acosta said they're slowly building the program. The programs will launch on elementary and junior high campuses in January, under the direction of school counselors, Acosta said.

Meredith Moriak can be reached at mmoriak@mrt.com.

Postwar Marines: smaller, less focused on land war

By Robert Burns
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With the Iraq war ending and an Afghanistan exit in sight, the Marine Corps is beginning a historic shift, returning to its roots as a seafaring force that will get smaller, lighter and, it hopes, less bogged down in land wars.

This moment of change happens to coincide with a reorienting of American security priorities to the Asia-Pacific region, where China has been building military muscle during a decade of U.S. preoccupation in the greater Middle East. That suits the Marines, who see the Pacific as a home away from home.

After two turns at combat in Iraq, first as invaders in the 2003 march to Baghdad and later as occupiers of landlocked Anbar province, the Marines left the country in early 2010 to reinforce the fight in southern Afghanistan. Over that stretch the Marines became what the former Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman, Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, has called their own "worst nightmare" — a second American land army, a static, ground-pounding auxiliary force.

That's scary for the Marines because, for some in Congress, it raises this question: Does a nation drowning in debt really need two armies?

Gen. James F. Amos, the Marine Corps commandant, says that misses the real point. He argues that the Marines, while willing and able to operate from dug-in positions on land, are uniquely equipped and trained to do much more. They can get to any crisis, on land, at sea or in the air, on a moment's notice.

He is eager to see the Iraq and Afghanistan missions completed so the Marines can return to their traditional role as an expeditionary force.

"We need to get back to our bread and butter," Amos told Marines Nov. 23 at Camp Lawton, a U.S. special operations base in Afghanistan's Herat province.

That begins, he said, with moves such as returning to a pattern of continuous rotations of Marines to the Japanese island of Okinawa, home of the 3rd Marine Division formed in the early days of World War II. The rotation of infantry battalions to Okinawa was interrupted by the Iraq war. After the March 2003 invasion, that war evolved into a bigger, costlier and longer-lasting counterinsurgency campaign than the Pentagon or the Marines had anticipated.

Amos says he plans to begin lining up infantry battalion rotations for Okinawa even before the 2014 target date for ending U.S. combat in Afghanistan.

Another element of this return-to-our-roots approach is the decision announced in late November to rotate Marines to Australia for training with Australian forces from an Australian army base in Darwin, beginning in 2012.

Up to 2,500 Marines, infantry units as well as aviation squadrons and combat logistic battalions, will go there from Okinawa or other Marine stations in Japan and elsewhere in the Pacific for a few months at a time.

"As we draw down (troops in Afghanistan) and we reorient the Marine Corps, it will be primarily to the Pacific," Amos told Marine aviators at a U.S. base in Kandahar, Afghanistan, noting as an aside that he doubted any of them had ever deployed to the Pacific. "The main focus of effort is going to be the Pacific for the Marines." He added that Marines will remain present in the Persian Gulf area and elsewhere as required, but not in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Versatility is the key to keeping the Marines relevant to U.S. national security requirements, he says.

"We're not a one-trick pony," he said. "We're the ultimate Swiss army knife."

The decade of war following the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and Washington began for the Marines in late November 2001 with an airborne assault on al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden's turf in the desert south of Kandahar in southern Afghanistan.

Marines of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit flew more than 400 miles aboard helicopters launched from the USS Peleliu in the North Arabian Sea. A month later the Taliban, which had provided haven for bin Laden as al-Qaida plotted the Sept. 11 attacks, were routed and the war seemed largely over. It was not until 2010 that the Marines returned in large numbers to Afghanistan, where fighting had evolved into a stalemate.

By late 2002, the Marines and other U.S. forces were preparing for another land war, this time in Iraq. In March 2003 the Marines pushed north from Kuwait along with the Army's 3rd Infantry Division, for the main assault on Baghdad. This war, too, seemed to be over within a few months.

But it took an unexpected turn even as the Marines left Iraq in September 2003. An insurgency took hold that fall and in March 2004 the Marines returned, this time to Anbar province in Iraq's western desert, where the Sunni insurgency was entrenched and the outlook appeared grim.

The Marines' death toll in Iraq was 1,022, nearly one-quarter of the U.S. total, according to Pentagon statistics. Thus far in Afghanistan at least 376 Marines have died.

For both wars combined, the Marines had the highest death rate among the four major services, 0.47 percent of all Marines who served in the two countries, according to an Associated Press analysis. That compares with 0.38 percent for the Army, which played the dominant ground combat role.

Iran says it shot down unmanned US spy plane

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's armed forces have shot down an unmanned U.S. spy plane that violated Iranian airspace along the country's eastern border, the official IRNA news agency reported Sunday.

An unidentified military official quoted in the report warned of a strong and crushing response to any violations of the country's airspace by American drone aircraft.

"An advanced RQ-170 unmanned American spy plane was shot down by Iran's armed forces. It suffered minor damage and is now in possession of Iran's armed forces," IRNA quoted the official as saying.

No further details were published.

The U.S.-led coalition in Afghanistan said in a statement the aircraft may be an American drone that its operators lost contact with last week while it was flying a mission over neighboring western Afghanistan.

A U.S. official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the U.S. had "absolutely no indication" the drone was shot down.

Iran is locked in a dispute with the U.S. and its allies over Tehran's disputed nuclear program, which the West believes is aimed at developing nuclear weapons. Iran denies the accusations.

Midland Police Officers Stephen Truex and Eliud Amparan patrol the mall parking lot on ATVs Saturday afternoon.

Tim Fischer Reporter-Telegram

TIPS

From 1A

between now and New Year's Eve looking for drunken drivers.

"There are a lot of Christmas and holiday parties and it's unfortunate, but some people over do it and get themselves into trouble," Darr said of partygoers drinking and driving. "Be responsible and don't drink and drive. We're hoping everyone has a happy and safe holiday."

James Cannon can be reached at jcannon@mrt.com.

CRIME STOPPERS

Garcia, Dale
DOB: 7-22-1983
5 feet 3 inches 250 pounds

- Wanted as of 12-4-11. Theft of service over $1,500 under $20,000.
- $250 reward to the first person who calls Midland Crime Stoppers with information that leads to this fugitive's arrest.
- Call 694-TIPS or 1-800-7-LOCKUP, go online to midlandcrimestoppers.com or text TIP247 plus your message to 274637.
- As always, you will remain anonymous.
- Never attempt to apprehend this subject yourself. Subject may be armed or dangerous.

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

■ Miracle on 34th Street at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, intersection of Highway 191 and FM 1788. Tickets: Go to www.etix.com or call 800-514-3849.

■ OP Camp: All-Star event featuring Josh Hamilton, 5:30 p.m., Midland Center, 105 Main St. For more information, call 684-7540 or go to www.opcamp.com.

Meetings schedule

Planning and Zoning Commission
3:30 p.m. today
City Council Chambers, City Hall
300 N. Loraine St.

Community calendar

■ ODESSA — PFLAG Odessa (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) will celebrate its first anniversary 7 p.m. today at Alternative Life Solutions Counseling, 2458 E. 11th St. in Odessa.

For more information, call Sharl Johnson at 559-5909 or 337-3684 or visit www.pflagodessa.weebly.com.

■ The 2010 Permian Basin Pecan Show will be held today at the Midland County Extension Office.

For further information, contact the Midland County Extension Office.

Talk show schedules

News talk
KCRS (AM 550)
6-9 a.m. The Morning Drive with Robert Hallmark and Kurt Varlei
9-11 a.m. Lynn Woolley
11 a.m.-2 p.m. Rush Limbaugh
2-5 p.m. Dave Ramsey
5-6 p.m. Local News reports
6-9 p.m. Roger Hedgecock
9-midnight Hugh Hewitt
Midnight-6 a.m. Coast to Coast with George Noory
web: http://www.newstalkkcrs.com/

KWEL (AM 1070)
6-10 a.m. The Morning Show with Craig Anderson
10 a.m.-noon Laura Ingraham
Noon-2 p.m. Glenn Beck
2-5 p.m. Sean Hannity
5-6 p.m. Jason Moore
6-9 p.m. Michael Savage
Web: http://www.kwel.com

Sport talk
KMND (AM 1510)
6-9 a.m. Mike and Mike in the Morning
9 a.m.-noon The Herd with Colin Cowherd
Noon-3 p.m. The Dan Patrick Show
3-6 p.m. The Doug Gottlieb Show

How to submit

■ Births. Have information and a picture about a newborn son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter you want in the paper? Call Managing Editor Mary Dearen at 687-6652.

■ Engagement, wedding anniversary or quinceanera announcements: email write-up and photo to weddings@mrt.com. For more information, call 682-6222.

■ Education news: email information and photo to Mary Dearen at mdearen@mrt.com or Stewart Doreen at sdoreen@mrt.com. For more information, call 687-6652.

■ Religion news: email information and photo to Lifestyle Editor Megan Buck at mbuck@mrt.com. For more information, call 687-6871.

■ Items for "Names & Faces," a roundup of community and society events: email information and photo to Managing Editor Mary Dearen at mdearen@mrt.com or Editor Stewart Doreen at sdoreen@mrt.com. For more information, call 687-6652.

■ For "Have You Heard" call Marilyn Harrison at 682-3080 or 685-1823 or email information to texachem@clearwire.net. Photos also can be submitted; e-mail photos to mdearen@mrt.com.

■ Business and oil industry news:contact Oil Editor Melia McEwen at 687-6660 or mmcewen@mrt.com.

■ Items of local interest: contact Editor Stewart Doreen at 687-6656 or sdoreen@mrt.com.

■ Letters to the editor: e-mail to letters@mrt.com or mail to 201 E. Illinois Ave., 79701. For more information call 687-6652.

Know a member of the military coming home?

Military families can call 689-8686 or email Vickie Gomez (gomezv@cabecine.net) when they know their soldier is flying into our airport so the Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee can be there to greet them.

Making the Grade guidelines

Because of space constraints and in the interest of fairness, the Reporter-Telegram has established new guidelines for Making the Grade, effective Aug. 22.

■ Submissions will be accepted only from schools and organizations.

■ Individual items will be limited to 75 words.

Today in history

Today is Monday, Dec. 5, the 339th day of 2011. There are 26 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Dec. 5, 1933, national Prohibition came to an end as Utah became the 36th state to ratify the 21st Amendment to the Constitution, repealing the 18th Amendment.

On this date:

In 1776, the first scholastic fraternity in America, Phi Beta Kappa, was organized at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

In 1848, President James K. Polk triggered the Gold Rush of '49 by confirming gold had been discovered in California.

In 1932, German physicist Albert Einstein was granted a visa, making it possible for him to travel to the United States.

In 1955, the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations merged to form the AFL-CIO under its first president, George Meany.

One year ago: On the eve of talks with six world powers, Iran announced that it had produced its first batch of locally mined uranium for enrichment.

ACROSS THE NATION

FROM WIRE REPORTS

GEORGIA

Leader taking time off from megachurch

LITHONIA — Megachurch leader Bishop Eddie Long announced Sunday he's taking time off to focus on his family after his wife filed for divorce.

Long's spokesman, Art Franklin, said the New Birth Missionary Baptist Church leader told his congregation during church services that he will continue to serve as senior pastor at the church in Lithonia just outside Atlanta. But Long said he needs a sabbatical.

Franklin declined to say how long the pastor's sabbatical from the church would be. He said Long and his family "are asking for privacy and sensitivity to their family."

The split comes more than a year after allegations last year that Eddie Long used his lavish lifestyle and position of spiritual authority to lure four young men into sexual relationships.

WASHINGTON

Feds: Bluefin tuna probably OK after BP oil spill

A federal analysis shows that last year's BP oil spill probably won't push the troubled bluefin tuna Gulf of Mexico population over the edge as some scientists had worried.

Scientists had been most concerned about how the oil spill would harm an already overfished species of large tuna. That's because satellite records show that about one-fifth of the spawning habitat where the Gulf's baby tuna were living was coated with oil.

Obama defends American faith amid GOP critique

By Ken Thomas
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republican Mitt Romney accuses President Barack Obama of considering America "just another nation." To other GOP politicians running for the White House, Obama has apologized for the United States and is presiding over the nation's decline.

ELECTION 2012

Now comes the counteroffensive.

The president of the United States is defending his faith in America, confronting GOP efforts to undercut his leadership and raise questions about his patriotism as he seeks reelection.

In the battle over "American exceptionalism," Obama used a recent trip to Asia to highlight America's role as the strongest and most influential nation on earth. In this election season, responding to the Republican critique is essential for Obama, the only incumbent ever compelled to show a birth certificate to defend his legitimacy.

"Sometimes the pundits and the newspapers and the TV commentators love to talk about how America is slipping and America is in decline," Obama said Wednesday at a New York fundraiser. "That's not what you feel when you're in Asia. They're looking to us for leadership. They know that America is great not just because we're powerful, but also because we have a set of values that the world admires."

"We don't just think about what's good for us, but we're also thinking about what's good for the world," he said. "That's what makes us special. That's what makes us exceptional."

Republicans have seized on "American exceptionalism," a belief among many in the nation that the U.S. is special among global powers, and tried to portray Obama as expressing ambivalence about the promise of his own country. The message resounds with party activists who still admire President Ronald Reagan, who memorialized America as that "Shining City on a Hill" during the 1980s.

"We have a president right now who thinks America's just another nation. America is an exceptional nation," Romney, a former Massachusetts governor, said during a GOP debate in Las Vegas last month. Even his campaign slogan — "Believe in America" — suggests that the current president doesn't.

Others have tried to use it to their advantage.

Gov. Rick Perry, in an interview with Fox News' Bill O'Reilly last month, said Obama had "traveled around the country making excuses for America, apologizing for America, saying that America is not an exemplary country."

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich criticized Obama after 16 Latin American and Caribbean nations filed "friend of the court" briefs in a Justice Department lawsuit against a tough new immigration law in South Carolina, home to an important GOP primary. "It makes you wonder what country does President Obama think he is president of," Gingrich said.

Obama has given detractors ample material for their attacks.

At a San Francisco fundraiser in October, the president talked about the importance of investing in education, new roads and bridges and other ways to build the economy.

"We used to have the best stuff. Anybody been to Beijing Airport lately?" Obama said, asking what has changed. "Well, we've lost our ambition, our imagination, and our willingness to do the things that built the Golden Gate Bridge and Hoover Dam." Republicans picked up on the comments, accusing Obama of calling Americans unambitious.

During a meeting with business executives in Honolulu last month, Obama was asked about impediments to investment in the U.S. He said many foreign investors see opportunity here, "but we've been a little bit lazy, I think over the last couple of decades." The "lazy" comments were quickly turned into an attack ad from Perry.

During a 2009 news conference, Obama was asked whether he subscribed to the concept of American exceptionalism. He said he believed in American exceptionalism, "just as I suspect that the Brits believe in British exceptionalism and the Greeks believe in Greek exceptionalism."

The president said he was "enormously proud of my country" and highlighted the nation's "core set of values enshrined in our Constitution" that ensure democracy, free speech and equality. Words that voters are likely to hear more of during the next year.

A Gallup poll in December 2010 found that 80 percent of Americans thought the U.S. had a unique character that made it the greatest country in the world. The survey found that 91 percent of Republicans agreed with the statement.

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Opinion

Is the GOP ready for the next course ... Gingrich?

■ Can Republicans justify a vote for the next in the line of surging Romney alternatives?

KATHLEEN PARKER
Washington Post Writers Group

Things sure do change fast around here. One week it's Rick Perry, the next it's Herman Cain. Now it's ... Newt Gingrich?

The Republican voter is like a starving man at a free buffet. He gorges on this, then that, then spies a steaming plump pork roast at the far end of the table. *Charge!*

(No anatomical parallels intended.)

The Newt Surge, deserving as it is of Uppercase Respect, has thrown everyone off — except, that is, Gingrich, who seems to be savoring his own inevitability. But of course he's leading the polls. He dominates in debates. He's been there, done that. He's even nice to his opponents, refusing to criticize them or play along with moderators, who, in addition to being members of the loathed mainstream media, are intellectual chicken hawks trying to stir up a fight that they can then smugly condemn.

Brilliant.

The conundrum for the heretofore unmentioned front-runner, Mitt Romney, is to determine whether Gingrich's rise is a mere appetizer to Romney's eventual banquet, or is a serious threat to his presumed nomination. Romney may have a more serious problem than is conceivable given the trolley of baggage that Gingrich has to drag around. The largest pieces include: taking huge sums in consulting fees from Freddie Mac; ethics violations from his days as speaker of the House; an extramarital affair with a Hill staffer, his now-wife Callista, while he was trying to impeach Bill Clinton for lying about his extramarital dalliance with an intern.

Gingrich's rise may indicate a populace that considers the nation's challenges more important than personal foibles. Or, more likely, his surge is an affirmation of the Republican base's preference for a good ol' boy from the South rather than an exotic from a vacation reef out in the middle of the ocean.

If exotic got us into this mess, then might not the antidote be a Georgian who knows his way around the Federalist Papers? The anyone-but-Mitt crowd can overlook a satchel of sins if the alternative is a flip-flopping cultist from Up There. (Please bear in mind, observation is not endorsement.)

Indeed, a man who has fallen from grace and arisen from the political ash heap is more than an ecumenical metaphor. To many Republican voters, Gingrich is "one of us," a familiar face, a known quantity. Most important, he has done the single thing that transcends sin. He has confessed and repented.

If Christian Americans hate a sin, they love a sinner. Let's face it: Forgiveness feels good. Gingrich not only has been forthright in admitting his flaws, but he also converted to Catholicism. Who knows? In another generation, Republicans may take Mormonism off the cult list.

One doesn't have to be a Catholic to appreciate the sublime duet of confession and redemption. The ability to shed the burden of sin in a confessional booth, submit to the humility of shame and accept the grace of forgiveness is an appealing exit from the turmoil of personal transgression. No wonder the masses flock to St. Peter's Square.

Bottom line: Most Americans would rather embrace a man who has fallen and climbed back to his feet than one who never has stubbed his toe on temptation. The successful protagonist is always flawed. In Romney breaking news: He removes the cheese from his pizza but has a weakness for chocolate milk. Mr. Squeaky not only has no skeletons in the closet; he has no closets.

Republicans can characterize their preference for Gingrich as the lure of Big Ideas, but this would be more justification than explanation. Gingrich does have big ideas; they're just mostly bad ones. At least they are untested and, in such precarious times, perhaps too risky. His two-of-everything model for health care and Social Security, for example — wherein we keep the old system but also create a new one — sounds spectacular in concept. We love a choice. But implementation is a Trojan horse of another color. If one system is breaking the bank, how much would two put us in the hole?

A few weeks ago, Gingrich was the quiet gnome on the debate panel, patiently waiting for his turn to dazzle. He was the sage father figure, certain of his certainty, benignly tolerant of the petulant children whose company he was forced to keep. Today, he is the prince of tides.

But the tides ebb and flow, and the sands shift. And well, they might again.

OUR VIEW

Highway 349 expansion to Lamesa makes total sense

Midland and the Permian Basin got an early Christmas gift from the Texas Department of Transportation last week when it announced that State Highway 349 will become a four-lane road between Midland and Lamesa by 2015.

Earlier plans by TxDOT left region residents less than satisfied. The change of heart by the state's transportation agency revives old plans that will make the entire Highway 349 route between Midland and Lamesa a four-lane roadway.

Previously, TxDOT had announced plans to drop the four-lane project. However, public response was so great that TxDOT revised its effort with plans to expand Highway 349 to four lanes between the Midland County and Dawson County lines while the rest of the route to Lamesa would become a "super two" roadway, which consists of two lanes and a third alternating passing lane.

This plan also didn't sit well with residents. It was seen as only a partial fix to a heavily used route. Many thought the road would remain a dangerous highway to travel.

Now, TxDOT is back to the original plans, and we fully agree that this path is the correct course to take. TxDOT's decision will only add to the economic impact of the region and ultimately will save lives.

State cutbacks from the past legislative session in Austin shifted transportation focus in this state, and it is unfortunate that this project almost was ended. But we still can take a few positives from this situation. First and foremost, we learned that things can happen when people stand up to fight for what they deserve. Residents didn't let this project slide into the night, and we must be grateful for the effort of all those involved contributed.

We also can spend a lot of time criticizing the vacillation of TxDOT on this issue, but we are grateful in the end that the agency was responsive to the needs and the call of the people. In the end, this project will be funded and completed. This works out for all of us and opens up the Permian Basin to much greater accessibility. It is a major step forward.

We commend this TxDOT decision for its simple merit. For us, it was a project that had to be done and was a no-brainer from the get-go. It just makes sense in every aspect from safety to economics. We look forward to the completion date because it will truly usher in a new transportation era for Midland and the Permian Basin.

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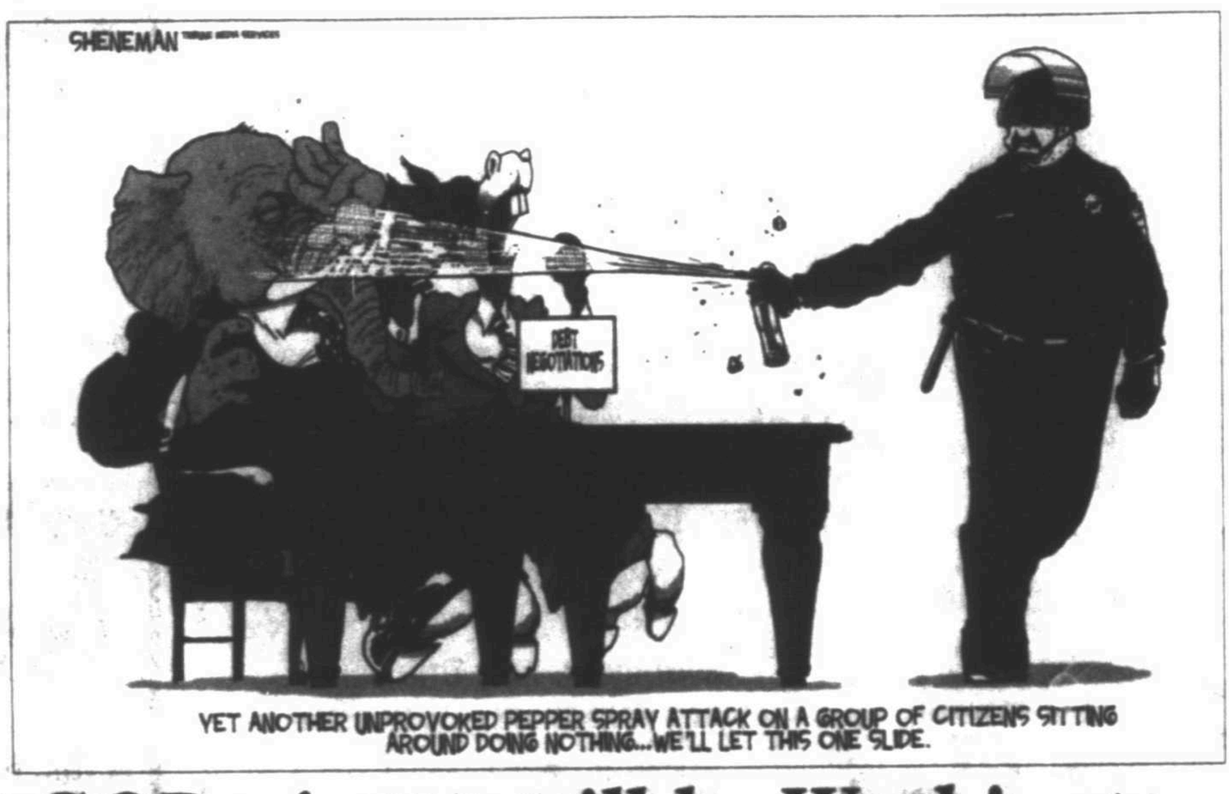

GOP winner will be Washington

■ Could the tea party be the biggest loser in a Romney vs. Gingrich battle?

DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

The first votes of the Republican primary season don't come until next month, but we already know how it's going to turn out: Washington has won again.

It may be Mitt Romney or it may be Newt Gingrich, but from the point of view of this town, it doesn't matter: Neither poses a threat to our way of life. Our hometown industry — a commission-based economy in which the local citizenry helps the powerful get what they want from a too-big government — will survive.

Washington's win was not always assured. Michele Bachmann would have taken a whack at big government, when she wasn't converting all D.C. residents to heterosexuality. Rick Perry would have slashed large chunks of the federal government, once he remembered what they were. Pizza man Herman Cain, had he not been undone by his behavior issues, probably would have brought the whole place to a halt.

But neither of the leading contenders represents a danger to Washington's political culture. As is already well-known, Romney, trained at Harvard and financed lavishly by Wall Street and special interests, is a technocrat and a second-generation politician driven more by personal ambition than any of the various ideologies he has assumed over the years. Conservatives justifiably were searching for an alternative to Willard Milquetoast, but instead they have wound up with the consummate Washington insider — a man who has made himself a multi-millionaire by peddling his influence in the capital.

"I did no lobbying of any kind — period," Gingrich said last week, explaining why the $1.5 million-plus he earned from lending his influence to mortgage giant Freddie Mac wasn't technically lobbying. "I'm going to be really direct, OK? I was charging $60,000 a speech. And the number of speeches was going up, not down. Normally, celebrities leave and they gradually sell fewer speeches every year. We were selling more."

So he wasn't lobbying — because he was instead trading on his name and influence in Washington to give speeches for $60,000 a pop. That's well more, for an hour's work, than the median household income in the United States, which last year was $49,445. Newton Leroy Gingrich, self-described celebrity, poses no threat to Washington's pay-to-play economy.

My Washington Post colleagues Karen Tumulty and Dan Eggen, in a recent report, quoted a Gingrich lawyer as saying the various tentacles of Newt Inc. have generated close to $100 million in revenues during the past decade. Virtually all of these for-profit activities trade on his name and influence: health care think tank, consulting, speeches, TV appearances, books and more. His nonprofit political entities have brought in another $52 million — some of which is used to charter jets for Gingrich, who "earned" $2.5 million in personal income last year.

Gingrich's rise to power two decades ago was financed by a Washington political action committee, GOPAC. Once in the majority, his leadership team championed the K Street Project, designed to make sure top lobbying jobs in Washington went to Republicans. Two years after he won the speakership, the GOP-controlled House reprimanded him for misleading investigators over his use of tax-exempt funds for a college class; Gingrich agreed to pay $300,000 to reimburse taxpayers for the investigation.

The emergence of the Washington-friendly Newt as the last alternative to a Washington-friendly Mitt is but one sign that the tea party's anti-government insurgency has run its course. A poll released last week by the Pew Research Center found that agreement with the tea party has dropped substantially. In early 2010, 24 percent of Americans said they agreed with the tea party movement and 14 percent disagreed; now, 20 percent agree and 27 percent disagree. In congressional districts represented by tea partyers, agreement once led disagreement by 31-10. Now, it's 25-23.

Too late, some conservatives have begun to realize that Gingrich offers little in the way of an alternative to Romney. National Review last week dug up a Gingrich quote from 2004 in which he said the conservative Club for Growth was "explicitly wrong" for financing conservative primary challenges to moderate Republicans. And the Washington Examiner editorialized that Gingrich's past makes "it difficult not to view Gingrich as an exemplar of Washington's professional Republican politicians who talk the talk to get elected, but often don't walk it once in office."

In its pivotal endorsement of Gingrich last week, the conservative Manchester Union Leader editorialized that Gingrich has "the best shot" among the candidates of improving Washington. Here in the capital, we know better: Gingrich won't change a thing.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

AROUNDTHEGLOBE

FROM WIRE REPORTS

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Assisted suicide — Canada revisits an old debate

VANCOUVER — Confined to a wheelchair, in constant pain and unable to bathe without help, a 63-year-old grandmother has forced the issue of assisted suicide into Canadian courts for the third time in two decades.

Gloria Taylor has Lou Gehrig's disease, a rapidly progressive, invariably fatal neurological affliction.

"It is my life and my body and it should be my choice as to when and how I die," she said before going to the British Columbia Supreme Court last Thursday to challenge Canada's ban on assisted suicide, a crime carrying a sentence of up to 14 years in prison.

It has been nearly 20 years since another Lou Gehrig's disease sufferer, Sue Rodriguez, gripped Canadian hearts with her court battle for the right to assisted suicide. She lost her appeal but took her own life with the help of an anonymous doctor in 1994, aged 44.

In the latest case now unfolding, Taylor's lead lawyer, civil liberties defender Joe Arvay, argued to the court that assisted suicides were taking place despite the ban, a practice he likened to the illegal "back-alley abortions" of the past.

Opponents argue that allowing assisted deaths could lead to abuses of the elderly and infirm. Dr. Will Johnston of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition of Canada fears people could be pushed toward death when their lives are no longer convenient for others.

LONDON

2 giant pandas from China land in Scotland

Two giant pandas from China landed Sunday in Scotland, where they will become the first to live in Britain in nearly two decades.

The 8-year-old pair, named Tian Tian and Yang Guang — or Sweetie and Sunshine — were welcomed by bagpipe players and a host of dignitaries as they touched down at Edinburgh Airport on a specially chartered Boeing 777 flight called the "Panda Express."

The pandas, from the southwestern Chinese province of Sichuan, are to stay for 10 years at Edinburgh Zoo, where officials hope they will give birth to cubs. The female, Tian Tian, has had twin cubs in the past, but not with Yang Guang. The male panda has previously fathered cubs, as well.

The loan marked the beginning of a U.K.-China research program on the animals, and both sides have described it as a signal of a growing friendship between Scotland and China. China sometimes gives or lends the cuddly looking animals — considered a Chinese national treasure — to other countries to boost relations.

Pivotal week for Europe's leaders and fate of euro

By Raf Casert and David McHugh
Associated Press

BRUSSELS — Europe's government-debt crisis, which has dragged on for more than two years, is entering a pivotal week, as leaders across the continent converge to prevent a collapse of the euro and a global financial panic that could result.

Expectations are rising that Friday's summit of leaders of the 27 countries in the European Union will yield a breakthrough. An agreement on tighter integration of the 17 EU countries that use the euro — especially on budget matters — would be seen as a crucial first step. That could trigger further emergency aid from the European Central Bank, the International Monetary Fund or some combination, analysts say.

The coming days "will decide if the euro will survive or not," Emma Marcegaglia, the head of Italy's industrial lobby, Confindustria, said Sunday.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, European Central Bank Chief Mario Draghi and even U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner will star in a 5-day financial drama leading up to the summit.

If the summit is a failure, Sarkozy warned last week, "the world will not wait for Europe."

Sarkozy and Merkel meet in Paris on Monday to unveil a proposal for closer political and economic ties between the 17 euro countries. While the leaders differ on some of the details, their cooperation has been so tight they have come to be known by a single name — "Merkozy."

The two agree overall on the need for tougher, enforceable rules that would prevent governments from spending or borrowing too much — and on certain penalties for persistent violators.

"Where we today have agreements, we need in the future to have legally binding regulations," Merkel said Friday.

Merkel wants to change the basic EU treaty to reflect the tougher rules on euro countries and make them enforceable. Even if there is general agreement on Friday, actually putting new rules in place through treaty changes could take more than a year. And many economists fear the new rules alone would not be enough to halt the rise in Europe's borrowing costs.

The hope is that a firm expression of intent, however, would reassure the ECB, so that it can make stronger efforts in the short term. That would give governments time to get their finances under better control and make economic reforms that would improve growth.

The urgency has been heightened in recent weeks as Italy and Spain, the continent's third- and fourth-largest economies, face unsustainable high costs to finance their debts. The yield on 10-year Italian bonds is around 7 percent. Yields above that level forced Ireland, Portugal and Greece to seek bailouts. By comparison, bond yields in Germany, Europe's largest and most stable economy, are roughly 2 percent.

"The eurozone is threatened to face an existential situation if it becomes clear over the next few weeks that several member states cannot cover their refinancing needs, or can only do so at suicidal conditions," former German Finance Minister Peer Steinbrueck told the Sunday edition of German tabloid Bild.

"Everything must be done to hinder the eurozone from breaking up," he said.

Italy, whose government debt is equivalent to 120 percent of the country's annual economic output, needs to refinance $270 billion of its $2.6 trillion of outstanding debt by the end of April.

The size of the problems facing Italy and Spain are considered too large for the existing funds available to the European Financial Stability Facility ($590 billion) and the IMF ($389 billion.) To boost the firepower of the IMF, several economists have proposed that the ECB lend to it.

"We are now entering the critical period," the EU's financial chief, Olli Rehn, said last Wednesday.

That same day, the U.S. Federal Reserve, in coordination with the ECB and four other central banks, sought to give stressed-out European banks some relief. The Fed announced a plan to make it cheaper for banks to borrow American dollars, which is the dominant currency of trade. It was the most extraordinary coordinated effort since October 2008, and it prompted a nearly 500-point rally in the Dow Jones industrial average.

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New state $1 notes go in a hurry

Texans have just 48 hours to get them for face value

UMS – With only 48 hours to get your hands on these new Texas state $1 notes for face value, you'd better do it today.

And don't even bother calling your local bank or credit union because they don't have them.

That's because the never-circulated U.S. Gov't issued notes are being released and overlaid with the Texas state design exclusively by the World Reserve.

One thing is certain, residents who don't call right away to order the protective estate wallets can't get the new notes at face value.

That's why a Toll Free Hotline has been set up and residents are being urged to call 1-866-633-7495 starting at precisely 8:30am this morning.

"Those lucky enough to get the new notes are saying it feels like hitting the lottery," said Chris Mayle, Director of Operations.

"My advice is don't wait to call. Pick up the phone right now and get as many of the new Texas state overlaid $1 notes as possible while you still can," Mayle said. ■

■ **GOING, GOING, GONE:** Everyone is trying to get the collection of twelve new Texas state notes before they're all gone. Each note comes with a certificate of authenticity and is individually loaded into an impressive estate wallet to protect the note's valuable collector condition.

New state notes handed over to Texans by zip code

Never before seen Texas state $1 notes are actually being handed over for just face value to the first 6,049 callers who find their zip code on the distribution list below and beat the 48 hour deadline to get the protective estate wallets loaded with real money

Universal Media Syndicate

UMS – The Toll Free Hotlines are ringing off the hook.

That's because the only Texas state $1 notes in existence are actually being handed over with numbered certificates of authenticity for just face value to Texas residents who find their zip code printed in today's publication.

The only thing residents need to do is beat the 48-hour deadline by calling 1-866-633-7495 to instantly be awarded the collection of twelve new Texas state overlaid $1 notes for face value just by covering standard shipping and the protective estate wallets for only $15 per wallet to protect each note's valuable collector condition.

"I'm advising everyone in Texas who finds their zip code on today's distribution list to get to their phones right now because the new Texas state $1 notes are only being released to the first 6,049 callers," said Jefferson Marshall, Executive Director of the private World Reserve.

Remember, these are the only Texas state overlaid $1 notes in existence featuring the Texas longhorn and the Dallas cityscape and President George Washington on the front and once they're gone, they're gone. Even if you don't consider yourself a collector, as a Texan this is the one collection you really need to get.

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Here's why the protective estate wallets are so important. The new Texas state $1 notes being released today are the only ones in existence. They are in absolute pristine collector's condition without a blemish, crease or fold. That's why the World Reserve is only releasing these Texas state notes in the protective estate wallets.

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The outer skin of the estate wallet is made of a thick, padded dark grain and graced by an official gold seal. To further enhance the security features of the estate wallets, they've been sized perfectly to fit into a personal safe or bank safety deposit box.

I can say two things for sure. At just $15 each the custom estate wallets are a real steal and if you're lucky enough to be one of the first 6,049 callers who beat the 48-hour deadline, you'll instantly be awarded the collection of twelve new Texas state $1 notes in valuable collector condition for just face value. ■

■ **ZIP CODES TURN UP CASH:** "I'm advising everyone in Texas who finds their zip code printed in today's publication to immediately call 1-866-633-7495 to beat the 48-hour deadline because I've only authorized a limited number of these never-circulated U.S. Gov't issued $1 notes to be overlaid with the Texas state design and released from our private vault reserve to the first 6,049 callers," said Jefferson Marshall, Executive Director of the private World Reserve. Everyone who does is instantly being awarded the collection of twelve new Texas state $1 notes for face value just by covering the protective estate wallets for only $15 each to protect the note's valuable collector condition.

TEXANS CALL: 1-866-633-7495 and use Claim Code DS110 if your zip code appears below

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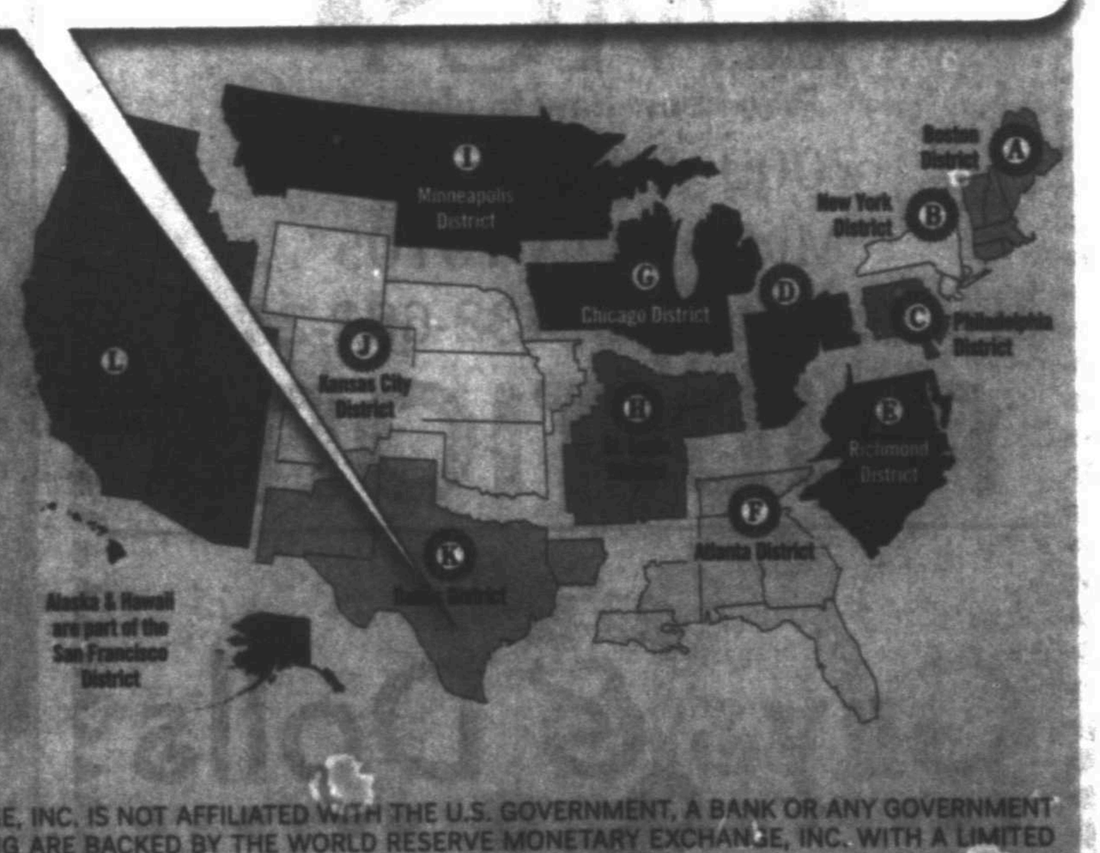
The Toll Free Hotlines open at precisely 8:30am this morning for Texas residents only. If lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered. If you miss the deadline you'll be turned away from this offer and forced to wait for future announcements in this publication or others, if any.

The only thing readers need to do is find their zip code on the distribution list above and be one of the first 6,049 callers who beat the 48-hour deadline. Everyone who does is instantly being awarded a collection of twelve new Texas state overlaid $1 notes for face value just by covering standard shipping and the protective estate wallets for only $15 per wallet to protect each note's valuable collector condition. There is a strict limit of 10 collections per household. To get yours call the Toll Free Hotline number above.



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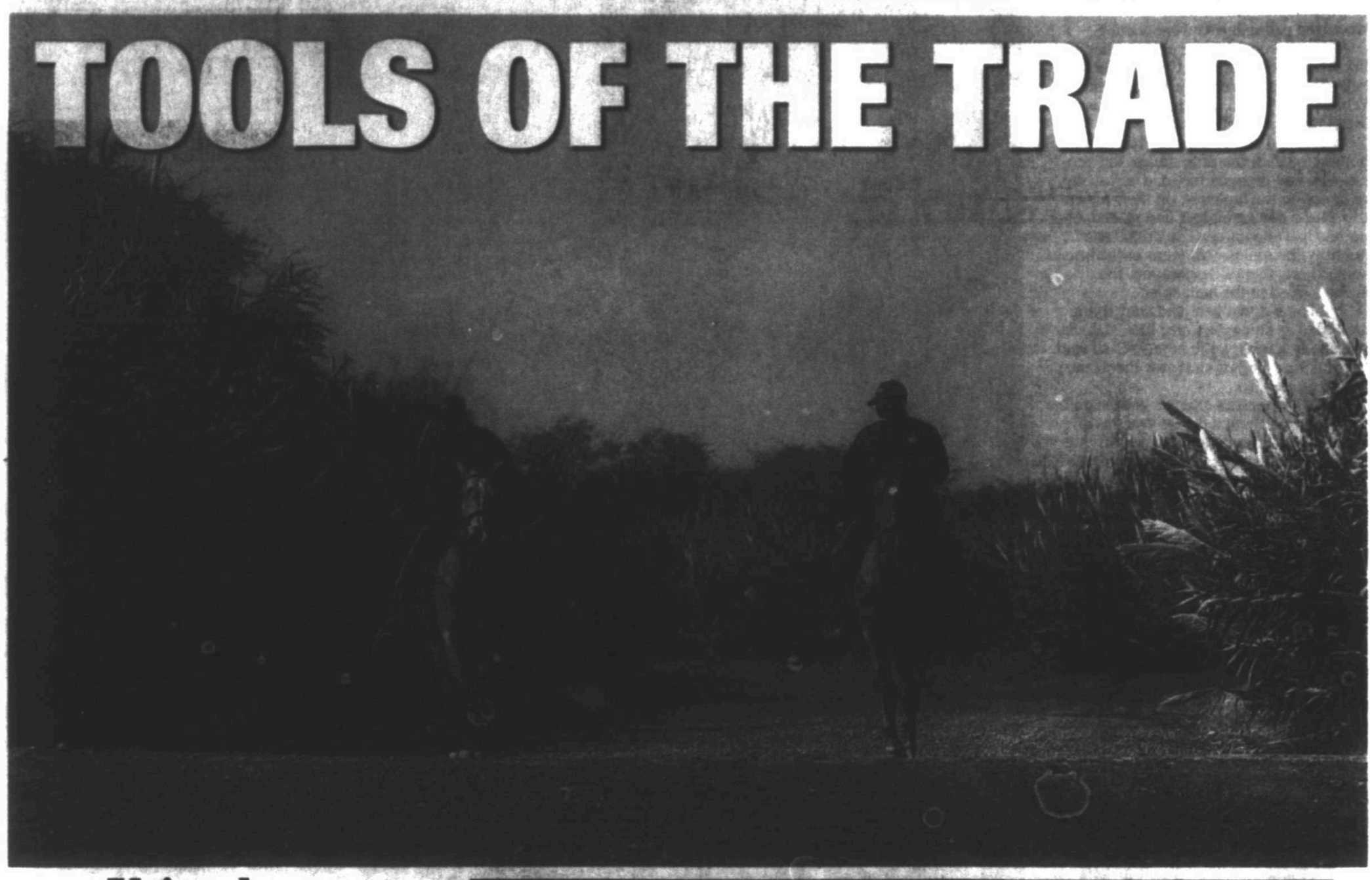
Below is the collection of twelve new Texas state $1 notes being handed over for just face value

■ **VALUABLE COLLECTOR CONDITION:** Pictured above is the collection of new Texas state $1 notes that Texans are hoping to get their hands on. Each of the twelve new notes is being issued its very own numbered certificate of authenticity and individually loaded into a protective estate wallet to protect its valuable collector condition. Ever since the announcement by the private World Reserve was made to hand over the new notes for just face value, Texans have been scrambling to get them. That's because the collection is made up of the only state $1 notes in existence. The release is being limited to just the first 6,049 callers, so Texans are being urged to immediately call 1-866-633-7495 beginning at precisely 8:30am today to get them because once they're gone, they're gone.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE



Using horses, choppers and boats all in a day's work for Border Patrol

By Jason Buch
San Antonio Express-News

DEL RIO —

After two days without any action, a Customs and Border Protection pilot named Cash got an unusual call on a recent morning: "10-46, drugs in the brush."

Rains had slowed immigrants trying to cross into the U.S., and the pilot — who asked to be identified by his middle name, Cash, because he's concerned about his safety — had been waiting for agents on the ground to ask for help.

Tracking down drugs isn't what he normally does. Most of his job is cutting off groups of immigrants after agents on the ground find their tracks.

The sound of the helicopter makes the immigrants hide, Cash said.

"That slows them down and gives the agents on the ground time to catch up," he said. "My job's not to find them. My job's to help the guys on the ground catch them. But when we do see them, that's gravy. The guys on the ground love that."

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, which oversees the Border Patrol, made its marine, air and land divisions in Del Rio available to the San Antonio Express-News to offer a snapshot of the work that agents do. The region has become a lightning rod for political controversy, with some politicians claiming too little is being done to secure the southern frontier.

Some border hawks have called for again doubling the Border Patrol, and others want to expand the fence that runs along the Rio Grande near Del Rio and other parts of the border. But the agency's budget has more than tripled in the past 10 years, and agents in the Del Rio sector say their workload has slowed considerably while the technology they have at their disposal has increased dramatically.

In 2006, CBP created its Office of Air and Marine, combining Border Patrol assets with others in the department. Since then, CBP has phased out older helicopters, added air boats for patrolling the Rio Grande and former Coast Guard Safe Boats with enclosed cabins and high-tech radar for patrolling lakes.

The remaining helicopters have been outfitted with state-of-the-art night vision cameras and a GPS system tied to a radio that can direct the aircraft to an agent transmitting from the ground.

But, agents say, most of their work still is done the old-fashioned way, tracking the footprints of illegal crossers and drug smugglers through the South Texas terrain.

Please see PATROL/2B

Photos by San Antonio Express-News

TOP: Border Patrol agents L. Castillo (left) and R. Rios patrol on horseback Nov. 17 near the Rio Grande river in Del Rio. Border Patrol agents use a variety of vehicles to search for people crossing the U.S.-Mexico border illegally.

CENTER: U.S. Customs and Border Protection air interdiction agent Cash pilots a helicopter to help Border Patrol agents on the ground look for drugs and smugglers Nov. 17.

ABOVE: Border Patrol agents patrol on the Amistad Reservoir near the Amistad Dam on Nov. 18 in Del Rio.

Even if Perry's campaign fails, his hold on state power likely won't

R.G. Ratcliffe
Cox Newspapers

Analysis

AUSTIN — Even as Gov. Rick Perry's presidential campaign works to get back on track, some are beginning to question whether his ability to govern in Texas will suffer if he returns home in defeat.

"He was in control of Texas government like no governor before," said Southern Methodist University political scientist Cal Jillson. "Then he goes out there and barely gets across the Red River before he tips over and embarrasses himself time and again, taking the edge off the respect tending toward fear of him in Texas politics. A good deal of that may be gone if he does come back."

But whatever public relations hit Perry might take, his ultimate power within state government remains intact: Perry appointees control every state policy board, and at least 100 people who have drawn their monthly paycheck by working for Texas' longest-tenured governor are now positioned to run state agencies. It's the closest thing Texas has had to a cabinet form of government.

"It has a tremendous impact because it enables the governor to make sure those agencies carry out their duties and responsibilities consistent with his policies and his philosophy," said Larry Soward, a former Perry employee who once was named by the governor as a state environmental commissioner.

"Everything from commissioners to executive directors to just staff at an agency, you've seen a lot of governor's policy analysts be put into key spots at state agencies," Soward said.

Some of the key state agencies where former Perry employees make a difference include:

■ **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality:** When the commission earlier this year granted an injection well permit to a company whose investors include major Perry donors, one of those voting for the permit was former Perry employee Buddy Garcia. The agency's deputy director, Zak Covar, also is a former employee of the governor's office. Eight other key staff members also are Perry alumni.

■ **Texas Department of Information Resources:** Former Perry aide and Executive Director Karen Robinson oversaw $290 million in state-contracted computer and telecommunication services in the past year alone.

■ **Texas Department of Insurance:** Former Perry employee Mike Geeslin stepped down this summer after almost six years as state insurance commissioner. Insurance company political committees are among Perry's top donors.

■ **Texas Department of Public Safety:** Col. Steve McCraw, head of the law enforcement agency, is a former Perry employee, as is his chief of staff. McCraw has boosted Perry's border-security initiatives.

■ **Texas Department of Transportation:** Before former Perry chief of staff Deirdre Delisi left her post as chairwoman of the state Transportation Commission to work on Perry's presidential campaign, the commission hired former gubernatorial aide Phil Wilson as the agency's executive director. Highway contractors seeking jobs from the agency are among Perry's top donors.

■ **Texas Education Agency:** When Perry wanted to reject federal Race to the Top funding, it was his former aide and appointed Commissioner Robert Scott

Please see PERRY/3B

PATROL

From 1B

Shortly after 8 a.m. Nov. 17, Cash was in the air, headed to a dry creek near the town of Quemado, about 30 miles downstream where the patrol agents were waiting.

As he approached, the agents filled him in: A traffic stop almost two days before had revealed the driver of a suspicious vehicle was planning to pick up a load of drugs along U.S. Highway 277.

Agents had set up near the Rio Grande, hoping to catch the drug mules, the people who had dragged the load across the river and to the highway, on their return trip. But a day and a half had passed, and no one had shown up. The drugs, and possibly the mules, still were in the brush somewhere. Out of desperation, the agents called in the helicopter.

"If I come down here and start flying around, (the smugglers are) like, 'Uh oh, somebody knows we're here,'" Cash said. "This is like the last straw for the agents on the ground."

About 45 minutes after he got the call, Cash — who spent a dozen years as an agent on the ground and has been flying for another 12 years, can spot footprints from his helicopter and knows how to dip low and keep his rotor wash from erasing them — was swinging in over groves of mesquite and scaring up herds of deer bedded down near the creek bed.

"If the engine quits right now, we'd be in a difficult spot," he said. "But that's the nature of the job. We try to do it as carefully as possible."

San Antonio Express-News

ABOVE: Border Patrol agents patrol the Rio Grande River on Nov. 17 near Quemado. BELOW: Border Patrol agents arrest two suspected drug smugglers on a ranch Nov. 17 near Quemado.

Air and marine

A day later, it was business as usual on the Amistad Reservoir. Since 2007, Border Patrol agents have had the equipment to patrol the lake 24/7. Since then, illegal traffic on Amistad has ground to a halt, said Michael McCarty, the supervisor for Border Patrol's marine operations in Del Rio. In the past, agents usually made about 10 busts a year at Amistad, seizing a total of 2,000 pounds of marijuana. In the past fiscal year, they didn't make a single seizure, McCarty said.

It's a far cry from Falcon Lake downstream, which has been a hotbed for illegal activity. Last year, a U.S. tourist was killed on the lake by suspected cartel members, and this spring 12 suspected traffickers and one Mexican marine were killed in a shootout on the lake.

Boats patrol the buoy line that follows the path where the Rio Grande ran before construction of the Amistad Dam flooded huge swaths of land on both sides of the river. Agents on the shore watch the imaginary border in the water, looking for boats that cross. Any boat coming from the Mexican side is subject to inspection.

For years, smugglers launched boats full of people or drugs from a public landing on the Mexican side of the lake and brought them to where U.S. Highway 90 runs close to the shore on the U.S. side. But the smugglers are less active on the Mexican side, and they find it harder to land on the U.S. side, McCarty said.

"They have to put it on the ground upriver" where the highway is not as close to the shore, he said. "And they have to backpack it in."

As the Safe Boat, a former four-seat Coast Guard watercraft refurbished by the Homeland Security Department for use by Border Patrol, idled near a lakeside subdivision, McCarty pointed to the buoy line only about 150 yards from the U.S. shore.

"We had one smuggler who liked this area because he could loiter around near the buoy line and shoot to the public boat ramp right there," he said. "But we pretty much shut him down."

Rather than stopping drug smugglers, the big challenge for the Border Patrol now is dealing with the massive fishing tournaments, dozens of them a year, that bring hundreds of boats to the lake. And the chief threat to those fishermen is not traffickers, but the weather.

During a recent tournament, three fishing boats sank and two grounded in Mexico, said marine agent T.J. Harris, a bass fisherman himself. A Border Patrol boat going to assist in rescue operations found waves washing over the cabin, Harris said.

"In situations like that, you find out who the serious guys are and who the stupid guys are," he said of the contestants.

Drugs in the brush

After almost an hour searching, Cash, the helicopter pilot, was getting discouraged. He'd been told agents thought the drugs and smugglers were on the other side of the highway from where he'd been searching, on a ranch stocked with exotic animals, and he was concerned about the wide area he was being asked to search. If the drugs and the mules still were in the area, there was plenty of cover for them to use.

"It's extremely important for the guys on the ground to have something for us to sort of narrow things down," he said.

At 9:50 a.m., Cash got what he was waiting for. An agent on the ground looking for trails, known as cutting sign, had found footprints in the dirt.

In less than five minutes, Cash found six packages wrapped in white under a black plastic covering, hidden in the brush.

"You use that one piece of sign that guy picked up, and boom, that was it," he said.

Minutes later, the helicopter scared two men out of the brush near where the drugs were hidden.

"I got two boys running here," Cash said as he maneuvered the helicopter over them.

Using the helicopter as a beacon, the agents on the ground sprinted after the men. An agent and a Texas Department of Public Safety trooper grabbed one, and the other kept running until he hit an open space and an agent drew down on him. Facing the barrel of a pistol, he surrendered.

But the day wasn't over. The agents on the ground said the shoes on the men they'd apprehended didn't match all the tracks they'd found in the brush, so the search continued.

As the agents worked across the ranchland, they were in constant contact with Cash via radio. At times he would drop the helicopter low enough to make eye contact with the agents and be able to see their hand gestures as they described where the tracks were and where they appeared to be leading.

Almost an hour went by as agents tried to track the remaining smugglers through the brush with little result.

Cutting sign

With all the fancy equipment available to agents, the Border Patrol still relies on cutting sign, following suspects' tracks on the ground.

"It's a skill we've always had. We've always been the best at it because we do it all the time, day in and day out," Supervisory Border Patrol Agent Rowdy Ballard said. "GPS is a great tool. ... Dogs still come out with us and help us out. Air ops will help us out. But when it comes down to it, it's the agent on the ground cutting sign."

Groups of immigrants or smugglers sometimes will try to brush out their tracks or strap carpeting to the bottom of their shoes. But even that leaves signs agents can follow, Ballard said.

He oversees a fairly new addition to the Del Rio sector, although it's also a bit of a throwback. After a decades-long absence, in 2004 the horse patrol came back to the region.

"The horse has been around ever since the beginning of Border Patrol," Ballard said. "Horses can run over any kind of terrain better than anybody."

It's easy to spot footprints from horseback, he said. They can see well at night. Agents become attuned to the horses' behavior and can use the animals' sense of smell and hearing to know when another human is near. And they're quiet.

"They're in stealth mode all the time," Ballard said. "Guys across the river, they'll be watching and won't know there's horses coming."

"Good lick"

Shortly before 11 a.m., Cash spotted another pair of smuggling suspects hiding in the brush. He called the agents on the ground and circled away, not wanting to spook the men from their hiding space. When the agents were in place, he hovered above the two. This time, they didn't run. Agents swarmed over their hiding spot and pulled them from the brush.

It was an exciting day for Border Patrol agents who have seen their workload steadily decrease. Since 2004, the number of agents in the field has doubled.

Meanwhile, immigration detentions nationwide have plummeted and drug seizures have increased slightly.

Del Rio Sector's statistics reflect those trends, and agents throughout the sector reported a slowdown in activity. And each year, the agents have new tools at their disposal.

The agency's 2011 budget was $3.5 billion, the largest it's been in Border Patrol's history.

"That's the good thing about the Border Patrol," McCarty said as he prepared to step onto a boat. "If you can think of it, we probably do it."

In Del Rio, 10 miles away, on a dirt path running through 12-foot-high stands of Carrizo cane between the Rio Grande and the border fence, Ballard chatted with a pair of agents on horseback.

"Even with all this technology we have today, we still have our niche in the operation," he said.

And upstream from Quemado, Cash wheeled his helicopter over the agents and the handcuffed suspects on the ground and headed back to Del Rio.

"Good lick, guys," he said over the radio. "Good work."

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Whooping cranes visit in record numbers, face drought woes

Bt Matthew Tresague
Houston Chronicle

The whooping crane, the majestic bird slowly making its way back from the brink of extinction, is returning to the Texas coast in record numbers.

This could be a hard winter for the endangered species, however, because of a wicked drought and one of the most contentious water disputes in Texas.

The stubborn dry spell has reduced the flow of fresh water into the tidal pools and marshes where the tall birds congregate. Some biologists say the conditions remind them of late 2008, the beginning of the deadliest winter on record for the flock.

As many as 23 cranes perished then because of starvation or related problems — a die-off that prompted a legal fight over how much water is needed to sustain the species.

The federal case, which pits local governments and environmentalists against state regulators and water suppliers, is scheduled to go to trial Monday in Corpus Christi. The Aransas Project, an environmental coalition, has accused the state of putting the endangered species in harm's way with its management of the fresh water flowing into the birds' habitat.

"The future of the whooping crane hangs on the outcome of the trial," said Jim Blackburn, the Houston attorney for the Aransas Project. "Federal intervention is the only chance for its long-term survival."

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, which governs the rights to the state's fresh water, and other water providers are fighting to maintain the status quo, saying there is no evidence of major losses three years ago. The bird is thriving on the Texas coast, said Bill West, general manager of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, the largest water rights holder in the basin.

"They can't substantiate their claims," West said.

Biologists expect about 300 whooping cranes to make the annual migration from Canada to Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, their wintering ground about 50 miles north of Corpus Christi. The first birds arrived this month, with the rest expected by Christmas.

The whooping cranes, protected by the federal Endangered Species Act, are white with black wingtips and crimson crowns. They typically stand about 5 feet and can have a wingspan of 7 1/2 feet.

The cranes favor the brackish marshes because they provide a rich diet of blue crabs, their primary protein source.

The crabs require some fresh water to live, and the Guadalupe and San Antonio Rivers' low flow in recent dry years has made the San Antonio Bay and estuary system too salty for them.

Dan Alonso, manager of the Aransas wildlife refuge, said the whooping cranes will see fewer crabs than usual upon their arrival because of high salinity levels. Also, a toxic algae bloom, known as red tide, has lingered along the Gulf Coast, threatening clams and other food sources for the birds.

Without heavy rainfall, the cranes may not find any crabs between January and March, following the deadly pattern from three years ago, Blackburn said.

The Aransas Project contends that the drought conditions are made worse by too many withdrawals of the two rivers' water by thirsty cities, agriculture and business. The group is asking a federal judge to order the state to develop a binding plan for water use that leaves enough in the river basins to protect the cranes' habitat.

The GBRA says the request, if granted, would threaten the availability of water for existing users.

The TCEQ asserts in legal filings that the state already has a process in place to reserve water for bay and estuary needs. However, its authority is limited because state law requires the agency to respect existing water rights when establishing so-called environmental flows.

The TCEQ declined comment before the trial.

The GBRA, meanwhile, says the plaintiffs cannot prove that 23 whooping cranes died in 2008, because only four carcasses were found. Nor can they the link the deaths and high salinity, the river authority argues, because a recent Texas A&M University study shows that the cranes are opportunistic foragers, able to survive when blue crabs are in short supply. They also eat wolfberry fruit, insects, snails and smaller fiddler crabs.

To help the cranes this winter, the federal refuge's managers plan to burn at least 9,700 acres, an act that should expose food items, Alonso said. The managers also are eliminating hiding spaces for the cranes' predators by mowing and cutting down dense brush around ponds where the birds drink.

"In the midst of drought and red tide," Alonso said, "we're hoping for better conditions."

Austin Energy eyes West Texas for solar power

By Marty Toohey
Cox Newspapers

AUSTIN — Austin Energy, hoping to add significantly more solar power over the next decade but leery of relying primarily on rooftops, is looking west.

The city-owned electric company could build up to three large solar arrays on West Texas land it owns or has under contract, thereby increasing its supply of solar power about eightfold, according to a recent report on the utility's solar plans.

The report came at the request of the City Council, which wanted to see how solar could fit into a larger plan for starting to wean Austin off coal power during the next decade and toward sources that do not contribute to global climate change.

None of the steps outlined in the report is certain to happen, said Michael Osborne, author of the report and a special assistant to Austin Energy's general manager.

But, Osborne said, "this is one way to get (to the city's goals) using the resources and programs we currently have."

Solar is now Austin's most expensive source of electricity — and, despite the attention it receives in city policy discussions, represents a negligible amount of the city's roughly 2,800 megawatts of generating capacity.

Austin largely has relied on wind to satisfy its renewable goals, signing three deals this year alone for 491 megawatts of coastal wind. But the report strikes a mostly optimistic tone about solar's long-term potential, noting that panel prices are dropping, and linking municipal projects to Austin's potential as a research and manufacturing hub.

The report comes just weeks before the expected opening of a solar array east of Austin. The Webberville facility will be the state's largest and provide 30 megawatts of generating capacity.

It is the type of solar project Austin Energy is most bullish about.

Electricity from the Webberville project will cost about 16.5 cents per kilowatt-hour over the next 25 years under the contract signed in 2009, about four times the cost of natural gas and the recent coastal wind purchases. Solar power now runs as low as 10 cents per kilowatt-hour, and by 2015 it could be as low as 7 cents, according to the report.

Osborne said Austin Energy expects to make most of its solar purchases toward the end of the decade, when prices will presumably be lower. But he said that a combination of expiring federal subsidies, new state transmission lines and dropping prices might make a major purchase possible in 2014 or 2015.

West Texas arrays would get about 30 percent more sunshine than rooftop arrays in the Austin area, and the rays would be more intense. That means panels there would have roughly twice the output, according to Osborne's report.

The West Texas solar facilities discussed in the report would be near Toyah, Pecos and Saragosa. The sites could produce a combined output of up to 280 megawatts, according to the report.

Austin Energy does not plan to cut the nearly $4 million it spends annually for rooftop solar subsidies. Still, rooftop solar "is the most expensive, difficult to service, and problematic in financial terms for the utility," the report states.

Although rooftop solar "is generally recognized to be the ultimate solution as solar modules give way to solar glazings, solar roofs, and other building integrated products ... the challenge for the city is to provide enough incentives for the distributed solar generation industry to develop and mature and become self sustaining."

Austin now has about 5 megawatts of rooftop solar capacity.

PERRY

From 1B

who took the official action. Four other key agency personnel also are former Perry employees.

■ **Texas Ethics Commission:** Executive Director David Reisman is another former Perry aide.

■ **Public Utility Commission:** Commission Chairwoman Donna Nelson, Commissioner Ken Anderson Jr. and Executive Director Brian Lloyd are all former Perry gubernatorial staffers. The agency regulates rates charged by electric transmission companies such as Oncor and CenterPoint Energy. The CenterPoint political committee gives $10,000 a year to Perry's political fund.

Exerting influence

Soward said that Perry never tells his former employees what to do in their agency jobs but that sometimes his gubernatorial chief of staff or policy or budget directors will. He said that just as often, the former staff members will call the governor's office seeking direction on issues.

"When you're a member of the team, you carry out the plays that the coach calls," Soward said.

Soward himself became an exception during his days at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, often voting against the business interests Perry sought to protect. Soward said once in a social setting that some members of Perry's senior staff suggested he give greater consideration to the economics of his decisions, and another time they asked whether he'd like to be reappointed to another agency where he was not always in the minority on votes.

On paper, the Texas governor is weak, with little formal ability to influence the Legislature other than through the bully pulpit. But Perry's decade as governor has allowed him to appoint every governing board in Texas, as well as many of the state's judges.

About 2,500 people appointed by Perry are serving on state boards, commissions and task forces that oversee the state's bureaucracy, according to spokeswoman Allison Castle. Most of these people are Perry friends or campaign donors.

More than 20 of Perry's former aides are now registered lobbyists. Many work for the health care, insurance or electric utility industries.

Texas Public Policy Foundation President Brooke Rollins was one of Perry's assistant general counsels and later policy director. Foundation vice president for policy Bill Peacock worked for Perry during his days as state agriculture commissioner. The foundation clearly is one of the think tanks with the most influence on the Legislature.

Legislative relations

While Perry's relationship with the Legislature has never been strong, conservative commentator William Lutz said the body empowers Perry just in how it operates.

Lutz said lawmakers always leave the most important legislation to the end so that it passes during a time period when Perry can veto it without fear of a legislative override. That means nothing passes without Perry's approval, Lutz said.

"Some people are trying to question whether he'll take a public-relations hit if his (presidential) campaign doesn't succeed," Lutz said "I don't think Rick Perry has ever paid attention to that. He has control of all the levers."

Perry additionally had $2.1 million in his campaign fund at the end of June. That's enough of a financial jump-start on a re-election campaign that Perry could fend off the image of himself as a lame duck.

When it was apparent in 2006 that Perry would win re-election with less than a majority vote, reporters asked if that bothered him. Perry with a smile said he might not get all the votes, but that he would have all the power as governor.

Lobbyist Bill Miller, who is close to Perry and his wife, Anita, said the same thing applies if Perry's presidential bid is unsuccessful: "He's still formidable on a bad day."

Miller said that if Perry loses the Republican presidential nomination, it might take some of the shine off his undefeated electoral record, but if "he comes back, he's governor with everything that comes with that."

Miller added that a couple of campaign gaffes and a run of poor poll numbers aren't enough to say Perry's presidential prospects are done before the voting begins in January.

Matt Glazer, executive director of Democratic-leaning Progress Texas, said part of Perry's power in the past came from the fact he was undefeated. "I don't think he is seen as invincible as he was just 18 months ago," he said.

Debra Medina, who challenged Perry in last year's Republican primary, said the presidential campaign has exposed weaknesses in Perry's governorship.

"Rather than setting a standard and adhering to principle, Governor Perry has molded state policy to the benefit of his donors," Medina said. "The question now is, do those donors like what they see, or have they decided that the governor doesn't paint them or Texas in a very appealing light?"

There have often been complaints in the past that Perry does not always cooperate with even members of his own party in the Legislature, but fear of the tea party uprising gave him the power this year to bend lawmakers to his will, such as when the Legislature heeded Perry's call to cut spending and leave money in the state's "rainy day fund."

Democratic consultant Glenn Smith said the real test would be whether Perry will be able to affect the Legislature if he loses the presidential race.

"The Republicans in the Legislature will be much less likely to follow his lead," Smith said. "Once he's weak, everybody's less likely to do what they're told."

Smith said he also believes the loyalty of Perry's former staffers may diminish once he is viewed as vulnerable. Smith said they will be looking for who the next governor might be.

"It's more like an old machine boss than a modern governorship. Once that starts to erode, it can go fast," Smith said.

Still, if Perry serves out his term and leaves office in January 2015, many of his appointees will continue to serve long after he is gone. For instance, some members of the University of Texas System Board of Regents have terms that do not expire until 2019.

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Experts: Drought will last through spring

By Kate Galbraith
Texas Tribune

FORT WORTH — The drought that has plagued Texas is virtually certain to continue at least until early summer, climate experts said on Tuesday at a conference in Fort Worth. But what happens after that is anyone's guess.

The main cause of the drought, the most intense in recorded Texas history, is back-to-back episodes of La Niña, a Pacific Ocean phenomenon that almost always brings dry conditions to the state. The bad news is that, based on the historical record, there is a 40 percent chance of La Niña returning for a third consecutive year, according to Klaus Wolter, a research associate with the Earth Research Laboratory at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

That record consists of 10 instances over the past century in which La Niña has appeared for two years in a row (normally it does not recur). However, Wolter emphasized, 10 episodes is a fairly limited data set. And — here's the good news — the other six times, an El Niño has followed the two La Niñas, bringing unusually wet weather.

"If we were to switch to El Niño next summer, the record of the last decade would indeed favor an end of the 2010-2012 drought," according to Wolter.

Climate experts expect to have publishable insights by June into whether to expect El Niño, La Niña or neither.

Spring is normally the wettest season in Texas, and if the state is to work its way out of the drought, May and June will be "the really, really key time periods," said Victor Murphy, a scientist with NOAA. Temperatures next summer, according to Murphy, are "likely warmer than normal, but not likely to emulate the historic heat of last summer."

The scientists said that low rainfall in the spring does not necessarily signal below-normal rainfall in the summer.

Groesbeck's water woes solved for now, but cost still unknown

Associated Press

GROESBECK — Because of a temporary fix, Groesbeck officials are confident the city won't run out of water anytime soon.

But how much water service will cost residents in the future is still very much up in the air.

Nearly everyone in town is resigned to the idea that they will have to pay more to keep the taps running, Limestone County Sheriff Dennis Wilson said.

The city's water supply has been in doubt in recent months, with officials warning at times that the city was a week or two away from running dry. The problem stems from drought and this summer's record heat, which caused much of the Navasota River to evaporate.

About a month ago, the city struck a deal with a nearby rock quarry to buy water on a short-term basis. But officials still had to figure out how to get the water to the city's treatment plant.

Officials were hoping they simply could pump water from the quarry into a nearby creek, which runs into the river. But that option was ruled out because parts of the route were so parched that the ground absorbed the water, city administrator Martha Stanton said.

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At Texas Country Eye Care Drs. Blake and Heather Kern Golson see a number of patients with red or pink eyes, especially this time of year. The good news is that very few of them have what is truly known as pink eye.

That is good because true pink eye—medically known as epidemic keratoconjunctivitis—is very contagious, painful and must just run its 2-3 week course. Because it is caused by a virus, there is really no treatment for it, says Dr. Kern.

"We call pink eye a 'doorway diagnosis,' she says, because you can tell from the doorway if that's what it is, and that's as close as you want to get to the sufferer, if possible." Anyone who goes to Texas Country Eye Care with this illness will be ushered directly to an examination room. After they leave, everything in the room will be sterilized.

If caught right away, pink eye's duration can be shortened by a third to a half by the use of a betadine wash, but, Dr. Kern stresses, it must be caught right at the beginning.

Otherwise, the treatment is mainly to stay home and away from other people. The sufferer is usually contagious for about two weeks, says Dr. Kern.

"We see more of this in the winter because that's when kids are in school and everyone stays indoors, giving more opportunity for pretty much all communicable diseases to spread," she points out.

Most of the time an eye infection or inflammation is a byproduct of a head cold. In other words, someone with a cold sneezes or coughs into their hand, then rubs an eye, transferring the germs there. It is also a good idea to wash pillow cases and sheets when you have a cold. If the infection is from bacteria, an antibiotic can help. If viral, there still is not a treatment but anything other than true pink eye is less severe, shorter in duration and less contagious.

Eye redness can also be caused by dry eyes, another condition that rises in winter because of the drier air. Because this is really a year-round problem in West Texas, Drs. Kern and Golson are ready with a variety of treatments for this condition. Some are simple, involving warm compresses and eyelid massage. Drinking more water can also help. If those treatments do not work, the Golsons move on to some very effective medications.

More and more Midlanders are turning to Texas Country Eye Care for glasses, bifocals, contacts and all their eye care. Call today to make your appointment.

Eye redness can be caused by a number of issues, many of which can be helped by Drs. Blake and Heather Kern Golson at Texas Country Eye Care. There can be help even for pink eye if caught right at the beginning. Call 684-7287 to make an appointment.

Texas Country Eye Care, owned by Blake Golson, O. D. and Heather Kern Golson, O. D., is at 2200 West Wadley, Ste 22, in the Oak Ridge Square, across from La Bebe Boutique. Hours are 8-5:30 M-F and 9-2 on Saturday. The phone number is 684-7287. Walk-ins are welcome. Look for them on Facebook.

AUDIO ACOUSTICS

Get hearing aids serviced before travel

By Orland Purcell, Au. D.

Travel is often in the forecast this time of year, which makes a little foresight important for hearing aid wearers. Before you leave, it's a good idea to make sure you have plenty of batteries, and that any repairs are done. You don't want to face hearing aid failure at a family gathering or when it's time to tuck in those grandkids.

ORLAND PURCELL, AU. D.

For repairs, make your appointment as early as possible. Both we and our suppliers' repair centers get very busy this time of year, meaning it could take longer to get repairs done.

Since you will be in a different environment when traveling, make sure you remember where you put your hearing aids when you take them out to shower or for other reasons. Next to the sink and in a napkin are the top two places NOT to put them. Napkins get thrown away whatever is in them and hearing aids that fall into the sink and get wet do not have a good survival rate.

Even if the family is coming to you this year, repairs and batteries are better had early than the day before Christmas or New Year's. You will have plenty else to do those days besides buy batteries, and it will be too late for any repairs to be done.

So call today to make sure you hear all the joyful sounds of the season.

Audio Acoustics, a full-service hearing center owned by Orland Purcell, Au. D., has been in business since 1975. Ginger Peugh, Au. D., is his associate. They offer industrial hearing conservation, diagnostic audiology and a wide variety of hearing aids. They are located at 2101 North Midland Drive, Suite Four. The phone number is 689-4327.

MIDLAND FAMILY CARE

Checklist may spot suicide risk

By Lyden Odukwu, M.D.

So often, after a suicide or a suicide attempt, family members and friends say, "I wish I had known they were having trouble!" A recently developed test may lend insight into who is at risk.

Developed eight years ago, the Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale takes into account both suicide attempts and ideation, or suicidal thoughts. Previous scales rated only one or the other. A recent study showed that the C-SSRS is more scientifically valid than either of the other previously used scales.

The C-SSRS is already in use by Health Canada, the New York City fire department and the city's public school system, among other entities, are using the system or are planning to use it.

In effect, the scale not only helps spot those at risk, it can also identify individuals who may be depressed but are not a sufficient suicide risk to warrant hospitalization or other emergency intervention. Certainly, there are some respondents who will not answer truthfully, but a surprising number of those at risk do answer in such a way as to allow them to receive the help they need.

An interesting side note is that almost half of people who commit suicide have visited their physician within a month of their death. This and the fact that the C-SSRS can be administered in 1-2 minutes makes it a good idea for physicians to do this for most patients.

Midland Family Care, with Dr. Lyden Odukwu, is located at 3305 Andrews Highway. The phone number is 620-0525. They accept most insurance.

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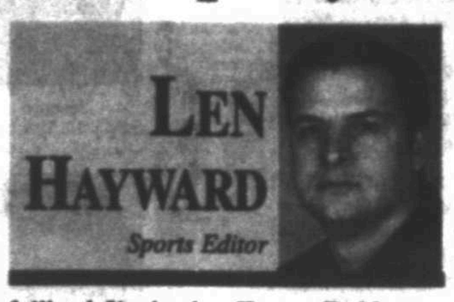
Sports

MCS epitomizes playing as a team



If there was one thing that Midland Christian coach Greg McClendon stressed to me this season it was about team.

Most coaches do that every year, but this season it was something that McClendon kept saying every week during our Tuesday morning meetings. Yes, we would talk about how the offense performed, how the defense played and what needed work on special teams.

But he also came back every week to talking about how pleased he was with how much this year's squad took the team concept to heart.

While a team is pummeling opponents for 11 straight weeks, it can be easy to talk about the team concept. It's when there is adversity that the true test of a team takes place, and on Saturday in the TAPPS Division II State Championship, the Mustangs faced it head on and did it as a team.

And leave it to senior fullback/linebacker Tanner Dobbs to put it into perspective why this year's team was just that — a team.

Early in the third quarter, Dobbs fumbled a handoff from Mason McClendon and it led to a touchdown for Tomball Concordia Lutheran and forced the Mustangs to sweat for the first time in a while as they were ahead 28-14 with nearly a half of football left.

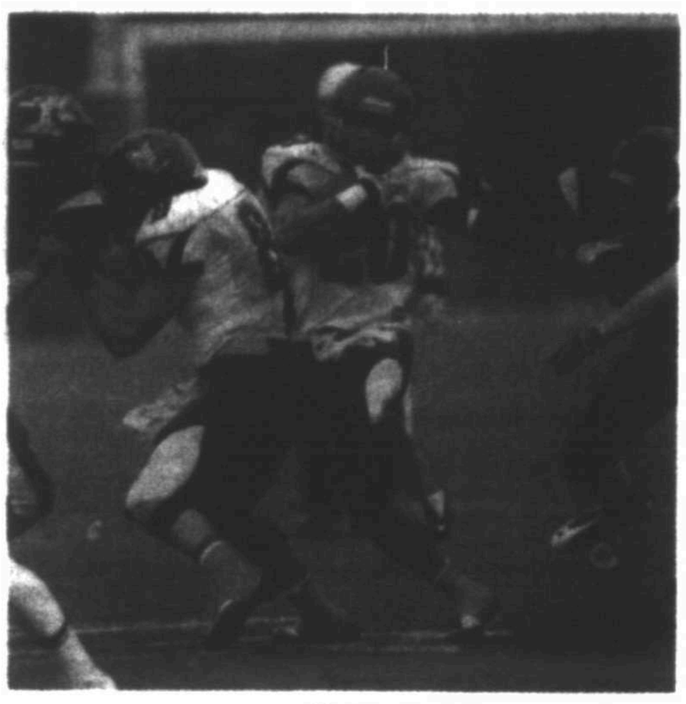
Dobbs freely admitted the fumble was probably his fault, and he even called it "dumb." If you know Tanner, that's typical of the way he is, honest and up front. But it's what he said next that made me realize that no matter who does what on this team someone was right there to make sure he didn't dwell on it and move to the next play.

"It's not anything a senior should do it in a state game," Dobbs said with a smile about the fumble. "But I'm surrounded by people who love me and pick me up. They made the plays, and it took them to cover me up so we could finish."

It's not like Dobbs has had many players cover for him this season because he's been a key part of the Mustangs defense and offense this season, taking on pulling guards and fullbacks to allow linebackers Matt Counts and Landon Breeding to make plays, and helping clear a path for Christian Whigham.

But he's also just one player on a

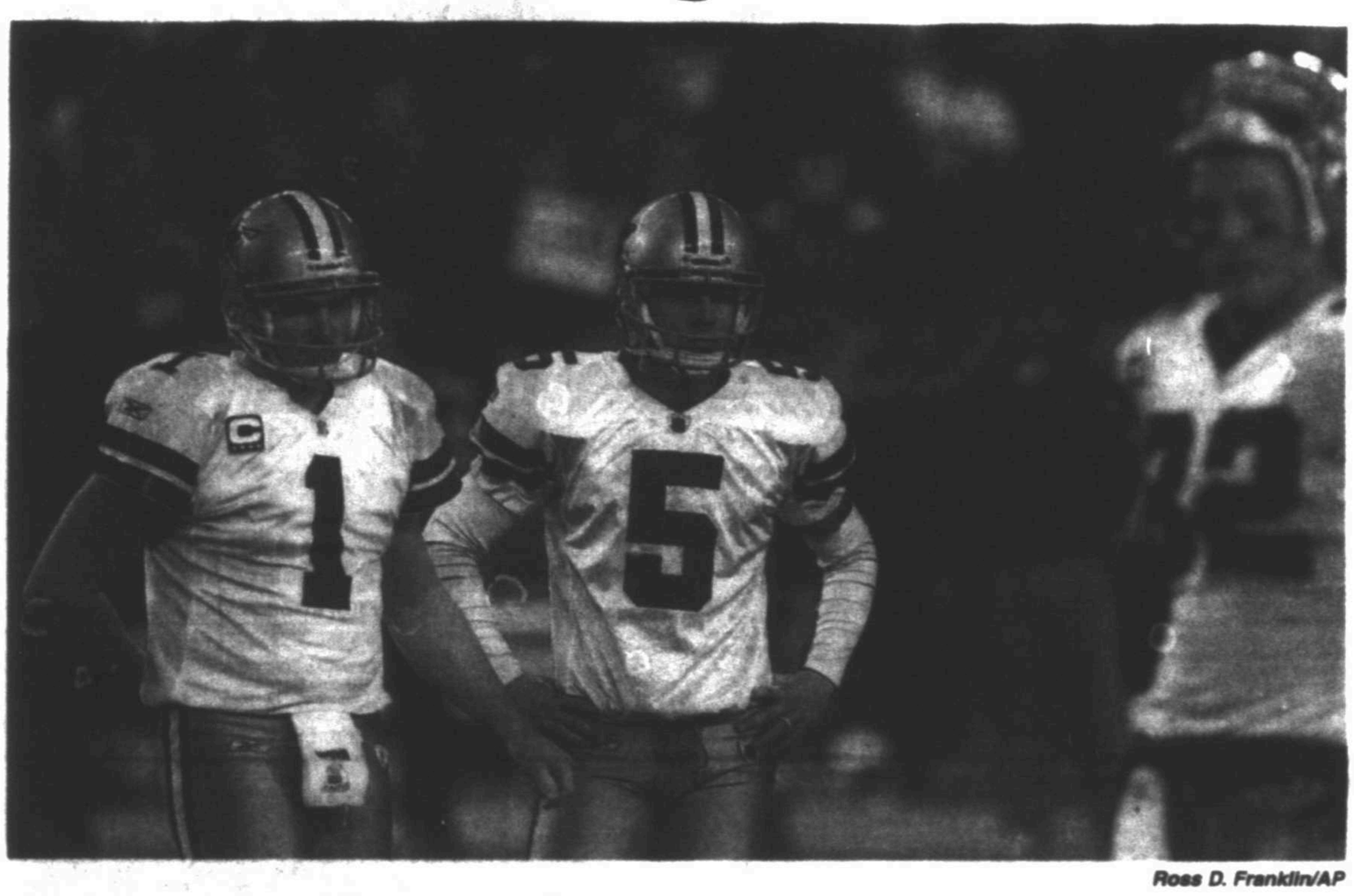
Please see HAYWARD/4C



Cindeka Nealy/Reporter-Telegram

Midland Christian's Jerry Garcia (8) opens a hole for Christian Whigham (20) to run through Saturday during the TAPPS Division II State Championship game at Leo Buckley Stadium, Killeen.

Cowboys iced



Ross D. Franklin/AP

Dallas holder Mat McBriar (1), kicker Dan Bailey (5), and tight end Jason Witten (82) stare back at the team bench after a time-out was called prior to Bailey's potential game-winning field goal attempt in the fourth quarter Sunday in Glendale, Ariz. Bailey made the FG but it did not count due to the time-out call. Bailey missed his second attempt, and the Cardinals won, 19-13, in overtime.

Dallas loses in OT after costly mistake at the end of regulation

By Tom Orsborn
San Antonio Express-News

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Having notched back-to-back pulsating victories, the Dallas Cowboys entered their post-Thanksgiving break with a one-game lead in the NFC East, a four-game winning streak and the belief they had mastered the art of winning close games.

Only one of those things remained after Sunday's 19-13 overtime loss to the Arizona Cardinals.

Cardinals 19
Cowboys ....13 (OT)

Thanks to Green Bay's 38-35 win over the Giants (6-6), the Cowboys (7-5) sit atop the East heading into next weekend's showdown with New York. But the momentum and confidence Dallas carried with it to the desert are gone.

"All we can do," cornerback Terence Newman said, "is look forward and try to correct the mistakes we made."

It's a long list, beginning with Jason Garrett's questionable game-management decisions in the final seconds.

The Cardinals (5-7) collected their third straight home win over Dallas in the past four seasons when 5-foot-7 LaRod Stephens-Howling caught a short pass from Kevin Kolb out of the backfield and ran untouched for a 52-yard touchdown on the opening possession of the extra session.

With 7 seconds left in regulation, Cowboys rookie kicker Dan Bailey lined up for the potential winning 49-yard field goal. The kick sailed through the uprights, but it was all for naught because Garrett called a time-out as Bailey approached the ball.

After the time-out, Bailey's kick was short, sending the Cowboys into OT for the third time this season and second time in their last three games with the Cardinals.

Garrett said he called the time-out because the play clock was winding down and he wanted to make sure "the snap, hold and kick (were) as clean as possible."

"I'm glad they iced the kicker there at the end, so I didn't have to do it," Arizona coach Ken Whisenhunt said.

It wasn't Garrett's only head-scratching move.

The Cowboys had two time-outs remaining when Dez Bryant caught a 15-yard pass for a first down at the Arizona 31 with about 25 seconds left. But instead of using one of the time-outs to set up a play or two to give Bailey an easier kick, Garrett had Tony Romo spike the ball to stop the clock with 7 seconds left.

"We very well could have taken a time-out there," Garrett said. "We felt like we were in field goal range...Tony had them on the line of scrimmage quickly, so we went ahead and clocked it and used that as a time-out...You see so many situations where you have negative plays in those situations."

Jerry Jones criticized Garrett's game management decisions after a close loss to New England in October, but the owner showed restraint this time.

"The explanation I got is it was to let time run off the clock," Jones said. "I'm not going to agree or disagree right here."

Please see COWBOYS/5C

Yates leads Texans over Falcons for sixth straight win

David J. Phillip/AP

Houston Texans quarterback T.J. Yates (13) looks to make a play in the second quarter against the Atlanta Falcons Sunday in Houston.

By Chris Duncan
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Houston coach Gary Kubiak would've told anyone who asked that the Texans were going to be fine with rookie T.J. Yates playing quarterback.

He was right.

Yates threw a touchdown pass in his first NFL start, Arian Foster rushed for 111 yards and Houston overcame another injury to Andre Johnson to beat Atlanta 17-10 on Sunday.

The Texans (9-3) have won a franchise-record six straight games, a remarkable feat considering they're down to their third-string quarterback and have played many of their games without their star receiver.

The Falcons (7-5) sputtered offensively most of the game in losing for the second time in seven games. Houston's top-ranked defense knocked down two passes by Matt Ryan in the end zone in the closing seconds.

Kubiak couldn't bear to watch the final play, turning his back and walking down the sideline. When the ball hit the turf and the crowd cheered, general manager Rick Smith told Kubiak what happened and patted him on the back.

"It's a great win," Kubiak said, "because of everything this team

Please see TEXANS/5C

Week 13 NFL Scoreboard

Kansas City	10	Miami	34	Pittsburgh	35	Baltimore	24
Chicago	3	Oakland	14	Cincinnati	7	Cleveland	10
Tennessee	23	Denver	35	Carolina	38	Arizona	19
Buffalo	17	Miami	32	Tampa Bay	19	Dallas	13 (OT)
Houston	17	New England	31	N.Y. Jets	34	Green Bay	38
* Atlanta	10	Indianapolis	24	Washington	19	N.Y. Giants	35
San Francisco	28						
St. Louis	0						
New Orleans	31						
Detroit	17						

Midland native McClung humbled by NCAA D-II honor

By Jonathan Hull
Sports Writer

For Hank McClung, it's always been about his roots. No matter where his coaching career has taken him, McClung has always remembered where it all started.

McClung, a Midland native and 1981 graduate from Midland High, was recently recognized by the American Football Coaches Association as the NCAA Division II Assistant of the Year for his work as the offensive line coach for University of Central Missouri.

"It's gratifying," McClung said. "It's hard to say that you're the best at anything. I don't feel that way about myself. I'm just lucky to get to do what I do. I work with about 10 guys who could have deserved this award just as much as I do, but it's nice to get it."

Each year, staff representatives from NCAA and NAIA football-playing schools are asked to nominate an assistant coach for consideration. From those nominations, a winner is selected by the AFCA Public Relations Committee. The winners of this award were selected from Football Bowl Subdivision, Football Championship Subdivision, Division II, Division III and the NAIA.

McClung

The Assistant Coach of the Year award was first presented in 1997 and was created to honor assistant coaches who excel in community service, commitment to the student-athlete, on-field coaching success and AFCA professional organization involvement.

McClung says it's the coaching and life values he started picking up as a seventh grader at San Jacinto Junior High from coaches like Brad White that has allowed him to have a successful career.

"I was coached by some of the finest guys in Midland," McClung said. "I had some wonderful seventh grade coaches, and that's when I knew I wanted to be a coach. I learned something from everybody. I think the level of competition at Midland in that time place an importance on the premium of success."

McClung was the starting center for Midland High in 1979 and 1980. Those were tough times for the Bulldogs, but having back-to-back 5-5 records in those seasons was considered successful for the program in the Little Southwest Conference.

"It wasn't easy, but it was still a great time," recalled McClung who was a Bulldogs team captain his senior year. "I played with great players. A lot of people don't realize this but there were six or seven guys from those teams that got a chance to play in the NFL. I was never a great player, but I certainly enjoyed it."

McClung went on to play at Lubbock Christian University before it dropped the football program. He then joined the army, but got a second chance at playing college football at Eastern New Mexico University when he got out of the service.

Since receiving his bachelor's degree in physical education from ENMU in 1986, McClung has spent 24 years coaching college football as both an offensive line coach and head coach. He's spent years as a graduate assistant at ENMU and then Texas Tech under former coach Spike Dykes. McClung was the head coach at Midwestern State University from 1996 to 1998 and took that program from the NAIA ranks to NCAA Divi-

Please see MCCLUNG/4C

SUNDAY'S NFL ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

CHIEFS 10, BEARS 3

CHICAGO — Tyler Palko shook off two miserable starts and three for 157 yards and a touchdown even though he was briefly lifted for Kyle Orton.

Orton came on to start the second quarter and immediately left the game with an injured finger on his right hand. Palko connected with Dexter McCluster on a wild 38-yard pass to end the first half on a ball that got deflected by Brian Urlacher and Chris Conte, giving the Chiefs a 7-3 lead and their first touchdown in three games.

PACKERS 36, GIANTS 35

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Aaron Rodgers engineered a last-minute drive to set up a 31-yard field goal by Mason Crosby on the final play of regulation, and the Green Bay Packers remained undefeated and clinched a playoff berth with a 36-35 victory over the New York Giants on Sunday.

Rodgers hit three passes of more than 18 yards on the drive in the final 58 seconds as the Super Bowl champion Packers (12-0) won their 16th straight game and handed the Giants (6-6) their fourth straight loss.

BRONCOS 35, VIKINGS 32

MINNEAPOLIS — Tim Tebow led yet another late rally, passing for a season-best 202 yards and two third-quarter touchdowns to help the Denver Broncos win their fifth straight game.

Matt Prater kicked two field goals in the final 93 seconds for the Broncos (7-5), who moved into a first-place tie in the AFC West with a loss by the Oakland Raiders. Christian Ponder set Minnesota's single-game rookie record with 381 yards passing, including a pair of touchdowns to Percy Harvin, but his sideline throw with 1:33 remaining was intercepted by Andre Goodman to set up the winner.

STEELERS 35, BENGALS 7

PITTSBURGH — Ben Roethlisberger passed for two touchdowns and set a team record for career completions against error-prone Cincinnati.

49ERS 26, RAMS 0

SAN FRANCISCO — Frank Gore ran San Francisco right into the playoffs, becoming the 49ers' career rushing leader in a shutout that wrapped up the franchise's first NFC West crown and postseason berth since 2002.

SAINTS 31, LIONS 17

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Drew Brees passed for 342 yards and three touchdowns, and the New Orleans Saints won their fourth straight.

PATRIOTS 31, COLTS 24

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Rob Gronkowski caught two touchdown passes then scored on a lateral and New England then withstood a fourth-quarter rally to keep Indianapolis winless.

DOLPHINS 34, RAIDERS 14

MIAMI — Reggie Bush rushed for 100 yards and a touchdown and once-woeful Miami won for the fourth time in the past five games.

TITANS 23, BILLS 17

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Chris Johnson rushed for 153 yards and two touchdowns as Tennessee remained in the playoff chase.

JETS 34, REDSKINS 19

LANDOVER, Md. — Mark Sanchez hit Santonio Holmes for a 30-yard touchdown pass with 4:49 to play, and Shonn Greene added a pair of insurance scores.

RAVENS 24, BROWNS 10

CLEVELAND — Ray Rice rushed for a career-high 204 yards, breaking loose on a game-changing 67-yarder in the third quarter, and the Ravens kept pace with Pittsburgh atop the AFC North.

PANTHERS 38, BUCCANEERS 19

TAMPA, Fla. — Cam Newton ran for three touchdowns to set the NFL single-season record for rushing TDs by a quarterback.

SUNDAY'S BOXES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

TEXANS 17, FALCONS 10

Atlanta	0	3	7	0 —10
Houston	3	7	0	7 —17

First Quarter
Hou—FG Rackers 43, 4:03.
Second Quarter
Hou—Dressen 3 pass from Yates (Rackers kick), 10:00.
Atl—FG Bryant 19, 5:08.
Third Quarter
Atl—White 4 pass from Ryan (Bryant kick), 1:46.
Fourth Quarter
Hou—Foster 1 run (Rackers kick), 6:05.
A—71,845.

	Atl	Hou
First downs	18	20
Total Net Yards	287	337
Rushes-yards	19-70	44-162
Passing	287	175
Comp-Att-Int	20-48-2	12-25-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	0-0	3-13
Punts	4-50.5	5-52.8
Punts-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	7-43	5-35
Time of Possession	24:59	35:04

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Atlanta, Turner 14-44, Snelling 2-16, Ryan 1-10, Rodgers 1-0. Houston, Foster 31-111, Tate 11-41, Yates 2-10.

PASSING—Atlanta, Ryan 20-48-2-287. Houston, Yates 12-25-0-188.

RECEIVING—Atlanta, Gonzalez 7-100, Jones 4-66, White 4-61, Douglas 2-45, Rodgers 1-6. Houston, A.Johnson 4-97, Foster 3-41, Daniels 3-35, Walter 1-12, Dressen 1-3.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Houston, Rackers 54 (SH).

CARDINALS 19, COWBOYS 13

Dallas	0	10	3	0 —13
Arizona	3	0	3	7 —19

First Quarter
Ari—FG Feely 48, 4:13.
Second Quarter
Dal—FG Bailey 50, 5:50.
Dal—Bryant 5 pass from Romo (Bailey kick), 3:09.
Third Quarter
Ari—FG Feely 23, 8:18.
Dal—FG Bailey 27, 3:4.
Fourth Quarter
Ari—Wells 4 run (Feely kick), 13:08.
Overtime
Ari—Stephens-Howling 52 pass from Kolb, 11:43.
A—62,180

	Dal	Ari
First downs	20	16
Total Net Yards	336	327
Rushes-yards	20-75	25-103
Passing	261	224
Comp-Att-Int	28-42-0	16-25-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	5-38	5-23
Punts	5-38.2	7-50.1
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	7-49	8-41
Time of Possession	33:42	29:35

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Dallas, Murray 12-38, Jones 5-36, Romo 2-1. Arizona, Wells 20-87, Kolb 3-20, Stephens-Howling 2-16.

PASSING—Dallas, Romo 28-42-0-299. Arizona, Kolb 16-25-0-247.

RECEIVING—Dallas, Bryant 8-96, Witten 5-47, Robinson 4-72, Phillips 4-22, Ogletree 3-25, Holley 2-31, Chapas 1-8, Jones 1-7. Arizona, Roberts 5-111, Fitzgerald 4-55, Hostler 2-23, Doucet 2-0, Stephens-Howling 1-32, Wells 1-6.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Dallas, Bailey 53 (WL), 49 (SH).

CHIEFS 10, BEARS 3

Kansas City	0	7	3	0 —10
Chicago	0	3	0	0 —3

Second Quarter
Chi—FG Gould 32, 9:44.
KC—McCluster 38 pass from Palko (Succop kick), :00.
Third Quarter
KC—FG Succop 21, 6:16.
A—61,973.

	KC	Chi
First downs	13	11
Total Net Yards	252	181
Rushes-yards	37-113	24-93
Passing	139	88
Comp-Att-Int	17-31-0	21-34-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-18	7-46
Punts	11-46.6	7-43.4
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-0
Penalties-Yards	6-60	5-35
Time of Possession	32:42	27:18

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Kansas City, McCluster 9-61, Jones 16-35, Battle 11-15, Palko 1-1. Chicago, Barber 14-44, Bell 4-34, Forte 5-12, Hanie 1-3.

PASSING—Kansas City, Palko 17-30-0-157, Orton 0-1-0-0. Chicago, Hanie 11-24-1-133.

RECEIVING—Kansas City, Breaston 5-56, Bowe 4-49, McCluster 4-48, Copper 1-10, Baldwin 1-7. McClain 1-5, Urban 1-1. Chicago, Knox 5-53, Hester 3-35, K.Davis 2-40, Bennett 1-5.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Chicago, Gould 41 (WL).

PATRIOTS 31, COLTS 24

Indianapolis	0	3	0	21 —24
New England	3	7	14	0 —31

First Quarter
NE—FG Gostkowski 39, 9:30.
Second Quarter
Ind—FG Vinatieri 31, 14:11.
NE—Gronkowski 11 pass from Brady (Gostkowski kick), 2:27.
NE—Green-Ellis 1 run (Gostkowski kick), :13.
Third Quarter
NE—Gronkowski 21 pass from Brady (Gostkowski kick), 12:16.
NE—Gronkowski 2 run (Gostkowski kick), 4:13.
Fourth Quarter
Ind—D.Brown 5 run (Vinatieri kick), 10:24.
Ind—Garcon 39 pass from Orlovsky (Vinatieri kick), 2:12.
Ind—Garcon 12 pass from Orlovsky (Vinatieri kick), :26.
A—68,759.

	Ind	NE
First downs	26	24
Total Net Yards	437	398
Rushes-yards	31-90	24-73
Passing	349	325
Punt Returns	1-21	2-15
Kickoff Returns	2-34	0-48
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	1-0
Comp-Att-Int	30-37-1	29-39-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-15	1-0
Punts	3-48.0	4-46.8
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	3-0
Penalties-Yards	5-29	3-20
Time of Possession	30:39	24:21

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Indianapolis, Gibson 14-41, Addai 15-39, Carter 2-10, Orlovsky 1-(minus 1). New England, Ridley 9-33, Green-Ellis 8-14, Woodhead 4-12, Brady 3-7, Faulk 2-6, Gronkowski 1-2.

PASSING—Indianapolis, Orlovsky 30-37-1-353. New England, Brady 29-39-0-325.

RECEIVING—Indianapolis, Garcon 9-120, Collie 7-70, Brown 5-65, Thomas 5-40, D.Brown 3-16, Pettigrew 1-7, Hill 1-5, Addai 1-2. New England, Welker 11-114, Hernandez 7-43, Gronkowski 5-64, Branch 3-37, Faulk 1-13, Ochocinco 1-12, Underwood 1-10.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

STEELERS 35, BENGALS 7

Cincinnati	0	7	0	0 —7
Pittsburgh	9	20	7	0 —35

Second Quarter
Pit—Mansfield 3 run (Suisham kick), 12:47.
Pit—Mansfield 3 run (Suisham kick), 10:12.
Pit—Wallace 12 pass from Roethlisberger (Suisham kick), 6:05.
Cin—Green 11 pass from Dalton (Nugent kick), 4:06.
Pit—A.Brown 60 punt return (Suisham kick), 1:18.
Third Quarter
Pit—Wallace 15 pass from Roethlisberger (Suisham kick), 9:26.
A—63,697.

	Cin	Pit
First downs	15	22
Total Net Yards	230	407
Rushes-yards	22-104	35-130
Passing	126	277
Comp-Att-Int	14-30-1	25-33-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-24	3-17
Punts	7-45.3	5-54.2
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	0-0
Penalties-Yards	10-109	4-29
Time of Possession	27:16	32:44

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Cincinnati, Benson 13-62, Scott 5-30, Gibson 1-15, Dalton 2-8, Graham 1-(minus 2). Pittsburgh, Mendenhall 18-60, Redman 8-51, Moore 1-13, A.Brown 1-6, Dwyer 3-6, C.Batch 3-(minus 2), Wallace 1-(minus 3).

PASSING—Cincinnati, Dalton 11-24-0-135, Gradkowski 3-6-1-17. Pittsburgh, Roethlisberger 15-23-0-176.

RECEIVING—Cincinnati, Green 6-67, Leonard 4-20, Gresham 3-47, Hawkins 1-8. Pittsburgh, Ward 5-30, Wallace 3-38, A.Brown 2-47, Miller 3-12, Saunders 1-14, Johnson 1-9, Sanders 1-6.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Cincinnati, Nugent 33 (BK). Pittsburgh, Suisham 50 (WR).

TITANS 23, BILLS 17

Tennessee	10	7	3	3 —23
Buffalo	7	3	0	7 —17

First Quarter
Ten—FG Bironas 48, 12:27.
Buf—Spiller 35 run (Rayner kick), 7:17.
Ten—Johnson 48 run (Bironas kick), 5:50.
Second Quarter
Ten—Johnson 4 run (Bironas kick), 13:48.
Buf—FG Rayner 27, 8:46.
Third Quarter
Ten—FG Bironas 24, 6:45.
Fourth Quarter
Ten—FG Bironas 44, 8:55.
Buf—S.Johnson 2 pass from Fitzpatrick (Rayner kick), 2:58.
A—56,463.

	Ten	Buf
First downs	18	18
Total Net Yards	317	379
Rushes-yards	31-187	23-97
Passing	130	282
Comp-Att-Int	16-25-0	29-46-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-10	1-6
Punts	5-47.8	4-42.3
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	3-2
Penalties-Yards	3-20	3-15
Time of Possession	28:14	31:46

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Tennessee, Johnson 23-153, Hisert 5-21, Hall 2-11, Mathews 1-(minus 1). Buffalo, Spiller 14-63, Choice 5-20, Fitzpatrick 4-(minus 6).

PASSING—Tennessee, Hasselbeck 16-25-0-140. Buffalo, Fitzpatrick 29-46-0-288.

RECEIVING—Tennessee, Williams 4-62, Washington 4-40, Hall 3-12, L.Hawkins 2-9, Ringer 2-(minus 6), Graham 1-21, Johnson 1-14. Buffalo, S.Smith 7-72, St.Johnson 5-52, Chandler 3-46, Nelson 3-34, Spiller 3-19, J.Smith 3-11, Caussin 2-16, Roosevelt 1-25, Choice 1-7, McIntyre 1-4.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

DOLPHINS 34, RAIDERS 14

Oakland	0	0	0	14 —14
Miami	7	6	21	0 —34

First Quarter
Mia—FG Carpenter 48, 10:11.
Mia—FG Carpenter 33, 1:30.
Second Quarter
Mia—Bess 12 pass from Matt.Moore (Carpenter kick), 8:24.
Third Quarter
Mia—Bush 1 run (Carpenter kick), 13:56.
Mia—Mat.Moore 6 run (Carpenter kick), 5:01.
Mia—Burnett 34 interception return (Carpenter kick), 4:41.
Fourth Quarter
Oak—Houshmandzadeh 40 pass from Palmer (Janikowski kick), 7:51.
Oak—Heyward-Bey 3 pass from Palmer (Janikowski kick), 3:26.
A—57,225.

	Oak	Mia
First downs	18	23
Total Net Yards	304	360
Rushes-yards	14-48	44-209
Passing	256	153
Comp-Att-Int	20-41-1	13-25-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-15	1-9
Punts	6-46.5	4-55.5
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	10-91	9-79
Time of Possession	21:40	38:20

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Oakland, Bush 10-18, Murphy 2-16, Reece 1-10, Palmer 1-2. Miami, Bush 22-100, Thomas 13-73, Mat.Moore 5-22, Hilliard 3-10, Gates 1-4.

PASSING—Oakland, Palmer 20-41-1-273. Miami, Mat.Moore 13-25-0-162.

RECEIVING—Oakland, Schilens 6-89, Myers 3-33, Bush 3-27, Heyward-Bey 3-26, Murphy 2-15, Houshmandzadeh 1-40, Reece 1-38, Butler 1-6. Miami, Fasano 4-86, Marshall 4-60, Bess 4-27, Hartline 1-9.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

JETS 34, REDSKINS 19

N.Y. Jets	7	3	21	—34
Washington	7	6	0	—19

First Quarter
Was—Helu 2 run (Gano kick), 10:21.
NYJ—Greene 1 run (Folk kick), 1:15.
Second Quarter
Was—FG Gano 33, 11:32.
NYJ—FG Folk 45, 3:06.
Was—FG Gano 23, :19.
Third Quarter
NYJ—FG Folk 31, 8:35.
Fourth Quarter
Was—FG Gano 46, 7:52.
NYJ—Holmes 30 pass from Sanchez (Folk kick), 4:49.
NYJ—Greene 9 run (Folk kick), 3:42.
Was—FG Gano 43, 1:59.
NYJ—Greene 25 run (Folk kick), 1:47.
A—74,121

	NYJ	Was
First downs	16	17
Total Net Yards	269	304
Rushes-yards	30-101	23-100
Passing	168	204
Comp-Att-Int	19-32-0	19-46-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	0-0	2-17
Punts	5-44.6	6-37.3
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	3-2
Penalties-Yards	9-49	8-60
Time of Possession	32:12	27:48

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—N.Y. Jets, Greene 23-89, Kerley 1-6, Tomlinson 1-5, Conrad 2-2, Sanchez 3-1, McKnight 1-(minus 1). Washington, Helu 23-100.

PASSING—N.Y. Jets, Sanchez 19-32-0-168. Washington, Grossman 19-45-1-221.

RECEIVING—N.Y. Jets, Holmes 4-68, Burnett 3-33, Greene 3-26, Keller 3-12, Tomlinson 1-16, Kerley 1-7, Pitman 1-6, Mulligan 1-6, McKnight 1-2, Conrad 1-0. Washington, Davis 5-66, Moss 5-42, Helu 4-42, Anderson 3-21, Stallworth 1-14, Reyna 1-3.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—N.Y. Jets, Folk 40 (WR).

BRONCOS 35, VIKINGS 32

Denver	7	0	14	—35
Minnesota	6	10	7	10 —32

First Quarter
Min—J.Kiser safety, 12:17.
Den—Haggan 16 interception return (Prater kick), 9:42.
Min—FG Longwell 40, 1:24.
Second Quarter
Min—Rudolph 19 pass from Ponder (Longwell kick), 12:38.
Min—FG Longwell 25, :00.
Third Quarter
Den—D.Thomas 21 pass from Tebow (Prater kick), 11:18.
Min—Harvin 50 pass from Ponder (Longwell kick), 3:12.
Den—D.Thomas 41 pass from Tebow (Prater kick), 2:46.
Fourth Quarter
Min—Harvin 48 pass from Ponder (Longwell kick), 9:41.
Den—McGahee 24 run (Tebow run), 8:52.
Min—FG Longwell 39, 3:06.
Den—FG Prater 46, 1:33.
Den—FG Prater 23, :00.
A—62,839.

	Den	Min
First downs	13	27
Total Net Yards	336	489
Rushes-yards	32-150	30-109
Passing	186	380
Comp-Att-Int	10-15-0	30-48-2
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-16	3-29
Punts	6-51.2	6-48.5
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	1-1
Penalties-Yards	8-73	6-54
Time of Possession	22:09	37:51

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Denver, McGahee 20-111, Bell 7-25, Tebow 4-13, Larsen 1-1. Minnesota, Gerhart 21-81, Harvin 5-19, Ponder 1-12, Webb 1-4, Booker 2-3.

PASSING—Denver, Tebow 10-15-0-202. Minnesota, Ponder 29-47-0-381, Webb 1-1-0-8.

RECEIVING—Denver, D.Thomas 4-144, Decker 2-25, Bell 2-14, Willis 1-12, Royal 1-7. Minnesota, Harvin 8-100, Gerhart 5-42, Aromashodu 5-80, Shiancoe 4-38, S.Burton 2-38, Rudolph 1-19, Booker 1-8.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

PANTHERS 38, BUCCANEERS 19

Carolina	14	10	7	—38
Tampa Bay	3	9	0	—19

First Quarter
Car—Newton 1 run (Mare kick), 11:21.
Car—Stewart 1 run (Mare kick), 5:07.
TB—FG Barth 50, 1:23.
Second Quarter
Car—Newton 47, 10:52.
Car—Hoomes 16 pass from Newton (Mare kick), 7:04.
TB—FG Barth 46, 4:25.
TB—FG Barth 44, :58.
Car—FG Mare 43, :00.
Third Quarter
Car—Newton 1 run (Mare kick), 6:29.
Fourth Quarter
Car—Newton 1 run (Mare kick), 8:46.
TB—Briscoe 23 pass from J.Johnson (Barth kick), 6:35.
A—58,270.

	Car	TB
First downs	28	15
Total Net Yards	395	265
Rushes-yards	39-163	27-78
Passing	232	207
Comp-Att-Int	13-22-0	16-27-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-9	2-22
Punts	3-38.0	2-41.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	3-20	9-73
Time of Possession	32:41	27:19

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Carolina, Stewart 14-80, Newton 14-54, DeWilliams 11-29. Tampa Bay, J.Johnson 5-46, Medlock 8-25, Blount 11-19, Lumsden 2-1, Bass 1-(minus 12).

PASSING—Carolina, Newton 12-21-0-204, Hoomes 1-1-0-27. Tampa Bay, J.Johnson 16-27-1-229.

RECEIVING—Carolina, LeFell 3-64, Hoomes 2-38, Smith 2-32, Stewart 2-19, Newton 1-27, Shockley 1-26, Olsen 1-21, Ajirotutu 1-4. Tampa Bay, Williams 5-93, Winslow 4-41, Benn 3-46, Parker 3-28, Briscoe 1-23.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

PACKERS 36, GIANTS 35

Green Bay	7	14	7	10 —38
N.Y. Giants	10	7	11	—35

First Quarter
NYG—Bradham 67 pass from Manning (Tynes kick), 13:24.
GB—Finley 12 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 5:06.
NYG—FG Tynes 38, 2:00.
Second Quarter
GB—Matthews 39 interception return (Crosby kick), 14:50.
NYG—Jacobs 1 run (Tynes kick), 8:44.
GB—Driver 13 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 1:10.
Third Quarter
GB—G.Jennings 20 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 9:50.
NYG—Nicks 4 pass from Manning (Tynes kick), 6:30.
Fourth Quarter
NYG—FG Tynes 50, 10:53.
GB—Driver 7 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 3:34.
NYG—Nicks 2 pass from Manning (Ware run), :58.
GB—FG Crosby 30, :00.
A—80,694.

	GB	NYG
First downs	29	24
Total Net Yards	449	447
Rushes-yards	26-89	20-100
Passing	360	347
Comp-Att-Int	28-47-1	23-40-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-9	1-0
Punts	5-44.2	4-44.3
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	4-30	6-55
Time of Possession	33:09	26:57

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Green Bay, Rodgers 4-32, Grant 13-29, Saine 5-16, Kuhn 3-7, Starks 3-5. N.Y. Giants, Jacobs 5-59, Bradshaw 11-33, Ware 1-8.

PASSING—Green Bay, Rodgers 28-46-1-369. Cobb 0-1-0-0. N.Y. Giants, Manning 23-40-1-347.

RECEIVING—Green Bay, G.Jennings 7-84, Finley 6-67, Nelsen 4-64, Driver 4-34, Saine 4-28, Grant 1-17, Crabtree 1-7, Quarless 1-7. N.Y. Giants, Cruz 7-118, Nicks 7-42, Bellard 3-47, Bradshaw 2-9, Ware 2-6, Beckum 1-47, Barden 1-6.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Green Bay, Crosby 43 (WR).

49ERS 26, RAMS 0

St. Louis	0	0	0	0 —0
San Francisco	3	0	10	7 —26

First Quarter
SF—FG Akers 36, 4:54.
Second Quarter
SF—FG Akers 19, 8:26.
SF—FG Akers 21, 1:41.
Third Quarter
SF—Crabtree 52 pass from Ale.Smith (Akers kick), 11:14.
SF—FG Akers 34, 5:41.
Fourth Quarter
SF—K.Williams 58 pass from Ale.Smith (Akers kick), 12:42.
A—69,732.

	Ste.	SF
First downs	10	18
Total Net Yards	157	369
Rushes-yards	23-31	34-144
Passing	126	245
Comp-Att-Int	12-23-1	17-25-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	4-30	4-29
Punts	8-38.6	5-45.2
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-0
Penalties-Yards	5-35	9-72
Time of Possession	23:55	36:04

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—St. Louis, Hameed 11-19, S.Jackson 10-19, B.Miller 1-(minus 1). San Francisco, Gore 21-75, K.Williams 1-25, Ginn Jr. 1-16, Walter 1-14, Ale.Smith 2-10, Hunter 5-4, Dixon 3-0.

PASSING—St. Louis, Bulger 12-23-1-126. San Francisco, Ale.Smith 17-23-0-274, Kaepernick 0-2-0-0.

RECEIVING—St. Louis, S.Jackson 4-42, Pettis 3-33, Lloyd 1-34, B.Miller 1-18, S.Jackson 1-11, Hameed 1-10, N.Miller 1-8. San Francisco, V.Davis 5-52, Crabtree 4-66, Ginn Jr. 4-58, K.Williams 2-68, Hunter 2-30.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

RAVENS 24, BROWNS 10

Baltimore	0	10	7	7 —24
Cleveland	0	0	3	7 —10

Second Quarter
Bal—Rice 6 run (Cundiff kick), 12:17.
Bal—FG Cundiff 21, :13.
Third Quarter
Cle—FG Dawson 21, 5:55.
Bal—R.Williams 1 run (Cundiff kick), 4:56.
Fourth Quarter
Bal—Webb 65 punt return (Cundiff kick), 6:58.
Cle—Moore 22 pass from McCoy (Dawson kick), 4:22.
A—63,648.

	Bal	Cle
First downs	24	13
Total Net Yards	448	223
Rushes-yards	55-230	17-59
Passing	218	174
Comp-Att-Int	10-23-0	19-38-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-0	3-22
Punts	3-38.0	6-38.8
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	0-0
Penalties-Yards	4-18	3-37
Time of Possession	37:34	22:26

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Baltimore, Rice 29-204, R.Williams 16-76, Leach 4-12, Taylor 1-2, Flacco 4-(minus 1), T.Smith 1-(minus 3). Cleveland, Hillis 12-45, McCoy 4-12, Ogbonnaya 1-2.

PASSING—Baltimore, Flacco 10-23-0-192. Cleveland, McCoy 17-35-1-192, Wallace 1-1-0-4.

RECEIVING—Baltimore, Dickson 3-47, Boldin 2-32, Rice 2-10, T.Smith 1-32, Pitta 1-30, Leach 1-11. Cleveland, Ogbonnaya 5-28, Watson 3-34, Norwood 3-29, Little 3-18, Moore 2-28, Hillis 1-52, Massaquoi 1-7.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Baltimore, Cundiff 34 (WR), 41 (WR).

SAINTS 31, LIONS 17

Detroit	3	7	10	0 —17
New Orleans	3	21	0	7 —31

First Quarter
NO—FG Kasay 39, 5:45.
Second Quarter
NO—Ingram 14 run (Kasay kick), 11:44.
NO—Meachem 67 pass from Brees (Kasay kick), 8:03.
Det—K.Smith 2 run (Hanson kick), 2:26.
NO—Moore 20 pass from Brees (Kasay kick), :22.
Third Quarter
Det—FG Hanson 31, 9:11.
Det—Morris 8 pass from Stafford (Hanson kick), :43.
Fourth Quarter
NO—Sproles 6 pass from Brees (Kasay kick), 9:44.
A—73,042.

	Det	NO
First downs	25	21
Total Net Yards	466	438
Rushes-yards	22-67	23-100
Passing	379	338
Comp-Att-Int	31-44-1	26-36-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-29	2-4
Punts	4-45.8	4-44.8
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	11-107	3-30
Time of Possession	35:06	24:54

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Detroit, K.Smith 6-34, Morris 13-28, K.Williams 2-14, T.Young 1-11, Logan 1-0. New Orleans, Ingram 16-54, Sproles 4-28, P.Thomas 2-10, Meachem 1-8.

PASSING—Detroit, Stafford 31-44-1-408. New Orleans, Brees 26-36-0-342.

RECEIVING—Detroit, Johnson 6-98, K.Smith 6-46, Bullock 5-63, Morris 5-47, T.Young 3-40, Schwartz 2-41, Pettigrew 2-13, R.Davis 1-22, Heller 1-10. K.Williams 1-7. New Orleans, Graham 8-68, Colston 6-64, Sproles 5-48, Meachem 5-119, Moore 2-23, P.Thomas 2-11.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Detroit, Hanson 42 (SH), 55 (WL).

NBA CONNECTION

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Benson

CEDRIC BENSON
RB, CINCINNATI BENGALS
(LEE HIGH SCHOOL)

Benson rushed for 52 yards on 13 carries against the league's 6th-ranked rushing defense in the Bengal's 35-7 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Winston

ERIC WINSTON
OT, HOUSTON TEXANS
(LEE HIGH SCHOOL)

Winston and the Texans' offensive line paved the way for 162 rushing yards in the Texans' 17-10 win against the Atlanta Falcons. Arian Foster gained 111 yards on the ground and crossed the goal line while Winston was penalty-free in the game.

Williams

ROY WILLIAMS
WR, CHICAGO BEARS
(ODESSA PERMIAN HIGH SCHOOL)

Williams was held without a catch in the Bears' 10-3 loss to the Kansas City Chiefs. The former Panther only had one ball thrown his way as he went catchless for the first time in two games.

Bird

BRONT BIRD
LB, SAN DIEGO CHARGERS
(ODESSA PERMIAN HIGH SCHOOL)

Bird's Chargers visit the Jacksonville Jaguars on Monday Night Football tonight.

Cannon

MARCUS CANNON
OT, NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS
(ODESSA HIGH SCHOOL)

Cannon saw action in his third straight game in the Patriots' 31-24 win against the Indianapolis Colts. The rookie out of TCU wasn't called for a penalty in the game.

NFL STANDINGS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
New England	9	3	0	.750	362	247	5-1-0	4-2-0	5-2-0	3-1-0	
N.Y. Jets	7	5	0	.583	290	260	5-1-0	2-4-0	5-2-0	2-3-0	4-0-0
Buffalo	5	7	0	.417	278	304	4-2-0	1-5-0	3-3-0	2-3-0	1-3-0
Miami	4	8	0	.333	248	320	3-3-0	1-5-0	2-5-0	1-2-0	1-2-0
South											
Houston	9	3	0	.750	310	189	5-1-0	4-2-0	5-2-0	3-1-0	5-0-0
Tennessee	7	5	0	.583	249	229	4-2-0	3-3-0	5-2-0	3-1-0	1-5-0
Jacksonville	3	9	0	.273	136	300	3-3-0	1-6-0	3-4-0	0-2-0	3-2-0
Indianapolis	0	12	0	.000	174	388	0-6-0	0-6-0	0-6-0	0-3-0	0-5-0
North											
Baltimore	9	3	0	.750	268	182	6-0-0	3-3-0	6-2-0	3-1-0	4-0-0
Pittsburgh	9	3	0	.750	308	187	5-1-0	4-2-0	7-1-0	2-2-0	5-1-0
Cincinnati	7	5	0	.583	266	250	3-3-0	4-3-0	6-4-0	1-1-0	2-3-0
Cleveland	4	8	0	.333	175	240	3-4-0	1-4-0	3-6-0	1-2-0	0-3-0
West											
Denver	7	5	0	.583	258	202	3-3-0	4-2-0	5-4-0	1-1-0	3-3-0
Oakland	7	5	0

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	27	16	7	4	36	85	66
N.Y. Rangers	23	15	5	3	33	69	51
Philadelphia	25	13	7	5	31	66	72
New Jersey	25	12	12	1	25	62	70
N.Y. Islanders	24	8	11	5	21	52	78

Northeast Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	24	16	7	1	33	65	51
Toronto	26	14	10	2	30	83	85
Buffalo	26	14	11	1	29	72	69
Ottawa	25	12	11	3	27	79	89
Montreal	27	11	11	5	27	67	69

Southeast Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	26	14	9	4	32	73	65
Washington	25	13	11	1	27	75	79
Winnipeg	26	11	11	4	26	68	79
Tampa Bay	25	11	12	2	24	67	80
Carolina	26	8	16	4	20	66	94

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	27	16	8	3	35	80	64
Detroit	25	16	8	1	33	75	58
St. Louis	26	14	9	3	31	65	58
Nashville	26	12	10	4	28	66	71
Columbus	26	7	16	3	17	62	88

Northwest Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	27	17	7	3	37	69	61
Vancouver	26	15	10	1	31	63	67
Edmonton	27	13	11	3	29	76	71
Colorado	27	13	13	1	27	75	78
Calgary	26	11	13	2	24	60	72

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	26	16	7	3	35	69	72
Los Angeles	26	13	9	4	30	60	58
San Jose	25	14	8	1	29	67	58
Phoenix	25	13	9	3	29	67	62
Anaheim	26	7	14	5	19	60	86

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

Sunday's Scores
Colorado 4, Detroit 2
Minnesota 5, Anaheim 3
Vancouver 5, Calgary 1

Today's Games
Toronto at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.
Boston at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
Washington at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Chicago, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY'S SUMMARIES
FLAMES 5, CANUCKS 1

Calgary . . . . . 3 0 0 — 3
Vancouver . . . . . 0 2 3 — 5

First Period—1, Calgary, Tanguay 5 (Horak, Bourque), 18:34.

Second Period—2, Vancouver, Bieksa 2 (Higgins, Booth), 5:13 (pp). 3, Vancouver, Higgins 8 (Booth, Hamhuis), 19:01.

Third Period—4, Vancouver, Booth 5 (Kesler, Higgins), 40. 5, Vancouver, Hansen 7 (Raymond, Ballard), 1:54. 6, Vancouver, D.Sedin 9 (Kesler, H.Sedin), 5:42 (pp).

Shots on Goal—Calgary 13-4-5—22. Vancouver 10-15-11—36.

Goalies—Calgary, Kiprusoff. Vancouver, Luongo. A—18,880 (18,810). T—2:22.

AVALANCHE 4, RED WINGS 2

Detroit . . . . . 1 1 0 — 2
Colorado . . . . . 0 2 2 — 4

First Period—1, Detroit, Franzen 12 (Datsyuk, Lidstrom), 15:08 (pp).

Second Period—2, Colorado, O'Reilly 5 (Landeskog), 26. 3, Colorado, Stastny 8 (Duchene), 2:11 (pp).

Third Period—4, Detroit, Cleary 5 (Zetterberg, Bertuzzi), 5:08. 5, Colorado, Galiardi 3 (Landeskog), 9:22 (sh). 6, Colorado, O'Reilly 6 (McClement, Wolski), 19:28 (en).

Shots on Goal—Detroit 11-4-14—29. Colorado 7-19-9—35.

Goalies—Detroit, Conklin. Colorado, Varlamov. A—17,014 (18,007). T—2:16.

WILD 5, DUCKS 3

Minnesota . . . . . 1 2 2 — 5
Anaheim . . . . . 3 0 1 — 3

First Period—1, Anaheim, Getzlaf 6 (Perry, Selanne), 5:57 (pp). 2, Anaheim, S.Koivu 5 (Selanne, Beleskey), 9:25. 3, Minnesota, Heatley 8 (Cullen, M.Koivu), 19:56 (pp).

Second Period—4, Minnesota, Weltman 2 (Cullen, Bouchard), 15:18. 5, Minnesota, Bouchard 4 (Cullen, Weltman), 16:50.

Third Period—6, Minnesota, Johnson 4 (Clutterbuck, Brodziski), 14:29. 8, Minnesota, Clutterbuck 6, 19:49 (en-sh).

Shots on Goal—Minnesota 17-13-6—36. Anaheim 9-4-14—27.

Goalies—Minnesota, Harding. Anaheim, Hiller. A—14,002 (17,174). T—2:21.

Tennis

Davis Cup Results
WORLD GROUP
Final
At Olympic Stadium
Seville, Spain
Surface: Clay/Indoor
Spain 3, Argentina 1
Singles

Rafael Nadal, Spain, def. Juan Monaco, Argentina, 6-1, 6-1, 6-2.

David Ferrer, Spain, def. Juan Martin del Potro, Argentina, 6-2, 6-7 (2), 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Doubles

David Nalbandian and Eduardo Schwank, Argentina, def. Fernando Verdasco and Feliciano Lopez, Spain, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3.

Reverse Singles

Rafael Nadal, Spain, def. Juan Martin del Potro, Argentina, 1-6, 6-4, 6-1, 7-6 (3).

David Ferrer, Spain, vs. Juan Monaco, Argentina, not played

Ski Report

New Mexico

Angel Fire — Plan to Open 12/15
Pajarito — Opening Soon for Snow Sports
Red River — Wed Report 12/2 packed powder machine groomed 20-24 base 6 of 57 trails 11% open, 4 of 7 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Sandia Peak — Plan to Open 12/17
Sipapu — Wed Report 12/2 powder machine groomed 16-20 base 6 of 41 trails 2 of 5 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p; Dec 01-02: Not Open;
Ski Apache — Wed 9:46 am packed powder machine groomed 18-24 base 3 of 55 trails 10% open, 3 of 10 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Ski Santa Fe — Plan to Open 12/3 Mon-Fri: 9:30a-4:30p Sat/Sun: 9:30a-4:30p;
Taos — Wed 7:13 am packed powder machine groomed 24-28 base 20 of 110 trails, 18% open 4 of 13 lifts, sm Thu-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p; Open Thu-Sun;
Enchanted Forest XC — Wed No Recent information packed powder machine groomed 12-30 base 15 of 40 trails, 20 miles Mon-Fri: 9a-4:30p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4:30p;

Colorado

Arapahoe Basin — Wed 5:52 am frozen granular machine groomed 22-32 base 9 of 105 trails 15% open, 150 acres, 4 of 7 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 8:30a-4p;
Aspen Highlands — Plan to Open 12/10
Aspen Mountain — Wed 9:37 am packed powder machine groomed 12-14 base 22 of 76 trails 47% open, 236 acres, 3 of 6 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-3:30p; Sat/Sun: 9a-3:30p;
Beaver Creek — Wed 7:20 am packed powder machine groomed 16-18 base 28 of 149 trails 22% open, 424 acres, 13 of 17 lifts, Mon-Fri: 8:30a-3:30p Sat/Sun: 8:30a-3:30p;
Breckenridge — Wed 7:21 am 1 new packed powder machine groomed 20-22 base 32 of 155 trails, 14% open, 338 acres, 11 of 31 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Buttermilk — Plan to Open 12/10
Copper Mountain — Wed 5:29 am packed powder machine groomed 18-18 base 18 of 128 trails 14% open, 232 acres, 7 of 22 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 8:30a-4p;
Crested Butte — Wed 4:49 am hard packed machine groomed 18-28 base 15 of 121 trails 17% open, 106 acres, 3 of 16 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
CO Trails — Plan to Open 12/1
Echo Mountain — Wed 1:45 pm 8 new packed powder machine groomed 28-30 base 8 of 18 trails 20% open, 3 of 8 lifts, Mon, Wed-Fri: 10a-5p; Sat-Sun: 9a-5p;
Eldora — Wed 11:28 am 8 new powder machine groomed 24-24 base 12 of 63 trails 23% open, 8 of 12 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;
Arapahoe Basin — Opening Soon for Snow Sports
Keystone — Wed 7:22 am 1 new packed powder machine groomed 18-18 base 19 of 135 trails 14% open, 400 acres, 9 of 20 lifts, sm Mon-Fri: 9a-4p; Sat/Sun: 9a-4p;

Boxing

Wednesday

At Prefectural Gymnasium, Osaka, Japan
Wataru Kameda vs. Mario Macias, 12, for Kameda's WBA Mini Flyweight title.

Saturday

At ESPET arena, Guatemala City, Guatemala
Jonathan Romero, 8, Guatemala, vs. Jesus Rojas, 12, for Romero's WBA Super World 108 pounds title.
At Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington (HBO), Pete Wright vs. Lenard Pinkney, 12, for Wright's WBC Middle Middleweight Title.
At Bentosh Hall, Atlantic City, N.J. (ESPN), Andre Ward vs. Carl Froch, 12, for Ward's WBC Super Middleweight title and Froch's WBA World Super Middleweight title.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Polls

The AP Top 25
The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 3, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote and one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. LSU (60)	13-0	1,559	1
2. Alabama	11-1	1,418	2
3. Oklahoma St.	11-1	1,400	3
4. Stanford	11-1	1,292	4
5. Southern Cal	10-2	1,179	9
6. Oregon	11-2	1,170	8
7. Arkansas	10-2	1,147	6
8. Boise St.	11-1	1,107	9
9. Wisconsin	11-2	1,056	15
10. South Carolina	10-2	940	14
11. Kansas St.	10-2	829	16
12. Michigan St.	10-3	733	11
13. Michigan	10-2	707	17
14. Clemson	10-3	663	21
15. Baylor	9-3	633	19
16. TCU	10-2	632	18
17. Virginia Tech	11-2	591	5
18. Georgia	10-3	566	12
19. Oklahoma	9-3	395	13
20. Houston	12-1	370	7
21. Nebraska	9-3	363	20
22. Southern Miss	11-2	338	24
23. West Virginia	9-3	326	22
24. Penn St.	9-3	129	23
25. Florida St.	8-4	49	25

Others receiving votes: Notre Dame 23, Cincinnati 22, Arizona St. 18, BYU 12, Georgia Tech 7, N. Illinois 7, Missouri 5, Virginia 5, Utah 2, Louisville 1.

USA Today Top 25 Poll
The USA Today Top 25 football coaches poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 3, total points based on 25 points for first place through one point for 25th, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. LSU (59)	13-0	1,475	1
2. Alabama	11-1	1,399	2
3. Oklahoma State	11-1	1,267	5
4. Stanford	11-1	1,266	4
5. Oregon	11-2	1,232	7
6. Boise State	11-1	1,128	8
7. Arkansas	10-2	1,112	10
8. Wisconsin	11-2	1,085	12
9. South Carolina	10-2	971	13
10. Kansas State	10-2	878	15
11. Virginia Tech	11-2	835	3
12. Michigan	10-2	769	16
13. Michigan State	10-3	735	9
14. Clemson	10-3	657	21
15. TCU	10-2	621	17
16. Baylor	9-3	599	18
17. Houston	12-1	542	6
18. Georgia	10-3	536	14
19. Oklahoma	9-3	457	19
20. Nebraska	9-3	402	19
21. Southern Mississippi	11-2	366	22
22. West Virginia	9-3	279	20
23. Penn State	9-3	229	23
24. Cincinnati	9-3	94	25
25. Florida State	8-4	68	24

Others receiving votes: Brigham Young 20; Northern Illinois 14; Missouri 11; Georgia Tech 10; Arkansas State 8; Notre Dame 8; Virginia 5; Louisiana Tech 2; Rutgers 1; Texas 1.

Harris Top 25
The Top 25 teams in the Harris Interactive College Football Poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Dec. 3, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. LSU (115)	13-0	2,875	1
2. Alabama	11-1	2,723	2
3. Oklahoma State	11-1	2,654	5
4. Stanford	11-1	2,504	3
5. Oregon	11-2	2,372	7
6. Boise State	11-1	2,236	8
7. Arkansas	10-2	2,163	9
8. Wisconsin	11-2	2,060	13
9. South Carolina	10-2	1,858	14
10. Kansas State	10-2	1,739	15
11. Virginia Tech	11-2	1,466	4
12. Georgia	10-3	1,447	16
13. Michigan State	10-3	1,351	11
14. Clemson	10-3	1,251	20
15. Michigan	10-2	1,248	17
16. TCU	10-2	1,245	18
17. Houston	12-1	1,133	6
18. Oklahoma	9-3	1,060	12
19. Nebraska	9-3	717	19
20. Southern Miss	11-2	711	22
21. Baylor	9-3	525	21
22. Penn State	9-3	393	23
24. Cincinnati	9-3	172	NR
25. Florida State	8-4	130	24

Other teams receiving votes: BYU 45; Notre Dame 43; Georgia Tech 35; Arizona State 22; Northern Illinois 22; Auburn 15; Virginia 13; Missouri 12; Louisiana Tech 6; Louisville 6; Texas 6; Rutgers 4; Tulsa 1.

Standings

Big 12 Conference
Conference Affiliate

	W.	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
Oklahoma St.	8	1435	229	11	1	592	310
Kansas St.	7	2322	303	10	2	397	334
Baylor	6	3395	349	9	3	522	378
Oklahoma	6	3351	340	9	3	483	273
Missouri	5	4 270	239	7	5	386	262
Texas A&M	5	4 244	234	7	5	344	279
Texas A&M	4	5 354	281	6	6	475	344
Iowa St.	3	6 194	275	6	6	392	355
Texas Tech	2	7 282	414	5	7	409	471
Kansas	0	9 157	393	2	10	289	525

Conference USA
East Division
Conference Affiliate

	W.	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
Southern Miss.	6	2 279	164	11	2	492	274
Marshall	5	3 217	241	6	6	284	362
East Carolina	4	4 210	244	5	7	315	387
UCF	3	5 206	178	5	7	320	280
UAB	3	5 181	319	3	9	242	441
Memphis	1	7 120	271	2	10	195	421

West Division

	W.	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
Houston	8	0 455	160	12	1	660	300
Tulsa	7	1 300	160	8	4	409	331
SMU	5	3 197	184	7	5	308	294
Rice	3	5 210	260	4	8	280	400
UTEP	2	6 217	261	5	7	319	364
Tulane	1	7 137	289	2	11	274	487

Mountain West Conference
Conference

	W.	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
TCU	7	0 286	107	10	2	500	255
Boise St.	6	1 316	145	11	1	519	218
Wyoming	5	2 183	154	8	4	324	324
San Diego St.	4	3 201	172	8	4	357	293
Air Force	3	4 221	176	7	5	413	327
Colorado St.	1	6 127	230	3	9	257	375
UNLV	1	6 127	277	2	10	207	485
New Mexico	1	6 48	250	1	11	144	500

FCS Playoffs

Friday
Football Championship Subdivision
Playoffs
Quarterfinals
Northern Iowa (10-2) at Montana (10-2), 7 p.m.

Saturday
EAST
Army (3-8) vs. Navy (4-7) at Landover, Md., 1:30 p.m.

SOUTH
SWAC championship, Alabama A&M (8-3) vs. Grambling St. (7-4) at Birmingham, Ala., Noon

Football Championship Subdivision
Playoffs
Quarterfinals
Montana State (10-2) at Sam Houston State (10-1), 11 a.m.
Maine (9-3) at Georgia Southern (10-2), 1 p.m.
Lehigh (11-1) at North Dakota State (11-1), 3 p.m.

Bowl Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 17
New Mexico Bowl
At Albuquerque
Wyoming (8-4) vs. Temple (8-4), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
At Boise, Idaho
Utah State (7-5) vs. Ohio (9-4), 4:30 p.m. (ESPN)
New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana-Lafayette (8-4) vs. San Diego State (8-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Tuesday, Dec. 20
Beef 'O'Brady's Bowl
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
Marshall (8-4) vs. FIU (8-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Dec. 21
Poinsettia Bowl
At San Diego
TCU (10-2) vs. Louisiana Tech (8-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 22
MAACO Bowl
At Las Vegas
Boise State (11-1) vs. Arizona State (6-6), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Dec. 24
Hawaii Bowl
At Honolulu
Nevada (7-5) vs. Southern Mississippi (11-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Dec. 26
Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
North Carolina (7-5) vs. Missouri (7-5), 3 p.m. (ESPN)

Tuesday, Dec. 27
Little Caesars Pizza Bowl
At Detroit
Western Michigan (7-5) vs. Purdue (6-6), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Belk Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
North Carolina State (7-5) vs. Louisville (7-5), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Dec. 28
Military Bowl
At Washington
Air Force (7-5) vs. Toledo (8-4), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Texas (7-5) vs. California (7-5), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 29
Champs Sports Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Florida State (8-4) vs. Notre Dame (8-4), 4:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Baylor (9-3) vs. Washington (7-5), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Dec. 30
Armed Forces Bowl
At Dallas
Tulsa (8-4) vs. BYU (9-3), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Pinstripe Bowl
At Bronx, N.Y.
Rutgers (8-4) vs. Iowa State (6-6), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Mississippi State (6-6) vs. Wake Forest (6-6), 5:40 p.m. (ESPN)

Insight Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Oklahoma (9-3) vs. Iowa (7-5), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Dec. 31
Meineke Car Care Bowl
At Houston
Texas A&M (8-4) vs. Northwestern (9-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Sun Bowl
At El Paso, Texas
Georgia Tech (9-4) vs. Utah (7-5), 1 p.m. (CBS)

Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Vanderbilt (6-6) vs. Cincinnati (9-3), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Eight Hunger Bowl
At San Francisco
UCLA (6-7) vs. Illinois (6-6), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Chick-fil-A Bowl
At Atlanta
Virginia (8-4) vs. Auburn (7-6), 6:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 2
TicketCity Bowl
At Dallas
Penn State (9-3) vs. Houston (12-1), 11 a.m. (ESPN2)

Capital One Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Nebraska (9-4) vs. South Carolina (10-2), Noon (ESPN)

Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Georgia (10-3) vs. Michigan State (10-3), Noon (ABC)

Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Florida (8-4) vs. Ohio State (8-4), Noon (ESPN2)

Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Oregon (11-2) vs. Wisconsin (11-2), 4 p.m. (ESPN)

Fiesta Bowl
At Glendale, Ariz.
Stanford (11-1) vs. Oklahoma State (11-1), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Tuesday, Jan. 3
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Michigan (10-2) vs. Virginia Tech (11-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Jan. 4
Orange Bowl
At Miami
West Virginia (9-3) vs. Clemson (10-3), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Jan. 6
Cotton Bowl
At Arlington, Texas
Kansas State (10-2) vs. Arkansas (10-2) 7 p.m. (FOX)

Saturday, Jan. 7
BBVA Compass Bowl
At Birmingham, Ala.
Pittsburgh (6-6) vs. SMU (7-5), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Sunday, Jan. 8
GoDaddy.com Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
Arkansas State (10-2) vs. Northern Illinois (10-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 9
BCS National Championship
At New Orleans
LSU (13-0) vs. Alabama (11-1), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 21
East-West Shrine Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
East vs. West, TBA, (NFLN)

Saturday, Jan. 28
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South, 3 p.m. (NFL Network)

Saturday, Feb. 5
Texas vs. Nation At San Antonio
Texas vs. Nation, 1 p.m. (CBSSN)

GOLF

PGA Tour

PGA Tour Qualifying Scores
Sunday
n-Jack Nicklaus Course (Host Course), 7,204 yards, Par 72
s-PGA West Stadium Course, 7,300 yards, Par 72
La Quinta, Calif.
Purse: $1,057,500
Fifth Round

Marco Dawson	– 343
Stephen Gangluff	– 346
Harris English	– 347
Brendon Todd	– 347
Jamie Lutz	– 349
Brian Harman	– 349
Vaughn Taylor	– 349
Will Claxton	– 349
Edward Loar	– 350
Charlie Beljan	– 350
Tommy Biershenk	– 350
Seung-yul Noh	– 350
Scott Piercy	– 351
Jeff Maggert	– 351
David Summerhays	– 351
Matt Jones	– 351
Alexandre Rocha	– 351
Bobby Gates	– 351
Derek Fathauer	– 352
Dott Kraft	– 352
Bob Estes	– 352
Roberto Castro	– 352
William McGirt	– 352
Kevin Kisner	– 352
Shawn Stefani	– 353
Hudson Swafford	– 353
Rod Edmonds	– 353
Billy Hurley III	– 353
Spring-Moon Bae	– 354
Mark Anderson	– 354
Chris Peck	– 354
Tag Ridings	– 354
Scott Dunlap	– 354
Greg Owen	– 355
Steven Bowditch	– 355
Will Wilcox	– 355
Kent Jones	– 355
Shane Bertsch	– 355
Richard H. Lee	– 355
Patrick Sheehan	– 355
Andrew Svoboda	– 355
Lee Janzen	– 356
Brian Davis	– 356
Lucas Lee	– 356
Jason Allred	– 356
John Huh	– 356
Brad Adamonis	– 356
Ryan Yip	– 356
Ben Kohlmeier	– 356
Paul D. Haley	– 356
Ben Briggs	– 356
Lee Williams	– 356
Wes Roach	– 356
Stuart Anderson	– 357
Brad Fritsch	– 357
Billy Ray Paris, Jr.	– 357
Adam Long	– 357
Matt Davidson	– 357
Mathias Grönberg	– 357
Darron Stiles	– 357
Erik Flores	– 357
Chris Tidland	– 357
Nathan Green	– 358
John Chin	– 358
Tim Hogge	– 358
Omar Uresti	– 358
Martin Piller	– 358
Robert Streb	– 358
Peter Tomasulo	– 358
Chris Stroup	– 358
Brendon LaCoste	– 358
John Wilson	– 358
David Duval	– 358
Steve LeBrun	– 358
Troy Merritt	– 358
Rob Oppenheim	– 358
Jason Gore	– 358
Jim Herman	– 358
James Sachech	– 359
Boo Weekley	– 359
Roland Thatcher	– 359
Andy Sern	– 359
Craig Hocknull	– 359
Corey Nagy	– 359
Fernando Mechavelle	– 359
Bob May	– 359
Andy Winings	– 359
Nicholas Thompson	– 359
Chris Wilson	– 359
D.J. Brigman	– 359
Jeff Quizon	– 359
Adam Hadwin	– 360
Clark Dennis	– 360
Jim Renner	– 360
Justin Hicks	– 360
Alex Cox	– 360
Mike Lawry	– 360
Tim Wilkinson	– 360
James Nitties	– 361
Christopher DeForest	– 361
Anthony Rodriguez	– 361
Jeff Gove	– 361
Alex Aragon	– 361
Aaron Watkins	– 361
Martin Flores	– 361
Bio Kim	– 361
Bob Heintz	– 361
Gator Todd	– 362
Steve Allen	– 362
Tommy Armour III	– 362
David Lingmerth	– 363
Sam Saunders	– 363
Brad Fluegge	– 363
Brady Stockton	– 363
Shaun Michael	– 363
Travis Wadkins	– 363
Josh Broadaway	– 363
Will Claxton	– 363
James Love	– 364
Zach Byrd	– 364
Daniel Chopra	– 364
Dan Buchner	– 364
Scott Sterling	– 364
Jesse Schofia	– 365
Rich Beem	– 365
Gun Oey	– 365
Brian Duncan	– 365
Tim Petrovic	– 365
Paul Claxton	– 365
Carlos Franco	– 365
Jeff Corr	– 365
Fabian Gomez	– 366
Brian Henderson	– 366
Zack Miller	– 366
Brent Witcher	– 366
Brian Scott	– 366
Steve Flesch	– 366
Brandon Gaskew	– 367
Robert Garrigus	– 367
Benoit Beisser	– 367
Andrew Johnson	– 368
Michael S. Johnson	– 368
Doug Barron	– 369
José Toledo	– 369
Bobby Lyle	– 369
Andy Matthews	– 369
Matt Hendrix	– 369
Brett Wetterich	– 369
Jason Bohn	– 370
Andy Pope	– 370
Scott McCarron	– 370
Clayton Rask	– 370
Matt Harmon	– 371
Jimmy Brandt	– 372
Mitchell Gitts	– 372
Glenn Northcutt	– 372
Eric Crowl	– 373
Brian Prusky	– 374
Len Mattiace	– 374
Brad Benjamin	– 375
Richard T. Lee	– 375
Johnny DePriest	– 376
Ty Tryon	– 376
Chip Dobson	– 378
Ben Silver	– 381
Wade Ballard	– 389
Camilo Benedett	– 410

Chevron World Challenge Scores

Sunday
At Sherwood Country Club
Thousand Oaks, Calif.
Yardage: 7,023 yards; Par 72
Purse: $5 million
Final Round

Tiger Woods, $1,200,000	– 271
Zach Johnson, $650,000	– 279
Paul Casey, $400,000	– 283
Matt Kuchar, $262,500	– 284
Hunter Mahan, $262,500	– 284
Jim Furyk, $196,250	– 287
Martin Laird, $196,250	– 287
Rickie Fowler, $196,250	– 287
Bubba Watson, $196,250	– 287
Bo Van Pelt, $171,500	– 288
Gary Woodland, $177,500	– 288
K.J. Choi, $170,000	– 289
Webb Simpson, $162,500	– 290
Bill Haas, $162,500	– 290
Jason Day, $155,000	– 291
Steve Stricker, $150,000	– 292
Keegan Bradley, $145,000	– 298
Nick Watney, $140,000	– 299

Sunshine Tour

Nedbank Golf Challenge Scores
Sunday
At Gary Player Country Club
Sun City, South Africa
Purse: $1,000,000
Yardage: 7,590; Par: 72
Final

Lee Westwood, England	– 273
Robert Karlsson, Sweden	– 275
Jason Dufner, United States	– 277
Graeme McDowell, Northern Ireland	– 277
Kyung-tae Kim, South Korea	– 280
Chad Schwartzel, South Africa	– 282
Luke Donald, England	– 283
Martin Kaymer, Germany	– 283
Simon Dyson, England	– 287
Anders Hansen, Denmark	– 288
Francesco Molinari, Italy	– 295
Damien Clarke, Northern Ireland	– 297

European Tour

UBS Hong Kong Open Leading Scores
Sunday
At Hong Kong Golf Club
Hong Kong
Purse: $2.75 million
Yardage: 6,730; Par: 70
Final

Rory McIlroy, Northern Ireland	– 268
Gregory Havret, France	– 271
Peter Hanson, Sweden	– 271
Panya Junhasavasdikul, Thailand	– 272
Ian Poulter, England	– 272
Richie Ramsay, Scotland	– 272
Kiradech Aphibarnrat, Thailand	– 273
Alvaro Quiros, Spain	– 273
Yi Keng-chi, South Korea	– 274
Juvic Pagunsan, Philippines	– 274
Robert Jan Derksen, Netherlands	– 275
Marcus Fraser, Australia	– 275
Miguel Angel Jimenez, Spain	– 275
Jose Manuel Lara, Spain	– 275
Rafael Cabrera-Bello, Spain	– 276
Thongchai Jaidee, Thailand	– 276
Scott Barr, Australia	– 277
Jason Knutzon, United States	– 277
Liang Wen-chong, China	– 277
Prayad Marksaeng, Thailand	– 277

Also
John Daly, United States – 278
Ben Fox, United States – 279
Barry Hanson, United States – 280
Jyoti Randhawa, Spain – 282
Paul Lawrie, Scotland – 283
Colin Montgomerie, Scotland – 283
Padraig Harrington, Ireland – 284

LPGA Tour

LGPA Final Qualifying Tournament Scores
Sunday
At LPGA International
Daytona Beach, Fla.
**Champ

Chaparrals blast past Chihuahua on Saturday

From staff reports

The Midland College men's basketball team dominated Universidad Autonoma de Chihuahua at home Saturday, winning by a final score of 86-40.

Midland College led by 17 at the half and scored 48 second-half points.

Majok Majok poured in a game-high 21 points going 7 of 7 from inside the 3-point line and knocking down two of his three attempts from downtown.

The Chaparrals (7-2) visit Weatherford College next at a time to be determined Tuesday.

MIDLAND COLLEGE 86, UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE CHIHUAHUA 40

Universidad Autonoma de Chihuahua Dorado -- Jonathan Talavera 0 2-2 2, Ideel Velazquez 0 0-0 0, Sergio Nieves 1 0-0 2, Martin Fierro 0 2-2 2, Carlos Ruiz 1 3-6 5, Alan Olivas 2 0-0 4, Daniel Estrada 0 0-0 0, Gustavo Chavarria 3 0-2 8, Israel Nolasco 6 3-4 15, Sergio Landuro 1 0-0 2. Totals 14 12-16 40.

Midland College (7-2) -- Cotan Weasby 5 0-0 15, Jarekious Bradley 0 0-0 13, Willie Nicholson 2 1-2 6, Tre Bowman 2 0-0 5, Mike Taylor 2 0-0 4, Kelvin Agee 0 0-0 13, Majok Majok 9 1-1 21, Anthony Norris 2 1-2 5, Brandon Maclin 0 0-0 0, Brandon Lucas 0 0-0 0, Melvin Tabb 0 4-6 4, Matt Clark 0 0-0 0. Totals 34 7-11 86.

Halftime -- MC 39, UAC 21. 3-point goals -- MC 11 (Weasby 5, Bradley, Nicholson, Bowman, Agee, Majok 2). Total fouls -- UAC 12, MC 12. Fouled out -- none. Technical fouls -- none. Rebounds -- UAC 16 (Talavera 2, Chavarria 2), MC 29 (Bradley 6, Tabb 6). Turnovers -- UAC 3, MC 12.

Next: Midland College at Weatherford College TBA Thursday

Cindeka Nealy/Reporter-Telegram

Tomball Concordia quarterback Nathan Potter, left, hands the ball off to teammate Josh Amelunke, right, while Midland Christian's Tanner Dobbs (5) looks ot make a play Saturday during the TAPPS Division II State Championship game at Leo Buckley Stadium, Killeen.

HAYWARD

From 1C

squad filled with players like him that not only will work hard on the field during games but also in the film room and on the practice field. Those were the type of things that McClendon kept talking to me about this season with this year's team.

When there were mistakes that needed correcting they worked to correct them, and when there was improvement needed after a big win they still found ways to improve. And McClendon said it started with a senior class that had experienced success but also plenty of playoff heartbreak. They were determined not to experience it again.

"I'm proud for this senior class because they did it the right way and did a great job," McClendon said. "They set an example for those other kids of how to continue to do it. It's special, they worked hard and they deserved everything they've gotten this season."

Len Hayward can be reached at lhayward@mrt.com.

HSPLAYOFFPAIRINGS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

CLASS 5A DIVISION I
State Quarterfinals
Southlake Carroll (14-0) vs. Dallas Skyline (14-0), 4 p.m. Saturday, Dallas' Fort Stadium
Fort Bend Hightower (12-2) vs. SA Madison (10-4), 4 p.m. Saturday, Alamodome

CLASS 5A DIVISION II
State Quarterfinals
Mansfield Timberview (12-2) vs. Spring Dekaney (12-2), 2 p.m. Saturday, Round Rock's Reagan Complex
Port Arthur Memorial (13-1) vs. Cibolo Steele (14-0), 4 p.m. Saturday, Houston's Robert Shaw Stadium

CLASS 4A DIVISION I
State Quarterfinals
Hewitt-McLeroy (12-2) vs. Tyler (11-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Cowboys
Pearland Dawson (12-2) vs. Lake Travis (14-0), 8 p.m. Friday, Alamodome

CLASS 4A DIVISION II
State Quarterfinals
Alpine (12-2) vs. Commerce (13-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Memorial's Memorial Stadium
Marshall (14-0) vs. CC Calallen (13-1), noon Saturday, Alamodome

CLASS 3A DIVISION I
State Championship
Alvarado (14-0) vs. Tyler Chapel Hill (14-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Arlington's Cowboys Stadium

CLASS 3A DIVISION II
State Quarterfinals
Menkinsa (13-2) vs. Argyle (13-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Abilene Wylie HS
Coleman-Coleman (14-0) vs. Wimberley (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Bastrop

CLASS 2A DIVISION I
State Quarterfinals
Muleshoe (12-1) vs. Mineola (11-1), 7 p.m. Friday, Sweetwater
Teague (13-2) vs. Hempstead (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Waco ISD Stadium

CLASS 2A DIVISION II
State Semifinals
Cisco (13-0) vs. Comanche Mitchell (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Mac Abele's Museum Stadium
Lexington (11-0) vs. Refugio (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sam Houston's Homer Stadium

CLASS 1A DIVISION I
State Semifinals
Stamford (12-0) vs. Mart (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Brownwood
Sanford (12-1) vs. Mason (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Waco's Floyd Casey Stadium

CLASS 1A DIVISION II
State Semifinals
Wellington (13-0) vs. Munday (12-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Childress
Tenaha (12-0) vs. Burton (12-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, A&M Consolidated HS

6-MAN DIVISION I
State Championship
Borden County (13-1) vs. Throckmorton (13-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Abilene's Shotwell Stadium

6-MAN DIVISION II
State Championship
Meador Motley County (13-1) vs. Richland Springs (14-0), 7 p.m. Saturday, Abilene's Shotwell Stadium

McCLUNG

From 1C

sion II. He's also served as an assistant at several Lonestar Conference schools, including Abilene Christian and Angelo State.

McClung joined the Central Missouri staff last season as the offensive line coach and has been a part of two highly successful seasons with the Mules. Central Missouri finished the 2011 season with an 8-4 record, but were 11-3 in 2010 and were ranked fifth in the nation in the final poll.

Before last season, no Mules team had ever won a playoff game. They won two in 2010 featuring a 5,000 yard passer and 1,000 yard rusher on the team.

But no matter what level of success McClung's coaching career might reach, it's important to him to always remember it all started in the Tall City.

"I'm a Bulldog through and through," McClung said. "I'm proud to be a Bulldog. I'm proud to be from West Texas. The guys I coach with know what football means down there. (This award) is an accumulation of working with great people. It started with great coaches in Midland."

Jonathan Hull can be reached at jhull@mrt.com.

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WHATABURGER

EOE

Phillies reach terms with Nix, source says

By Matt Gelb
The Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)

DALLAS — As the baseball world flocked to Texas for this week's winter meetings, the Phillies may have decided how to fill left field in 2012.

They agreed to terms Sunday with outfielder Laynce Nix, a source told the Philadelphia Inquirer. The team declined comment because the agreement was not yet finalized and is pending a physical.

Nix, a Midland High grad, is a lefthanded bat with power against righthanded pitching. The Phillies already have John Mayberry Jr., a righthanded bat who mashed lefthanded pitching in 2011. Hence, a platoon in left could be the plan.

Nix, 31, has never signed a major-league deal. Terms were not immediately available, but CSNPhilly.com reported Nix would sign a two-year contract.

If anything, Nix provides more power and flexibility to Charlie Manuel's offense. Nix played in a career-high 124 games with the Washington Nationals in 2011 and posted a .750 on-base-plus-slugging percentage with 16 home runs. All of his homers were hit against righties, and he played sparingly against lefties. Advanced defensive metrics rate him as an above-average outfielder in his career. He also has played some center field and first base.

LSU vs. Alabama in BCS title game

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press

Play it again, LSU and Alabama.

The Crimson Tide edged out Oklahoma State in the final round of voting Sunday and will play the top-ranked Tigers in the BCS national championship game on Jan. 9 in New Orleans.

Undefeated LSU is the only team to beat Alabama all year, and the top BCS official sees a do-over as a perfectly good title game.

"Absolutely, if they're 1 and 2, and they are in all the polls released today," executive director Bill Hancock said.

Still, it's not exactly a game the public was clamoring for — at least outside of Southeastern Conference territory. And it will do nothing to quiet the critics of the Bowl Championship Series or the calls for a college football playoff.

But like it or not, the BCS has ensured that the SEC — home to both schools — will run its streak of national championships to six in a row.

The Cowboys made a late surge by beating Oklahoma 44-10 on Saturday night, and closed the gap between themselves and Alabama in the polls. But it was not enough to avoid the first title game rematch in the 14-year history of the BCS.

BCS Standings

Get a look at the latest BCS standings on Page 3C.

The Tigers (13-0) beat the Tide 9-6 in overtime on Nov. 5 in Tuscaloosa.

"This could be a totally different type of game," Alabama coach Nick Saban said. "There's so many good players on both sides of the ball for both teams.

"There's so much opportunity for this game to play out completely different and have a completely different flavor than the first game."

Alabama (11-1) finished second in both the Harris and coaches' polls by a wide enough margin to make up for the fact that Oklahoma State was ahead in the computer ratings.

The Cowboys (11-1), champions of the Big 12, will play in the Fiesta Bowl against Stanford from the Pac-12.

TEXAS BOWL TEAMS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

HORNED FROGS TO POINSETTIA BOWL: At San Diego. After missing out on a third straight BCS bowl berth, No. 16 TCU will play Louisiana Tech in the Poinsettia Bowl on Dec. 21.

The Mountain West Conference champion Horned Frogs (10-2) needed to move into the top 16 in the final BCS standings on Sunday to earn an automatic bid. TCU remained No. 18 in the BCS standings.

TEXAS TO PLAY IN HOLIDAY BOWL: At San Diego, California and Texas will play in the Holiday Bowl on Dec. 28, the first matchup between the schools since 1970.

It will be the fifth meeting between the schools. Texas leads the series 4-0.

NO. 15 BAYLOR TO PLAY WASHINGTON IN ALAMO BOWL: At San Antonio, No. 15 Baylor has accepted an invite to play Washington in the Alamo Bowl in San Antonio on Dec. 29.

The Robert Griffin-led Bears (9-3, 6-3 Big 12) finished the season with five straight wins for their longest streak since 1991. The Bears' nine wins are their most since 1986.

A&M TO FACE NORTHWESTERN IN MEINEKE CAR CARE BOWL: At Houston, Texas A&M will stay close to home for its final game before leaving the Big 12.

The Aggies will take on Northwestern in the Meineke Car Care Bowl in Houston on Dec. 31. The matchup pits a pair of .500 teams hoping to rebound from uneven seasons. Texas A&M even has a different coach — Tim DeRuyter is leading the team on an interim basis after Mike Sherman was fired Thursday.

PENN STATE TO TICKET CITY BOWL TO PLAY HOUSTON: At State College, Pa., the final game of No. 24 Penn State's tumultuous season will be played on Jan. 2 in the Ticket City Bowl against No. 20 Houston.

Penn State and the bowl made the official announcements Sunday night on their respective websites.

The Nittany Lions (9-3, 6-2) finished tied with Wisconsin for first in the Big Ten Leaders Division.

PITTSBURGH, SMU TO MEET IN BBVA COMPASS BOWL: At Birmingham, Ala., Pittsburgh will face SMU in its second straight trip to the BBVA Compass Bowl.

Bowl officials announced the matchup Sunday for the Jan. 7 game at Legion Field.

Woods wins Chevron Classic

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Two years after his life and career came crashing down, Tiger Woods is a winner again.

One shot behind with two holes to play, Woods finally looked like the player who dominated golf for so much of his career. He birdied his last two holes Sunday, making a 6-foot putt on the 18th, to win the Chevron World Challenge by one shot over former Masters champion Zach Johnson.

Woods closed with a 3-under 69, sweeping his arm when the final putt dropped, then slamming down his first in celebration. It had been 749 days and 26 official tournaments since he last won on Nov. 15, 2009 at the Australian Masters, back when he looked as though he would rule golf as long as he played.

But he crashed his car into a fire hydrant outside his Florida home on Thanksgiving night, and shocking revelations of extramarital affairs began to emerge, which eventually led to a divorce. Since then, he has changed swing coaches and endured more injuries, missing two majors this summer and missing the cut in another.

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MONDAY PRIME TIME — DECEMBER 5, 2011

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

		6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	C. Brown C'mas	Prep and Lan (N)	You Deserve It (N)		Castle "Coffed"		KMID News	(:35) News Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KOSA CBS	7	CBS 7	Ent. Tonight	Mother (N)	2 Broke Girls (N)	Two and Half (N)	Mike & Molly (N)	Hawaii Five-0 "Pahele" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) David Ryan Adams, Jonah Hill	Letterman (N)	(:35) Late. (N)
KWWT CW	5	14	5	14	Seinfeld	Seinf. "The Glasses"	Gossip Girl (N)	Hart/ Dixie "Hairdos and Holidays" (N)		Cops "I'll Death	King of Queens	South Park	Roseanne
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Two and Half Men	Two and a Half Men	American Country Music Awards Country music fans vote for their favorite artists. (L)		The Simpsons Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Loves Ray	Law & Order: Criminal Intent
KMLM IND	11	11	12	11	11	Dr. Jack Van Impe	Joe McGee	Update News	Jonathan Hansen	Light of the Southwest		House Call	Url Harel	Andrew Gabriel Roth
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	Be Millionaire	A Sing-Off Christmas Holiday and Inspirational songs are sung. (N)		Rock Center With Brian Williams		News-West 9	(:35) The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	(:35) LateNight
KPBT PBS	13	13	13	8		PBS NewsHour		Celtic Woman: The Greatest Journey A collection of Celtic Woman's memorable songs.		Orla Fallon's Celtic Christmas		Charlie Rose	BBC News	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4	4	16		Cuando me enamoro		Una familia con suerte		La fuerza del destino		Don Francisco Adal Ramones, Juan Soler	Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Hasta que el dinero nos separe
KOSA MNT	16	16	16			Office	30 Rock	SVU "Wrong Is Right"		Law&O.:SVU "Honor"		My News Earl	30 Rock	Sunny	Scrubs	Access H.	
FLIX	340	65	165			(5:00) ♥ The Hours		♥ ★★★ Sling Blade Billy Bob Thornton.			(:15) ♥ ★★ Blind Faith ('98, Sus) Charles Dutton.		Movie
HBO	300	68	14	14		(:45)Strange	♥ The Dilemma ('11, Comdy) Vince Vaugn.		Enlight	Boardwalk Empire		Enlight	♥ ★★ Due Date
HBO2	302	69	15	101	23	Face Off (5:15) ♥ ★★ What About Bob?				♥ ★★ Big Stan ('08, Com) David Caradine.		♥ ★★ The Wolfman	(:45) Hung
HBO5	304	70	16	102		(5:15) ♥ Forces of ...	Six Feet Under			♥ ★★★ Gladiator ('00, Epic) Russell Crowe.			(:40) ♥ Too Big to Fail
MAX	380	71	17	120	24	(5:45) ♥ Green Zone		♥ ★★ Man on the Moon Jim Carrey.			♥ Cedar Rapids Ed Helms.		♥ ★★ Another 48 Hours
MAX2	382	72	18	122		(5:45) ♥ ★★ Valentine's Day Kathy Bates.		♥ ★★★ Dances With Wolves ('90, Epic) Kevin Costner.					Black Tie Nights
PLEX			96			(:15) ♥ ★★★★ The Nutty Professor		♥ Robin Hood: Men in Tights		(:30) ♥ ★★ A Dog of Flanders			Movie
SHOW	320	66	19	140	25	(:10) Masters (L)(:15) ♥ The Canyon			Dexter		Homeland	Dexter	Homeland
TMC	336	67	22	155	26	(5:00) ♥ Breaking ...		♥ ★★ How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days			♥ ★★ Sex and a Girl		(:40) ♥ The Boys & Girls Guide...
AAE	27	32	28	35	47	The First 48 "Out of the Past/ Feud"	The First 48 "Snake Eyes/ No Way Out"		Long Island Serial Killer Families try to find their daughters' killers. (N)			The First 48 "A Serial Killer Calls"	The First 48 "Snake Eyes/ No Way Out"
AMC	40	21	23	42	51	(5:45) ♥ The Addams ...		♥ ★★★ A Christmas Carol ('84, Dra) George C. Scott.				♥ ★★★ A Christmas Carol ('84, Dra) George C. Scott.	
BET	58	26	40			(5:15)106&P	♥ ★★★ Jim's Bayou ('97, Dra) Lamont L. Jackson.				♥ ★★★ Down in the Delta Al Freeman Jr...		Wendy Williams
BRAVO	65	63	41			Atlanta "Whine Bar"	Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills (N)		Beverly Hills	Watch (N)	Atlanta "Whine Bar"	Beverly
CNBC	46	45	39	72		The Kudlow Report	McDonald's Empire		Bio. "Heinz"		American Greed	Mad Money	Bio. "Heinz"	
CNN	43	24	51	30	56	OutFront	A. Cooper 360		Piers Morgan		A. Cooper 360	OutFront	Piers Morgan	
DISC	50	20	31	24	42	Chopper "Free Rick"	Chopper "Old Rivals"		American Chopper Build Off			American Chopper Build Off		
DISNEY	56	27	36	25	36	A.N.T.	Jessie	Sofiandom	♥ The Santa Clause 3: The E...		(:10) A.N.T.	(:35) Jessie	Sofiandom	GoodLuck	Wizards	Wizards
ESPN	32	29	48	31	30	Monday Night Countdown (L)		NFL Football San Diego Chargers vs. Jacksonville Jaguars (L)				SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	28	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball St. John's vs. Detroit (L)			Poker World Series Final Table			SportsC.	Football	Tonight	SportsN.
FAMILY	53	54	34	42	33	Rudolph		♥ ★★★ The Polar Express Tom Hanks.			Mickey	The 700 Club		Line?	Line?
FNC	45	58	53	23	55	FOX Report	The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity		On the Record	The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity	
FOOD	64	59	27	68	54	Diners	Diners	BestAte	BestAte	Diners	Diners	Diners (N)	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
FSSW	37	43	50	45	29	The After Party	SportsDay OnAir	NCAA Football Pac-12 Tournament Championship						Rangers Insider	Cowboys/ Conf	Instant Replay	The Game 3...
FX	31	31	59	64	69	2¼Men	Two 1/2...	♥ ★★★ The Proposal ('09, Com) Ryan Reynolds, Sandra Bullock.						♥ ★★★ The Proposal Sandra Bullock.	
HALLMARK	54	49	58		34	(5:00) ♥ The Santa ...		♥ The Good Witch's Gift Catherine Bell.			♥ ★★ The Three Gifts ('09, Dra) Dean Cain.			Frasier	Frasier
HGTV	63	50	26	48	44	House	HouseH	Love It or List It (N)	HouseH	HouseH	HouseH	HouseH	HouseH	HouseH	HouseH
HISTORY	71	62	29	50	43	Pwn Star	Pwn Star	Pwn Star	Pwn Star	American Pickers (N)	Pwn Star	Pwn Star	Real Deal	Real Deal	Pwn Star	Pwn Star
LIFETIME	28	25	25	28	48	Unsolved Mysteries		♥ Holiday Switch (2007, Drama) Mayo Kitter, Kristen Davis, Nicole Eggert.				♥ Dear Santa (2011, Drama) Gina Holden, Emma Duke, Amy Acker.			♥ Holiday Switch Nicole Eggert.	
MSNBC	47	51	49	73		Hardball		The Ed Show		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		The Ed Show		Rachel Maddow	
NICK	55	34	39	34	37	Big Time	Sponge	Brain	Wife Kids	G. Lopez	G. Lopez	Friends	Friends	'70s	'70s	G. Lopez	G. Lopez
SPIKE	30	22	55	53	58	(5:00)Ways	WaysD	(:10) WaysD	(:50) Ways to Die		(:25) WaysD	WaysD	WaysD	WaysD	WaysD	WaysD	(:40) WaysD
SYFY	66	64	41	57	67	♥ Neverland Rhys Rans. 1/2 cont'd next				♥ Neverland Rhys Rans. 2/2 from Dec 4				♥ Neverland Rhys Rans. 2/2 from Dec 4			
TBS	25	11	44	66	41	Sein. "The Nose Job"	Seinf. "The Checks"	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Conan		The Office	The Office
TCM	41	61	24	63	66	Illusion	April	♥ Mystery of Edwin Drood			(:45) ♥ A Christmas Carol			(:15) ♥ ★★★★ David Copperfield			
TELE	20	8	10	20		Caso cerrado		Maid en Manhattan		Flor salvaje		La casa de al lado		Noticiero	Sin senos no paraiso		Decision
TLC	51	33	32	38	52	Cake Boss	Cake Boss: Next Great Baker "It's Go Time!"		Next Great Baker "Life-Sized Cakes"		Candy Queen	Candy Queen		Next Great Baker "Life-Sized Cakes"	Candy Queen	Candy Queen	
TNT	24	23	40	26	50	Law & Order "Quit Claim"	The Closer "Necessary Evil"		The Closer (N)		Rizzoli & Isles (N)			Closer "You Have the Right to Remain Jolly"	Rizzoli & Isles		
TVLAND	49	48	35	54	35	(:25) The Exes		Home I.	Home I.	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	The King of Queens	
USA	26	30	42	27	49	NCIS "Marine Down"		NCIS "Left for Dead"		WWE Monday Night Raw		WWE Monday Night Raw		(:05) ♥ ★★★ Hostage (2005, Action) Kevin Pollak, Jimmy Bennett, Bruce Willis.			
VERSUS	38	39				AdvSprt	NHL Live!	NHL Hockey Phoenix Coyotes vs. Chicago Blackhawks (L)			NHL Live!	NHL Overtime (L)		Football Talk			
WGN	19	18				America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos		WGN News at Nine		30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Always Sunny	

TEXANS

From 1C

has been through."

Yates went 12-for-25 for 188 yards without an interception, an impressively poised performance after a dizzying week.

"I test my guys the night before every game," Kubiak said, "and when I tested him, I was so impressed. I went in there and told the whole team, 'I wish you could have been in there. He is ready to play.'"

The fifth-round pick was thrust into his pro debut last week in Jacksonville when Matt Leinart broke his collarbone. Leinart was starting in place of Matt Schaub, who broke a Lisfranc joint in his right foot in Houston's previous game.

The 24-year-old Yates went 8-for-15 for 70 yards in his earlier-than-expected debut against the Jaguars. He was sacked three times by the Falcons, but never looked overwhelmed.

"I was extremely comfortable out there," Yates said. "Coach Kubiak, throughout the week, we had a lot of talks and he instilled a lot of confidence in me."

Offensive coordinator Rick Dennison and quarterbacks coach Greg Knapp worked day and night preparing Yates for the Falcons' ninth-ranked defense. When Kubiak quizzed Yates at the end of the week, he knew the rookie was ready.

"The job they did with that kid in the quarterback room was tremendous," Kubiak said. "It's been a heck of a challenge. T.J. held up his end of the bargain well."

Johnson looked like he'd be Yates' go-to guy early, making leaping catches on the quarterback's first two completions. The All-Pro receiver also atoned for an earlier drop by pulling in a perfect 50-yard pass from Yates to the Atlanta 5 in the second quarter.

Yates then snapped a quick pass to tight end Joel Dreessen for his first career TD, and chants of "T.J.! T.J.!" emerged from the capacity crowd.

"I was studying my butt off all week long," Yates said, "and it paid off."

Naturally, the Texans couldn't make it through a game without more adversity.

Johnson left in the third quarter after hurting his left hamstring. He injured his right hamstring in Week 4, underwent minor surgery and sat out six games.

COWBOYS

From 1C

Bailey entered the game with an NFL rookie-record four-game winning kicks to his credit, but none were from long range.

"Well, we felt pretty good about where we were," Garrett said.

Bailey kicked a 37-yarder late in the third quarter to give Dallas a 13-6 lead, but he had his streak of 26 straight kicks — one shy of tying the franchise record — snapped in the second quarter when he missed from 50 yards.

"We called a time-out, but it's my job to regroup and make the next one," Bailey said. "No excuses."

Still, Bailey did indicate he was surprised by the time-out.

"(Hurried kicks) are a situation we actually practice quite a bit," he said.

Garrett wasn't the only under scrutiny.

With about 3 minutes left in the fourth, an illegal block in the back by Orlando Scandrick nullified Bryant's 35-yard punt return to the Arizona 25.

"You saw the play. I didn't even touch him," said Scandrick, who committed the same penalty in the first half. "My hands were up here. And I pulled up."

But replays showed he made contact with his body.

"You can't touch people in the back," Jones said. "That's got to be coached ... The call was a good call."

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LEVEL

Change one letter in the top word to one of the letters that appears in the bottom word, then rearrange the tiles to form a new common word. Do the same with each new word until you arrive at the bottom word. For example, the path from BARK to PLUM is BARK, MARK, RAMP, RUMP, PLUM.

MINI DODO

WALK REAR

Yesterday's Answer: DEMENTIA, GANGRENE, TINNITUS

12.5

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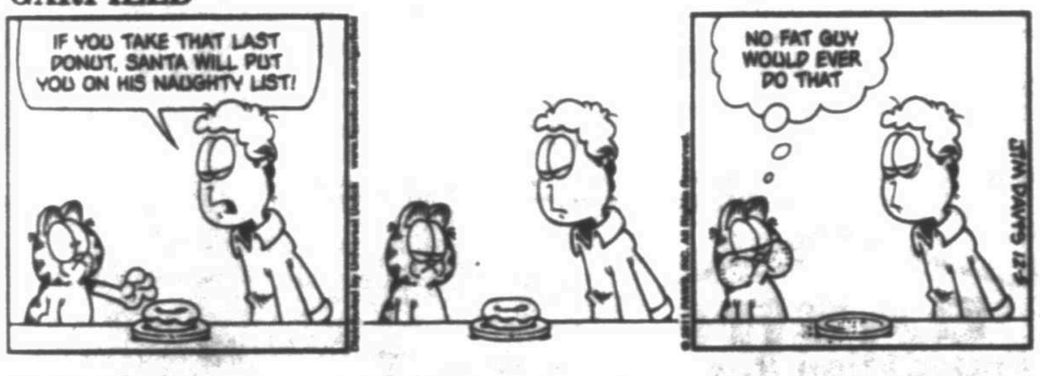

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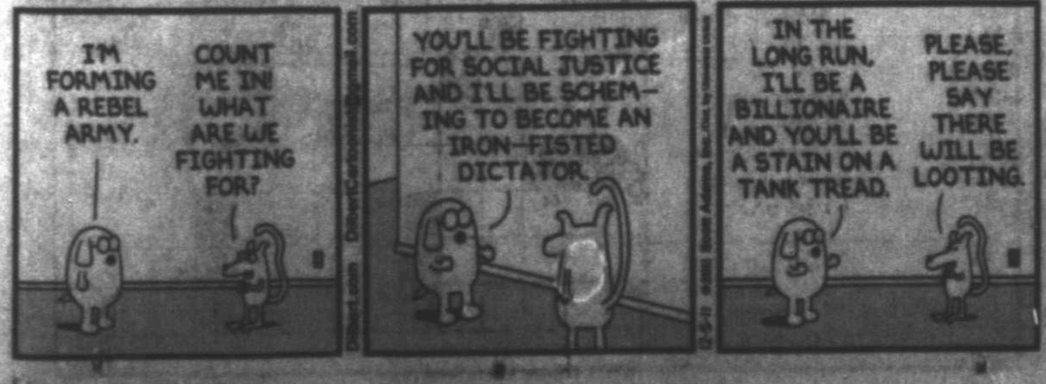


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

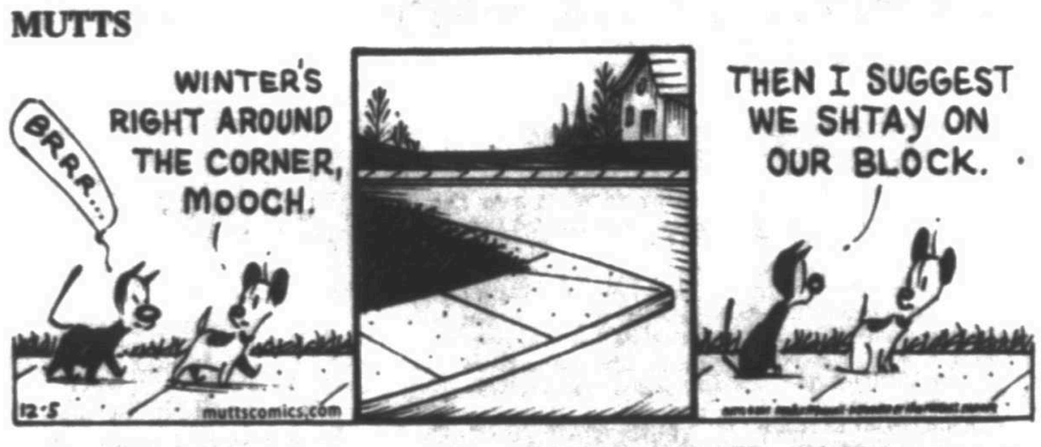
LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

BABY BLUES

MUTTS



CLOSE TO HOME

Debbie gets a bizarre surprise after she tries on her new Genie Bra."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"GET UP, MOM! THE RADIO SAYS THERE'S ONLY 20 SHOPPIN' DAYS 'TIL CHRISTMAS!"

LOCKHORNS

"I COULDN'T FIND MY WEIGHTS, SO I'M USING YOUR PURSE."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"Mommy, do we have to start bein' good two weeks before Christmas or three?"

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TODAY Cloudy high 35 low 24

TUESDAY Mostly cloudy high 34 low 16

WEDNESDAY Mostly sunny high 43 low 21

LOCAL FORECAST

Expect cloudy skies today and a 40 percent chance rain and snow with a high around 35 and northeast winds between 5 and 10 mph.Tonight's forecast calls for mostly cloudy conditions and a 20 percent chance of snow with a low around 24 and northeast winds around 15 mph.

Tuesday, look for mostly cloudy skies with a high around 34, a low around 16 and north winds between 10 and 15 mph.

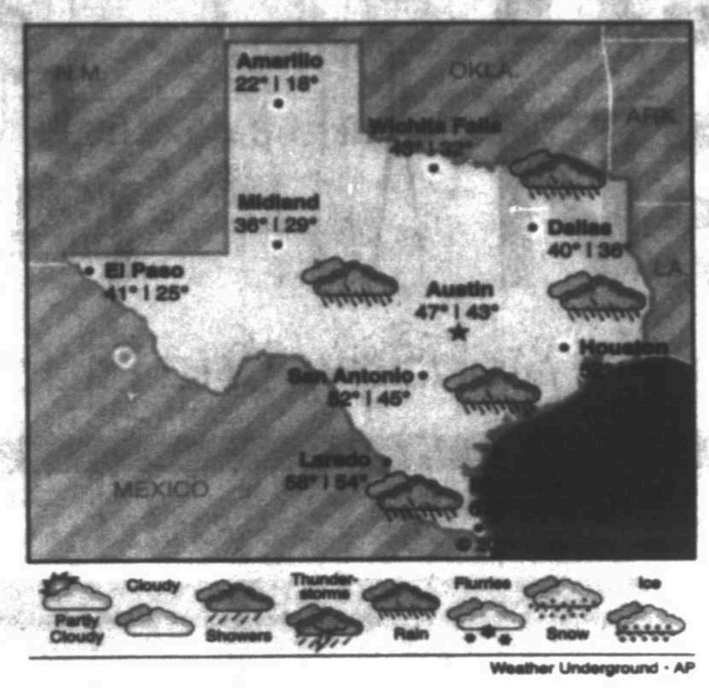
Wednesday, look for mostly sunny skies with a high around 43 and a low around 21.

The high on Sunday reached 49 while the low dropped to 35. The record high for Dec. 4 is 85 set in 1954. The record low is 14 set in 2006.

***

The East Coast will be tranquil Monday as a high pressure system stays in control. It will also be quite mild for this time of the year, though wet weather will be just off to the west.

A stalled boundary stretched from eastern Texas northeast into the Ohio Valley will bring rain, heavy at times, across these regions. The rain will be heavy enough to cause isolated flooding, especially in small streams and low-lying areas from Arkansas to western Kentucky.



Weather Underground · AP

Precipitation

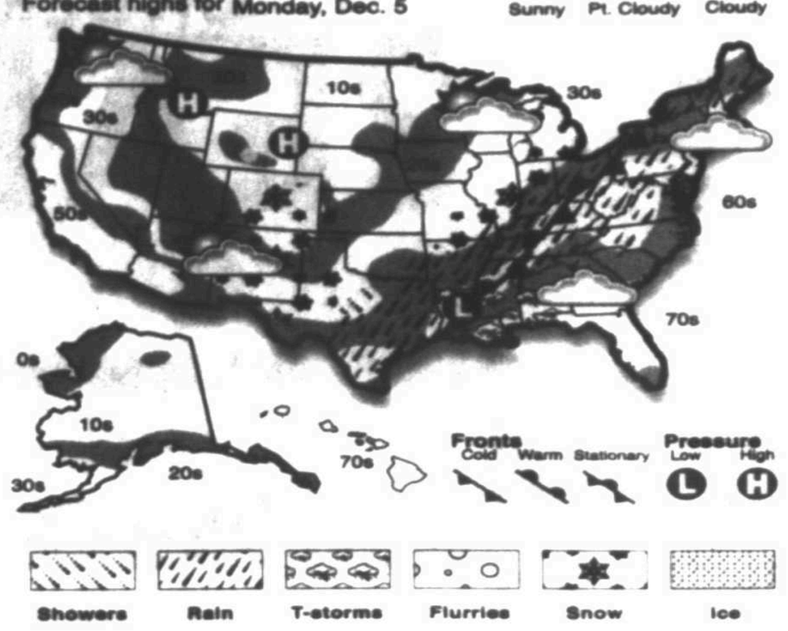
Rainfall Saturday	0.15 in.
Rainfall Sunday	0.00 in.
Total for month	0.16 in.
Total for year	4.02 in.
Normal total (year to date)	14.08 in.

Sunday's temperatures

High	49
Low	35
Normal high	60
Normal low	32
Sunrise	7:34 a.m.
Sunset	5:44 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Monday, Dec. 5



Rain Spreads Through East

A storm will move through the eastern part of the country on Monday, producing widespread rain east of the Mississippi Valley. Snow will also spread through the Rockies, while the West Coast will be dry.

Weather Underground · AP

Mom with texting addiction needs a slap in her Facebook

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 heard of interventions for drug and alcohol addicts. Could I stage one for my daughter "Aileen's" addiction to texting on her cellphone and Facebook?

She and our grandson live with us because her marriage broke up. I am becoming the boy's default mother because Aileen is constantly texting or spending hours on Facebook. She'll say, "I have to send a quick message," then reappear an hour later. By then, we have fed our grandson and changed his diaper.

When I try to discuss this with her, she says her work requires this constant communication, but I know it doesn't. There have been times when Aileen's feelings have been hurt because her son doesn't want to go someplace with her and prefers to stay with us instead. I suspect that he feels ignored when he's with her because her thumb is constantly flying across her phone. How can we get her to understand how this might be making her child feel? — FULLY PRESENT IN ARIZONA

DEAR FULLY PRESENT: You could and should stage an intervention with your daughter. Aileen is neglecting her son. It's a shame that before couples are allowed to conceive that they aren't forced to take parenting classes. The time she spends on Facebook and texting is time she should be interacting with him.

Because she is so easily distracted, you and her father should declare your home to be a digital-free zone unless your grandson is napping or in bed for the night. Consider making discussions with the boy's pediatrician — and perhaps parenting classes — a condition of her staying in your home. She won't like it, but it would be in your grandson's best interests.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a male in my 60s who has been active all my life and still try to be. However, I'm not dealing with the aging process very well. I have just been told that I'm going to lose my eyesight.

I have never been sick or hospitalized, no broken bones, no operations, ate right and consider myself in great health. But now I find myself taking naps a lot and not wanting to socialize very much. I have to force myself to do things.

I have always said one of these days it's going to start raining on me, and then it will be over. I don't like this attitude and I'm a great believer in faith. Any suggestions? — MALE READER IN THE U.S.A.

DEAR MALE READER: I wish you had included your address and phone number because I would have contacted you personally. The first thing to do is get a second opinion regarding your vision loss. If the diagnosis is confirmed, there are devices available that can help some sight-impaired people. There also are programs to help you adjust to your vision loss and live an independent and full life. But you should start now.

Some of the symptoms you describe could be signs of depression. Please consult your physician about them. With counseling and medication, the "rain" in your life could be reduced to a drizzle you can handle. And hang onto your faith because it will serve you well.

DEAR ABBY: My husband brought me roses the day our divorce was final. We had been married almost 30 years. When I asked him why, he said, "Aren't you happy? Isn't this what you wanted?" HE was the one who initiated the divorce. What kind of man would do this? — STUMPED IN FLORIDA

DEAR STUMPED: Someone who is angry or sadistic, or one who got his wires seriously crossed.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Bidding Quiz

Q 1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 7 ♡ A Q 6 ◇ K J 10 6 ♣ A Q J 10 6
The bidding has proceeded:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♣	Pass	1♡	Pass
?			

What do you bid now?
A — You are too strong for a simple raise to two hearts, but you don't want to raise partner's suit with only three-card support. Show your strength with a reverse bid of two diamonds and then raise hearts at your next turn to complete the description of your shape and strength.

Q 2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K 7 ♡ K 9 ◇ A Q 9 7 6 3 ♣ A 10 5
The bidding has proceeded:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1◇	Pass	2NT	Pass
?			

What do you bid now?
A — You want to describe both the strength and shape of your hand. Start by showing your diamond length by rebidding three diamonds and then, should partner rebid three no-trump, show your slam interest by raising to four no-trump.

Q 3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K Q 10 6 ♡ A 10 9 2 ◇ A J 8 7 2 ♣ Void
The bidding has proceeded:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♣	Pass	1◇	Pass
1♠	Pass	?	

What do you bid now?
A — Suddenly your hand has become enormous. Start by bidding two hearts (fourth-suit forcing) the support spades and see what develops. If fourth-suit is not in your methods jump in hearts before supporting spades.)

Q 4 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K ♡ J 8 5 ◇ K J 9 5 ♣ A J 10 6 2
The bidding has proceeded:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♡	Pass	?	

What do you bid now?
A — It looks as if you are heading to three no-trump, but what if partner is 5-5 in the majors? Bid two no-trump, to give him room. Your two-over-one response created a game-forcing auction, so wait to see what partner does.

Today's Crossword Puzzle brought to you by Quiroz Custom Home Builders
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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

This year you discover how clarity of intentions lined up with authentic feelings draws strong results. Drop the word "impossible" from your vocabulary. Only you know what you are capable of. An important trip or special bond with someone quite different could define your year. If you are single, this person could be more than a friend. If you are attached, try to schedule that very special trip the two of you often speak of. Don't judge your sweetie and others so much. Walk in their shoes. ARIES brings out your adventurous spirit.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Others might need a fire extinguisher to chill you out. Your spontaneity is high. Someone might feel as if he or she could be consumed by your fire. You know what you are doing. Honor your priorities. Don't sell yourself short. Tonight: So what if it is Monday night?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★ Knowing when to assume the backseat could be important. Don't allow others to undermine you, even if you don't feel up for the power struggle. Fatigue could hit much earlier than usual. Slow down here and there. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Meetings make you smile. If there is a problem, it will be resolved easily. If you have a key concern, act on it while the timing is with you. Be sure and direct. Others will respond accordingly. Tonight: Where your friends are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ Certainly, stepping up to the plate isn't foreign to you. Others respond well to your leadership and thoughts. Be most professional during business hours; and during personal time, let go of your daily hassles. Everyone will be happier. Tonight: A force to behold.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Take the lead while moving in a new direction. Others tend to follow your initiative once they know this new path is not fraught with problems. You are a risk-taker who often lands well. You have sound judgment. Tonight: Let your spirit soar.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Relate to each person directly. Through this one-on-one contact, you will strengthen existing bonds, even if they are only work related. You also melt down barriers. If you cannot resolve a problem right now, don't waste time thinking about it. Tonight: A partner or friend takes the lead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ You could be challenged by a close associate, or you could decide that this person is presenting options and perspectives that you really hadn't thought of. Understand both of you want the same thing from a situation, though your approach might be very different. Tonight: Say "yes" to a loved one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ Pace yourself, with an eye to what you can accomplish and what you expect from others. Sometimes you could be overly tired and not able to be as optimistic. Realism will work, too. Ask yourself how much fatigue is slowing you down. Tonight: Run an errand or two on the way home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Your spontaneity keeps coming out. You really don't want everyone to know how spontaneous you can be when left alone. Do your best to sit on some of your impulsiveness in order to gain the trust of a key person. A group decision might not be what you want. Tonight: Stop at a new spot. Let the music flow.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ You might want to revisit a personal or domestic decision. Is this wish even a possibility? If it is, go for it. You want to eliminate any distraction this situation might present. You cannot work well otherwise. Tonight: On top of your game.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ You have the ability to keep a conversation moving without allowing anyone to get hung up on petty thoughts. You wonder why you cannot personally get past an obstacle. Find someone who can play devil's advocate. Tonight: Where you like to haunt.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ You might be taking a hard look at your finances and how to bypass a restriction. In any case, try not to make any important financial decisions just yet. Focus on better communication and perhaps a special project. Tonight: Pay bills.

***

BORN TODAY

Singer, musician Little Richard (1932), actor Frankie Muniz (1985), filmmaker Walt Disney (1901)

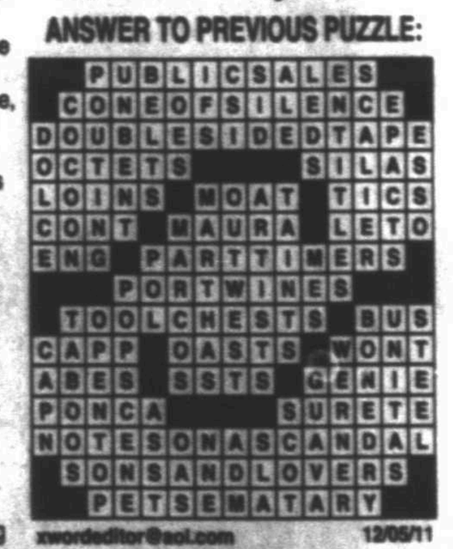
DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Trojan Horse, for example
5 Move a muscle
9 G sharp equivalent
14 iPhone downloads
15 Grab hold of
16 Doctrine
17 Open-handed hit
18 Feels sorry about
19 Intoxicating, as wine
20 Notable 1900s anti-alcohol demonstrator
23 Try
24 Garden hose feature
28 Car dealer's deal
29 Rotisserie rod
32 "Divine Secrets of the ___ Sisterhood"
33 ___-mo replay
35 Leeds lava
37 Hoopster's target
38 The boondocks
41 '60s chic
43 Acted like
44 Check out
45 Sandler of "Grown Ups"
47 Civil rights pioneer Parks
49 Novelist Puzo
53 Piglet pal
55 Final part
57 General situation
60 Ancient Mexican
63 Scott of "Charlie's Angels"
64 Mosque official
65 Group helping the sheriff
66 "Just doing my best"
67 Crumbly cheese
68 Horn sounds
69 Ball-bearing page
70 Genesis locale

DOWN
1 Mischief-maker
2 Studying into the wee hours, say
3 Ancient Athens rival
4 Trattoria brew
5 Throat problem
6 Razzes
7 Furniture chain founded in Sweden
8 Put one's feet up
9 Cold outburst?
10 Extreme agitation
11 Grassy expanse
12 Go on to say
13 Gift under a tree, often
21 Marcos who collected shoes
22 Emulate the Gregorians
25 Like the Marx Brothers
26 Corrosive stuff
27 Have a bite
30 Moves with effort
31 Letters of obligation
34 Fish hawk
36 Totally stump
38 Aussie greeting
39 Corp. bigwig
40 It's not fiction or fantasy
41 Fannie __
42 Emotional verse
46 Harass
48 Garb
50 Widened, as a hole
51 Present from birth
52 Extra one who's "out"
54 Oft-timed contests
56 Seagoing attention getters
58 Memorial news item
59 Kismet
60 Suitable
61 Petting place
62 Chinese menu general

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:



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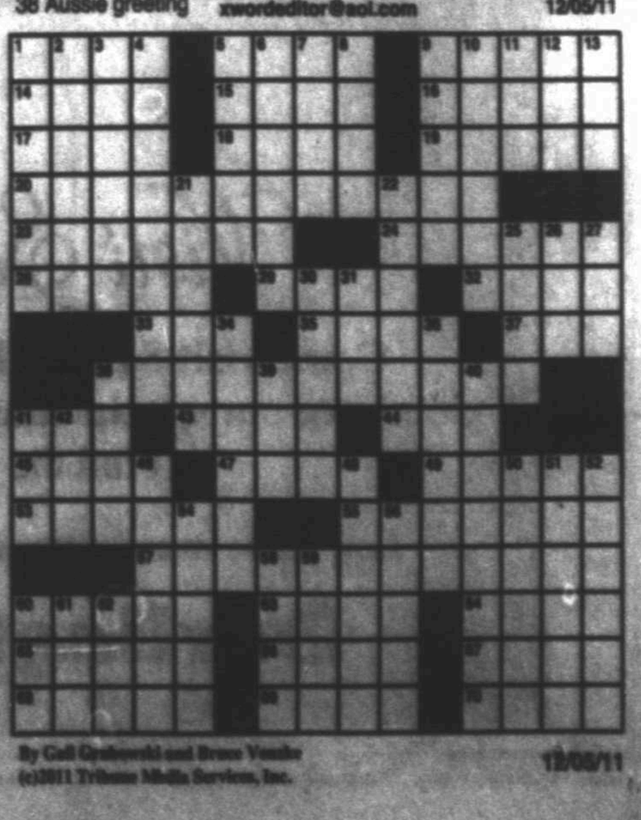

By Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venzke
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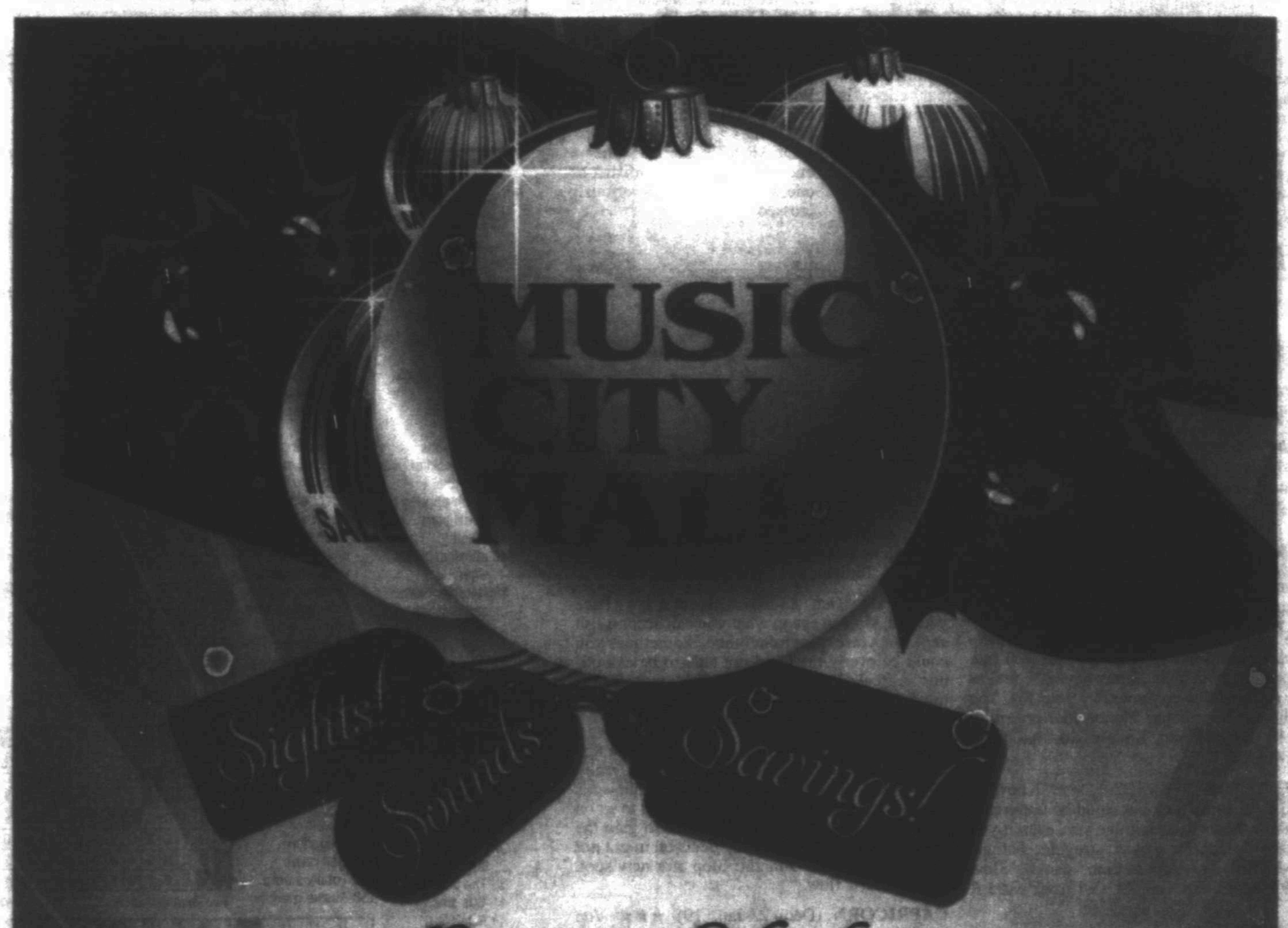

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Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

COLONIAL SELF STORAGE, hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the time and place indicated below on the following items. All Property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash or credit cards. NO CHECKS, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. All items must be removed from the property within 24 hours after sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items for sale. The property will be sold on December 21, 2011 on or about the time indicated at each self-storage identified below:

10:00AM Colonial Self Storage, 1904 W. Loop 250, Midland, Tx 79705
F175 Augustien Balerio-New Kitchen appliances, bedroom furniture, misc household items.
I 212 Debra Busbee-Washer, dryer, dining room furniture, misc household items.
O636 Elva Rincon-Washer, dryer, baby crib, bikes, misc household items.

11:00AM Colonial Self Storage 5005 Andrews Hwy, Midland, Tx 79703
951 Guillermo Galinde-TV, chairs, tables, and misc household items.
1016 Megan Olsen-Bike, TV, and misc household items.
439 Dennis Futcher-Bikes, TV, weight bench, motor bike, misc boxes.
1062C Teresita Tavarez-Tread Mill
1115 Tinnye Haynes-TV, toys, and shelves.
955 Bill Pearman-ShopVac, keyboard, computer, misc household items.
1014 Anna Martinez-Baby items, misc boxes and crates and tubs.

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Legal & Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 11:00 A.M., December 21, 2011 to be opened at 11:00 A.M., in the Office of the City Secretary City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 4101-12

For: An annual master agreement for fertilizer for the Spraberry Farm.

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

Purchasing Division
City of Midland, Texas

VETERANS AFFAIRS SEEKING MEDICAL SPACE

The Department of Veterans Affairs desires to lease space yielding 5,963 square feet of rentable space in Raton, NM for medical space usage. Net usable space must yield 4,770 office area square feet, available for use by tenant for personnel, furnishings, and equipment. The space must be accessible by public transportation and be ADA compliant. On-site parking for 45 vehicles is required, 6 of which must be reserved for disabled/handicapped parking. The lease will be a full service lease with a lease term of up to twenty (20) years. Space may be provided by new construction (modular or brick and mortar) or modification of an existing space.

The available space must be within the city limits of Raton, NM.

A market survey of properties offered for lease will be conducted by VA personnel in January 2012. Interested offerors (owners, brokers, or developers) should contact Janelle Holloman, Contract Specialist via email at janelle.holloman@va.gov, by phone at (480) 468-7916, or by mail to Janelle Holloman, VISN 18 Contracting, 4135 S Power Rd Ste 103, Mesa, AZ 85212. Interested offerors must submit the following items no later than December 30, 2011:

1. Property Address
2. Offeror name and contact information
3. Proof of ownership
4. Pictures of proposed property
5. Map or other proof that proposed property is within the delineated area

The Government is limited by law (40 USC 278a, as amended 10/01/81) to pay no more than the appraised fair rental value for space.

Please note: This advertisement is not a solicitation for offers, nor is it a request for proposals. A solicitation for offers will be issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs at a later date. All interested parties shall submit a request for the solicitation in writing to Ms. Holloman at the above address. Potential offerors shall describe the property in their response, and a site investigation of all properties will be conducted. Complete access to all properties will be required at the time of the site investigation. VA will not enter into any sublease or ground lease. Offerors who propose a sublease or ground lease will not be considered.

Meetings

Acacia Masonic Lodge #1414
1600 W. Wall
Stated Communication, 2nd & 4th Tues @ 7:30pm.
432-557-6041
Mike Patton, W.M
Ed Wilson Sec
Did you know Admiral Richard E. Byrd was a Master Mason?

Business Opportunity

REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE---Fully furnished hair and nail salon business for sale. Contact 432-254-8444 for more info

Special Occasion! Call Classified 432-682-6222

General Announcements

P. Douglas Cochran, M.D.
As of Dec. 2, our office has moved to a new location at:
4212 Andrews Hwy.
(MMH West Campus),
3rd floor, Suite 306.

Our office phone number is still the same 432-699-6000.

Legal & Public Notices

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF RILEY COUNTY, KANSAS DIVISION III

Case No. 11 AD 36

In the Matter of the Adoption of **BABY WILLIAMS**, a Minor male
DOB 11-03-2011

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO A MALE KNOWN ONLY AS "TERRANCE", AND ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in said Court praying for an order allowing the adoption of Baby Williams, a male minor, and terminating the parental rights of the father. You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the day of December, 2011, at 3:30 p.m. on said day in the Riley County District Court, in the City of Manhattan, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Austin K. Vincent #11423
2222 Pennsylvania Ave.
Topeka, KS 66605-1255
(785) 234-0022 Fax: 234-2927
Attorney for Petitioner

Business Center

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

2002 CAMARO Z28, black, SS hood, black rims, gears, converter system, etc. $11,000. 432-889-8902

2003 FORD Taurus-red, leather V6, power, only $3,000. 432-218-9941

BMW 1987 535is, white w/red leather interior, All service records. $3,950. 432-694-7564, 352-4054

BMW 2003 330ci 104500 miles, 2 door, 5-Speed transmission good condition, Silver Gray Metallic exterior, Black interior, WBABN53493JU2921 8 2WD All options Loaded!, $11,000 call 432-889-8279

BMW 2007 328i convertible 2door. Beige, premium package, extended BMW Warranty through 2013. 41k mi., $28,900. 432-425-6201

BMW 2007 750li, black, tan interior, 70K miles, excellent condition, loaded. Call 432-413-5040.

BUICK 1995 LaSabre, 1 owner, 4DR, 74k miles, $4950. 1205 McDondald. 79703. Call 432-218-9534.

BUICK 1999 Park Avenue Ultra. 107k miles, very nice car. $3500. Call 432-664-4690.

BUICK 2002 LaSabre Limited. Leather, loaded, 137k miles, excellent condition, $4,995. 432-697-2407.

CADILLAC 2007 DTS, V-8, leather. We finance W.A.C, 24 mo warranty, 683-6222.

CHEVROLET 1972 Chevelle drag race car. Complete body and drive tran, $10,900. 556-9945.

CHEVROLET 2002 Z28 convertible, 24K, looks and drives new, garaged, non smoker. $12,900. 685-4013.

FORD 2002 Mustang, V-6, Auto, low miles. We finance W.A.C B&B Auto 683-6222

FORD 2007 Fusion SE, V6, dark blue, 104K, Good condition $8,500. 432-556-1901

FORD 2007 Taurus, 76K miles, 24 mo warranty, B&B Auto Sales 683-6222.

FORD 2008 Focus SE, 4 Door, 4 Cylinder We finance W.A.C B&B Auto 683-6222

HONDA 1997 Accord SE. Purple, new tires & battery, 4 door, 133k miles, good condition, A/C does not work, $3000. 432-770-8475

LINCOLN 1998 Continental, V8, leather loaded, 127k miles. $1900. 432-664-4690

MERCEDES 2004 E Class, looks brand new, black w/leather interior, new tires, 33K miles, $21,500. Call 631-8045 / 683-5625 At Carter's Furniture

NISSAN 2004 350Z Touring Roadster. Nice/Clean $12,800. 432-266-2662

PONTIAC 2001 Grand AM GT V6, very sporty, $1900. Call 432-664-4690.

Passenger Cars

BMW of the Permian Basin
5701 Andrews Hwy. • Midland
Phone: 432 522 3700

2004 PORSCHE 911 CARRERA
Silver/Black - 29k Miles

2010 CAMARO SS
RED/BLACK, SAT. RADIO, HEATED SEATS, BOSTON SOUND, 11K MILES

2008 MERCEDES BENZ C300
Sport Image/Cashmere, Prem. Pkg. II, Multi-Media Pkg., Fold Down Rear Seats, Heated Seats - 23k miles

2008 BMW 335 COUPE
BLK/TAN, PREM PKG., SPORT PKG, HEATED SEATS, 30K MILES CPO 6/100K MILES

2008 BMW 750Li
BLK/NATURAL BROWN CONV. PKG., LUXURY SEATING PKG., REAR ENTERTAINMENT - 40K MILES

2008 PONTIAC SOLSTICE GXP
SILVER/EBONY RED STITCHING HIGH PERFORMANCE AUDIO, AUX PORT, 30K MILES

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

SEEKING MEDICAL SPACE

The Department of Veterans Affairs desires to lease space yielding 5,963 square feet of rentable space in Raton, New Mexico to be used as medical space. Offered space must yield a minimum of 4,770 office area square feet, available for use by tenant for personnel, furnishings, and equipment. The space must be accessible by public transportation and be ADA compliant. On-site parking for 45 vehicles is required, 6 of which must be reserved for disabled/handicapped parking. The lease will be a full service lease with a lease term of up to twenty (20) years. Space may be provided by new construction (modular or brick and mortar) or modification of an existing space.

The available space must be within the city limits of Raton, NM.

A market survey of properties offered for lease will be conducted by VA personnel in January 2012. Interested offerors (owners, brokers, or developers) should contact Janelle Holloman, Contract Specialist via email at janelle.holloman@va.gov, by phone at (480) 468-7916, or by mail to Janelle Holloman, VISN 18 Contracting, 4135 S Power Rd Ste 103, Mesa, AZ 85212. Interested offerors must submit the following items no later than December 30, 2011:

1. Property Address
2. Offeror name and contact information
3. Proof of ownership
4. Pictures of proposed property
5. Map or other proof that proposed property is within the delineated area

The Government is limited by law (40 USC 278a, as amended 10-1-81) to pay no more than the appraised fair rental value for space.

Please note: This advertisement is not a solicitation for offers, nor is it a request for proposals. A solicitation for offers will be issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs at a later date. All interested parties shall submit a request for the solicitation in writing to the attention of Ms. Galeras at the above email address. Potential offerors shall describe the property. A site investigation of all properties will be conducted. Complete access of all properties will be required at the time of the site investigation. The VA will not enter into any sublease or ground leases. All offerors that want the VA to enter into a sublease or ground lease will not be considered.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 7C
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Nov 14, 2011
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Dec 27, 2011
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

Rule 38 Case No. 7C-0273357
Status/Permit No. 727769

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., [RRC Operator No. 665748] has made application for a density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the DENSITY requirement of the field rules for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 15, Blk. B, CCSD&RGNG RR.CO Survey, A-18, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, UPTON County, being 12.9 miles NE direction from RANKIN, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512) 463-6848.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Dec 27, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :	WOODFIN
Lease/Unit Well No. :	14
Lease/Unit Acres :	642.1
Nearest Lease Line (ft) :	660.0
Nearest Well on Lease (ft) :	1345.0

Lease Lines :	660.0 F SOUTH L.	1980.0 F EAST L.
Survey Lines :	660.0 F SOUTH L.	1980.0 F EAST L.

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 467/660, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10650 feet.

If you have questions regarding the application, please contact the Applicant's representative, DEBBIE BAKER, at (972) 969-3966.

Sudoku Is Brought To You Daily By:

BASIN Foundation Repair
Midland, TX 79702
432-210-1126
Serving The Permian Basin
REALTOR
FREE Evaluations & Lifetime Transferable Warranty!

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

12/5/11

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 SATURDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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mywesttexasjobs

http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Accountant
Confidential FT
Gas gathering company seeks an Accountant experienced in revenue accounting. Degree preferred but not mandatory. Duties include gas statement preparation, regulatory filings, severance tax payments, revenue disbursements and financial statement preparation. Email resume and salary requirement to: job50308@yahoo.com

District Accounts Receivable/Student Acct. Clerk
Howard College/Big Spring is accepting applications for District Accounts Receivable/Student Accounting Clerk. Bachelor degree required. Preference given to those with a degree in accounting. Four years related experience required. Excellent benefits. Criminal background check required. Application and position notice is available at www.howardcollege.edu.

AUTOMOTIVE

Alderson European Motors
Now hiring a Service Advisor. Must be detail-oriented, computer literate, and customer friendly. We are on ly looking for the best. ADP experience a plusss. NO Saturdays. Apply in person at 5801 Andrews Hwy.

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Membership Assistant
Commemorative Air Force FT
Commemorative Air Force is seeking a Full-Time Membership Assistant with reception and data entry experience. An organized, efficient and self-motivated person is needed to join a fast paced office. To apply, e-mail résumé to kchambers@cafhq.org.

cwi

TAX ·ACCOUNTANT

Clayton Williams Energy Inc. is looking for a tax accountant for federal and state income tax compliance and planning. Degreed candidate should have experience in oil and gas taxation as well as corporate and partnership taxation.

Email resume to: kjones@claytonwilliams.com

CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

Superintendent, Laborers & Carpenters
Campbell Construction Co. FT
Campbell Construction Company seeking a Superintendent, Carpenter and Laborer. Pre-employment drug test required. Good Benefits Salary DOE Apply at 241-A Spring Park Drive, Midland or send resume to PO Box 11293, Midland, TX 79702 or fax to (432) 683-5943

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Shipping Clerk
A-1 Sign Engravers Inc. FT
Wanted:Shipping Clerk. Experience necessary. Call Jay Nichols at:682-4503.

ENERGY & UTILITIES

Field Manager
Confidential FT
Oil and gas service company seeking a local candidate for an open Field Management position. Recent college graduate with a background in agriculture, Customer Service and Mechanics preferred. Salary pay, health and dental benefits available. Other benefits to be discussed. Training will require traveling, but the permanent position will be local Midland/Odessa. Email resume to: oilfieldmanagement@gmail.com

Licensed Electrician & Electrician Apprentices
Klein Automation & Electric FT
Now hiring licensed electricians and Electrician apprentices. Send resume to 914 North Linam, Hobbs, NM 88240.

Mud Engineers
Confidential FT
WANTED: Experienced Mud Engineers. Minimum 3 years West Texas. Generous sign-on bonus. Excellent pay and benefits, including, Medical, Dental, Vision and matching 401K. Equal Opportunity Employer. Submit resume to M- 47 c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram. 201 E. Illinois Midland, TX 79701.

HEALTHCARE

ACCOUNTING CLERK
Accounting clerk needed for physician groupwith payroll/bookkeeping experience. Quickbooks experience a plus. Benefits include PTO, health insurance, and 401K. Fax resume or mail resume to Attn: Alesha McCoy. Fax number 432-684-6650 or mail to Accounting Department, P.O. Box 5291 Midland, TX 79704. (PP-5254)

Attendents
Nurses Unlimited, Inc. PT
Nurses Unlimited, Inc is seeking enthusiastic & energetic Attendants to assist clients in the home. Call: Codee or Lupe @ 1-800-458-3257. P-T. EOE

CNA or Nurse
Confidential FT
Need a well experienced CNA or Nurse for sitting with elderly woman. References required. Call Yadira 432-741-9091.

LVN
Busy Urgent Care Clinic is needing an LVN with 2 years medical experience, you will be expected to work on the weekends with this position (UC-5067). No phone calls or walk-ins please. Please fax your resume to 432-682-2284 Attn: Alesha McCoy or mail your resume to P.O. Box 5291 Midland, TX 79701.

MANAGEMENT
Management needed for a busy Urgent Care Clinic. Must have 2-5 years medical experience along with experience in working in a fast paced environment. (UC-5067). Great benefits package along with a great staff to work with. No phone calls or walk-ins please. Please fax your resume to 432-682-2284 Attn: Alesha McCoy or mail your resume to P.O. Box 5291 Midland, TX 79701.

Office Help
Busy medical practice looking for Office Help. Experience required. Please mail resume to: PO BOX 6729, Midland, TX 79708.

RN Case Manager
Martin County Hospital District FT
Martin County Home Health, In Stanton, Texas is seeking dedicated, energetic, compassionate employee. Benefits included. Martin County Home Health has an immediate opening for the following position: RN Case Manager If interested please contact Allison Roy, RN at 432-756-3259 or apply in person at 116 N St. Peter Street, Stanton, TX 79782.

RNs and LVNs
Encompass Home Health FTor PRN
Encompass Home Health is hiring nurses for our adult and pediatric divisions. Please contact Cheli at 888-953-3444 or apply online at www.ehhi.com.

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

Cook
Courtyard Marriott
Midland, Texas
Full time evening and weekend Cook. 40+ hours guaranteed and very competitive pay. Apply in person at 1505 Tradewinds Blvd. Midland, 79707.

Front Desk and Housekeeping
Days Inn FT
Days Inn now hiring Front Desk and Housekeeping. Apply in person 3904 West Wall.

Housekeepers/Laundry
Immediate opening for Housekeepers and Laundry. Apply at: 2500 Commerce Dr. Midland, Tx.

OTHER JOBS

Driver Helper
UPS
Now hiring seasonal driver helper. Fast past outdoor position. Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm. $9.50 per hour. EOE. www.upsjobs.com

Maintenance Supervisor
BH Management is now hiring a Maintenance Supervisor for Dakota Apts. Must have HVAC. Apply online at www.bhmanagement.com/careers.html and select Dakota. EOE.

OTHER JOBS

First United Methodist Church
Tremendous opportunity in a wonderful,work environment for the right person. After completing a 90 day probationary period with our custodial crew, health insurance, sick leave, pay raise and paid vacation will be offered. Seeking hard working applicants. Contact Bobby Darst at bobbydarst@firstmethodistmidland.com or 432.682.3701.

General

WANTED NEWSPAPER CARRIERS & SALES REPS
Midland Reporter-Telegram

Selling Newspapers On The Street Corners
(avg. income $50.00 - $100.00/day)
MUST BE AT LEAST 14 YEARS OLD
SUNDAYS ONLY
IF INTERESTED CALL
TOMMY 967-2267

NEED EXTRA CASH???

FT /PT

Set Your Own Hours!!

Manager Training Program

Call

505-850-5398

Midland Reporter-Telegram has immediate openings in it's Distribution Department (Mailroom)
Part-Time Shift Work Available
Schedule consists of a combination of day and night shifts. Night Shifts - 12 (midnight) until 3-5 a.m. Starting pay is $8.00 per hour.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk
Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: ellsworth@hearstmp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

The Midland Reporter-Telegram has an opening in its Production Department for the position of

Pressman/Pressman Trainee

for our Harris N-1650 Printing presses. This 5 - 6 day per week, fast paced, deadline oriented position requires night shift weekend work, with a strong emphasis on safety. The Midland Reporter-Telegram offers a full package of company benefits including 401K program. Salary DOE.

John Maddox, Production Director
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois St., Midland, TX 79701
E-mail: jmaddox@hearstmp.com
OR
come by 201 E. Illinois Street to fill out an application

HEARST *corporation*

Midland Reporter-Telegram is a part of Hearst Corp.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Looking for a New Career?

Find it at:
www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

NEWSPAPER CARRIERS NEEDED

EARN EXTRA MONEY

Do You:
Need help paying monthly bills and enjoy early Morning hours

Call Tony Gonzalez (432) 687-9002

*Must have vehicle, insurance, & valid driver's license
Midland and Big Spring Areas Available

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Stay Together Consultant
Immediate opening in Midland office. Bachelor's Degree and one year experience working with children or families required. One year of related experience may be substituted for one year of college. Reimbursed travel within a 14 county area serving families in their home, evening hours required. Spanish speaking required. $2,274.33 p/mo. E.O.E. Please call for application 432.699.1466 or visit our website www.highsky.org

REAL ESTATE

Maintenance Tech
Experienced full-time, on-site Maintenance Tech needed. Apply at Santa Fe Apartments: Call Santa Fe Apts 432-520-3751.

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Bartender
La Bodega Mexican Restaurant FT
2700 N. Big Spring Street
Midland, TX Apply In Person
Now hiring Bartenders.

Waitstaff & Kitchen Staff
Hog Pit Pub & Grub FT
Midland, TX 79706
Has immediate openings for Waitstaff and Kitchen Staff. We offer flexible schedules for students, competitive pay with great tips and a fun work environment. Come in and apply today: 7400 West County Rd. 116, Midland or call 432-561-9301.

RETAIL JOBS

5 In-Store Account Reps
Del-Tex Marketing, Inc. FT/PT
5 in-stores account reps needed. Must pass background check. 400/800 weekly no exp. req. Call yenny 432-949-7207

SALES JOBS

DRIVER-SALESPERSON
Looking for a rock solid company to grow and retire with? Blue Bell Creameries is accepting applications for a full time driver-salesperson in the Midland-Odessa Area. Route Sale Experience and Commercial Drivers License helpful. Good driving record required. Will train the right person. Blue Bell is a market leading company with a 104 year proven history. Competitive Salary + benefits. Apply in Person at Workforce Solutions, 3510 North A. Building A.

MCU MARKETING

Account Sales Manager

Set up and Maintain Accounts

Manage a small sales team

2 Years in sales and management

Average Annual Income FT 40-50k

Send resume to:

mkelley@mcumarketing.com

Route Sales Reps
Schwan's Home Service, Inc
Odessa, Texas.
Schwan's Home Service, Inc. is NOW HIRING Route Sales Reps in Odessa, TX. Apply at www.schwansjobs.com to Job Number 11000668. EOE

SKILLED LABOR

Fence Builders
Premier Fence FT or Contract
Experienced Fence Builders needed. Will pay full-time or contract. Call 432-685-7505.

Full Time Maintenance
Villa Chateau Apartments FT
Full time maintenance person needed, must have own tools, Drug Screen/ Background Check done. Apply in person at Villa Chateau Apts. 1603 N. Midkiff Rd. No phone calls please.

Landscape Maintenance Foreman
Arbor-Tech Horticulture
Weekly pay with benefits. Experienced individuals only. Please call 432-682-8222.

Plumber Helper
Superior Plumbing FT
Plumber Helper needed. Must have good communication and general labor skills. Good benefits. Call 432-687-6905.

Sand Blasters, Painters & Helpers
Accurate, Inc. FT
Hiring sand blasters, painters, helpers. Please call Accurate, Inc. at 432-563-1224 or 512-352-5278 or apply at 9504W CR 127, Midland.

mywesttexas jobs

http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

SKILLED LABOR

Propane Delivery Truck Driver
WTG Fuels Inc. FT
WTG Fuels Inc is hiring for the following positions in Midland/Odessa; Propane Delivery Truck Driver and Propane Service Technician. WTG Fuels Inc offers competitive pay, benefits and quality equipment. Apply in person at: 11501 West Count Rd. 125, Odessa, TX or call 432-563-0648.

TECHNOLOGY

Computer Technician - Permanent Full Time Position
E-Companies FT
E-Companies, LLC has an immediate opening for a computer technician in the Midland, TX area. This position will lead to management and advancement for the right person. Preferred knowledge includes TCP/IP networking, Microsoft client computer setup in networked environments, printer repair, virus remediation, Microsoft server administration, application installation and update, and a thorough knowledge of computer hardware. Certifications are a plus. Candidate will be required to have at least three years' experience. Certification training provided. Please call 432-697-2808.

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

*******ATTENTION DRIVERS*******
Duncan Disposal-Cosmone FT
Now hiring a driver for our Cosmone area, need at least a Class B CDL. Experience Preferred for a driver's position. Drivers must be able to pass a mandatory DOT and a corporate drug testing requirements. The job includes 40+ hours weekly Mon-Fri, with some Sat mornings and can earn a weekly incentive bonus. Please send resume to LucasR@repsry.com or apply at 5220 W. I-20 Bldg 80, Midland, TX 79706 – no phone calls please.
–Equal Opportunity Employer

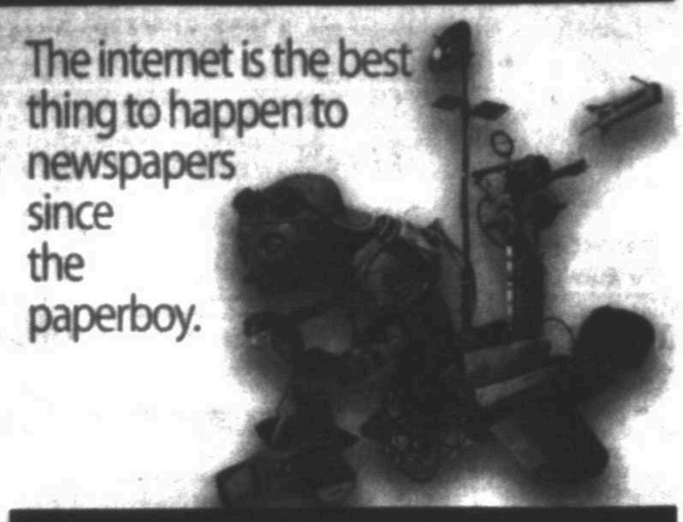
TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

CDL Driver - Day/Night Shifts
Mid-West Transport FT
Mid-West Truck Center Odessa, TX has immediate openings for: *CDL Drivers.* Comprehensive Benefits include company paid Health and Life insurance, plus Vision/Dental/401k! 432-368-6760 / 432-209-9484

Class A CDL Truck Drivers
Silverline Transportation 432-563-1894
Prefer drivers with Pneumatic Tanker experience. Benefits include: driver sign-on bonus, medical, life & dental insurance, paid vacation, & 401k. Applicants having experience hauling sand and/or dry cement helpful. Good driving record, DOT, drug & alcohol testing required. Apply in person, call for interview or online @ www.silverlinetx.com

DOT Route Driver Trainees
Ben E. Keith Foods of Midland FT
NOW HIRING!!! DOT Route Driver Trainees. Apply online at http://www.benekeith.com/food/employment_search or call 432-770-9522.

Truck Driver
Confidential FT
CDL Class A. Haz Mat Desirable/Not Required. Bi-Lingual a Plus. Local Routes M-F. Some Weekends. Call: 806-778-6968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Marty's Marketplace

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Art & Art Supplies

Unique Christmas Gift
Limited edition western prints - signed & numbered by the artist. Howard Terpning, James Bama, Frank McCarthy, Bev Doolittle, and Tom Lovell. Will sell all or individually. For more information or a complete listing: 689.6921 email-intermedentr@yahoo.com

Miscellaneous for Sale

KEN'S RV SALES
LARGE INVENTORY QUALITY USED RV'S
For Info.- After Hours Appt.
Call 432-559-7862

FULL SALE
EVERYTHING MUST GO!
$1000 - $2000
BUY ON EBAY, YOU'LL BE BACK
A FULL SERVICE DEALER
WE SERVICE ALL MAKES
ALL TYPES OF REPAIR
PROPANE

Pets

BORDER COLLIE puppies for sale, $150. 2 females and 1 male. Contact Amanda 432-978-1445.

IN TIME for Christmas companion bred Siberian Hunkies. Born 10/10/11. First shots, wormed with vet records. 2 males, 1 female available. 432-682-6944 after 5pm

LAB PUPPIES AKC & started dogs. Hips/eyes guaranteed. Training available. Pooles Labs. www.pooleslabs.com. Call (806) 633-4364.

MINITUARE RED DACHSHUND. SHY. FREE TO GOOD HOME. 432-935-3001.

PETS AT Peace now providing cremations and burials. Pre-need, 12 months, 0% Interest. 620-6677.

Appliances

1 Hour Free Pickup
AAA Appliances. Call 239-9735 / 528-3046.

1HR. FREE Appliance Removal, 978-5211.

Refrigerator $200, dryer $90, gas stove $140. 432-352-7988

Free Stuff

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!
Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

Food, Fruit & Produce

FUFFY'S PEANUT Brittle and Divinity available. 432-413-1303.

Free Stuff

2 FEMALE Boston Terriers in need of good home. 432-254-3969.

FEMALE CHIHUAHUA & Male Chihwoenie both free to a good home. 432-853-2215.

FREE 4 kittys. 8-10 weeks old. Call 432-689-0656.

FREE TO good home, small to medium pups. Call 432-934-6670

Furniture

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2 new tires LT245/75R16 $100.
Hardinson air dryer $375. Urinal w/ all plumbing fittings, super clean $100.

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CHEVY 2008 COLORADO Crew Cab, 4 cylinder, $15,900 OBO, 556-6947.

DODGE 2008 Cummins 4x4, 68K miles, 100K mile warranty, 10" aluminum wheel, $29500. 325-227-2455

FORD 1991 F250, SUPER CAB, 7.3L Diesel. Needs work. Tool box and carpenters headache rack, $500 obo. 432-425-2352.

FORD 20005 F350. White, V10, 4WD, long bed, 177k miles, good condition, $9,000 obo. 528-8994.

Ford 2001 F150, single cab, long bed, V8 automatic, 81k miles, $5,600. 432-934-2318.

FORD 2003 F-150 Super Crew, good work truck $5500 553-0298

FORD 2006 F150 SuperCrew XLT. Black with gray interior. Nice truck, 87K mi., 3-year transferrable warranty available. $15,500. Pictures @ www.chip@cservar.com 432-553-9972.

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GMC 2007 2500, HD, crew cab, 4x4, LS, $17,999, 24 mo. warranty, 563-6222.

MITSUBISHI 2008 Raider, crew cab, 34k miles, w/ warranty, B&B Auto 683-6222.

TOYOTA 2008 Tundra TRD, 4.7 L V-8, 2WD, Towing Package, 71k, $15,000, 770-6643

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Pickup Trucks

TOYOTA 2010 Tundra Limited. 20,000 miles, under warranty, 5.7L V8, crew max, leather, 6 speed auto trans, towing pkg, navigation and backup camera, JBL audio w MP 3, 6 disc CD charger, 12 speakers; satellite, bluetooth, power moonroof, power memory, silver metallic. $33,000. 817 734-1154.

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PONTIAC 2004 Montana minivan, 7-passanger seating. Nice van, $2900, 432-664-4690.

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BMW 2007, silver, 1 owner, black interior leather, $25,000. 432-816-6992.

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2009 ROCKWOOD Hi-Wall pop up trailer with slideout. Bryan 432-349-3547.

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