MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2016 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

CANADA QUESTION

Trump plays the birther card on rival presidential candidate Cruz.

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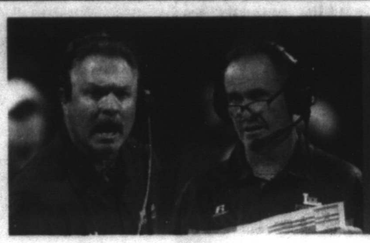

AND THE RULING IS ...

Midland ISD will not make any changes to the head football coaching positions at either Midland High or Lee. Read more about the school district's decision in Sports.

Page 1C

Gun advocates say order will have minimal impact

S&K Arms owner: Obama's action all 'feel-good measures and buzzwords'

By Brandon Mulder
bmulder@mrt.com

President Obama's executive orders announced on Tuesday have caused some hand-wringing among local gun store owners. The orders, which pledge to help reduce gun violence by expanding background checks and enforcement, are seen as Obama's most aggressive move toward gun control to date.

But some Midland gun store owners think the move is toothless and is a prelude to more significant gun restriction measures in the future.

"Everything that they're doing is feel-good measures and buzzwords," said S&K Arms co-owner Kane Kolisek. "It's a constant small chipping away at your Second Amendment rights. That's how a lot of people are seeing it."

Among other things, the orders would expand background checks for private sales or gun transactions between individuals — online or otherwise.

"The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is making clear that it doesn't matter where you conduct your business — from a store, at gun shows or over the Internet. If you're in the business of selling firearms, you must get a license and conduct background checks," read a fact sheet detailing one aspect of the order on the White House's website.

While this aspect won't affect those holding federal firearm licenses (FFL), it might impact those selling or trading firearms on online forums or auction pages, such as the popular Armslist.com or local Facebook trading markets such as the Midland/Odessa Gun Traders group.

There is no specific number of private gun sales that would warrant a required FFL, but under the laws, even a few transactions "can be sufficient to establish that a person is 'engaged in the business,'" the fact sheet read. And in Midland, where local laws require FFL holders to operate an established business, such a law might preclude private individuals from being able to freely exchange firearms.

"Buying, trading and selling guns is a hobby for a lot of people, but I wouldn't say they are in the business," said Jamie

Please see **IMPACT**/5A

LUCK OF THE DRAW

Steve Hildebrand buys two Powerball tickets from Spike's Corner convenience store on Garden City Highway on Wednesday. Hildebrand says he has been using the same numbers to pick his lottery tickets for more than two years.

Wednesday's Powerball jackpot was estimated at about $500 million and would be the sixth-largest ever in North America. It's the largest since last February, which totaled $564.1 million, according to the Associated Press.

The prize would have a cash option of $306 million, and that's before taxes are deducted. The $500 million prize is based on an annuity, which would pay out the money over 29 years.

Find out if you won by checking lottery results on Page 5A.

PHOTO BY JAMES DURBIN | REPORTER-TELEGRAM

Oil price hits lowest point since 2008

From staff reports

The oil futures market had a tough day Wednesday after West Texas Intermediate contracts for February fell to levels not seen since 2008.

After closing Tuesday at $35.97 a barrel, the price plunged $2 to $33.97 on Wednesday, a decrease of 5.56 percent. It marked the lowest close since Dec. 19, 2008, when the trading day ended at $33.87, according to historical data from the Energy Information Administration.

The Plains All American posted price for WTI fell $2 to $30.50 a barrel. West Texas sour fell $2 to $26.85. The lowest posted price for Texas was South Texas sour, which was priced at $17.75 a barrel.

Brent crude, the benchmark for international oils, ended Wednesday at $34.23 a barrel, down $2.19.

■ COMMENTARY

Even as Iran and Saudis clash, oil prices are unmoved

By Chris Tomlinson
Houston Chronicle

The two most powerful nations in the Middle East severed diplomatic relations this week — and even that sort of geopolitical crisis isn't enough to push up oil prices.

China's crazed stock markets and slowing economy had the bigger effect on international crude. Why? Because smart traders recognize that despite Iran and Saudi Arabia's rivalry, the two countries have far too much in common for either to slow the flow of oil.

That's bad news for Houston's oil exploration and production companies hammered by prices stuck in the $36 dollar range, down from $107 in June 2014. Producers are still pumping more oil than the world needs, with stored crude swelling around the globe.

Cutting production to balance supply with weak demand could take another year, barring some kind of geopolitical disruption. Iran and Saudi Arabia are unlikely to supply it. In fact, their feud could add more oil to the market as they compete for market share.

Iran and Saudi Arabia's dispute predates the founding of Islam. They

Please see **TOMLINSON**/4A

City: Sales tax revenue falls 23.84 percent

From staff reports

Another month, another disappointing sales tax collection report for the city.

The city of Midland on Wednesday reported a 23.84 percent decrease in sales tax revenue from the State Comptroller's Office. The decrease was:

- the 11th straight monthly decrease (compared to the same month the year before),
- the fifth straight double-digit percentage decrease,
- a decrease of 20 percent or more for three of the last four months.

The $2.82 million collected also was the lowest collection for a month of January going back to 2012.

By the numbers

Recent sales tax collection changes

October	down 23.61 percent
November	down 16.08 percent
December	down 25.77 percent
January	down 23.84 percent

For the year, sales tax revenue is down 22.08 percent. This means the slide continues and government faces the real possibility of decreased sales tax revenues for the year. Should the city follow a spending trend that took place in 2015, the total sales tax collection could finish around $35 million, which would be around a $9 million hit compared to last year.

Another 20 percent decrease also puts pressure on the February collection, generally the largest of the year. Should the double-digit percentage decreases continue, that might offer the worst news of the fiscal year.

With less sales tax revenue being generated, city and county leaders would be forced to increase property taxes to keep budgets at fiscal year 2015 levels.

Weather
Sunny
62/37
Get your complete forecast on 7C

Energy prices

WTI Futures	$33.97 ▼	$2.00
WTI Posted	$30.50 ▼	$2.00
WTS Posted	$26.85 ▼	$2.00
Natural Gas	$2.257 ▼	$0.058
Gasoline	$1.801 ▼	$0.004

The big number
The votes are in, and only
2 former players
were elected to baseball's Hall of Fame this year. Page 1C

Today in Weekender
Gear up for the 90s Bash with 2 Live Crew. Inside
Coming Friday
Catch up on the week's faith and philanthropy news.

Vol. 87, No. 302
Daily $1, Sunday $2

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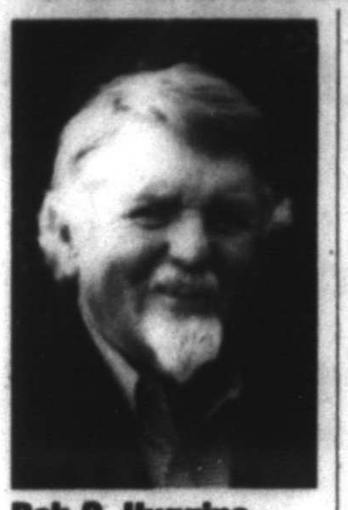
Obituaries



Bob G. Huggins

Bobby Glenn Huggins was born September 10, 1941 to Bryant Loid and Anna Leona Huggins in Dublin, Texas. He passed away on December 22, 2015, in Jacksonville, Texas after a lengthy illness.

Bob was a lifelong resident of Midland, Texas. Bob and his wife, Marian, moved to Jacksonville in October of 2015 to be near family.

Bob was known as a friend to many because he never met a stranger. He made a lifelong career as Midland's "favorite" car salesman, first at Nickel Chrysler, Plymouth. Bob left the car business briefly to pursue the oil business as a crude purchaser with Brio Petroleum. After the downturn in the petroleun; industry in the mid-80s, he went back to what he did best, selling cars.

For the remainder of his career as a car salesman at the same location. Although the dealership names changed over the years, from Friendly Pontiac, Village Dodge, and finally, All American Dodge, his smiling face and service to his customers remained constant. It was a commonly held belief that he sold at least one car to practically everyone in Midland County. He loved his profession of more than 50 years and manufactured his own corner of the car business. He took great pride in the friends he made along the way.

Bob and his brothers spent their childhood in Greenwood where they attended elementary school. Bob was a proud graduate of the Midland High School Class of 1960. Throughout his life, he remained a very proud bulldog and a loyal and avid supporter of anything related to Midland High School.

Bob married his wife, Marian, on September 5, 1976 and they began a journey spanning almost 40 years together. Over the years, they were members of Midland Christian Fellowship, Cornerstone Fellowship, and First Baptist Church of Midland.

Bob is survived by his wife, Marian and their four children: Darren Huggins and wife, Paula Vachon, of Copper Canyon; Shawn Axworthy and husband, Bob, of Bullard; James Daugherty and wife, Karen, of Midland; and Lisa Zachry and husband, Jimmy, of Midland.

They were blessed with six grandchildren, Zachary Huggins, Molly Axworthy, Libby Axworthy, Derek Daugherty, Casey Zachry, and Robyn Zachry Wendel, and by six great-grandchildren. Bob is also survived by his brothers, Tommy Huggins and wife Barbara, and Charley Huggins and wife Mary of Denton, and by many nieces, nephews, loved ones, and friends.

A memorial celebration of Bob's life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 9, 2016, at First Baptist Church Chapel of Midland, Texas. Please join us after the memorial service for a dinner reception; the location will be announced at the service.

Carolyn Kay Hardy Starritt

Carolyn Kay Hardy Starritt, 68, of Little River-Academy, Texas, passed away peacefully in her sleep on January 1, 2016 at her home.

She was born in Abilene, Texas to Newton Travis and Edna Lois (Tillman) Hardy on May 16, 1947.

Her hobbies included working on her family genealogy, crafts, furniture refinishing, designing and graphics, all things outdoors and reading. She lived in Central Texas for 18 years.

Carolyn is preceded in death by her parents and by a sister, Shirley Hardy Smith.

She is survived by four daughters, Cari Starritt-Burnett of Temple, Christi Starritt-Walker of Temple, Candi Shanks of Argyle, Texas, and Cindi Mughelli of Midland, Texas; one brother, Travis Wayne Hardy of Chicago; one sister, Patricia Wornell of Midland; and by six grandchildren.

A celebration of her life will be held at 912 Woodhollow Drive in Temple, Texas on Sunday, January 10 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. A graveside memorial will be held at a later date in Midland, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Body of Christ Community Clinic, 2608 N. Main, B-269, Belton, TX 76513. *www.bodyofchristclinic.org.*

Hewett-Arney Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangments.

Carolyn Kirwan

Surrounded by family, our beloved wife, mother and "Nanu" drew her last breath on the first day of the New Year, January 1, 2016.

Carolyn Ecker was born in Brooklyn, New York on June 8, 1931 to Chester and Marie Ecker. She was the youngest of three children and attended St. Sylvester's School. She was devout in her faith and was a life-long Catholic.

At the early age of 13, Carolyn tragically lost her father and her life was forever changed. She attended Sacred Heart Academy in Sag Harbor, New York. Carolyn had an enchanting gift of creativity and was magically able to bring things to life. She mastered all aspects of art. She was an eloquent writer and won a poetry contest for the state of New York. She was able to draw, paint, sculpt, and design fascinating works of art with her own delicate, unique flair. Carolyn was offered a full scholarship in Art to the prestigious Mary Mount College of New York.

Carolyn however had another gift just as breathtaking and fascinating as her talent for art - she was strikingly beautiful with an effervescent, dazzling personality and a radiant smile. Carolyn was also bright, genuine, funny and quick witted. She was always the life of the party and people gravitated towards her.

Carolyn felt a great responsibility to her widowed mother and, as a result, accepted a job as a flight attendant with American Airlines. Carolyn excelled in this field and delighted in seeing the world. She met presidents, movie stars, and athletes. Carolyn kept a note Ed Sullivan penned for her, thanking her for her hospitality and inviting she and her mother backstage to see a show.

Carolyn was based in Fort Worth, Texas where she met the true love of her life, John R. Kirwan. John knew instantly when he met Carolyn that this was the girl for him and went home and told his roommate, "Today I met the girl I am going to marry." John and Carolyn were forever Valentines, married February 14, 1954. Ironically, in Carolyn's flying days, she would stop over in West Texas thinking - who could live in all that dust and wind? Carolyn and John settled in Midland in 1958 where they made their home and raised five children. Carolyn always kept her Brooklyn accent and loved when Texans would always ask, "You aren't from around here are ya?"

Carolyn embodied the true definition of a mother in every sense of the word. She was always loving, accepting, forgiving, kind, encouraging, supportive, patient, and knew just what each child needed to flourish. She was grounded and down to earth and always had just the right piece of advice to offer. She sacrificed so much and always put herself last.

She was devoted to all of her children but especially dedicated herself to the care and education of her special needs son Daniel. She never allowed for anyone to treat him any differently and taught others to see how perfect he was.

The most important thing to Carolyn, besides her never wavering faith, was her sense of family. Carolyn cared for each of her relatives through sickness and was always available to lend a hand whenever called upon. She brought everyone together and was the strength of the Kirwan family. The Kirwan house was always full of life and laughter and was the warm place everyone could gather. All the neighborhood kids also called her Mom.

After Carolyn raised her children, she still desired to realize her dream of exploring a formal education in art. She enrolled in various art classes, where her teachers were amazed at her natural talent. Soon, after taking many art classes, she decided to complete her degree and excelled in every area of her education. She was inducted into Who's Who of Junior College Students and graduated from Midland College with great ease.

She enjoyed learning so much she enrolled at UTPB (University of Texas Permian Basin) and further mesmerized her instructors with her exquisite ability and talent. She was proud to be an older student and made it look effortless to be a wife and mother of five while also being a college honors student. She achieved her Bachelors of Arts degree in 1986 and it was one of her proudest accomplishments.

Later in life, Carolyn spent much of her free time at her "little cabin in the mountains" Cloud Croft, New Mexico. She enjoyed spending time with John, her children, and grandchildren. She continued her passion for art and took numerous classes at the Cloud Croft Summer Art Workshops. Carolyn wasn't just a remarkable artist and student but also a wonderful teacher.

It brought her great joy to teach her grandchildren appreciation for art but more than that she taught them to see the beauty in all things. Nothing brought her more pleasure than to capture her loved one's likenesses through portraits she created. She loved nature, animals, cold weather, the Dallas Cowboys and was a fabulous cook. Carolyn had an incredible green thumb and loved to garden. Carolyn enjoyed all kinds of music - everything from classical and opera to show tunes and country. She was always one to celebrate life and people and see the humor in things. Her motto was "Life is an adventure."

During Carolyn's long illness, she was loved and cared for by her faithful husband John and all her children. All the remarkable qualities that she had modeled for her family were exhibited by how much her family adored her. One of the greatest honors to her legacy was in 2015, when her great granddaughter was born and named Carolyn, after the woman who exuded so much beauty, charisma, and grace.

The family wishes to thank Hospice of Midland and Martha Ramirez and her team of caregivers for their tender care, love, and compassion they gave to our dear mother.

Carolyn is survived by her devoted husband of nearly 62 years, John R. Kirwan; son, John Kirwan - John's daughter Shay Moore, husband Brian, daughters Alyssa and Audrey, John's son Mathew - daughters Lexie, Evie, and Taylor, and John's daughter, Laura; son, Tip Kirwan - wife Brenda and son Thomas Taylor and his wife Faith; daughter, Caroline Kirwan - daughter Catherine Eberhard, her daughter Carolyn and Caroline's son Christopher and his wife Holly Jo, daughter Kathleen Kirwan, - Haynie husband Scott, sons Hunter, Christian and daughter Grace, her brother, Kenneth and his wife Phyllis, and many nieces and nephews.

Carolyn is preceded in death by her parents, dear brother Francis, and beloved son Daniel.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, January 6, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Ellis Funeral Home.

A celebration of Carolyn's life will be held at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, January 7, 2016 at St. Stephens Catholic Church Midland Texas by Monsignor Bridges, with the burial following at Resthaven Memorial Park.

The family is grateful for the many prayers, love, and support during this difficult yet glorious time. Memorial donations can be made to Hospice of Midland, P.O. Box 2621, Midland, TX 79702, or Senior Link Midland (Meals on Wheels), 3301 Sinclair Ave, Midland, TX 79707.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-5555

Charles Suthard Gibbs

Charles Suthard Gibbs, 83, died January 5, 2016. A memorial service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Friday, January 8, 2016 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel.

Charles Gibbs was born on March 4, 1932 to Benny and Sarah Gibbs in Haskell, Texas. He was a veteran, having served in the United States Army. He worked as a hot oil operator before retiring with Gandy Corp after 30 years of service in Lovington, New Mexico. He moved to Midland in 1998 where he worked as a crosswalk guard for over 10 years - first at St. Ann's School and lastly at Ben Milam Elementary School.

He is survived by the love of his life, Betty Nelson; his brother, Benny Gibbs of Stamford, Texas; sister, Mary Ann Elrod of Lubbock, Texas; daughters, Elizabeth (Leroy) Peterson of Midland, Texas, and Charlene Perrin of Lovington, New Mexico; grandchildren, Paige (Michael) Evans, and Jon Mark Peterson, both of Midland, Nathan (Erin) Gibbs of Hobbs, New Mexico, Ashley (Jeremy) Speers of Camden, Arkansas, and Chelsey (Jackie) Carrier of Midland; and by 11 great-grandchildren.

Charles is preceded in death by his parents, one sister, and one brother.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Breaking Bread Kitchen, P.O. Box 9402, Midland, Texas 79708 or the Food Pantry at First Methodist Church, 407 N Main Ave, Lovington, NM 88260.

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

Cris Calvert Withers

More than a wife, mother, daughter, sister, and friend, Cris Calvert Withers embodied a generous heart and a deep love of people. Cris was born on March 26, 1969. Her sense of deep roots, family, and community come from her hometown of Turkey, Texas.

She is survived by her husband of 24 years, Brent Withers; her daughters, Brooke Withers and Nickelynn Bright; son-in-law, Shane Bright; grandson, Jace Bright; mother and father, Ray and Wanda Calvert; her brother, Chad Calvert; and other beloved in-laws, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Her faith in God carried her to her heavenly home on Saturday, January 2, 2016, where she heard, "Well done my good and faithful servant."

Besides her deep love for Jesus, Cris passionately pursued friendships, theatre, kids, and her profession. Cris always listened to people, never left anyone out, and welcomed everyone. A devoted One Act participant and spectator, Cris had an appreciation for the theatre. Her artistic ability carried into her role as a realtor. Cris' talent to sell not a house but a home endeared her to fellow realtors and clients. Many homes throughout the Permian Basin are graced with her unique hand-made crosses.

Above all her two daughters, Nickelynn and Brooke, were her pride and joy, but every child was important to Cris. She took great effort to encourage them, make them feel special, and verbally expressed her love for them.

Cris created a home and sold homes, but she felt most at home among her church family at Fellowship Baptist Church. The onset of her illness brought out her remarkable strength and courage for the true meaning of life; physically she declined but spiritually she thrived. A changed life changes lives.

From the Withers' home comes an eternal gratitude for each of your generous outpourings of sympathy. A special appreciation to Dr. PK Patel, Midland Memorial Hospital and the countless nurses, respiratory therapists, and physical therapists who cared for Cris.

Celebrate Cris' homecoming with us on Saturday, January 9, 2016 2:00 p.m. at Greenwood Baptist Church in Midland, Texas. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the building fund of Fellowship Baptist Church of Greenwood at 10700 FM 307 Midland, Texas 79706.

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

Cruz Salas Paredes

After a long battle with cancer, Cruz Salas Paredes passed away on Tuesday, January 5, 2016. She was born in Chihuahua, Chihuahua Mexico on February 25, 1926 to Jose Salas and Julia Muniz Salas. She grew up in Mexico and worked in a legal firm as a paralegal.

In the 1950s, she moved to the United States and married Margarito Paredes where they settled in Verhalen, Texas and raised a family of nine.

In 1979, they moved to Midland, Texas where she worked at the Levi plant and left to start her own daycare business. She was involved in the church community as a Eucharist Minister visiting the sick in the hospital and was involved in the Cursillo movement at Our Lady of Guadalupe. She also enjoyed volunteering her time cooking for the Sunday "Church Breakfast." She enjoyed being actively involved in her grandchildren and great grandchildren's lives.

Cruz was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her brother, Francisco Salas; her great granddaughter, Kaitlyn Munoz; and great grandson, Tybalt Christopher Salas.

Cruz is survived by daughters, Leticia Almanza and fiancée Chris Anaya, Judy Schmidt (Steve), Mary Munoz (Fred), Sylvia Paredes, Margie Galvan (Johnny), and Eva Mendez (Miguel); her sons, Joe Salas (Rosanne), Frank Paredes (Donna), and Jaime Paredes (Kimberly); her grandchildren, Mark (Connie) Almanza, Mario (Romie) Almanza, Cynthia (Lucio) Lucero, Michelle (Gilbert) Schmidt-Blanco, Jason (Christina) Schmidt, Joe Salas, Jr. (Linda), Jason (Abigail) Salas, Jesse and Jeffrey Salas, Chris (Audra) Munoz, Alex (Amy) Munoz, Kimberly Munoz, Lindsay Paredes, Michael and Kevin Galvan, Jessica (Adam) Escobedo, Raymond (Julie) Mendez, Michael Mendez, Alexa, Kaitlyn, and Brooke Paredes; and by 29 great grandchildren.

Visitation and rosary will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Friday January 8, 2016 at Ellis Funeral Home.

Funeral Mass will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 9, 2016 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church officiated by Father David Herrera. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be Mark and Mario Almanza, Joe Salas, Jr., Jesse Salas, Chris Munoz, Kevin Galvan, Jason Schmidt, and Raymond Mendez.

Honorary pallbearers will be her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The family of Cruz Paredes wishes to thank the Hospice nursing staff and Mari Vazquez for their loving care and support during her illness.

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

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David Wayne Doell

David Wayne Doell passed away on December 23, 2015, in Midland, Texas. David was born on August 27, 1954, in Denver, Colorado, to Alvin E. and Kathleen A. Doell (now deceased), who were missionaries.

David lived in the United States until the age of 12. He resided overseas until he returned to the states at age 55.

During the time David lived abroad, he called many places home, living in the countries of Ireland, England, Scotland, and Northwestern Africa. David also lived in Spain during his parent's lifetime, and returned to reside in Spain again after 11 years in The Gambia.

Dave loved life and participated in a variety of occupations. He enjoyed tutoring English as a second language (ESL) wherever he went. He very much enjoyed the culture in The Gambia while teaching ESL to school children in that area. While living in Barcelona, Spain, he taught ESL to factory workers, as well as factory supervisors. As a devout believer in Jesus Christ, David was a bold witness for Christ wherever he lived and in whatever language he spoke.

Dave initiated several new businesses and worked in various professions, as he took pleasure in meeting people, attempting new things, and traveling extensively. David utilized Facebook to continue many relationships with long-time friends because to David, people mattered. David had a number of friends overseas who always wished that he would someday return to their area of the world, and assured Dave that he would never lack for a place to stay should he ever decide to return.

Anyone who was privileged to know Dave found that he was very gifted linguistically and spoke nine languages fluently. David always communicated in another person's native language whenever possible. He was especially fluent in Spanish, which caused him to be endeared by all Spanish speaking peoples. People appreciated David's language skills, as well his great sense of humor, which he used in unique gags and pranks on fellow employees. As a result, David always had a following of friends wherever he lived and worked.

Dave is survived by his sister, Bunny Becker Holz and her husband Curly Holz, and by his nephews Steve Becker and Paul Becker of Midland, Texas.

The family wishes to express our sincere thanks to all of the friends, church members, and fellow employees who faithfully visited Dave as he dealt with the rapid onset of his illness. Special thanks to all of the Midland Memorial Hospital staff, physicians, nurses, aides, assistants and housekeepers who made extra efforts to not only care for Dave in his last days on earth, but also to be his friend. The care he received and the friendships he enjoyed brought great joy to his last months of life.

A memorial service will be held at First Baptist Church

Obituaries

Chapel of Midland, on Friday, January 8, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Texas Arms of Love, P.O. Box 5137, Midland, TX 79704.

Fred Westmoreland

Frederick Earl Westmoreland, an indisputable force of nature and unequaled character, passed away on January 6, 2016 in Midland, Texas.

He was born in Lubbock, Texas on September 25, 1952 and moved with his family to Houston as a young child. Fred would vividly recall his happy childhood of roaming the streets in the neighborhood on his bicycle and engaging in all sorts of risky games with his brothers and friends. Fred sampled higher education at several Texas universities, and after a short and eye-opening stint of working in the oil fields around Post, Texas, he settled down and received a BBA degree in Marketing from Texas Tech University.

Fred moved to Midland in 1977 and began his career as a stockbroker with Dain Rauscher and Merrill Lynch. For several years, he has managed the Midland office for Liberty Heritage Group, LLC.

Fred was a fiercely loyal and committed friend, brother, husband, and volunteer. His wit never wavered and the intensity in which he lived his life never faltered. Fred's true passion was community involvement, and he fulfilled his desire to help others by serving as a board member, investment committee chairman, and treasurer of the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum; board member and chairman of Keep Midland Beautiful; investment committee member and board of governors member of the Museum of the Southwest; Midland Community Concerts / Live Onstage board member; endowment fund trustee and chairman of High Sky Children's Ranch; Christmas for OUR Troops vice-president; and board member and chairman of The Springboard Center.

He was appointed and elected chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, taught for Junior Achievement, and is a past president of the Exchange Club. The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity was also a recipient of Fred's enthusiasm for service. He has been the chairman of the Membership and Community Council, Hospital Visitation Ministry, and a delegate to the Diocesan convention. He served as assistant scoutmaster for Troop 51 and was presently a member of the church's vestry. One of Fred's favorite volunteer experiences was playing Santa Claus every Christmas for charitable organizations. He brought cheer to clients and visitors at the Mission Adult Day Care Center, the Breaking Bread Kitchen, High Sky Children's Ranch, the Museum of the Southwest, and countless others.

One of Fred's proudest accomplishments was being a member of AA for nearly 29 years and the mentoring opportunities it offered him to help others positively restart their lives.

There is no one that could come close to being the presence that Fred was. Through the years, friends and family had offered to write a "Book of Fred's" chronicling the numerous antics, tricks, mannerisms, witticisms, and "oops!" moments of his life. If it had ever been written, the pages would have been numerous and the double-volume book would have been a bestseller. In so many ways, Fred was often just a big kid in a grown-up's body.

He is survived by his wife, Debra, of Midland, brother, Todd of Midland, brother, Greg and his wife, Sarah, of Lubbock, and brother, Brad and his wife, Kandy, of Houston. Fred was also a fun and wonderful uncle to nieces, Kathleen, Meredith, Jane, and Anne and nephew, Forrest.

Fred was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Jane Westmoreland.

Graveside services will be held Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity in Midland.

One of life's true joys was knowing Fred, and the greatest joy in Fred's life was the extraordinary and heartfelt love he had for all of his family and friends.

Memorials can be made to The Springboard Center, 200 Corporate Drive, Midland, Texas 79705, Museum of the Southwest, 1705 West Missouri, Midland, Texas, 79701, The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, 1412 West Illinois, Midland, Texas 79701, or the charity of one's choice.

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

Online condolences can be made at *www.npwelch.com*.

Jessie Green

Jessie Green was born March 6, 1939 in Rosebud, TX, to Josephine Cross and Jessie Green Sr.

God called him home on December 30,2015.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jessie Green Sr., his mother, Josephine Cross; his three brothers, Levine Green, Ernest Green and Robert Green; and his two sisters, Gracie and Adie Jackson.

To cherish his memories he leaves his children, Ivy Green, Andrea Jones (Anthony), Milton Maxwell, Emmitt Maxwell, Wanda McCallon (Jeff) and Renee Maxwell; his sisters, Fay Jackson, Jewell Shaw (Curtis), and Mary Burns (Ray); his brothers, Ted Smith and Ernest (Sonny) Jackson; Also an aunt, Becky Green and numerous grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

A Funeral Service is set for Friday at 1:00 PM January 8, 2016 at Thomas Funeral Home.

Honorary Pallbearers, Michael Jackson, Michael Powell, Clyde Powell Jr., Dwight Sullivan, Luis Sullivan, Otis Taylor and Anthony Sullivan.

Thomas FUNERAL HOME
FUNERALS / CREMATIONS
Midland, Texas

Sergio Arturo Atayde Hernandez

Sergio Arturo Atayde Hernandez age, 18, died of organ failure on Thursday, December 31, 2015 in Fort Worth, Texas at Cook's Children's Hospital.

Sergio was born Monday, November 17, 1997 in Melchor Musquiz Coahuila de Zaragoza Mexico to Arturo Atayde and Esmeralda Hernandez.

He is preceded in death by a sister. He is survived by his parents, a brother, Angel, and a sister, Adriana.

Sergio was raised in Midland, Texas where he attended school and grew up with his family. He enjoyed spending the weekends with his cousins. Sergio was diagnosed with leukemia at 15 and beat cancer at age 16. Unfortunately, he was diagnosed with GVHD shortly after.

Sergio was a warrior, he always fought no matter how hard things got. The best of him never left him, despite the dark times. He brought light to others who were fighting the same battles as him. He was selfless, kind-hearted, forgiving, understanding, funny and made friends everywhere he went. It was easy to love him, he was exceptional and will never be forgotten.

A Rosary will be held Thursday, January 7, 2016 at Ellis Funeral Home in the chapel from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The funeral will be held Friday, January 8, 2016 at San Miguel Archangel Catholic Church at 11:00 a.m. with Father Oscar officiating. A reception will follow at the church. All are welcomed to attend and celebrate Sergio's life. The family would like to thank everyone who was shown their love and support through these difficult times.

If you would like to assist the family with expenses please contact Ellis Funeral Home.

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

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

Tristian L. Tryon

Tristian L. Tryon passed away on Wednesday, December 30, 2015. He was born on April 9, 1991 in Odessa, Texas, to Pamela Tryon-Brown and Darold Allen. He attended Midland Public Schools, and was a 2010 graduate of Lee High School.

Tristian accepted Christ at an early age and he rededicated his life to Christ in October 2015. He was a blessed child and he enjoyed family gatherings and playing video games.

Tristian grandfather, Elder Frank Tryon Sr., preceded him in death.

Those left to cherish his memories his mother, Pamela Tryon-Brown; father, Darold Allen; three brothers, Neeman D. Tryon, Deaundre Allen, and Demarco Allen; one sister, Nyia Allen; grandparents, Louise Tryon, and Curtis and Mary Williams; and a host of relatives and friends.

Viewing will be held on Thursday, January 7, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Family will be receiving friends also on Thursday, January 7, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home.

Funeral service will be held on Friday, January 8, 2016 2016 at 11 a.m. at Faith Temple Church of God in Christ, 1605 N. Terrell St., Midland, Texas 79701. Interment will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

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

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

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin Funeral Home
2500 N. Big Spring · Midland, TX · (432) 682-3700

Victoriano Rodriguez

In the loving arms of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is to be found a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, great-great-grandfather, brother, and dear friend, Victoriano R. Rodriguez.

Mr. Rodriguez 83, of Odessa, Texas, passed away at Medical Center Hospital Sunday January 3, 2016. He was born March 23, 1932 in Stanton, Texas to Francisco Rodriguez and Cipriana Ramirez. He was a Christian and a retired groundskeeper from U.T.P.B.

He is preceded in death by daughter, Evangelina Rodriguez, parents, Francisco and Cipriana Rodriguez, and grandson, Octavio Luna Jr.

Mr. Rodriguez is survived by his loving wife, Maria V. Rodriguez; son, Victor and wife, Sylvia Rodriguez of Midland, TX; daughters, Margie and husband, Octavio Luna of Phoenix A.Z.; Mary and husband, David Lujan of Odessa, TX; nine grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, and nine great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and many friends.

The Rodriguez Family would like to take this time and express our utmost sincere gratitude to each and everyone of you for all your floral arrangementsm food offerings, and especially your presence with us during this most difficult time. May God Bless You All Abundantly.

Pallbearers will be Victor Rodriguez III, Chris Duran, Nicholas Hernandez, Gabriel Garza, Julian Cortez, Ismael Aguilar, Jonathan Aguilar, Johna - Anthony Cortez, Anthony Aguilar and Rene Rodriguez. Visitation will be held today, Thursday January 7, 2016 from 8am to 9pm with a Rosary at 7pm at Odessa Funeral Home Chapel. Mass will be celebrated Friday January 8, 2016 at 10am at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Interment to follow at Ector County Cemetery Peaceful Gardens Section. Services by Odessa Funeral Home.

Leland Ace Ybarra

Leland Ace Ybarra, two months and 12 days old of Midland, Texas, passed away on December 25, 2015.

Leland was born in Midland Memorial Hospital on October 13, 2015 to Felipe Ybarra and Brandilea Hynes.

Leland is preceded in death by Christobal Ybarra and Rosena Judy Hynes.

Leland is survived by his parents, Felipe Ybarra and Brandilea Hynes; brothers and sister, Brian Rivera, Mercedes Rivera, Julius Ybarra, and Angelo Ybarra; and other family and friends.

A Rosary will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 6, 2015 at Ellis Funeral Home.

There will be a graveside service at Serenity Memorial Gardens on Thursday, January 7, 2015 with Father David Herrera officiating. Anyone desiring to attend the service should be at Ellis Funeral Home at 7:45 a.m. on Thursday, January 7, 2016.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
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Death Notices

Guy W. Bates

Guy W. Bates, 82 of Midland, passed away on Sunday, January 3, 2016.

Viewing will be Monday, January 11, 2016, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home & Chapel. Graveside service will be held at Fairview Cemetery on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 1:00 p.m.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley A. Bates; children, Robert Hoover, Ginger McCrackin, and Donna Bates-Wiesman; and by one brother and sisters.

Julian Gallardo

Julian Gallardo, 22 of Midland, passed away Monday, January 4, 2016.

Visitation will be held Thursday, January 7th all day at Iglesia Ebn-ezer 705 Loma Vista Street in Midland. Funeral service is set for Friday, January 8th 3:00 pm at Iglesia Ebn-ezer. Interment will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

He is survived by his wife, Victoria Arballo; one son, Julian Isaac Gallardo; one daughter, Camila Isabele Arballo; his parents, Jose Cruz Gallardo and Ana Valdiviezo; and one brother.

Ralph Long

Ralph Long, 67, Vietnam Veteran, of Midland, passed away January 5, 2016. No services are scheduled at this time.

Survivors include daughter, Katie Miller; one sister; one aunt; and one cousin.

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

Robert A. Lipper

Robert A. Lipper, 56, of Midland, Texas, passed away on January 2, 2016 in Midland, Texas. He is survived by his two sons, Rodney Lipper and Robert Lipper. Services are pending with American Heritage Cemetery & Funeral Home, 4100 N. FM-1788, Midland, Texas, 79707.

To Submit Obituaries:

Contact

Direct: 432-682-6222

Fax: 432-682-6999

Email: obits@mrt.com

Midland Reporter-Telegram
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All Obituaries must be submited by 3:30 P.M. prior to next publication day.

CRIMEBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

MPD: Man chokes, stalks woman

A 32-year-old man was arrested Monday for allegedly choking and stalking a woman, according to a police report.

Dionicio Eduardo Garcia of San Angelo was being held Wednesday on a $30,000 bond for a third-degree felony charge of assault of a family/house member impeding breath and a $50,000 bond for a third-degree felony charge of stalking.

Garcia

Police officers were called to a residence on North Garfield Street on Nov. 27 in reference to a stalking report, according to Garcia's arrest affidavit. The woman said Garcia arrived at her apartment on Oct. 25 intoxicated and screaming her name, according to the affidavit.

She said that when she opened the apartment door, Garcia became upset and choked her to the point that she felt she was blacking out, according to the affidavit. She punched him in the throat, and he let her go, according to the affidavit.

Garcia grabbed her and choked her again to the point that she feared for her life, according to the affidavit.

In the days following this incident, Garcia followed her in his car and called her phone so many times she had to turn it off, according to the affidavit.

The woman was driving to work Nov. 27 when Garcia pulled up next to her and followed her in his vehicle, according to the affidavit. The next day, Garcia threw rocks at her balcony door asking her to let him inside, according to the affidavit.

The woman said Garcia had sent her multiple text messages and had showed up at her job site looking for her, according to the affidavit. She applied for a protective order and plans to pursue charges, according to the affidavit.

If convicted of the two third-degree felonies, Garcia could face up to 20 years in prison in total.

Man arrested for alleged indecency with a child

A Midland man was arrested on Monday after he allegedly made a young girl touch him inappropriately, according to court documents.

Jerry Don Clark, 68, was being held Wednesday on a $25,000 bond for a second-degree felony charge of indecency with a child by sexual contact.

Clark

The Midland Rape Crisis and Child Advocacy Center interviewed the girl on Sunday after she told a family member about the alleged assault. The girl, who is under the age of 10, told an interviewer that Clark touched her inappropriately and tried to get her to touch him inappropriately, according to his arrest affidavit.

If found guilty of a second-degree felony, Clark could face up to 20 years in prison.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

SAN ANTONIO

Top leaders of Bandidos biker gang indicted

National leaders of the Bandidos biker gang were arrested Wednesday on charges of racketeering and waging a deadly "war" on the rival Cossacks gang, federal authorities said.

An indictment announced by the U.S. Attorney's Office in San Antonio accuses three Bandidos leaders of sanctioning a three-year fight that included clashes with rival gangs and distribution of methamphetamine. The accusations focus on a rivalry that came under renewed attention in May, when a clash at a meeting of biker groups in Waco left nine people dead.

The indictment accuses John Portillo, the Bandidos' national vice president, of raising dues to pay legal expenses of its members days after the Waco shooting. Portillo, national president Jeffrey Pike and national sergeant-at-arms Justin Forster are charged with racketeering, drug distribution and other crimes.

DEL RIO

City councilman charged in human smuggling case

An elected official has been arrested on human smuggling charges after he was stopped in a stolen oilfield services truck with three immigrants.

Marco Antonio Rodriguez, who's a councilman in Crystal City, faces a federal detention hearing today in Del Rio.

A criminal complaint says Rodriguez told agents he was paid to drive immigrants to San Antonio, 100 miles northeast of Crystal City.

Prosecutors said Rodriguez was arrested Saturday in Big Wells when he drove the truck, with three passengers, into a post office parking lot.

Canary LLC reported its truck had been stolen. Border Patrol agents detained Rodriguez and three passengers allegedly in the U.S. illegally.

Rodriguez does not work for Canary.

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MAIN SWITCHBOARD

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NEWSROOM

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bmulder@mrt.com

■ FEATURES WRITER
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wkorn@mrt.com

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■ PHOTOGRAPHER
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AP file photo

Oilfield workers drill into the Gypsum Hills near Medicine Lodge, Kan., in 2012.

Oil producers hightail it on spending cuts

■ Companies are trimming even faster than they did during the big bust that struck during the 1980s

By Collin Eaton
Houston Chronicle

As crude prices languish below $40 a barrel, American drillers are retreating from domestic oil fields even faster than during the tumultuous 1980s oil bust.

U.S. oil companies are set to curb investments by 24 percent this year to $89.6 billion, meaning that from the beginning of last year to the end of this year, domestic drillers will have cut their annual capital budgets by 51 percent. That's more than the industry's 46 percent cut in the mid-1980s, according to Cowen & Co., which began surveying oil company spending in 1982.

But the oilfield exodus eventually will pay off. U.S. crude production surged in recent years, but it began to decline last year. Crude traders are watching domestic output data to figure out when the global oil glut might start to shrink. For the oil market, the faster, the better.

"These conditions will ultimately cleanse the oil patch and set the stage for a sustained up cycle," said James West, an oilfield services analyst at Ever-core ISI, which also has released a spending survey.

The head of the industry's top trade association struck a similarly upbeat note Tuesday, praising a bipartisan agreement that lifted a 40-year-old ban on U.S. oil exports, while reiterating the group's frequent criticism of federal energy regulation. Speaking at the American Petroleum Institute's State of American Energy 2016 event in Washington, institute CEO Jack Gerard said the new era of exports, combined with increased U.S. production, will make the United States a "dominant global figure" in the oil industry.

As evidence, he cited the minimal effect on oil prices even as tensions rose this week between Saudi Arabia and Iran, suggesting that oil supplies have become less sensitive to Mideast turmoil.

"The United States is really emerging as the key energy player in the world," Gerard said, because the U.S. can produce and export more oil to make up for any potential disruptions within the Saudi-led Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, of which Iran also is a member.

Through the first half of the year, though, it will be rough in the U.S. oil patch.

Cowen & Co. said deep budget cuts are expected to prompt another exodus of drilling rigs from Texas and North Dakota, with the average U.S. land rig count dropping by about 300 this year. Each rig is tied to dozens of oilfield jobs, and the Federal Reserve estimates the nation has lost 70,000 U.S. oil and gas jobs already.

To make matters worse for Houston's oil equipment makers, Cowen's estimate for the 2016 spending reduction may be too conservative because the survey went out in November, when U.S. oil averaged almost $43 a barrel. U.S. crude since has tumbled further, ending Tuesday's trading down 79 cents to $35.97, and if prices stay that low for much longer, drillers probably will have to shed more capital dollars than they anticipated.

Evercore ISI's survey indicated a 19 percent drop in spending this year, but with oil prices lower than they were just two months ago, official budgets may come in 40 percent to 50 percent below initial projections, West said.

The domestic oil industry wasn't designed to function with $36 oil. Even though some rigs can drill 20 percent more wells and some wells can produce 40 percent more oil, U.S. oil producers' overall cash flow is expected to come in 35 percent lower this year, the worst haul since 2002, according to Raymond James.

Hidden behind the stark budget cuts is a marked change in the strategy that U.S. oil companies have employed since technological breakthroughs opened up commercial production in dense formations. A record proportion of drillers — 80 percent — are planning to spend within their cash flow this year, according to Evercore ISI.

"This is a record and dwarfs last year's 55 percent," West said.

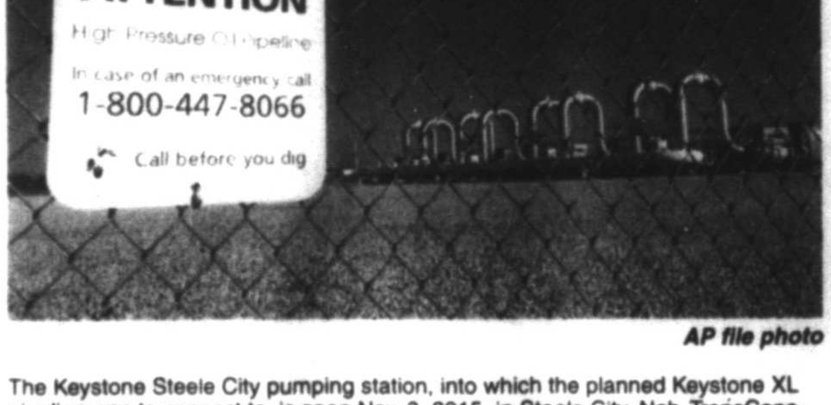
And it's a big change from the days when shale companies would pile on hundreds of millions in debt to drill wells that have rapidly depleting output levels. For many, it led to a treadmill of taking on debt for nonstop drilling, and historically the vast majority of shale drillers outspent their cash flow from year to year.

"In 2016, boards are almost universally mandating you spend within cash flow," said David Zusman, managing partner and chief investment officer at Talara Capital Management.

Cowen's study shows that smaller companies that are more dependent on oil prices and high cash flow are cutting spending more. Companies with budgets less than $100 million slashed 49.6 percent of their investments this year, to a combined $1.2 billion. Bigger companies spending up to $1 billion cut 34.5 percent to $19 billion. The largest drillers with multibillion-dollar budgets cut 19.8 percent, to $69.2 billion. For the larger firms, $36 oil is far less daunting.

"It should be of no surprise that the majority of companies in every category called the economics of drilling poor," Cowen analysts said. "The one surprise was that there were both independents and majors who called the economics of drilling in the U.S. excellent."

Evercore ISI believes that by the end of 2016 the oil bust will have shaken out $200 billion in spending around the world.



AP file photo

The Keystone Steele City pumping station, into which the planned Keystone XL pipeline was to connect to, is seen Nov. 3, 2015, in Steele City, Neb. TransCanada has filed suit over the rejection of the Keystone XL.

TransCanada to file 2 legal challenges to Keystone rejection

By Juan A. Lozano
Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Canadian company that proposed the Keystone XL oil pipeline on Wednesday filed a lawsuit over the U.S. government's rejection of the project and announced it plans to file a second legal challenge that will seek more than $15 billion in damages.

TransCanada filed a federal lawsuit in Houston alleging President Barack Obama's decision in November to kill the pipeline exceeded his power under the U.S. Constitution.

The company also announced it will submit a separate petition seeking the billions in damages, alleging the U.S. breached its obligations under the North American Free Trade Agreement.

In November, Obama quashed the pipeline, declaring it would have undercut U.S. efforts to clinch a global climate change deal at the center of his environmental legacy. The president said he agreed with a State Department conclusion that Keystone wouldn't advance U.S. national interests.

"TransCanada has been unjustly deprived of the value of its multibillion dollar investment by the U.S. Administration's action," TransCanada said in a statement. "As the administration candidly admitted, its decision was not based on the merits of the project. Rather, the denial was a symbolic gesture based on speculation about the (false) perceptions of the international community regarding the administration's leadership on climate change."

In its lawsuit, TransCanada alleges Obama's decision exceeded his powers as president and infringed upon Congress' power under the Constitution to regulate interstate and international commerce.

The lawsuit does not seek any monetary damages but asks for a ruling that the denial of the pipeline permit was without legal merit and that the federal government officials named in the lawsuit not be allowed to enforce Obama's decision to not proceed with the pipeline.

TOMLINSON

From 1A

sit across a gulf that one side calls Persian and the other claims as Arabian. Today's leaders use religion to differentiate themselves more than language or ethnicity, with Iran's theocracy claiming leadership over Shiites, and the Saudi royal family claiming to represent the Sunni.

Not in dispute is that a third of the world's crude oil passes through the gulf every day, making it strategically important to more than just regional powers. That's why when Saudi Arabia's Sunni monarchy decided to execute a Shiite cleric, and protesters in Iran trashed the Saudi embassy, the world called for calm.

The Middle East also finds itself the object of superpower machinations because it holds the majority of the world's proven oil reserves. The United States backs the Saudi government, tries to maintain control over Iraq and wants allies to take power in Syria.

Russia, a major oil producer eager to assert itself, backs Iran and wants to maintain control over Syria. Iran and Saudi Arabia, meanwhile, are using proxies in Syria, Bahrain, Yemen and Iraq to maintain or supplement their economic and political leverage.

Yet geography, language and culture impose strict boundaries and limitations in this great game. Neither Iran or Saudi Arabia could successfully invade the other, so the only way to disrupt oil production in either country is with a terrorist attack on an export facility. But both governments recognize the threat, and they protect their facilities with great intensity.

The only other way to threaten the supply is to interfere with crude tankers transiting the gulf. An attack in the Strait of Hormuz, where the gulf opens onto the high seas, is a favorite worst-case case scenario. But the world saw Iraq and Iran attempt that in the 1980s without success.

The Tanker War lasted from 1980 to 1988, with Iraq attacking ships carrying Iranian oil first, and the Islamic Republic eventually retaliating. Kuwaiti tankers began flying U.S. flags in 1987, and U.S. warships protected them from Iranian attacks.

Despite the high-profile fighting, only 2 percent of the ships moving through the Gulf were affected, and of 239 oil tankers attacked, only 55 suffered irreparable damage. The price of oil initially spiked, but Iran lowered its prices to make up for the higher insurance costs, and global oil prices dropped dramatically while the fighting continued.

Today, Iranian leaders are banking on the world lifting sanctions this year that were imposed because of its nuclear program, and the government can't afford to risk new ones.

The majority of Saudi Arabia's oil also flows through the Strait of Hormuz, as well, and with oil prices down 70 percent and its army in Yemen, the Saudis need to keep the oil flowing.

The Saudi and Iranian governments are likely to pump more oil to bring in more revenue and compete for market share. Oil is a weapon that can only be used by suppliers on consumers. Suppliers can't use it on one another.

The only major political risk to the world's oil supply comes from internal instability. King Salman is approaching his first anniversary in power, and there is intense dissent within the royal family about where he and his son, Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, have taken foreign policy.

Rumors persist that King Salman suffers from senility, and there are anonymous complaints in British media from royal family members that his 31-year-old son acted rashly by invading Yemen and executing the Shiite cleric. King Salman turned 80 on New Year's Eve, and if he is incapable of ruling, palace intrigue could destabilize the monarchy at a time when religious extremists are eager to overthrow it.

That's the kind of geopolitical risk that could send oil prices soaring. Gamesmanship with Iran will not.

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

■ Yappy Hour — a social event intended to bring animal rescuers together, but is open to everyone. Dogs must be on leashes. The event is hosted by Freelance Rescuers. 6 p.m., Beer Garden, 7112 W. Highway 80. midlandbeergarden.com.

■ Bart Crow, 8 p.m., Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

■ Bourbon Street Comedy Show featuring local comedians. 9 p.m., Bourbon St. D.C. Free.

For more information on this weekend's entertainment scene, check out The Weekender in today's Reporter-Telegram.

Support groups, club meetings today

■ New Beginnings cancer support group, 8:30 a.m., Texas Oncology - Allison Cancer Center; 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Suite 100, 218-8714, fatima@giftsofhopemidland.org.

■ Children's Service League, 9:30 a.m., Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center; Brooke Mueller, 498-2053

■ Newcomers Club, 10 a.m.; Stephanie Sparkman at 684-8065 or Freida Robertson at 218-7239.

■ TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:30-7:30 p.m., Christian Church of Midland, 2609 Neely Ave. 694-8643

■ Permian Basin Chess Club, 6 p.m., University of Texas of the Permian Basin student union; Steve Dudley, 556-1920; Brian Farrell, 288-7141; pbcc.50gigs.net; odessachess@cableone.net.

■ Sun Country Gentlemen, 7 p.m., Rea Greathouse Room at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 553-1952 or 425-5662.

■ Bingo, 7-10 p.m., American Legion Post 19, 501 Veterans Airpark Lane, 682-5511.

MC spring semester

Midland College will have extended hours to accommodate students who will registering for the spring semester. The Welcome Center and Enrollment Services Center will be open 8 a.m.- 6 p.m. today, Jan. 13 and Jan. 14; 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Jan. 15 and 1-6 p.m. Monday.

Classes begin Jan. 19.

Community calendar

■ Midland's walking club and guests will walk or run Saturday in Monahans at the Sand Dunes State Park. There will be 5K and 10K events starting at 9 a.m. Registration for the "Resolution Run" is online with the Monahans Chamber of Commerce or in person starting at 8 a.m.

For more information or carpooling, call 697-4310 or email gpetersen3@suddenlink.net.

■ Mayor Jerry Morales is the guest speaker at the monthly Petroleum Museu's Brown Bag Lunch, which is 11:30 a.m. Jan. 19. Topic of his talk is Tall City Tomorrow, long-range plan for the city's development.

Those attending may bring their lunch. Drinks and dessert will be available. For more information, call 683-4403.

■ Lupe Valdez, who is running for a fourth term as Dallas County sheriff, will visit Midland on Saturday. The Midland County Democratic Party will host her at Martinez's Bakery, 206 E. Florida Avenue, at 1 p.m.

The event is open to the public. For more information, call 634-6081.

■ The Midland County Livestock Show is Jan. 14-16 at the Midland County Horseshoe. The event kicks off noon Jan. 14 with poultry and rabbit shows. The show continues on Jan. 15 with goat and lamb shows at 8 a.m., followed by steers and heifers at 1 p.m. The events on Jan. 16 are culinary arts at 10 a.m., pee-wee rabbit show at 12:45 p.m. and finally, the premium auction sale and awards at 1 p.m. A barbecue lunch, which is open to the public, will be served at 11 a.m.

For more information, visit midlandhorseshoe.com or contact Paula Morrison at pmmorrison14@gmail.com.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 3-4-1
Pick 3 day: 5-8-7
Pick 3 evening: 5-7-7
Pick 3 night: 3-5-5
Daily 4 morning: 7-8-5-7
Daily 4 day: 0-7-1-1
Daily 4 evening: 1-0-1-1
Daily 4 night: 8-0-9-0
Cash Five: 6-24-28-34-37
Lotto Texas: 08-16-39-44-46-52
Powerball: 02-11-47-62-63, Powerball: 17, Power Play: 3
All or Nothing morning: 01-02-06-07-08-11-12-17-18-22-23-24
All or Nothing day: 01-02-03-04-06-08-11-14-15-16-18-21
All or Nothing evening: 02-04-05-06-08-10-13-19-20-21-23-24
All or Nothing night: 02-03-04-05-13-14-16-17-19-20-23-24

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Trooper in Sandra Bland traffic stop indicted, fired

By Michael Graczyk
Associated Press

HEMPSTEAD — A Texas state trooper who arrested Sandra Bland after a contentious traffic stop last summer was fired Wednesday after being charged with perjury for allegedly lying about his confrontation with the black woman who died three days later in jail.

Trooper Brian Encinia claimed in an affidavit that Bland was "combative and uncooperative" after he pulled her over and ordered her out of her car. The grand jury identified that affidavit in charging Encinia with perjury, special prosecutor Shawn McDonald said Wednesday night.

Hours after the indictment, the Texas Department of Public Safety said it would "begin termination proceedings" against Encinia, who has been on paid desk duty since Bland was found dead in her cell.

Bland's arrest and death — which authorities ruled a suicide — provoked national outrage and drew the attention of the Black Lives Matter movement. Protesters linked Bland to other black suspects who were killed in confrontations with police or died in police custody, including Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, and Freddie Gray in Baltimore.

Video of the stop shows Encinia drawing his stun gun and telling Bland, "I will light you up!" She can later be heard off-camera screaming that he's about to break her wrists and complaining that he knocked her head into the ground.

Encinia's affidavit stated he "removed her from her vehicle to further conduct a safer traffic investigation," but grand jurors "found that statement to be false," said McDonald, one of five special prosecutors appointed to investigate.

She was taken to the Waller County jail in Hempstead, about 50 miles northwest of Houston. Three days later, she was found hanging from a jail cell partition with a plastic garbage bag around her neck. The grand jury has already declined to charge any sheriff's officials or jailers in her death.

The perjury charge is a misdemeanor that carries a maximum of one year in jail and a $4,000 fine. Encinia was not immediately taken into custody, and an arraignment date has not yet been announced. Encinia could not immediately be reached for comment; a cellphone number for him was no longer working.

Bland's sister, Sharon Cooper, told The Associated Press that Encinia's indictment was "bittersweet."

"We have always felt from the onset, from our viewing of the dashcam video, is what happened to Sandy was largely impacted by the fatal encounter that she had with Officer Encinia," Cooper said.

Cannon Lambert, an attorney for the family, said Encinia should have also been indicted for assault, battery or abuse of his official power.

"The public deserves accountability," Lambert said. "If you don't have public accountability, you don't have public trust. I want the public to be able to trust the police."

A look at fugitive 'affluenza' teen Ethan Couch's Mexico strategy

By Emily Schmall
Associated Press

FORT WORTH — A teenage fugitive who's known for using an "affluenza" defense at his trial for causing a deadly drunken car crash has won an injunction to stay in Mexico, but legal experts say any argument that his human rights have been infringed upon likely won't hold up.

Ethan Couch, 18, and his mother, Tonya Couch, were taken into custody last week in the Pacific resort city of Puerto Vallarta, where authorities believe they fled in November as Texas prosecutors investigated whether he had violated the terms of his probation.

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

The Couches fled shortly after a video surfaced in November that appears to show Ethan Couch at a party where people were drinking.

Couch is being held at an immigration detention center in Mexico City. His mother, meanwhile, awaits transfer to Texas from Los Angeles, where on Tuesday she waived her right to an extradition hearing.

Q: Why would Ethan Couch flee to Mexico?

Because human rights are protected in the Mexican constitution, American felons fleeing capital punishment or lengthy prison terms have treated Mexico as a refuge, said Washington, D.C.-based attorney Bruce Zagaris.

In 2005, though, the Mexican Supreme Court broke with legal tradition by agreeing to allow the extradition of criminal suspects who face life sentences abroad. Judges have refused extradition requests from the U.S. when the suspect faces cruel and unusual punishment, including the death penalty.

Zagaris said it's unlikely that such protections would be offered to Ethan Couch, though.

"Because of his money and power, it's hard for Ethan Couch to allege, as you normally would if you were a potential victim of human rights violations, that he's going to be subject to unusual and cruel treatment," he said.

It is unclear whether Mexico was the Couches' final destination, or what punishment they anticipated Ethan Couch would receive for violating his probation.

Q: What could Ethan Couch gain by delaying his deportation?

A federal judge could rule that he stays in Mexico on a permanent basis under court protection, but such a judgment is unlikely, legal experts said. While the judge considers his appeal, Couch will remain in the immigration detention center, which "buys time to prepare his defense" in the U.S.," said Javier Lopez de Obeso, a San Antonio attorney licensed to practice in Mexico who is not involved with the case.

Most likely, Lopez said, Couch will be deported back to Texas. Even if the judge rules in his favor, Mexican authorities are not likely to reject an extradition request from the U.S.

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

Tarrant County district attorney spokeswoman Samantha Jordan said delaying his return won't affect his probation or prosecutors' plans to request a transfer. "If the motion to transfer is not settled before his return there would be a hearing immediately after he's back to transfer, and he would still owe the balance of time on his probation term," she said.

IMPACT

From 1A

Ehl, owner of the gun customization shop Metal EFX.

"If you criminalize me selling you a gun out of my private collection, how do you monitor that? This really legitimately is a first step to a national gun registry, there's no doubt in my mind," he said.

Store owners particularly have taken issue with Obama's claim that "a violent felon can buy (a gun) over the Internet with no background check, no questions asked," as he tweeted on Tuesday. But as the law stands today, to do so would violate federal laws. When a private individual sells a weapon, it must be shipped to a nearby FFL holder, who is then required to conduct a background check when the buyer comes to retrieve it.

But these background checks sometimes are circumvented. In 2013, a New York Times analysis discovered evidence that through websites such as Armslist.com, firearms have illegally fallen into the hands of felons.

Illicit private-party transactions — whether online or at gun shows — have become known as the so-called "gun show loophole." In this situation, a buyer is not required to undergo a background check if they are purchasing from a private seller who is not considered to be "engaged in the gun business" and, therefore, does not have a FFL (for instance, someone selling from a private collection). Obama's new law comes short of closing that loophole, advocates say, but aims to narrow that loophole by limiting who can sell guns without a FFL.

"Obviously, there are private citizens who are legally allowed to trade firearms amongst themselves without conducting a background check if they're in the same state," Kolisek said. "The people who are buying and selling constantly are in the business of selling firearms because they are making money off it, and they're legally required to have an FFL."

But, overall, the measures will have little tangible impact on local businesses.

"I don't see anything else that will tangibly affect my business," Ehl said. "There's some language in there that's kind of scary. But there's enough there that I think we're all aware that this may affect how business is done (in the future)."

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Lacy wins award from JBS Public Leadership Institute

From staff reports

Lacy

Midland City Councilman J.Ross Lacy is among the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute leadership award winners for 2016. Lacy was named Shepperd Pathfinder, which recognizes Texas leaders, 21 through 40, who contribute early in their careers, according to a press release from the institute.

Lacy was instrumental in the passage of the city's texting-while-driving ban. He is president of the Midland Spaceport Development Corp. and serves as the council liaison on numerous city boards including the Airport Planning & Development Board, Permian Basin Airport Board, Parks & Recreation Commission, Zoning & Airport Zoning Board of Adjustments, Building Codes Review Committee and CDBG Committee.

The institute's other awards for 2016 are: Outstanding Texas Leader, Marilyn K. Gambrell of Houston, an advocate for children experiencing the trauma of parental incarceration; Outstanding Local Leader, R.E. Spradlin III of Kilgore, whose philanthropic and business endeavors have enhanced the quality of life in his community; and Shepperd Trailblazer (which recognizes high school student leaders), Asa Bishop, who is ranked No. 1 in his class at Presidio Early College High School.

Lacy and the other winners will receive their awards at the JBS annual Awards Banquet, planned for Feb. 27 at the Bob Bullock Museum in Austin.

Man charged in Texas slaying the lone suspect in judge shooting

Associated Press

HOUSTON — A man charged in a Houston-area fatal shooting is the lone suspect in the wounding of a judge in Austin who oversaw his probation in a 2012 fraud case, a prosecutor said Wednesday.

Chimene Onyeri is being held in a Houston jail on a murder charge, which is unrelated to the Nov. 6 shooting of state District Judge Julie Kocurek, who was wounded outside her home.

At a bond hearing Wednesday on the murder charge, Harris County prosecutor Justin Keiter said Onyeri, 28, is "the prime and only suspect" in the shooting of Kocurek, who was released from a hospital last month.

But Onyeri has not been charged in the shooting of Kocurek, defense attorney Samuel Adamo said, adding that Onyeri feels he is being "railroaded" for crimes he didn't commit.

"They didn't offer you any evidence about the proof in their case. It tells me that they don't have a lot of proof," in the shooting of Kocurek, Adamo said.

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The media must resolve to do better in 2016

■ Media should be less preachy, not intoxicated with its own self-importance

RUBEN NAVARRETTE
Washington Post Writers Group

The media are a mess. Their New Year's resolution should be to clean up their act.

This is hardly breaking news. I hear the indictment all the time. I might be giving a speech where I blast away at politicians. And, during the Q&A session, someone will often flip the script and lament what has become of my profession.

According to critics, the media are no longer the solution but part of the problem. We're biased and not even honest enough to admit it. We often become the story, and we love listening to ourselves talk. Half of us live in bubbles, and the other half in glass houses. And the reason we don't talk more about how far removed politicians have become from the American public is because we're just as distant, if not more so.

Instead of being content to just get readers, viewers and listeners to think, some of my colleagues need to control what they think. After all, we act like we're better, smarter and holier than most of our audience. With a mindset like that, what could possibly go wrong?

Remember when Ted Cruz brought down the house a few months ago during the GOP debate on CNBC? It happened when the Texas senator criticized the feckless moderators for asking questions that "illustrate why the American people don't trust the media." Even liberal comedian Bill Maher applauded, tweeting: "oh my god did i just hear Ted Cruz say something awesome that i agree with? Yes. The media is even stupider than the pols."

Among the most popular criticisms is that the media cannot be counted on to keep the powerful in check, because they are intoxicated with their own self-importance. They are convinced that they can make or break politicians, and they become discombobulated when they lose that power. They cover the wrong stories, and put ratings circulation figures before journalism. And, while they have always been accused of having a liberal bias, they now seem more preachy than ever.

Much of that helped fuel some of the worst media blunders in 2015. Here is a partial list.

■ In February, Brian Williams, the anchor of NBC's "Nightly News," was suspended after admitting to fabricating a story about his time covering the Iraq War. There were more cases of Williams spouting tall tales. NBC Universal CEO Steve Burke said in a statement: "By his actions, Brian has jeopardized the trust millions of Americans place in NBC News. His actions are inexcusable and this suspension is severe and appropriate." Williams was later replaced by veteran newsman Lester Holt.

■ In May, ABC's George Stephanopoulos, the chief host of "This Week" and co-anchor of "Good Morning America," apologized for not telling viewers or his bosses at the network about the $75,000 he had donated to the Clinton Foundation. The former aide to President Bill Clinton recused himself from next month's Republican presidential debate on ABC.

■ In August, Univision anchor Jorge Ramos infiltrated a Donald Trump campaign event in Iowa by posing as an objective journalist but, once inside, morphed into a commentator. Ramos interrupted the proceeding and, without being called on, failed to ask a question and instead made a speech. The newsman was removed by Trump's private security, although he was soon allowed to return and ask multiple questions.

■ In November, the website Gawker revealed that CNN global affairs correspondent Elise Labott had, in 2013, what can only be described as a cozy online relationship with Clinton State Department staffer Philippe Reines, who would freely suggest messages that Labott should tweet. She complied, and, at one point, Reines responded in an email that was later leaked: "Nice doing business with you."

■ And in December, to get in the holiday spirit, The Washington Post featured on its website a weird and offensive editorial cartoon depicting Cruz in a Santa Claus costume, acting as an organ grinder with his two daughters as monkeys. In response to criticism, the Post retracted the cartoon.

Clearly, these were not our finest moments. With each misstep, the Fourth Estate diminished its credibility, increased public cynicism and made it harder for our audience to trust us.

And to think, many people join the media to create a better world. We should aim closer to home and focus instead on being better at our jobs and creating a better product.

OUR VIEW

Shoe on other foot: Cruz gets to experience Trump's birther card

Donald Trump has concerns about Sen. Ted Cruz's Canadian birth.

Who didn't see this coming?

We think it's interesting that months after saying Ted Cruz's place of birth — Canada — wasn't an issue, Trump has a change of heart. Why? The lead Cruz enjoys in Iowa is likely one reason. Cruz standing as the No. 1 contender is another.

But there is a third reason. This type of bluster is what has attracted those who are solidly in the Trump camp. A poll in September from Public Policy Polling showed that more than 60 percent of Trump supporters are "birthers" — those who believe President Obama wasn't born in the United States. More than 60 percent also believe the president is a Muslim. Not surprisingly, Trump has gone after Cruz on religion — "not too many evangelicals come out of Cuba."

The playbook that Trump has used to climb to the top of the GOP presidential primary field is being used on Cruz. Why not? Republican voters allowed it to work before, which is the point. Republicans have to tell Trump "no more." They need to insist that he beats his opponent on the issues.

To his credit, Cruz responded appropriately. As the Associated Press reported, he "first reacted on Twitter, posting a link to a video from the 1970s television show 'Happy Days' showing the character Fonzie water skiing over a shark. The moment, known as 'jumping the shark,' has come to refer to the use of a gimmick to halt the decline of a television show or other effort."

He then said he was moving "on to the issues that matter."

At some point, the contests in Iowa and New Hampshire mercifully will be over. Republican candidates will moving south and heading toward the March 1 primaries that include Texas. They will talk more about issues that impact Texans. It is our hope that Ted Cruz's place of birth is not one of those issues. You should demand that Trump sticks to a different script.

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

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Barack Obama (D)
Address: The President, The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500
Phone: 202-456-1414
Website: www.whitehouse.gov/president

SENATORS
John Cornyn (R)
Address: 284 Russell Office Building, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510-4302
Phone: 202-224-0704
Website: cornyn.senate.gov

Ted Cruz (R)
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Suite SDB-40B, Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922
Facebook: www.facebook.com/tedcruzpage
Web: http://www.cruz.senate.gov/

REPRESENTATIVE
K. Michael Conaway (R)
Address: 511 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: 202-225-3605
Local-office address: 6 Desta Drive, Suite 2000, Midland, TX 79705
Phone: 687-2390
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Right doesn't have sense of outrage

■ The dividing lines of race, ethnicity and religion factor into when Republicans speak out and when they don't

EUGENE ROBINSON
Washington Post Writers Group

What do you think the response would be if a bunch of black people, filled with rage and armed to the teeth, took over a federal government installation and defied officials to kick them out? I'm pretty sure it wouldn't be wait-and-see.

Probably more like point-and-shoot.

Or what if the occupiers were Mexican-American? They wouldn't be described with the semi-legitimizing term "militia," harking to the days of the patriots. And if the gun-toting citizens happened to be Muslim, heaven forbid, there would be wall-to-wall cable news coverage of the "terrorist assault." I can hear Donald Trump braying for blood.

Not to worry, however, because the extremists who seized the remote Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in southeastern Oregon on Saturday are white. As such, they are permitted to engage in a "standoff" with authorities who keep their distance lest there be needless loss of life.

Such courtesy was not extended to Tamir Rice, the 12-year-old Cleveland boy who was playing with a toy gun in a park on Nov. 22, 2014. Within seconds of arriving on the scene, police officer Timothy Loehmann shot the boy, who died the next day. Prosecutors led a grand jury investigation and announced last month that Loehmann would not face any charges. A "perfect storm of human error" was blamed, and apparently storms cannot be held accountable.

Such courtesy, in fact, is routinely denied to unarmed black men and boys who are unfortunate enough to find themselves in the wrong place at the wrong time. You know the litany of names — Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Freddie Gray. And you know how these stories end. Just weeks ago, a Baltimore jury failed to reach a verdict in the trial of the first of six officers charged with Gray's death. Another perfect storm, I guess.

I probably sound cynical, but in truth I'm just weary. And worried.

Justice is supposed to be blind. Race, ethnicity and religion are not supposed to matter. Yet we're constantly reminded that these factors can make the difference between justifiable and unjustifiable homicide — and between life and death.

The yahoos in Oregon are protesting the Bureau of Land Management's policies, hardly a red-button issue for most Americans. The federal building they seized is in a wildlife refuge, which means that by definition it's in the middle of nowhere; the nearest sizable city is Boise, Idaho, about 200 miles away. The protesters' guns pose more of a threat to bears than people.

So no, I don't think authorities have any immediate reason to blast their way into the woods with a column of armored vehicles. But I would argue there was no good reason to do so on the streets of Ferguson, Missouri, either. Is the salient difference that the Oregon protesters are believed to be heavily armed? If so, what message does that send? Does somebody need to found a Minority Rifle Association so that communities of color are given similar deference?

The organization's name would have to be changed in a few decades, anyway, when whites in the United States cease to constitute a racial majority. This inexorable demographic shift, I believe, helps explain why the world of politics seems to have gone insane of late.

What I want is that African-Americans, Latino Americans, Muslim Americans and other "outsiders" be seen as the Americans we are. What I want is acknowledgement that we, too, have a stake in our democracy and its future course. What I want is the recognition that no one can "take back" the country — which happens to be led by its first African-American president — because it belongs to me as much as to you.

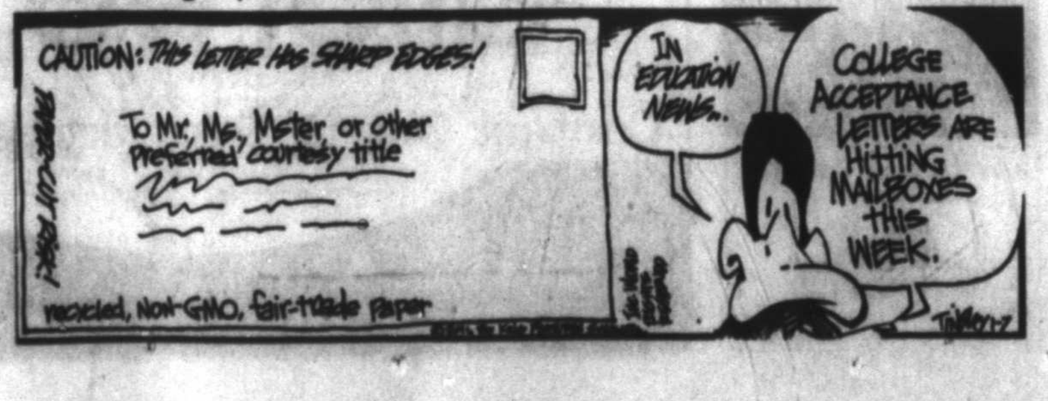
These are not the sentiments we're hearing in the presidential campaign, though — at least, not on the Republican side. Following Trump's lead, candidates are competing to sound angrier and more embittered. That's why I am so worried.

You'd think there might be at least a few prominent voices on the right expressing horror and outrage at the wrongful killing of a 12-year-old boy. You'd think that Republicans running for president might find the time to condemn the armed takeover of federal property by zealots. Yet all we hear is crickets chirping.

The GOP candidates have apparently concluded that voicing hope, embracing change and broadening our concept of the American mainstream constitute a losing strategy. They see Trump's success and mimic him in fostering a sense of "beleaguered" us versus "menacing" them. This may be an effective way to pursue the nomination, but it's a terrible disservice to the country.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Associated Press

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, left, N.H., recently questioned the eligibility of fellow presidential contender Sen. Ted Cruz, right, to run for office. Cruz is an American citizen but was born in Canada to an American mother and Cuban father.

Cruz's birth in Canada unlikely to cloud run for president

By Mark Sherman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It seems like only yesterday that skeptics of Barack Obama's birth in Hawaii rushed to the Supreme Court to try to block the son of an American mother and Kenyan father from taking office as president. The justices turned away those challenges as fast as they arrived at the courthouse door, much as lower courts did.

Seven years later, Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz is dealing with pointed remarks from rival Donald Trump that Cruz's birth in Canada to an American mother and Cuban father raises doubt about his eligibility to be president and could dog his campaign for the White House. Trump had also famously questioned whether Obama was really born in Hawaii.

Some answers to questions about the constitutional requirements to be president, and Cruz's situation:

Q: What does the Constitution say?

Article II sets out just three qualifications: The president must be at least 35 years old, a resident of the United States for 14 years and "a natural born citizen." This last phrase has periodically spawned questions about presidential candidates who were born, or rumored to have been born, outside the United States.

Q: Where was Cruz born?

He was born in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, in 1970, and has released his birth certificate to prove it. His parents were then working in the oil business. His mother, Eleanor, is from Delaware, while his father, Rafael, is a Cuban who became a U.S. citizen in 2005.

Q: Does that make him a citizen?

Yes, Cruz is a U.S. citizen. He also was a Canadian citizen until he renounced that in 2014.

Q: Shouldn't that be the end of the story?

The Constitution's phrase, "natural born citizen" isn't used elsewhere in the document or otherwise explained. It suggests to some people that only people born in the United States qualify as natural born, though many scholars reject that reading. It was speculation that Obama was born outside the country, even though his mother was American, that fueled the so-called birther movement.

Q: So what does "natural born citizen" mean?

It's hard to answer definitively because the issue has never been resolved by U.S. courts or by the political process. The most common explanation is that someone who is a U.S. citizen at birth — with no need to go through the process of becoming a naturalized citizen — is a natural born citizen. That's the case made last year by a pair of former top Justice Department officials, Republican Paul Clement and Democrat Neal Katyal, in the online Harvard Law Review Forum.

Under a law dating from the first Congress, which included men who drafted the Constitution, Cruz is a natural born citizen, regardless of where he was born, because his mother is an American, Clement and Katyal wrote. That understanding of the constitutional phrase is consistent with the framers' intent "to prevent someone who did not have a lifetime attachment to the United States from becoming president," said University of San Diego law professor Michael Ramsey.

Q: Then why is there any uncertainty about the phrase's meaning?

On Wednesday, Trump called on Cruz to seek a "declaratory judgment" from a federal court to determine his eligibility once and for all.

But because the Supreme Court has never weighed in on the question and is unlikely to, "it's the kind of question that the courts are almost allergic to and will stay away from if they can," said Temple University law professor Peter Spiro.

He said the issue falls into the category of political questions that courts prefer to let Congress and the president answer.

The consensus among legal elites makes court intervention even less likely, he said. One practical problem for challengers is the difficulty of showing they have been harmed, without which they have no right to be in court in the first place.

Q: Have the political branches addressed this issue?

When questions arose in 2008 about Republican nominee John McCain's eligibility to serve because he was born in the Panama Canal Zone, the Senate unanimously passed a resolution stating that McCain was a natural born citizen. Among the resolution's sponsors were then-Sens. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama.

POLITICSBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON

Obama expected to name new commander for Mideast

President Barack Obama is expected to put a special operations officer in charge of U.S. Central Command, the headquarters that oversees U.S. military operations against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria as well as the war in Afghanistan, a senior defense official said Wednesday.

The president's choice is Army Gen. Joseph Votel, commander of U.S. Special Operations Command, to succeed Army Gen. Lloyd Austin, the official said. The official was not authorized to reveal the choice and so spoke on condition of anonymity.

The unusual choice of a special operations commander to head Central Command aligns with Obama's heavy reliance on special operations forces in the intensifying war against the Islamic State, as well as the prominent role that the commandos are playing in Afghanistan a year after the U.S. combat role there officially came to an end.

Votel, 57, is a former commander of the 75th Ranger Regiment and a veteran of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He headed the secretive Joint Special Operations Command before becoming commander of Special Operations Command in 2014.

Austin, 62, is expected to retire. He took command of Central Command in March 2013 after serving as vice chief of staff of the Army.

WASHINGTON

Obama to focus final State of Union on 'big things'

President Barack Obama says his final State of the Union address will focus on the "big things" he thinks will make the country stronger and more prosperous.

At the risk of echoing leading Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, whose campaign slogan is "Make America Great Again," the White House on Wednesday released a brief video of Obama in a dress shirt and tie, perched at the edge of his Oval Office desk and casually talking about his vision for the speech he'll deliver from the Capitol next Tuesday night.

"Since I took office seven years ago, in the midst of crisis, I don't think I've ever been more optimistic about a year ahead than I am right now," he says. Obama notes that he's busy working on the speech but says he keeps thinking about the people he's met as president, the stories they've shared with him and the things they've done to "make change happen."

He says what's great about America is its capacity to "change for the better, our ability to come together as one American family."

"It's hard to see sometimes in the day-to-day noise of Washington, but it is who we are, and it is what I want to focus on in this State of the Union address," Obama says. "Not just the remarkable progress we've made, not just what I want to get done in the year ahead, but what we all need to do together in the years to come, the big things that will guarantee an even stronger, better, more prosperous America for our kids, the America we believe in."

He offered no clues about the "big things" on his mind. But in a note accompanying the video, White House chief of staff Denis McDonough lists some of the positive developments that Obama is likely to highlight in the address. Among them are a recent, long-term budget agreement with Congress, the Iran nuclear deal and the restoration of diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Increased domestic oil production, improved high school graduation rates, lower unemployment and increased access to health insurance are also mentioned.

The White House previously said Obama will deliver a "non-traditional" State of the Union speech that omits the usual legislative wish list, reflecting the reality and the limits on his final year in office. Much of what the White House and the Republican-led Congress could realistically achieve in an election year is already in motion, including discussions on criminal justice reform.

WASHINGTON

Congress sends health law repeal to Obama for first time

The GOP-led Congress sent legislation to President Barack Obama Wednesday repealing his signature health law, fulfilling a promise to Republican voters in a presidential election year but inviting a certain veto.

The nearly party-line vote in the House was 240-181. The legislation already passed the Senate last year under special rules protecting it from Democratic obstruction, so it goes straight to the White House.

Republicans boasted of a signal achievement, saying they were forcing Obama to face up to the failures of his law while illustrating the stark political choices voters face.

"We are confronting the president with the hard, honest truth," said Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin. "Obamacare doesn't work."

Democrats called it pointless political theater that will have the same ultimate outcome as the 61 previous repeal votes that were blocked in the Senate, since Obama will veto the legislation.

"A bill that is going to the White House, that will get the fastest veto we've ever seen happen in this country, is a monumental vote?" said Rep. Jim McGovern, D-Mass. "This is just a waste of everyone's time."

Democratic presidential front-runner Hillary Clinton has decried the repeal legislation while leading GOP candidates applauded it. Ryan and other GOP leaders acknowledged it will take a Republican president to get rid of the law. But they said that is the point.

"It is our opportunity as Republicans to lay out the choice for the American people," said Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers of Washington.

Cruz pushes back against pro-ethanol group in Iowa

By Scott Bauer
Associated Press

SPENCER, Iowa — Sen. Ted Cruz pushed back Wednesday against a pro-ethanol group in Iowa that claims he's softened his opposition to a renewable fuel subsidy as the Feb. 1 caucuses near.

Cruz has been asked about his opposition to the Renewable Fuel Standard throughout his six-day campaign swing through Iowa that runs through Saturday. Cruz has long called for phasing out the subsidy over five years as part of his plan to end all energy tax breaks, and authored a Senate bill in 2014 to end it by 2020.

On Tuesday, after being asked about his opposition to the subsidy at a campaign event in Cherokee, Iowa, Cruz said he wanted the five-year phase-out to run through 2022, the same year it's scheduled to finish currently. That would also be the earliest a five-year phase-out could end if Cruz were president, given that his term would begin in 2017.

Even so, the director of a pro-ethanol group that's been following Cruz across Iowa said Cruz's calling for the phase-out to run through 2022 is a "big step forward."

"Farmers and rural communities across Iowa are going to be encouraged by Sen. Cruz's remarks," said Eric Branstad, the son of Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad and director of the group America's Renewable Future. "He is clearly listening to the people of Iowa and understands the importance of the Renewable Fuel Standard to America's economy and energy independence."

Cruz said his position hadn't changed and Branstad's group, which has been running ads against him and vowed to mobilize caucus goers, was simply attacking him again with their release, which he said came from "a bunch of lobbyists and Democrats opposing me."

"The lobbyists are trying the best they can to snooker the people of Iowa," Cruz said during his stop Tuesday in Cherokee when asked about ethanol. "I don't want Iowa dependent on Washington."

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North Korea Q&A

WASHINGTON — North Korea's claim to have detonated a thermonuclear weapon in an underground test has raised worldwide worry about what really happened, whether the isolated nation is closer to being capable of hitting the U.S. mainland with a nuclear missile, and whether it brings war closer.

Some questions and answers about what the Pentagon called an "unacceptable and irresponsible provocation" that threatens peace in Asia.

Q. Why is this a big deal?

The weapon test, if confirmed, could mean North Korea is on a path to possessing a bomb of far greater destructive power than the types it detonated in three previous underground tests, in 2006, 2009 and 2013. So if the North Koreans were to field such a weapon, known as a thermonuclear or hydrogen bomb, then it could raise the stakes in a long-running struggle to reunite the Korean peninsula under its own terms. That, in turn, would force tough decisions on the United States, which has a treaty obligation to defend South Korea — with nuclear weapons if necessary.

On the other hand, North Korea is believed to already possess a number of atomic bombs and is developing longer-range missiles to deliver nuclear warheads.

Q. Might the North Koreans be bluffing?

That's a possibility. White House press secretary Josh Earnest said Wednesday that early U.S. analysis of the underground explosion is "inconsistent" with the North's announcement that it conducted a successful hydrogen bomb test. Private analysts also expressed doubts about Pyongyang's declaration. Anthony Cordesman, a defense expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the North might have tested an enhanced atomic weapon, rather than a hydrogen bomb, as a means of celebrating the rule of its leader, Kim Jong Un.

Q. What's the difference between an atomic bomb and a hydrogen bomb?

In technical terms, the difference lies in the manner in which they release energy. An atomic bomb uses nuclear fission, or the splitting of atoms, to create its energy. Hydrogen bombs use fusion, in which atoms are combined rather than split. The "H bomb" actually is a two-stage device that uses the implosion of a "primary" fission device of plutonium or highly enriched uranium to set off a "secondary" fusion component fueled with hydrogen isotopes. Details of the hydrogen bomb design are highly classified by the U.S. government.

A hydrogen bomb is vastly more powerful than an atomic bomb. Robert Norris, a nuclear historian, makes this illustrative comparison: The American atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, in August 1945 had a yield of about 15 kilotons, whereas a "starter" hydrogen bomb is 1,000 kilotons.

Q. How can the U.S. tell whether North Korea did test a hydrogen bomb?

The U.S. and the international community have a variety of means of analyzing an underground explosion, including seismometers that measure ground motion. Also, the U.S. Air Force operates aircraft specially equipped to detect tell-tale airborne signs of a nuclear explosion, and it operates a global network of nuclear event detection equipment called the U.S. Atomic Energy Detection Systems, which can detect nuclear activity underground, underwater, in the atmosphere or in space.

The U.N. Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization has monitoring stations around the world that detected radioisotopes from earlier North Korean nuclear tests. Lassina Zerbo, who heads the organization, said its monitors are looking for radioisotopes from Wednesday's explosion to determine that Pyongyang carried out a nuclear test — and whether it was a hydrogen bomb as Pyongyang claims.

Q. Is it reasonable to think the North Koreans could have graduated to the technical skill required to build a hydrogen bomb?

One way of looking at that is to compare how long it took other nuclear powers to move from the atom bomb to the hydrogen bomb. For the United States, which was first in both cases, it took 87 months, or more than seven years, to go from its first atomic bomb test in 1945 to its first hydrogen bomb test in 1952. It took China 32 months, or less than three years, according to Norris. North Korea conducted its first atomic bomb test in 2006, which some think was unsuccessful, followed by a second test in 2009 and a third in 2013. So it has been working on this for at least 10 years.

Q. If North Korea did obtain a nuclear weapon that it could attach to a long-range missile, would the U.S. have a way to defend against it?

The Pentagon has built a battery of ground-based missiles designed to knock down long-range missiles before they hit U.S. territory, and the system is configured specifically to defend against missiles launched from North Korea. But whether the interceptors would work as intended is anyone's guess. The interceptors are based in underground silos at Fort Greely, Alaska, and at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. But they have never been used in combat.

Associated Press

Associated Press

In photo taken Oct. 10, 2015, missiles are paraded in Pyongyang during the 70th anniversary celebrations of North Korea's ruling party's creation.

Calculated risk behind N. Korean H-bomb test claim

By Eric Talmadge
Associated Press

■ **ANALYSIS**

TOKYO — When North Korea hinted it had a hydrogen bomb last month — twice — it was largely brushed off as bluster. Now that it's claiming to have actually tested one, it is being taken a lot more seriously and a storm of outraged alarm, criticism and threats of sanctions are once again raining down on its head.

Mission accomplished? Quite possibly, from Pyongyang's perspective.

Skepticism remains high over exactly what was detonated Wednesday, but North Korea's ruling regime is probably the most adept in the world at calculating the benefits and risks of ratcheting up tensions and alienating even its closest allies to get what it wants. And what does it want? That's extremely hard to say since North Korea's other standout skill is keeping its real motives as murky as possible.

To much of the world, the reasons why the test was a bad idea seem obvious.

Pyongyang has almost certainly exposed itself to even tougher international sanctions on its already sputtering and underperforming economy. By ignoring China's efforts to discourage it from conducting nuclear tests, it has very publicly slapped its most important trading partner, and its key political cushion against the United States, in the face. It has strengthened the hand of its adversaries in the United Nations, who could push harder for punitive measures over human rights violations.

But at the heart of every decision the regime makes is one overriding concern: the survival of the regime itself, which depends on the glorification of its leader, Kim Jong Un, and the ability to keep at bay the United States and its allies, which Pyongyang considers to be an existential threat.

The North, officially the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, has long claimed it has the right to develop nuclear weapons to defend itself against the U.S., an established nuclear power against whom it has been in a state of war for more than 65 years. But to build a credible nuclear threat, the North must explode new nuclear devices — including miniaturized ones — so its scientists can improve their designs and technology.

Nuclear-tipped missiles could then be used as deterrents and diplomatic bargaining chips with the United States, which Pyongyang has long pushed to withdraw its troops from the region and to sign a peace treaty formally ending the Korean War.

"This test is a measure for self-defense the DPRK has taken to firmly protect the sovereignty of the country and the vital right of the nation from the ever-growing nuclear threat and blackmail by the U.S.-led hostile forces," the Korean Central News Agency said in a story announcing the detonation.

In a general sense, keeping the threat of invasion fresh in the minds of North Koreans is a tried-and- true method of bolstering unity and deflecting attention from other issues, such as the economy. Pyongyang's claim it was testing an H-bomb is also a classic move — what better way to boost the dramatic impact, and drum up national pride, than to trumpet that the North has a stronger, scarier weapon than ever before?

Hazel Smith, director of the International Institute of Korean Studies at the University of Central Lancashire in the U.K., said that on the diplomatic front North Korea does not worry about angering anyone.

"Every nuclear test that they've had has caused massive consternation in China," said Smith, who lived in North Korea in the late 1990s and early 2000s, working for the United Nations. "But the North Koreans have never been susceptible to letting China tell them what to do."

Instead, the North Korean government, she says, believes the military is the key to regime survival and that giving up nuclear weapons development — as Moammar Gadhafi did in Libya — simply leads to a government's downfall.

"The North Koreans are not led by diplomatic strategy anymore. They are led by a view that the military is what allows the regime to survive," she said. "You have a group of (ruling) families who don't want to see their power go, who don't want to end up in (the International Criminal Court in) The Hague."

By going ahead with the test, Kim — whose birthday is Friday — might well be playing to that domestic audience.

North Korea's ruling party, fresh off of a huge celebration to mark its 70th anniversary in October, will hold its first congress in 36 years in May. The event, strongly hyped in the North Korean media, will be watched closely by North Korean elites and North Korea watchers abroad for signs of whether the young Kim — still in his early 30s — will step out of his father's and grandfather's shadows and assert his own leadership more boldly.

If the international fallout from the test doesn't prove to be too unmanageable, having it under his belt could allow Kim to go into that meeting with bragging rights that neither of his predecessors had, along with a bolstered position among North Korea's powerful military and nuclear weapons bureaucracies.

John Delury, a professor at Seoul's Yonsei University, said Pyongyang has little going on diplomatically with Seoul and warming ties last year with Beijing did not go very far. The Obama administration, meanwhile, has made clear it isn't interested in improving ties with North Korea unless Pyongyang gives up its nuclear weapons program.

"So he takes a little bit of a blow" by infuriating friends and enemies alike, Delury said, but in return North Korea gets immense international attention, Kim can claim a major new weapon and powerful officials inside his own regime are placated.

Condemnation, doubt greet H-bomb announcement

By Foster Klug and Edith M. Lederer
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea's declaration that it had tested a hydrogen bomb for the first time was greeted with widespread condemnation — but also skepticism — as world powers vowed Wednesday to punish the impoverished and defiant nation with new international sanctions.

The isolated country's fourth nuclear test since 2006 was a "reckless challenge to international norms of behavior and the authority of the U.N. Security Council," said British Ambassador Matthew Rycroft.

The council met in an emergency session and called the test "a clear violation" of its resolutions. It agreed to start work immediately on a resolution for new sanctions.

The international community must respond with "steadily increasing pressure" and rigorous enforcement of existing measures, said U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power.

Four rounds of U.N. sanctions have aimed at reining in the North's nuclear and missile development, but Pyongyang has ignored them and moved ahead with programs to modernize its ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons.

The last sanctions resolution in 2013 was co-sponsored by the U.S. and China, and both countries will be key to an agreement on a new one. Whether any new sanctions can slow North Korea's nuclear program, however, remains to be seen.

There was a burst of jubilation and pride in North Korea's capital of Pyongyang, where a TV anchor said Wednesday's test of a "miniaturized" hydrogen bomb had been a "perfect success" that elevated the country's "nuclear might to the next level."

ABOVE LEFT: South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se, center, U.S. ambassador to Seoul Mark Lippert, left, and U.S. Forces Korea commander Curtis Scaparrotti head to their seats at Yun's office in Seoul on Wednesday to discuss concerted steps following North Korea's claim of a successful hydrogen bomb test. Pyongyang confirmed the test earlier in the day after an artificially created earthquake was detected in the North's eastern region near its nuclear test site. South Korea has strengthened military alert while the White House said it condemns any violation of U.N. resolutions banning nuclear tests by the North. ***Yonhap News/TNS***

ABOVE RIGHT: United Kingdom's Deputy U.N. Ambassador Peter Wilson address the press before attending a Security Council meeting on North Korea on Wednesday at U.N. headquarters. North Korea trumpeted its first hydrogen bomb test Wednesday, a powerful, self-proclaimed "H-bomb of justice." The United Nations secretary-general is condemning North Korea's announcement of its latest nuclear test, calling it "profoundly destabilizing for regional security." ***Associated Press***

A successful test would mark a major and unanticipated advance for the North's still-limited nuclear arsenal and push its scientists and engineers closer to their goal of building a warhead small enough to place on a missile that can reach the U.S. mainland.

But an early analysis by the U.S. government was "not consistent with the claims that the regime has made of a successful hydrogen bomb test," White House spokesman Josh Earnest said.

He added that nothing has happened in the last 24 hours to change Washington's assessment of Pyongyang's technical or military capabilities. The U.S. is still doing the work needed to learn more about the North's test, he added.

"We're trying to run down their assertion," U.S. Vice President Joe Biden told a local TV station in Virginia. "We are determining whether the claim is accurate."

Hours earlier, South Korea's spy agency said it thought the estimated explosive yield from the blast was much smaller than what even a failed hydrogen bomb detonation would produce.

South Korean lawmaker Lee Cheol Woo said he was told in a briefing by the National Intelligence Service that Pyongyang may not have conducted a hydrogen bomb test given the relatively small size of the seismic wave reported.

An estimated explosive yield of 6.0 kilotons and a quake with a magnitude of 4.8 (the U.S. reported 5.1) were detected, Lee said he was told. That's smaller than the estimated yield of 7.9 kilotons and 4.9-magnitude quake reported after a 2013 nuclear test, he said, and only a fraction of the hundreds of kilotons that a successful H-bomb test would usually yield. Even a failed H-bomb detonation typically yields tens of kilotons, the NIS told Lee, who sits on the parliament's intelligence committee.

A miniaturized H-bomb can trigger a weak quake, but only the U.S. and Russia have such weapons, Lee cited the NIS as saying.

"I'm pretty skeptical," said Melissa Hanham, senior researcher at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Middlebury Institute for International Studies in Monterey, California. "The seismic data indicates it would be very small for a hydrogen test.

"It seems just too soon to have this big technical achievement," she said. "But North Korea has always defied expectations."

WEEKENDER

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PERMIAN BASIN

WEEKEND TO-DO LIST

TODAY

DRINKS AND DOGGIES Freelance Rescuers host Yappy Hour for animal rescuers, animal lovers and even leashed dogs to this social event at Beer Garden, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY

FIND THE HAT Pagans Night Out Midland meets every second Friday. The social group will meet this week at Kamiposi, just find them by the hat. 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

DOUBLE IDENTITY Granger Smith's alter ego, Earl Dibbles Jr., takes over Graham Central Station in Odessa. 7 p.m.

MONDAY

SPEAK EASY Head to Barnes and Noble for West Texas Poets' and West Texas Talent's first free Spoken Word Workshop and get tips on performance, writing and editing. 1 p.m.

See complete schedule of weekend events on Page 2.

MOVIES

Films opening and closing this week at Midland theaters:

TALL CITY 14
Opening: "The Forest," "The Revenant"

CINERGY CINEMAS
Opening: "The Forest," "The Revenant"
Closing: "Joy"

BIG SKY DRIVE-IN
Opening: "The Revenant"
Closing: "The Good Dinosaur"

STAYING IN? Find out which movies are worth watching from the comfort of your couch. Page 4

COMING SOON

TEJANO TOUR A night of Tejano with the double-billing of Intocable and Duelo at Hacienda Event Center on Jan. 15.

Photos by Trent Johnson/Reporter-Telegram

James Hieb, above, and his father, Chris Hieb, below, will be the featured artists for Kamiposi's First Friday gallery showing. With prints, water colors and a number of other mediums, the Hiebs are bringing a wide variety of pieces to showcase, including a number of unseen prints from Chris Hieb's early days.

Kamiposi's 1st Friday showcases work by Hiebs

By Trent Johnson
tsjohnson@mrt.com

At 32 years old, James Hieb can still remember the days when his father, Chris Hieb, 57, would sit in the shed out back and paint with his grandfather while blaring music. The two would laugh and let the paint fly while undertaking what seemed to be an incredibly laid back process.

"He never really pushed me toward art," said James Hieb, who works as a tattoo artist at The Body Gallery in Midland. "He let me see that it was OK to make art and to follow that dream. I think it really harbored the idea of being free and being myself. It's just the idea that I was around it. That made it more influential that way."

On Friday, the father and son will be the featured artists for Kamiposi's First Friday gallery showing. With prints, water colors and a number of other mediums, the Hiebs are bringing a wide variety of pieces to showcase, including a number of unseen prints from Chris Hieb's early days.

"I've known Scott since we were teenagers, we came up making artwork together," James Hieb said. "I told him that I'd love to show some of my dad's art, because he's never gotten a chance to show a lot of his work, and I think it's really great. I wanted him to get out there and show the world what he can do."

Though the pieces are from the same family, there are more differences than similarities, James Hieb added.

As a tattoo artist, his style has become more

strict and precise, while Chris Hieb describes his as free and loose. Both agree that if the pieces were viewed without context it could be difficult to form the connection, but for them it's apparent.

"It's just a difference in style," Chris Hieb said. "They'll be able to distinguish between mine and his."

The whole idea was to kind of show the generation.

"Though things are different, to show the art inspiration came from somewhere and was influenced and encouraged by each other. It's cool to have my dad's stuff lined up right next to my stuff," the younger Hieb said.

Another contrast would be the period in which the works were created.

While Chris Hieb's art is an assortment of items he constructed in the past, a majority of James' was created within the past few years.

"It's just a cool concept," James Hieb said. "The father and the son show that illustrates the family artistry, and how it works in many different ways."

And while all of Midland will have the opportunity to see the works of these two artists, there is also an ulterior motive, at least on James Hieb's part. He said his hope was for the show to spur his dad toward creating more art.

Perhaps it's working, because after sifting through the piles and stacks of old creations, Chris Hieb said he began to feel the urge to get back to it, even making it his New Year's revolution.

"Hopefully people come away inspired," the Midland College director of publications said. "Yeah it's been awhile for me, but after going through all of that stuff and looking at it again, you know, it was all in piles, but I'm looking to get back to it."

WANT TO GO?

First Friday: The works of James Hieb and Chris Hieb. The opening reception includes refreshments and music and is open to all ages. 6 p.m. Friday at Kamiposi, 510 S. Big Spring St. facebook.com/kamiposi.

Husband and wife team bring laughs back to Midland in comedy show

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

The couple that laughs together, stays together — or something like that. At least that's the case for Justin and Ashley Tate, who have added magic to the equation.

As part of Prepare to Be Amused!, the two will head back to Midland from Las Vegas and to reprise their Buford and Bertha act from Summer Mummers on Saturday at Midland Community Theatre's black box stage.

"It's exciting to come back for the reason of performing and something that is a whole lot of fun," Justin Tate said. "It's great to entertain the people you care about."

The show, which also includes Midlanders Joe Thomason and Derrick Russell as emcee, is also the next progression for the Tates' characters. Buford and Bertha are a magic-comedy act, only this time, they are stepping it up from their five- to eight-minute skits in Mummers' Olio to a full-on set.

"With Olio, we tried

to tell a story in short time," Ashley Tate said. "Now we get to add in more and throw in more magic and more of our personality."

But Justin didn't want the usual magician and assistant act. Two years ago, Buford and Bertha were born, but instead of minimizing the female's role, the intent was to have them as equals. The characters are enhanced versions of him and Ashley, Justin said.

"Two goofballs who don't know how to do anything but entertain," he said. "And who better to share that with than the person who knows me the best?"

Six months ago, the two moved to Las Vegas to work and to seek out entertainment opportunities. Justin works in sales, while Ashley works in finance and is also a massage therapist. Without living the starving-artist life, they have been able to freely pursue their interests throughout the vast performing landscape of the city.

They connected with Prepare to Be Amused via its organizer, Joe Thomason, who co-starred with Justin last year in "Greater Tuna" at Midland Community Theatre.

"He wanted to keep that party going, and while we were all at Mummers, he brought up the idea. But we were already going to move," Justin said.

Home was apparently hard to resist and the two signed on.

"It is a great feeling and nice to be asked to come back to do it. So I'm really excited to get out there again. Now we got to deliver and make the audience laugh a little bit," Ashley said.

And by that, she means laugh a lot.

WANT TO GO?

Prepare to Be Amused! 8 p.m. Saturday at Mabee Theatre II (inside MCT), 2000 W. Wadley Ave. $15. Tickets available at the door or AJ's Boutique, 2215 N. Midland Drive.

Hip-hop pioneers bring old school game to Midland

By Trent Johnson
tsjohnson@mrt.com

Hip-hop was radically different 30 years ago. The language wasn't quite as colorful as today's artists. And the Internet has changed the game altogether, allowing for more independent artists to put their hat in the hip-hop game.

That all had to begin somewhere.

On Saturday, hip-hop pioneers and one of the original crude rap groups The 2 Live Crew will headline the 90's Bash at Hacienda Event Center.

Florida-based The 2 Live Crew has featured a number of lineups over the years, with its most success coming in 1989 with the release of "As Nasty As They Wanna Be," an album that garnered popularity among young listeners and vitriol by the American Family Association.

Founding member Chris Wong Won, aka Fresh Kid Ice, talked about the differences between now and the '90s and the group's impact on

Please see 2 LIVE CREW/Page 3

CALENDAR

ANCIENT IVORY EXHIBIT

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

ART & DANCE

First Friday: The works of James Hieb and Chris Hieb. The opening reception includes refreshments and music and is open to all ages. 6 p.m. Friday at Kamiposi, 510 S. Big Spring St. facebook.com/kamiposi.

Ancient Ivory Exhibit features more than 50 pieces of carved ivory on loan from the OS Ranch Museum. Through Jan. 22 at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Winter Art Exhibit featuring artists from ArtQuest, ArtiZen, Midland Arts Association and Palette Club of Midland as well as works by clients from Rays of Hope and MARC. The exhibit runs through March 15. The Gallery at Midland Shared Spaces, 3500 N. "A" St. midlandss.org.

"Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown" exhibition is organized by the Charles M. Schulz Museum in Santa Rosa, California. The exhibition contains reproduction comic strips, quotes by Schulz, memorabilia from "A Charlie Brown Christmas special" and more. Through Jan. 31. Durham Children's Museum, 3705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

"Apparat" features works by 13 artists. Through Feb. 14. Ballroom Marfa, 108 E. San Antonio St. ballroommarfa.org.

EVENTS

Yappy Hour is a social event intended to bring animal rescuers together but is open to everyone. Dogs are welcomed but leashes required. The event is hosted by Freelance Rescuers. 6 p.m. today at Beer Garden, 7112 W. Highway 80. midlandbeergarden.com.

Spoken Word Workshop will focus on performance, publishing, writing and editing. The event is a collaborative effort by West Texas Poets and West Texas Talent Entertainment. 1 p.m. Sunday at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 2617 W. Loop 250 N. Free.

FAMILY FUN

Old Miner's Maze interactive adventure features a maze, rock walls, mechanical bull and more. Winter hours: Fridays 5-8 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday noon to 6 p.m. 4305 N. County Rd. 1140. oldminersmaze.com.

GAMES & SPORTS

Friday Night Magic at Hastings, 3111 W. Cuthbert Ave. Fridays at 7 p.m. Free.

Hold 'em poker tournaments, 7 p.m. Friday at The Detour.

Senior bingo, 10 a.m. Fridays at Cimarron House.

Free skateboarding lessons, noon-1:30 p.m. Saturdays at RTD Skatepark. rtdskatepark.com.

Tabletop players group at Astral Castle, 2:30 p.m. Saturdays at 10 Meta Drive..

Family Nite roller skating, 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Sundays at KC's Nutty Roller, 1004 A Andrews Highway. kcsnuttyroller.com.

Live Trivia, 7 pm. Tuesdays at Basin Burger House.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 8 p.m. Wednesdays at Torino's. challengeentertainment.com.

MUSIC

Bart Crow, 8 p.m. today at Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

90s Bash featuring 2 Live Crew, 8 p.m. Saturday at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 State Highway 191. $27.37-$370.24. haciendamidland.com.

Earl Dibbles Jr., 7 p.m. Saturday at Graham Central Station, 4240 Preston Smith Road, Odessa.

THEATER, COMEDY & FILM

Bourbon Street Comedy Show featuring local comedians. 9 p.m. today at Bourbon ST. D.C. Free.

Prepare to be Amused will feature local comedians Joe Thomason, Justin and Ashley Tate and hosted by Derrick Russell. 8 p.m. Saturday at Midland Community theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. mctmidland.org.

Auditions: "Around the World in 80 Days." Midland Community Theatre will host auditions for the stage version of the famed Jules Verne novel. Casting for the lead character Phileas Fogg (male) and four actors (male and/or female) to play multiple roles throughout the show. The show opens Feb. 29 and runs through March 19. 6:30 p.m. Sunday and Monday at MCT, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. mctmidland.org.

COMING SOON

JANUARY

Kathleen Madigan, 7 p.m. Jan. 14 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $29-$39. wagnernoel.com.

J.B. and the Moonshine Band, 8 p.m. Jan 14. at Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Improv at the Yucca with local performers. The monthly event is intended for mature audiences. 8 p.m. Jan. 15 at The Yucca, 208 N Colorado St. $12-$15. mctmidland.org.

Intocable, Duelo, 8 p.m. Jan. 15 at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 SH 191. $35. haciendamidland.com.

Maximus, 7 p.m. Jan. 15 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

Wild Kratts Live will have two same-day performances. 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Jan 16 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $29-$34. wagnernoel.com.

Jake Pyeatt, 7 p.m. Jan. 16 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

Brown Bag Lunch and Lecture Series: Tall City Tomorrow with speaker Mayor Jerry Morales. Drinks and dessert provided. 11:30 a.m. Jan. 19 at The Petroleum Museum, 1500 W Interstate 20 West. Free. petroleummuseum.org.

2016 Season Kick-Off and Recruitment Night hosted by Basin Derby Revolution. The roller derby team is recruiting skaters of all levels, referees and non-skating officials as well as welcomes fans. Donations accepted. 6:30 p.m. Jan 20 at Odess Roller Rink, 4140 W. University Blvd,. Odessa. Free.

Jon Wolfe, 8 p.m. Jan 21. at Rockin Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

The Damn Quails, Jan. 22 at The Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St. facebook.com/thelonestarbar.

Winter's Magic: Third Anniversary Celebration of the I-20 Wildlife Preserve. The event will feature a hot chocolate bar, a session on building bird feeders and lessons on how to identify area birds. Binoculars, sturdy walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothing encouraged. Jan. 23. 2201 S. Midland Drive. Free. i20wildlifepreserve.org.

MOSC: Latent Emotions featuring John Madura on violin. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 23 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $22-$32. MOSC.org.

Dalton Domino, Roger Creager, 8 p.m. Jan. 23 at Fire Water Bar and Grill, 3113 W. Industrial Ave. firewaterbarandgrilltx.com.

The Oak Ridge Boys, Jimmy Fortune, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 25 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $38-$63. wagnernoel.com.

Family Science Night: Oceans. Families are invited to participate in science experiments and creative projects. Refreshments provided. 6-8 p.m. Jan. 28 at The Petroleum Museum, 1500 W. Interstate 20 West. Free. petroleummuseum.org.

Zane Williams, 8 p.m. Jan 28. at Rockin Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Midland on Tap craft beer festival features more than 100 samples of craft

BRET MICHAELS

breweries, live music and food. Jan. 29 and 30 at Commemorative Air Force Museum, 9600 Wright Drive. $20. americaontap.com.

Little River Band, 8 p.m. Jan. 29 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $32-$63. wagnernoel.com.

Vanessa Silberman, 7 p.m. Jan. 29 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

Jack Nelson, 8 p.m. Jan. 30 at Beer Garden at Garden View, 7112 West Highway. midlandbeergarden.com.

Camila, 8 p.m., Jan. 30 at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 SH 191. haciendamidland.com.

Midnight River Choir, 8 p.m. Jan. 30 at Fire Water Bar and Grill, 3113 W. Industrial Ave. firewaterbarandgrilltx.com.

Mountain Sprout, 9 p.m. Jan 30 at Blue Max, 7409 W. Industrial Ave. facebook.com/bluemaxrocks.

North by North, 7 p.m. Jan. 30 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

"Annie." 7:30 p.m. Jan. 31 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $49.50-$88. MOSC.org.

FEBRUARY

Agent Orange, In the Whale, 9 p.m. Feb. 3 at Blue Max, 7409 W. Industrial Ave. facebook.com/bluemaxrocks.

MOSC: Mozart's Magnificent Voyage, 4 p.m. Feb. 6 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $15-$9. wagnernoel.com.

Cody Bryan Band, 8 p.m. Feb. 4 at Fire Water Bar and Grill, 3113 W. Industrial Ave. firewaterbarandgrilltx.com.

Bruce Salmon, 7 p.m. Feb. 6 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

Hooking Up with the Second City, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $22-$42. wagnernoel.com.

Casey Berry, William Clark Green, 8 p.m. Feb. 11 at Rockin Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Bret Michaels, Big Casino, 7 p.m., Feb. 12 at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 SH 191. $40. haciendamidland.com.

Pepe Aguilar, 8 p.m., Feb. 13 at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 SH 191. haciendamidland.com.

Mark McKinney, Feb. 13 at The Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St. facebook.com/thelonestarbar.

SavannaH Jack, 7 p.m. Feb. 16 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $11-$35. liveonstage-pb.com.

Dancing with the West Texas Stars benefiting the Crisis Center. Feb. 20.

MOSC: From Winter Winds to Shades of Summer, 3 p.m. Feb. 21 at Rea-Greathouse Hall at Wagner Noel, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $15. MOSC.org.

Rosewood Thievz, 7 p.m. Feb. 20 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

Clifford the Big Red Dog: A Big Family Musical, 4 p.m. Feb. 21 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $19-$50. wagnernoel.com. $19-$50.

Trout Fishing in America, 3:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at The Yucca Theatre, 208 North Colorado St. troutmusic.com.

Ailey II, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 22 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $24-$44. wagnernoel.com.

Dian Ross, 8 p.m. Feb. 25 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $78-$112. wagnernoel.com.

Costello Country, 9 p.m. Feb. 25 at Graham Central Station, 4240 Preston Smith Road, Odessa.

Eric Sommer, 7 p.m. Feb. 26 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

Tao: Seventeen Samurai, 7 p.m. Feb. 28 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $24-$44. wagnernoel.com.

MARCH

"Riverdance - 20th Anniversary World Tour," 7:30 p.m. March 1 and 2 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $45-$88. wagnernoel.com.

Family Science Night: Mad Scientist. Families are invited to partricipate in science experiments and creative projects. Refreshments provided. 6-8 p.m. March 3 at The Petroleum Museum, 1500 W Interstate 20 West. Free. petroleummuseum.org.

MOSC: Mozart Requiem 7:30 p.m. March 5 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $17-$30. MOSC.org.

Mike Farris, 2:30 p.m. March 13 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $11-$35. liveonstage-pb.com.

MOSC: Permian Basin String Quartet perform the next in their Late Beethoven Cycle and will include Beethoven Op. 135 and Brahms Op. 51. 3 p.m. March 13 at the Rea-Greathouse Recital Hall at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $15. MOSC.org.

Permian Basin Comic Con X 2016 with announced guests Kevin Nash (from "Magic Mike" films and WWE wrestler), Verne Troyer (Mini Me from "Austin Powers") and Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. March 18-20 at Horseshoe Pavilion, 2514 Arena Trail. pbcomicconx.com.

Stomp, 7:30 p.m. March 31 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $40.50-$88. broadwayinthebasin.com.

APRIL

The Browders, 7 p.m. April 1 at Calvary Assembly, 508 S. Johnson Drive. thebrowders.com.

MOSC: Lone Star Brass performs "Odessa - From Russia to Texas." 3 p.m. April 3 at the Rea-Greathouse Recital Hall at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $15. MOSC.org.

Stringfever, 7 p.m. April 5 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $11-$35. liveonstage-pb.com.

MOSC: "Bravo Broadway" 7:30 p.m. April 9 at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $28-$48. MOSC.org.

MOSC: Voices of the Permian Basin performs "Put a Spring in You Step" 3 p.m. April 17 at the First Presbyterian Church, 800 W. Texas Ave. $15. MOSC.org.

"The Marriage of Figaro" by Permian Basin Opera. 7 p.m. April 23 at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $25. midlandoperatheater.org.

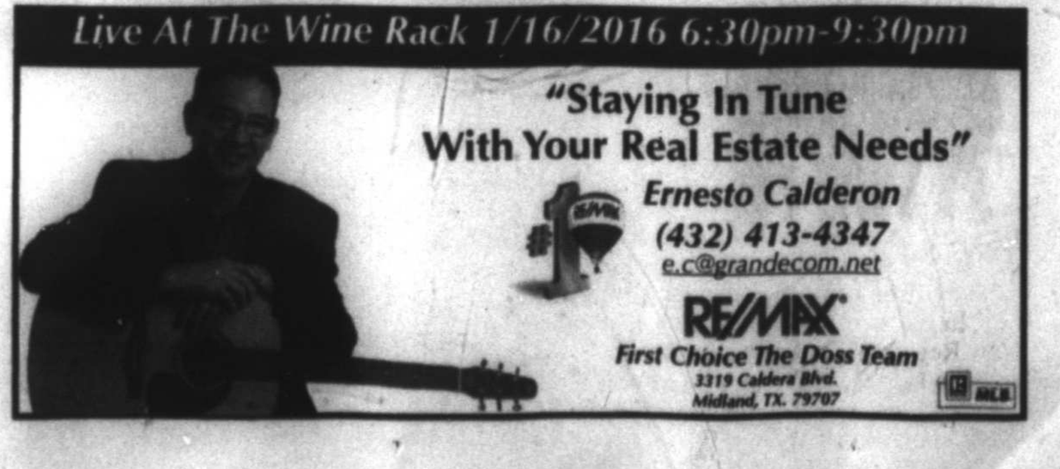
"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," 7:30 p.m. April 25 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $40.50-$88. broadwayinthebasin.com.

Matt Dusk, 7 p.m. April 26 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $11-$35. liveonstage-pb.com.

MOSC: Chorale performs "The Glory of Venice Music for Chorus and Brass," 7:30 p.m. April 30 at the First Presbyterian Church, 800 W. Texas Ave. $15. MOSC.org.

MAY

MOSC: "Feel the Force," featuring the music of popular science fiction films. 7:30 p.m. May 7 at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $28-$48. MOSC.org.



ON STAGE & SCREEN

'The Revenant' is brutal and beautiful

By Cary Darling
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

REVIEW

Everything you've heard about the bear is true.

The frenzied grizzly-on-man attack in "The Revenant," director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu's brutal and beautiful gut-punch of a film, is such an explosion of ursine rage that it is both hard to watch and fascinating (how did they do that?).

And that is "The Revenant" in a nutshell — a grueling portrait of nature and man at their most unrelenting and unforgiving.

Based on a novel by Michael Punke, which was based on the real experiences of 19th-century frontiersman Hugh Glass — a man who sought retribution against his compatriots who left him to die in the wilderness after a bear mauling — the film may be easy to knock as a self-indulgent showcase for DiCaprio and his Oscar ambitions.

But that would be selling it short. Combining the awe-inspiring vistas of a John Ford Western (it was filmed in rugged western Canada, Argentina and Montana) with the blood-soaked justice of a Sam Peckinpah film, "The Revenant" is a gorgeously shot exercise in survival and revenge that's definitely not for the squeamish.

DiCaprio is Glass, part of a group of hard-pressed fur traders somewhere in the wild, wild west. It's a large, unruly squad of men headed by Captain Andrew Henry (Domhnall Gleeson), the fair-minded but put-upon leader. An attack by Indians slaughters many of them and sends the rest fleeing.

Expert tracker Glass leads the way, but then he runs across that bear. The rest of the group is left with the decision of carrying a nearly dead Glass, and thus slowing them down, or leaving him alone to let nature finish what the bear started.

Glass' son, Hawk (Forrest Goodluck), whose mother is Indian, doesn't want him left behind, but he's not taken seriously by the group. The only reason he's around is because of who his father is, and he is outweighed by cantankerous and scarred John Fitzgerald (a nearly unrecognizable Tom Hardy), a man who just wants to get paid and get out of there.

What no one expects is that Glass would not just survive but thrive on the thirst of payback.

It's a riveting story, made all the more persuasive by Inarritu's quest for realism. Much has been made of the physically demanding shoot that had many on the production quitting. According to The Hollywood Reporter, the set was called "a living hell" by one crew member.

All that effort shows onscreen. The actors look as if they really have been fighting for their lives, and DiCaprio turns in a visceral, unforgettable performance.

Celebrated cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezki ("Gravity," "The Tree of Life") turns the West into a series of striking tableaux that rival Ansel Adams.

Meanwhile, Inarritu has created a panoramic, foreboding natural world that's completely the opposite of the claustrophobic, backstage theatricality of his last film, "Birdman." Whereas that movie was all about language, much of the beauty of "The Revenant" is in the way it uses silence.

The director also deserves a nod for not making the Indians faceless, violent villains as that opening attack implies. Their back story gets filled in during the 156-minute running time and their motives become clear.

"The Revenant" is shot through with a spirituality, as when Glass stumbles across an Indian, Hikuc (Arthur Redcloud), who helps heal him.

While comparisons are inevitable to "The Hateful Eight," this year's other long, violent Western about people trying to kill each other, "The Revenant" lacks Quentin Tarantino's tongue-in-cheek sensibilities — and it's all the better for it.

Inarritu keeps it straight, simple and deadly. Just like the bear.

4.5 out of 5 stars
Director: Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu
Cast: Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hardy, Domhnall Gleeson
Rated: R (strong frontier combat and violence including gory images, sexual assault, language, brief nudity)
Running time: 156 min.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

'The Revenant' likely to see solid nationwide debut

By Ryan Faughnder
Los Angeles Times

'THE REVENANT'

LOS ANGELES—The new Leonardo DiCaprio revenge epic "The Revenant" is likely to enjoy a solid nationwide debut at the box office, though it won't dethrone "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," which is headed for its fourth straight weekend atop the charts in the U.S. and Canada.

"The Revenant," directed by 2015 Oscar winner Alejandro G. Inarritu, could gross $20 million or more through Sunday, according to people who have reviewed pre-release audience tracking surveys.

That's not a huge number for a movie that cost an estimated $135 million to make and endured significant challenges during production, including a lack of much-needed snow in its Canadian shooting location that forced the filmmakers to relocate to Argentina.

But widespread critical praise and sustained awards chatter for "The Revenant" should keep people coming to the theaters well after its debut weekend, analysts said.

DiCaprio — playing a frontiersman who's mauled by a bear and left for dead by his team of fur trappers — is up for best actor (drama) at Sunday night's Golden Globes. The 19th century western adventure has picked up three other Golden Globe nods for director, picture and original score. Awards analysts are closely watching the campaign for DiCaprio, who has been nominated for four acting Oscars but has never won.

"We're pretty optimistic about it, but not too optimistic," said Shawn Robbins, an analyst at BoxOffice.com. "There's been so much buzz around (DiCaprio's) performance. This is really his movie to sell."

"The Revenant's" commercial prospects could also benefit from the pedigree of Inarritu, who directed last year's Best Picture Oscar winner "Birdman," and costar Tom Hardy. Distributor 20th Century Fox gave the R-rated movie an awards-qualifying run in four theaters starting Christmas Day, where it has grossed a strong $1.4 million so far.

Arnon Milchan's entertainment company New Regency co-financed the production, with additional funding from firms including RatPac Entertainment. New Regency, headquartered in Los Angeles, is hoping to repeat the success of its previous awards contenders including "Birdman" and the 2014 Best Picture victor "12 Years a Slave."

Meanwhile, "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," the seventh film in the Lucasfilm franchise, should gross $45 million to $50 million Friday through Sunday, adding to its already massive total.

The Walt Disney Co. blockbuster had raked in $750.2 million in ticket sales from the U.S. and Canada as of Monday, making it the second-highest-grossing movie of all time in those countries (not adjusting for inflation) behind only 2009's "Avatar." The J.J. Abrams-directed space opera should comfortably pass "Avatar's" record of $760.5 million this week.

The global total so far for the latest "Star Wars" film stands at more than $1.53 billion. That's the fourth-biggest worldwide box-office take ever, behind "Avatar," "Titanic" and "Jurassic World." It should add substantially to that haul when it opens in China, the world's second-largest film market, on Jan. 9.

"Star Wars" is expected to finally yield the No. 1 domestic position next week when Universal Pictures releases the Kevin Hart-Ice Cube buddy-cop sequel "Ride Along 2."

Focus Features is also introducing its new horror film "The Forest," starring "Game of Thrones" actress Natalie Dormer. Aimed at younger females and Latino moviegoers, the PG-13 supernatural scary flick is expected to gross $10 million or less through Sunday.

The newcomers will have to contend not only with "Star Wars" but with a stable of holdovers including Quentin Tarantino's "The Hateful Eight" and the Will Ferrell-Mark Wahlberg comedy "Daddy's Home."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

2 Live Crew

From Page 1

hip-hop.

MRT: How is the music industry different now, specifically in rap and hip-hop?

Won: It's totally different. It's more Internet savvy. In the early days, we had to ship records out to the DJs. Now, once you post everything on iTunes, it's easy to get it to the people. Back then DJs were great at breaking new records. If you listen to the radio now, you're listening to the same song, same producer and the same format. Everything sounds the same on the radio, every hour on the hour.

I like the old school, because that's the golden age of hip-hop. Everybody had their own identity, and everyone was in their own mold. Now it's formulaic. It makes no difference who you have rapping because they all sound the same. They don't understand why rap was invented and how it was used back in the day for everyone to get their point of view across.

MRT: What do you think the impact of The 2 Live Crew was?

Won: Well, The 2 Live Crew was put here for a reason. If it wasn't for the struggles of 2 Live Crew, there wouldn't be the censorship and parental advisory stickers. We broke more ground than people realize. We put our livelihood on the line to push the boundaries of censorship. If 2 Live Crew didn't make the music and win the cases, everything you hear today would be kiddie music. Most artists would be underground and not be able to say what they really want to say. The 2 Live Crew was pivotal in that.

MRT: This year, there was the biopic "Straight Outta Compton" about N.W.A. Would there be a possibility for a movie about The 2 Live Crew?

Won: Right now, there's a script written based on my autobiography "My Rise 2 Fame." There are things being shopped around, and hopefully one day there will be a 2 Live Crew movie. I'd like to see it happen, but it has to be told correctly. Because, having different members, everybody seems to go one way or the other. Our hype-man (Luther Campbell) had the most credit, but we were making music and had a label in California before we even met him and moved to Miami.

MRT: In the late '80s and early '90s, people thought your music was misogynistic and offensive. Now you have a family and grandchildren. How do you find it to share your music with them?

Won: Hip-hop music is pop culture. What we were saying back then is nothing like today. I show my grandkids the clean versions of what I used to do, so later on they know that I was an entertainer.

MRT: You're 51 now and still performing. How are shows for you in these days?

Won: Sometimes it gets old and tiring due to the fact that I'm getting up there in age. But to see the smiles on fan's faces and everything keeps me going. It's different, but people will always love the feel-good music. We don't make thug music or gangster music. There's a lot of negative things going on today, so what we try to do is take the problems away. We have been having a lot of success with the old school shows. Once people find out The 2 Live Crew is coming, they take off for that night, they show up and have a good time. Our crowds are usually 25 and older, but we get some young kids too. People still show up.

WANT TO GO?

The 90s Bash featuring The 2 Live Crew, 8 p.m. Saturday at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 State Highway 191. $27.37–$370.24 . haciendamidland.com.

Merry Christmas Charlie Brown

Exhibition on view in the Durham Children's Museum through Sunday, January 31

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Organized by the Charles M. Schulz Museum in Santa Rosa, CA. Made possible by Kelly Hart & Hallman LLC and Mauri & Doug Scharbauer, with support from the Kinder Morgan Foundation and Midland College Students in Philanthropy.

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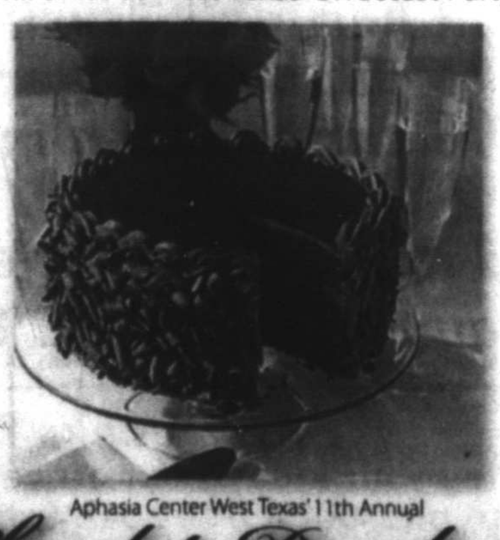

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ON SCREEN

'BONE TOMAHAWK'

Supernatural element adds to impact of Western saga

Reeled & Stream

By Nancy Adamson | nadamson@mrt.com

PICK O' THE WEEK

"Bone Tomahawk" (not rated) There's an enormous amount of comfort in seeing Kurt Russell pin on a badge, strap on a six-shooter and return to the Old West. But there's something different about this saga: a supernatural element that enhances the "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon" similarities. Fans of traditional genre films might be perplexed but all should still enjoy this film that's a departure from the norm. **A**

ICK! O' THE WEEK

"Heist" (R) This film has a lot of nerve calling itself "Heist." OK, there is a robbery of sorts, but the bulk of the film is focused on a runaway bus full of hostages. Sound familiar? Trying to blend "Speed" and "Ocean's Eleven" without any of the intrigue, originality or skills from those franchises is the unfortunate result. **D**

MORE REVIEWS

"Haunting at Foster Cabin" (unrated) Lame horror fare filled with so much gratuitous nudity that I suspect the filmmakers were junior high school boys more interested in seeing boobies than in actually making a movie. **F**

"Hitman: Agent 47" (R) Although I enjoyed this film a bit more than the 2007 original, fanboys apparently did not. It's a film series based on a video game so I didn't expect much, and other than a couple of nifty action sequences, I got exactly what I expected. **B-**

"Hope Bridge" (unrated) Sentimental, self-important — thanks to a message from the filmmakers talking on the DVD bonus features about how their effort will save lives — film is so bad it might have the opposite affect as I found myself looking for a way to end it all about halfway through. The solution, fortunately, was to simply turn it off. **F**

"Infected" (unrated) Despite a slow start and a runtime of nearly two hours, this British zombie film was rather, um, infectious. **C+**

"The Perfect Guy" (PG-13) Although largely predictable, there is a surprise or two awaiting those who like the romance-gone-wrong thrillers without watching "Fatal Attraction" again. **C**

"Shanghai" (R) This 2010 film has been denied to American audiences, which is usually a sign that the movie is so bad it goes straight to video so producers can recoup some of their investment. In this case, though, the rumor mill blames producer Harvey Weinstein for purposely withholding the film for other reasons. Whatever the case, this film set in China a couple of months before the bombing of Pearl Harbor is by no means great, but the attention to detail and the story are noteworthy. **C-**

"Sicario" (R) Easily one of the best films of the year, it's shocking to see it wasn't nominated for any Golden Globe awards. Hopefully, Oscar gives its cast — notably Emily Blunt and Benicio Del Toro — the attention it deserves. **A**

WHAT'S HOT AT REDBOX

he Top 10 DVD rentals at Redbox kiosks for the week of Dec. 28:

1. Perfect Guy — Sony
2. Trainwreck — Universal
3. Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation — Paramount
4. Pan — Warner
5. Ant-Man — Disney
6. War Room — Sony
7. Vacation (2015) — Warner
8. Heist — Lionsgate
9. Jurassic World — Universal
10. Max — Warner

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FILM CAPS

"Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip" (PG) A mix of live action and CGI-animated silliness that is harmless, zippy, candy-colored fun. Written by Randi Mayhem Singer and Adam Sztykiel. Directed by Walt Becker.

"The Big Short" (R) Angered by the greed of corporations and anticipating the housing bubble, Christian Bale, Steve Carell, Ryan Gosling and Brad Pitt set out to make the big banks pay. With Finn Whitrock, Marisa Tomei, Karen Gillan and Melissa Leo. Written by Charles Randolph and Adam McKay, based upon the book by Michael Lewis. Directed by McKay.

"Creed" (PG-13) In the hands of director Ryan Coogler and star Michael B. Jordan, what is nominally a spinoff of the celebrated "Rocky" series plays like a spiritual remake of the 1976 film that retells the original story in the kind of involving way one would not have thought possible. Wrtten by Coogler.

"Daddy's Home" (PG-13) In its best moments, it's a sly expose of the frailties of the contemporary male self-image and in its lesser moments a simplistic slapstick. This being a Will Ferrell comedy, sometimes those moments are one and the same. Written by Brian Burns. Directed by Sean Anders.

"The Forest" (PG-13) Despite dire warnings, a young American enters Japan's Aokigahara Forest in search of her missing sister and encounters the malevolent souls of the dead. With Natalie Dormer, Taylor Kinney, Eoin Macken and Yukiyoshi Ozawa. Written by Sarah Cornwell and Nick Antosca, based on an idea by David S. Goyer. Directed by Jason Zada.

"The Good Dinosaur" (PG) The latest Pixar event is antic and unexpected as well as homiletic, rife with subversive elements, wacky critters, and some of the most beautiful landscapes ever seen in a computer-animated feature. Co-written by Peter Sohn, Erick Benson, Meg LeFauve, Kelsey Mann and Bob Peterson. Direecte by Sohn.

"The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2" (PG-13) Jennifer Lawrence is back for the fourth and final film in the YA franchise, which pits Katniss and friends against President Snow as they attempt to liberate the citizens of Panem. With Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Woody Harrelson, Elizabeth Banks, Julianne Moore, Philip Seymour Hoffman and Donald Sutherland. Written by Peter Craig and Danny Strong, adaptation by Suzanne Collins, based upon her novel, "Mockingjay." Directed by Francis Lawrence.

"Joy" (PG-13) David O. Russell reunites with stars Jennifer Lawrence, Bradley Cooper and Robert De Niro in this intergenerational story of a young woman who founds a business dynasty based on a cleaning product. With Édgar Ramirez, Diane Ladd, Virginia Madsen and Isabella Rossellini. Story by Annie Mumolo and Russell. Directed by Russell.

"Krampus" (PG-13) A family's lack of Christmas spirit triggers the onslaught of a dark force and his minions. With Adam Scott, Toni Collette, David Koechner and Conchata Ferrell. Co-written by Michael Dougherty, Zach Shields and Todd Casey. Directed by Dougherty.

"The Revenant" (R) Oscar-winning director Alejandro Innaritu is up to his old pretentious tricks, but his wilderness survival tale is saved by a potent performance by Leonardo DiCaprio and brilliant cinematography by Emmanuel Lubetzki.

"Sisters" (R) Tina Fey and Amy Poehler star as out-of-touch siblings who return to clean out their childhood home when their parents decide to sell and throw one last party for old times' sake. With Maya Rudolph, John Leguizamo, Dianne Wiest and James Brolin. Written by Paula Pell. Directed by Jason Moore.

"Star Wars: The Force Awakens" (PG-13) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill and Carrie Fisher return for the latest installment of the space saga as it kicks off another trilogy set in a galaxy far, far away. With Adam Driver, Oscar Isaac, Lupita Nyong'o, Andy Serkis, Domhnall Gleeson, Anthony Daniels, Peter Mayhew and Max Von Sydow. Written by J.J. Abrams & Lawrence Kasdan. Directed by Abrams.

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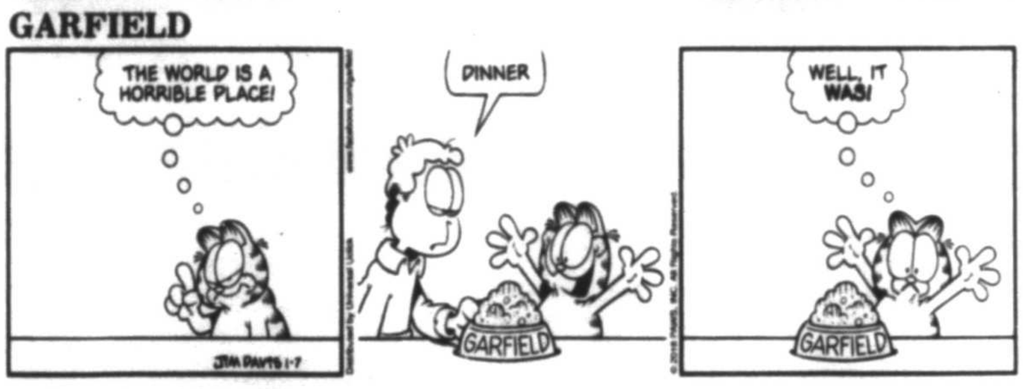


PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

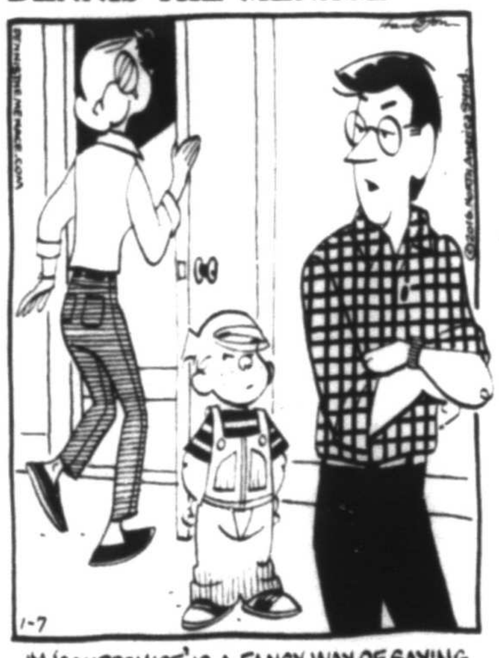
BABY BLUES

MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME

"Psst! Look what I snuck past those bonebrains!"

DENNIS THE MENACE



"A 'COMPROMISE' IS A FANCY WAY OF SAYING 'DO WHATEVER YOUR MOM WANTS.'"

LOCKHORNS

"GRUMPY CAT IS HIS MUSE."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"I'm third in command after you and then Daddy, except when Grandma is here. Right, Mommy?"

DINING

ADDIE'S DINER
304 E. Florida Ave. | 686-2044

EDDIE'S CATFISH COMPANY
301 N. Lee St. | 684-4422

STRAWBERRY FIELDS CAFE
2311 W. Wadley Ave. | 684-5869

AMERICAN & GRILL

ADDIE'S DINER Great burgers and salads with a '50s diner vibe. Chicken fried steak or steak fingers, chicken fried chicken or chicken fingers, fried catfish, hamburger steak and grilled pork chop entrees. Breakfast until 10:30 a.m. 304 E. Florida Ave., 686-2044 | $ | 4 spoons

BUFFALO WILD WINGS Grill and Bar Sports bar with more than 40 TVs inside serves wings, burgers, sandwiches and snacks. Try one of the wraps with your choice of more than 14 sauces. Smoking allowed inside. 5107 W. Wadley Ave. 694-9400 | $ | 3 spoons

BUSH'S CHICKEN Save room for the red cinnamon apple pie for dessert. Fried chicken with traditional sides, iced tea by the gallon. Three-lane drive through. 2210 N. Big Spring St. 687-7090 www.bushschicken.com | $ | 3 spoons

THE CAFÉ AT CRESTVIEW Quiet cafe inside Crestview Baptist Church is open to the public and serves fabulous desserts. Sandwiches, soups, burgers, Tex-Mex dishes. 301 N. Loop 250 West. 681-8200 www.crestviewmidland.org | $ | 3 spoons

CAFÉ AT THE GARDENS Want to feel like you've left West Texas? Enjoy a cup of soup next to a koi pond inside a green house. Sandwiches and burgers on freshly baked bread, quiche, salads. Open for dinner and drinks on Thursday night. 3300 Fairgrounds Road. 687-1478 www.alldredgegardens.com | $ | 4 spoons

CLEAR SPRINGS CAFE One of the few places in Midland specializing in seafood claims to have the best onion rings and catfish in "Texas, the World and the known Universe." This Texas chain also has locations in Tyler, New Braunfels, Nacogdoches and San Antonio. Seafood, steaks, burgers, salads. 5707 Andrews Highway 522-1188 www.clearspringscafe.com | $$ | 3 spoons.

COTTON PATCH CAFE Casual dining chain restaurant off of Loop 250. Specials include fried catfish. Soups, salads, steaks. 2320 W. Loop 250 N. 618-0070. www.cottonpatch.com | $ | 2 spoons.

CRACKER BARREL Breakfast all day. Chicken and dumplings, meatloaf, smoked ham, fried fish. Old Country Store sells candy, toys, rocking chairs, decorative items. 3108 N. Loop 250 West. 689-3137 www.crackerbarrel.com | $ | 3 spoons

DENNY'S Open 24 hours a day, Denny's is one of very few options for people looking to grab a bite to eat at 3 a.m. Breakfast, burgers, snacks, pies and coffee. 3701 W. Wall St. 520-5306 www.dennys.com | $ | 2 spoons

EDDIE'S CATFISH COMPANY When you open a catfish restaurant, why mess around with anything else. Except maybe fried shrimp, french fries, hush puppies, coleslaw and onion rings. That's the menu at Eddie's Catfish Company. All you have to do is decide how many pieces you want. 301 N. Lee St. 684-4422. www.eddiescatfishco.com | $ | 3 spoons.

GRAHAM PHARMACY Refreshingly simple menu makes this a hot spot for lunch. Good luck finding a parking space. Try the pimento cheese sandwich and treat yourself to homemade fudge for dessert. 1601 W. Wall St. 684-5756 www.grahampharmacy.com | $ | 3 spoons.

JOJO'S EATERY Possibly the best desserts in town. Buy pies and cakes by the slice or take one home. Oh yeah, and the sandwiches, salads and burgers aren't bad either. Downtown inside the Petroleum Building. 214 W. Texas Ave. 682-3134 | $ | 3 spoons.

LORI'S CAFÉ Homestyle, diner cooking with a few surprises like wild boar sausage served with two eggs and toast. Breakfast items, lunch menu. Lori's uses locally-sourced food when available. 2201 W. Wall St. 570-1701 www.loriscafe.net | $ | 3 spoons.

THE RANCH HOUSE Stop by for a sandwich or pick up a whole ham or turkey for holidays. Sandwich options include chicken or tuna salad, turkey breast, peppered beef or ham, honey glazed ham, smoked brisket and barbecue. 5103 W. Wadley Ave. 699-0695 www.goldenglazedhams.com | $ | 3 spoons.

STANTON DRUG AND OLD-FASHIONED SODA FOUNTAIN Drive about a half-hour away from Midland for a hamburger or sandwich at Stanton Drug Store. Get there early. The owners close shop when they run out of meat for the day. 201 N. St. Peter, Stanton. 432-756-3731 | $ | 3 spoons

STRAWBERRY FIELDS CAFE Try the Santa Fe wrap. All organic menu with daily specials, sandwiches, wraps, smoothies. Soup and salad bar. If you can't find a table or need a quick lunch, check out the section of foods 'to go' inside the Natural Foods Market. 2311 W. Wadley Ave. 684-5869 www.naturalfoodsmkt.com | $ | 4 spoons

TATER WORLD The menu centers around this local restaurant's namesake. If you're hungry, go for the huge baked potatoes stuffed with brisket or steak. The menu has more than just potatoes. Ask around town and you'll hear Tater World has some of the best catfish in Midland. 802 S Garfield St. 682-9111 | $ | 4 spoons

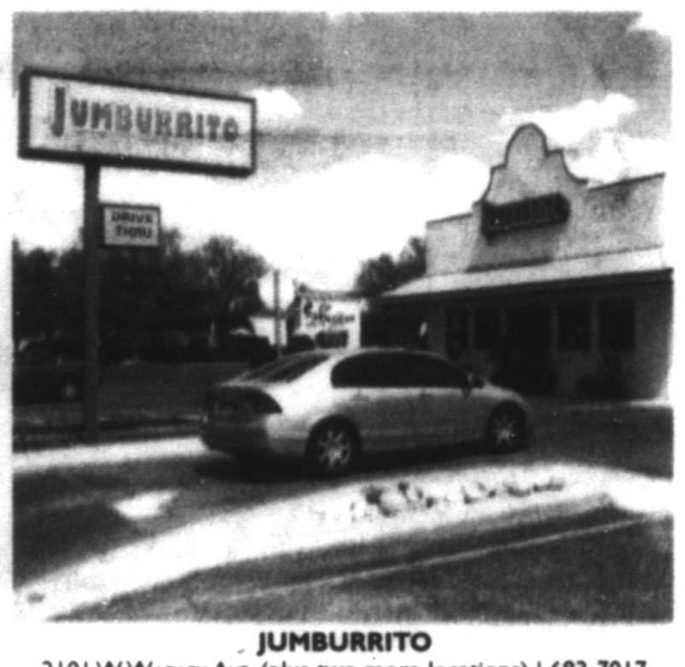
THE BAR Arguably the best burgers in town. Go during the fall or winter for the chili and cornbread. Live music and drink specials in the evenings. Try a bloody Mary with Saturday brunch. 606 W. Missouri Ave. 685-1757 www.thebarmidland.com | $$ | 4 spoons

TRIPLE THREAT SPORTS BAR & GRILL Philly cheesesteaks are the star of the menu but this sports bar also offers popcorn shrimp, chicken tenders, salads and appetizers. Smoking is permitted inside. 12 Meta Drive 683-5300 | $ | 4 spoons

WING STOP Nine wing sauce flavors range from mild to atomic. In the middle are lemon pepper, Hawaiian and garlic parmesan. 3323 N. Midland Drive, Suite 105 694-WING (9464) www.wingstop.com | $ | 4 spoons

LA BODEGA
2700 N. Big Spring St. | 684-5594

DOS MARGARITAS
1501 N. Big Spring St. | 618-9536



JUMBURRITO
2101 W. Wadley Ave. (plus two more locations) | 683-7017

MEXICAN

ABUELOS Mix of traditional Tex-Mex with unique menu items featuring steak and seafood. Tired of rice and beans on the side? Try papas con chile and espinaca casserole. 2908 W. Loop 250 N. 685-3335 www.abuelos.com | $$ | 4 spoons

AJUUA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT Tex-Mex favorites such as enchiladas, tacos, burritos and combination plates. Daily specials and menudo served on weekends. 3205 W. Cuthbert Ave. 694-4116 | $ | 2 spoons

CANCUN GRILL Stylish downtown Mexican restaurant inside Wall Towers. Start with the corn queso and then move on to the seafood enchiladas or one of the steaks. 223 W. Wall St. 618-0390 | $$ | 4 spoons

CARAMBA'S SPANISH INN Bustling Mexican restaurant with a variety of foods and combination plates. Tex-Mex favorites and burgers, steaks and seafood. 3116 W. Front St. 520-9724 or 520-9525 | $ | 4 spoons

CASA DEL SOL RESTAURANTE Y CANTINA Reminiscent of a Mexican cantina. Mexican stir-fry is a popular choice or try one of the West Texas specialties like country-fried steak, shrimp or catfish. 523 East Illinois Ave. 686-1118 | $ | 3 spoons

CASA LOPEZ CAFE Sports bar, restaurant and catering,service with entrees like enchiladas and fajitas and appetizers such as bacon wrapped shrimp and stuffed jalapenos. 4411 W. Illinois Ave. 699-7373 | $ | 4 spoons

CHARLAS RESTAURANTE & BAR With a casual atmosphere and full service bar, Charla's serves enchiladas, shrimp nachos, tortilla soup and tropical salad. Delicious chips and salsa. 3330 W. Illinois Ave. 699-2440 | $ | 3 spoons

CHITO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT & SPORTS Traditional Mexican fare with sports bar atmosphere. Breakfast served on weekends. 4400 N. Midland Drive 689-8646 | $ | 4 spoons

DONA ANITA'S Some of the best chile rellenos in town. Or try the tacos or enchiladas. Heuvos con chorizo, menudo, huevos rancheros and migas on Sundays. 305 W. Florida Ave. 683-6727 | $ | 3 spoons

DOS COMPADRES We recommend the carne guisada or any of the enchiladas with a tangy and mild green sauce. 2200 W. Wadley Ave, #1 Oak Ridge Square 684-7239 www.Doscompadres.net | $ | 3 spoons

DOS MARGARITAS Extensive menu includes fajitas, combination plates, lunch specials and breakfast plates such as huevos rancheros and omelettes. 1501 N. Big Spring St. 618-9536 www.dosmargaritasusa.com | $ | 3 spoons

EL BANQUETE Traditional Mexican cuisine such as soft beef and pork tacos. Breakfast burritos, fajitas and enchiladas. 1802 Rankin Highway 620-0123 | $ | 2 spoons

EL BURRITO RESTAURANT Serving burritos for more than 30 years. Breakfast and lunch burritos on homemade tortillas and other Tex-Mex favorites. Also known for their burgers. 1106 N. Big Spring St. 683-9701 | $ | 4 spoons

FAJITAS BRAVO Delicious and tender beef and chicken fajita burritos. Or try nachos, burgers, quesadillas or barbecue. 409 E. Scharbauer Drive 682-6848 | $ | 3 spoons

FREEBIRDS Create your own burrito, tacos, nacho, salad or bowl with fillings that range from cilantro lime rice, black beans and tomatillo sauce to carnitas, queso and pico de gallo. 3322 N. Loop 250 West www.freebirds.com 689-9100 | $ | 4 spoons

GARCIA'S BURRITOS Pick up a breakfast burrito for $2 starting at 7:30 a.m. on weekdays. Or try a fajita plate with beans, rice, guacamole and sour cream. 1306 N. Lamesa Road 684-4383 | $ | 2 spoons

GERARDO'S CASITA Try the tortilla soup or the fajitas. Don't forget a margarita from the full-service bar. 2407 N. Big Spring St. 570-8012 www.gerardoscasita.net | $ | 4 spoons

JORGE'S CAFÉ Serving Tex-Mex fare. Jorge's does a simple queso without chunks of peppers or tomatoes — you'll either love it or hate it. Two locations. 3323 Midland Dr #100, 689-0032 & 4400 N. Big Spring St. 683-6303 www.jorges.com | $ | 4 spoons

JUMBURRITO Drive-through or eat-in for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Try the stewmeat with cheese and avocado and smother it with queso and/or Jumburritos' hot sauce. Expect a line for weekend breakfast. 1301 Lamesa Road, 682-5060 | 2101 W. Wadley Ave., 683-7017 | 908 S. Midkiff Road, 689-0350 | 4509 N. Midkiff Road, 689-3894 | www.jumburrito.com | 4 spoons

LA BODEGA MEXICAN RESTAURANT AND BAR Try the chile rellenos — stuffed with beef, chicken, cheese or shrimp, deep-fried and topped with red sauce, sour cream, pecans and raisins — or the rueda, described on the menu as a Mexican pizza. The upstairs bar allows smoking and keeps later hours than the restaurant. 2700 N. Big Spring St. 684-5594 www.mylabodega.com | $ | 4 spoons

LA HERRADURA MEXICAN CUISINE Go for breakfast and try the huevos rancheros with beans, potatoes and tortillas. Menudo, caldo de res and cabrito en salsa verde on the weekends. 1422 Rankin Highway 687-3000 | $ | 2 spoons

LA MISION Festive, colorful restaurant with great Tex-Mex favorites. In a hurry? Go for the lunch buffet. 1008 S. Big Spring St. 682-0320 | $ | 4 spoons

MANUEL'S AUTHENTIC MEXICAN FOOD Home of the "Son of a Gun" plate — a 90 percent lean hamburger steak with onions, jalapeno gravy, beans, potatoes and tortillas — Manuel's also is known for its hot sauce. After you try it you can buy some to take home with you. 3905 Texas 349 www.manuelsdeli.com 682-2258 | $ | 4 spoons

PENO'S CAFÉ & CATERING COMPANY Try the tacos or the variety of breakfast burritos. Some menu items can be bought by the pound. Order tamales by the dozen. 4305 W. Illinois Ave. 262-5720 Facebook: Café J-Peno | $ | 3 spoons

REYNA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT An order of fajitas is too much for one person to eat, but they're so good you'll try anyway. 3601 W. Wall St. 699-2109 | $ | 4 spoons

ROMIE'S MEXICAN RESTAURANTE Don't underestimate this hole-in-the-wall restaurant serving traditional Tex-Mex fare. Quick service, daily specials and delicious food. 701 S. Marienfeld St. 432-683-5344 | $ | 3 spoons

OSCAR'S SUPER BURRITO Serving Lee High School students, and other loyal customers, for years, Oscar's offers almost endless choices of burritos and other Tex-Mex favorites for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Try the brisket and cheese burrito and don't skimp on the salsa. 4306 Neely Ave. | 699-0242 | 4 spoons

ROSA'S CAFÉ & TORTILLA FACTORY If you're a native Midlander, you get it. If you're not, try the queso and tortillas or the chicken fajitas with queso or the combo burritos. It's worth the long drive-through lines. 903 Andrews Highway 520-2358 2501 N. Big Spring St. 620-0634 | 4301 N. Midland Drive 520-0489 | $ | 4 spoons s

SEDONA MEXICAN GRILL & CANTINA Sit on the patio and enjoy drinks and chile con carne queso before your meal. Live entertainment on Fridays and Saturdays. 2101 W. Wadley Ave., # 45 www.sedonamexicancantina.com 570-9600 | $ | 4 spoons

TAMPICO SPANISH INN Go early to get a table. Start with an appetizer like queso, quesadillas or avocado salad. 2411 W. Wall St. 682-5074 | $ | 4 spoons

MISD football coaches to remain in positions

Morton

Yenzer

By Oscar LeRoy and Christopher Hadorn
oleroy@mrt.com | chadorn@mrt.com

Midland ISD will not be making any changes at the head football coaching positions at either Lee or Midland High School, according to superintendent Ryder Warren.

The decision was made after both MHS coach Craig Yenzer and Lee coach James Morton went through their yearly evaluation process with MISD Executive Director of Athletics Randy Rowe.

Warren said the school district believed that these two men were best suited to lead their teams next season.

"Ultimately it is my decision, and after looking at what we have with those two men, we have a lot of faith in those guys to continue doing what they do for what's best for our young men to succeed beyond the football field," Warren said. "We understand that wins and losses are what people on the outside look at, but that's not all that we look at within the school district. At the end of the day, I believe that both of these men have dedicated themselves to Midland kids and Midland children and helping them grow off the field."

Yenzer confirmed on Tuesday that he is returning as head coach for the 2015-16 school year.

Yenzer came under fire this season when an online petition calling for Yenzer's removal was started prior to the Lee game in the regular season finale.

Prior to Yenzer's arrival, the Bulldogs last reached the postseason in 1951.

However, Midland High has gone 25-28 since 2011, which caused some parents and program boosters to become restless.

Yenzer said he met with Dr. Warren and Rowe prior to the holiday break.

"We discussed a lot of issues and I think everybody is satisfied with the outcome," Yenzer said.

Warren said he understands that the football programs are under a bright spotlight within the community and there are plenty of expectations for both programs to be successful.

"Both men want the very best programs we can produce for the children and neither one of them is satisfied with their program in terms of wins and losses," Warren said. "I believe both men are doing everything they can to produce the results people are wanting on Friday night and make sure the young men understand what it means to be a man, and that means a lot to me."

Yenzer said his goal is to continue to build a program that the community can be proud of. Yenzer has directed MHS to postseason berths in nine of 14 seasons, including a state championship game appearance in his first year in 2002.

The Bulldogs will return 18 players that were on the top of their year-end depth chart, including all of their offensive starters so there's optimism they can improve on a 4-7 campaign

Please see **COACHES**/2C

Soccer makes its return

MRT file photo

Lee High's Carlos Aranda and Midland High's Nathan Bejil go after a header at Grande Comminications Stadium on March 10, 2015.

MHS, Lee approach season with enthusiasm

BOYS SOCCER PREVIEW

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

The Midland High and Lee boys varsity soccer teams may be coming off of radically different results in the 2015 season.

But as the 2016 season is set to begin today, both MISD squads are approaching their respective schedules with plenty of energy, enthusiasm and both have high hopes for a successful year.

The Bulldogs put together a dominant showing last season. Apart from blasting its way to a District 3-6A title with a 9-0-1-0 district record thanks to a plus-30 goal differential in those 10 matches, MHS compiled an 17-4-3 overall mark.

The Bulldogs' season eventually came to an abrupt end with a disappointing 3-1 defeat against El Paso Eastwood in the area round of the playoffs. Still, with all things considered, the 2015 season was a memorable one for MHS.

Head coach Warren Cottle certainly hopes to carry over last year's success into 2016. But he said the one thing that has really caught his attention this off-season is the determination his players have to get even better as a team.

"Hopes are high and expectations are super high," Cottle said. "They (the MHS players) are putting it on the training field more than ever. In 20 years of coaching, I've never heard complaints about not getting enough fitness days in. They're hungry."

One of the hallmarks of the Bulldogs' success last season was their camaraderie and sense of brotherhood both on and off the field. Cottle said that even with several new players on the roster, nothing has changed in that area.

"Playing together, the way they move together as a unit (is most impressive to me)," Cottle said. "How they get along with each other. Off the field, the way they treat each other. That makes it a special atmosphere as well."

Meanwhile for Lee, much of the problem from last year has already been well-documented.

Capitalizing on easy scoring chances

Please see **BOYS**/4C

MHS sets bar high; Lee looking to bounce back

GIRLS SOCCER PREVIEW

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Going into the 2016 high school soccer season, one Midland ISD girls team is hoping to live up to expectations, while the other is hoping to take another step forward.

Midland High had one of its best teams in recent memory when it played consistently well for most of the season, won the District 3-6A title on the last day of the season by one point over San Angelo Central and then went three rounds deep in the playoffs. MHS finished with an 18-5-2 record.

Lee, behind a young team, struggled to find any consistency or goals during district play and finished with a disappointing mark of 6-12-0.

As the new season gets under way, both teams are optimistic.

MHS lost eight players to graduation but has a good core group returning, led by District 3-6A Midfielder of the Year Adrianne Almodova.

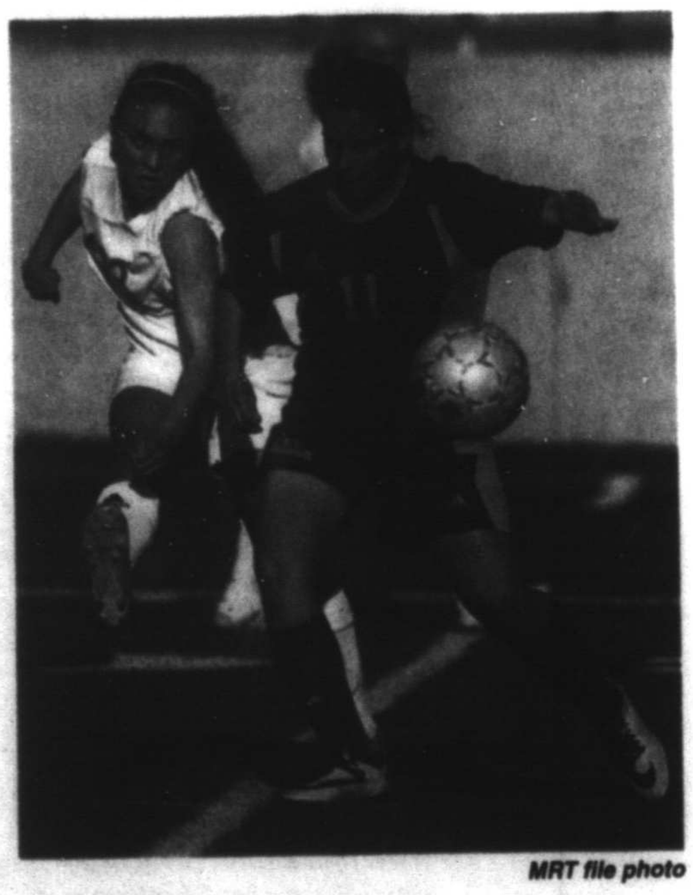
"We always have high expectations," MHS coach Meagan Lasley said. "We have a very young team but we're talented and we're just going to take everything as they come."

Lasley said it's always easy to get motivated after the Lady Bulldogs had the kind of season they had in 2015.

One of the biggest highlights came at the end of the district season when they got the combination of a Central loss and a penalty kick win at Odessa High to take the district crown. Even that win didn't come easy as the Lady Bulldogs battled OHS to a scoreless match at the end of regulation before winning 4-3 on penalty kicks.

"When the bar is set high, these girls meet those expectations," Lasley said. "The girls do great under pressure and they love to compete, which makes it a more fun game. There is also

Please see **GIRLS**/4C



MRT file photo

Midland High's Adrienne Almadova gets the ball around Lee High's Brianna Herrera at Grande Comminications Stadium on March 10, 2015.

Griffey elected to Hall with highest percentage, Piazza in

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ken Griffey Jr. was elected to baseball's Hall of Fame on Wednesday with the highest voting percentage ever, and Mike Piazza will join him in Cooperstown this summer.

A star slugger of the Steroids Era never tainted by accusations of drug use, Griffey was on 437 of 440 votes in his first appearance on the Baseball Writers' Association of America ballot. His 99.3 percentage topped the previous mark of 98.84, set when Tom Seaver appeared on 425 of 430 ballots in 1992.

Griffey

There had been speculation Griffey could become the first unanimous selection.

"I can't be upset. It's just an honor to be elected and to have the highest percentage is definitely a shock," Griffey said on a conference call.

Piazza

After falling 28 shy last year, Piazza received 365 votes in his fourth time on the ballot and will be inducted along with Griffey on July 24.

"Incredibly special. Wow," Piazza said on a call with MLB Network.

"I sat here with my mouth on the floor," he said.

A player needs 75 percent to gain election, and Jeff Bagwell missed by 15 votes and Tim Raines by 23. Trevor Hoffman, on the ballot for the first time, was 34 short.

The vote total dropped by 109 from last year because writers who have not been active for 10 years lost their votes under new rules.

There were significant increases for a pair of stars accused of steroids use. Roger Clemens rose to 45 percent and Barry Bonds to 44 percent, both up from about 37 percent last year.

Mark McGwire, who admitted using steroids, received 12 percent in his 10th and final ballot appearance.

"They were Hall of Famers before all this stuff started," Griffey said on MLB Network.

Half of baseball's top 10 home run hitters are not in the Hall: Bonds (762), Alex Rodriguez (654), Jim Thome (612), Sosa (609) and McGwire (583). Rodriguez, who served a yearlong drug suspension in 2014, remains active. Thome's first appearance on the ballot will be in 2018.

Curt Schilling rose from 39 percent to 52, Edgar Martinez from 27 percent to 43 and Mike Mussina from 25 percent to 43.

Griffey was known simply as "Junior" by many as a contrast to his father, three-time All-Star outfielder Ken Griffey, who played alongside him in Seattle during 1990 and '91. The younger Griffey became a 13-time All-Star outfielder and finished with 630 homers, which is sixth on the career list. After reaching the major leagues in 1989, he was selected for 11 consecutive All-Star Games in 1990.

Now, he's headed to Cooperstown.

"In case you don't know, I'm really superstitious. I've played in the Hall of Fame game three times and I've never set foot in the building. I've never even seen the front of it," Griffey said. "The one time I wanted to go in there, I wanted to be a member."

Wanting to play closer to his home in Florida, he pushed for a trade to Cincinnati — his father's old team and the area he grew up in— after the 1999 season.

Please see **HALL**/5C

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

COLLEGE SWIMMING
Auburn at Texas, 4 p.m., LHN

GOLF
Hyndai Tournament of Champions, 1st Round, 5 p.m., GOLF
European PGA: BMW South African Open, 2nd Round, 4 a.m., GOLF

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Louisville at NC State, 6 p.m., ESPN2
Michigan at Purdue, 6 p.m., ESPNU
Bryant at Wagner, 6 p.m., CBSSN
FIU at Western Kentucky, 7 p.m., FCSA
Illinois at Michigan State, 8 p.m., ESPN
Arizona at UCLA, 8 p.m., ESPN2
Alabama at Ole Miss, 8 p.m., ESPNU
Old Dominion at Louisiana Tech, 8 p.m., CBSSN
Arizona State at UCLA, 9:30 p.m., P12, P12 AZ, P12 LA
UC Davis at UC Irvine, 9:30 p.m., FCSA
Santa Clara at BYU, 10 p.m., ESPNU

MEN'S SOCCER
Copa del Rey: Cadiz vs. Celta de Vigo, 1:20 p.m., beIN2
Copa del Rey: Eibar vs. Las Palmas, 1:40 p.m., beIN

NBA
Boston at Chicago, 7 p.m., TNT
LA Lakers at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m., TNT
NBA D-League
Rio Grande Valley vs. Fort Wayne, Noon, NBAtv
Maine vs. Bakersfield, 2:30 p.m., NBAtv
Sioux Falls vs. Raptors 905, 7 p.m., NBAtv
Texas vs. Delaware, 9:30 p.m., NBAtv

NHL
Philadelphia at Minnesota, 7 p.m., NBCSN
Winnipeg at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., FSSW

SURFING
Target Maui Pro, 11 p.m., CBSSN

TENNIS
ATP: Qatar Exxonmobil Open, Day 3, 6 a.m., beIN
WTA: ASB Classic, Semifinals; WTA: Brisbane International, Semifinals; Hopman Cup: Great Britain vs. Germany, 7 p.m., TENNIS
Hopman Cup: Australia Green vs. France, 3:30 a.m., TENNIS

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Louisiana Tech at Old Dominion, 6 p.m., FSN (FSSW+)
Nebraska at Maryland, 6 p.m., BTN
SEC Whip-a-Round: Alabama at Kentucky, Missouri at Georgia, Florida at Tennessee, Texas A&M at Arkansas, Ole Miss at LSU, Auburn at Mississippi State, & South Carolina at Vanderbilt, 6 p.m., SEC
Weber State at North Dakota, 7 p.m., FCSC
Minnesota at Illinois, 8 p.m., BTN
Utah Valley at New Mexico State, 8 p.m., FSSW+/FCSP

WHAT'S ON DECK

High school

BOYS SOCCER
MHS, Lee at Coppell Showcase

GIRLS SOCCER
Lee at College Station Tournament
MHS at Frisco Tournament

NJCAA POLLS

NJCAA Division I Men's Basketball Poll (first place votes in parentheses)

No. Team	Record	Pts.	Pvs.
1 Hutchinson CC (12)	16-0	342	1
2. Trinity Valley CC (4)	**15-1**	**335**	**2**
3 Palm Beach State	14-0	327	3
4 Georgia Highlands	14-1	302	4
5 Gillette	16-0	291	6
6 Connors State	13-1	263	7
7 Iowa Western	15-1	248	10
8 North Idaho	16-1	244	13
9 Northwest Florida State	14-2	242	9
10 John A. Logan	13-1	233	11
11. Hill College	**15-2**	**204**	**5**
12 Indian Hills CC	14-2	189	14
13 Moberly Area	15-2	181	8
14. McLennan CC	**14-2**	**147**	**12**
15 Hanover College	15-2	137	17
16 Arizona Western	13-2	132	20
1 Mississippi Gulf Coast	10-0	127	21
18. Odessa College	**13-2**	**128**	**23**
19 Daytona State	16-3	110	16
20 Chattahoochee Tech	14-1	87	RV
21 Salt Lake CC	16-2	72	24
22 Vincennes	13-3	54	RV
23. Blinn College	**12-2**	**46**	**RV**
24 Seward County	13-3	42	19
25 Eastern Florida State	12-3	37	18

Others receiving votes: **Midland College (13-3), 2 points**

NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Poll (first place votes in parentheses)

No. Team	Record	Pts.	Pvs.
1 Salt Lake CC (8)	18-0	200	1
2. Trinity Valley CC	**13-1**	**192**	**2**
3 Gulf Coast State	15-0	184	3
4 Southern Idaho	18-0	176	4
5 Daytona State	16-1	168	7
6 Shelton State	15-1	160	5
7 Chipola College	13-3	152	6
8 Hutchinson CC	14-1	144	8
9. New Mexico JC	**5-2**	**136**	**9**
10. Midland College	**14-2**	**128**	**11**
11 Northwest Florida State	14-2	120	10
12 Walters State	16-0	112	12
13 Tyler College	13-2	104	19
14 Casper College	13-2	96	17
15 N.E Oklahoma A&M	10-3	88	18
16 Iowa Western	13-3	80	13
17 Copiah-Lincoln	10-0	72	20
18. Odessa College	**10-4**	**64**	**16**
19 Collin County	12-4	56	15
20 Northern Oklahoma Enid	13-2	48	22
21 State Fair	13-3	40	23
22 Florida State Jacksonville	11-4	32	24
23 Seward County	11-4	24	14
24 Vincennes	14-1	16	25
25 North Idaho	14-2	8	NR

NJCAA STANDINGS

Women's Basketball

Team	Overall W	Overall L	District W	District L
Midland College	2	0	15	2
New Mexico JC	2	0	14	2
Howard College	1	0	11	5
South Plains	1	1	13	5
Western Texas	0	1	13	3
Odessa College	0	1	11	4
Frank Phillips	0	1	7	5
Clarendon College	0	2	5	13

Today's Games
South Plains College at Odessa College
Howard College at Western Texas College. Frank Phillips College at Clarendon College. Midland College and New Mexico JC are open

Men's Basketball

Team	Overall W	Overall L	District W	District L
Odessa College	2	0	13	2
South Plains	2	0	11	4
Clarendon College	1	1	13	3
Midland College	1	1	13	3
Frank Phillips	1	1	12	4
New Mexico JC	1	1	11	5
Howard College	0	1	10	5
Western Texas	0	2	9	6
NMMI	0	2	8	7

Today's Games
New Mexico Military Institute at New Mexico JC. South Plains College at Odessa College. Howard College at Western Texas College. Frank Phillips College at Clarendon College. Midland College is open

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Designated RHP Kirby Yates for assignment
HOUSTON ASTROS — Agreed to terms with 1B Chris Carter on a one-year contract. Named Chris Holt pitching coach of Quad Cities (MW).
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Agreed to terms with OF Alex Gordon on a four-year contract.
National League
LOS ANGLES DODGERS — Designated LHP Tyler Olson for assignment. Agreed to terms with RHP Brandon Beachy on a one-year contract.
MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Agreed to terms with 1B Chris Carter on a one-year contract. Designated C C Jonnal Pinto for assignment.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Designated C Tony Sanchez for assignment. Agreed to terms with RHP Neftali Perez on a one-year contract.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Designated RHPs Erik Davis and Taylor Hill for assignment. Agreed to terms with 2B Daniel Murphy on a three-year contract and INF Stephen Drew on a one-year contract.
American Association
WINNIPEG GOLDEYES — Sold the contract of RHP Nestor Molina to the San Francisco Giants.
Frontier League
FLORENCE FREEDOM — Signed INF Elvin Rodriguez to a contract extension.
SCHAUMBURG BOOMERS — Signed RHP Scott Harkin to a contract extension.
WINDY CITY THUNDERBOLTS — Signed OF Reggie Lawson.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
NFL PLAYERS ASSOCIATION — Fined agent Ben Dogra $200,000 and revoked his license.
ATLANTA FALCONS — Signed WRs C.J. Goodwin and Jordan Leslie, RB Gus Johnson, OL Collin Rahrig and QB Matt Simms to reserve/future contracts.
CAROLINA PANTHERS — Placed CB Charles Tillman on injured reserve. Signed DB Lou Young from the practice squad.
CINCINNATI BENGALS — Placed DT Brandon Thompson on injured reserve. Signed DT DeShawn Williams from the practice squad.
HOUSTON TEXANS — Signed DE Devon Still to a reserve/future contract.
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Fired defensive coordinator Greg Manusky, safeties coach Roy Anderson, secondary coach Mike Gillhamer, head strength and conditioning coach Roger Marandino, tight ends coach Alfredo Roberts and running backs coach Charlie Williams.
MIAMI DOLPHINS — Signed RB Jahwan Edwards, WR Robert Herron, LB Terrell Manning, CB Dax Swanson, Ga Vinston Painter and Anthony Steen and DEs Julius Warmsley and Jordan Williams to reserve/future contracts.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Placed TE Rhett Ellison on injured reserve. Signed DE B.J. DuBose from the practice squad and DT Toby Johnson to the practice squad.
NEW YORK JETS — Fired special teams coordinator Bobby April, assistant special teams coach Steve Hagen and assistant offensive line coach Ron Heller.
ST LOUIS RAMS — Announced the contracts of offensive assistant coach Jeff Garcia, wide receivers coach Ray Sherman, running backs coach Ben Sirmans, assistant strength and conditioning coach Adam Bailey and assistant special teams coach Paul Boudreau will not be renewed.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Fired coach Lovie Smith.
Canadian Football League
WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Released QB Brian Brohm, RB De'Rel Scott, DLs Jamarkus McFarland and Ethan Farmer.
Arena Football League
ORLANDO PREDATORS — Agreed to terms with DB De'Mon Glanton.

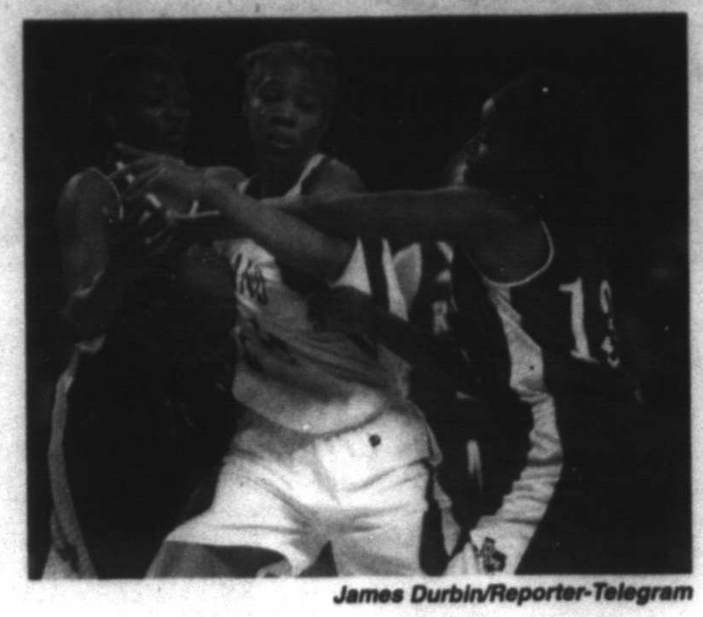
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
NHL — Suspended Washington F Zach Sill two games for boarding Boston D Adam McQuaid.
ARIZONA COYOTES — Assigned F Laurent Dauphin to Springfield (AHL).
NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Traded D Seth Jones to Columbus for C Ryan Johansen.
NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled G Cedrick Desjardins from Manchester (ECHL) to Hartford (AHL).
PHILADELPHIA FLYERS — Traded D Luke Schenn and C Vincent Lecavalier to the L.A Kings for F Jordan Weal and a 2016 third-round draft pick.
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Assigned F Brian Hart from Syracuse (AHL) to Greenville (ECHL).
WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Agreed to terms with C Mike Richards on a one-year contract.
American Hockey League
HARTFORD WOLF PACK — Recalled F Alex Krushelnyski from Utah (ECHL).
SAN JOSE BARRACUDA — Returned F Jesse Mychan to Colorado (ECHL)
SYRACUSE CRUNCH — Recalled D Charlie Dodero from Greenville (ECHL).

SOCCER
Major League Soccer
CHICAGO FIRE — Traded W Patrick Nyarko from D.C. United for a 2016 second-round draft pick.
COLUMBUS CREW — Agreed to terms with sporting director and coach Gregg Berhalter on a multyear contract extension.
LA GALAXY — Signed M Jeff Larentowicz. Named Peter Vagenas vice president of soccer operations.
NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION — Signed M Diego Figueiredo to a multyear contract.
NEW YORK CITY FC — Named Jon Patricof president.
National Women's Soccer League
WASHINGTON SPIRIT — Waived F Ngozi Sonia Okobi.

COLLEGE
AMERICAN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE — Named Bernadette Cafarelli associate commissioner for communications.
FLORIDA — S Keanu Neal announced he will enter the NFL draft.
FLORIDA STATE — Announced PK Roberto Aguayo will enter the NFL draft.
GEORGIA — Named Scott Sinclair director of strength and conditioning for football and Ed Ellis senior associate director of strength and conditioning for football.
MICHIGAN STATE — Announced DT Jack Conklin will enter the NFL draft.
NEW JERSEY CITY — Announced the resignation of softball coach Jaci Timko to take the same position at Rider. Promoted assistant softball coach Veronica Grant to head coach.
N.C. STATE — Announced TE David Grinnage will enter the NFL draft.
OKLAHOMA STATE — DE Emmanuel Ogbah announced he will enter the NFL draft.
RUTGERS — Named Rick Mantz director of high school football relations and Nick Quartaro director of player development.
TENNESSEE — Announced defensive coordinator John Jancek will not return next season.
UTAH — Named Guy Holliday receivers coach. Reassigned tight ends coach Lewis Powell to defensive line coach and director of player personnel Fred Whittingham Jr. to tight ends coach.

MC shakes off rust, tops Ranger College

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Walnatia Wright (24) fights for possession of the ball against Ranger College's Tyrasha DeGrate (12) and Aisha Isaac (13) on Wednesday at Chaparral Center.

Midland College women's basketball coach Ron Jones said at times on Wednesday night, his Lady Chaparrals looked like a team coming off a long break.

Because of that, Ranger College stayed fairly close to the No. 10-ranked Lady Chaps at times.

But in the end, a strong first half and a pair of individual double-doubles proved to be enough for MC in a 74-60 non-conference victory at Chaparral Center.

Walnatia Wright led MC (15-2) with 23 points and 10 rebounds, Sierra Dixon added 17 points, and Tichina Coleman chipped in with 14 points and 10 rebounds, as the Lady Chaps were playing in their first game since Dec. 5.

"I think Ranger has a good team," Jones said. "When you haven't played in a while your timing is off, you make some poor decisions. I thought defensively we did OK. I thought it was hard to have good energy because it was dead in the building. The students are not back in school and there weren't many people here with school still being out. We struggled with our energy and offensively I thought we wasted a lot of possessions when we could have easily had five more layups on the board. But it's good to get the first one out of way and get ready for Saturday (at Howard College)."

Jones said one of the players who showed good energy was Coleman, the 5-foot-11 freshman forward from Dallas, who played one of her better games of the season.

"I was really pleased that Tichina Coleman contributed more tonight offensively than she has been. She was a little more active tonight, and that was good to see," Jones said.

Added Coleman: "That was one of my better games. I know I had been struggling, so over the break I was figuring out what I can do better. I worked a lot over the break on my rebounding, shooting and even worked on shooting free throws better."

Ranger (7-4) had its own adversity to overcome as its bus reportedly broke down twice on the way to Midland, forcing the team to have to borrow Howard College's bus to make it to the game.

The road woes didn't seem to bother the Lady Rangers all that much early — especially Jayde Price, who had 10 of her 14 points in the first quarter — as Ranger was within 21-18 after the opening period.

But MC took a 38-27 lead at the half thanks in part to a 15-6 run to close the second quarter.

The Lady Chaps later put together a solid fourth quarter to put the game away.

"We just had to do the things we know how to do, like playing defense, getting rebounds and talking to each other," Coleman said. "We just wanted to improve and improve on Saturday as well. In the fourth we pulled away, we got offensive rebounds, got turnovers and played well for our first game back."

Mariah Merriweather led Ranger with 21 points and Kristen Fellows added 13.

MC returns to Western Junior College Athletic Conference play at 4 p.m. Saturday with a trip to Big Spring to face Howard College.

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

NO. 10 MIDLAND COLLEGE 74, RANGER COLLEGE 60

Ranger College (7-4) — Jazmin Shields 2-7 2-2 7, Tyrasha 0-4 1-2 1, Aisha Isaac 0-2 2-2 2, Jayde Price 7-13 0-0 14, Alona Bennett 0-2 0-0 0, Kristen Fellows 6-14 0-0 13, Mariah Merriweather 7-12 2-3 21, Gianne Oates 1-5 0-0 2, Jaivani Thompson 0-0 0-0 0, Ayanna Atkins 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 23-59 7-9 60

Midland College (15-2) — Morgan Ashton 3-6 0-0 7, Taylor Hodge 2-5 0-0 6, Sierra Dixon 6-14 0-0 17, Toni Taylor 0-4 0-0 0, Valentina Zambelli 0-4 0-0 0, Tichina Coleman 6-8 2-4 14, Walnatia Wright 9-15 5-7 23, Bayli Bowles 0-4 0-0 0, Kayla Bretherton 0-2 2-2 2, Thabitha Deumitor 0-3 0-0 0, Lisa Kaempf 2-6 1-1 5. Totals 28-71 10-16 74

Ranger College	**18**	**9**	**18**	**15**	**—60**
Midland College	**21**	**17**	**16**	**18**	**—74**

3-point goals — RC 7-17 (Merriweather 5-8, Shields 1-4, Fellows 1-3, Oates 0-2), MC 6-29 (Dixon 5-11, Hodge 2-4, Ashton 1-4, Taylor 0-2, Zambelli 0-4, Bowles 0-2, Bretherton 0-1, Kaempf 0-1). Rebounds — RC 31 (Merriweather 6), MC 53 (Coleman 10, Wright 10). Assists — RC 9 (Shields 3), MC 15 (Ashton 3, Taylor 3). Turnovers — RC 14, MC 17.

Next: Midland College at Howard College, 4 p.m. Saturday

Lee's Davis returns, MHS gaining confidence

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL REPORT

The Lee boys basketball team has its leader and most experienced player back in uniform.

Davis

Rebels' junior point guard Sema'J Davis took the court for the first time this season on Dec. 18 against Amarillo Tascosa. Davis had missed the first 12 games of the season while recovering from an ankle injury he sustained at the end of the Rebels' football season in November.

Lee head coach Chris Packer said that Davis struggled a bit in his first game action since the end of last season, as he picked up three fouls in the opening minute of the Rebels' loss against Tascosa. Nonetheless, he was pleased to have him back out on the floor.

"He's the point guard," Packer said. "Everything offensively and defensively goes through him. He makes everybody better and they look to him. He's back and hopefully good things will happen."

The Rebels have played a tough schedule so far this season and minus Davis, things were even more challenging. At least four of Lee's opponents this season are or have been ranked in the top 25 in the state in their respective classes, according to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches weekly rankings.

To begin the season, only three — including Davis — of the Rebels' 13 players had any experience at the varsity level. The other two players, forward James Lydia and guard Taye Britt, are both just juniors.

So while Davis was out, Packer's squad was faced with not only the adversity of playing quality state-ranked opponents, but also with having to rely on several underclassmen to mature quickly in order to be competitive.

Packer said that Davis' return has provided some extra energy in practice and in the locker room and should give the group a lift going forward.

Packer added now that Davis is back in the fold, some of Lee's other players who had been filling somewhat unfamiliar roles while he was out, will have to re-adjust.

"There is an adjustment," Packer said. "Guys will have to settle into new spots. But we focus on effort, playing for each other, not worrying about anything else and good things will happen."

The Rebels (1-13) will travel to Andrews to take on the Mustangs at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

MHS gaining confidence as district play approaches

Sixteen games into his first year as head coach of the Midland High boys varsity team, Shan Hooker said he is noticing an increased level of confidence among his players.

He said his players have a better grasp of the team's big picture goals and they are keeping a pace — showing patience and improving one game at a time. Hooker said that realization was especially apparent after MHS lost a close game, 75-69, to a talented Hobbs, N.M. team on the road Tuesday.

"I told the boys that we're still making progress," Hooker said. "These games we're playing are preparing us for district (play). We're learning what we need to do to get better and we're getting experience. We had a real good game (Tuesday) night, but we just didn't finish."

In its final tune-up contest before the District 3-6A opener on Jan. 15, MHS (5-11) will host No. 3-ranked Grady at 6 p.m. Friday at Chaparral Center.

Grady ranked No. 3 in state

The Grady boys team entered this week ranked as the No. 3-ranked Class 1A team in Texas, as ranked by the TABC.

The Wildcats, under first-year head coach Chris Short, are currently sitting at 13-3 after a 66-34 demolition of Meadow on Tuesday.

Grady will face MHS at 6 p.m. Friday at Chaparral Center.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

G Daniel Venzant, Jr., MCS — Venzant helped the Mustangs (14-9) to a 4-1 record and a third-place finish out of a 10-team field at the Monahans Sandhills Tournament from Dec. 29-31. The junior guard scored 80 points in the Mustangs' first three games — two wins and a loss — at the tourney.

HONOR ROLL

G/F Heath Gladson, Sr., MCA — Gladson netted a game-high 25 points for the Knights in their 65-62 home loss against Crane on Tuesday.

G Camran Rock, Jr., MHS — Rock led all scorers with 23 points, including seven made 3-pointers, in the Bulldogs' 85-53 blowout win at home against Greenwood on Dec. 30.

G Blake Elliott, Jr., Greenwood — The junior guard tallied a game-high 20 points in the Rangers' 67-47 loss on Tuesday to Lamesa, the No. 25-ranked Class 4A team.

F Peter Rodenko, Sr., Trinity — The multi-sport athlete scored 17 points to help the Chargers roll to a 68-33 win against Rankin on Tuesday.

F Jaylen Short, Jr., Grady — The Wildcats' star forward poured in 22 points to lift No. 3-ranked Grady to a 66-34 win against Meadow on Tuesday.

G Tanner Davis, Sr., Garden City — Davis' game-high 26 points helped the Bearkats race past Veribest, 70-39 on Tuesday.

COACHES

From 1C

that was marred by injuries.

"There have been a lot of positives throughout the year," Yenzer said. "We have a good group of kids coming back. It's an exciting opportunity to be a part of."

Meanwhile, Morton who will be in his eighth season coaching the Rebels, said he wants to continue to focus on building the Lee program.

"I appreciate Dr. Warren and his support and that he's able to see a bigger picture out of athletics," Morton said. "I'm excited to be at Lee and I need to continue to build our program up and make it better."

Will Korn contributed to this report.

COLLEGESPORTSBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

COLLEGE STATION

Texas A&M tabs Woodward as AD

A new chain of command is shaping up in a hurry at Texas A&M, and it's a chain once linked in the Pacific Northwest.

A&M has hired Scott Woodward as athletic director, a person with knowledge of the situation said on Wednesday night. Woodward has served as the University of Washington's athletic director since 2008, and has roots in the Southeastern Conference as a 1985 LSU graduate.

The hire isn't expected to be made official until later in the week. Woodward will join A&M president Michael K. Young, who also was Washington's president before arriving in College Station nearly a year ago.

Woodward replaces Eric Hyman, who abruptly resigned on Tuesday after nearly four years as A&M's athletic director. Hyman, 65, was brought onboard from South Carolina to lead the Aggies out of the Big 12 and into the SEC, and to oversee a nearly half-billion dollar rebuild of Kyle Field. Both tasks are complete.

One of Woodward's early jobs at A&M will be determining the future of the Aggies football program under Kevin Sumlin. The Aggies are 36-16 in four years under Sumlin, but 11-13 in league play following the departure of 2012 Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel in 2013.

SAN MARCOS

Texas State hires James Madison's Withers as head coach

Texas State has hired Everett Withers as its football coach after he spent the last two seasons at James Madison.

Withers was 19-7 at James Madison with an FCS playoff appearance this season. James Madison received a first-round bye and lost to Colgate 44-38 in the second round.

He replaces Dennis Franchione, who retired last month after going 39-43 in five seasons leading Texas State through its transition from FCS to FBS.

The 52-year-old Withers has spent most of his long coaching career as an college assistant, including a stint at Ohio State. Before James Madison, his one previous season as a head coach was 2011 at North Carolina.

No. 13 Iowa State holds off Texas Tech 76-69

By Luke Meredith
Associated Press

AMES, Iowa — Matt Thomas scored 22 points, Jameel McKay had 19 points with 14 rebounds and 13th-ranked Iowa State held off Texas Tech 76-69 on Wednesday for its first Big 12 win.

Georges Niang scored all of his 14 points in the second half for the Cyclones (12-2, 1-1 Big 12). They nearly blew an 18-point lead before a late flourish helped them avoid their first losing streak.

Thomas drilled a step-back 3 with 1:33 left, and Monte Morris threw an alley-oop pass to Abdel Nader for a dunk that put Iowa State ahead 74-65 with 1:07 left.

Justin Gray scored 14 points for the Red Raiders (11-2, 1-1). They were playing their first true road game.

Texas Tech was brilliant to start the second half, chopping a 10-point deficit to 54-52 after the Cyclones opened 3 of 16 from the field.

Thomas and Niang helped Iowa State keep Tech at bay with crucial 3s, with Niang's giving the Cyclones a 65-60 lead with 4:35 left.

When Niang went to the bench with two fouls after just 2 minutes, Tech's chances for an upset seemed to rise.

Niang's teammates picked him up, putting the Red Raiders in a huge early hole.

Iowa State ripped off 11 straight points midway through the first half, jumping ahead 31-13 by pounding Texas Tech in the paint. The Red Raiders responded with a 10-0 run, forcing Niang back into the game. He promptly picked up his third foul on a charge, but the Cyclones were able to stay ahead 40-30.

TEXASCOLLEGEROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Men

NO. 21 TEXAS A&M 61 MISS. STATE 60

STARKVILLE, Miss. — Jalen Jones scored 11 points, including the go-ahead dunk with 20 seconds left, to lead No. 21 Texas A&M over Mississippi State 61-60 on Wednesday night.

Texas A&M (12-2, 2-0 Southeastern Conference) struggled to score for most of the night, but did just enough to earn its fifth straight win. D.J. Hogg and Alex Caruso also each scored 11 points, and Admon Gilder added 10.

It was tied in the waning seconds when Caruso hit Jones with a perfect pass on the baseline. The 6-foot-7 forward finished with the easy dunk to give the Aggies a 59-57 lead and they held on for the win.

Gavin Ware had 15 points and 13 rebounds for Mississippi State (7-6, 0-1). Malik Newman added 14 points.

The Aggies won despite shooting 19 of 62 (30.6) percent from the field.

Women

NO. 6 BAYLOR 58 KANSAS 40

LAWRENCE, Kan. — A near-perfect third quarter from the field by Baylor turned a tight game into a rout.

The sixth-ranked Lady Bears hit their first eight shots in the period en route to a 58-40 win over Kansas on Wednesday night.

Baylor made nine of its 12 shots in the quarter to turn an eight-point game into a 21-point advantage.

Nina Davis scored 16 points and Niya Johnson and Alexis Jones had 12 points apiece for the Lady Bears.

"We just tried to jump out with intensity and just try to get them on their heels," Johnson said.

Baylor held Kansas' leading scorer and starting point guard, Lauren Aldridge, scoreless. She had only been shut out three times over her two-year career as a Jayhawk. Coming into the game, Aldridge averaged 12.2 points per game on the season.

NO. 4 TEXAS 75 IOWA STATE 54

AUSTIN — Texas coach Karen Aston didn't remind her team about last season, when the Longhorns arrived at Iowa State with 13-0 record, blew an 18-point first-half lead, and lost by two.

"I'm sure they knew," Aston said.

Indeed they did. The No. 4 Longhorns, facing Iowa State again with a 13-0 mark, routed the Cyclones 75-54 Wednesday and now have their best start since they were undefeated NCAA champions in 1986.

Brooke McCarty scored 17 points, making five 3-pointers. Imani Boyette had 11 points and season-bests of 17 rebounds and seven blocks for the Longhorns.

Boyette, a 6-foot-7 senior, said she filled in teammates on Iowa State's dominance of Texas that included six wins in seven games, including three straight.

"I'm the fun fact girl," Boyette said. "We knew all about it. We knew they stopped our winning streak last year."

NO. 17 OKLAHOMA 78 TCU 65

FORT WORTH — Kaylon Williams scored 18 points with 10 rebounds and McKenna Treece scored all seven of her points in the fourth quarter to help No. 17 Oklahoma rally past TCU 78-65 Wednesday night.

Oklahoma trailed by as many as 14 points in the second half, but went on an 18-1 run in the fourth.

Williams' hook in the lane tied it at 61-all and, after a TCU turnover, Ti'ona Edwards hit a layup in transition for a 63-61 lead. Another Sooners' fast break ended in Peyton Little's 3-point play for a five-point advantage.

Treece nailed an open 3-pointer from the corner with 1:38 left to make it 69-61.

Little added 15 points for Oklahoma (11-3, 2-1 Big 12).

Zahna Medley led TCU (10-4, 2-1) with 19 points.

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

MAVERICKS 100 PELICANS 91

NEW ORLEANS — Raymond Felton scored 22 points in a game Dallas chose to rest four starters, and the Mavericks defeated the New Orleans Pelicans 100-91 on Wednesday night.

Dallas coach Rick Carlisle sat out Dirk Nowitzki, Deron Williams, Zaza Pachulia and Wesley Matthews after they each played 40-plus minutes in a double-overtime victory over Sacramento on Tuesday night.

Chandler Parsons, the only usual starter in uniform, scored 19 of his 21 in the first half. He needed help in the second half and got it. Dwight Powell had 13 points and 10 rebounds. J.J. Barea scored 11 and Devin Harris had 10 points.

SPURS 123 JAZZ 98

SAN ANTONIO — Tim Duncan scored a season-high 18 points and the San Antonio Spurs had eight other players in double figures, rolling to a 123-98 victory over the Utah Jazz on Wednesday night that kept them unbeaten at home.

San Antonio (31-6) matched its best start in franchise history by winning its 21st straight home game to open the season.

Kawhi Leonard had 15 points in 23 minutes. David West and Manu Ginobili added 14 points apiece, with West grabbing a season-high 13 rebounds.

The Spurs set a season best with 68 points in the first half, enabling San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich to sit Leonard and Danny Green to start the third quarter.

It was part of an easy night for San Antonio, which sat LaMarcus Aldridge to rest for the first time this season.

Trey Burke had 21 points for Utah and Gordon Hayward had 18 on 6-for-16 shooting.

CAVALIERS 121 WIZARDS 115

WASHINGTON — LeBron James scored 34 points, Kyrie Irving took over in the fourth quarter and the Cleveland Cavaliers survived a second-half charge to beat the injury-ravaged Washington Wizards 121-115 on Wednesday night for their fifth straight victory.

Irving scored 21 of his 32 points in the fourth quarter of just his seventh game of the season, including a run of 10 straight that put the game away.

James had 10 rebounds, and J.R. Smith added 25 points for Cleveland.

Garrett Temple led the Wizards with 21 points, and John Wall had 20. Playing without Kris Humphries, DeJuan Blair and Drew Gooden, Washington lost its second straight game.

NUGGETS 78 TIMBERWOLVES 74

MINNEAPOLIS — Danilo Gallinari had 20 points, seven rebounds and four assists to help the Denver Nuggets snap a six-game losing streak with a 78-74 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday night.

Jusuf Nurkic had 15 points and 10 rebounds, and the Nuggets overcame 35.8 percent shooting by hitting eight of 20 3-pointers. Denver had lost nine of its previous 10 games.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 14 points and 14 rebounds, and Nikola Pekovic scored 12 points in his season debut for the reeling Timberwolves. Minnesota has lost four straight games, eight of its last nine and is 5-14 at home this season.

The Timberwolves shot 2 for 20 in the fourth quarter and made just three of 11 3-pointers.

In an ugly game between the two worst teams in the Northwest Division, Gallinari and Nurkic were the only Nuggets in double figures. They held the Wolves to 38 percent shooting and allowed just one field goal in the final 11 minutes of the fourth quarter in an effort that must have made hard-nosed coach Mike Malone proud.

RAPTORS 91 NETS 74

NEW YORK — Hours after one of their best defenders had surgery, the Toronto Raptors got back to defending the way they know they can.

Jonas Valanciunas had 22 points and 11 rebounds, and the Raptors handed the Brooklyn Nets their eighth straight home loss, 91-74 on Wednesday night.

Even without DeMarre Carroll, who could be out a while after arthroscopic surgery on his right knee across town, the Raptors held the Nets below 40 percent shooting and won easily even while missing 18 of their 22 3-point attempts.

PISTONS 99 CELTICS 94

BOSTON — Reggie Jackson scored nine of his 24 points in the final quarter, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope finished with 20 and the Detroit Pistons rallied for a 99-94 win over the Boston Celtics on Wednesday night.

Andre Drummond was in early foul trouble and had an off night for the Pistons, scoring 13 points and grabbing five rebounds. Detroit has won three of four.

Isaiah Thomas led the Celtics with 22 points, scoring their final 15 over the last 7:24 after missing 14 of his first 15 shots. Evan Turner scored 17, and Amir Johnson and Jae Crowder each had 16.

The Celtics have lost three of four.

Thomas scored seven straight to erase a four-point Pistons lead. His spinning drive in the lane put Boston ahead 89-88, but Jackson nailed a 3-pointer from the left wing on the ensuing possession.

Jackson hit two free throws before Thomas' basket in the lane cut it to 93-91 with 1:43 left.

After Thomas made one of two free throws, Stanley Johnson hit a 3.

Thomas made two of three free throws, but Aron Baynes had a pair from the line to make the Pistons' lead comfortable in the closing seconds.

KNICKS 98 HEAT 90

MIAMI — The New York Knicks have already surpassed their win total for all of last season, and the latest victory was especially sweet.

Carmelo Anthony scored 25 points and the Knicks shot 56 percent to snap a streak of eight consecutive losses to the Miami Heat, beating their rivals 98-90 Wednesday night.

Anthony shot 9 for 12 and was a plus-19. In his first two games against Miami this season, Anthony shot 10 for 29 and totaled 32 points.

Robin Lopez added a season-high 19 points for the Knicks, who won their third game in a row, and their second on the road in as many nights.

The Knicks (18-19) are way ahead of their pace a year ago, when they had the worst record in the Eastern Conference (17-65).

COLLEGE BASKETBALL GLANCE

Wednesday's scores

MEN
SOUTH
Cornell 84, Howard 81
Davidson 77, Duquesne 66
Duke 91, Wake Forest 75
Gardner-Webb 71, Campbell 68
Georgia 77, Missouri 59
Grambling St. 60, Jarvis Christian 58
Hampton 83, Morgan St. 80, OT
Liberty 62, Coastal Carolina 61
Maryland 68, Rutgers 63
NC Central 78, Johnson & Wales (NC) 70
North Florida 97, Stetson 79
Presbyterian 78, Longwood 65
Radford 80, Charleston Southern 73
St. Bonaventure 77, George Mason 58
Tennessee 83, Florida 69
Texas A&M 61, Mississippi St. 60
UCF 75, South Florida 64
UNC Asheville 88, Winthrop 84
FAR WEST
Wyoming 64, Air Force 52
MIDWEST
Ball St. 87, Toledo 69
Belmont 85, SIU-Edwardsville 77
Bowling Green 73, Miami (Ohio) 62
Dayton 93, UMass 63
E. Michigan 89, Cent. Michigan 80
IPFW 85, South Dakota 65
Illinois St. 54, Loyola of Chicago 52
Indiana St. 79, Drake 69
Iowa St. 76, Texas Tech 69
Missouri St. 59, N. Iowa 58
N. Illinois 80, Ohio 69
S. Illinois 65, Bradley 44
Saint Louis 65, George Washington 62
Tennessee St. 68, E. Illinois 61
Wichita St. 67, Evansville 64
EAST
Albany (NY) 73, UMBC 59
Bucknell 72, American U. 54
Columbia 81, Md.-Eastern Shore 75
Fordham 68, La Salle 61
Holy Cross 65, Colgate 63
Lafayette 76, Army 73
Loyola (Md.) 61, Lehigh 50
Mass.-Lowell 80, Hartford 76
Navy 83, Boston U. 67
Pittsburgh 89, Georgia Tech 84
Stony Brook 62, Binghamton 52
Vermont 90, Maine 72
Villanova 72, Seton Hall 63
Yale 83, NJIT 65

WOMEN
SOUTHWEST
Oklahoma 78, TCU 65
Oklahoma St. 69, Texas Tech 46
Oral Roberts 60, South Dakota 56
Texas 75, Iowa St. 54
SOUTH
Bluefield 81, St. Andrews 67
Carson-Newman 68, Tusculum 47
Clayton St. 79, Armstrong St. 70
Dayton 60, Richmond 46
Emory & Henry 81, Hollins 48
Transylvania 85, Earlham 65
Va. Wesleyan 68, Randolph-Macon 62
FAR WEST
Boise St. 84, Utah St. 78, OT
Fresno St. 67, Nevada 59
Wyoming 67, Air Force 45
MIDWEST
Adrian 63, Kalamazoo 54
Akron 68, E. Michigan 65, OT
Albion 73, Alma 65
Aquinas 70, Marygrove 64
Augsburg 81, Hamline 46
Baylor 58, Kansas 40
Benedictine (Kan.) 88, Graceland 48
Bethel (Minn.) 65, St. Olaf 48
Calvin 81, Trine 52
Central Methodist 81, Baker 72
Concordia (Moor.) 63, Carleton 38
Culver-Stockton 63, William Penn 59
Davenport 89, Concordia (Mich.) 72
Lake Forest 81, Beloit 74
Lawrence Tech 72, Michigan-Dearborn 46
Miami (Ohio) 66, N. Illinois 60
Ohio 73, Ball St. 49
Olivet 94, Illinois Tech 13
Ripon 72, Carroll (Wis.) 59
St. Benedict 63, Macalester 56
St. Mary (Neb.) 58, Doane 53
St. Mary's (Minn.) 71, St. Catherine 67
St. Norbert 65, Lawrence 29
St. Thomas (Minn.) 67, Gustavus 45
Tennessee St. 62, E. Illinois 53
Toledo 73, Kent St. 67
W. Michigan 74, Bowling Green 45
West Virginia 72, Kansas St. 53
Wis.-Platteville 66, Wis.-LaCrosse 60
Wis.-River Falls 76, Wis.-Oshkosh 69
Wis.-Stevens Pt. 59, Wis.-Eau Claire 52
Wis.-Whitewater 72, Wis.-Stout 60
EAST
Albany (NY) 77, UMBC 42
Army 78, Lafayette 45
Bloomfield 78, Wilmington (Del.) 73
Brown 80, Rhode Island Coll. 35
Bucknell 66, American U. 60
Buffalo 67, Cent. Michigan 61
Chestnut Hill 83, Post (Conn.) 44
Columbia 87, Fairleigh Dickinson 83, OT
Cornell 71, Delaware St. 62
Davidson 66, La Salle 58
George Washington 68, Rhode Island 52
Hartford 72, Mass.-Lowell 59
Holy Cross 80, Colgate 71
Holy Family 80, Dominican (NY) 76
Lehigh 68, Loyola (Md.) 48
Lehman 74, Mount St. Vincent 73
Maine 62, Vermont 41
Philadelphia 59, Concordia (NY) 41
Quinnipiac 64, Rider 51
Saint Joseph's 62, UMass 58
St. Peter's 67, Monmouth (NJ) 62
St. Rose 71, S. New Hampshire 67
Stockton 76, New Jersey City 55
Stony Brook 64, Binghamton 58
UConn 95, Tulsa 35

Today's schedules

MEN
SOUTHWEST
Cincinnati at SMU, 6 p.m.
Louisiana-Lafayette at UALR, 7:15 p.m.
Louisiana-Monroe at Arkansas St., 7:35 p.m.
SOUTH
Tennessee Tech at Murray St., 2 p.m.
SE Missouri at Morehead St., 5 p.m.
Hofstra at Coll. of Charleston, 6 p.m.
Elon at James Madison, 6 p.m.
FAU at Marshall, 6 p.m.
UTEP at Middle Tennessee, 6 p.m.
Louisville at NC State, 6 p.m.
Texas-Arlington at Appalachian St., 6:30 p.m.
South Alabama at Georgia Southern, 6:30 p.m.
Troy at Georgia St., 6:30 p.m.
UT Martin at E. Kentucky, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at Southern Miss., 7 p.m.
UTSA at UAB, 7 p.m.
FIU at W. Kentucky, 7 p.m.
Jacksonville St. at Austin Peay, 7:30 p.m.
Alabama at Mississippi, 8 p.m.
Old Dominion at Louisiana Tech, 8:30 p.m.
FAR WEST
Texas Rio Grande Valley at Grand Canyon, 8 p.m.
N. Colorado at Idaho St., 8 p.m.
Portland St. at Montana, 8 p.m.
New Mexico St. at Utah Valley, 8 p.m.
North Dakota at Weber St., 8 p.m.
Sacramento St. at Montana St., 8:05 p.m.
Saint Mary's (Cal) at Loyola Marymount, 9 p.m.
Pacific at Pepperdine, 9 p.m.
San Francisco at San Diego, 9 p.m.
Arizona at UCLA, 9 p.m.
Arizona St. at Southern Cal, 9:30 p.m.
UC Davis at UC Irvine, 9:30 p.m.
Santa Clara at BYU, 10 p.m.
Cal St.-Fullerton at UC Riverside, 10 p.m.
MIDWEST
S. Dakota St. at IUPUI, 6 p.m.
Michigan at Purdue, 6 p.m.
Green Bay at Cleveland St., 6:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Youngstown St., 6:45 p.m.
Nebraska-Omaha at N. Dakota St., 7 p.m.
Seattle at UMKC, 7:05 p.m.
Illinois at Michigan St., 8 p.m.
EAST
Notre Dame at Boston College, 6 p.m.
Manhattan at Canisius, 6 p.m.
William & Mary at Drexel, 6 p.m.
Robert Morris at LIU Brooklyn, 6 p.m.
CCSU at Mount St. Mary's, 6 p.m.
St. Peter's at Niagara, 6 p.m.
Delaware at Northeastern, 6 p.m.
Fairleigh Dickinson at Sacred Heart, 6 p.m.
Fairfield at Siena, 6 p.m.
St. Francis (Pa.) at St. Francis Brooklyn, 6 p.m.
UNC Wilmington at Towson, 6 p.m.
Bryant at Wagner, 6 p.m.
Rider at Iona, 7 p.m.
WOMEN
SOUTHWEST
Louisiana-Monroe at Arkansas St., 5:05 p.m.
Louisiana-Lafayette at UALR, 5:15 p.m.
SE Louisiana at Sam Houston St., 6:30 p.m.
Northwestern St. at Abilene Christian, 7 p.m.
Texas A&M at Arkansas, 7 p.m.
Nicholls St. at Houston Baptist, 7 p.m.
Texas A&M-CC at Lamar, 7 p.m.
Cent. Arkansas at Stephen F. Austin, 7 p.m.
Grand Canyon at Texas-Rio Grande Valley, 7 p.m.
UAB at UTSA, 7 p.m.
Middle Tennessee at UTEP, 8:05 p.m.
SOUTH
Southern Miss. at Charlotte, 11 a.m.
Texas-Arlington at Appalachian St., 4 p.m.
South Alabama at Georgia Southern, 4 p.m.
Troy at Georgia St., 4 p.m.
UT Martin at E. Kentucky, 4:30 p.m.
Tennessee Tech at Murray St., 5 p.m.
Chattanooga at Wofford, 5 p.m.
Jacksonville St. at Austin Peay, 5:15 p.m.
Wake Forest at Duke, 6 p.m.
Marshall at FAU, 6 p.m.
W. Kentucky at FIU, 6 p.m.
Boston College at Florida St., 6 p.m.
ETSU at Furman, 6 p.m.
Duquesne at George Mason, 6 p.m.
Missouri at Georgia, 6 p.m.
Alabama at Kentucky, 6 p.m.
Virginia Tech at Louisville, 6 p.m.
Nebraska at Maryland, 6 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Miami, 6 p.m.
Syracuse at North Carolina, 6 p.m.
Louisiana Tech at Old Dominion, 6 p.m.
SMU at South Florida, 6 p.m.
East Carolina at UCF, 6 p.m.
Mercer at UNC Greensboro, 6 p.m.
Notre Dame at Virginia, 6 p.m.
Saint Louis at VCU, 6 p.m.
Samford at W. Carolina, 6 p.m.
Georgia Tech at N.C. State, 6:30 p.m.
Florida at Tennessee, 6:30 p.m.
Incarnate Word at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
South Carolina at Vanderbilt, 7 p.m.
SE Missouri at Morehead St., 7:15 p.m.
Mississippi at LSU, 7:30 p.m.
Auburn at Mississippi St., 7:30 p.m.
FAR WEST
UC Irvine at UC Riverside, 7 p.m.
N. Dakota St. at Denver, 8 p.m.
Utah Valley at New Mexico St., 8 p.m.
Idaho St. at N. Colorado, 8 p.m.
BYU at Santa Clara, 8 p.m.
Loyola Marymount at Saint Mary's, 8:30 p.m.
Chicago St. at CS Bakersfield, 9 p.m.
UC Davis at CS Northridge, 9 p.m.
Hawaii at Long Beach St., 9 p.m.
*Pepperdine at Pacific, 9 p.m.
Montana at Portland St., 9 p.m.
San Diego at San Francisco, 9 p.m.
UMKC at Seattle, 9 p.m.
Cal Poly at UC Santa Barbara, 9 p.m.
Montana St. at Sacramento St., 9:05 p.m.
MIDWEST
Milwaukee at Youngstown St., 4:15 p.m.
Green Bay at Cleveland St., 4:30 p.m.
Memphis at Cincinnati, 6 p.m.
W. Illinois at IPFW, 6 p.m.
Iowa at Michigan, 6 p.m.
Indiana at Ohio St., 6 p.m.
Oakland at Ill.-Chicago, 7 p.m.
Weber St. at North Dakota, 7 p.m.
Purdue at Northwestern, 7 p.m.
Neb.-Omaha at S. Dakota St., 7 p.m.
Detroit at Valparaiso, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Illinois, 8 p.m.
EAST
Marist at Iona, 4 p.m.
Boston U. at Navy, 6 p.m.
Michigan St. at Penn St., 6 p.m.
Wisconsin at Rutgers, 6 p.m.
Fordham at St. Bonaventure, 6 p.m.

Top 25 fared

MEN
Wednesday
1. Kansas (13-1) did not play. Next: at Texas Tech, Saturday.
2. Oklahoma (12-1) did not play. Next: vs. Kansas State, Saturday.
3. Maryland (14-1) beat Rutgers 88-63. Next: at Wisconsin, Saturday.
4. Virginia (12-2) did not play. Next: at Georgia Tech, Saturday.
5. Michigan State (14-1) did not play. Next: vs. Illinois, Thursday.
6. North Carolina (14-2) did not play. Next: at Syracuse, Saturday.
7. Arizona (13-1) did not play. Next: at UCLA, Thursday.
8. Providence (14-2) did not play. Next: at Creighton, Tuesday.
9. Kentucky (11-3) did not play. Next: at Alabama, Saturday.
10. Xavier (13-1) at St. John's. Next: vs DePaul, Tuesday.
11. Villanova (13-2) beat Seton Hall 72-63. Next: at No. 18 Butler, Sunday.
12. Miami (12-1) did not play. Next: vs. Florida State, Saturday.
13. Iowa State (12-2) beat Texas Tech 76-69. Next: vs. Baylor, Saturday.
14. Duke (13-2) beat Wake Forest 91-75. Next: vs. Virginia Tech, Saturday.
15. SMU (13-0) did not play. Next: vs. Cincinnati, Thursday.
16. Louisville (12-2) did not play. Next: at N.C. State, Thursday.
17. West Virginia (13-1) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma State, Saturday.
18. Butler (12-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 11 Villanova, Sunday.
19. Iowa (12-3) did not play. Next: at No. 5 Michigan State, Thursday, Jan. 14.
20. Purdue (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Michigan, Thursday.
21. Texas A&M (12-2) beat Mississippi State 61-60. Next: at Tennessee, Saturday.
22. South Carolina (14-0) did not play. Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Saturday.
23. UConn (10-4) did not play. Next: vs. Memphis, Saturday.
24. Pittsburgh (13-1) beat Georgia Tech 89-84. Next: at Notre Dame, Saturday.
25. Dayton (12-2) beat UMass 93-63. Next: at La Salle, Saturday.

WOMEN
Wednesday
1. UConn (12-0) beat Tulsa 95-35. Next: at Houston, Friday.
2. South Carolina (13-0) did not play. Next: at Vanderbilt, Thursday.
3. Notre Dame (13-1) did not play. Next: at Virginia, Thursday.
4. Texas (14-0) beat Iowa State 75-54. Next: at Oklahoma State, Saturday.
5. Ohio State (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. Indiana, Thursday.
6. Baylor (15-1) beat Kansas 58-40. Next: vs. TCU, Saturday.
7. Mississippi State (14-1) did not play. Next: vs. Auburn, Thursday.
8. Maryland (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. Nebraska, Thursday.
9. Stanford (11-3) did not play. Next: vs. Utah, Friday.
10. Kentucky (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Alabama, Thursday.
11. Oregon State (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon, Friday.
12. Tennessee (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. Florida, Thursday.
13. Texas A&M (11-3) did not play. Next: at Arkansas, Thursday.
14. Arizona State (10-3) did not play. Next: at Washington, Friday.
15. UCLA (11-3) did not play. Next: at Southern Cal, Sunday.
16. Northwestern (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Thursday.
17. Oklahoma (11-3) beat TCU 78-65. Next: vs. Kansas State, Sunday.
18. Duke (11-4) did not play. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Thursday.
19. Florida State (9-4) did not play. Next: vs. Boston College, Thursday.
20. Missouri (13-1) did not play. Next: at Georgia, Thursday.
21. California (9-4) did not play. Next: vs. Colorado, Friday.
22. South Florida (9-3) did not play. Next: vs. SMU, Thursday.
23. Michigan State (10-3) did not play. Next: at Penn State, Thursday.
24. DePaul (11-5) did not play. Next: vs. Georgetown, Friday.
25. Seton Hall (13-2) did not play. Next: at St. John's, Saturday.

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	22	15	.595	—
Boston	19	16	.543	2
New York	18	19	.486	4
Brooklyn	10	25	.286	11
Philadelphia	4	33	.108	18
Southeast Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Miami	21	14	.600	—
Atlanta	21	15	.583	½
Orlando	19	17	.528	2½
Charlotte	17	17	.500	3½
Washington	15	18	.455	5
Central Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Cleveland	24	9	.727	—
Chicago	21	12	.636	3
Indiana	20	15	.571	5
Detroit	20	16	.556	5½
Milwaukee	14	23	.378	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	31	6	.838	—
Dallas	21	15	.583	9½
Memphis	19	17	.528	11½
Houston	17	19	.472	13½
New Orleans	11	23	.324	18½
Northwest Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Oklahoma City	34	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Utah	24	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Portland	21	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Denver	19	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Minnesota	15	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pacific Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Golden State	31	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
L.A. Clippers	22	[illegible]	.629	[illegible]
Sacramento	19	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Phoenix	17	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
L.A. Lakers	8	29	.222	24

Scores and schedule

Wednesday's Scores
New York 98, Miami 90
Indiana 95, Orlando 86
Cleveland 121, Washington 115
Toronto 91, Brooklyn 74
Detroit 99, Boston 94
Denver 78, Minnesota 74
Dallas 100, New Orleans 91
San Antonio 123, Utah 98
Charlotte at Phoenix, late
Memphis at Oklahoma City, late
L.A. Clippers at Portland, late

Today's Games
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Boston at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Utah at Houston, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	40	24	12	4	52	111	86
Montreal	42	23	16	3	49	121	104
Detroit	40	20	13	7	47	101	106
Boston	38	20	14	4	44	118	105
Ottawa	40	19	15	6	44	114	120
Tampa Bay	40	19	17	4	42	101	98
Toronto	37	15	15	7	37	99	103
Buffalo	40	15	21	4	34	92	110
Metropolitan Division	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Washington	39	29	7	3	61	124	85
N.Y. Islanders	40	22	13	5	49	113	99
N.Y. Rangers	40	22	14	4	48	118	105
New Jersey	41	20	16	5	45	94	97
Pittsburgh	40	19	16	5	43	94	99
Philadelphia	38	18	15	7	39	83	105
Carolina	40	16	17	7	39	92	111
Columbus	41	15	23	3	33	105	131

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	42	28	10	4	60	148	113
Chicago	42	25	13	4	54	117	100
St. Louis	42	23	14	5	51	103	103
Minnesota	39	21	11	7	49	105	92
Nashville	40	19	14	7	45	104	106
Colorado	40	19	18	3	41	113	111
Winnipeg	40	19	19	2	40	108	115
Pacific Division	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Los Angeles	39	25	12	2	52	105	87
Arizona	39	19	16	4	42	110	124
Calgary	39	19	18	2	40	104	122
Anaheim	38	16	15	7	39	73	90
Vancouver	40	15	16	9	39	87	113
San Jose	37	18	17	2	38	101	106
Edmonton	41	17	21	3	37	102	122

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

Scores and schedule

Wednesday's Scores
Montreal 2, New Jersey 1
Chicago 3, Pittsburgh 1
St. Louis at Colorado, late
Carolina at Vancouver, late
Toronto at Anaheim, late

Today's Games
Washington at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m.
Florida at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Winnipeg at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Arizona at Calgary, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.
Detroit at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

Hopkins strives for Texans despite QB changes

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — It didn't matter which quarterback was throwing passes for the Houston Texans this season, DeAndre Hopkins was there to catch them.

Hopkins

In Houston's first season without Andre Johnson, Hopkins was the team's most consistent offensive performer, piling up the third-most yards receiving in the NFL despite the near-constant quarterback changes.

He had at least one 100-yard receiving game with Brian Hoyer, Ryan Mallett, T.J. Yates and Brandon Weeden to become the first player in NFL history to have a 100-yard game with four different quarterbacks in a single season.

"It says a lot about DeAndre," coach Bill O'Brien said. "It says a lot about his ability to work with different quarterbacks. It says a lot about the quarterbacks that they know that he's a guy for us that's been consistent and dependable and a playmaker for us."

Hopkins will make his playoff debut on Saturday when the AFC South champion Texans return to the postseason for the first time since 2012 when they host the Kansas City Chiefs, winners of 10 straight.

Hopkins, who is in his third season, downplayed the difficulties of navigating between multiple quarterbacks this season and talked about his success despite the QB shuffle.

"Getting extra reps I would say and just being reliable," he said. "They're in the NFL for a reason so that's not an excuse for any wide receiver to say: 'I'm not successful' or 'I'm doing something wrong' because of the quarterback situation.'"

The 23-year-old finished the regular season with career highs in both receptions (111) and yards receiving (1,521) and set a franchise record with 11 touchdown receptions, which was also a career best.

He's just the third player in NFL history to have 1,400 yards receiving and 11 touchdown receptions in a season at age 23 or younger.

He had six 100-yard receiving games this season and his career average of 14.8 yards per catch is the best in franchise history.

The low-key Hopkins didn't see dealing with so many quarterbacks as a detriment and said he simply had to worry about himself and not be concerned with who was throwing the ball.

"It's really on you as a receiver to make your quarterback right," he said. "No quarterback is going to throw the perfect ball (every time). Every quarterback throws interceptions and throws bad balls. If they give you the chance to make a play I look at it as you have to make that play."

NFL Playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday
Kansas City (11-5) at Houston (9-7), 3:35 p.m.
Pittsburgh (10-6) at Cincinnati (12-4), 7:15 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 10
Seattle (10-6) at Minnesota (11-6), noon
Green Bay (10-6) at Washington (9-7), 3 p.m.
Divisional Playoffs
Pittsburgh, Kansas City or Houston at Denver (12-4), TBA
Cincinnati, Houston or Kansas City at New England (12-4), TBA
Seattle, Green Bay or Washington at Carolina (15-1), TBA
Minnesota, Washington or Green Bay at Arizona (13-3), TBA

Title game tests ties in Alabama hometown of Clemson coach

By Jay Reeves
Associated Press

PELHAM, Ala. — Two autographed photos of Clemson coach Dabo Swinney hang on a wall above the used stoves and plumbing hoses in Jason Miller's hardware store, even though this is the heart of Alabama football country.

Miller is pulling for the top-ranked Tigers against Alabama in Monday's title game even though he calls himself a "huge" Crimson Tide fan.

Miller is definitely in the minority among Tide fans in rooting for Clemson to beat coach Nick Saban's team, but he's hardly alone around here in being a big fan of Swinney, who attended high school in Birmingham's southern suburbs before going on to play at Alabama and then coach. The matchup between Clemson and No. 2 Alabama in the national championship game is testing ties and allegiances in a way that's just a little bit awkward for some.

"Everybody talks about it being crazy, me pulling for Clemson, but it's not for me. This is family," said Miller, whose M&M Hardware in neighboring Alabaster was once owned by Swinney's late father. He considers Swinney more a brother than a football rival, texting and talking regularly with the guy everyone around here calls "Dabo," not coach.

For many Alabama fans, Swinney is their second-favorite coach behind Saban, who's after his fourth national title at Alabama. Area Facebook feeds, coffee shops and store aisles are full of 'Bama fans who say they'd be rooting for Clemson if only Swinney's team wasn't playing the Tide.

"I'm pretty red-and-white and I want Alabama to win, but I love Dabo and want him to do well," said Alabama fan Herman Watts, who has known Swinney for decades. "But both can't win, can they? So we've got ourselves a situation."

Swinney knows he's got some secret fans. That's just fine with him.

"There's a lot of closet Clemson fans at Alabama. They don't want to admit it, but there's a bunch of them," he said.

Swinney, 46, grew up in Pelham and played football at Pelham High School before enrolling at the University of Alabama and joining the football team as a walk-on under then-Alabama coach Bill Curry. Swinney made an impression on Curry assistant Tommy Bowden and eventually earned a scholarship as a receiver under Alabama coach Gene Stallings.

Swinney was part of Alabama's 1992 national championship team that defeated Miami 34-13 in the Sugar Bowl and, afterward, worked as an assistant at Alabama under Stallings and Mike DuBose, recruiting Watts' son Tyler Watts to Alabama as a quarterback.

Boys

From 1C

was an Achilles heel that cost the program more than a few points in the standings in 2015.

Co-head coach Scott Hicks said his players have been putting in extra work during the offseason and are determined to get some of those technical errors corrected in the hopes of building upon a 7-11-1 final record in 2015.

"We've worked really hard on finishing easy (scoring) opportunities," Hicks said. "Last year, we had too many easy opportunities that we didn't put in the back of the net. The kids are better soccer players than they were a year ago."

Though the Rebels didn't finish last season with a winning record, the program was given a spark when it bested playoff-bound Abilene High, 4-3, in last season's district finale.

Hicks believes he has a nice crop of experienced players back in uniform this season. He said if the team can become a more consistent scoring threat, making the playoffs in a competitive district is an attainable goal.

"After MHS, the other three playoff spots (in District 3-6A) are up for grabs."

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

Bulldogs capsule

Coach: Warren Cottle, ninth year at MHS

2015 record: 17-4-3, 9-0-10 (28 points) in District 3-6A

2015 playoffs: Lost to El Paso Eastlake, 3-1, in area round of playoffs

Key players lost: Issac Venegas, midfield; Brody Sherman, center back

Key players returning: Alex VonHolle, Sr., midfield; Jaime Marquez, Sr. center back

Top newcomers: Alexis Mendoza, Sr., outside back

Notes: Coming off of a strong showing in the 2015 campaign, Cottle said he's excited about the personnel he has returning to the team this season. Though the team lost some talent with the graduation of Issac Venegas and Brody Sherman, senior midfielder and reigning District 3-6A Offensive Most Valuable Player Alex VonHolle, is back to lead the Bulldogs . Apart from VonHolle, MHS is returning a load of experienced upperclassmen from last year's playoff run. ...Despite last season's 17-4-3 record and near perfect run through district play, Cottle said he believes the district will be as competitive as ever this season. "There's a lot of parity in our district, more than ever. It has usually come down to the last game to see who makes the playoffs. There's nobody that stands out more than anyone else at this point." ... Cottle expects his squad to be a well-balanced one, with few weaknesses, that relies on its strength of communication and camaraderie in particular.

MHS BOYS SEASON GLANCE

2016 BULLDOGS ROSTER

No.	Name	Class	Pos.
1	Pedro Centeotres	Jr	GK
2	Brian Natividad	n/a	16
3	Alan Rodriguez	n/a	17
4	Alexis Mendoza	Sr	18
5	Jaime Marquez	Sr	23
6	Ezequiel Franco	Sr	99
7	Alex VonHolle	Sr	
8	Martin Orpinel	Sr	
9	Nathan Bejil	Sr	
10	Allan Aguilar	Sr	
12	Josiah Ramirez	n/a	
13	Jeremy Martinez	n/a	
14	Raul Jaramillo III	n/a	
15	Nick Garcia	n/a	
16	Bradley Farrington	n/a	
17	Brooks Ferguson	n/a	
18	Christian Fuentes	Sr	
23	Julian Mendez	n/a	
99	Quentin Dickson	Sr	

2016 BULLDOGS SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 7	a-vs. Grand Prairie	7 p.m.
Jan. 8	a-vs. Round Rock McNeil	3 p.m.
Jan. 9	a-vs. Deer Park	10 a.m.
Jan. 14	b-vs. Amarillo Pal Duro	8 p.m.
Jan. 15	b-vs. North Crowley	5 p.m.
Jan. 16	b-vs. El Paso Eastwood	5 p.m.
Jan. 22	c-vs. Dallas Lincoln	6:20 p.m.
Jan. 23	c-vs. Garland	6:20 p.m.
Jan. 24	c-vs. R.L. Turner	9:10 a.m.
Jan. 29	at Amarillo High	4 p.m.
Feb. 2	at Abilene Cooper	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 9	at Abilene High*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	at Odessa Permian*	noon
Feb. 16	at San Angelo Central*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	Lee*	noon
Feb. 23	at Odessa High*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 27	Abilene High*	noon
March 1	Odessa Permian*	5:30 p.m.
March 5	San Angelo Central*	noon
March 7	at Lee*	5:30 p.m.
March 19	Odessa High*	noon

a-Coppell Showcase
b-Presidents Cup
c-Richland Tournament
*denotes District 3-6A opponent

Rebels capsule

Co-coaches: Scott Hicks and Dusty Payne

2015 record: 7-11-1, 2-1-2-5 (10 points) in District 3-6A

2015 playoffs: Missed playoffs

Key players lost: Micah Peterson, goalkeeper; Colton Cox, midfield; Ricky Dominguez, forward

Key players returning: Nate Ortiz, Sr., midfield; Tre Sanchez, Sr., midfield/defender

Top newcomers: Eddie Ramirez, Jr., goalkeeper; Nathaniel Gushee, Jr., goalkeeper

Notes: Hicks said he expects that his team will bring a fast-paced, attacking style of play to the field this year. "We're going to try to attack, challenge the opponent's defense. We expect to be a quick team, a better scoring team this year." ... Similar to last season, the Rebels weren't the biggest or most physical team in the district. But Hicks said his squad should be able to make up for that shortcoming with its speed and returning experience. ... Hicks added that while his midfield and forward groups are strengths, he and co-head coach Dusty Payne are still trying to lock down a full-time starter in goal. Several candidates are being considered, including Lee football players Brock Murry and Kade Hicks. To start the season, Hicks said that junior Eddie Ramirez is considered the favorite to win the job in goal for the Rebels.

LEE BOYS SEASON GLANCE

2016 REBELS ROSTER

No.	Name	Class	Pos.
1	Daniel Martinez	n/a	n/a
2	Guillermo Simental	n/a	n/a
3	Nate Ortiz	Sr	MF
4	Sebastian Ramos	Sr	n/a
5	Abraham Zuniga	n/a	18
6	Tristen Pacheco	n/a	n/a
7	Jaime Dominguez	n/a	n/a
8	Jose Gutierrez	n/a	21
9	Tre Sanchez	Sr	MF/D
10	Levi Barba	Sr	n/a
11	Carlos Aranda	n/a	n/a
12	Jeremias Carasco	Sr	n/a
13	Nathaniel Gushee	Jr	GK
14	Eddie Ramirez	Jr	GK
15	Isaac Ramirez	n/a	n/a
16	Deshawn Hunter	n/a	n/a
17	Joseph Fontana	n/a	n/a
18	Fabian Carrillo	n/a	n/a
19	Mark Serrano	n/a	n/a
20	Luis Aranda	So	n/a
21	Nathan Bowden	Jr	n/a
22	Leandro Aranda	n/a	n/a
23	Mac Barden	Jr	n/a
24	Kade Hicks	Sr	GK
25	Brock Murry	Sr	GK

2016 REBELS SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 7	at Coppell Showcase	TBA
Jan. 8	at Coppell Showcase	TBA
Jan. 9	at Coppell Showcase	TBA
Jan. 14	a-vs. El Paso Jefferson	6 p.m.
Jan. 15	a-vs. Amarillo Palo Duro	noon
Jan. 16	a-vs. North Crowley	3 p.m.
Jan. 21	at Richardson Tournament	TBA
Jan. 22	at Richardson Tournament	TBA
Jan. 23	at Richardson Tournament	TBA
Feb. 2	Lubbock High	7 p.m.
Feb. 9	Odessa Permian*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	San Angelo Central*	noon
Feb. 16	Odessa High*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	at Midland High*	noon
Feb. 23	Abilene High*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 27	at Odessa Permian*	noon
March 1	at San Angelo Central*	4:30 p.m.
March 5	at Odessa High*	noon
March 7	Midland High*	5:30 p.m.
March 19	at Abilene High*	10 a.m.

a-Presidents Cup
*denotes District 3-6A opponent

Girls

From 1C

an internal motivation with a little bit of external motivation from me."

Lasley said the rest of the 3-6A teams will be gunning for her team this season but that should be no different than years past.

One of those teams gunning for MHS is Lee, which lost five players to graduation but returns a lot of experience.

"We were pretty low coming off last year, so the only place to go is up," Lee coach Alan Castillejos said. "We're young but we've got a little bit of age behind us and some experience, so hopefully we can put some things together and build for a new season."

The majority of last year's Lady Rebels squad was made up of mostly sophomores and juniors. But Castillejos said thanks to being year older, a little wiser, and hungrier than ever before, his team feels confident that it will be better.

"It's a completely new feeling this year," he said. "They're willing to work hard and learn to take the next step. And they're looking to take two to three steps forward this year."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

Midland High's Hope Barnett battles for the ball with Lee High's Jesse Luna at Grande Communications Stadium on March 10, 2015.

MRT file photo

Lady Bulldogs capsule

Coach: Meagan Lasley

2015 record: 18-5-2, 5-4-0-1, 1st in District 3-6A

Playoffs in 2015: Lost to Arlington Martin 6-0 in Class 6A regional quarterfinal

Key players lost: Hope Barnett (co-Defensive MVP), GK Caitlyn Terebessy (first team all-district), Sarah Krisa (first team all-district)

Key returners: MF Adrienne Almodova, Sr. (3-6A Midfielder of the Year), F Claudia Fricker, Jr. (first team all-district), D Hayden Burdsal, Sr. (first team all-district), D Jaime Lujan, Sr. (second team all-district), MF Kylie VonHolle (3-6A co-Newcomer of the Year)

Key Newcomers: F Racquel Houston, Fr; F Madeline Glenn, Sr.; F Naysa Quintela, Fr.

Lasley on the 2016 Lady Bulldogs: "With the success we had last year, it's keeping these girls motivated to be as good or better than last year. We have some great new girls who have exceeded our expectations. It's going to come down to executing with a young team."

Notes: The Lady Bulldogs will not only look to defend their district title but make the playoffs for the eighth straight year and ninth time in the last 13. ... MHS will have some key players to replace but return leading scorer in Almodova, who had 16 goals and five assists last year. All-district players Fricker and Burdsal, along with Co-Distrct 3-6A Newcomer of the Year VonHolle will also be key in helping the Lady Bulldogs succeed this season. ... Lasley said it will be a battle to replace Terebessy as the team's main goalkeeper between freshman Ally Robinson and Ashley Smith. ... Lasley said the key to success for her team will be how well the Lady Bulldogs follow the game plan.

MHS GIRLS SEASON GLANCE

2016 LADY BULLDOGS ROSTER

No.	Name	Class	Pos.
0	Ally Robinson	Fr.	GK
1	Ashley Smith	Jr.	GK
2	Levi Tindle	Fr.	MF
3	Liz Sanchez	Jr.	MF
4	Sofia Torres	Jr.	MF
5	Kaitlyn Jones	Jr.	F
6	Naysa Quintela	Fr.	F
7	Kylie VonHolle	So.	MF
8	Hayden Burdsal	Fr.	F
9	Danessa Sanchez	Sr.	D
10	Lyndsey Vargas	Jr.	D
12	Marli Martin	Jr	MF
13	Chloe Terebessy	Fr.	MF/D
14	Lainey McElreath	So.	MF
15	Jaime Lujan	Sr.	D
17	Alexa Aranda	Jr.	D
19	Autumn Mast	Jr.	D
20	Madeline Glenn	Sr.	F
21	Ariel Ramirez	Sr.	MF
22	Claudia Fricker	Sr.	MF
23	Adrianne Almodova	Sr.	MF
25	Arianh Aranda	Sr.	D
26	Raquel Houston	Fr.	F

2016 LADY BULLDOGS SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 7	a-Frisco Lone Star	3 p.m.
Jan. 8	a-McKinney	2 p.m.
Jan. 8	a-Frisco	7 p.m.
Jan. 9	a-Denton Ryan	11 a.m.
Jan. 14	b-Longview Springhill	3:20 p.m.
Jan. 15	b-South Grand Prairie	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	b-TBA	TBA
Jan. 22	Abilene Cooper	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 29	Lubbock High	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 9	at Abilene High*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 16	at San Angelo Central*	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 20	Lee*	2 p.m.
Feb. 23	at Odessa High*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 27	Abilene High*	2 p.m.
March 1	Odessa Permian*	7:30 p.m.
March 5	San Angelo Central*	2 p.m.
March 7	Lee*	7:30 p.m.
March 19	Odessa High*	2 p.m.

a-Dr. Pink Tournament, Frisco
b-Varsity Lady Rabbit Invitational
*denotes District 3-6A opponent

Lady Rebels capsule

Coach: Alan Castillejos

2015 record: 6-12-0, 0-0-1-9, 6th in District 3-6A

Playoffs in 2015: Did not qualify

Key players lost: Shelby Corbitt (all district first-team), Chaselyn Richardson (all district second-team)

Key returners: D Rachel Pitchford, Sr. (first team all-district); MF Jessy Luna, Jr. (honorable mention all-district); D Destany Rodriguez, Jr.; D/MF Abigail Baeza, Jr.

Key newcomers: D/MF Jenna Gonzalez, Fr.; D/MF Bella Wake, So.

Castillejos on the 2016 Lady Rebels: "I feel we're building. We were young last year when the core group was full of sophomore and juniors and I'm sure that was a factor in last year's struggles. This year I think we're a little bit wiser and more mature. The keys to the season is solidifying the defensive back and increasing the speed of play. Another key is the play of the midfield and how we handle it going forward."

Notes: The Lady Rebels should be an improved team considering how young they were last year. ... In order to to make a big jump, they're going to find a way to score as leading scorer Richardson (Wayland Baptist) has graduated. Luna is the team's leading returning attacker. ... Castillejos said his team will have a couple of extra non-district games to prepare for the usually tough 3-6A, which should help the team gain chemistry and improve. ... Lee has 15 letterwinners coming back from last year's squad.

LEE GIRLS SEASON GLANCE

2016 LADY REBELS ROSTER

No.	Name	Class	No.
0	Hannah Jones	So.	11
00	Cheyenne Pearce	Sr.	12
1	Hadley Conner	Jr.	13
2	Amanda Matos	Sr.	15
3	Bailee Wallace	Sr.	16
4	Samantha Ortega	Sr.	17
5	Valerie Zubia	Sr.	20
6	Mya Nunez	Jr.	21
7	Jessie Zubia	Sr.	23
8	Gabby Granado	So.	25
9	Andrea Ganthner	Sr.	
10	Jessy Luna	Jr.	
11	Brianna Herrera	Sr.	
12	Yolani Garza	Jr.	
13	Christina Mora-Brandt	Sr.	
15	Bella Wake	So.	
16	Jenna Gonzalez	Fr.	
17	Rachel Pitchford	Sr.	
20	Abigail Baeza	Jr.	
21	Yamilet Vidales	So.	
23	Destany Rodriguez	Jr.	
25	Jasmine Nunez	So.	

2016 BULLDOGS SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 7	College Station Tournament	TBA
Jan. 8	College Station Tournament	TBA
Jan. 9	College Station Tournament	TBA
Jan. 15	at Lubbock Estacado	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 19	San Angelo Lake View	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 21	Richardson Tournament	TBA
Jan. 22	Richardson Tournament	TBA
Jan. 23	Richardson Tournament	TBA
Jan. 29	at Lubbock Estacado	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 9	Odessa Permian*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	San Angelo Central*	2 p.m.
Feb. 16	Odessa High*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	Midland High*	2 p.m.
Feb. 23	Abilene High*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 27	at Odessa Permian*	7:30 p.m.
March 1	at San Angelo Central*	7:30 p.m.
March 5	at Odessa High*	2 p.m.
March 7	Midland High*	7:30 p.m.
March 19	at Abilene High*	2 p.m.

*denotes District 3-6A opponent

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THURSDAY PRIME TIME JANUARY 7, 2016

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

		G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID	ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Beyond the Tank (SP) (N)		My Diet "Let the Diets Begin/ Cookiegate" The contestants meet their experts this week. (P) (N)				KMID News	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
KOSA	CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	Big Bang Theory	Life In Pieces (N)	Mom (N)	Angel "Pilot" (N)	Elementary "Miss Taken" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert		(:35) J.Corden
KWWT	CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	MASH "Old Solders"	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Happy Days	Laverne & Shirley	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	P. Mason "The Case of the Captain's Coins"		▶ Perry Mason...
KPEJ	FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	American Idol "Auditions #2" 2/2 from Jan 7 (N)		TMZ		2 Broke Girls		Modern Family	Two and Half Men	Met Your Mother	Hot in Cleveland
KMLM	IND	11	12	12	11	11	Lars Enarson	Zola Levitt Presents	Update News	HaYesod	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Joshua Caleb	Jean-Claude	Called Out	Biblical Israel
KWES	NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsWest 9 at 6 p.m.		Heroes Reborn "Send in the Clones" (N)		The Blacklist "The Director" 1/2 (N)		Shades of Blue "Pilot" (P) (N)		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT	PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Salute Downton	Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey: Season Six"			Manor of Speaking	Water	Charlie Rose (N)		World News	Tavis Smiley
KUPB	UNI	4	4		4	16	Muchacha Italiana viene a casarse		Antes muerta que lichita		Pasion y poder		Yo no creo en los hombres		Impacto extra	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA	MNT	16	16		16		Fam.Feud	Fam. Feud	The Mentalist		The Mentalist		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	To Be Announced		Anger M.	Anger M.
FLIX		340	575		165		(3:00) ▶ Mystery, Al...		▶ ★★ Play It to the Bone Woody Harrelson.		(:05) ▶ ★★ World Trade Center Maria Bello.					(:15) ▶ Dirty Pretty ...		
HBO		300	550	14	14		(4:55) ▶ ★★★ Emma		▶ Unfinished Business				▶ ★★ The Hills Have Eyes II		(:05) ▶ ★★★ Final Destination		Movie	
HBO2		302	551	15	101	23	▶ Taken 3 ('14, Act) Liam Neeson.				(:50) ▶ The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel				Real Sex		Fight	Movie
HBO5		304	552	16	102		(3:40) ▶ ★★ Brokeback Mountain				▶ ★★★ Carrie Stay Spock.			(:45) ▶ The Pyramid			(:20) ▶ ★★★ Frailty	
MAX		380	557	17	120	24	Movie	(:40) ▶ ★★ Face/ Off ('97, Act) John Travolta.					▶ Seventh Son Jeff Bridges.			LifeTop	(:20) Life on Top	
MAX2		382	558	18	122		Movie	(:25) ▶ ★★ The Boy Next Door			▶ ★★★ Neighbors Seth Rogen.			(:40) ▶ ★★★ Jarhead Jake Gyllenhaal.				Movie
PLEX				96			(3:30) ▶ Going Apel		▶ ★★ My Girl 2 Anna Chlumsky.		(:45) ▶ ★★★ Little Monsters Fred Savage.					▶ ★★ Red Riding Hood		
SHOW		320	565	19	140	25	(3:30) ▶ Waiter		▶ Backcountry Missy Peregrym.		(:35) ▶ ★★ Snowpiercer Chris Evans.					Gigolos	(:15) ▶ Sin City: A ...	
TMC		336	573	22	155	26	▶ Jimi Hendrix: Electric Church		▶ Song One Anne Hathaway.				▶ After Words			▶ ★★ All Over the Guy		
A&E		27	58	28	35	47	The First 48 "Senior Year"	The First 48 "Night Run"		The First 48 "M.I.A." (N)		Nightwatch "Triumph & Tragedy" (N)			First 48 "Feardrops/ Almost Home"		The First 48 "Night Run"	
AMC		40	74	23	42	51	▶ ★★★ Rocky III ('82, Dra) Talia Shire, Sylvester Stallone.				▶ ★★★ Rocky IV Sylvester Stallone.					▶ ★★ Rocky V		
BET		58	-		40		Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Martin	Criminals at Work		Zoe Ever	Husbands	Wendy Williams	
BRAVO		65	76		41		Beverly Hills		To Be Announced		Chef "It's a Dry Heat"		Top Chef (N)		(:15) Watch	(:45) Top Chef "Big Gay Wedding"		
CNBC		46	52		39	72	Restaurant Startup		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		The Profit		Restaurant Startup		Restaurant Startup	
CNN		43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		CNN Special				CNN Tonight		CNN Special			
DISC		50	60	31	24	42	Fast N' Loud		Fast N' Loud		Fast N' Loud		Diesel "Free Willy's"		Fast N' Loud		Fast N' Loud	
DISNEY		56	64	36	25	36	Liv/Mad	Austin/Ally	Liv/Mad	Austin	Underc.	Underc.	Friends	Austin	Girl M.	Underc.	Jessie	Jessie
ESPN		32	35	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball Illinois at Michigan State (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2		34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball Arizona at UCLA (L)				Basketb.	NFL Live		NFLGreat
FAMILY		53	63	34	42	33	Movie	▶ ★★★ Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire ('05, Adv) Daniel Radcliffe.							The 700 Club		▶ The Flintstones	
FNC		45	48	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
FOOD		64	70	27	68	54	Chopped "Wild Ride"		Chopped		Kids Baking		BeatFlay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Kids Baking	
FSSW		57	38	50	45	29	UIL Champ. "Football: 1A, 2A and 3A" (N)		Stars Pre-game (L)	NHL Hockey Winnipeg Jets at Dallas Airlines Center -- Dallas, Texas (L)			Stars Site: American		Stars Live (L)	Playing for Pevs	Cowboys Insider	SportsDay OnAir
FX		31	56	59	64	69	(4:00) ▶ Fast & Furio...		▶ ★★ 2 Guns ('13, Act) Denzel Washington.					▶ ★★ 2 Guns ('13, Act) Denzel Washington.				
HALLMARK		54	71	58		34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV		63	69	26	48	44	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	H.Hunt	House	H.Hunt	House	FlipFlop	FlipFlop
HISTORY		71	59	29	50	43	(5:00) Vietnam in HD		Vietnam in HD				Vietnam in HD				Vietnam in HD	
LIFETIME		28	30	25	28	48	Project Runway "Race to the Red Carpet"		Child Genius "I'm The Fun Parent" (N)		Project Runway "Superstar Clients" (N)		Child Genius "I'm The Fun Parent"		Project Runway "Superstar Clients"		Child Genius "I'm The Fun Parent"	
MSNBC		47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN		38	43				NHL Live! (L)		NHL Hockey Philadelphia Flyers at Minnesota Wild (L)					NHL Overtime (L)	NFLTP		Super High Roller	
NICK		55	-	39	34	37	MakePop	Thunder	▶ ★★ Scooby-Doo Freddie Prinze Jr.				F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE		30	-	55	53	58	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
SYFY		66	82	41	57	67	▶ ★★ Underworld: Rise of the Lycans				▶ ★★ Insidious: Chapter 2 ('13, Hor) Patrick Wilson.				Conan (N)	▶ ★★ Insidious: Chapter 2		
TBS		25	33	44	66	41	Seln. "The Cartoon"	Selnf. "The Strongbox"	2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls			2 Broke Girls	Conan
TCM		41	75	24	63	66	(5:15) ▶ The Great B...		▶ ★★★ Bulldog Drummond			(:45) ▶ Chandu the Magician			▶ ★ Alice in Wonderland			Movie
TELE		20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		Celia		Bajo el mismo cielo		Señora acero		Al rojo	(:35) Titular.	Bajo el mismo cielo	
TLC		51	61	32	38	52	My 600-lb Life "Ashley's Story"		600-lb Life "Moments of Truth" (N)		Extreme Weight Loss "Jacqui" Jacqui's infertility condition is aggravated by weight.				Skin Tight "Lauana and Tim"		600 Life: Supersized "Moments of Truth"	
TNT		24	34	40	26	50	NBA Tip-Off		NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Chicago Bulls Site: United Center -- Chicago, Ill. (L)					NBA Basketball Los Angeles Clippers at Sacramento Kings Site: Sleep Train Arena -- Sacramento, Calif. (L)				
TVLAND		49	-	35	54	35	FactsLife	FactsLife	FactsLife	FactsLife	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA		26	55	42	27	49	(4:30) ▶ ★★★★ G.I. Joe: Retaliation		WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries.					Colony: Behind W	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit
WGN		19	85				Elementary "Blood Is Thicker"		Elementary "On the Line"		Elementary "Tremors"			Mother "Jenkins"	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Mother "Hooked"	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother

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Royals sign OF Alex Gordon to $72 million, 4-year contract

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — All-Star outfielder Alex Gordon signed a $72 million, four-year deal Wednesday to remain with the World Series champion Kansas City Royals, the team that drafted him more than a decade ago.

Gordon will make $12 million this season, $16 million next and $20 million each of the following two years. The deal includes a $23 million mutual option for 2020 with a $4 million buyout. If he is traded, the option would be voided and the $4 million would become an assignment bonus.

The deal is the richest in franchise history, trumping $55 million agreements given to longtime first baseman Mike Sweeney and starting pitcher Gil Meche.

Gordon declined a $13.75 million option to test free agency, but several outfielders on the market — including Yoenis Cespedes and Justin Upton — may have depressed the 31-year-old's value. And there is Gordon's recent injury history that limited him to 104 games last season.

Gordon was to meet with reporters at Kauffman Stadium later Wednesday.

"We don't want to get caught up in, 'A player has earned this or earned that.' It doesn't matter if you've been here four days or 40 years, you have to produce each and every day," general manager Dayton Moore said shortly after the World Series, when asked about signing Gordon long-term. "You're going to be compensated for what you're going to do, not what you've done."

The second overall pick of the Royals in the 2005 amateur draft, Gordon went through years of growing pains before finally becoming a star. He not only developed into one of the best defensive outfielders in the game with four Gold Gloves to his resume, but also became a consistent hitter and clubhouse leader.

Gordon dealt with a wrist injury early last season, then sustained a serious groin injury that sidelined him much for the summer. He wound up playing in just 104 games, hitting .271 with 13 homers and 48 RBIs, though he did get voted to his third consecutive All-Star Game.

Gordon returned in time for the playoffs, where he hit just .241 while playing all 16 games. His home run off Mets closer Jeurys Familia sent the World Series opener to extra innings and allowed the Royals to win in 14 innings.

The Royals went on to beat the Mets in five games, winning their first World Series since 1985. And during the ensuing parade, hundreds of thousands of fans feted Gordon as the caravan wound through downtown Kansas City, confirming his status as one of the franchise's most popular players.

Notoriously frugal, the Royals once against showed their willingness to open their checkbook.

Along with bringing back Gordon, the team has re-signed pitcher Chris Young to an $11.5 million, two-year deal to solidify their rotation and brought back former closer Joakim Soria on a $25 million, three-year deal.

HALL

From 1C

But slowed by injuries, he never reached 100 RBIs again after his first season with the Reds, and he moved on to the Chicago White Sox in 2008 before spending his last season-plus with the Mariners.

While Griffey was selected first in the 1987 amateur draft and became the first No. 1 to make the Hall, Piazza was selected by the Los Angeles Dodgers with the 1,390th pick on the 62nd round in 1998. Since the draft started in 1965, the lowest draft pick elected to the Hall was John Smoltz, taken with selection 574 on the 22nd round in 1985.

Piazza became the top offensive catcher in big league history, hitting better than .300 in nine straight seasons and finishing with 427 home runs, including a record 396 when he was in the game behind the plate. A 12-time All-Star with a .308 career batting average,

After reaching the major leagues with the Dodgers in 1992, Piazza was dealt to Florida in May 1998 before he could become a free agent, then traded eight days later to the Mets. He remained with New York through 2005, hitting a memorable go-ahead home-run in the first game in the city following the 2001 terrorist attacks, then finished with San Diego in 2006 and Oakland the following year.

Piazza and Bagwell were drawn into the steroids controversy by some who pointed out their powerful physiques, but both have denied using performance-enhancing drugs and no substantive accusations have been made.

NOTES: Alan Trammell received 41 percent in his final ballot appearance.

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

Each set of letters below is arranged alphabetically, and the ? is in the correct alphabetical position. Figure out what letter the ? represents, and then rearrange the letters to spell a six-letter word. For example, in DL?PRUY the ? could be an L, M, N, O or P. Here it represents an O, which can be combined with the other letters to spell PROUDLY. The first letter is placed to get you started.

C ? I M T U
_ _ _ _ _ _ M

A A D F ? R
_ _ _ _ _ _ D

? L N O O U
_ _ _ _ _ _ L

Yesterday's Answer: M U L C H U M O R — S W U N G O O Z Y

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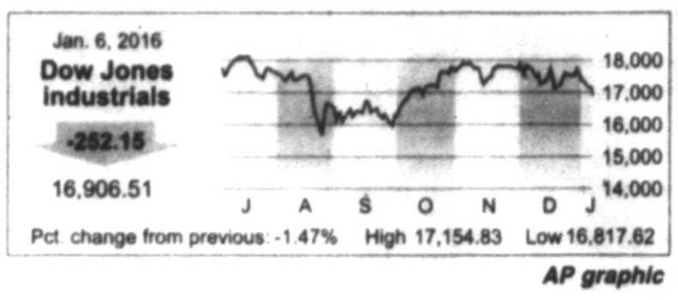
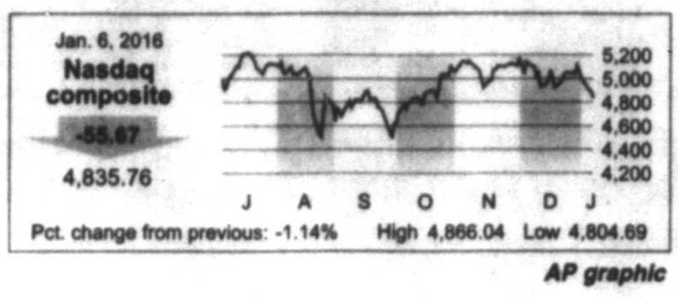
BUSINESS & OIL

A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



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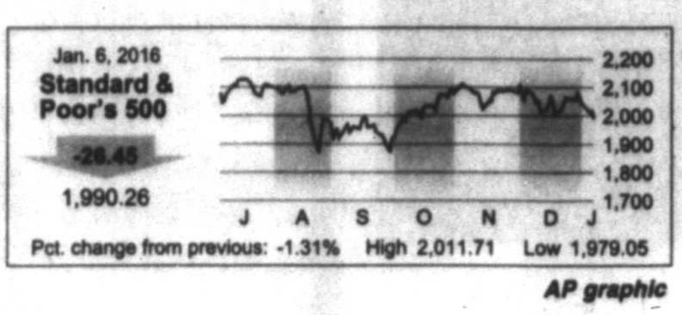


AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Wednesday: $33.97
Previous: $35.97

POSTED

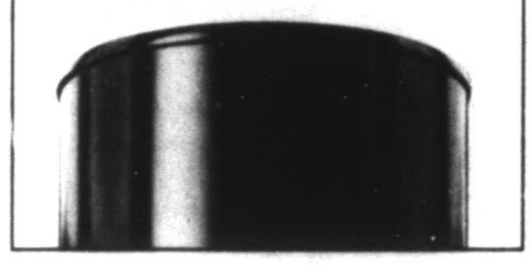
Wednesday: $30.50
Previous: $32.50

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Wednesday: $26.85
Previous: $28.85

NATURAL GAS

Wednesday: $2.267
Previous: $2.325



NYSE

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
S&P500ETF	1315030198	182.82	-2.54
CSVLgCrd rs	831858	3.04	-.56
BkofAm	823162	16.08	-.35
US OilFd	665992	10.11	-.55
iShEMkts	632826	30.78	-.60

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
MaxLinear	15.60	+2.11	+15.6
NoAtlDrl rs	2.26	+.19	+9.2
EnPro	47.16	+3.84	+8.9
Adeptus	59.40	+4.31	+7.8
VoceraCm	12.72	+.89	+7.5

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
hhgregg	2.52	-1.30	-34.0
GenSteel rs	2.09	-.98	-31.8
DxNGBll rs	4.57	-1.58	-25.7
DxSPOGBull	5.28	-1.40	-21.0
CS SP mlp	14.80	-3.12	-17.4

Diary

Advanced	804
Declined	2,332
Unchanged	74
Total issues	3,210
New Highs	46
New Lows	260
Volume	4,195,803,041

AMEX

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BarcGSOil	74185	5.88	-.24
TherapMD	55759	8.38	-.93
SarnsO&G s	46503	1.07	+.68
NwGold g	34889	2.36	+.06
Globalstar	27045	1.31	-.05

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NobleInfr n	3.10	+.35	+12.7
Skyline	3.99	+.35	+9.6
Iteris	2.24	+.17	+8.2
OversShpB	3.44	+.23	+7.2
Innsuites	2.40	+.15	+6.7

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
LucasE rs	5.30	-1.60	-23.2
RingEngy	5.56	-1.16	-17.3
Ampliphi rs	3.41	-.59	-14.8
OncoCyte n	8.93	-1.18	-11.7
Contango	5.71	-.65	-10.2

Diary

Advanced	153
Declined	223
Unchanged	26
Total issues	402
New Highs	4
New Lows	18
Volume	81,150,288

NASDAQ

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Apple Inc	665403	100.70	-2.01
PwShs QQQ	403128	108.26	-1.05
Microsoft	386177	54.05	-1.00
CSVixSh rs	379515	7.00	+.39
Netflix s	325896	117.68	+10.02

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Amindep	12.45	+3.69	+42.0
AurisMed	7.79	+1.85	+31.1
HeatBiolog	4.32	+.66	+18.0
HookerFu	28.22	+3.40	+13.7
CapeBncp	14.06	+1.67	+13.5

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Epzyme	11.54	-3.58	-23.7
CountrP rs	2.02	-.53	-20.8
SkySolar	5.49	-1.17	-17.6
Anavex rs	5.11	-1.01	-16.5
SearsH wt	8.84	-1.66	-15.8

Diary

Advanced	809
Declined	2,011
Unchanged	153
Total issues	2,973
New Highs	26
New Lows	175
Volume	2,084,430,743

Trying to right itself, a criminal investigation now at Chipotle

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Chipotle said it has been subpoenaed as part of a federal criminal investigation and that sales plummeted 30 percent in December after a series of food scares at its restaurants.

The company said in a regulatory filing it was asked to produce a broad range of documents tied to a norovirus outbreak this summer at its restaurant in Simi Valley, California, but declined to provide further details.

It said the investigation does not involve a more recent E. coli outbreak tied to its restaurants or a separate norovirus outbreak in Boston.

The investigation is being conducted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California with the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Criminal Investigations, according to a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission Wednesday.

Representatives for the U.S. Attorney's office and the FDA declined to comment.

The disclosure of the investigation comes as Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc. reels from E. coli outbreaks in late October and November, which were followed by the sickening of customers at a restaurant in Boston in early December. Those cases received far more national media attention than the California incident, and the company's sales have since plunged.

Sales fell 14.6 percent in the fourth quarter, marking the first decline for the Denver company since it went public in 2006.

Last month, Chipotle also said it could no longer reasonably predict sales trends given the food scares and retracted its forecast for 2016.

In its regulatory filing Wednesday, the company said it could not determine or predict the amount of any "fines, penalties or further liabilities" it might face in connection with the federal investigation.

A Chipotle spokesman, Chris Arnold, said the company intends to cooperate fully with the investigation.

Doug Beach, a manager of the food program at Ventura County's Environmental Health Division, said the FDA approached the county about its local investigation in September or October, then followed up with a phone call with the U.S. Attorney's office in October or November.

Beach said the U.S. Attorney's office then requested the county's records on the Chipotle case.

"That was a first for us," Beach said in a phone interview.

Beach also noted that Chipotle had not contacted the county about the illnesses until Aug. 21, after it had shut down the restaurant in Simi Valley for sanitation and reopened it. Beach said he believed the company was aware of sick employees the previous Tuesday.

According to a county inspection report, the area manager for Chipotle said the company got its first customer complaint about an illness on Aug. 20.

The emergence of a criminal investigation after a norovirus outbreak is unusual, said Bill Marler, a food safety lawyer representing Chipotle customers who were sickened in Simi Valley.

Apple stock slumps amid iPhone sales worries

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Apple fans keep buying iPhones, but Wall Street keeps worrying the company won't be able to match last year's blistering sales pace.

Shares in the world's most valuable company have fallen more than 15 percent over the last month amid a drumbeat of news reports that some Asian parts suppliers are expecting Apple to trim orders for its signature smartphone this winter. Those fears were compounded Wednesday when the Wall Street Journal said one of Apple's most important contractors is sending some workers home on "early holiday" before the Chinese New Year in February.

Even an upbeat report from Apple announcing that its online App Store set a sales record last week failed to boost the stock. Its shares fell just under 2 percent Wednesday and closed at $100.70.

Apple Inc. declined comment Wednesday. But top executives at the Cupertino, California, company said last fall they expected to sell more iPhones during the last three months of 2015 than they did a year earlier, when the company sold a record 74.5 million.

As evidence for his optimism, CEO Tim Cook said in October that a growing number of consumers were switching from rival Android phones to iPhones, while many current iPhone owners had not yet upgraded to newer models. Cook has also cautioned against drawing conclusions based on reports from individual contractors, since the company has an extensive supply and production network.

The iPhone is crucial for Apple, since it provides almost two-thirds of its revenue. The latest iPhone 6S and 6S Plus models, introduced last fall, have several new features, but analysts say they aren't dramatically different from previous 6 and 6 Plus phones that went on sale in late 2014. Experts also say the global smartphone market isn't growing as fast as it did a few years ago, because many people already own one.

Stocks tumble to lows

U.S. stocks tumbled to two-month lows Wednesday as fears about China's economy slowing down led to more widespread selling. The price of oil plunged to its lowest level since 2008 on the prospect that global demand could fall further.

For the second time in three days, markets slumped on concerns about that the second-largest economy in the world is stumbling. A monthly survey of China's service industries slipped to a 17-month low. That helped knock the price of oil lower since China is a major consumer of energy.

Global markets were also rattled after North Korea said it had conducted its first successful test of a hydrogen bomb. Experts in South Korea and the U.S. doubted that the country had made that breakthrough, but the announcement still caused alarm.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 252.15 points, or 1.5 percent, to 16,906.51. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 26.45 points, or 1.3 percent, to 1,990.26, for its fourth loss in five days. The Nasdaq composite gave up 55.67 points, or 1.1 percent, to 4,835.76.

Metals end mixed

The price of gold rose $13.50, or 1.3 percent, to $1,091.90 an ounce. Silver inched up 0.5 cents to $13.976 an ounce. Copper slid 0.8 cents to $2.088 a pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $25.56 Down 1.79

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $84.29 Down 6.76

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $3.19 Down 0.09

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $62.20 Down 2.99

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $1.54 Down 0.14

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $2.90 Unchanged

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $22.13 Down 0.28

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $22.37 Down 1.55

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $5.56 Down 1.16

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $13.35 Down 0.17

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc	1.92f	37	34.06	-.05	-1.0
Abraxas	...	6	1.02	-.07	-3.8
ActivsBliz	.23f	24	36.79	-.35	-5.0
AdaDvsEq	.92e	...	12.55	-.16	-2.2
AMD			2.51	-.25	-12.7
Alcoa	.12	13	8.61	-.66	-12.8
AlonUSA	.60	9	14.30	-.60	-3.6
AlpAlerMLP	1.19e		11.39	-.69	-5.5
Amedica h			.13	-.00	+8.4
Amgen	**4.00f**	**19**	**156.72**	**-1.45**	**-3.5**
Anadarko	**1.08**	**...**	**43.77**	**-4.75**	**-9.9**
Apache	**1.00**	**...**	**38.53**	**-5.00**	**-13.4**
Apple Inc	2.08	11	100.70	-2.01	-4.3
ArchRock	**.60**	**20**	**6.68**	**-.64**	**-11.2**
ATMOS	**1.68f**	**20**	**62.80**	**+.20**	**-.4**
AutoData	2.12f	26	81.26	-1.01	-4.1
BP PLC	**2.40**	**...**	**30.30**	**-.63**	**-3.1**
BabsCCInv	1.20		17.40	+.04	+.9
BakrHu	.68		43.65	-2.27	-5.4
BkofAm	.20	12	16.08	-.35	-4.5
B iPVixST			21.29	+.62	+5.9
BarrickG	.08	22	7.94	+.29	+7.6
BasicEnSv			2.34	-.15	-12.7
BerkHa A	**...**	**14197415.00**	**+415.02**		**-.2**
BlkHillsCp	**1.62**	**31**	**47.80**	**+.33**	**+3.0**
BrMySq	**1.52f**	**65**	**67.15**	**-1.20**	**-2.4**
BrownFA	**1.36f**	**33**	**105.42**	**-.89**	**-4.3**
BrownFB	**1.36f**	**29**	**95.38**	**-1.88**	**-3.9**
CVS Health	1.70f	22	95.56	-1.18	-2.3
Cameron		16	61.92	-1.28	-2.0
Caterpillar	3.08	13	66.22	-1.06	-2.6
Celestic g		13	10.93	+.06	-.9
CntryLink	2.16	18	24.72	-.27	-1.7
ChesEng	...	...	4.68	-.33	+4.0
Chevron	**4.28**	**19**	**86.07**	**-3.54**	**-4.3**
Chicos	.31	47	10.71	-.20	+.4
Cimarex	.64	...	85.04	-5.54	-4.9
Cisco	.84	14	26.01	-.28	-3.5
Citigroup	.20	11	50.12	-.74	-13.1
ClayEng	**...**	**...**	**25.56**	**-1.79**	**-13.6**
CocaCola	**1.32**	**27**	**42.32**	**-.23**	**-1.5**
ColgPalm	**1.52**	**24**	**64.14**	**-.86**	**-3.7**
ConAgra	**1.00**	**22**	**41.79**	**+.22**	**-.9**

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
ConchoRes	...	50	84.29	-6.76	-9.2
ConocoPhil	2.96	50	45.35	-2.05	-2.9
CrackerB	4.40a	17	121.98	-1.07	-3.8
CSVLgNG rs		...	2.28	-.15	-6.6
CSVLgCrd rs				3.04	-.56
-23.0					
CSVelIVST		...	24.21	-.74	-6.2
CSVixSh rs			7.00	+.39	+11.8
CrosTim	**1.55e**	**8**	**13.04**	**-.04**	**+.2**
DCP Mid	3.12	12	23.09	-1.21	-6.4
DTE	2.92f	15	79.59	-.36	-.7
Dataram		...	.70	-.02	+6.1
DevonE	**.96**	**...**	**30.21**	**-2.62**	**-5.6**
Disney	**1.42f**	**19**	**100.36**	**-.54**	**-4.5**
DowChm	**1.84f**	**13**	**48.46**	**-1.09**	**-5.9**
EOG Resc	**.67**	**...**	**67.32**	**-2.81**	**-4.9**
EmpDist	**1.04**	**21**	**28.26**	**+.60**	**+.7**
EnCana g	.28	...	4.95	-.32	-2.8
Energen	.08	...	36.71	-4.51	-10.4
EgyTrEq s	1.14f	13	11.93	-2.05	-13.2
EngyTsfr	4.22f	...	32.68	-2.06	-3.1
EnPro	**.80**	**...**	**47.16**	**+3.84**	**+7.8**
ENSCO	.60	...	13.50	-1.39	-12.3
EntProdPt	1.56f	20	25.09	-1.12	-1.9
Ericsson	.39e	...	9.15	-.13	-4.8
ExxonMbl	**2.92**	**16**	**77.47**	**-.65**	**-.6**
Facebook	...	...	102.97	+.24	-1.6
FordM	.60	11	13.11	-.61	-7.0
FreeSea hrs		...	.01	...	-12.5
FrptMcM		...	6.17	-.54	-8.9
GATX	**1.52**	**8**	**39.51**	**-.87**	**-7.1**
GabMultT	**.94e**	**...**	**7.39**	**-.07**	**-1.5**
GAInv	**1.15e**	**...**	**30.74**	**-.46**	**-3.8**
GenElec	**.92**	**...**	**30.26**	**-.49**	**-2.9**
GenMotors	1.44	11	31.27	-1.16	-6.1
GtPlainEn	**1.05f**	**20**	**27.28**	**+.05**	**-.1**
HP Inc	.50	...	11.29	-.42	-4.6
HalconRs rs		...	1.05	-.12	-16.7
Hallibrtn	**.72**	**41**	**33.42**	**-.98**	**-1.8**
Hilton	.28	29	20.00	-1.10	-6.5
iShGold	...	...	10.57	+.17	+3.3
iShBrazil	1.03e	...	19.92	-.30	-3.7
iShJapan	.13e	...	11.87	-.21	-2.1
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	33.22	-.74	-5.9

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
iShEMkts	.84e	...	30.78	-.60	-4.4
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	56.78	-.95	-3.3
iShR2K	1.73e	...	108.57	-1.68	-3.6
Intel	**.96**	**14**	**33.06**	**-.75**	**-4.0**
InterDig	.80	18	47.76	-.52	-2.6
ItauUnibH	.45e	...	6.22	-.05	-4.3
JPMorgCh	1.76	11	62.81	-.92	-4.2
JohnJn	**3.00**	**18**	**100.39**	**-.51**	**-2.3**
Keycorp	.30	12	12.62	-.23	-4.3
KimbClk	**3.52**	**69**	**129.02**	**-.06**	**+1.4**
KindMorg	.50m	28	14.77	-.81	-1.0
LegacyRes	.60m	...	1.54	-.14	-12.0
Lubys	**...**	**...**	**4.26**	**-.10**	**-4.7**
MannKd	...	...	.73	-.02	-49.7
MarathnO	.20m	94	11.28	-1.48	-10.4
MktVGold	.12e	...	14.25	+.23	+3.9
McDnlds	3.56f	25	118.40	-.80	+.2
Merck	1.84f	14	52.42	-.73	-.8
MerMMel	**...**	**29**	**17.20**	**-.52**	**-7.5**
MexcoEn	...	...	2.90	...	-10.2
MicronT	...	8	14.22	-.60	+.4
Microsoft	1.44	36	54.05	-1.00	-2.6
Mondelez	.68	8	43.99	-.16	-1.9
Nabors	.24	...	7.94	-.53	-6.7
NatGrid	**3.35e**	**...**	**69.71**	**+.85**	**+.2**
NOilVarco	1.84	9	31.34	-2.28	-6.4
Netflix s	...	...	117.68	+10.02	+2.9
NvMAd	**.79e**	**...**	**14.02**	**+.09**	**+1.2**
NvPMil	**.78e**	**...**	**13.87**	**+.11**	**+1.5**
NuvPI	**.82e**	**...**	**14.35**	**+.09**	**+1.8**
NSTFI3	**.55e**	**...**	**14.69**	**+.05**	**+1.0**
NTXQI	**.65**	**...**	**14.44**	**+.04**	**+.1**
OcciPet	**3.00**	**29**	**65.44**	**-3.09**	**-3.2**
Oracle	.60	17	35.82	+.18	-1.5
ParTech	**...**	**...**	**6.14**	**-.22**	**-8.8**
ParkDrl	**...**	**...**	**1.66**	**-.11**	**-8.8**
PattUTI	**.40**	**...**	**14.17**	**-.53**	**-6.0**
Penney	...	...	7.00	-.17	+5.1
PennaRE	**.84**	**...**	**21.68**	**-.19**	**-.9**
Pmian	.38e	12	5.17	-.17	+2.2
Petrobras	...	...	3.95	-.23	-8.1
Pfizer	**1.20f**	**24**	**31.81**	**+.57**	**-2.1**
PioNtr	**.08**	**22**	**116.15**	**-9.02**	**-7.4**
PlainsAAP	**2.60f**	**13**	**22.04**	**-2.04**	**-4.6**
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	108.26	-1.05	-3.2

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Praxair	**2.86**	**19**	**100.30**	**-1.02**	**-2.1**
PrmEgy	**...**	**23**	**50.00**	**...**	**-8.7**
PUVixST rs	...	...	31.93	+1.80	+12.6
ProctGam	**2.65**	**28**	**77.86**	**-.76**	**-2.0**
ProUShSP	...	..	20.96	+.52	+5.2
RangeRs	.16	15	24.03	-1.64	-2.4
RegionsFn	.24	14	9.26	-.16	-3.5
RiteAid	...	36	7.88	-.01	+.5
Rowan	.40	...	15.47	-.72	-8.7
RoyDShllA	3.76	67	44.02	-1.59	-3.9
SpdrDJIA	3.90e	...	168.94	-2.45	-2.9
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	198.82	-2.54	-2.5
SpdrOGEx	.73e	...	28.19	-2.08	-6.7
SabrR	3.09e	8	26.07	-.62	-.7
SanderFm	**.88e**	**8**	**76.40**	**+1.23**	**-1.4**
SandRidge	**...**	**...**	**.15**	**-.02**	**-25.0**
Schlmbrg	2.00	23	67.70	-1.80	-2.9
SiriusXM	...	39	3.89	-.01	-4.4
Smucker	2.68	34	122.40	-.90	-.8
SwstnEngy	...	...	6.69	-.96	-5.9
Sprint	...	...	3.59	+.01	-.8
SP HlthC	.97e	...	70.49	-.58	-2.1
SP Engy	1.96e	...	58.20	-2.33	-3.5
SPDR Fncl	.44e	...	23.10	-.36	-3.1
SunEdison	...	...	5.51	-.15	+8.3
SunocoLog	1.83f	...	24.46	-1.26	-4.8

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
TeleFEsp	**1.03e**	**...**	**10.61**	**-.12**	**-4.1**
Tesoro	2.00	8	106.37	+.09	+.9
3M Co	4.10	19	144.49	-2.97	-4.1
TimeWarn	1.40	16	68.62	+3.10	+6.1
Torchmark	**.54**	**13**	**55.91**	**-1.10**	**-1.9**
Transocn	...	...	11.52	-.83	-6.9
TriContl	**.81e**	**...**	**19.62**	**-.21**	**-2.0**
21stCFoxA	.30	7	26.72	+.13	-1.6
TylerTech	**...**	**90**	**166.41**	**-2.20**	**-4.5**
UBSI	**1.52f**	**18**	**35.94**	**-.14**	**-2.8**
US OilFd	...	...	10.11	-.55	-8.1
Vale SA	.29e	...	2.91	-.24	-11.6
ValeroE	2.00f	7	70.66	-.50	-.1
VangEmg	1.10e	...	31.28	-.57	-4.4
VerizonCm	2.25	18	45.52	-.39	-1.5
VulcanM	**.40**	**68**	**90.40**	**-2.15**	**-4.8**
WEC Engy	1.98f	19	51.73	-.14	+.8
WalMart	1.96	14	63.55	+.63	+3.7
WalgBoots	1.44	25	79.63	-1.24	-6.5
WellsFargo	1.50	13	51.88	-1.01	-4.6
WstnRefin	1.52f	7	38.11	+.15	+7.0
WhitingPet	...	...	7.91	-1.13	-16.2
WmsCos	2.56	65	22.90	-3.43	-10.9
XcelEngy	**1.28**	**19**	**38.44**	**+.38**	**+1.5**
Xerox	**.28**	**35**	**10.15**	**-.13**	**-4.5**
Yahoo	...	...	32.16	-.04	-3.3

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
18,351.36	15,370.33	Dow Jones Industrials	16,906.51	-252.15	-1.47	-2.98	-3.86
9,214.77	7,277.05	Dow Jones Transportation	7,217.05	-146.90	-1.99	-3.88	-17.73
657.17	539.96	Dow Jones Utilities	580.50	-.47	-.08	+.46	-6.60
11,254.87	9,509.59	NYSE Composite	9,868.26	-159.80	-1.59	-2.71	-7.14
5,231.94	4,292.14	Nasdaq Composite	4,835.77	-55.66	-1.14	-3.43	+3.98
2,134.72	1,867.01	S&P 500	1,990.26	-26.45	-1.31	-2.63	-1.76
1,551.28	1,344.80	S&P Midcap	1,360.83	-19.48	-1.41	-2.70	-4.88
22,537.15	19,619.26	Wilshire 5000	20,593.40	-286.53	-1.37	-2.71	-3.32
1,298.00	1,078.63	Russell 2000	1,094.36	-16.08	-1.45	-3.66	-6.94

TODAY: Sunny High: 62 Low: 37

FRIDAY: Mostly sunny High: 57 Low: 33

SATURDAY: Sunny High: 50 Low: 29

SUNDAY: Mostly sunny High: 51 Low: 30

MONDAY: Mostly sunny High: 46 Low: 28

TUESDAY: Sunny High: 54 Low: 31

Local forecast

Rain is out of the forecast, but wind will take its place. The National Weather Service is calling for gusts as high as 40 mph today and gusts up to 30 mph on Friday.

Beginning Saturday, expect high temperatures lower than average.

The record high for Jan. 6 is 77 set in 2008. The record low is 13 set in 1970. On Jan. 6 of last year, the high was 58 and the low was 31.

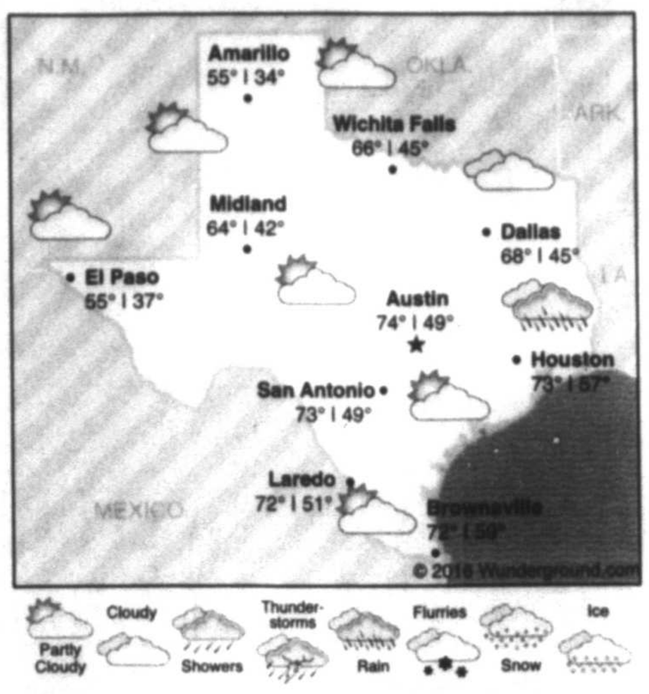
Weather brief

NEVADA

Storm drops another foot of snow around Tahoe; many crashes

RENO — The latest storm to hit the Sierra Nevada region dropped a foot of snow on ski resorts around Lake Tahoe on Wednesday, with a couple of inches in the valleys and freezing fog that caused dozens of crashes.

The only potentially serious injury reported involved a man who was hospitalized Wednesday after his truck slid off Interstate 80 and plunged several feet below into the Truckee River. His name was not released, the California Highway Patrol said.



Precipitation

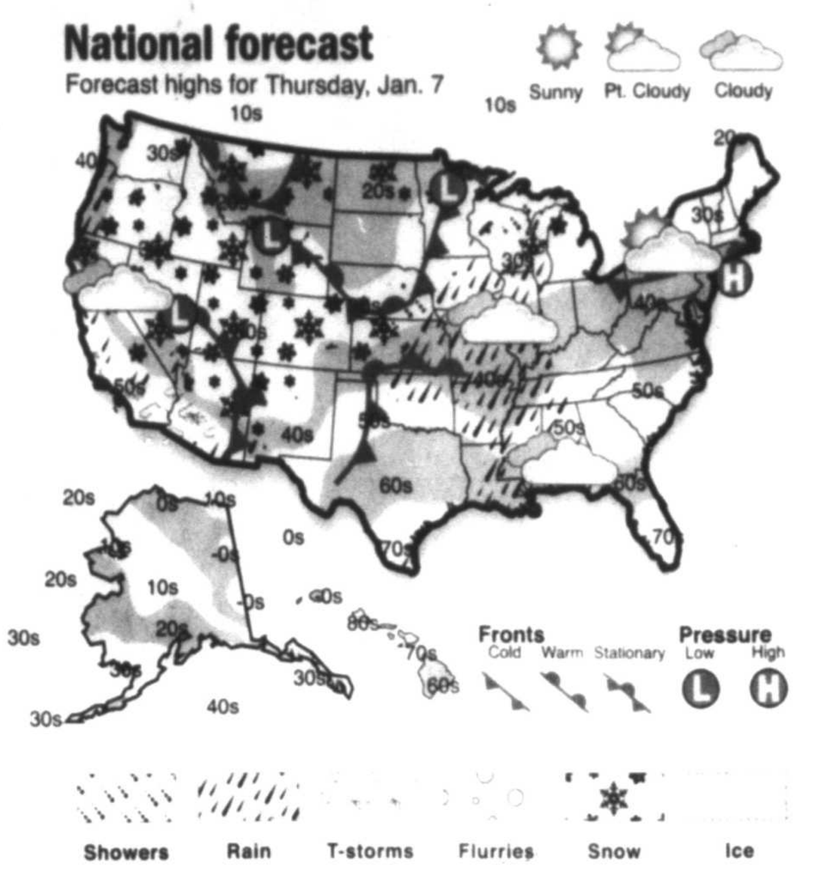
Tuesday	0.00 in.
Wednesday	0.05 in.
Month total	0.09 in.
Year total	0.09 in.
Normal total (year to date)	0.08 in.

Wednesday's temperatures

High	58
Low	38
Normal high	57
Normal low	30
Sunrise	7:50 a.m.
Sunset	6:00 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Thursday, Jan. 7



Wife says stoppage time has run out for soccer enthusiast

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: My husband, an avid soccer player, injured himself twice last year, which left him unable to work for months at a time. He refuses to hang up his cleats because he says it's his "one true passion." I think he's being selfish because his soccer injuries have caused a financial, emotional and physical strain on our family.

I can't be the only wife/mom who doesn't want the additional risk. Any advice on how to get through to him? — SPORTS WIFE IN CLEVELAND

DEAR SPORTS WIFE: I don't know how old your husband is, but two serious injuries in one year may be a hint from Father Time that his reflexes aren't as acute as they once were, and he should channel his passion in another direction. (Coaching, perhaps?)

Assuming you have insurance, contact your agent and ask if there is additional coverage your husband can take out in case he is seriously injured again. Of course, it won't guarantee that he won't hurt himself, but it might give you some peace of mind in case he does.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 23 and live with my parents — a situation I am working to change, to be sure. When I come home from work, I occasionally like to have a glass of wine or a beer. Obviously, because I'm an adult, this should not be a problem, but every time I touch alcohol my mom freaks out.

There is a history of alcoholism in my family, so I somewhat understand where she's coming from. But I feel she needs to realize that I can have a glass or two of wine and it doesn't mean I'm getting drunk or an alcoholic. I am my own person, in control of my body, and I know my limits.

My family's view of alcohol seems to have been skewed because of our history. Abby, one glass of wine a night does not an alcoholic make, right? — UNWINDING IN NEW ENGLAND

DEAR UNWINDING: Ordinarily, I would say no. But a tendency toward addiction can run in families, and for someone with a predisposition to alcoholism, a glass (or two) of wine every night could escalate and lead to problems.

Because you live in your mother's house, try to be more sensitive to her feelings and respect them. She has experienced firsthand what it's like to live with someone who has an alcohol problem, and it isn't pretty. That's why she is so sensitive about it.

DEAR ABBY: My neighbor often comes over to share some of her home cooking. Unfortunately, it tastes horrible. She invariably asks me the next day how I liked it, and I really don't enjoy lying. How can I tell her I don't like her cooking and I don't want her to bring me any more? — TENDER TUMMY IN WASHINGTON

DEAR TENDER TUMMY: Use a variation on your signature and say that although you appreciate her generosity, for some time her cooking hasn't agreed with you — you have a "tender tummy" — so please refrain from bringing over any more food.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

The GSF

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K 8 6 4
♥ K 9 8 2
♦ Void
♣ A K Q 6 3

WEST
♠ 10 9
♥ Q 6 5
♦ K 9 8 6
♣ J 9 7 5

EAST
♠ 5 3 2
♥ J 10 7 4
♦ Q J 7 3 2
♣ 10

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 7
♥ A 3
♦ A 10 5 4
♣ 8 4 2

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠*	Pass
4	Pass	5NT**	Pass
7♠	All pass		

*Splinter, slam try agreeing spades with at most one diamond
**Grand Slam Force, asking partner to bid seven with two of the top three trump honors

Opening lead: Ten of ♣

In the modern game, where Key Card Blackwood can discover partner's trump honors other than the ace, the Grand Slam Force is rarely used. It can still be useful when the player has a void and Blackwood might not be helpful. In games where Key Card Blackwood is rarely in play, such as rubber bridge and social bridge, the Grand Slam Force can be very important when an opportunity arises to use it.

South won the opening trump lead in his hand with the jack and took a moment to plan the play. This would be easy if the missing clubs split 3-2, the percentage split, but declarer saw a line of play that might prevail even against a 4-1 club split.

Declarer ruffed a diamond in dummy at trick two and then led the eight of spades back to his queen. When both opponents followed to the second trump, he ruffed another diamond with dummy's king of spades, came back to the ace of hearts and drew the last trump, discarding a heart from dummy. When the clubs turned out to be 4-1, declarer was able to ruff the fourth club, discard another heart on the ace of diamonds, and return to dummy with the king of hearts. The remaining club was good for his thirteenth trick.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Jan. 7, 2016:

This year you learn to follow your intuition when you're in a jam and/or don't know which way to turn. More often than not, you land on your feet. You often might not be sure of yourself and retreat. Reflecting on alternatives could be very helpful, but guard against a tendency to think too much and not act. If you are single, carefully screen the people to whom you are attracted. You are likely to draw someone who is emotionally unavailable. If you are attached, the two of you open up to new concepts. As a result, you enjoy relating to each other far more. SAGITTARIUS irritates you more than any other sign does.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ You might be more serious than you need to be. Your ability to see the long-term possibilities might be playing into your mood. You'll surprise others with an unexpected decision or action. Remain upbeat, and carry on as you have been. Tonight: Slow down.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ Relate to others directly. You will gain a greater understanding of each person, and you're likely to appreciate others more. Loyalty comes from this type of interaction. One person could surprise you. Your reaction will give you new insight. Tonight: A blast from the past is likely.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ You seem to be in a position where you need to be less authoritative and more open to others. A boss could confuse you, as well as those around you. A friend delights you and makes you laugh once you slow down and allow yourself to breathe. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You might not be sure how to proceed. A discussion will provide many options, but too much talk could slow you down. Don't become paralyzed by the different perspectives. Your intuition will provide excellent insight. Tonight: Get some errands done on the way home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ You'll want to reconsider what seemed like a childish reaction you or a partner recently had. A risk could seem a lot worse than it actually is. Make sure you can handle a flop as well. This gamble could involve emotions rather than finances. Tonight: A friend wants to reel you in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Life seems to have a confusing undertone right now, especially when dealing with a key person in your life. A strong possibility could be that this person isn't feeling sure of him- or herself. You will want to take a backseat for a while. Tonight: See what evolves.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ You have a way with words that often takes people back. You can be very polite while insulting someone at the same time. This person won't realize what you have said until later, and by then, you'll have eliminated the possibility of a conversation. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Use your financial wisdom to deal with a changeable situation. Get into an intellectual discussion about how to manage your funds and where to invest them. Make learning about economics a higher priority. Test your ideas with others first. Tonight: Think through a decision.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Beam in more of what you want, as the Moon adds to your magnetism and intellect. Others might choose not to say much, as there is an element of confusion that weaves through this day. Just let it go for now. Check out a leak in your house, then try to fix it. Tonight: All smiles.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Your sense of direction might be off. Relax and absorb information rather than judge and make decisions. Confusion surrounds an emotional tie or a money matter. Slow down and work with the available facts. Don't take a comment personally. Tonight: Call it an early night.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ You could be way too busy for your own taste. You love your friends, but you might not have the desire to socialize right now. A loved one will surprise you with a reversal. If you like what you see, jump into the situation. If not, head the other way. Tonight: Be happy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ You might not intend to add chaos to someone else's life, but you are likely to regardless. Unless this person is very good at getting nowhere with an issue, you could witness a change in attitude. Try to be clearer about where you are coming from. Tonight: Remain upbeat.

BORN TODAY

Actor Nicolas Cage (1964), guitarist Jinxx (1986), journalist Katie Couric (1957)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Mrs. Garrett on "The Facts of Life"
5 Bring shame to
10 Twitter's bird, e.g.
14 Dire fate
15 "An Essay Concerning Human Understanding" author
16 Poet's preposition
17 "Figure out, as someone's poker strategy
19 Brief moments
20 "Un Ballo in Maschera" aria
21 *Frighten off
23 Office suite door letters
25 "Hollywood Squares" immortal
26 Not surprisingly
30 Full of bubbles
33 *Disney film cry of discovery
36 Qatar's capital
37 Fifth of a dozen
38 Solar __
39 Promise
40 "On the double!"
42 *Chinese, say
45 Place to follow politics
47 "Told ya!"
48 "__ Daughter": 1970 film
51 Match at the poker table
52 *Ride crosstown together, perhaps
56 Diary component
60 Go up and down
61 Group space, and a hint to the answers to starred clues
63 Seasonal refrain
64 Assembly line worker
65 Equipment
66 Key used in combinations
67 Films with many extras
68 "College GameDay" airer

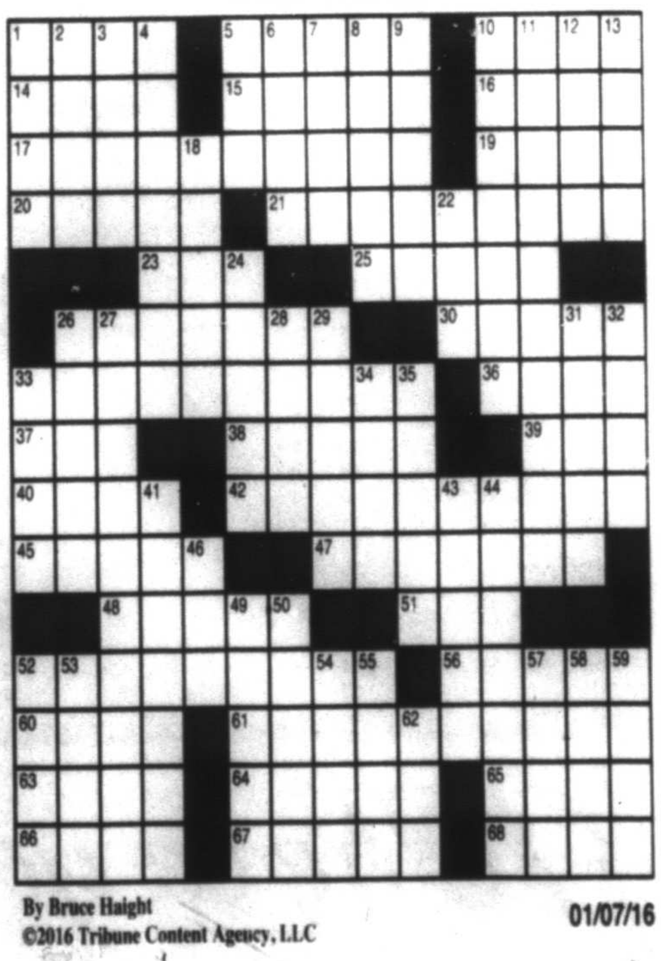
DOWN

1 Advantage
2 No couch potato
3 "It was someone else!"
4 Greenhorn
5 Brown __
6 Feathery wraps
7 "High Voltage" band
8 "Bottoms up!"
9 "Give me liberty, or give me death!" speaker
10 "That fizzled out"
11 Considered carefully
12 Marine threat
13 Getting into the wrong business?
18 Charlotte __
22 USN one-striper
24 5-Down, for one
26 Stockpile
27 Supplicate
28 "It was __ dream"
29 Letter-shaped supports
31 Vacation destination
32 Opening at an early-morning class?
33 1998 Apple debut
34 __ cookies 'n creme: Jell-O flavor
35 "Leda and the Swan" poet
41 Business expense
43 Radiance
44 Like high-school years
46 "Fat chance, laddie"
49 Abalone shell layer
50 Exclusive
52 Lip-__
53 Knee-slapper
54 Prefix with valence
55 Class pres., say
57 Very French?
58 Bring in
59 Entertaining tale
62 Extra periods: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

R	J	R		M	I	C	E		M	A	D	M	A	N
E	A	U		A	D	O	G		U	N	E	A	S	Y
D	I	N	G	D	O	N	G		I	T	A	L	I	C
C	A	D	R	E		M	E	T	R	I	C			
A	L	O	U		S	A	D	A			O	O	P	S
P	A	W	N		K	N	O	C	K	K	N	O	C	K
S	I	N	G	T	O		N	I	N	E		F	B	I
			Y	O	K	O		T	I	E	S			
B	U	S		R	I	N	D		V	L	A	S	I	C
A	N	Y	O	N	E	H	O	M	E		V	I	N	O
M	E	N	U			E	N	O	S		A	N	I	L
			I	M	A	R	E	T		A	G	A	T	E
V	E	T	O	E	S		F	O	R	G	E	T	I	T
I	N	B	U	L	K		O	W	I	E		R	A	T
P	O	S	I	T	S		R	N	D	S		A	L	E

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/07/16



By Bruce Haight
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01/07/16

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Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm -4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person

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Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person

$10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifiting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois. Lobby Information Desk • Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Lead Teller & Teller

Citizens Federal Credit Union is seeking the following positons:
• Lead Teller - full time • Teller - full time. Positions are well paying with excellent health and retirement benefits. Please send a resume to: Citizens Federal Credit Union, ATTN: HR, P.O. Box 51070, Midland, TX 79710

CITIZENS

AUTOMOTIVE

IMMEDIATE OPENING

Experienced Parts Manager & Counter Person

Excellent Benefits:
Health Insurance - Dental
Paid Vacation
Excellent Pay Plan

Apply in Person
Ask for Buck Hooker Sr.
or send resume to
alberthooker@aol.com

FREEDOM

Buick - GMC

5251 E. 42nd St. • Odessa, TX 79762

432-550-9950

EOE

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Sales Assistant

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for a dynamic self-starter with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment with minimal supervision. Duties include supporting the advertising sales staff in day-to-day operations and helping the sales team consistently reach its revenue targets. Conducting sales and marketing research, creating sales presentations, event coordination and preparing reports are a few of the duties required. Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package.

Please send resume to: jhouston@mrt.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising. No calls please.

CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

Construction Plan Room

Full Time office position in Midland working 8-5 M-F for Construction Plan Room requiring computer knowledge and skills. Customer Service and capable office skills required. One person office demands dependability. Benefits include health insurance, vacation, and optional 401K. Interested individuals may send a resume to chughes@wtagc.org

EDUCATION & TRAINING

CHILD CARE WORKER

MRS. IRENE'S CHILD CARE FT/PT

Immediate openings Full and Part-time Child Care Worker. Wages start at $9/hour. Apply in person at 1007 Austin St., Midland. Call 432-520-6888.

ENERGY & UTILITIES

Permian Basin Area Sales Manager

UMC Energy Solutions an oilfield industry leader since 1966 in the design of LACT, VRU and compression packages is currently seeking a qualified candidate for PERMIAN BASIN AREA SALES MANAGER. Prior oilfield sales experience is required. Email resume to lacy@umcenergy.com. EOE

Vacuum & Tank Truck Drivers

Permian Petroleum Services, Inc. Need Class A CDL Vacuum and Tank Truck Drivers with tank endorsement and clean driving records. Must be experienced. Offering competitive wages, paid health insurance, uniforms and vacations. Retirement, family medical, dental and vision insurance available. Apply at 4601 S. Rankin Hwy., Midland, Texas: mail resume to P.O. Box 3663, Midland, Texas 79702; fax to 432-687-1643; call 24-hour phone 432-682-0434 or email rvmaskell@gmail.com

MANAGEMENT & EXECUTIVE

Sales Manager

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for an experienced and dynamic sales manager with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment and lead by example with confidence and enthusiam. Responsibilities include managing all aspects of the inside sales department and lead generation process, including training and coaching Account Executives, helping the sales team consistently meet/exceed established revenue targets, monitoring and reporting on sales metrics, managing the administration process and providing support to the Director of Advertising as needed.

Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package.

Please send resume to: jhouston@mrt.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising. No calls please.

OTHER JOBS

Cleaning Staff

Lucio's Janitorial Services is now hiring for a Floor Man and Cleaning Ladies. $10/hr. M-F, 5pm-8pm. One Daytime Person, M-F 11am-2pm. Must pass background check. Call Esmeralda Lucio 432-894-9310

Day People & Floormen

Now hiring janitorial Day People. Flexible schedules. Perfect for retired or semi retired person. Also hiring Floormen with experience maintaining floors. Pay DOE. Apply in person at 1307 N. Big Spring.
Monday - Friday 8:30am-5:30pm

OTHER JOBS

Dispatcher

Purity Oilfield Services (EOE) is now hiring a Dispatcher with oilfield dispatching experience located in Midland. Competitive salary with excellent benefits. Please send your resume to cyonan@purityoilfieldservices.com or call 432-699-8600 for more information

LVN

Premier Physicians has a current opening for an LVN with strong primary care experience. Full time position M-F 8:00-5:00 with a great benefit package. Please send resume to Premier Physicians, 4214 Andrews Hwy., Ste. 240, Midland, TX 79703 or fax to 432-682-2284 Attn: Anita Routh. No phone calls please. COM9003

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, exbel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, a cell phone allowance and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a **GREAT TEAM** and are ready to **SUCCEED**, please send a resume to:

Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or **jhouston@mrt.com**. No phone calls please.

Resident Guards

Looking for a second retirement? Company funded, 100% vested in as little as 6 years. Please apply online at www.dismas.com or in person at 24 W Industrial Loop, Midland, TX. Residential re-entry center wants , Resident Guards for immediate openings. Must have high integrity and background checks conducted.

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Restaurant Positions

Tilted Kilt Pub & Grill now hiring for all positions. Pay DOE. Send resumes to P-140 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, Texas 79701 or apply in person at 1119 Tradewinds Blvd, Midland, Texas 79706

SALES JOBS

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

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If you want to join a **GREAT TEAM** and are ready to **SUCCEED**, please send a resume to:

Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or **jhouston@mrt.com**. No phone calls please.

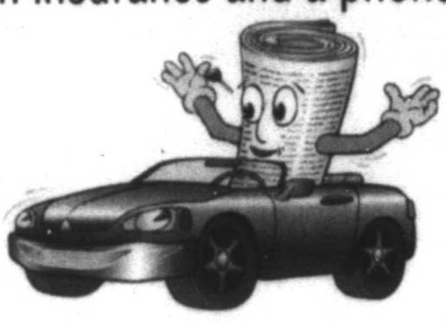
Sales

Purity Oilfield Services (EOE) is now hiring a Sales Representative with oilfield and/or rental sales experience located in Midland. Competitive salary with excellent benefits. Please send your resume to wschwart@purityoilfieldservices.com or call 432-699-8600 for more information.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone??



Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram.

Contact: Linda 687-8807

SALES JOBS

Sales Manager

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for an experienced and dynamic sales manager with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment and lead by example with confidence and enthusiam. Responsibilities include managing all aspects of the inside sales department and lead generation process, including training and coaching Account Executives, helping the sales team consistently meet/exceed established revenue targets, monitoring and reporting on sales metrics, managing the administration process and providing support to the Director of Advertising as needed.

Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package.

Please send resume to: jhouston@mrt.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising. No calls please.

SKILLED LABOR

Truck Diesel Mechanic

Permian Petroleum Services, Inc. FT

Need experienced Truck Diesel Mechanic. Must have own tools. Offering competitive wages, paid health insurance, uniforms and vacations. Retirement, family medical, dental and vision coverage available. Apply at 4601 Rankin Highway, Midland, Texas, mail resume to P. O. Box 3663, Midland, TX 79702, fax to 432-687-1643, or call 24-hour phone 432-682-0434 or email rvmaskell@gmail.com

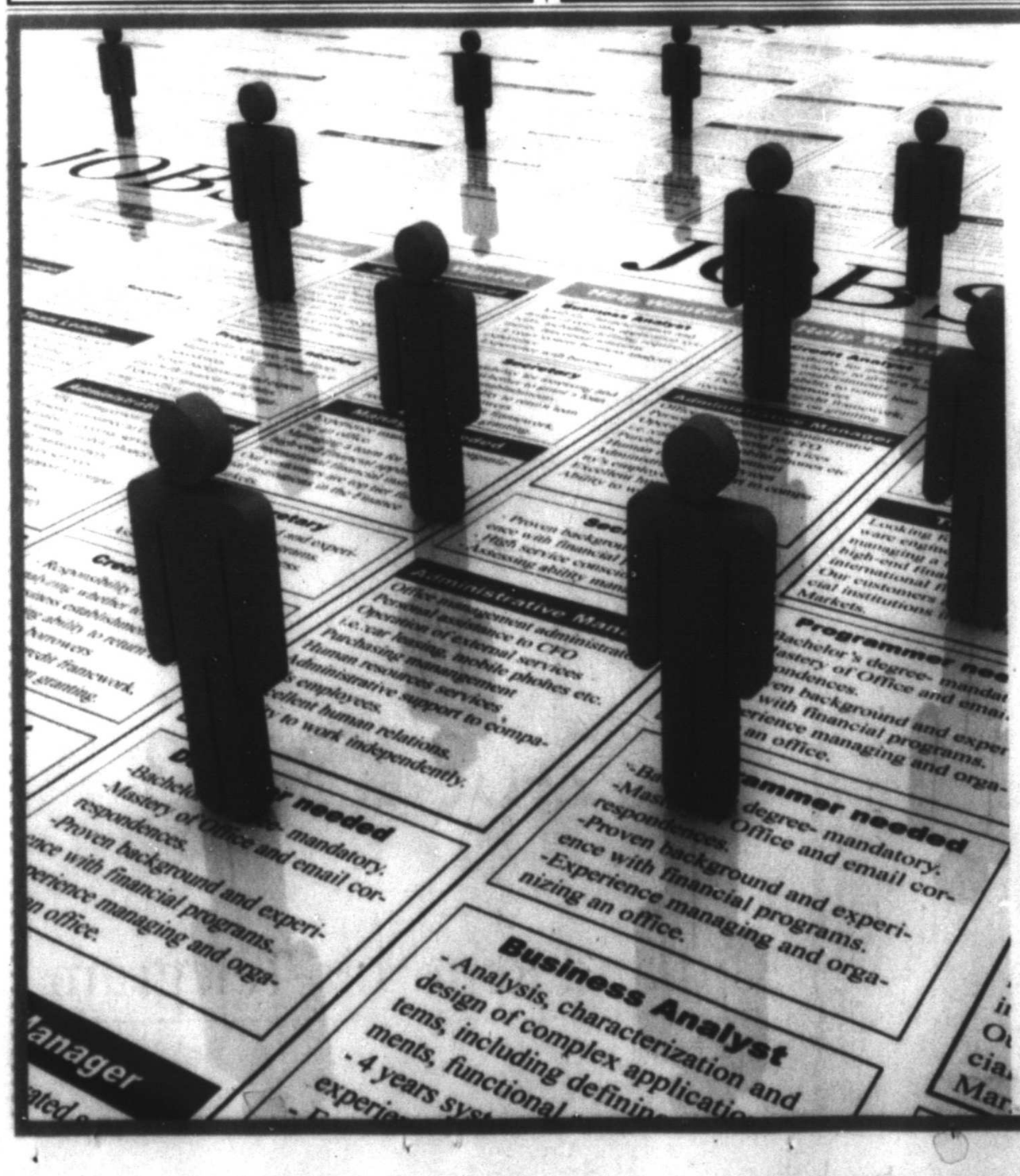
TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Drivers

Purity Oilfield Services (EOE) is now hiring drivers with Class A CDL winch and/or vac truck experience with hazmat and tanker endorsements. Competitive pay and excellent benefits. Please contact 432-699-8600 for more information, submit a resume'at mkiker@purityoilfieldservices.com, or stop by in person to apply at 11109 West CR 46, Midland, TX 79707.

Drivers Transport

Griffin Transportation
Local Positions - Class A CDL/ Hazmat, 2 yrs exp. (tanker preferred), good MVR. Full Benefit Package. Call 806 744-2067 Ask for the Transportation Dept. Fax 806 785-4182 Day & Night Shifts Available



Looking For A New Job?

Log into the classifieds to find a job that suits you better.

Listings are updated daily.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt★com

201 E. Illinois
(432) 682-6222

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Events and Notices

General Announcements

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ. Teach the Lords' Word 1-4

THANK YOU SAINT EXPEDITE for your intercession.

Lost & Found

FOUND TIGER striped cat December 30th north of Lowes. Call 770-5129.

FOUND YORKSHIRE Terrier, brown and black female, 12/31/2015 near Thomason and Wall St. Please call 559 5074

FOUND YOUNG dog on Jan. 2nd. Please call 432-218-7229.

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

CHEVROLET 1990. $1850.00. Call 432-528-5277 or 432-694-7918.

Passenger Cars

FORD 1997 Taurus, good condition, new tires & battery, asking $1800. Call 432-528-1029

NISSAN 2012 JUKE SL only 20,100 miles!!! Garage kept and loaded with everything. 5 yr Extended warranty included. Excellent condition! Only $14,500. Call 432-230-2573

Antique & Vintage

86 Camaro IROC-Z T-tops. As seen on E-bay. $5,000. 432-559-0692.

Pickup Trucks

FORD, 2008 Ranger, $11,000. 53,500 miles, dark grey, excellent condition, bed liner & locked cover, clean title. Call or text Mike 432-664-6924.

RVs

RV PARK spaces between Midland & Stanton: quiet, clean, & safe. Adults only please. 432-238-3937.

RV SPACES for rent. $500 month, utilities, furnished. Call 432-894-8234.

Classified CAN 682-6222

Recreational Vehicles

2015 ROYAL TRAVEL 5th wheel. 39 ft, 2 bedroom, 4 slides, island kitchen, king bed, garden tub, 3 ACs, washer/dryer, loaded with upgrades. $41,500 OBO. 682-712-3574

Merchandise

Antiques

AKC SCOTTISH TERRIER PUPPIES for sale. Adorable black beauties, born 12-06-15. Credit cards accepted. Call 325-207-0042

Appliances

AAA Appliance 15 minute pickup. 432-556-0104 / 432-528-3046

Free Stuff

2 LARGE DOGS, less than a year old, lab boxer mix for free. They have shots. 432-528-0996.

Free Stuff

FREE PUPPIES to a good home. Adorable 9 weeks olds. 2 females. 432-230-2763.

FREE TO GOOD HOME - Rescued cats & young cats, fixed, boxed trained shots, Call 661-1817.

FREE WOODEN PALLETS! Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

Sporting Goods

GOLF CART 2004 Electric Club Car white w/blue cover. Blue & white seat covers. Call 432-699-6979

POOL TABLE 4'x8' solid wood, 1 inch slate with accessories. $2,000. 432-697-0683

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon. 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262

Animals & Pets

Pets

LAB PUPPIES AKC & started dogs. Hips/eyes guaranteed. Training available. Pooles Labs. www.pooleslabs.com. Call (806) 633-4364.

Let Classifieds Work For You! Call 432-682-6222

Real Estate Rentals & Sales

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Furnished

2901 W ILLINOIS, 1600sft 2BD/2BA Remodeled Executive Patio apartment with garage. $1,150 monthly. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

4409 CROCKETT Apt. A 2bed/1bath. $900 mo. $900 dep. 432-978-2074

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, unfurnished apartment with garage. Lee High district. Rusk Elementay 2 blocks. 432-682-4781.

ALL BILLS PAID INCLUDING EXTENDED BASIC CABLE VILLA CHATEAU APTS. 432-694-1112

DUPLEX FOR LEASE. 3005 A Moss Court. 3bed, 2 bath 2 car garage, fireplace Appx 1600 sf. $1575 per month, $1000 deposit 432-557-5557.

LOWEST RENT! Spacious 1 - 2 - 3 Bedroom Apartments. 432-687-4514.

MIDLAND VILLAGE APARTMENTS, single story, never an upstairs neighbor. 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms 432-683-9726.

ATTN: READERS Re: Advertising It is against City ordinance to attach any poster or advertising matter to any utility pole. Please contact City of Midland Code Enforcement Office, 685-7410, for additional information

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS AND PROVIDERS

Cigna Health & Life Insurance Company and Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, which provide medical care benefit services, will accept applications for participation in their networks of physicians, pharmacies, and other providers from December 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016. Applicants must meet all credentialing and other participatory criteria. All applications will be reviewed and responses will be made within 90 days of receipt. To request an application, or for further information, please write:

Cigna Companies
Attn: Provider Relations
1640 Dallas Parkway
Plano, TX 75093

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS AND PROVIDERS

Aetna Life Insurance Co., and Aetna Dental Inc. and their affiliates will accept written applications for participation in their PPO, POS and DMO networks during the period of December 1, 2016 through December 21, 2016. Physicians and providers including advanced practice nurses and physician assistants, who wish to contract with us, must apply during this period and applications must be received no later than December 21, 2016. Medical network applications should be submitted online at www.Aetna.com; please direct all credentialing questions to Aetna Credentialing and Application Management at 1-800-353-1232.

Send Dental network inquiries to: Aetna Dental Management, Three Sugar Creek Center Blvd. Sugar Land, TX 77478. Attention: 2016 Provider Enrollment.

Miscellaneous for Sale

KEN'S RV SALES
5904 W Hwy 80 • Midland, TX 79706
432-697-6447 • kensrvs.com
LARGEST SELECTION OF USED TRAILERS IN THE BASIN
TRY US ONCE YOU'LL BE BACK
TOY HAULERS FIFTH WHEEL GO RVing BUMPER PULLS MOTORHOMES
8:30-5:30 Mon.-Fri. • 9-3 Sat.

Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE
by Lamar Coats
2824 Haynes
Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm
Friday 9:00am-1:00pm
Saturday. 9:00am-1:00pm

Many wonderful things: Including, Furniture: Antique book case. Pedestal dining table, Chippendale style chairs, tea cart, school desk. Pine table. 2 Wing chairs, sofa, coffee tables, sewing cabinets. sleeper sofas, stools & benches, Trundle bed, antique dresser, table & more. Art & Collectible: Mary Rasmussen paintings, Darvis paintings, Georganne Harben pottery & paintings, other local artist work. Oriental Decor, Great Primitive tins, wood items, Lalique & other glassware. Misc: Wonderful quilting supplies, hundreds of pieces of fabric Batik & others, Bernina surger. Clothing: Chico's medium size Costume Jewelry: Lots of Chico's & other. Appliances: Washer, dryer side by side refrigerator, freezer, small refrigerator. Wonderful artist supplies, frames. To see photo's go to estatesales.net

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

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 WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

1/7/16

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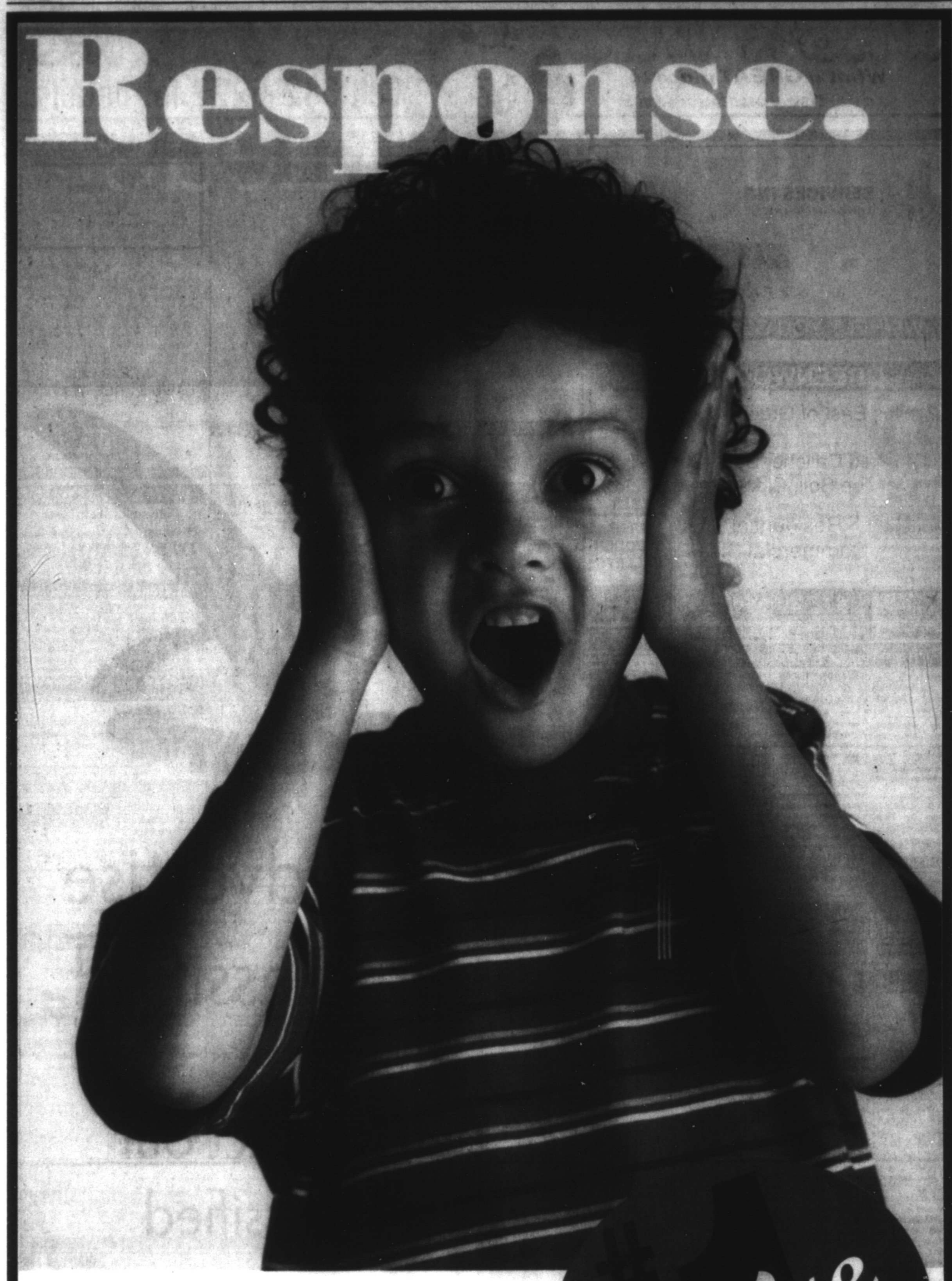
To advertise in Classified

Contact our Classified Department at 432-682-6222

email mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

fax 432-682-3793

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt★com



We're Still

Online, in print and around the clock, the Midland Reporter-Telegram has the information you need as it happens.

MRT MEDIA GROUP
HEARST corporation

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt★com

201 E. Illinois Ave. Midand, Texas 79701 - 432-682-5311

Who's Who For Service

What a GREAT place to advertise your business!

Call 682-6222 for details.

Hauling

J&H SERVICES INC
Excavation and Utility Contractor

WE HELP YOU GET IT DONE!

GREENWOOD PIT

2 miles East of Greenwood on 307

Crushed Caliche, Base Course, Top Soil, Clean Rock

Residential - Commercial Sales

432-269-4625

Accounting & Financial

APPLIANCE REPAIR
REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers & Dryers.
Free Service Call with Repair.
Full Warranty, Very Affordable Prices.
M&M Appliances
1007 N Midkiff, Midland Call 432-570-8278

Home Services & Home Improvement
Concrete

JS Concrete
Slabs,curbs,driveways, patios, Stamp concrete. Free Estimates. Bonded & Insured. Juan Sanchez, owner. 432-413-0924

Contractors & Builders

ALPHA GENERAL Construction, remodeling additions, metal and wood fencing, cabinets, stucco, roofing, painting, tile, showers, counter tops, masonry work, landscaping and hardscaping. Small jobs welcome. Call 432-813-8552.

Fences

ABC FENCE. Native Midlander building professionally since 1979. Small jobs, repairs welcome. Gates are my specialty. Lonnie 432-638-7950

AFFORDABLE FENCE WORK. 432-269-1566

Enriquez Masonry, Professional Brick, Block & Wood Fences. Concrete work & repairs. 25 years experience. Warranty works 432-967-5397.

Cleaning Services

Home Cleaning

INDEPENDENT PERSON cleans houses. 10yrs Experience, Free Estimates. Call or Text 432-234-0419 or 432-234-0423

Window Cleaning

WINDOWS PLUS + Serving Midlanders since 1994. Residential, Commercial. 432-682-9322.

Computer Services

Repair & Replacement

A+ COMPUTER Tutor! Overcome Your Fear of Computers! ✓Your PLACE at Your PACE. ★Call Karen 432-553-2468 (leave msg).

RISE AGAIN PC REPAIR. Virus removal, upgrades, hardware & software. Will do house calls. 806-317-0107.

Hauling

A D V A N C E EXCAVATING. Specializing in caliche yards, paving, parking lot maintenance & repair, top soil, welding, concrete, septic systems & demolition. No job too large or too small! (432) 570-1704 or (432) 634-3800.

CLEARAWAY
FOR all your REMOVAL needs and light construction, trash, & tree limbs, residential & commercial cleanout. Tired of higher prices? Give us a call for affordable prices. 432-235-9999

Home Services & Home Improvement

Brick, Block & Stone

ADVANCED BRICK DOCTOR, brick & mortar repair. All types of new construction specializing in block and brick fence. Steve Rickey, 432-853-2659.

Home Services & Home Improvement

Cabinetry & Finishing

CUSTOM KITCHEN Cabinets, Formica Countertops, Beveled Edges. References. Work Guaranteed. Free Estimates. Call Luis, 432-664-0224.

Carpet & Flooring

INSTALLS & Repairs Carpet, Tile, Wood, Paint, Drywall, Electrical, Plumbing and Much More. Cleaning houses & apartments 432-924-3260.

Concrete

ALPHA MASONRY and Concrete work. Free Estimates. Small Jobs Welcome 432-813-8552.

FOR ALL your concrete needs, driveways, sidewalks, new slabs house or garage additions. Call Danny @ 432-894-0702

Home Services & Home Improvement
Remodeling & Repair

** Call for your Roofing Needs! **

Pro Contractors OF MIDLAND

Roofing and Custom Construction

- All Roofs Metal, Wood & Composite shingle
- Outdoor Kitchens & Patios
- Additions & Remodels
- Full-Service Remodels
- Fencing & Masonry Work

Insured and Bonded. References Available
Commercial / Residential
Major Credit Cards Accepted
For Free Estimates, Call 432-557-4261
www.procontractorsmidland.com
* Find us on Facebook for photos and products:
Pro Contractors of Midland

** NEW YEARS SPECIALS **

Landscape & Tree Maintenance

Lawn & Garden

All Fall Cleanup/ Holiday Lighting
FREE ESTIMATES
Gutter & drain clean out, lawn services, trim trees and bushes, and removal of dead trees.
Billy - 432-634-5040

♠EL JARDIN - Trees, Landscape, Irrigation. Experienced Professionals From Start to Finish. New Landscape Design & Installation, Relandscaping, New Lawns & Lawn Restoration. Tree Pruning, Planting, Removal & Health Care. Sprinkler Repair, Modification, New Design & Installation. Drip Irrigation Specialists! 24Years in the Permian Basin. We accept major credit cards. Please call Bruce at 432-770-2399

JOJO'S BEE
LAWN & TREE SERVICE
TREE TRIMMING, REMOVAL, GRINDING. BUCKET TRUCK AVAILABLE. FREE ESTIMATES. INSURED. CALL JOSE RUEDAS 432-684-6745 OR 432-352-7435
JOJOSBEELAWN@YAHOO.COM

Miscellaneous Services

WATER TREATMENT
Culligan of West Texas
Residential & Commercial
FREE WATER ANALYSIS
563-2690

AMERICAN HOME IMPROVEMENT
Remodeling, Windows, Siding, Outdoor Kitchens, Grills, Fire Pits, Sunrooms, Patios and much more!
3D Virtual Designs • (432) 550-7224
11220 State Highway 191 (Between Midland and Odessa)
http://www.ahi-texas.com
ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+ 2014 SILVER

Home Services & Home Improvement

Fences

STABILITY FENCING & Construction. Repair or rebuild wood, sheet metal, cinder block, brick, rod iron. For any size job call 978-9990

Fireplaces & Firewood

FIREWOOD by Midland Fireman. Oak, Pinon, Mesquite firewood. Full, half and quarter cords. Free delivery. Also, Tree Trimming services and firewood racks for sale. Call 432-557-2897.

TERRY'S FIREWOOD- Oak - Mesquite - Pecan. Full & 1/2 cords. Free local delivery & stacking. Cheaper price if picked up. 432-488-7695.

Handyman Services

24 HR Handyman. For any type of job, big or small. Repair or rebuild, flat rate, 432-978-9990.

Heating & Air Conditioning

At your service actionairplumbing.com (432) 620-8900

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service. Service all brands. 683-2679. TALCB005482.

Painting & Wallpaper

24 HR Handyman. For any type of job, big or small. Repair or rebuild, flat rate, 432-978-9990.

Home Services & Home Improvement

Painting & Wallpaper

DOUBLE TT PAINTING
Interior and Exterior Texture, tape & bed
Senior Citizen discount.
432-288-7849 or 352-4633

FEMALE PAINTER
Interior/exterior, residential/commercial very professional, takes pride in her work, very dependable & affordable
FREE Estimates
432-250-4643

HENRY'S PAINTING
Exterior/Interior, 35yrs exp. Free estimates. Senior Discount. Call 684-8135 / 234-4603

K & J Painting - Midlands Readers' Choice Gold Winner! Interior & exterior painting, drywall repair, tile. Top Quality Work. Free estimates. Kevin Ison, 432-563-3178 or 432-349-6110.

LOW BID PAINTING
Serving Midland since 1995
Interior/Exterior
432-664-0918

LOW BID PAINTING
Serving Midland since 1995
Interior/Exterior
432-664-0918

LOW BID PAINTING
Serving Midland since 1995
Interior/Exterior
432-664-0918

Plumbing

At your service actionairplumbing.com (432) 620-8900

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Home Services & Home Improvement

Plumbing

Septic Installation
actionairplumbing.com
432-620-8900

Roofing

J&J ROOFING
All Types of Roofing & Repairs. Fence Repairs, Metal roofs
25 years experience Free Estimates Call Juan. 432-631-6861

Landscape & Tree Maintenance

Lawn & Garden

A & D LAWN SERVICES
Business & Residential
Trimming, yard cleanup, mowing & maintenance. Very professional. Dependable service
432-853-8897

A & G Services. Mowing, edging, tree trimming, shrub removal, planting, mulch, flower beds, clean gutters. All seasons. Free estimates. 432-599-4240

DURAN'S TREE SERVICE
Dirt work, leveling, sod/seed installation, flower beds/plant installation, Will travel. 432-238-6770
24 Years experience

DURANS TREE Service. Tree removal specialist. Minor/ Major trimming, stump removal, flower beds cleaned, hedges trimmed, Will travel. 432-238-6770
24 years experience.

Landscape & Tree Maintenance

Lawn & Garden

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Landscape & Tree Maintenance

Lawn & Garden

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Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

SPECIAL
★ Come to unique, owner in residence, very quite Whispering Oaks. 1 bedroom 1 bath, very nice,cathedral ceilings, covered parking, basic cable & water paid. 2 bedroom 1 bath, fireplace, cathedral ceilings, covered parking, basic cable & water paid. 2 bedroom 2 bath, garage, covered parking, fenced patios. Basic cable & water paid. Call for our special discounted rates, for quality tenant.
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Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Unfurnished

2811 MOSS Ave Patio Home for Rent 4/3/2 Near Emerson Elementary & Goddard Junior High 432-934-4938 or 432-685-1711

SPECIAL!!!
2 BD/1 & 1/2 baths. Townhouse, no pets, utility room with washer & dryer $1,250 per month, $1,000 deposit. Small front & back yards. 432-699-4420 or 432-553-8397

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COUNTRY LIVING, Studio apart. like new, fully furnished. Queen bed, privacy fence, all bills paid, $800 plus $600 dep. 941-204-2614. Photos upon request.

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

304 SUNSET, 3 bedroom 1 bath, fenced yard, washer/ dryer connection, ref., stove, $1,600 month. 432-634-6445

605 BROOKS Drive 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. 210-383-2324.

Residential Rentals

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

3 BEDROOM 2 bath, 2 car garage. 1900 N. Pecos, recently redone, over 2000 sq. ft. . $1,500 month $800 deposit. Please call 432-230-9667.

3 bedroom 2 bath. 501 N. "A" Street. $1,000 deposit, $1500 month. Non smoking & no pets. Must have verifiable references. 432-967-2223

405 W. Dengar, 4 bedroom 1 bath, fenced yard, washer/ dryer. $1,500 month. 432-634-6445

4412 TANNER 3bed/2bath, double garage. $1,500 mo, $1,500 dep. 432-978-2074.

4707 A Harvard, Cute 2BD/2B duplex, 2 carports, fenced yard, applicances, non-smoker, no pets prefered. $1,200 mo. 432-620-9222 or 432-425-2739.

NICE HOMES remodeled with garage, great neighborhood. Northwest Midland, 3 bed 2 bath and larger. From $1,500 monthly. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

VERY NICE, newer, 2 bedroom mobilehome in quiet individually owned 6 unit park. Covered parking, appliances, landscaped. $1000 monthly, $750 deposit. Credit check, rental references required. No pets. 432-296-0951.

Residential Sales

Condos/ Townhouses

NEW TODAY!
4747 Boulder Dr. 3BR/2.5BA/2GR. $30,000 recent updates. New roof, new paint inside and out, new wood floors, New carpet, new granite counter tops, much much more! $242,500. 432-559-0692.

Homes for Sale

3527 GULF, 3BD/2BA, Newly Remodeled, fireplace, 2000+ sf. Large backyard. $219,000. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

3608 SINCLAIR 2939sf. 4BD/3BA., fireplace. Water well. Remodeled. $249,000 Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Homes for Sale

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To file a complaint, contact www.hud.gov or 1800-669-9777

ATTN: READERS
Residential Rentals
Be advised that all apartments advertised in the Residential Rentals section of the Midland Daily Reporter-Telegram are unfurnished.

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

4500 SQ. ft. spec home on 20 acres off 349 (still under construction). Qualified buyers only by appointment. Call Eric 432-934-6198 for home built your way.

5225 Brazzos Ave, Midland. 3/2. Sequestered master bedroom. Breakfast nook. Dining room. 2 car garage. Central heat and air. Kids swing set. Good school district. Home warranty for 1 yr. $229K. Call Robert anytime 4328533009.

805 SHELL 2 bedroom 1 bath, carport, storage building, large backyard. City water & water well. Has great potential. Great neighborhood. Selling as is. Asking $120,000. Call 432-556-3405.

Remodeled 3 & 4 bedroom homes. Northwest Midland. Possible financing. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

♠ EXECUTIVE HOME FOR SALE ♠
4 bed, 3 bath, approximately 2800 sq. ft. Fully furnished. $349,000. Available now. Realtors welcome. 432-685-7041

OLD MIDLAND HOME
For sale, by owner. Approximately 3800 sq. ft. 4 bedroom 4 bath With guest house. Qualified buyers only $549,000. Realtors welcome 432-685-7041

Fax It... 682-6999

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Acreage

FOR SALE or lease one acre water, electric. Nine RV spaces, metal building 40'x30'x12 1/2 ft high, over head door with remote, 18'x10' high, 36" walk in door all finished & insulated. Excellent location, WCR 40, 1/8 mile from Hwy 1788 N., Gardendale, Midland, TX. Sell $175,000 or lease $5,000mo. 480-729-9641.

Commercial

FOR LEASE /Build to Suit
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432-934-7777

Lots & Land

Ranches

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Commercial

COMMERCIAL BLDG
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Commercial

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*2,212 ac. Maverick Creek, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail. $825/ac
*1,771 ac. windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great w-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $850/ac
• Nolan County
*646 ac. over 1 mile SOLD d creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oak $3,550/ac
*565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres covered for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $3,350/ac
• Haskell County
*642 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some pulled traffic $750/ac
*150 ac. big canyon SOLD ranks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, jav $895/ac
• Martin County
*135 ac. Sulphur Springs SOLD deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal stms/fencing $1,150/ac
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No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that know the Country!!!
Owner Financing Available

Lots & Land

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13,500sq/ft
Fenced/Paved Yard
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$8,500/month
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COMMERCIAL YARD FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED
ELECTRIC GATE
$2200/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
432-664-7764

Kitchen available. Deli Food to Go. Busy location at 911 S. Big Spring. For information call 432-262-5753

"MAN CAVE"
New storage on 1788. 1500-4500 square ft starting at $650 RV's/cars/Industrial ask for Don 352-2067.

NEW CONSTRUCTION
5/10/20/50 acres +/- yard with 5,000 or 10,000 sq. ft. building with Bridge Cranes/ wash bays. Ask for Don. 563-1610 or 352-2067.

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• Small Office Suites •
• Fenced Yards •
Various locations.
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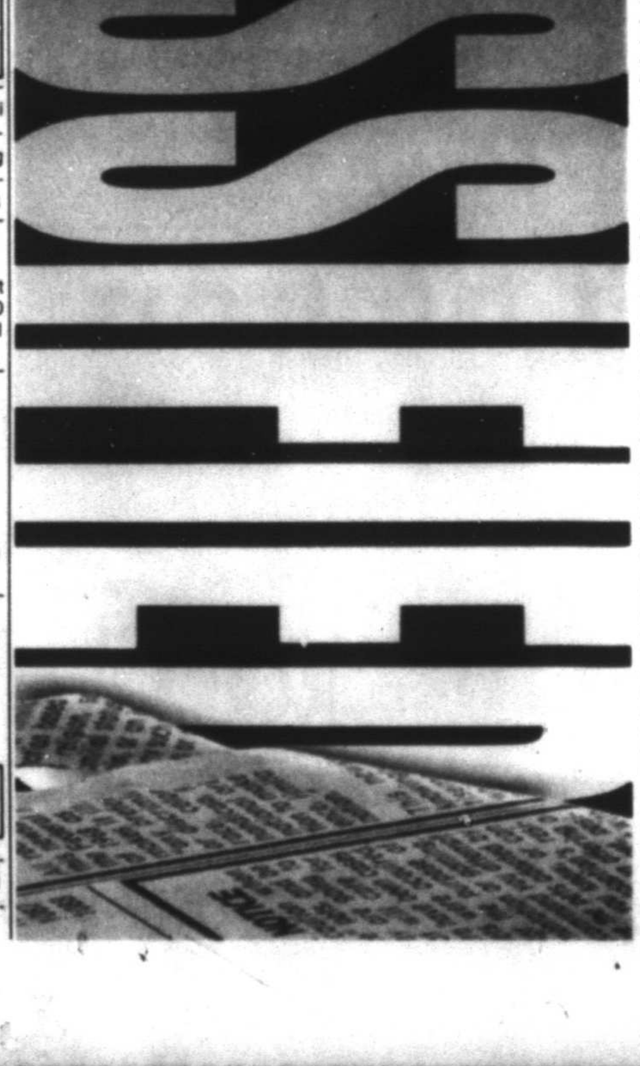
RVs and RV Spaces- All bills included. Call 432-770-7054 or 432-634-0978.



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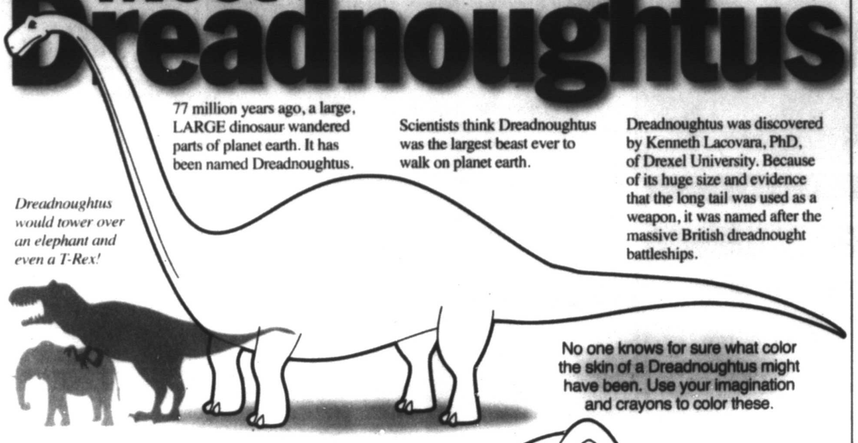
Meet Dreadnoughtus

77 million years ago, a large, LARGE dinosaur wandered parts of planet earth. It has been named Dreadnoughtus.

Scientists think Dreadnoughtus was the largest beast ever to walk on planet earth.

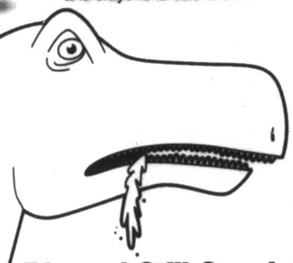
Dreadnoughtus was discovered by Kenneth Lacovara, PhD, of Drexel University. Because of its huge size and evidence that the long tail was used as a weapon, it was named after the massive British dreadnought battleships.



Dreadnoughtus would tower over an elephant and even a T-Rex!

No one knows for sure what color the skin of a Dreadnoughtus might have been. Use your imagination and crayons to color these.

"With a body the size of a house, the weight of a herd of elephants, and a weaponized tail, Dreadnoughtus would have feared nothing," Lacovara said. "That evokes to me a class of turn-of-the-last century battleships called the Dreadnoughts, which were huge, thickly clad and virtually impervious."



A Giant Among Dinosaurs

Replace the missing words.

MOVE EAT STAND LEAVES SKULL

Dreadnoughtus had a neck that was 37-feet long. They used their long neck to reach _____ in tree tops.

They could _____ in one place and reach a wide area of trees. It wasn't easy to _____ such a large body on land, so it would want to _____ as much as it could without moving. The long neck helped with that.

Their _____ did not weigh much, so they could lift their head!

Big and Still Growing!

Can you unscramble the jumbled words?

The _____ (SLIFSOS) of the Dreadnoughtus found in southern Argentina revealed that the _____ (ARIDSONU) weighed as much as 12 _____ (PHETANSEL).

This Dreadnoughtus was as long as two school _____ (SESUB)!

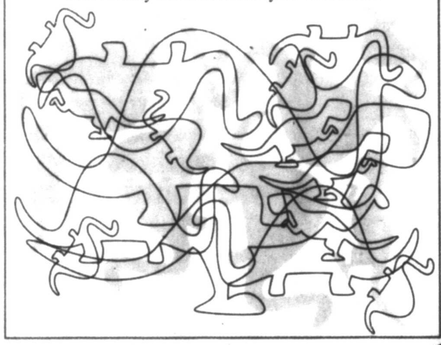
Scientists believe that the discovered Dreadnoughtus was still _____ (WOGRGIN) when it _____ (DDEI). We don't know how big it might have eventually become!

Extra! Extra! Dinosaur Dot-to-Dot

On one page of the newspaper, find and circle each of the letters that spell ***dreadnoughtus***. Connect each circled letter in order to spell the word. Color in the shape you make!

Kid Scoop Puzzler

How many dinosaurs can you find here?



Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

DISCOVERED
ELEPHANTS
SQUIRRELS
DINOSAUR
CENTURY
WEAPON
FEARED
BEAST
CHECK
HUGE
CLAD
WALK
HIGH
KNOW
BODY

O	S	T	N	A	H	P	E	L	E
C	E	N	T	U	R	Y	R	G	N
E	S	L	E	R	R	I	U	Q	S
W	H	F	U	B	G	H	A	H	Y
D	E	R	E	V	O	C	S	I	D
E	H	A	W	A	L	E	O	G	O
R	S	O	P	A	R	B	N	H	B
T	N	I	D	O	L	E	I	V	O
K	C	E	H	C	N	K	D	R	E

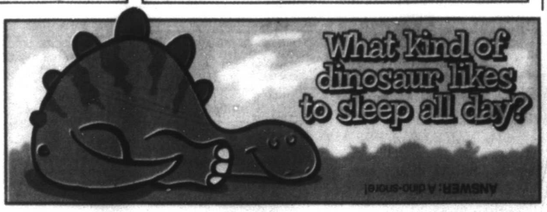
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Compound Words

Look through the newspaper for examples of five compound words (a word formed by combining two other words: table + spoon = tablespoon). Separate each word into the two words and make up the compound word.

Standards Link: Vocabulary Identify compound words.



Weekly Writing Corner

Gift for the World

Students describe a gift they would give to the whole world.

If I could give a gift to the whole world something I would like to give would be a football trophy to honor football. I like this idea because I play football and I want to honor it for everyone.
Alex, 4th grade

I would give peace to the world and I would make it so countries wouldn't have wars and people wouldn't fight. Peace would also make it so everyone was friends and because it would be peaceful, it would make it easier for kids to learn in school without all the noise. People would be smarter. In my opinion,giving peace as a gift to the world can help a lot of things.
Julia, 4th grade

I would stop pollution—BAM, BAM, BAM—because it is a bad thing. Pollution can harm animals and 15 million people have died because of air pollution. That is why I would give the earth the gift of no pollution. When I grow up I want to help people.
Jacob, 3rd grade

A gift I would give to the world is money because money can get you a lot of things like a house (if you have a lot of money) and food.
Thalia, 2nd grade

I would give the gift of only dying when you're old. This year I lost two people. One was a lady who died of cancer but lived about three extra years. The other was a man who died of a random heart attack at age 55. I would also like to give the gift of no pollution or global warming because I don't want to die when I'm 20. And if I could do one more, no anger (like Paris). No anger meaning no people getting so mad that they kill other people and then themselves.
McKenna, 5th grade

I would give homeless people money so they can have a life. They could buy new clothes, all new stuff, a house and a bed and have a happy life.
Jake, 3rd grade

I would give the world food because the poor starve and I don't want that to happen. The poor should have just as much food as the rich. We could do more by giving food to the people on the streets.
T.J., 3rd grade

When people have trash and they can't find a garbage can, they throw it on the ground. What my gift is that whenever someone throws their trash on the ground, a new tree, plant or animal will be born from the trash. Or, the ground will suck the trash up and it will travel to the dump underground.
Isabella, 5th grade

My gift would be a bag of 24 cookies. I would give this gift because cookies are delicious. If a person didn't like them, they could donate them to someone else.
Sabin, 4th grade

A gift for the world would be Money Trees.This would be so that no one would worry about money again. They would cost $5 and would produce $100 every 60 seconds. Wow! Money trees would help so much. Soon everyone would have one, so much we could burn it to keep warm. Money trees are an awesome idea and would make for a happy life!
Trent, 4th grade

Write On!

Found Money

What would you do if you found $10 on the playground? What would you hope someone else might do if they found $10 that you had lost?

Deadline: January 31
Published: Week of Feb. 28
Send your story to:

Newspaper In Education
201 E. Illinois
Midland, TX 79701
ljdiaz@mrt.com

Please include your school and grade.

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