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# BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019



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## FUMC brings Celebrate Recovery to Big Spring

By **MARISSA LOFTIN**  
 Managing Editor

First United Methodist Church (FUMC), located at 400 Scurry, is reaching out to the residents of Big Spring and surrounding areas by opening their doors to provide Celebrate Recovery (CR), a new, weekly program beginning Wednesday evening that is for all people, believers or not, who have hurts, habits or hang-ups. "A hurt can be a physical, mental or sexual abuse. A hang-up can be an anger issue over all the expectations that are placed upon us in today's society. A habit can be one of numerous addictions that face this nation, chemical addiction, food, sex, gambling etc.," said Joyce Webb of FUMC.



HERALD file photo

If you or someone you know is directly effected with hurts,

**FUMC (above) will now provide Celebrate Recovery, a new weekly program that will address a wide range of problems that attendees may be facing and will help those to overcome them. The first of many gatherings, an introductory meeting, will take place Wednesday, January 9, at 6:00 p.m. at FUMC.**

See **FUMC**, Page 3

## County commissioners to discuss tax abatement Wednesday



HERALD file photo

**The photo above shows the main entrance to the Howard County Courthouse located at 300 S. Main St.**

By **ROGER CLINE**  
 Staff Writer

Howard County Commissioners will hold their first regular meeting of 2019 on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. The meeting will take place in the third-floor courtroom of the Howard County Courthouse, 300 S. Main St.

In the meeting, commissioners plan to:

- Discuss and consider action on guidelines and criteria for tax abatement;
- Discuss and consider action regarding an emergency management director/coordinator notification;
- Consider approval of invoices, purchase requests, and budget amendments;
- Consider approval of payroll, personnel considerations, and the treasurer's month-

ly payroll report;  
 • Meet in executive closed session to discuss personnel considerations;

• Hear a library update from Howard County Librarian Mavour Braswell;

• Discuss and consider action on roadway maintenance updates presented by County Road Administrator Brian Klinksiek.

If you would like to address the commissioners, plan to arrive a few minutes early to fill out a brief form alerting the commissioners to your intent to speak. Call County Judge Kathryn Wiseman at 432-264-2202 for more information.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at [reporter@big-springherald.com](mailto:reporter@big-springherald.com).

## The Life Center of Big Spring's annual fundraiser lunch

By **ANNA GUTIERREZ**  
 Staff Writer

This year's fundraiser lunch benefiting The Life Center of Big Spring will be held Tuesday, February 19, at 11:45 a.m. at the Hotel Settles. If you don't know about The Life Center, they are a non-profit, faith-based organization offering alternatives to abortion,

supporting mothers and fathers experiencing unexpected pregnancies, and promotes sexual wellness in the West Texas community.

Dr. David Cook, author, sports psychologist and peak performance coach for the San Antonio Spurs, professional golfers and many other athletes in all sports, will be the speaker this year. Dr. Cook is best known for the movie "Seven Days In Utopia" which was based on a book he wrote.

"The Life Center has utilized Dr. Cook for several fundraisers and functions in the past. He connects well with our donor base, and is a very inspirational and motivational speaker that

connects to the pro-life message," says Matthew Davis, Director of Operations for The Life Center. "The Life Center considers Dr. Cook a friend."

The theme for this year's benefit is "Transformed...for life."

"Transformation is a process, much like a caterpillar to a beautiful butterfly, we see a similar process happen in life, from conception through birth. Life is a journey of discovery, and at The Life Center, individuals and families are empowered through education to choose life and sexual wellness through teaching, helping and healing programs," said Davis. "This fundraiser is not only informative as to who we are

See **LUNCH**, Page 3



Courtesy photo

**Dr. David Cook, noted sports psychologist, author and motivational speaker will be this year's special guest at the annual fundraiser lunch benefiting The Life Center of Big Spring.**

## Give the gift of life for Valentines Day

By **ANNA GUTIERREZ**  
 Staff Writer

Want to give a previous gift and possibly save a life for Valentines Day? Back In Motion, in collaboration with Vitalant, will be holding their first blood drive of 2019 on Friday, February 8, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at 1113 S. Scurry. Vitalant, formerly United Blood Services (UBS), provides blood and special services to patients



Courtesy photo

**Back in Motion (above), along with Vitalant, is hosting a Blood Drive Friday, February 8 at their office, located at 1113 S. Scurry.**

in more than 1,000 hospitals across 40 states. They are one of the nation's largest and oldest nonprofit blood services providers.

Blood donations are crucial. Blood and platelets cannot be

manufactured, but have to come from donors. Every two seconds in the U.S., someone needs blood. This amounts to approximately 36,000 units of red

blood cells, 7,000 units of platelets and 10,000 units of plasma needed on a daily basis. One donation can potentially save up to three lives.

Do you wonder if you are eligible to donate? Here are some basic requirements:

- At least 16 years old (if

See **LIFE**, Page 3

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## Obituaries

### Marshall Charlton Cates



Marshall Charlton Cates, 93, of Corinth passed away on January 3, 2019, in Denton, Texas, surrounded by loved ones.

He was born on April 18, 1925, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, to Eugene G. and Grace (Sewell) Cates. They moved to Ackerly, Texas, where Marshall and his sister, Billie Gene, grew up on the family farm.

Marshall married the love of his life, Nadine Walker, in 1944. They celebrated 74 years of marriage last year on March 27. They resided in Big Spring for most of their married life and while living there they raised two children, a daughter, Carolyn, and son, Keith Cates.

Marshall worked for automobile dealerships in Big Spring, Wichita Falls, and Tyler, Texas, for most of his adult life. He was devoted to the Chevrolet brand and was a member of Only the Best Club for 20 years. The club recognized his outstanding performance in Chevrolet Retail Service Management. He retired in 1985 from King Chevrolet in Tyler.

When he was not working, he spent his time fishing and gardening. He lived many years on Lake

Palestine, where he fished morning and evening. His gardens were amazing, and he gave much food away along with fish filets by the bagful. He became best friends with many of his neighbors and was loved by so many other friends and family.

Marshall was preceded in death by his parents, Eugene and Grace Cates; his sister, Billie (Cates) Sewell; along with his son, Keith Cates.

Marshall is survived by his wife, Nadine Walker Cates; a daughter, Carolyn (Cates) Johnson and her husband K. Frank Johnson of Corinth; and by grandsons, Robert Lance Cowley and wife Kym Elizondo-Cowley, and Justin Martin Johnson and wife Kimberly Walker Johnson. He was Great-Granddaddy to his seven great-grandchildren, Avery Cowley, Olivia Cowley, Carly Johnson, Reese Johnson, Brighton Wilson, Jillian Wilson, and Bonham Wilson.

A Memorial Service to honor Marshall will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 12, at Willow Bend Assisted Living, 2125 Brinker Road, Denton, Texas.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests that memorials be made to Ardent Hospice, 700 Parker Square, Suite 105, Flower Mound, Texas, 75028 (469)-293-1515.

*Paid obituary*

### Gregoria Dominguez Flores



Gregoria Dominguez Flores, 97, died on January 4, 2019, surrounded by her children and grandchildren following a short illness.

Survivors include her three children, Yolanda Flores, Luven Flores Jr., and Oscar Flores, all of Big Spring; three grandchildren, Christian Fair and Emily Luz Flores of Big Spring, and Timothy Garrett of Oregon; five great-grandchildren, Sydney Beall and her husband Stuart of Midland, Jordan Fair, Gabrielle Fair, Jasiah Flores, and Nathaniel "Feliz" Flores of Big Spring; and two great-great-grandchildren, Paige Beall and Carter Beall of Midland.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Victor and Luz Dominguez; husband, Luven Flores Sr.; 10 brothers and sisters; and one daughter-in-law, Elice Flores.

Rosary was on Monday, January 7, 2019, at 7 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle Welch Funeral Home. A funeral will be Tuesday, January 8, 2019, at 2 p.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Parish.

Pallbearers will be Gilbert Martinez, Charlie Mendoza, Henry Haro, Felix Martinez, Frank Ornelas, and Chris Hewetty. Honorary pallbearers are Jasiah Flores, Nathaniel "Feliz" Flores, and Carter Beall.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).

*Paid obituary*

## Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1100 block of East 13th St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 900 block of Brian Rd. One person was treated at the scene.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 300 block of Northeast Sixth St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3200 block

of West Leatherwood. One person was treated at the scene.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2600 block of South Gregg St. One person was treated at the scene.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

## Take Note

The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit [www.BecomeaCASA.org](http://www.BecomeaCASA.org) or [www.casawtx.org](http://www.casawtx.org).

Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

Maranatha Baptist Academy, 903 Johnson Big Spring, Texas 432-213-1046, Call today for educational needs. In School, High School graduation, Tutoring, homeschool. We are qualified to help you with your child's education, kindergarten through twelfth grade. Come by or give us a call. Open enrollment.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary is looking for new members. If you have a heart for serving people, have at least four hours a week to spare, SMMC Auxiliary might be the fit for you.

Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to inpatients, hospitality services, popcorn and more.

To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Miramontes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop mortgage foreclosure and are in need of help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

The Howard County Democrats will meet the second and fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 pm. at the Howard County Democratic Headquarters, 1408 Scurry, behind Prosperity Bank.

The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and

visitors in crisis situations. Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Books for kids in kindergarten through about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade. Cash donations to allow the Lions to purchase additional books are also appreciated. Books or donations can be taken to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., or to the home of Lions member Ken Lawhon at 1707 E. 15th St. For more information, contact Lawhon at 214-998-9716.

Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.



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### Rev. H.G. Barnard

The Rev. H.G. Barnard, 85, of Greenville, Texas, died Dec. 25, 2018.

He is survived by his wife of 62 1/2 years, Barbara; son Bradley; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and two nephews and their families. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 12, at Seventh Street Baptist Church in Ballinger.

### Ronald Cross

Ronald Cross, 89, died Monday, Jan. 7, 2019. Graveside service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 16, 2019, at Trinity Memorial Park.

### Jesus "Jesse" Ortiz

Jesus "Jesse" Ortiz, 82, died Sunday. Vigil will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral mass will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

### Roger Sparks

Roger Sparks, 75, died Friday, Dec. 21, 2018. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 14, 2019, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **ALYSSA LUERA**, 25, of 1317 Mesquite St. was arrested on several outstanding warrants.
- **RUNAWAY** was reported in the 3600 block of West Highway 80.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 500 block of East Third St., the 2500 block of Carol Dr., and the 3600 block of West Highway 80.
- **MAJOR ACCIDENT** was reported in the 300 block of Northeast Sixth St. and the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Boulevard.

## Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activity:

- Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 78 inmates at the time of this report.
- **MICHELLE KAY DANIEL**, 43, was booked by HCSO on a motion to revoke probation for possession of a controlled substance (Penalty Group 1, less than one gram).
- **ALYSSA LUERA**, 25, was booked by BSPD on warrants for manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance (Penalty Group 1, four to 200 grams), unlawfully carrying a weapon, and tampering with identification numbers on personal property.

## Support Groups

### TUESDAY

The Big Spring and Snyder Parkinson's Support Groups hold meetings at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of each month.

This is a group for all Parkinson's Disease patients, spouses and caregivers.

For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 and 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.



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## Odessa Police Department reminds motorists to slow down in school zones

Special to the Herald

Now that school is back in session, the Odessa Police Department would like to remind motorists to slow down!

During the last calendar school year, the Odessa Police Department issued 510 citations for speeding in school zones and responded to approximately 18 major crashes (including crossing guards) that occurred in school zones.

### School Zone Safety Reminders:

- Be aware of the established 20-25 mile-per-hour school zones.
- Most school zones use yellow flashing lights to warn motorists of the reduced speed zone.
- Texas State law prohibits the use of cell phones while the lights are flashing.
- Please obey school crossing guards and be mindful of all pedestrians using the crosswalks.

Speeding in a school zone can result in a fine of up to \$300 and using a cell phone in an active school zone can result in a fine of up to \$232. However, the life of a child is priceless and not worth the risk of speeding through a school zone.

## LUNCH

Continued from Page 1

and what we do for the community of Big Spring, but it is also a way for the organization to connect to individuals, churches and businesses within the community who are looking to support and/or partner with a local non-profit. The Life Center is able to offer free services to its clients because of generous donations and partners from each community."

You can sponsor a table that will seat ten through several levels of sponsorship, and you can also purchase individual tickets. For additional information regarding the Lunch and Learn and to register, please visit <https://www.thelifecenters.org/big-spring.html> or call The Life Center at 432-606-5041.

Contact Staff Writer Anna Gutierrez at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at [citydesk@big-springherald.com](mailto:citydesk@big-springherald.com).

## LIFE

Continued from Page 1

- Under 18, must have consent form signed by parent or guardian)
  - Weigh at least 110 pounds
  - Be in good general health, but even many with chronic health conditions are eligible to donate
- A few things to remember prior to your donation appointment:
- Eat a healthy, low fat meal within two hours prior to arriv-

ing for your appointment

- Eat a salty snack the day before you donate. Your body loses salt when you donate blood, and replacing it ahead of time will help keep your blood pressure normal
- Avoid or limit caffeinated and energy drinks on the day of the donation
- Drink eight to sixteen ounces of a non-caffeinated, non-alcoholic beverage one hour before you donate. Water is best!

For any questions about the upcoming blood drive, please call Back in Motion at 267-2225. To set up a donation time, go to the Back In Motion Facebook event page or give them a call. You can also find a lot of very good information about Vitalant and the blood donation process at [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org).

Contact Staff Writer Anna Gutierrez at 432-263-7331 ext. 232, or by email at [citydesk@big-springherald.com](mailto:citydesk@big-springherald.com).

## FUMC

Continued from Page 1

habits or hang-ups, you are encouraged to attend their very first introductory meeting on Wednesday to see what Celebrate Recovery has to offer and how this free program can help.

"We feel like we need to meet the needs of the community, so in the newcomers meeting, which everyone will be a newcomer on Wednesday night, I will ask everyone to write down what they would like to see and what groups they would like to be offered," said Webb. "Whatever they write down is what we will offer next. CR suggests that you open with

chemical dependency and co-dependency, so these groups will be in addition to chemical dependency and co-dependency."

The meetings will take place every Wednesday from 6-8 in the Youth Hall of FUMC. Attendees will be lead by individuals who have had at least a year of leadership training, and their goal is to keep going until the city is healed.

"When you come out of this program on the other side, you will be ready to take the place of the leaders. You will be a healed person who wants to give back to the community. So, not only does CR heal eople, but it produces leaders and will be a continuous program," said Webb.

According to Webb, each Wednesday attendees will meet between 6-8. CR wants to create different environments, a large group, open share small groups and an in-depth study.

"The first hour entails a worship service and a talk on the step of the night. After that, we will break out into the smaller, focused groups. Then we will have a snack back in the general assembly group before dismissal at 8," said Webb.

Small group open sharing will reflect the needs of the attendees covering the issues such as substance abuse, lust, eating disorders, codependency in relationships, and any other issue that is keeping people from being all they were cre-

ated to be.

Those interested in learning about CR and to see what this program can do to help you or someone you know directly effected by a hurt, habit or hang-up, should come to Big Spring's First United Methodist Church this Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to take part in CR's first introductory meeting. For additional information, please call FUMC at 432-267-6394.

Hurt people hurt people, and changed people change people.

Contact Managing Editor Marissa Loftin at 432-263-7331 ext. 230, or by email at [editor@big-springherald.com](mailto:editor@big-springherald.com).

# 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

### 1. TRUMP TO MAKE WALL CASE TO NATION

The president will argue that a "crisis" at the U.S.-Mexico border requires the barrier he's demanding before ending the partial government shutdown; Senior Democrats call for chance to a televised response.

### 2. AIR TRAVELERS FEEL EFFECTS OF SHUTDOWN

Longer lines at security checkpoints and a reduction in safety inspections are the early signs of how the partial government shutdown is affecting air travel.

### 3. KIM ARRIVES IN BEIJING FOR TALKS

The North Korean leader begins a four-day visit in what's likely an effort to coordinate with his only major ally, China's Xi Jinping, ahead of a summit with Trump that could happen early this year.

### 4. ACTIVISTS MAKE PLEA FOR SAUDI WOMAN

Human Rights Watch calls on Australia to allow entry to Rahaf Mohammed Alqunun, who's being processed by U.N. refugee authorities in Thailand after fleeing her homeland.

### 5. WHO AP-

### PEARED TO SNUB BOLTON

The U.S. national security adviser is departing Turkey without meeting with President Erdogan, an apparent rebuke over disagreements about Kurdish fighters in Syria as Ankara readies for a cross-border military operation.

### 6. POMPEO BEGINS MIDEAST TOUR

America's top diplomat will visit Jordan, Egypt and Gulf nations to talk to regional leaders about ramping up pressure on Iran.

### 7. GHOSN ASSERTS INNOCENCE IN TOKYO COURT

The former Nissan Chairman defends his honor in his first public appearance since he was arrested in November and charged with false financial reporting.

### 8. WHAT IS GOING LARGELY UNUSED IN ECUADOR

The Union of South American Nations' headquarters is suffering as the region takes a conservative political shift.

### 9. KEVIN SPACEY PLEADS NOT GUILTY

The former "House of Cards" star is accused of groping an 18-year-old busboy in 2016 at a Nantucket bar in the first criminal case brought against the disgraced actor.

### 10. CLEMSON MAKES COLLEGE FOOTBALL HISTORY

With stunning ease and freshman quarterback Trevor Lawrence, the Tigers topple Alabama — college football's greatest dynasty — to become the first perfect playoff champion.

## What air travelers should know about the government shutdown

By DAVID KOENIG

AP Airlines Writer

DALLAS — The partial government shutdown is starting to affect air travel.

Over the weekend, some airports had long lines at checkpoints, apparently caused by a rising number of security officers calling in sick while they are not getting paid.

Safety inspectors aren't even on the job. A Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said Monday that inspectors are being called back to work on a case-by-case basis, with a priority put on inspecting airline fleets.

So far, the impact of the shutdown — entering its 18th day on Tuesday — has been most visible for some government buildings and national parks being closed, and trash piling up on the National Mall in front of the Capitol. If the shutdown continues, food stamp recipients will go without aid.

By increasingly affecting air travel, however, the pain is being felt more widely.

Here are some common questions about the shutdown's impact on airports and travel, along with the answers:

### WHO IS SUPPOSED TO KEEP WORKING?

About 10,000 air traffic controllers who work for the Federal Aviation Administration and about 51,000 Transportation Security Administration officers have been told to keep reporting to work because they are deemed essential. Those workers at airport checkpoints, control towers and FAA radar stations aren't being paid.

### ARE THEY SHOWING UP?

TSA admits that more screeners are calling in sick at some airports, including Dallas-Fort Worth International. It gave few numbers but issued a statement Friday saying that more have been missing work since the Christmas and New Year's holidays. The TSA said the effect was "minimal."

Then over the weekend, travelers reported longer checkpoint lines at some airports, including LaGuardia in New York. On Monday, TSA tweeted that agents screened 2.22 million passengers nationwide on Sunday, which it called a "historically busy day due to holiday travel." TSA said only about 220,000 travelers waited at least 15 minutes at checkpoints, while 0.2 percent — fewer than 5,000 — waited at least 30 minutes.

### HOW WILL TSA RESPOND TO NO-SHOWS?

TSA spokesman Jim Gregory said officials are managing. "If we don't have appropriations by midweek or so, (officers) will miss their first paycheck. That's obviously where it becomes more difficult," he said.

Gregory said the agency has a team of officers who can go to airports facing a shortage, a tactic developed in case natural disasters prevented screeners from getting to work.

### WHAT ABOUT TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS?

About 1,900 air traffic controllers — nearly one in every five — are eligible to retire right now and it's not clear how many of them will stick around. They won't get paychecks later this week despite working over the holidays.

"I don't know how long they're going to stay on the job if they're not getting a paycheck," said Paul Rinaldi, president of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association.

There is an even larger group of recently hired trainees and apprentices and Rinaldi said the prospect of a long shutdown could lead some of them to take other jobs.

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Jesus "Jesse" Ortiz, 82, died Sunday. Vigil will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Holy Trinity Catholic Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Roger Sparks, 75, died Friday, December 21, 2018. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Monday, January 14, 2019, at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Ronald Cross, 89, died Monday, January 7, 2019. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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# Texas booming but lawmakers warned of economic 'uncertainty'



*AP photo*  
Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar speaks during a news conference where he released biennial revenue estimates that will be used to set Texas budget for the upcoming legislative session, Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, in Austin, Texas.

By PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas' top financial official said Monday that unsettled trade policy by the Trump administration and economic "uncertainty" is clouding the spending picture as returning lawmakers face costly expenses including a public school funding overhaul and Hurricane Harvey's aftermath.

Those warnings came even as the Republican-controlled Texas Legislature reconvenes this week armed with more spending power than it has had in years because of the robust economy, according to budget projections released by Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar.

Lawmakers will essentially have \$9 billion more than under the state's current budget, which was written in 2017 during a highly contentious session that

was overshadowed by a failed "bathroom bill" targeting transgender people and one measure empowering local police in Texas to ask people about their immigration status.

But Hegar said recent economic conditions still warrants caution.

"I think uncertainty is heightened right now," Hegar said. He pointed to rising interest rates, trade talks and signs of a slowing global economy.

Hegar, an elected Republican, said the federal government shutdown was having no immediate impact on his estimates but that his office was watching the impasse closely. He also said he did not believe President Donald Trump's proposed border wall, if built, would have a negative economic impact on Texas.

"With that being said, also, international trade is more im-

portant to Texas than any other state," he said.

On Monday, the White House announced that Trump would visit the border this week.

Republican Gov. Greg Abbott has promised to cut property taxes this year as he begins a second term, but those taxes are also vital to Texas' classroom spending. In 2016, the Texas Supreme Court ruled that how the state pays for public schools was deeply flawed but still constitutional.

Leaders of both parties have said that overhauling the school finance system is a priority this session.

"The first thing you need to do is fund what we're doing now, and not start looking for cutting taxes with the money that's coming in," said Dick Lavine, a fiscal analyst for the left-leaning Center for Public Policy Priorities.

## Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar releases biennial revenue estimate

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar released the Biennial Revenue Estimate (BRE) Monday, showing the state is projected to have approximately \$119.1 billion in revenue available for general-purpose spending during the 2020-21 biennium.

The revenue estimate represents an 8.1 percent increase from the amounts available for the 2018-19 biennium. Hegar warned, however, that substantial supplemental appropriations could affect revenue available for the 2020-21 biennium.

"Despite this projected revenue growth, the Legislature will again face some difficult choices in balancing the budget," Hegar said. "The most pressing and costly budget drivers for the upcoming session include a potentially large boost in education spending to reduce the property tax burden and reform school finance."

The \$119.1 billion available for general-purpose spending includes 2020-21 collections of \$121.5 billion in General Revenue-Related (GR-R) funds as well as \$4.2 billion in balances from the 2018-19 biennium.

The total reflects \$6.3 billion reserved from oil and natural gas taxes for 2020-21 transfers to the Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF) and the State Highway Fund (SHF) and \$211 million set aside to cover a shortfall in the state's original prepaid tuition plan, the Texas Tomorrow Fund.

Sales tax collections make up the state's largest source (55 percent) of GR-R revenues in 2020-21. The BRE projects sales tax revenues will increase 9.5 percent from the 2018-19 biennium to nearly \$66.3 billion for the 2020-21 biennium. That is after \$5 billion is allocated to the SHF.

Other significant sources of revenue in 2020-21 include:

- motor vehicle-related taxes, including sales, rental and manufactured housing taxes, which are

expected to reach \$9.8 billion, up 0.4 percent from 2018-19;

- oil production tax collections, which are projected to generate \$7.4 billion, up 11.1 percent from 2018-19;

- natural gas tax collections, which are expected to raise \$3.3 billion, up 9.6 percent from 2018-19; and
- state franchise tax revenue for all funds, estimated at \$8.2 billion, up 8.0 percent from 2018-19.

The ESF (the state's "Rainy Day Fund") currently contains about \$12.5 billion, not counting currently outstanding spending authority. Absent any legislative appropriations, the ESF balance is expected to be \$15.4 billion at the end of the 2020-21 biennium.

"For the 2020-21 biennium, we remain cautiously optimistic but recognize we're unlikely to see continued revenue growth at the unusually strong rates we've seen in recent months," Hegar said. "Oil prices have dropped sharply since October, financial markets have demonstrated increased volatility, interest rates have been rising and U.S. trade policy remains uncertain. And as the nation's leading export state, the Texas economy in particular is exposed to potential reductions in international trade."

"Because of this heightened uncertainty, this revenue estimate is based on a projection of continued but slowing expansion of the Texas economy," Hegar said.

State revenue from all sources and for all purposes is expected to reach \$265.6 billion for the 2020-21 biennium, including approximately \$88.7 billion in federal receipts, along with other income and revenues dedicated for specific purposes and therefore unavailable for general-purpose spending.

The Biennial Revenue Estimate and visuals from today's press conference are available on the Comptroller's website.





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## Landowners of Texas fight Kinder Morgan \$2B pipeline proposal

FREDERICKSBURG, Texas (AP) — Landowners in Texas Hill Country are scrambling to figure out how to reroute or stop a \$2 billion natural gas pipeline proposed by a Houston-based company.

Kinder Morgan is surveying the Permian Highway Pipeline's possible route running 430 miles (692 kilometers) from the Permian Basin oil and gas field in West Texas to a location near Katy, a Houston suburb. But property owners in Hill Country are looking into their rights and the company's ability to utilize eminent domain, the San Antonio Express-News reported.

Allen Fore, a Kinder Morgan spokesman, said the company will work with landowners to make route adjustments. Kinder Morgan owns or runs 26,000 miles (41,840 kilometers) of pipelines throughout Texas.

The company has already contacted the owners of nearly all the 1,070 properties across the 16 counties that the pipeline would cut through, Fore said.

If the company receives all needed permits and approvals, it hopes to begin construction this fall and be in service by late 2020.

The project will be reviewed by state and federal regulators, including the Texas Railroad Commission, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Texas Railroad

Commission registers pipelines as common carriers, which allows them to take control of private property through eminent domain delegated by the state.

Oil and gas companies' ability to use eminent domain keeps the industry functioning in West Texas, said Ryan Sitton, the agency's commissioner. Without it, one landowner could shut down an entire project, Sitton and Fore said.

The legal framework created by the Texas Legislature and state courts makes it difficult to win a challenge to stop the pipeline company entirely, said Luke Ellis, an Austin-based attorney representing landowners potentially affected by Kinder Morgan's proposed pipeline.

Because pipeline easements are permanent, Ellis said property owners have one chance to get the best easement terms and the highest amount of just compensation possible.

Hank Sauer owns 45 acres near Fredericksburg in Gillespie County, where the largest number of landowners that could be affected by the Permian Highway Pipeline.

Sauer has been trying to sell his land but recently took it off the market because his property's interest dropped after Kinder Morgan announced the project in June.

"We have no ill will toward pipelines — they're needed," Sauer said. "But put them somewhere where they're not going to destroy lives and destroy people's communities."



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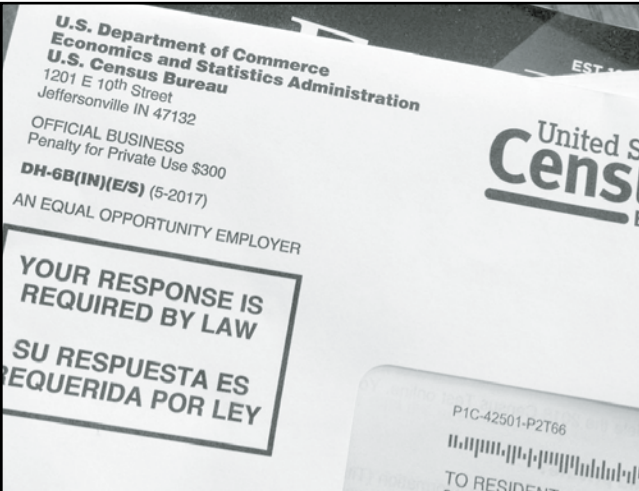
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## Expert: Census citizenship question would worsen undercount



**AP photo**  
This March 23, 2018, file photo shows an envelope containing a 2018 census letter mailed to a U.S. resident as part of the nation's only test run of the 2020 Census.

By **SUDHIN THANAWALA**

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Asking people whether they are U.S. citizens on the 2020 census would worsen the undercount of Latinos and non-citizens compared with other groups, an expert in surveys said Monday at the start of a trial over the Trump administration's decision to include the question for the first time in 70 years.

Colm O'Muirheartaigh, a professor at the University of Chicago, said the question would reduce the percentage of Latinos and non-citizens who respond to the census questionnaire. He testified in federal court for California and numerous cities that argue asking about citizenship is politically motivated and are suing the U.S. government to keep it off the population count that is done every decade.

California's lawsuit says an undercount of Latinos and immigrants would jeopardize its federal funding and congressional representation in a state with a substantial number of both groups. Figures from the census are used to determine the distribution of congressional seats to states and billions of dollars in federal funding.

The U.S. Justice Department argues that census officials take steps to guard against an undercount, including making follow-up visits in person, so the final numbers will be accurate. Households that skip the citizenship question but otherwise fill out a substantial portion of the survey will still be counted, government attorneys said in court documents.

O'Muirheartaigh, who has served as an adviser to the Census Bureau, said the bureau's additional efforts to count those people would not "remediate the damage caused by the introduction of the citizenship question," he said, referring to an undercount of certain groups.

It's the latest battle between California and President Donald Trump's administration, with both sides suing the other over immigration and other issues. The government has cracked down on immigration and border security, while California has some protections for immigrants in the country illegally.

U.S. Judge Richard Seeborg is scheduled to hear a week of testimony from experts and other witnesses in the census case before deciding whether to allow the question. Seeborg is the second federal judge considering issue, with a ruling by the first judge expected soon after a trial in New York ended in November.

The Commerce Department announced the addition of a citizenship question in March, saying the Justice Department had requested it and it would improve enforcement of a 1965 law meant to protect minority voting rights.

The move sparked an outcry from Democrats, who said it would disproportionately affect states favoring their party. All households were last

See **CENSUS**, Page 6

## Trump plans border visit as shutdown lurches into 3rd week

By **CATHERINE LUCEY and LISA MASCARO**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

— With no breakthrough in sight to end the partial government shutdown, President Donald Trump plans a Tuesday night address to the nation and a Thursday visit the U.S.-Mexico border to highlight his demands for a border wall. Newly empowered House Democrats — and at least a few Re-



**AP photo**

**President Donald Trump speaks on the South Lawn of the White House as he walks to Marine One, Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019, in Washington. Trump is en route to Camp David.**

publican senators — are stepping up pressure on Trump and GOP lawmakers to reopen the government.

Trump said he would discuss the "Humanitarian and National Security crisis on our Southern Border" at 9 p.m. EST. He maintains that more than \$5 billion for a wall is necessary to secure the border. White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders tweeted Monday that Trump will use the visit to "meet with those on the front lines of the national

security and humanitarian crisis."

As the shutdown lurches into a third week, many Republicans watched nervously from the sidelines as hundreds of thousands of federal workers went without pay and government disruptions hit the lives of ordinary Americans.

Trump has offered to build the barrier with steel rather than concrete, billing that as a concession to Democrats' objections to a solid wall. They "don't like

concrete, so we'll give them steel," he has said.

But the Democrats have made clear they see a wall as immoral and ineffective and prefer other types of border security funded at already agreed-upon levels.

White House officials affirmed Trump's funding request in a letter to Capitol Hill after a meeting Sunday with senior congressional aides led by Vice

See **BORDER**, Page 6

## Woman sentenced to life as teen in killing wins clemency

By **KIMBERLEE KRUESI**

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A woman who says she was a 16-year-old sex trafficking victim when she killed a man in 2004 was granted clemency Monday by Tennessee's governor and soon will be released from prison.

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam granted clemency to Cyntoia Brown, who had been serving a life sentence but who will be released on parole on Aug. 7 — exactly 15 years from the date she was first arrested.

"Cyntoia Brown committed, by her own admission, a horrific crime at the age of 16. Yet, imposing a life sentence on a juvenile that would require her to serve at least 51 years before even being eligible for parole consideration is too harsh, especially in light of the extraordinary steps Ms. Brown has taken to rebuild her life," Haslam said in his statement.

Brown, 30, will remain on parole supervision for 10 years on the condition she does not violate any state or federal laws, holds a job, and participates in regular counseling sessions.

Brown's case has attracted national attention from criminal justice reform advocates, and the attention amped up as Haslam's second and final term entered its final weeks. While law enforcement officials had opposed clemency — arguing Brown was not justified in killing Allen — celebrities like Kim Kardashian West and singer Rihanna spoke out for Brown. The governor's office was inundated with thousands of phone calls and emails from supporters.

"Thank you Governor Haslam," Kardashian West tweeted soon after news of the clemency decision broke, which was followed by similar high-profile



**AP photo**

**This May 23, 2018, file photo shows Cyntoia Brown, entering her clemency hearing at Tennessee Prison for Women in Nashville, Tenn. Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam on Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, granted executive clemency to Brown, serving a life sentence for murder who says she was a victim of sex trafficking. The outgoing Republican governor, whose term ends in just two weeks, chose to show mercy to the now 30-year-old Brown by releasing her Aug. 7.**

See **LIFE**, Page 6

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## BORDER

Continued from Page 5

President Mike Pence at the White House complex yielded little progress. The letter from Office of Management and Budget Acting Director Russell Vought sought funding for a "steel barrier on the Southwest border."

The White House said the letter, as well as details provided during the meeting, sought to answer Democrats' questions about the funding request. Democrats, though, said the administration still failed to provide a full budget of how it would spend the billions requested for the wall from Congress. Trump campaigned on a promise that Mexico would pay for the wall, but Mexico has refused.

The administration letter includes a request for \$800 million for "urgent humanitarian needs," a reflection of the growing anxiety over migrants traveling to the border — which the White House said Democrats raised in the meetings. And it repeats some existing funding requests for detention beds and security officers, which have already been panned by Congress and would likely find resistance among House Democrats.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi intends to begin passing individual bills to reopen agencies in the coming days, starting with the Treasury Department to ensure Americans receive their tax refunds. That effort is designed to squeeze Senate Republicans, some of whom are growing increasingly anxious about the extended shutdown.

Among the Republicans expressing concern was Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, who said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell should take up bills from the Democratic-led House.

"Let's get those reopened while the negotiations continue," Collins said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Adding to concerns, federal workers might miss this week's paychecks. Acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that if the shutdown continues into Tuesday, "then payroll will not go out as originally planned on Friday night."

Over the weekend, the federal agency tasked with guaranteeing U.S. airport security acknowledged an increase in the number of its employees calling off work. But Trump and the Department of Homeland Security pushed back on any suggestion that the call-outs represented a "sickout" that was having a significant effect on U.S. air travel.

At the White House, on Monday, spokeswoman Mercedes Schlapp complained that Democratic leaders have yet to define what they mean when they say they are for enhancing border security.

"Democrats want to secure the border? Great. Come to the table," she said. "We are willing to come to a deal to reopen the government."

Trump reaffirmed that he would consider declaring a national emergency to circumvent Congress and spend money as he saw fit. Such a move would seem certain to draw legal challenges.

Incoming House Armed Services Committee Chairman Adam Smith, D-Wash., said on ABC's "This Week" that the executive power has been used to build military facilities in Iraq and Afghanistan but would likely be "wide open" to a court challenge for a border wall. Speaking on CNN's "State of the Union," Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff called the idea a "nonstarter."

Trump asserted that he could relate to the plight of the hundreds of thousands of federal workers who aren't getting paid, though he acknowledged they will have to "make adjustments" to deal with the shutdown short-fall.

## LIFE

Continued from Page 5

responses from former Georgia Democratic gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams, actresses Alyssa Milano and Viola Davis.

Brown was convicted in 2006 of murdering 43-year-old Nashville real estate agent Johnny Allen two years before. Police said she shot Allen in the back of the head at close range with a loaded gun she brought to rob him after he picked her up at a drive-in theater in Nashville to have sex with her.

However, according to her lawyers, Brown was a victim of sex trafficking who not only feared for her life but also lacked the mental state to be culpable in the slaying because she was impaired by her mother's alcohol use while she was in the womb.

Brown expressed thanks in a statement released Monday by her legal team.

"I am thankful for all the support, prayers, and encouragement I have received. We truly serve a God of second chances and new beginnings. The Lord has held my hand this whole time and I would have never made it without him," Brown said. "Let today be a testament to his saving grace."

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled against life-without-parole sentences for juveniles. However, the state of Tennessee argued successfully in lower courts that it was not in violation of federal law because Brown did have a possibility for parole: She was sentenced to serve at least 51 years of her life sentence.

"Her story is a story that should be a catalyst for a lot of others, thousands of other juveniles," said Houston Gordon, one of Brown's lead attorneys. "We need to see this as a national awakening to change the draconian laws that allow juveniles, children, to be placed in adult prisons when they're just children. They're not little adults."

During her time in prison, Brown completed her GED and took college classes. She is currently one course away from finishing a Bachelor's degree at Lipscomb University.

Nashville Mayor David Briley praised Haslam's decision, calling it a "great day for social justice and our city." Democratic state Sen. Raumesh Akbari said the clemency announcement shows that Tennessee "can show love, compassion and mercy" for people who have experienced trauma.

Haslam's decision comes at a time when he's considering his next political move in Tennessee now that U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander announced he won't seek re-election in 2020.

Compared to Democrats, Tennessee's Republican lawmakers remained markedly quiet on Haslam's decision.

Gov.-elect Bill Lee offered a brief statement, saying he "respected" Haslam's choice in the complex case and Lt. Gov. Randy McNally said he "appreciated" the process the governor went through to arrive at his decision.

Ed Yarborough, another attorney for Brown, joked at a Monday press conference that he was brought on as the "token Republican" in Brown's case.

"I have to give a lot of credit to Gov. Haslam for having the wisdom and the compassion to do what he did today," he said. "It will not be popular with everyone in Tennessee, but he did the right thing and we praise him for that."

To date, Haslam has granted five commutations, 15 pardons, and one exoneration. The Republican says he is continuing to review and consider additional clemency requests.

## US-China trade talks start amid cooling economic growth

By JOE McDONALD

AP Business Writer

BEIJING — Facing a March deadline, talks aimed at ending a trade war between China and the U.S. are underway, with the world's two biggest economies expressing optimism over the potential for progress but neither indicating its stance has changed.

Cooling economic growth in both countries is increasing pressure to reach a settlement.

As the talks began Monday at the Chinese Commerce Ministry, Beijing complained about a U.S. warship in what it said were Chinese waters, but it was unclear if that would disrupt the proceedings. Both sides have provided scant information about their discussions.

The talks went ahead despite tensions over the arrest of a Chinese tech executive in Canada on U.S. charges related to possible violations of trade sanctions against Iran. The American delegation is led by a deputy U.S. trade representative, Jeffrey D. Gerrish, and includes agriculture, energy, commerce, treasury and State Department officials.

President Donald Trump imposed tariff increases of up to 25 percent on \$250 billion of Chinese imports over complaints Beijing steals or pressures companies to hand over technology. President Xi Jinping responded by imposing penalties on \$110 billion of American goods, slowing customs clearance for U.S. companies and suspending issuing licenses in finance and other businesses.

A Dec. 1 agreement postponed further tariff increases. Economists say the 90-day postponement of additional tariff increases that had been meant to take effect Jan. 1 may be too short to settle the disputes be-

deviling U.S.-Chinese relations.

Chinese growth fell to a post-global crisis low of 6.5 percent in the quarter ending in September. Auto sales tumbled 16 percent in November over a year earlier. Weak real estate sales are forcing developers to cut prices.

The U.S. economy grew at an annual rate of 3.4 percent in the third quarter, and unemployment is at a five-decade low. But surveys show consumer confidence is weakening because of concern that growth will slow this year.

Washington, Europe and other trading partners complain Beijing's tactics violate its market-opening obligations.

The standoff also reflects American anxiety about China's rise as a potential competitor in telecommunications and other technology. Trump wants Beijing to roll back initiatives intended to create homegrown Chinese leaders in robotics and artificial intelligence.

China's leaders see such strategies as a path to greater prosperity and global influence and have tried to defuse complaints by emphasizing the country's potential as a huge consumer market.

They've also promised to allow more foreign access to its auto, finance and other industries.

Beijing has tried in vain to recruit France, Germany, South Korea and other governments as allies against Trump, but they have echoed U.S. complaints about Chinese industrial policy and market barriers.

The European Union filed its own challenge in the World Trade Organization in June against Chinese rules that the 28-nation trade bloc said hamper the ability of foreign companies to protect and profit from their own technology.

## CENSUS

Continued from Page 5

asked whether individuals were U.S. citizens in the 1950 census.

Documents in the litigation in New York appear to show that Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross was pushing for the question well before the Justice Department's request and spoke about it in spring 2017 with former senior White House adviser Steve Bannon and then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

There was enough evidence "to infer that Secretary Ross was motivated to add the citizenship question for the partisan purpose of facilitating the exclusion of non-citizens from the population count for congressional apportionment," California and other plaintiffs told Seeborg in court documents.

O'Muircheartaigh's testimony is part of the plaintiffs' effort

to show the citizenship question would result in a costly undercount that they say would violate the constitutional requirement that the census include everyone in the U.S., even non-citizens.

The Justice Department plans to rely on its expert, Stuart Gurrea, to argue that the question would cause no change in congressional apportionment in any state and only a negligible dip in the distribution of federal funds to California.

Government attorneys said California failed to show ulterior motives for the question. The commerce secretary's request that his staff look into adding it doesn't show he acted improperly, and neither does the fact that other officials might have supported it for different reasons, the attorneys said.

"It is unremarkable for an agency head to enter office with predispositions toward certain policy choices," they said.



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# Clemson topples No. 1 'Bama for national title

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Dabo Swinney kissed the championship trophy and proclaimed this Clemson team the greatest of all time.

He's got a case. With stunning ease — and a freshman quarterback — Clemson toppled college football's greatest dynasty again to become the first perfect playoff champion.

Trevor Lawrence passed for 347 yards and three touchdowns and the second-ranked Tigers beat No. 1 Alabama 44-16 on Monday night in the College Football Playoff national championship game.

In the fourth consecutive playoff meeting between the Tigers and Tide, Clemson evened the series and beat 'Bama for the national championship for the second time in three years. Clemson is the first college football team to finish 15-0 since the 1800s, and the first team since the playoff started five seasons ago to get through a season unscathed.

"I mean, our guys had the eye of the tiger, but I'm so proud, and then for our seniors to be able to go out 15-0 and truly be the best ever — there was a lot of talk about best ever all year long," Swinney said, talking about Alabama. "We were never in that conversation. But tonight, there's no doubt. First 15-0 team, to beat Notre Dame and to beat Alabama to do it, this team won 13 games by 20 points or more and led by an unbelievable group of seniors, amazing group. I'm just thankful to be a part of it."

Alabama coach Nick Saban and the Tide (14-1) were looking for a sixth na-

tional championship in 10 years, trying to add to an already unprecedented run in the sport. Instead, Clemson crushed Alabama, becoming the first opponent to beat the Tide by more

us," Clemson All-American defensive tackle Christian Wilkins said.

Two seasons ago it was Deshaun Watson dethroning the Tide with a last-second touchdown pass. Clem-

touchdown about midway through the third quarter that made it 37-16 and had Swinney high-stepping down the sidelines.

Ross, who scored two touchdowns in the semifinal rout of Notre Dame, had six catches for 153 yards against his home-state team.

Swinney takes a different approach than Saban, running a more fun-loving program than Alabama's all-business organization. But the results have been every bit as good. And on Monday night at Levi's Stadium, in a championship game played more than 2,000 miles away from Clemson's South Carolina campus, the Tigers were way too much for an Alabama team that had spent the season mauling its opposition. The Tide won their first 14 games by an average of 31 points.

Alabama's Tua Tagovailoa threw two touchdowns in the first half, the first returned 44 yards for a touchdown by A.J. Terrell to put Clemson up 7-0. The Tide came in scoring 48 points per game, but was shut out over the final 44 minutes by an opportunistic Clemson defense.

Saban lamented numerous mistakes: blown coverages on third down (Clemson was 10 for 15), stall outs in the red zone and special teams mishaps, including a fake field goal that flopped on the first possession of the second half.

He laid the blame on himself. The Alabama program has set a championship-or-bust standard under Saban, but he didn't want this season looked at as a failure.

See CLEMSON, Page 13



AP photo  
Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney kisses the championship trophy after the NCAA college football playoff championship game against Alabama, Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, in Santa Clara, Calif. Clemson beat Alabama 44-16.

than 14 points since Saban became coach in 2007.

Swinney's Tigers sealed their status as a superpower, no longer just 1A to Alabama's 1.

"We're 15-0, we beat the best team ever, nobody's taking that away from

son's new star quarterback didn't need the late-game heroics. The long-haired Lawrence cut though Alabama's defense with the help of another fabulous freshman. Justyn Ross made a juggling grab, a one-handed snare and broke a 74-yard

## Cowboys turn season from bust to playoff boom, trip to LA



AP photo

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott (4) advances the ball to the 1-yard line on a short run for the end zone as Seattle Seahawks safety Bradley McDougald (30) makes the stop during the second half of the NFC wild-card NFL football game in Arlington, Texas, Saturday, Jan. 5, 2019.

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Pro Football Writer

FRISCO, Texas — Before he knew the next opponent, owner Jerry Jones likened the recovery of his Dallas Cowboys from 3-5 to their first playoff win in four years to a boom-or-bust wagon train headed to California.

Lo and behold, Dallas is set for a divisional game Saturday night against the Los Angeles Rams, not far from where the journey began in training camp north of LA.

"You're going to have times when you're going to have to reinvent the wheel during a season," Jones said after a 24-22 wild-card win over Seattle. "Like the old wagon train guys. We're going to burn some of these wagons on the way out to California, break them down, float the Mississippi River. But I'm going to make it to California. I hope you're on the train with me."

The reinvention for the Cowboys (11-6) was a midseason tradethat sent their first-round draft pick this coming spring to Oakland for receiver Amari Cooper. Dallas lost to Tennessee to drop to 3-5 in the first game with a new No. 1 threat, but has won eight of nine games since then.

The other big change, also during the open week, was firing first-year offensive line coach Paul Alexander

and promoting someone familiar with what had helped the Cowboys mold one of the best blocking units in football in former player and assistant line coach Marc Colombo.

All along, one of the league's best defenses helped keep the Cowboys afloat.

"It's a credit to your coaching staff and players that when you bring players in like Cooper and you bring them in in the middle of the season that they can incorporate them into a team that can really execute and really have success," Jones said. "That says a lot about the team, too."

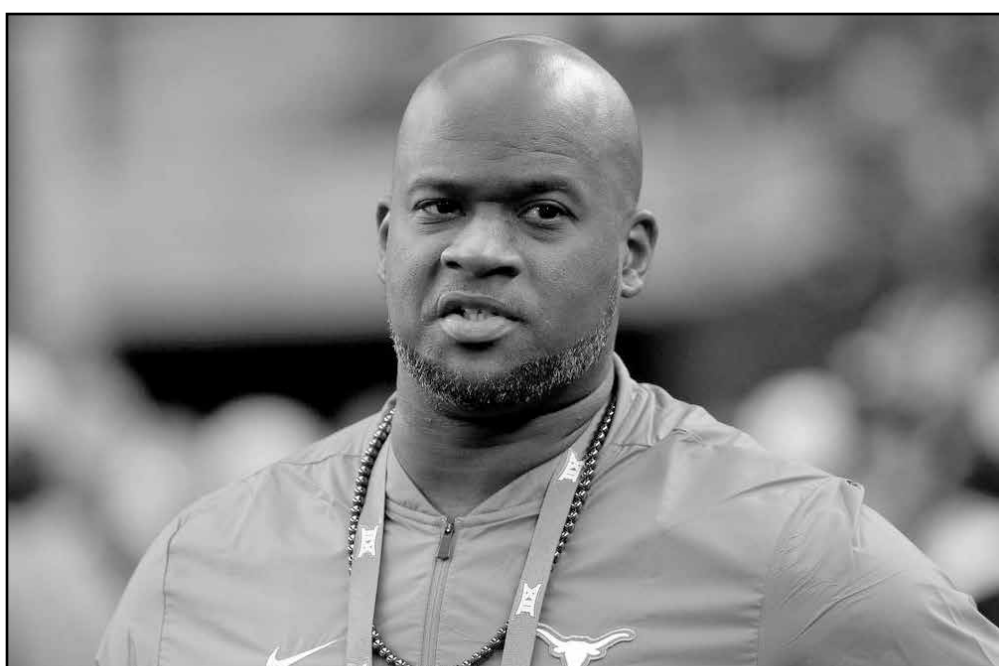
The Cowboys saw this resurgent version of the Rams, led by quarterback Jared Goff and running back Todd Gurley, early in the 2017 season.

In his first year, coach Sean McVay led LA to the NFC West title in the franchise's first winning season in 14 years, including a 35-30 victory at the Cowboys after falling behind 24-13.

"That's a long time ago," Cowboys coach Jason Garrett said. "Teams change year by year. Teams grow within the year. Obviously we'll go back throughout the whole year as the week goes on and continue to evaluate them. They're a very impressive team in all three phases."

See COWBOYS, Page 14

## Vince Young, Rocket Ismail highlight Hall of Fame class



AP photo

Texas NCAA college football quarterback Vince Young stands on the sideline during the first half of the NCAA Big 12 Conference championship against Oklahoma, in Arlington, Texas. Texas quarterback Vince Young and Notre Dame speedster Raghbir Ismail have been selected, Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, for induction into the College Football Hall of Fame, along with 11 other players and two coaches.

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

Texas quarterback Vince Young and Notre Dame speedster Raghbir Ismail have been selected for induction into the College Football Hall of Fame, along with 11 other players and two coaches.

Young was the Heisman Trophy runner-up and led the Longhorns to the 2005 national championship with a memorable performance in the Rose Bowl against Southern California. Ismail, better known as Rocket, was an electric receiver and kick returner for the Fighting Irish and the Heisman runner-up in 1990.

The rest of the players to be enshrined at the National Football Foundation's award banquet in December include Arkansas running back Darren McFadden, Oklahoma defensive back Rickey Dixon, John Carroll linebacker London Fletcher, Texas A&M defensive lineman Jacob Green, North Carolina State receiver Torry Holt, Arizona State quarterback Jake Plummer, USC defensive back Troy Polamalu, Wisconsin offensive tackle Joe Thomas, Florida State defensive back Terrell Buckley,

Michigan State running back Lorenzo White and Mississippi linebacker Patrick Willis.

Dennis Erickson, who coached Miami to two national championships, and Joe Taylor, who won 233 games at historically black colleges, were selected for induction as coaches.

Young was the first FBS player to pass for more than 3,000 yards and run for more than 1,000, leading Texas to an undefeated season in 2005. Against USC in the Rose Bowl, Young passed for 267 yards, ran for 200 and scrambled for a game-winning touchdown on fourth down with 19 seconds left in a 41-38 victory.

Ismail was part of Notre Dame's 1988 national championship team and had six return touchdowns in his career, including five on kickoffs. He is best remembered for taking two kicks back for touchdowns against Michigan in 1989.

McFadden was a two-time Heisman runner-up, coming in second behind Ohio State quarterback Troy Smith in 2006 and Florida quarterback Tim Tebow in 2007.

The Goodyear Blimp was also named an honorary member of the College Football Hall of Fame.

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## Tomorrow's Horoscope

### Mercury Challenges Mars

We're all visitors in the museum of life, with about a century to tour it, at best. The square of Mercury and Mars could stop the flow with a bit of shocking negativity tempting us to needlessly engage in conflict. Don't let one challenge jeopardize the whole experience. Some things are best ignored. Move along to the next exhibit.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Maybe it seems backward, but more practice and preparation won't lead to a better performance today. Doing well has to do with mindset and attitude more than anything else. Commit, believe, trust yourself.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** At your core you are a wise, powerful, beautiful being. You don't always believe it. There are some layers of protection and baggage to shed, and once you do, your spirit will be able to move, stretch and dance.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** While it's been convenient for you to conform, echoing the preferences, interests and attitudes of those close to you, it's not quite what you really want. You're

free to honor your true nature whenever you're ready.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Practical matters require attention, especially having to do with the maintenance of what you own. Take care of your possessions so they will be there for you and in good working order when you need them.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You're ready to examine an unrealized past goal to determine why it didn't happen, whether it's still something you want, and how you might do things differently going forward.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** A real friend brings out the best in you, is undaunted by your weakness and unthreatened by your greatness and generally seems to amplify your strengths just by being near.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Remember the time you got what you wanted and somehow it didn't make you happy? Join the club. When it comes to seeking happiness, humans are not the best judges of what will do the trick, but we can always try again.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You know that

challenges call out the best in you, as do irritations, annoyances, inconveniences and other obstacles. But can you just have one day when it's all easy, smooth and harmonious? Yes, you can! And this is it.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** The term "mansplaining" describes the giving of unnecessary explanations out of an incorrect assumption of the other person's ignorance. This sort of explanation is not limited to men, and it can be avoided with awareness.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** There are three C's that will be the guiding lights of your day -- clarity, courage and confidence. You see things how they are; you're willing to deal head-on with reality; and you trust yourself to handle what comes next.

### BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

that will pay you back in a multitude of ways before they pay you back in the way you had in mind. Let your commitment end only when you achieve what you set out to do. In relationships, you'll set the bar higher and quality people will deliver the goods. Libra and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 44, 28, 11 and 4.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You're really feeling full today, like you don't need too much out of life to feel good and positive, and what you do need you can provide for yourself. This stable and empowered attitude you carry is a magnet for love.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** A problem is a circumstance that impedes you from completing a task or from getting to a destination or state of being. What a problem is not is an idea about a circumstance. Distinguish between real and imagined problems.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 8).** It's a passionate year. You'll discover places to invest your effort

Example: If a parent cares for two children but shows favoritism to one, the other is likely to feel deprived. If a worker is making more than others in the industry, but less than the colleague in the next cubical, enter the pangs of deprivation. Though the state of relative deprivation may seem petty against the backdrop of a world in which actual peril and starvation exist, studies show that relative deprivation is as much a cause for depression and serious consequences as is actual deprivation. You're not being materialistic, just human. Perhaps you should move?

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION:** "Everyone in my neighborhood is rich. Not me. It's getting on my nerves. They get their kids expensive lessons, clothes, cars, but I can't afford the lifestyle. My kids complain to me because we don't go to exotic locations for spring break and the like. I tell them they're being spoiled, but I have to admit, I feel their pain. Am I just being materialistic? I'm a Capricorn." No one lives in the world. Each of us lives in our own world. Humans are subject to a psychological social concept known as "relative deprivation," which describes a feeling of deprivation born from an idea a person holds about what he or she is entitled to. What distinguishes relative deprivation from actual deprivation is that the relative version isn't based on need so much as comparison.

**CELEBRITY PROFILES:** Today we celebrate the legacy of theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking, whose theories have altered the path of scientific thought and study. He also made the complexities of space and time more accessible to all. Admired for living beyond the physical limits of ALS disease, Hawking was born with his sun and Mercury in the sign of tremendous fortitude. He and Albert Einstein both lived to be 76 years old.

Write Holiday Mathis at [HolidayMathis@gmail.com](mailto:HolidayMathis@gmail.com).  
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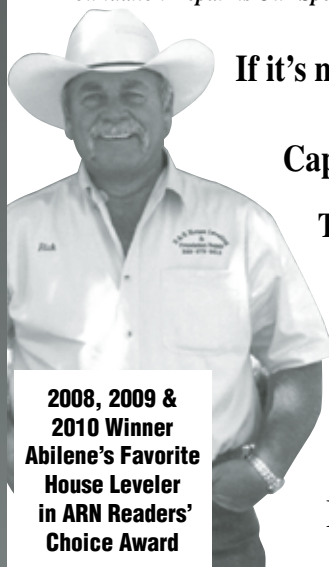
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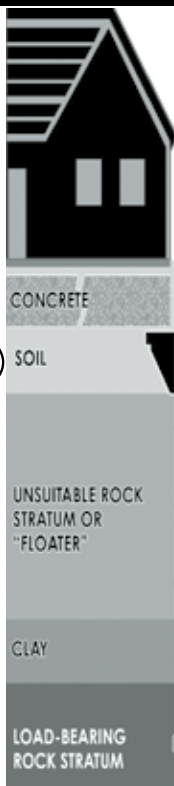
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By Steve Becker

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**EAST**

♠ 9 6  
♥ 6 2  
♦ 8 5 4  
♣ 10 9 7 4 3 2

**SOUTH**

♠ J 5  
♥ A K 4 3  
♦ A Q 10 9  
♣ A K 8

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	

Opening lead — king of spades.

There are many players who, upon picking up the East hand, would decide that this was a good time to review their plans for the rest of the day, or perhaps just take a short nap. They would reason that they were unlikely to do much bidding or contribute anything to the defense if, as seemed likely, an opponent wound up playing the contract.

But they would be dead wrong, because there is a card in the East hand that will sink South's four-heart contract, but only if East is paying full attention at the critical moment.

**Tomorrow:** A challenging situation.

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It is a card that would not carry much weight in most deals, but it makes all the difference in this one.

North-South reached four hearts after locating their 4-4 heart fit. West led the king of spades and continued with the ace, East and South following to both spades. West then led another spade.

If East thought at this point that South must have another spade for his two-notrump opening, or if he had simply lost interest in the proceedings, he might have woodenly ruffed with the deuce. If so, declarer would have overruffed with the three, played the A-K of trumps, conceded a trump to West and claimed the remainder to make his contract.

But a more alert East might realize that with the 9-8-7-5 of trumps in the dummy, ruffing with the six could do some serious damage to the contract if West held the A-10-x, K-10-x or Q-J-10 of trumps and declarer had actually started with a doubleton spade. In each case, ruffing with the six would promote an extra trump trick for West and so set the contract.

The deal occurred in a regional pairs championship, and to the credit of all those present, not a single declarer made four hearts. This means that no East was asleep at the switch at the critical moment, and that every East fully appreciated the potential value of the "lowly" six.

## Annie's Mailbox

### Words Fail a Writer

**Dear Annie:** I am a published author and have been struggling to write my next book. I've written a handful of adult-oriented fictional books. My most recent published book came out almost five years ago. I've tried several times to start the next book, but I haven't been able to get any thoughts together or gather any momentum in the writing process. I never previously experienced any writer's block, so this five-year period is challenging. My frustration has also compounded during this period, and I've walked away several times for extended periods of time. Any advice from one writer to another? -- Writer's Blocked

**Dear Writer's Blocked:** Writing about your own block is a great way to get the creative juices flowing again. Start every day by writing a stream of consciousness. Don't focus on specific time requirements or topics. Just write creatively. Don't go back and read your writings immediately. Let what you've written age a bit, and start the next day anew. Speak with your spouse, a close friend or your therapist about the meaning behind these writings. Inspiration and meaning will find

you as you let go of the search for the perfect topic and uncover what's already hiding inside you.

**Dear Annie:** My dad is full of interesting stories. And he's getting older; he'll be 70 soon. Though he's in great health, I know that my time is running out with him. And I want to preserve his stories so that they don't die with him. Do you have any advice on how to go about this? -- Mulling Over Memoir

**Dear Mulling Over Memoir:** It is terrific that you're thinking of this. What a gift it would be to your father, yourself and future generations of your family to preserve these stories. On top of that, the process of gathering this information will bring you and your dad closer than ever before. Try to set aside one afternoon a month to conduct "life interviews" with your dad, accompanying him on a stroll down memory lane. Record the conversations using your smartphone or a recorder. If you're not sure where to start, the website <https://legacyproject.org> has a helpful list of questions.

**Dear Annie:** As a therapist specializing in eating disorders, I applaud your telling "Supportive Sibling" to talk with her sister who has

an eating disorder before holiday dinners and to devise a safe word to use in conversations if the sister becomes uncomfortable. I would add that "Supportive Sibling" should ask her sister what would help her rather than guess and should urge her to find a therapist to help her overcome her problems. Most people with eating disorders cannot and do not resolve them without therapeutic help, as this is a biopsychosocial problem. Additionally, "Supportive Sibling" should advise everyone in the family that no one should be telling any adult how or what to eat or what to weigh. Though often well-intended, these remarks are counterproductive and must be banned during the holidays and year-round. -- Karen, LCSW

**Dear Karen:** I'm printing your letter for the benefit of "Supportive Sibling," as well as the friends and family of any of the 30 million people in the United States who have eating disorders. Thank you for sharing your expertise.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com).

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# SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

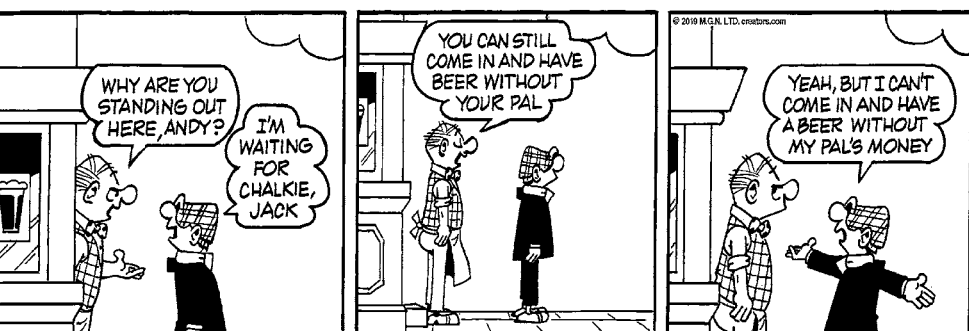
UPS & FedEx Shipping  
Now Available

At  
The

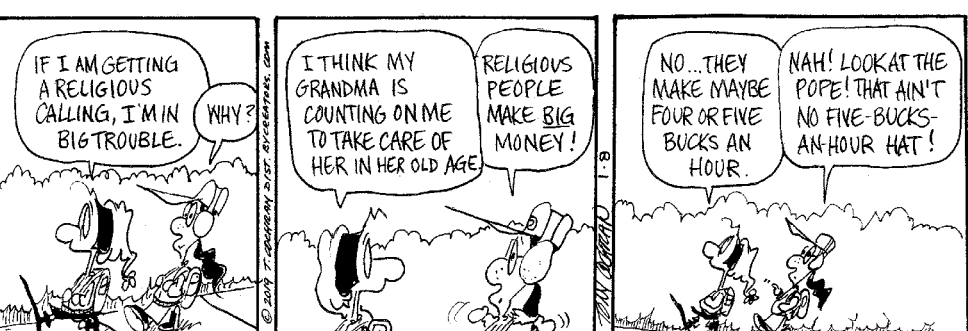
Big Spring Herald  
710 Scurry

	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:30 PM	Big 2 ABC	P. Luche Noticiero	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele Noticias	News	Dollars	Focus	Mama's	American	Fam. Guy	Shooter, Danny Glover (DVS)	SportsCenter	Around Pardon	Basket Champ Spotlight	Mod Fam	The First 48	Garage Rehab: Mas
6:30 PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cerado	News	Our Mess	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Burgers	College Basketball: Duke at Wake Forest.	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	Stars Pre.	Mod Fam		Leah Remini	Garage Rehab: Mas
7:30 PM	Conners	Jesús	Lethal Weapon	NCIS (DVS)	La sultana (SS)	Ellen's Game	News	Finding Your Roots	Griffith	Supergirl	Big Bang	Movie: Law Abiding Citizen (DVS)	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	NHL Hockey: Dallas Stars at St. Louis Blues.	WWE SmackDown!	Leah Remini	Garage Rehab	
8:30 PM	blackish	Mi marido	The Gifted	FBI	Falsa identidad (SS)	Ellen's Game	Light of Southwest	We'll Meet Again	G. Pyle WKRP	Black Lightning	Big Bang	College Basketball	College Basketball: Teams TBA.	Postgame Stars In.	London Has Fallen (DVS)	(:01) 60 Days In	Bad Chad Customs	
9:30 PM	The Rookie	Amar a muerte	FOX 24 News at 9	NCIS: New Orleans	Señora Acero (SS)	New Amsterdam	Light of Southwest	USS Indianapolis: The Final	Heroes	Page Six	Big Bang	Movie: Sully, Valerie Mahaffey (DVS)	SportsCenter	College Basketball: UNLV at New Mexico.	Champ Spotlight	Law & Order: SVU	Leah Remini	Garage Rehab
10:30 PM	Big 2	Impacto	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	Creation	C. Burnett	Gold	Gold	Conan	SportsCenter	College Basketball: UNLV at New Mexico.	Champ Spotlight	Law & Order: SVU	Leah Remini	Garage Rehab	
11:30 PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	M:25	Amanpour-Co	Perry Mason	Seinfeld	New Girl	NCIS: New Orleans	SportsCenter	UFC	NHL Hockey: Stars at Blues	Law & Order: SVU	Leah Remini	Garage Rehab
12:30 AM	Extra	Cachito de Cielo	Two Men	Simpsons	Access	Daily	Think Red	We'll Meet Again	Hitchock	King	New Girl	NCIS: New Orleans	SportsCenter	UFC	NHL Hockey: Stars at Blues	Law & Order: SVU	Leah Remini	Garage Rehab
1:30 AM	Paid Prg.	En tierras salvajes	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	USS India-	Mannix	Top 30	New Girl	NCIS: New Orleans	SportsCenter	UFC	NHL Hockey: Stars at Blues	Law & Order: SVU	Leah Remini	Garage Rehab

ANDY CAPP



AGNES



ARCHIE



ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

On Jan. 8, 2011, U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., was shot and critically wounded when a gunman opened fire as the congresswoman met with constituents in Tucson; six people were killed, 12 others also injured. (Gunman Jared Lee Loughner (LAWF-nur) was sentenced in November 2012 to seven consecutive life sentences, plus 140 years.)

On this date:

In 1815, the last major engagement of the War of 1812 came to an end as U.S. forces defeated the British in the Battle of New Orleans, not having gotten word of the signing of a peace treaty.

In 1912, the African National Congress was founded in Bloemfontein, South Africa.

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson outlined his Fourteen Points for lasting peace after World War I. Mississippi became the first state to ratify the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which established Prohibition.

In 1935, rock-and-roll legend Elvis Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi.

In 1968, the Otis Redding single "(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay" was released on the Volt label almost a month after the singer's death in a plane crash.

In 1975, Judge John J. Sirica ordered the early release from prison of Watergate figures John W. Dean III, Herbert W. Kalmbach and Jeb Stuart Magruder. Democrat Ella Grasso was sworn in as Connecticut's first female governor.

In 1976, Chinese premier Zhou Enlai, 77, died in Beijing.

In 1982, American Telephone and Telegraph settled the Justice Department's antitrust lawsuit against it by agreeing to divest itself of the 22 Bell System companies.

In 1987, for the first time, the Dow Jones industrial average closed above 2,000, ending the day at 2,002.25.

In 1998, Ramzi Yousef (RAHM-zee YOO-sef), the mastermind of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, was sentenced in New York to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

In 2004, A U.S. Black Hawk medivac helicopter crashed near Fallujah, Iraq, killing all nine soldiers aboard.

In 2008, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton powered to victory in New Hampshire's 2008 Democratic primary in a startling upset, defeating Sen. Barack Obama and resurrecting her bid for the White House; Sen. John McCain defeated his

Republican rivals to move back into contention for the GOP nomination.

Ten years ago: President-elect Barack Obama urged lawmakers to work with him "day and night, on weekends if necessary" to approve the largest taxpayer-funded stimulus ever. Obama named Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine the next Democratic National Committee chairman. The U.N. Security Council called for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza by a 14-0 vote, with the United States abstaining. No. 1 Florida beat No. 2 Oklahoma 24-14 for the BCS national title. Cornelia Wallace, former wife of Alabama Gov. George Wallace, died in Sebring, Fla. at age 69.

Five years ago: Emails and text messages obtained by The Associated Press and other news organizations suggested that one of New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's top aides engineered traffic jams in Fort Lee in Sept. 2013 to punish its mayor for not endorsing Christie for re-election; Christie responded by saying he'd been misled by the aide, and he denied involvement in the apparent act of political payback. Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine and Frank Thomas were elected to baseball's Hall of Fame.

One year ago: The Trump administration said it was ending special protections for immigrants from El Salvador, an action that could force nearly 200,000 to leave the U.S. by September, 2019 or face deportation. Alabama beat Georgia in overtime, 26-23, to claim the College Football Playoff national championship after freshman quarterback Tua Tagovailoa (tag-oh-vay-LOH-ah) came off the bench to spark a comeback. A judge in Las Vegas dismissed criminal charges against Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy and his sons, who were accused of leading an armed uprising against federal authorities.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Larry Storch is 96. Broadcast journalist Sander Vanocur is 91. CBS newsmen Charles Osgood is 86. Singer Shirley Bassey is 82. Game show host Bob Eubanks is 81. Country-gospel singer Cristy Lane is 79. Rhythm-

and-blues singer Anthony Gourdine (Little Anthony and the Imperials) is 78. Actress Yvette Mimieux is 77. Singer Juanita Cowart Motley (The Marvettes) is 75. Actress Kathleen Noone is 74. Rock musician Robby Krieger (The Doors) is 73. Movie director John McTiernan is 68. Actress Harriet Sansom Harris is 64. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos is 61. Singer-songwriter

Ron Sexsmith is 55. Actress Michelle Forbes is 54. Actress Maria Pitillo (pih-TIHL'-loh) is 53. Singer R. Kelly is 52. Rock musician Jeff Abercrombie (Fuel) is 50. Actress Ami Dolenz is 50. Reggae singer Sean Paul is 46. Actor Donnell Turner is 46. Country singer Tift Merritt is 44. Actress-rock singer Jenny Lewis is 43. Actress Amber Benson is 42. Actor Scott Whyte is 41. Singer-songwriter Erin

McCarley is 40. Actress Sarah Polley is 40. Actress Rachel Nichols is 39. Actress Gaby Hoffman is 37. Rock musician Disashi Lumumbo-Kasongo (dih-SAH'-shee LUHM'-uhm-boh kuh-SAHN'-goh) (Gym Class Heroes) is 36. Actor Freddie Stroma is 32.

Thought for Today:  
"Contempt for happiness is usually contempt for other people's happiness, and is an elegant disguise for hatred of the human race."  
Bertrand Russell, English philosopher and mathematician (1872-1970).  
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Newsday Crossword

LOOK UP (OR DOWN) by Billie Truitt  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

- Small samples of soup
- Beasts in a sty
- Bit of grass
- Coke or Pepsi
- Overwhelming victory
- Song edited by a deejay
- Military truant: Abbr.
- Money in France
- Keep from happening
- Daylight beams
- Top poker card
- Shade tree
- Rustic mail rte.
- Duo + one
- Invites to enter
- Without assistance
- Unable to make a choice
- Taboo thing
- Tear down, as a building
- Just manages, with "out"
- Cleared weeds from soil
- Between ports
- Sale item label
- An elevator direction
- Display on museum walls
- Take a look at
- Long \_\_\_ (way back)
- Express skepticism
- Place a hex on
- Close tightly
- Mystical glow
- Allow in
- Females' rec center: Abbr.

**DOWN**

- Lasting mark
- Des Moines' state
- Stratagem
- Mexican chip dip
- Would rather have
- Papers from debtors
- Wise teacher
- Pebble or boulder
- Lullaby composer
- Straus of jeans
- Prayer's last word
- Fearful, as "straits"
- Office phone line: Abbr.
- Eight-person band
- Informal speech
- Harder to find
- Tiny bit of snow
- Napped
- "Suffice \_\_\_ say . . ."
- \_\_\_ and aahed
- Pretzel shape
- John Philip of marches
- \_\_\_ circle (most trusted friends)
- Agree with silently
- Hatchling's home
- Overhaul
- "That's too bad"
- Stovetop appliance
- Things of value
- Accost unexpectedly
- Grade-boosting course
- 44th president
- Ill-mannered
- Fillers of shirt sleeves
- "What time \_\_\_?"
- The latest current events
- Apiece
- Feels sorry about
- Sources of metals
- Light-bulb measure
- Toothpaste topper

Answer to previous puzzle

F	E	E	D	L	A	M	S	O	N	S									
A	C	M	E	S	L	A	B	E	I	D	O	L							
C	H	I	C	K	E	N	O	U	T	T	O	T							
T	O	T	I	R	I	S	H	A	T	R	E	D							
G	E	N	T	Y	O	G	I												
A	C	T	O	R	S	T	U	D	E	N	T	S							
C	H	O	O	S	E	L	I	G	R	I	T								
C	O	T	S	N	I	N	E	S	D	A	N	E							
T	R	E	E	T	W	O	T	R	U	D	G	E							
E	M	P	E	R	O	R	S	O	C	E	A	N							
I	R	A	N	W	A	L	K												
B	A	T	M	A	N	F	E	L	L	O	D								
A	S	A	P	C	O	L	D	T	U	R	K	E							
S	I	L	L	E	R	I	E	P	U	R	E								
S	A	L	E	S	E	T	N	A	P	S									

# Spurs beat Pistons 119-107; Popovich ties Sloan

By **NOAH TRISTER**

AP Sports Writer

DETROIT — San Antonio was already down eight points when the Spurs took a timeout around the midway point of the first quarter.

Then, after a turnover led to a Detroit dunk, Spurs coach Gregg Popovich called another timeout, just 14 seconds after the first.

"Just mental errors, mental errors defensively, and gave them some easy buckets," San Antonio guard Bryn Forbes said. "I don't know if it was to slow the run, but kind of get our head on right — kind of slow their pace there."

The Spurs responded well after those early problems, taking the lead by halftime and cruising to a 119-107 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Monday night. DeMar DeRozan scored 26 points, and Popovich moved another step higher on the NBA's career wins list.

Popovich now has 1,221 victories. He's tied with Jerry Sloan for third place, trailing only Don Nelson and Lenny Wilkens.

"I thought after the first quarter, we competed well, we were sharper and we executed better," Popovich said. "We had a poor first quarter, but I thought we pulled it together and focused pretty well after that."

The Spurs trailed 19-9 after the second of those two timeouts, but they appeared to get the message. A 23-2 run spanning parts of the first and second quarters put the Spurs up 45-33.

It was relatively smooth sailing from there for San Antonio, which led 59-51 at halftime and 84-73 after three quarters.

LaMarcus Aldridge scored 25 points for the Spurs. Blake Griffin scored 34 for Detroit, and Andre Drummond added 19 points and 14 rebounds.

"Everyone talked about the regime ending in San



**San Antonio Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge (12) shoots as Detroit Pistons forward Blake Griffin (23) defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, in Detroit.**

Antonio, but they still have two Hall of Fame players in LaMarcus Aldridge and DeMar DeRozan and they are obviously a well-coached team," Pistons coach Dwane Casey said. "I thought we got off to a great start, but their second unit came in and speeded things up. We didn't match it. We have to be able to pump the gas at the start of the second quarter."

San Antonio was without forward Rudy Gay, out

with a sprained left wrist, but the Spurs still won a season-high fifth straight game. Detroit has lost seven of nine.

Popovich said Gay would likely miss the next two games as well.

**TIP-INS**

**Spurs:** San Antonio came in averaging 12.3 turnovers per game, the lowest mark in the league. The Spurs had only nine against Detroit. ... DeRozan also had nine assists and seven rebounds. ... San Antonio went 26 of 32 on free throws, while Detroit was 14 of 17. ... The Spurs remained percentage points behind Houston for the top spot in the Southwest Division.

**Pistons:** Detroit was without backup C Zaza Pachulia (right lower leg contusion).

**ANOTHER LIST**

It was the 518th road victory for Popovich, breaking a tie with Nelson for second on that career list. He's now two behind leader Pat Riley.

**LENGTHY STRETCH**

Drummond played the entire first quarter, plus the first 4:56 of the second. That didn't prevent San Antonio's big run.

In addition to Pachulia, the Pistons are also without backup point guard Ish Smith (right adductor tear).

"Zaza and Ish are definitely missed, and I'm still trying to get adjusted to being out there with the second group," Drummond said. "I've watched a lot of film of what

they do, but I'm still working to find the best ways to get them involved and help them get into the best positions to score."

**UP NEXT**

**Spurs:** Visit Memphis on Wednesday night.  
**Pistons:** Visit the Los Angeles Lakers on Wednesday night.

AP photo

# Harden, Capela help Rockets over Nuggets 125-113



**Houston Rockets center Clint Capela, left, shoots as Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic, right, defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Monday, Jan. 7, 2019, in Houston.**

By **KRISTIE RIEKEN**

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — With James Harden getting double-teamed almost every time he had the ball Monday night against the Denver Nuggets, he looked for other Houston Rockets to step up and make plays.

Chief among them was Clint Capela, who set a career high with 31 points as the Rockets beat the Nuggets 125-113.

"He did what he was supposed to do," said Harden, who had 32 points. "He finished. He played extremely well. Played hard."

P.J. Tucker set a career high with seven 3-pointers and scored a season-high 21 points to help Houston win for the 12th time in 14 games. Capela had 19 points by halftime as Harden fed him again and again.

"Whenever I'm under the rim and you put a little on me what's going to happen is that 99 or 100 percent of the time I'm going to dunk the ball," Capela said. "This is what happened tonight and I did a great job of finishing aggressive under the rim."

Houston was up by 11 after two free throws by Torrey Craig with about 5 1/2 minutes left before Tucker and Harden made 3-pointers on consecutive possessions to make it 117-100

about a minute later.

Gerald Green had 21 points and made six 3s on a night Houston made 22 3s for its sixth game this season with at least 20.

"We're just a real tough team when we're knocking down shots like that," Green said.

Nikola Jokic scored 24 points for the Nuggets, who had a five-game winning streak snapped.

"Give them credit," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "You know Harden is going to get his, but when P.J. Tucker and Gerald Green score the amount of 3s that they made, I believe 13 combined, that's a tough one to overcome."

Harden had 14 assists, six 3-pointers and scored at least 30 points for the 13th straight game.

"He's probably the hardest guy in the NBA to guard," Malone said.

Coach Mike D'Antoni enjoys watching the different things Harden does to help his team win night after night.

"Whatever they throw at him, he'll find the best play," D'Antoni said. "He'll also find a way to score. He'll find his way, but he'll also get everyone involved."

**TIP-INS**

**Nuggets:** Malone said Will Barton (hip) is making progress and could return in the next couple of weeks. ...

Morris added 21 points off the bench.

**Rockets:** Houston traded Michael Carter-Williams and cash considerations to the Chicago Bulls on Monday for a protected second-round pick in the 2020 draft. The Bulls then waived the guard following the trade. ... Chris Paul missed his eighth game in a row with a strained left hamstring. ... Eric Gordon missed his fourth straight game with a bruised right knee.

**WHAT A PLAY**

The Rockets led 70-60 at halftime after Harden made two 3-pointers in the last 90 seconds of the second quarter. The first of those shots is sure to show up on highlight reels, as Murray slipped and fell to the court trying to guard him before Harden stepped back for the basket.

**MAGIC NUMBER?**

With Monday's win the Rockets improved to 59-2 when scoring at least 120 points under D'Antoni.

**THEY SAID IT**

Jokic on Denver's struggles against Houston, which has won nine straight in the series: "They beat us at our place and they beat us here. Last year, we didn't win one time, so that team gives us a problem, but we have to find a way to beat them and play (better) against them."

# CLEMSON

Continued from Page 7

"One game doesn't define who you are," Saban said. "But I also told the players that sometimes we learn more when things don't go well, when we lose."

Tagovailoa, the sophomore who came off the bench to win the championship game last year for the Tide, went 22 for 34 for 295 yards and two touchdowns.

"We had a great season, but five words: Good is not good enough," Tagovailoa said. "We didn't finish the way we wanted to finish. We didn't do the things we needed to do to execute and be successful in this game, and that's all it is."

The Heisman runner-up was also the second-best quarterback on the field in the championship game. Lawrence finished 20 for 32, and went 18 for 25 for 277 yards over the final three quarters.

The teenager who took over as the starter four games into the season raised the Tigers' play, giving them an explosive offense to match a suffocating defense, led by All-American linemen Clelin Ferrell and Wilkins.

"Just these seniors, just taking me in, and they kind of dragged me along until I got my feet under me, and they just — they're awesome people as well as players," said Lawrence, the first freshman starting quarterback to lead his team to a national title since Oklahoma's Jamarle Holieway in 1985.

Clemson hit Alabama with a 31-point first half, capitalizing on the Tide's mistakes and unleashing Lawrence's rocket arm.

Tagovailoa threw a second interception in the second quarter, this time into triple coverage, and Travon Mullen's 46-yard return put Clemson in

Alabama territory. That led to Travis Etienne's third touchdown of the half, a 5-yard shovel pass from Lawrence.

With a chance to stamp itself as the best team in Saban's remarkable 12 seasons at Alabama, the Crimson Tide played maybe the worst half of the coach's tenure. The 15-point halftime deficit was the largest the Tide has ever faced under Saban.

Alabama seemed panicked in the third quarter, running a fake field goal into a waiting Clemson defense instead of kicking from 40. Three plays later, Lawrence faced down a pass rush and slung a pass to Ross, who was alone after Alabama defensive back Saivion Smith went down with an apparent leg injury.

Ross sprinted away and the shocking rout was on. Almost as shocking as Clemson, a program that promoted an obscure receivers coach to lead the program 10 years ago, climbing over the traditional powers to the top of college football. Clemson finished No. 1 in the AP poll for the third time.

"Our goal is not to win a national championship. People don't believe that. Our goal is to win the closest right there. The national championship is just a byproduct of that. It's never been my goal,"

said Swinney, who now has as many titles as Hall of Famers Bobby Bowden and Joe Paterno. "I don't measure teams by that, and I know we've got some rabid people that that drives them crazy, but I measure our team based on did we get better, did we reach our potential."

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# Ingram, Ball lead Lakers to 107-97 win over Mavericks

By DAVE JACKSON

Associated Press

DALLAS — A challenge from their head coach gave Brandon Ingram and Lonzo Ball motivation. All they needed was an opening.

The cold-shooting Dallas Mavericks provided it. Ingram scored 29 points and Ball added 21 as the Los Angeles Lakers handed the Mavericks a rare home loss, 107-97, on Monday night.

After a blowout loss to Minnesota on Sunday, Lakers coach Luke Walton called for the two to bring more passion and fire. The duo responded, helping Los Angeles rally from a double-digit half-time deficit.

"I put so much responsibility on them because that's what I believe they're capable of doing," Walton said.

Ball and Ingram said they talked after the loss Sunday and agreed they needed to step up in the absence of LeBron James and veteran point guard Rajon Rondo.

"With the guys out, (we were) trying to take over and be the leaders of our team," Ingram said.

The Lakers won for just the second time in seven games since James strained his groin on Christmas Day, and they swept the season series from the Mavericks 3-0.

Dallas led 67-54 at halftime but had its worst-scoring half of the season with just 30 points after the break - fewer than it scored in either of the first two quarters. The Mavs were 11-of-43 from the field in the second half and had 11 turnovers.

Luka Doncic led the team with 27 points, and he had six of their 11 made field goals in the second half, including their only two 3-pointers.

"I think they played way better defensively in the second half," Doncic said. "We didn't move the ball as well as we did in the first half. That was it."

Ball was held scoreless against Minnesota but responded with some clutch baskets in the second half. His fast-break dunk gave the Lakers their first lead of the game at 82-80 late in the third quarter. And he hit his only 3 of the second half with 4:23 to go to give LA a 100-89 lead.

"I just tried to be more aggressive," Ball said. "I shoot when I'm open. I just tried to force the issue a little bit more."

Ingram scored 15 of his 29 in the second half and had six assists for the game. With Dallas cutting a 14-point Lakers lead to seven twice in the final minutes, each time Ingram drew the defense to him



Los Angeles Lakers forward Brandon Ingram (14) drives against Dallas Mavericks forward Luka Doncic (77) of Germany during the the second half of an NBA basketball game in Dallas, Monday, Jan. 7, 2019.

AP photo

and dished to JaVale McGee for dunks.

Dallas fell for just the fourth time at home this season. The Mavericks entered the day tied for the fewest home losses in the NBA.

**TIP-INS**

Lakers: Josh Hart scored 14 points, led the team with 12 rebounds and five steals and tied Ingram for a team-high six assists.

Mavericks: J.J. Barea played his 800th game, becoming the 11th undrafted player from a U.S. high school or college to play 800 games since the NBA-ABA merger in 1976. ... Numerous Dallas Cowboys, including running back Ezekiel Elliott and linebacker Jaylon Smith, attended the game, drawing an ovation from the sellout crowd.

**KUZMA RETURNS**

With James still out, the Lakers got Kyle Kuzma back in the lineup after missing the past two

games with a lower-back contusion. Kuzma missed his first eight shots and didn't score until midway through the second quarter, but he hit two 3s early in the third quarter to spark the Lakers' comeback. He finished with 13 points.

**OUT OF THE FLOW**

Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said a lack of ball movement has slowed the team in its losses this season, and on Monday, they had only 12 assists for a team that averages almost 23 a game.

Barea could only laugh when told he led the team with three assists, saying, "You can't win the game like that. Hopefully it won't happen again."

**UP NEXT**

Lakers: Host Detroit on Wednesday.  
Mavericks: Host Phoenix on Wednesday. Two of the Suns' nine wins this year have come against Dallas.

## Even in era of offense, playoffs come down to defense

By ARNIE STAPLETON

AP Pro Football Writer

The NFL's wild weekend of wild-card games demonstrated that even in this age of explosive offenses, defense still dominates in the playoffs and it often comes down to a toe, a few fingers or even a 40-year-old hamstring.

Kicker Sebastian Janikowski's season — and maybe career — ended when he popped his left hamstring on an errant 57-yard field goal try just before halftime of Seattle's 24-22 loss to Dallas on Saturday night.

Without a backup plan, the Seahawks had to go for it on fourth down in field-goal range and had to go for 2 points after a touchdown rather than try to kick it through the uprights. And when they pulled within a field goal with 1:18 left, they were toast without a Plan B for an onside kick.

Punter Michael Dickson's drop-kick went way too far and Dallas receiver Cole Beasley made what might be the

easiest catch ever to seal a playoff win.

The onside kick nearly disappeared in 2018 after the league's competition committee last offseason outlawed teams from stacking one side or getting a running start. The rules were designed to cut down concussions but it drastically reduced the onside kick as an option.

Only four of 54 attempts were successful during the regular season, an 8 percent success rate that pales in comparison to 2017's 23 percent conversion rate when 13 of 55 onside kicks were recovered by the kicking team.

Coach Pete Carroll figured Janikowski simply hurt himself trying to kick the ball as hard as he could.

And Seabass might have kicked his final game in the NFL. The 40-year-old isn't under contract for next season and also got hurt last month.

On Sunday, Chicago's dominant defense that led the league by yielding

just 17.7 points a game, held the Philadelphia Eagles to 16 points but lost by a point when Bears kicker Cody Parkey, who made just 76.7 percent of his kicks in the regular season, double-dinked a 43-yard attempt in the final seconds off the left upright and the crossbar.

He said after the game he thought he hit it well and was at a loss to explain the miss.

Turns out, Philadelphia defensive lineman Treyvon Hester tipped the ball.

After reviewing the play and seeing Hester's left hand hit the ball, the NFL officially ruled it a blocked field goal on Monday.

That provides some explanation but little consolation for Parkey and Bears fans, who booed Parkey as he ran off the field after kneeling down with teammates and opponents for a postgame prayer.

He was at his locker as soon as reporters entered and accepted respon-

sibility for the loss that abruptly ended the Bears' first playoff appearance in eight years.

"There's really no answer to it," Parkey said. "I thought I hit a good ball. Unfortunately, I didn't make it. I feel terrible, 100 percent take that loss on me. It is what it is. Sun is going to shine tomorrow. Life is going to go on. Unfortunately, it's going to sting for a while."

Eagles kicker Jake Elliott was one of several players who stood up for Parkey on social media.

"This is a standout guy that a lot of young players can look up to," Elliott wrote. "This is how you handle adversity like a pro. Cody is a heck of a kicker and will be for a long time. No reason to be taking the heat he is especially when that ball was tipped. #ClassAct"

Eagles coach Doug Pederson on Monday praised Hester, who began the season on the practice squad, for having "a big hand in the game."

## COWBOYS

Continued from Page 7

The Rams (13-3) cruised to the division title and another first-round bye as the No. 2 seed while improving by two wins, although they lost twice in December following an 11-1 start.

The Cowboys, seeded fourth in the NFC, were inches away from going to top-seeded New Orleans instead. Cody Parkey's potential winning field goal for Chicago hit the left upright and crossbar, send-

ing Philadelphia to face Drew Brees and company.

"I was asked a bunch about who would you rather play, this in the dome or over here in LA," defensive lineman Tyrone Crawford said. "I never cared. Really it's just going to be me, man on a football field getting after it. That's all I think about it anyway."

In some ways, the Cowboys and Rams think of each other as friendly neighbors. Dallas has gone to Oxnard for training camp every year since 2010, and Jones played a pivotal role in getting league approval of LA owner Stan Kroenke's move from St. Louis three years ago.

The Rams' new stadium doesn't open until 2020, so the first playoff meeting between these teams since 1986 will be in the same place as that 20-0 LA victory: Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. The Cowboys held training camp in Southern California back then as well.

"I expect Cowboys nation to show up anywhere we go," Crawford said. "Been here for a while, and everybody know it's America's Team. A lot of people can try to call that past, but it is what it is. The star is definitely alive."

And the Cowboys are still kicking after a 3-5 start.

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