

YOUR WEATHER, More details, B6

Today Clouds turning to sun. 72/44

Tuesday Colder; shower possible. 55/38

Wednesday Sunny late, breezy. 57/35

Thursday Milder and sunny. 64/43

METRO & STATE, B1 Wear: Attempt to recall Ann Kitchen a matter of opinion



AUSTIN360, D1 SWEET VENTURE How a deaf-owned Crêpe Crazy business speaks the universal language of food

SPORTS, C1 Broncos beat Patriots to win AFC, advance to Super Bowl

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IN THE NEWS

Earthquake jolts Alaska residents

No injuries reported from magnitude-7.1 temblor centered about 160 miles from Anchorage, though it did set off gas explosions. A3

NATION & WORLD Search continues for escaped inmates

Investigators are pursuing several leads to locate three accused felons who escaped from a Santa Ana, Calif., maximum-security jail. A3

POLITIFACT

False: Politifact examines U.S. Rep. Roger Williams' claim that under Obama, the "fewest number of adults are working since Jimmy Carter's presidency." B1

METRO & STATE 3 Democrats vie to replace DA Lehmborg

Gary Cobb, Margaret Moore and Rick Reed run for Travis County district attorney as Rosemary Lehmborg prepares to step down after eight years in office. B1

Indictments: Attorney General Ken Paxton's appeal will extend at least into spring. B1

BUSINESS

Most in U.S. can't afford \$500 crisis

Sixty-three percent of people surveyed said they don't have the savings to cover a car breakdown or hospital visit. B5

Retail: Department stores closing as American middle class shrinks. B5

Austin360 D1 Business B5 Deaths B4 Sports C1

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ELECTION 2016 PRESIDENTIAL RACE

Caucus first-timer on the fence

Ted Cruz and Donald Trump have appeal, Iowan says — and they also have their liabilities.

By Jonathan Tilove jtilove@statesman.com

FOSTORIA, IOWA — Next Monday, Alan Bush, 57, will head 5 miles to Spencer, a commercial hub in conservative Northwest Iowa, to participate in the Iowa caucuses for the very first time. "I really don't know what to expect," Bush said. And that includes who he

will caucus for. Bush brightens talking about Donald Trump. He is "a breath of fresh air," cutting through the political correctness that he believes has corroded America's political culture. He's a successful businessman who can bring those skills to bear leading what is the world's biggest business. And Bush believes Trump could upend the ossi-



Ted Cruz (left) is a "principled conservative" and Donald Trump (right) "a breath of fresh air," says first-time caucusgoer Alan Bush.

fied political map and engineer a landslide electoral victory over Hillary Clinton. "Trump appeals to a

cross-section of our country — liberals, conservatives, independents, the nobodies," Bush said. "There are a lot of nobodies out there that are paying attention." So Bush will caucus for Trump. Right? Wrong, Bush said Sunday, over an after-church dinner of a sausage-and-egg casserole. Caucus continued on A6

STATESMAN INVESTIGATES FORT HOOD

Juvenile justice at base gets scrutiny

Officials meet to find ways to bring younger offenders to account.

By Jeremy Schwartz jschwartz@statesman.com

and Rose L. Thayer Special to the American-Statesman

Military, county and federal officials are taking steps to plug a jurisdictional gap at Fort Hood that had allowed numerous alleged sexual assaults committed by juveniles to go unprosecuted since at least 2001.

According to Fort Hood, a member of the post's Staff Judge Advocate Office met with U.S. Attorney's Office officials and Bell and Coryell county prosecutors this month to discuss the handling of juvenile offenses on Fort Hood. Future meetings are planned — though not yet scheduled — to discuss the "possibility of a formalized agreement regarding criminal prosecution of juvenile offenders," according to Fort Hood.

In November, an American-Statesman investigation revealed the prosecutorial gap at Fort Hood, which, like many military installations, sits in an area of exclusive federal jurisdiction. That means the U.S. Attorney's Office in Waco han-

Juveniles continued on A11

INCIDENTS OF JUVENILE CRIME AT FORT HOOD

2010	136
2011	187
2012	101
2013	81
2014	117

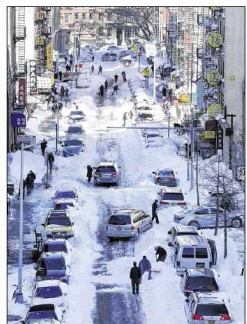
SOURCE: FORT HOOD

EAST COAST SEVERE WINTER WEATHER

After a wild weekend, tough commute awaits



Residents of West Leicester Street in Winchester, Virginia, join forces to shovel out on Sunday after a historic snowstorm dumped more than 30 inches of snow on the city Friday night and Saturday. Virginia's state workers were told to stay home Monday due to conditions in the storm's wake. JEFF TAYLOR/WINCHESTER STAR



People clear snow from cars on Henry Street in New York's Chinatown on Sunday, after the storm set single-day snowfall records in Washington and New York City. PETER MORGAN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Workweek starts as transit systems remain in disarray from snowstorm.

By Michael R. Sisak and Verena Dobnik Associated Press

NEW YORK — After a weekend of sledding, snowboarding and staying put, the bizarre blanket Eastern U.S. will confront a Monday commute slowed by slick roads, damaged transit lines and endless mounds of snow.

Authorities cautioned against unnecessary driving, airline schedules were in disarray and commuter trains will be delayed or canceled for many as the work week begins after a storm that dumped near-record snows on the densely populated Washington-New York City corridor.

The last flakes fell just before midnight Saturday, but crews raced the clock all day Sunday to clear streets and sidewalks devoid of their usual bustle.

Ice chunks plunging from the roofs of tall buildings menaced people who ventured out in Philadelphia and New York. High winds on Manhattan's Upper West Side kept the snow from entirely swallowing the tiny Mini Cooper of Daniel Bardman, who nervously watched for falling icicles as he dug it out.

Blizzard continued on A7

STATESMAN IN-DEPTH UT RESEARCH

Seismic study response to quake uptick begins

State lawmakers finally agreed to fund research project last year.

By Asher Price asherprice@statesman.com

With earthquakes shaking parts of North Texas ahead of the last legislative session, lawmakers were in a bind: The public appeared increasingly anx-

ious that the tremors could damage their property, and some scientists were saying the uptick in tremors could be traced to fracking-related activities.

But the oil and gas industry, which long has had influence among many legislators, claimed the science remained murky.

In the end, lawmakers decided to set aside \$4.5 mil-

lion to increase the study of seismic activity.

Now the TexNet Seismic Monitoring Program, overseen by the University of Texas, is getting off the ground, with two key hires about to start work and new seismicographic equipment soon to be deployed.

The findings of the project could have long-term consequences for the oil and gas

industry.

An American-Statesman analysis of U.S. Geological Survey records found that there have been about two dozen quakes of magnitude 3.5 or greater in Texas since 2011, a period that covers the height of the fracking boom. That compares with five quakes of at least 3.5 mag-

Seismic continued on A10

STATESMAN IN-DEPTH: UT RESEARCH

Seismic

continued from A1

ntitude between 2006 and 2010, and just one quake between 2001 and 2005.

"Although there are always naysayers, the vast majority of scientists in the earthquake community would agree (that the uptick in quakes) is caused by human activity, mostly from wastewater injection wells associated with fracking or oil production," said Cliff Frohlich, a UT seismologist.

Seismologists have long known that humans are capable of causing earthquakes, and some suspect the injection of wastewater material related to fracking has lubricated long-stuck faults, leading to the shifting of earth underfoot.

But Texas policymakers have been reluctant to acknowledge the scientific papers by Frohlich and other seismologists.

Last year, the state seismologist, an employee of the Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates the oil and gas industry, said, "I don't have a mechanism in mind (to describe quakes) other than natural tectonic activity."

But the U.S. Geological Survey announced last April that earthquake activity had sharply increased since 2009 in the central and eastern United States, including Texas, due to industrial operations; university researchers drew a link between disposal of fracking-related material and a spate of earthquakes in the Fort Worth area, and state officials in Oklahoma, which had seen even more pronounced quakes, concluded after reviewing its own data that there was a link as well. (There is no fracking in the Austin area.)

That led the Legislature to act.



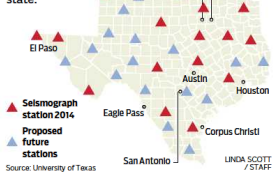
Haltiburton workers walk from the Cannon 1 and 2 wells for a break during the hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, process. Many scientists point to disposal wells used in the fracking process for the recent rise in earthquakes in Texas, and a study on the subject is getting started. PAUL MOSELEY/FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM, 2010



This seismograph at Southern Methodist University in Dallas tests North Texas for seismic activity. The state is doubling the number of such sensors. NATHAN HILFENBERGER/DALLAS MORNING NEWS

More earthquake monitoring

Texas is more than doubling the number of seismographs around the state.



Source: University of Texas

Lawmakers learned that "more seismic data was needed to understand the characteristics of Texas faults and the geology of our state," said state Rep. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, who chairs the House Energy Resources Committee. The money will "provide monitoring infrastructure and technical advice to the Legislature and

governor. Both are critical when evaluating policy proposals targeted at mitigating seismic activity." The new project manager for TexNet is Alex Savvadis, who ran a similar program in Greece. The UT Bureau of Economic Geology has also hired Peter Hennings, a structural geologist who has worked for ConocoPhillips, to manage research at the new Center for Integrated Seismicity Research, which will analyze the TexNet data.

Hennings will work with Ellen Rathje, a UT civil engineering professor who studies the impact of quakes on infrastructure.

Besides the hires, the money will be used to install 22 new, permanent seismograph stations — there are about 16 now — and pay for 36 portable seismographs.

UT's Bureau of Economic Geology will manage and maintain the equipment. Previously, no Texas organization was responsible for providing information about seismicity, or investigating and evaluating earthquakes, Frohlich said.

Sharon Wilson, Texas organizer for the environmental group Earthworks Oil and Gas Accountability Project, said the state "already has the research it needs" to further regulate oil and gas drilling. "This will lead to another study to tell us what we

already know," she said.

But Frohlich said the new, more precise data will help inform regulatory decisions by the Railroad Commission, which has adopted rules requiring applicants for new disposal wells to conduct a search of a U.S. Geological Survey seismic database for historical earthquakes within a circular area of 100 square miles around a proposed new disposal well.

The Railroad Commission is looking forward to the implementation of the TexNet system to help gain a better understanding of natural and induced seismicity in Texas," commission spokeswoman Ramona Nye said.

Scott Tinker, director of the UT bureau, said it's been a "pretty rapid process of education" and regulatory response. He cautioned that causation involving quakes is difficult to prove.

An advisory committee, appointed by the governor, will include the state seismologist, two industry representa-

tives, two academics and several others, yet to be named.

According to legislation setting up the program, the committee will advise on how the \$4.5 million is used and on the preparation of a report, to be delivered by Dec. 1 to the governor and lawmakers, that will include an analysis of how the money was spent and the data collected by the seismic equipment as well as identify equipment and personnel costs necessary to maintain the program after 2016.

Texas Oil and Gas Association President Todd Staples said he welcomed the new seismology work.

"Robust research rooted in sound methodology is essential to better understand natural and induced seismicity and to inform science-based policy," he said.

Tinker said the industry brings valuable knowledge when it comes to understanding shifting rock.

"We want to get academics and government and the industry to all work together on this," he said.

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