



## Getting defensive

Versatile defender Randle helps spark surging Wildcats  
— Page 1C

## COMING WEDNESDAY

Attention apple lovers! Add new life to old-favorites with refreshing recipes on the Food page.



## Keeping baby blood

Parents are becoming outraged about states that store blood samples from their newborn babies — Page 1D

## Today's Outlook

Mostly sunny



High: 45 | Low: 29



Mitch Green/Telegram

Taylor, left, Doris and Logan Parker hang out at their house in Belton. Logan, 2½, was born with Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease, a genetic nervous system disorder passed from mothers to sons causing motor abilities and intellectual function to deteriorate.

# Fighting PMD together

## Family to host fundraiser for research on rare disease affecting 2½-year-old son

BY JANICE GIBBS  
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Logan Parker, 2½, in many ways appears to be a normal little boy. He laughs, he yells, he smiles at his mother and older sister.

He gets quiet when distracted by a juice box or fish crackers. Mention a dog and Logan quickly responds with a loud “dooooooog.”

But Logan, son of Ben and Doris Parker, was diagnosed in July 2009 with Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease, a rare genetic disorder that affects one in 300,000 individuals.

Doris Parker said her son had some symptoms — head nod and involuntary eye movement — but nothing that screamed genetic disorder.

“He was developmentally delayed and was not sitting independently but the pediatrician said we should just monitor it,” Parker said.

Early on, Logan was seen by an Austin neurologist, and was diagnosed with spasticity and began doing physical therapy.

“We did all that, but he still wasn’t developing and we went back to the neurologist, who didn’t know what

was wrong with Logan, but felt certain it wasn’t life-threatening,” she said.

A genetic test proved the doctor wrong. The family received the diagnosis of Pelizaeus-Merzbacher Disease and learned there was no treatment, no cure and it was fatal.

“You are never prepared for that kind of news,” Parker said.

There is a 50 percent chance a mother who is a PMD carrier will pass it on to her child.

Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease interrupts the development of and function of the white matter of the brain called myelin. Myelin surrounds the core of a nerve fiber and facilitates the transmission of nerve impulses. In Parkinson’s and muscular dystrophy the body attacks the myelin. The patient with PMD doesn’t produce it.

A company has started phase 1 clinical trials with a stem cell therapy for children with the most severe form of the disease.

Other researchers are looking for location of the gene mutation and the Parkers have donated blood for that study.

Please see PMD, 3A

## About Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease

■ A rare, progressive, degenerative central nervous system disorder in which coordination, motor abilities and intellectual function deteriorate.

There are **no treatments and no cure**. Symptoms are treated.

■ It is **passed from mother to son**.

■ The inherited disease is one of a group of gene-linked disorders that affect growth of the myelin sheath — the fatty covering that wraps around and protects nerve fibers in the brain.

■ The disease is caused by a mutation in the gene that controls the production of a myelin protein. Severity and onset of the disease vary widely, depending on the type of genetic mutation. The most severe form may result in death in childhood, but **most individuals live into adulthood**.

For more on the foundation, visit [www.pmdfoundation.org](http://www.pmdfoundation.org)

# Snow business

## Seats at a premium on planes, trains out of D.C.

BY BRETT ZONGKER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — A \$20 cab ride to the airport skyrocketed to the “snow rate” of \$100 in the nation’s capital, and those travelers who could get to the airport or train station still had to haggle or wait in long lines to escape the snowbound Mid-Atlantic.

The most pressing matter: get out before another foot or more of snow comes Tuesday.

“I’m done with city, urban snow life,” said Chris Vaughan, a Washington resident who was able to re-book a flight to go skiing in Utah. He dodged the pricey cab fare by having a friend drop him off at the airport — in exchange for a bottle of wine.

The region had nearly 3 feet of snow in some areas. One scientist said if all the snow that fell on the East Coast were melted, it would fill 12 million Olympic swimming pools or 30,000 Empire State buildings. Philadelphia and Washington each need just a little more than nine inches to give the cities their snowiest winters

*“I don’t want to think about what it’s going to be like with another foot and a half of snow dumped on top of this mess.”*

Meghan Garaghan, a Philadelphia resident

since 1884, the first year records were kept.

Meteorologists predicted the snow would start Tuesday afternoon and continue into Wednesday. Between 12 and 18 inches was forecast for Philadelphia, the nation’s sixth-largest city and a travel hub — which could cause a ripple effect of travel problems for the rest of the Northeast. Airlines warned travelers more flights would be canceled, and the new storm was expected to hit a wider area, affecting New York and Boston.

Sharon Lewis of Bowie, Md., was desperate to spend

Please see STORM, 3A

## Local forecast

# Flurries may fall this week as freezing temperatures return

BY JENNIFER THOMPSON  
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Keep your hat and gloves handy. Another cold front invaded Central Texas following heavy rainfall and some thunderstorms Monday afternoon, and there’s even some wintry precipitation in the forecast later this week.

Temperatures plummeted throughout the day from a high of 57 to 46 degrees by 5 p.m. The biggest change was recorded at 12:35 p.m. with a drop of nine degrees from the previous half-hour.

A total of just over a quarter-inch of rain was recorded by 5 p.m. at the Draughon-Miller Airport in Temple.

Residents will be waking up to wind-chill temperatures in the teens and 20s this morning while actual temperatures will be near 31. Winds will blow out of the north at 10 to 20 mph and reach gusts of 30 mph.

A high of 46 is expected but will feel like it is in the 30s. Clouds will disappear throughout the day, making way for the sun’s return.

Please see FREEZING, 3A

# Cameron teacher facing drug charges

District puts woman on administrative leave after arrest

BY JEANNE WILLIAMS  
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

CAMERON — Blair Remick Dorner, 39, a Cameron teacher since August 2006, was placed on administrative leave after she was charged Feb. 3 by Taylor police with possession of a controlled substance, four to 200 grams, and driving while intoxicated.

Dorner was released from the Williamson County Jail after posting a \$10,000 bail on the felony charge, and \$1,000 bail on the drunken driving charge,

according to jail records. Taylor police could not be reached for comment.

Superintendent Rodney Fausett said under the ISD’s Policy DH local, an employee shall notify his or her principal or immediate supervisor within three calendar days of any arrest involving a felony or moral turpitude. Under Policy DFBA local, the superintendent may place an employee on administrative leave during an investigation of an alleged misconduct.

Dorner is listed as an eighth-grade language arts teacher at Cameron Junior High School.

Administrators will not discuss specifics of a personnel matter.

# Hasan hearing set for March 1

Army announces court date to determine if the accused Fort Hood shooter should be court martialed

BY PAUL A. ROMER  
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

BELTON — A hearing to determine if evidence against Maj. Nidal Hasan warrants a military court-martial could begin March 1, according to a statement from U.S. Army officials released Monday.

Hasan is accused of killing 13 people on Nov. 5 on Fort Hood.

The Army announced that Col. James Pohl will be the investigating officer for the Article 32 hearing, the military equivalent to a grand jury.

Pohl is a military judge stationed at Fort Benning in Georgia. The statement from the military said Pohl has the authority to delay the hearing, if necessary.

Pohl and Hasan’s legal team were informed of the decisions Monday.

Hasan’s attorney, John Galligan of Belton, said the March 1 date is too early.

“No investigator worth his salt is going to begin to try this case on March 1,” Galligan said. “This is being rushed.”

Galligan said the hearing date corresponds with a tenta-

tive release date he was given for Hasan, who is being held in pre-trial confinement at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio. Hasan was paralyzed after being shot during the Nov. 5 incident and is undergoing physical therapy.

Galligan said he would like the command structure he is working through at Fort Hood to rule on several of his requests before the Article 32 begins.

He said he has not heard back on his requests for expert witnesses, adding additional attorneys to his team or access to documents related to the case.

In addition, Galligan said it is “highly unusual” for a commander to select an Article 32 investigating officer from out-



*“No investigator worth his salt is going to begin to try this case on March 1. This is being rushed.”*

John Galligan, Attorney for Maj. Nidal Hasan, accused shooter in the Nov. 5 attack on Fort Hood.

side his brigade. He said it was even more unusual for the officer to be a sitting military judge stationed at another base.

Please see HASAN, 3A

## TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

“Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.”

— Matthew 5:10



## MARKET REPORT

Dow Jones Industrials	-103.84
Nasdaq composite	-15.07
Complete coverage	9,908.39
Page 2B	2,126.05

## INSIDE TODAY

Amusements	.....4B	Obituaries	.....6A
Classifieds	.....1-3D	Police Reports	.....6A
Comics	.....3B	Sports	.....1-3C
Editorial	.....4A	Weather	.....4D
Health	.....4C	Youth Fair Results	.....5A

