

Chasing high marks

Baylor pole vaulter Tidwell credits coaches, family for success; ranked No. 16/Page 1C



Mueller report

Committee issues subpoena for full text on Russia investigation/Page 4A

Waco Tribune-Herald

Saturday, April 20, 2019 ■ \$2.00

In God we trust



Sunny ■ High: 78 ■ Low: 59



Staff photo — Jerry Larson

Workers perform routine work on solar panels in Bruceville-Eddy.

Local solar farms sprouting

Bruceville-Eddy location up and running, with Robinson site in the works

By MIKE COPELAND
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Affectionately known as Eddy II, the solar farm in Bruceville-Eddy is a ray of sunshine to McLennan County Commissioner Kelly Snell. "I drive out there pretty often. It's beautiful," said Snell, who represents Precinct 1 and joined other commissioners in approving tax breaks for the \$13 million project.

Sprawling across nearly 90 acres, Eddy II packs a 10-megawatt wallop, enough to provide energy to 1,300 homes annually.

It became active in November, and the electricity it generates belongs to NRG Energy, Cypress Creek Renewables spokeswoman Ally Copple said. The California-based Cypress Creek developed the site, with financial assistance from the Starbucks Coffee Company.

Solar still accounts for less than 1 percent of the power generation in Texas, but its influence is growing. Last year, the state ranked second in the country for solar capacity additions, up from No. 4 in 2017 and

No. 6 in 2016, Copple said, citing a report from the Solar Energy Industries Association.

That same report, released March 13, said two states that historically have lagged in solar development now are making waves: Florida and Texas.

Both "saw installations that surpassed legacy markets Maryland and Massachusetts last year, signaling new state-level leadership on residential solar development," the report states. "In 2018, we saw a pivot away from legacy, incentive-driven markets and the emergence

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BU SEX ASSAULT SCANDAL

Lawyers for Jane Does seek report

By TOMMY WITHERSPOON
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Attorneys for 15 women suing Baylor University have asked a federal judge to order the Pepper Hamilton law firm to produce what they claim is a draft report of its Baylor sexual assault investigation mentioned in emails from 2016.

In a 12-page motion filed Thursday evening, attorneys Jim Dunnam and Chad Dunn also asked U.S. District Judge Robert Pitman to sanction the Philadelphia-based law firm up to \$5,000 a week if it does not turn over items referred to in emails from May 2016.

Baylor regents, who hired Pepper Hamilton to investigate how the university handled sexual assault allegations and complied with Title IX requirements, have asserted the law firm produced no report of its investigation.

Baylor spokesman Jason Cook said Friday that the Baylor Board of Regents consulted with several attorneys relating to the preparation of what the board called its "Findings of Fact," which it released on May 26, 2016.

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Last steps to the cross



ABOVE: Jose Ramos, portraying Jesus, is led to St. Francis on the Brazos Catholic Church, 315 Jefferson Ave., during the church's annual Stations of the Cross event. The procession, which re-enacts the hours leading to Christ's crucifixion, draws hundreds of people and started over 25 years ago.

Staff photos — Rod Aydelotte

WT See more photos at wacotrib.com

HEWITT

Mayor won't face 'walking quorum' case

By TOMMY WITHERSPOON
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McLennan County prosecutors considering if criminal charges should be filed against Hewitt Mayor Ed Passalugo for reported Texas Open Meetings Act violations looked no further than a recent court opinion for the answer.

The DA's office will take no action in the matter because a February Texas Court of Criminal Appeals ruling declared the portion of the Texas Government Code pertaining to "walking quorums" unconstitutionally vague, said Nelson Barnes, McLennan County first assistant district attorney.

The allegation was investigated by Texas Ranger Jim Hatfield Jr., who recently forwarded his findings to the DA's office, Barnes said. The Rangers launched the investigation after Hewitt Mayor Pro Tem Steve Fortenberry recorded a phone call with Passalugo in May in which the mayor recounted conversations he had with three other council members.

Counting himself and Fortenberry, the discussion included five of the

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Passalugo



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