

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

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SMOKING QUESTIONS

Texas may snuff out smoking for anyone younger than 21.

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THE CHAMPION

CassieJo Bennett of Greenwood and her steer "Woody" took home the Grand Champion in the exotic class award during the Midland County Livestock Show. Check out her feature on what it takes to win online.

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THE \$2.7 BILLION DEAL

Noble's gains

■ Noble will gain 2,400 Delaware Basin gross drilling locations targeting lower and upper Wolfcamp A.

Noble's expected spending

■ Noble now expects to spend an additional \$150 million in the Delaware Basin, bringing reported Delaware Basin spending to about \$500 million in 2017.

Noble's potential

■ Net resource potential of the acreage being acquired is over 1 billion barrels of oil equivalent in the Wolfcamp alone.

Noble's planned production

■ Noble plans to increase the production on the new acreage from 10,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day to between 60,000 and 70,000 BOE by the end of 2020.

Noble buys Clayton Williams Energy

■ Noble Energy accelerates activity in the Permian Basin

By Mella McEwen
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Noble Energy is hitting the accelerator as it snapped up Midland's Clayton Williams Energy in a cash-and-stock deal valued at \$2.7 billion, significantly expanding its Delaware position.

Deena McMullen, spokesperson for Noble, told the Reporter-Telegram by email "We are very excited about the Clayton Williams Energy acreage given its highly contiguous and adjacent to our existing position. Through the acquisition, Noble Energy



Oil man and former Texas gubernatorial candidate Clayton Williams poses for a photo in his office in 2011 in Midland.

ton Williams Energy's 71,000 net acres in Reeves and Ward counties, which are adjacent to Noble's existing 47,200 net

of Noble's purchase of drilling rights on 7,200 acres in the Delaware for \$300 million.

"I am very proud of the com-

going forward. Noble Energy's long track record of operational excellence and value creation, as well as its reputation as a tremen-

ing from its world class asset portfolio," Clayton W. Williams Jr., chairman and chief executive officer of Clayton Williams

Houston Chronicle file photo