MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

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Inside

CEO urges closer ties for crude producers

Kibsgaard warns relationships with service companies must be retooled

By Robert Grattan
Houston Chronicle

Oil producers and the services companies they contract with need to retool their relationship if they're to recover from the oil downturn, the CEO of the world's largest oil services company warned this week.

Under the current partnership, exploration and production companies handle all the planning, then go out and contract with service companies to extract the oil. But simply handing out orders like that fails to take advantage of service companies' experience and expertise, stifles innovation and has done little to hold down costs, Schlumberger chief Paal Kibsgaard warned during a presentation at the Scotia Howard Weil industry conference in New Orleans.

Kibsgaard noted that a fourfold increase in funding for exploration and production over the past decade boosted global oil production by just 15 percent. Waste that was hidden by high-priced oil could now threaten both producers and service companies, he said.

"Our industry has simply not progressed sufficiently in terms of total system performance to enable cost-effective development of increasingly complex hydrocarbon resources," Kibsgaard said.

He called for greater cooperation between service companies and producers. Adding contractors to the table during the planning phase could help lower longterm costs, he said, and dealing with companies over a long period of time — from exploring for oil to the ultimate abandonment of the well — would help boost contractor performance and encourage innovation.

Such a change also would benefit companies like the one Kibsgaard runs, said Bill Herbert, senior researcher in the energy arm of investment bank Piper Jaffray.

Schlumberger, which has several international headquarters and a large presence in Houston, is the largest oil field services contractor.

During the shale boom, the North American service sector was fragmented into many different companies that all offered similar products. Now, many of the companies that haven't carved out niches are struggling to stay alive or being consolidated into their larger competitors.

"There's still going to be plenty of room for the nimble, low-cost service provider or the high-tech provider," Herbert said. "But the vast middle, where services are commoditized, that's going to be a tougher place to make a living."

In his speech in New Orleans, Kibsgaard said the low prices that service

Please see **TIES**/4A

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

The new La-Z-Boy Home Furnishings and Decor opened earlier this month on Loop 250. Construction continues on the nearby Carl's Jr. and Wienerschnitzel restaurants.

Leadership changes might have killed Costco deal

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

It was reported in May 2014 that developers in Midland and Odessa were working to bring a Costco wholesale retailer to the region, specifically to State Highway 191 at the Dorado Center in Odessa.

Tom Glasman, vice president of ICA Properties, which owns Dorado Center, said talks of bringing Costco to the region were overblown.

"That just kind of came out," Glasman told the Reporter-Telegram recently when discussing the SH 191 corridor. "We talk to several national retailers and companies. Whether it be Sam's, Costco or XYZ warehouse store, we try to talk to everyone. Nothing was ever formalized, but somewhere in the community, someone thought we had a deal, and nothing is ever done until it's done."

Glasman said what hindered solidifying a deal with Costco is a scenario not uncommon in deal-making. Leadership changes at companies can stall or kill deals. One person might look at, for example, a booming Midland and Odessa region and see opportunity. However, if that person changes positions or companies altogether after a few years, the next person in charge might not see the region in the same positive light.

This is what happened to Costco, Glasman said.

The Reporter-Telegram reached out to Costco for comments about the deal that never materialized. On Monday, a company representative, who wished not to be named in this story, said via email, "It is company policy to not comment on future openings."

Dorado Center is a space for retailers and restaurants to purchase and construct stores. It is located on SH 191 between Mission Boulevard and San Antonio Street in Odessa. Dorado Center sits on 237 acres.

Currently, the only major construction underway at Dorado Center is a 90,000-square-foot Cinergy Cinemas facility that will include theaters, a ropes course and an 18-lane bowling alley, among other features.

Also slated for construction are a Keith's Hamburger Station and a still-secret furniture store, Glasman said.

As for a deal with Costco, "No, it's not dead," Glasman said. "The phone lines are open both ways."

"We're always in talks with whoever," he said. "It just has to be their timing and our timing."

Like Trevor on Facebook and follow him on Twitter at @HowdyHawes

Border abortion clinic awaits ruling

By Molly Hennessy-Fiske
Los Angeles Times

McALLEN — As patients arrived at the Rio Grande Valley's lone abortion clinic recently, they were greeted by two men standing outside: a security guard and a protester clutching a rosary and a sign reading, "Pray to end abortion."

Above them dangled a banner: "We are open!"

For now, they are.

Whole Woman's Health, which describes itself as "a privately owned feminist organization," runs the clinic and half a dozen other facilities nationwide. It was founded in Austin in 2003 and in the last three years has become mired in a legal battle against a restrictive state abortion law that has twice forced the McAllen clinic to close.

Now Whole Woman's Health is lead plaintiff in a lawsuit before the U.S. Supreme Court to block the Texas law, which has already contributed to the closing of about half the state's more than 40 abortion clinics, including some in the Rio Grande Valley.

Coming soon

Options for local women will be explored in a future edition.

This month, the Supreme Court heard arguments in the case, the most significant one on abortion since 1992. That year, the justices upheld the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling, but said states may regulate abortion so long as they do not place an "undue burden" on women seeking to end their pregnancies. That allowed Republican-led states like Texas, Louisiana, Ohio and Wisconsin to pass increasingly strict abortion regulations in recent years.

The Texas law requires abortion clinics to upgrade into ambulatory surgical centers and to use doctors who have hospital admitting privileges. The McAllen clinic's doctors don't have admitting privileges. To become a surgical center, the clinic would have to widen hallways, add equipment and get rid of the lavender diffuser, herbal tea and purple walls full of quotes by famous women.

The law's supporters said its aim is to protect women's health by requiring comprehensive medical care at abortion clinics. Opponents said medical complications are rare — the McAllen clinic has only had two patients who had to be transferred to local hospitals for minor bleeding — and that the law's real aim is to make abortions virtually impossible to obtain in the Lone Star State.

Abortion providers fear that women who lose access will take matters into their own hands, especially near the border, where they can head to Mexican pharmacies and obtain drugs to induce an abortion — a risky procedure without a doctor's supervision.

Now, the high court must decide whether the Texas law amounts to an undue burden for more than 1 million women who live at least 150 miles from a licensed abortion clinic. That includes women here in the Rio Grande Valley, for whom the next nearest clinic is 230 miles north in San Antonio. Both sides said the stakes are especially high in this

Please see **CLINIC**/4A

Weather
Sunny
67/44
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Energy prices

WTI Futures	$39.79	▼ $1.86
WTI Posted	$36.25	▼ $1.50
WTG Posted	$31.25	▼ $1.50
Natural Gas	$1.794	▼ $0.069
Gasoline	$1.882	▲ $0.039

Our view
On the issue of **body cameras**, did MPD make the right call? Page 6A

Word of the Day: jejune
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 3A.

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CRIMEBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Man held for alleged sexual assault of a child

A Midland man was arrested Tuesday for allegedly sexually assaulting a child, according to court documents.

Turnbow

Shannon Turnbow, 47, was being held Wednesday on a second-degree felony charge of sexual assault of a child. Bond had not yet been set as of Wednesday afternoon.

The assault allegedly occurred earlier this week.

If convicted of the second-degree felony, Turnbow could face up to 20 years in prison.

MPD: Man, woman endanger child with narcotic distribution and use

A Midland man and woman were arrested Monday for allegedly abandoning and endangering a child while using or distributing drugs, according to court documents.

Nicky C. Hernandez, 27, was being held Wednesday on two $75,000 bonds for two first-degree felony charges of manufacturing/delivering a controlled substance under 200 grams and on a $25,000 bond for a state felony charge of abandonment/endangerment of a child with intent to return.

Hernandez

Vanessa Ramirez, 27, was being held on a $25,000 bond for a state felony charge of abandonment/endangerment of a child with intent to return.

Ramirez

Midland Police Department detectives arrived Monday at a residence in the county with a warrant for that residence regarding an ongoing investigation for distribution of narcotics by Hernandez, according to the arrest affidavit.

They found Hernandez and another male smoking marijuana in a truck parked in the driveway, according to the affidavit. The officers also discovered an infant alone inside the residence, according to the affidavit.

During the search of the residence, officers located about 167.9 grams of powder cocaine, 10.2 grams of heroin and 1.4 grams of marijuana, according to the affidavit. The marijuana and approximately 7.8 grams of the powder cocaine were found in a purse belonging to Ramirez, according to the affidavit.

Hernandez admitted to selling quantities of powder cocaine for profit and being in possession of all the narcotics in the residence, according to the affidavit.

Ramirez — who arrived while detectives were still there — admitted to being in possession of marijuana and leaving the infant in the house, according to the affidavit.

At the time of their arrest, both Hernandez and Ramirez were unemployed with no verifiable proof of income, according to the affidavit.

If convicted of the two first-degree felonies and state felony charge, Hernandez could face up to 99 years in prison for each first-degree felony charge and up to two years in jail. If convicted of the state felony charge, Ramirez could face up to two years in jail.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

HOUSTON

5 plead guilty to bribery scheme with Venezuelan oil company

A Venezuelan national living in Florida has pleaded guilty to federal charges for a bribery scheme involving contracts between several U.S.-based energy companies and the Venezuelan state-controlled oil and natural gas firm.

Abraham Shiera of Coral Gables entered his plea to foreign bribery and fraud charges Tuesday in Houston. He will be sentenced in July.

Shiera was named in an 18-count indictment with Robert Rincon of The Woodlands. Rincon's trial is scheduled for next month in Houston.

Federal prosecutors say the men carried out the scheme involving millions of dollars in contracts to ensure their firms won lucrative energy contracts with Petroleos de Venezuela S.A.

Documents unsealed Tuesday say four other men including three officials of the Venezuelan energy company pleaded guilty earlier to charges related to the scheme.

FORT WORTH

City to accept $6M royalties deal with Chesapeake

Fort Worth leaders have agreed to a $6 million settlement in a dispute over oil industry royalty payments.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported the Fort Worth City Council voted Tuesday to accept the settlement with Total E&P USA. The city accused the company and its partner, Oklahoma-based Chesapeake Energy, of cheating Fort Worth out of millions of dollars in royalty payments.

Total in 2010 bought a 25 percent stake in Chesapeake's Barnett Shale holdings.

WACO

Baylor details efforts to improve sexual assault response

Baylor University, which has faced criticism over its response to sex assault on campus, has announced its most recent actions to improve how it addresses such incidents.

Baylor says the plans detailed this week are part of a $5 million commitment the board of regents announced last month. Baylor spokeswoman Tonya Lewis said Wednesday the funds will come from university reserves.

Newly announced efforts include adding two staffers to the school's Title IX Office, which currently has seven members.

Obituaries

Fabian Rangel

Fabian Rangel, Sr. has been set free from this life and has joined our father in Heaven on the 21st day of March 2016. He was surrounded by his loved ones. He was born in Seguin, Texas on December 3, 1945 to his parents, the late Enrique and Mauricia Rangel.

Fabian was a jack of all trades. His main occupation was farming and irrigation. He was a hard worker and always made sure his family was taken care of. He loved spending time with family, especially his grandchildren; they were the center of his world.

Even in the last of his days, he was in great spirits. Fabian also loved to tell stories that brought great joy and laughter to our hearts. He was a great man of character and will be missed greatly and cherished for all times by all who knew and loved him. His memories will carry on in our hearts forever.

"Until we meet again in Heavenly places where we will all reign in victory! We Love You!"

Fabian was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Fermin Rodriguez, Antonio Rangel, and Enrique Rangel, Jr., and by a sister, Estell Teresa Range!

Carrying on his memory is his wife, Teresa Rangel; four sons, Fabian Rangel, Jr., Carlos Rangel and wife Paula, Adam Rangel and wife Lupe, and Johnny Rangel and wife Anna; and by a daughter, Eva Rangel, all of Midland, Texas.

He also leaves behind five brothers, Joe Angel Rangel, Vicente Rangel, and Fred Rangel, all of Midland, Natividad Rangel of Rochester, Texas, and Pete Rodriguez of Seguin; two sisters, Julia Rangel Mata of Modesto, California and Rosa Rangel of Big Spring, Texas; 21 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren; and by numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A funeral mass is set for Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.

Funeral service is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel.

Family messages and condolences may be emailed to *pipkin@nts-online.net* or you can visit our website at *www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com.*

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin Funeral Home
2500 N. Big Spring • Midland, TX • (432) 682-3761

Marianne Carroll Scott

Marianne Carroll Scott, 65, of Odessa, Texas, passed away on March 20, 2016 in Odessa.

Marianne was born in Colorado City, Texas to Warrine Christie and Edward Carroll on October 9, 1950. She went to school in Odessa, graduating from Ector High School. She married John Michael Scott on February 14, 1995. Marianne worked as a sales representative, selling lawn care for True Green Lawn Care Co. and also was the founder of The Permian Basin Oilfield Journal.

Before becoming ill, she attended church at Texas & Clements Church of Christ where she was warmly made to feel at home, was baptized, and practiced her faith for several years.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Reenie Christie Carroll; her father, Edward Partrick Carroll; and her niece, Ronnie Dawn Hewitt.

Marianne is survived by her husband, John Michael Scott; her children, Latressa Coldwell, Carmella Coldwell, John Coldwell, Leann Bond Miller, Shaun Scott, and Eleana Scott; and by 14 grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Don Earl Fortner, Steve Discoll, Robert Reyes, John Carroll, T.J. Carroll, and Chase Morales.

The family of Marianne wishes to extend our sincere thanks to the physicians and staff of Medical Center Hospital, to the congregation of Texas & Clements Church of Christ, and to all those who touched her life throughout the years.

Funeral services will be at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, March 24, 2016 at Sunset Funeral Home Chapel with Chaplain Farrell Ard officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens.

Arrangements are entrusted to Sunset Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home. To send family condolences, please sign the guest registry at *www.sunsetodessa.com* .

SUNSET MEMORIAL
GARDENS & FUNERAL HOME

Sandra Kay Byrd

Sandra Kay Byrd, 72, a longtime resident of Odessa, passed away Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at Medical Center Hospital.

She was born January 4, 1944 in Odessa to Roy Max Moore and Cordie Slay. She married Jerry Byrd September 4, 1962. She was a retired bookkeeper. She had worked for Walmart and in the oilfield.

She is preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband, Jerry Byrd of Odessa; sons, James Byrd of Odessa and Jerry Wayne Byrd, Jr. of Kerrville; brother, Roy Max Moore, Jr. of Ft. Worth; and by three grandchildren, Taylor Wayne Byrd of Port Neches, Texas, Caylee Elizabeth Byrd of Abilene, and Kelsey Leigh Byrd of Odessa.

A visitation will be 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2016 at Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2016 at Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens.

Services are entrusted to Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home.

Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home
Dignity 601 North Alleghaney Odessa, TX 79761 (432) 332-0991
Condolences may be offered at www.hubbardkellyfuneralhome.com

48 more bikers indicted in Waco shootout that left 9 dead

By Nomaan Merchant
Associated Press

DALLAS — A Texas grand jury indicted 48 more bikers Wednesday in connection with a May 2015 shootout outside a Twin Peaks restaurant that left nine dead, bringing the total number of people facing felony charges to 154.

Prosecutors in Waco announced that all the bikers indicted are charged with engaging in organized criminal activity, meaning they're accused of being complicit in the shooting that also left 20 people injured. They face 15 years to life in prison if convicted.

McLennan County District Attorney Abel Reyna won indictments against 106 other bikers in November. In a statement Wednesday, he did not rule out more indictments in what he called "an ongoing investigation."

Six of the 48 people newly indicted have not been arrested, and their indictments remain under seal. But Reyna and the McLennan County district clerk's office confirmed they were facing the same charge as other bikers. A spokeswoman for Reyna did not respond to a question about whether the grand jury declined to indict in any cases presented.

Reyna has been harshly criticized by attorneys who said he's prosecuting dozens of bikers who were at the restaurant only for a peaceful gathering of motorcycle clubs.

At that gathering, a squabble outside ended in a shootout between bikers from various clubs and police who were already stationed nearby. Surveillance video from the restaurant shows dozens of bikers running inside and crawling for cover.

Prosecutors have not indicted anyone specifically for murder in the nine deaths. The organized criminal activity charge incorporates allegations that every person indicted was responsible for the deaths and injuries that ensued in the gunfire.

Dallas attorney Don Tittle said Wednesday's indictments appeared to center on bikers who weren't members of the two major clubs present — the Bandidos and the Cossacks — but rather part of smaller "support clubs." Dozens of Bandidos and Cossacks have already been indicted.

Tittle is representing about 15 bikers who have filed or plan to file civil lawsuits against Waco authorities for wrongful prosecution.

"There were people that were tragically killed, and there is no doubt there's some individuals that should be charged with criminal offenses," Tittle said. "But the overwhelming majority of the people there that day were nothing more than present at the time that the incident occurred."

At trial, prosecutors will likely have to prove that at least one person from each motorcycle club committed a criminal act in order to prove others from that same club were part of a conspiracy, said Sandra Guerra Thompson, a law professor at the University of Houston.

"It's less direct culpability that you have to prove," Thompson said. "For the person who didn't use a weapon and who didn't commit a killing, all they have to prove is that they're a member of a street gang. This is pretty standard law in the states and the federal government."

Investigators have offered few details publicly about what sparked the fight or how the gunfire played out. Police have cited a gag order in the criminal case of one of the bikers. Media groups including The Associated Press have fought the order, contending it is overly broad and unconstitutional.

Much of the narrative about the shooting has come from evidence obtained by the AP. Ballistics reports show four of the nine people killed were struck by the same caliber of rifle fired by Waco police. Officers only used .223-caliber rifles that day, though it's not clear if any bikers also did. Police and the district attorney's office have defended the officers' use of force, claiming that bikers had also opened fire on authorities.

Even if police officers fired the ultimately fatal shots, prosecutors could still convict bikers in the deaths if they can prove the bikers were part of the criminal conspiracy and police were only responding to an already violent scene, Thompson said.

Wife of famed pianist pleads not guilty in daughters' deaths

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — The estranged wife of an internationally known pianist pleaded not guilty Wednesday to charges that she killed the couple's young daughters at their Texas home.

Sofya Tsygankova entered her plea during a brief court appearance in Fort Worth. Her arraignment came one day after she was charged with capital murder in the deaths of 5-year-old Nika Kholodenko and 1-year-old Michela Kholodenko.

Vadym Kholodenko, a winner of the prestigious Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, discovered his daughters' bodies March 17 when he arrived at the home to take them to school. Arrest affidavits say the girls were found dead on beds.

A pillow partially covered the head of the youngest child, but police Cmdr. David Babcock said Wednesday that investigators haven't determined whether the children had been smothered. He said that determination would be made by the Tarrant County medical examiner's office.

Online records for the office indicated Wednesday only that the children died of "homicidal violence" and that autopsies are pending.

Tsygankova was kneeling on the floor wearing a blood-stained nightgown and "rocking back and forth," the affidavits say. She had wounds on her wrist and chest, and a butcher knife was found near the home's patio.

At one point she asked investigators, "Did I do anything bad to my kids?"

An empty bottle labeled with her name and the antipsychotic drug quetiapine was found on the kitchen counter, police said. Authorities later learned she had visited a mental health facility the day before.

Tsygankova was first taken to a Fort Worth hospital, where, according to affidavits, she told police she remembered putting her 5-year-old daughter to sleep and seeing her 1-year-old daughter asleep in her crib. She also told police she remembered taking pills and believed she hurt herself with a knife.

Tsygankova was booked Tuesday into the Tarrant County jail.

In a written statement, her attorney, Joetta Keene, declined to comment on the specific allegations of the affidavit. "This is, no doubt, a very heartbreaking case for everyone involved," she said.

The Ukrainian-born Kholodenko beat nearly 30 finalists from 12 countries to win the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in Fort Worth in 2013. He and Tsygankova were married in 2010 and filed for divorce last year. Kholodenko no longer lived at the home with Tsygankova and their daughters, but routinely picked up the children from the home in the mornings.

The girls were buried Monday at a private service.

On Tuesday evening, mourners gathered at Arlington Heights United Methodist Church to remember the girls.

"In times like this, we seek answers for how something so terrible could happen," the Rev. Mary Spradlin said.

WORD OF THE DAY
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jejune
[ji-joon] adjective.

1. without interest or significance; dull; insipid.
2. juvenile; immature; childish.
3. lacking knowledge or experience; uninformed.

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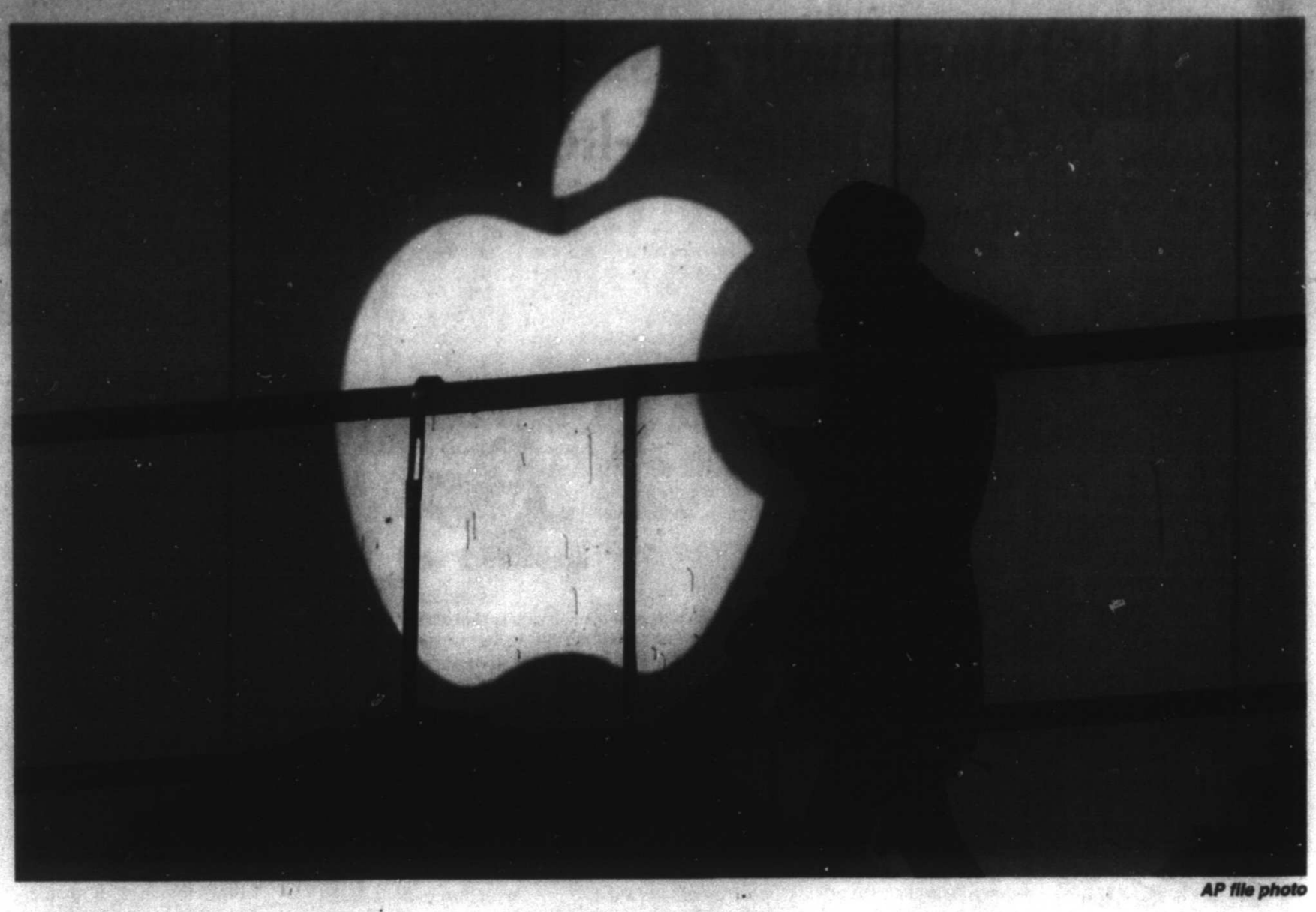

AP file photo

A woman using a phone walks past Apple's logo near its retail outlet in Beijing in 2013. Even while it fiercely opposes the FBI's demand for help unlocking an encrypted iPhone used in the San Bernardino mass shootings, Apple has never argued that it isn't capable of doing what the government wants.

Why a future Apple-FBI case may go very differently

By Brandon Bailey
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Although it fiercely opposes the FBI's demand for help unlocking a San Bernardino shooter's encrypted iPhone, Apple has never argued that it simply can't do what the government wants. That might not be true for long.

At the moment, the San Bernardino case is on hold while the FBI evaluates an alternative method of getting into that phone. But experts said it's almost certain that Apple and other tech companies will keep increasing the security of their products, making it harder or perhaps even impossible for them to answer government demands for customer data.

"If I were them, I would use any means possible to avoid having to answer these information requests," said Anna Lysyanskaya, a computer scientist and cryptography expert at Brown University. "It's bad for their business, and not just in the United States but in other countries where law enforcement cannot be trusted to follow the law."

Smartphones and Internet services increasingly store a vast trove of personal information — everything from messages and photos to banking details to records of your movements. Apple won't comment on specific future plans, although it said it's constantly increasing security to protect that data from hackers and criminals.

Its intent, Apple said, isn't to foil legitimate government investigations, but to protect its users against criminal hacking. In the San Bernardino case, the FBI wanted Apple to create a software tool that would override a "self-destruct" security feature that would activate after too many incorrect passcode attempts. Apple argued that creating such a tool would make all iPhones more vulnerable.

The magistrate judge in the San Bernardino case canceled a hearing on the dispute this week after the government said an unnamed "third party" had come forward with a possible alternative to Apple's assistance. That method, which the government hasn't described, is under testing.

Apple, however, could design future iPhone hardware and software security that would be much more difficult to circumvent. It could also lock up its iCloud backup service so that only its users would hold the keys necessary to unscramble data they store online. Apple currently retains iCloud keys so it can provide access for customers who lose their passwords. That means Apple can — as it did in the San Bernardino case — provide unscrambled iCloud files to authorities with a valid search warrant

Some commercial data-storage firms already promote services that let business customers hold the keys to their own encrypted data.

"It's the new reality," said Yorgen Edholm, CEO of Palo Alto-based file-sharing company Accellion. If a service doesn't offer that feature, he said, "they are scrambling to add that in." The first requests for his firm's encrypted service came from overseas businesses that worried about losing control of their data, he said, but demand has also been growing in the United States.

And when the police come knocking, Edholm added, "we tell them, 'We'd like to help,' but because the customer controls the decryption key, they have to go to the customer directly."

Such security comes with trade-offs, and they could be serious for consumers. Many iPhone owners, for instance, don't even bother to set a passcode on their phone. And the convenience of getting Apple's help if you lose your phone or password could be hard to give up, particularly when weighed against an abstract value like privacy.

Tech companies have reported a steady increase in government requests for customer information around the world. It can be invaluable for prosecuting known suspects and for uncovering new plots and perpetrators, said Ed McAndrew, a former federal cybercrimes prosecutor now in private practice.

Of course, those information requests complicate life for tech companies, he acknowledged. "Some companies are saying, 'We can get out of this game, because we can make it so that, technologically, we're not in a position to provide access to customer data,'" he said.

Apple and other leading tech firms said they routinely answer thousands of legal data requests every year. Microsoft president Brad Smith noted in a recent speech that his company supplied customer information to authorities investigating an extremist attack in Paris while the suspects were still at large.

The consumer tablet is dying; long live the business tablet

By Anick Jesdanun
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Tablets may never again be the consumer sensation they once were, but they are finding new life among professionals.

Apple took aim at that market in announcing a second iPad Pro model this week. Samsung started selling the Windows-based Galaxy TabPro S last week, while Microsoft doubled down on its Surface tablet business last fall with Surface Book, a laptop whose keyboard pops off to leave behind a tablet. Google has its own using Android, the Pixel C.

Unlike early models, these tablets are meant to be used with a physical keyboard and a stylus. That makes them appealing to people looking to get stuff done, whether that's typing a report or drawing on a graphics app.

"It's no secret the tablet business has slowed down overall except in places where there's productivity," said Gary Riding, a senior vice president for mobile computing marketing at Samsung. ("Productivity," in this case, being jargon for work as opposed to play.)

These new devices also have higher price tags. Many sell for almost $1,000, or even more with accessories. Companies market them as PC replacements rather than devices for watching video, reading books and playing games — that is, things you can already do with your phone.

The Surface Pro 3 is "much thinner than a laptop, and when you have the case with the keyboard, it's essentially a laptop," says Ryan Hastman, who now leaves his Mac laptop behind while traveling to raise money for the University of Alberta in Canada.

Tablet shipments fell 10 percent to 207 million worldwide last year and are projected to fall another 6 percent this year, according to IDC. But one subset — tablets with detachable keyboards — more than doubled to 17 million last year. It's projected to grow to 64 million in 2020 and represent 30 percent of the overall tablet market, rather than 8 percent now.

"It's not all doom and gloom," IDC analyst Jitesh Ubrani said. "Microsoft's done a very good job at marketing detachables. Everyone's now jumping on that bandwagon."

In a sense, Apple was a victim of its own success following the iPad's debut in 2010. Tablets took off with consumers who found them appealing replacements for home laptops. But people haven't replaced them as often as phones. And as phones got bigger, some people began wondering whether they needed a tablet at all.

Enter Microsoft, long the king of "productivity" software, which in 2012 designed a tablet that ran Windows and targeted professionals. The Microsoft Surface didn't have the fun apps that iPads and Android tablets had, but it had Word, Excel and other Office apps long before entertainment-oriented devices did. It also has a USB port and other features missing in most tablets.

It took Microsoft two years to get it right, though. The Pro 3 in 2014 was the first Surface with a fully adjustable kickstand that mimicked the flexibility of laptop screens. And last fall's models were the first Surface devices with Windows 10, which mirrored traditional PCs much more than the Windows 8 it replaced.

"Everyone wants a tablet, and everyone needs a laptop," said Brian Hall, Microsoft's general manager for Surface. "You can have an approach that says people need to buy one of each, or you can have an approach that says there's a happy medium."

The holiday quarter was the best yet for Surface, with revenue increasing 29 percent to $1.35 billion.

But don't count Apple out. IDC estimated that Apple sold more than 2 million iPad Pros in the holiday quarter when it launched, compared with 1.6 million units for Surface. Apple's advantage: apps designed from the start for touch screens and battery conservation, rather than ones adapted from the mouse-and-keyboard world of plugged-in Windows PCs.

Now, Apple is giving customers additional choice — a 9.7-inch iPad Pro that starts at $599, $200 cheaper than the 12.9-inch original (add about $250 for the keyboard and stylus). Just as Microsoft and Samsung have done, Apple is targeting the hundreds of millions of people whose Windows machines are at least five years old. Apple said most iPad Pro customers are coming from Windows.

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

■ Tall City Blues Fest Line-Up Release Party, 6 p.m., The Yucca Theatre, 208 N. Colorado,Ave. $20-$25. Tallcitybluesfest.com.

■ Adult Class: Spanish Tapas, Wine and beers are welcome with a $10 corking fee. 7 p.m., Hight Foods, 3320 N. Midkiff Drive. $60. Hightfoods.com.

■ Bingo Nights, 7 p.m., 501 Veterans Airpark Lane. 432-682-5511.

For information on this weekend's events, check out the Weekender in today's Reporter-Telegram.

Club meetings, support groups today

■ TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:30-7:30 p.m., Christian Church of Midland, 2609 Neely Ave. 694-8643

■ Permian Basin Chess Club, 6 p.m., University of Texas of the Permian Basin student union; Steve Dudley, 556-1920; Brian Farrell, 288-7141; pbcc.50gigs.net; odessachess@cableone.net.

Holiday closures

The Midland County Public Library will be closed Friday through Sunday.

Midland County offices will be closed Friday

Midland ISD will be closed Friday but will be open Monday.

Midland College will be closed Friday through Monday.

The U.S. Postal Service and mail delivery will keep regular schedules.

Big Bend park event

Big Bend National Park will host Centennial Showcase 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday at Rio Grande Village campground. The event will highlight work activities performed by national park employees. There will be a free lunch (hamburgers, hot dogs and barbecue) and souvenirs.

Other activities are planned at Fort Davis National Historic Site and McDonald Observatory. Centennial Showcase is one in a series of events planned to mark the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service.

Source: Big Bend National Park

Meetings with council members

■ Midland Police Department officials will be available to answer questions from District 3 residents at a community meeting with council member Sharla Hotchkiss. The meeting is 6:30-8 p.m. March 31 at Bowie Elementary School library, 805 Elk Road.

Officials will give a presentation regarding crime statistics in nearby neighborhoods and discuss services offered by the police department. Citizens will be able to ask questions and approach police after the presentation to voice specific concerns.

■ Midland Police and Fire department officials will promote safety in Midland at a community meeting with District 4 council member J.Ross Lacy. The meeting is 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday at Henderson Elementary library, 4800 Graceland Drive.

Police will give a presentation regarding crime statistics in nearby neighborhoods and discuss services offered by the department, such as home security surveys, RAD classes and Citizens' Police Academy. Tips for residents will include how to prevent identity theft, and how to learn about crime trends throughout the year by using www.crimemapping.com, www.nextdoor.com, and MPD's social media accounts.

Residents will be able to ask questions and approach police before and after the presentation to voice specific concerns.

A representative from the Midland Fire Department Community Risk Reduction Program will discuss installing free smoke detectors in the area. The distribution, in partnership with American Red Cross, is planned for April 16 in the area surrounding Fire Station 6 (intersection of Midland and Thomason drives). This area has been determined as Midland's highest-risk area for fire incidents through analyzation of data for the last three years. Demographic data also shows that the area poses Midland's biggest risk for fire deaths.

Source: City of Midland

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 2-9-7
Pick 3 day: 0-3-8
Pick 3 evening: 2-4-4
Pick 3 night: 6-6-6
Daily 4 morning: 8-3-7-0
Daily 4 day: 7-2-3-9
Daily 4 evening: 1-0-5-0
Daily 4 night: 7-9-6-4
Cash Five: 3-7-10-13-26
Lotto Texas: 3-21-24-30-34-36
Powerball: 5-8-15-22-49 PB: 25 Power Play: 3
Triple Chance: 3-9-15-19-22-30-35-37-51-53
All or Nothing morning: 4-5-8-9-12-13-15-16-21-22-23-24
All or Nothing day: 1-4-5-9-12-15-17-18-19-21-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 1-3-6-7-8-9-10-13-17-20-23-24
All or Nothing night: 2-3-7-11-14-16-17-18-19-21-22-23

Today in history

In 1832, a mob in Hiram, Ohio, attacked, tarred and feathered Mormon leaders Joseph Smith Jr. and Sidney Rigdon.

In 1958, rock-and-roll singer Elvis Presley was inducted into the U.S. Army in Memphis, Tennessee.

In 1989, the supertanker Exxon Valdez ran aground on a reef in Alaska's Prince William Sound and began leaking an estimated 11 million gallons of crude oil.

Man finally descends Seattle tree, ending 25-hour drama

By Gene Johnson
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Chef Michelle Matsko paused as she walked to work Wednesday, gazed up from beneath her red umbrella and marveled: After a full day, a man still was perched near the top of an 80-foot-tall sequoia tree in the middle of a shopping district in downtown Seattle.

"I'm really impressed," she said. "It's been raining. He's a trouper."

The unidentified man finally climbed down safely just before noon, having transfixed the city and the Internet for 25 hours while police closed adjacent streets and tried to coax him down.

As onlookers cheered and chanted "Man In Tree" — in deference to the Twitter hashtag by which he became known — he sat down near the base of the conifer and appeared to be chomping on a piece of fruit.

Officers initially kept their distance but soon approached the man, got him on a gurney and took him for a medical evaluation.

Reasons for the drama remained unclear. At times, the man appeared agitated, gestured wildly, yelled and threw apples and branches at officers. Police tried to speak with him from a firetruck ladder and the sixth-floor windows of the Macy's department store next door.

Officials have not said if the man is a member of the city's ballooning homeless population. Mayor Ed Murray declared a state of emergency as deaths of homeless people mounted last fall, and the city has authorized new tent cities and safe parking lots for those living without shelter or in their vehicles.

After the man climbed down, the Seattle Police Department tweeted a photo of the tree-like creature named Groot from the "Guardians of the Galaxy" movie with the caption, "Groot job, everybody."

The tweet was just part of the online commotion the incident sparked, with new Twitter accounts dedicated to it and the hashtag #ManInTree trending on Twitter and Facebook. A local TV station live-streamed video of the man as he dozed, shouted and knocked around a stick.

Many passers-by, seeming bemused by the man's antics, pulled out their cellphones Wednesday to snap pictures of his silhouette, accentuated by a long, bushy beard, against the gray morning sky.

Police said they know who the man is but did not release his identity.

"We are now working with him trying to get a clearer picture of what exactly led to this point," said Detective Patrick Michaud. "We'll be able to work with him as he is in the hospital and try to get this whole thing figured out."

Janice Wilson, who was in town from Crescent City, California, to help her son deal with his mental health and legal troubles, said she was once homeless herself, 30 years ago.

She repeatedly shouted up to the man: "We love you! Come down safely!"

"I heard people out here laughing," she said. "If somebody's in crisis to the point of putting himself at risk of suicide, what's to laugh about?"

Seattle Department of Transportation officials said they will review the health of the tree, believed to have been transplanted there in the 1970s.

Associated Press

A plane flies past as a man continues to perch near the top of an 80-foot-tall sequoia tree Wednesday morning in downtown Seattle.

North Carolina reigns in local governments, transgender rule

By Gary D. Robertson
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — North Carolina legislators decided to reign in local governments by approving a bill Wednesday that prevents cities and counties from passing their own anti-discrimination rules. The legislation, if enacted, would deal a blow to the LGBT movement after success with protections in cities across the country.

The Republican-controlled General Assembly took action after the city of Charlotte recently approved a broad anti-discrimination measure that allows transgender people to use the restroom aligned with their gender identity.

The Senate voted for the measure hours after the House had already passed it by a wide margin. Legislators now will ask Gov. Pat McCrory, a Republican, to sign it into law. McCrory, the mayor of Charlotte for 14 years, has criticized the local ordinance but his office didn't immediately respond to questions about whether he will sign the bill into law.

Earlier this week, a top aide had concerns about the bill's scope — raising questions about what the governor's response will be.

Republicans and their allies have said intervening is necessary to protect the safety of women and children. There have been arguments that any man — perhaps a sex offender — could enter a woman's restroom or locker room simply by calling himself transgender.

"It's common sense — biological men should not me be in women's showers, locker rooms and bathrooms," said GOP Rep. Dean Arp of Monroe before the chamber voted 84-24 for the legislation after nearly three hours of debate.

Representatives for gay rights groups said the legislation demonizes the community and espouses bogus claims about increasing the risk of sexual assaults. They say the bill will deny lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people essential protections needed to ensure they can get a hotel room, hail a taxi or dine at a restaurant without fear.

"Charlotte's law is not unusual, unique or radical," said Chris Sgro, executive director of Equality North Carolina. "A special session to deal with such an ordinance is radical, unique and unusual."

GOP leaders scheduled the one-day session at the cost of $42,000 because Charlotte's ordinance was set to take effect April 1. Otherwise, the legislature wouldn't have returned until late April.

The bill would bar local governments statewide from prohibiting discrimination in public places based on sexual orientation and gender identity. It directs all public schools, government agencies and public college campuses to require bathrooms or locker rooms be designated for use only by people based on their biological sex.

Transgender people who have transitioned to the opposite sex wouldn't be affected if they get their birth certificate changed.

Democrats said the bill makes North Carolina less inclusive and interferes with local governments. They said the state could also risk billions in federal education dollars with the school policy.

Madeline Goss, a transgender woman from Raleigh, told a House committee she grew up in western North Carolina but had to leave because she was bullied mercilessly there. LGBT protections, Goss said, make it safer for her to live and allow her to use the restroom where she feels most comfortable.

"I can't use the men's room. I won't go back to the men's room. It is unsafe for me there. People like me die in there," Goss said.

Chloe Jefferson, 16, a private school student in Greenville, 85 miles east of Raleigh, told the committee she's worried without legislative action, girls would soon have males changing their clothes in front of them.

TIES

From 1A

companies charge today are the product of survival instincts, and are not a meaningful advance in how oil and natural gas are produced. He called the current financial situation "unsustainable."

The industry is already seeing consolidation.

Schlumberger announced plans to buy rival service provider Cameron International Corp. in a cash-and-stock deal then valued at $12.7 billion.

U.S. rival Halliburton Co. has been attempting to take over Baker Hughes since November. That deal, a cash-and-stock offer then valued at roughly $35 billion, is still being scrutinized by regulators.

Stephens analyst Matthew Marietta agreed that gradual consolidation combined with better planning would mean less volatility for the sector.

Currently, services companies depend on the capital spending plans of producers for their business each year. For services companies working with international producers or offshore drillers, where projects are scheduled years in advance, there's plenty of advance notice when budgets are growing or shrinking.

But in shale, Marietta said, capital budgets and the demand on service companies have been either collapsing or ballooning for the past decade.

The Baker Hughes oil rig count, for example, has fallen by 76 percent from its 2014 peak to just 387 in the most recent weekly tally. Tens of thousands of oil field service contractors, many of them new hires from the shale boom, have been laid off.

The massive swings are crippling, Marrieta said.

"It's impossible to effectively manage," he said. "These businesses have never figured out how big they need to be."

CLINICS

From 1A

heavily Roman Catholic, low-income area of mixed-status migrant families.

As protests have intensified outside the clinic here over the last year, the staff has added the guard and security cameras in addition to the usual volunteer escorts.

Yolanda Chapa, founder of the McAllen Pregnancy Center a few blocks from the clinic, arrived soon after it opened on a recent morning wearing silver Virgin of Guadalupe earrings and a white doctor's coat. She stood near a sign — "Abortion is always the wrong choice" — to intercept women on their way in, offering free pregnancy tests and sonograms. Chapa said she was hopeful the Supreme Court would uphold the law and rule against the "abortion mill."

"Back when I started, there was no fence, no guards, no cameras. We were really making a difference," said Chapa, who during the last eight years has worked with more than 7,200 women, 119 so far this month, including seven "sidewalk referrals" at the clinic and 29 "babies saved."

"The challenge is big, but God is greater," she said.

Inside the clinic in pink scrubs, administrator Kristeena Banda had just returned from protesting outside the Supreme Court in Washington and felt encouraged by the crowds and an order the court issued March 4 blocking a restrictive new abortion law in Louisiana. But Banda still worried the justices might rule in favor of the Texas law.

"If it does go into effect, you will completely wipe out abortion access in this area," said Banda, a mother of three from the Rio Grande Valley who had an abortion at the clinic in 2006, the year Whole Woman's Health took over for a doctor who had run it for years. "We have Mexico a hop and skip away from us, and what happens is women take it into their own hands."

The clinic has appointments booked through the end of the month. It has a staff of seven and two doctors who travel from Houston and San Antonio, one per week, to work here. Local doctors won't do it, Banda said, "due to the backlash." The center provides two types abortions: medication (mifepristone and misoprostol) or surgical, depending on a woman's preference and how long she has been pregnant.

With the lawsuit pending, the McAllen clinic has been exempted from some of the new law's requirements, but not all. It cannot provide surgical abortions beyond 15 weeks because it's not a surgical center, and cannot provide abortion medication if a woman is more than seven weeks pregnant.

According to the new law, instead of being sent home with the pills, women must take the pills with the doctor, rushing home after the first pill, which can cause heavy bleeding.

State law also requires that the same doctor consult with a woman 24 hours in advance and complete the procedure, a logistical challenge for both doctors and patients. If women miss their initial consultation, that delays when they can take the pill, especially with only two doctors traveling from out of town, and has led to more surgical abortions, Banda said.

The clinic performs about 1,900 abortions a year, she said, roughly 60 percent surgical, 40 percent through medication. Both types cost about $600 during the first trimester, more later in a pregnancy, and even if the women they serve had insurance, which many don't in this poor region, it doesn't usually cover the cost.

For many women, Banda said, "they have to choose between feeding their kids or having the procedure."

If the clinic closed, she said, many women could not afford the additional cost of travel, child care and missing work to get to San Antonio. Migrant women living in the U.S. illegally or on visas also fear traveling to San Antonio because they have to pass a Border Patrol checkpoint, where others seeking medical care are often nabbed.

Instead, Banda said, desperate women may buy the misoprostol abortion pill over the counter in Mexico and try to self-induce abortions without consulting a doctor.

Misoprostol can be taken alone to induce an abortion and is also used to treat ulcers. So though abortion is illegal in Mexico outside of the capital district, the pill is widely available. People were buying the drug to sell at flea markets in the Rio Grande Valley, but after the new state law passed, heightened scrutiny of the sales led to busts by local law enforcement making that more difficult.

Now a package of 28 pills sells for $126 just across the border, $25 for the generic. Those in search of the drug can easily buy it about 25 miles east of McAllen, at pharmacies that line the main street of the Mexican border city of Nuevo Progreso, a mecca for retirees known as "winter Texans," who walk across the border bridge daily and return with discount medications.

Staff at Pharmacy U.S., Almost Free Pharmacy, Linda Pharmacy and Trevino's Pharmacy & Liquors all said they sell the drug, often to women who cross the border looking to, as they said in Spanish, "bring my period back."

"If they ask me if I have it to abort, I can't sell it. But if they ask for it for ulcers, I can," said Raul Gonzalez, a cashier in a white coat behind the counter of Almost Free Pharmacy.

Gonzalez said the store doesn't have a policy against selling the drug for abortions, and he's not particularly religious, but he believes in being honest. He noted that the medication doesn't come with instructions for use as an abortion pill.

"Normally when you take it, you have to see a doctor," he said.

Banda, the clinic administrator, said she sees two or three women a week who have taken the abortion pill on their own. It's not as effective as the two-drug combo, and many took it incorrectly. Some took a bottle or two, worried the first few pills were not having an effect, and risked hemorrhaging. Others remained pregnant, Banda said.

"If we give up, who's going to help these women?" she said.

Among the roughly 40 patients at the McAllen clinic on a recent Wednesday was a young woman who said she had been to Nuevo Progreso but never bought abortion pills and hesitated to take them on her own.

"I wanted to do it the right way, to where it is monitored," she said.

The petite Latina in white jeans and a tailored leather jacket asked to be identified by her initials, K.D. She had dropped out of high school, married and started her own business, but said she didn't feel financially prepared to have a child. She was unaware of the clinic's legal battle to stay open, and was upset to hear the news.

"I just don't understand how other people can choose what's right or what should be done when they're not in that situation," she said. "If maybe they were put in the situation of women, they would think differently."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

High-speed Mercedes crash ignites uproar in Thailand

By Jocelyn Gecker
Associated Press

BANGKOK — The dash cam video is jaw-dropping: On a virtually empty stretch of highway, a mid-size car is seen traveling in the slow lane. Suddenly, a black Mercedes-Benz zooms into the frame and rear-ends the car at tremendous speed. Within a split second, a cloud of smoke and debris fill the video screen.

What happened next is now well known in Thailand and the focal point of growing outrage. The mid-size car burst into flames and the couple inside, both graduate students in their 30s, died at the scene of the accident. The Mercedes driver, the son of a wealthy Thai businessman, survived with minor injuries and refused both alcohol and drug tests — and his wishes were respected. Police said he was driving at an estimated 150 miles per hour.

Since the video was widely shared on social media last week, the fatal March 15 crash has reignited a debate about the impunity of the rich and well-connected in Thailand. A similar debate raged in the U.S. with the case of the Texas teenager who used an "affluenza" defense in a deadly drunken-driving wreck.

The Mercedes driver, Janepob Verraporn, 37, now tops a list of "Bangkok's deadly rich kids," as one Thai newspaper calls the children of privilege who have killed with their fancy cars. TV talk shows, social media forums and editorials have chimed in on a debate that asks whether justice will be served this time or — if history is any guide — if Janepob will walk away from the crime without serving time.

Police have rushed to defend themselves against criticism for initially mishandling the case and acting to shield Janepob, whose father owns a luxury car import company.

"The law is the law — whether you are rich or poor you have to pay for what you've done," national police spokesman Songpol Wattanachai said Monday, asking skeptics to have faith in the police. "Justice will be served. Just because he is rich doesn't mean he won't go to jail. I'm asking people not to think that way."

Police who initially handled the case in Ayutthaya province, about 30 miles north of Bangkok, were quickly sidelined after failing to test Janepob for alcohol and drug use — and then defending the blunder. Speaking on TV, a police commander said the suspect had the right to refuse breath and blood tests, adding that both police and rescue workers did not smell any alcohol on Janepob's breath.

Amid public uproar, police filed a charge last week against Janepob for driving while unfit or intoxicated, which carries a prison sentence of three to 10 years, said Ayutthaya's deputy police chief, Col. Surin Thappanbupha. Under Thai law, he said, a refusal to be tested is tantamount to driving under the influence.

Janepob faces another charge of reckless driving causing death and property damage, which carries a maximum of 10 years in prison. Janepob was spared provisional detention after posting $5,700 bail and is currently at one of Bangkok's private hospitals.

The Nation newspaper said in an editorial on Sunday that the case had hit a nerve in Thailand because of "the sense that there is one set of rules for the rich and influential and another for everyone else."

"Stop me if you've heard this one before," the editorial begins. "An expensive car crashes. One or more people die. A person with a recognizable name ... emerges from the wreckage and flees the scene. No breath test is administered. Compensation is offered and the family tries to wriggle their way out of any legal consequences. The police fail dismally at their job."

One of Thailand's most famous untouchables is an heir to the Red Bull energy drink fortune. In 2012, Vorayuth Yoovidhya, a grandson of Red Bull founder Chaleo Yoovidhya, slammed his Ferrari into a policeman and dragged the officer's dead body along a Bangkok street before driving away. Vorayuth, who was then 27, has yet to be charged. In that case, police initially attempted to cover up his involvement by arresting a bogus suspect.

In 2010, Orachorn Devahastin Na Ayudhya was 16 and driving without a license when she crashed her sedan into a van on a Bangkok highway, killing nine people. Orachon, the daughter of a former military officer, was given a two-year suspended sentence.

In a country that values deference and patronage, and where police are infamously corrupt, there have been many other similar cases. But Janepob's carried the added shock value of visuals. The video of the crash was taken by a nearby car's dashboard camera, and quickly went viral. A few days later, another video was uploaded and widely shared showing Janepob's Mercedes smashing through an Easy Pass toll gate about an hour before the crash.

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Elitists can take shots at white people as well

■ There's no reason to treat poor whites as drug-addicted mongrels

ESTHER CEPEDA

Washington Post Writers Group

We live in a country where it's considered out of bounds to put down African-Americans and other ethnic and racial minorities, LGBTs, unlawfully present immigrants and many other special-interest groups.

But, as has long been the case, poor white people are simply another story.

Derogatory names such as "redneck" and "hillbilly" have been co-opted by poor whites themselves as a reaction to derision from the so-called educated class. But other terms, such as "white trash" and "hick" — terms that have become seemingly omnipresent among liberals dismissing Donald Trump's populist appeal — are, if you held them to the same standards as other ethnic epithets, just plain hate speech.

But, again, since the targets are white — and supposedly privileged by the color of their skin — those who put them down usually get a pass.

Yet, let's be clear about just how disenfranchised poor whites are: Not only are they the object of derision on the left, they're apparently becoming fair game for conservatives as well.

I'm referring specifically to a piece in National Review magazine that hasn't made many eyelashes bat, given its subject.

In his essay "Chaos in the Family, Chaos in the State: The White Working Class's Dysfunction," roving correspondent Kevin D. Williamson writes that, basically, all this kerfuffle about working-class whites being angry enough to buy into Trump's rhetoric because globalization has destroyed decent-paying factory jobs is beside the point. Williamson thinks these losers should just get off their butts and go elsewhere to find jobs since wanting work in their own communities "is the indulgence of absurd sentimentality."

Moreover, neither globalization nor immigration is to blame for ruining the quality-of-life and life expectancies of poor white people — "nobody did this to them. They failed themselves," writes Williamson, noting that this conclusion comes "if you spend time in hardscrabble, white upstate New York, or eastern Kentucky, or my own native West Texas, and you take an honest look at the welfare dependency, the drug and alcohol addiction, the family anarchy — which is to say, the whelping of human children with all the respect and wisdom of a stray dog."

Hmm, I wonder if Williamson would have the spine to say this to my family's faces — that would be my white husband's parents, sisters and extended family, who live in rural Southern Illinois towns so economically depressed that those who are lucky enough to work do, in fact, commute 40 or 50 miles one-way or have had to move away from their families.

Williamson continues: "The truth about these dysfunctional, downscale communities is that they deserve to die. Economically, they are negative assets. Morally, they are indefensible. ... The white American underclass is in thrall to a vicious, selfish culture whose main products are misery and used heroin needles. Donald Trump's speeches make them feel good. So does OxyContin. What they need isn't analgesics, literal or political. They need real opportunity, which means that they need real change, which means that they need U-Haul."

They seem to all be sanctimonious struggling-Rust-Belt-factory-town addicts in Williamson's vision of your typical sample of poor white country dwellers. But over 20 years of marriage into a family in which no fewer than half live in mobile homes, drive pickups and/or own shotguns, I can't say I've known of any of my in-laws to be either drug- or welfare-dependent.

Still, I'm sure we can all agree that "real opportunity" is the cure to what ails these communities. That and oh, let's say, a modicum of respect for the 10 percent of non-Hispanic whites, or nearly 20 million people, who live in poverty.

It's a well-documented fact that poor whites are dying at record rates due to poor nutrition, drug addiction and suicide. According to Princeton economists Angus Deaton and Anne Case, in middle age, poor whites are dying at such high rates that they are increasing the death rate for the entire group of middle-aged white Americans.

Those committed to a strictly race-based agenda that simplistically labels all whites as natural oppressors/enemies to people of color miss out on the common cause that all who live in poverty, or at the bottom of the middle class, share.

If Williamson's high-profile treatment of poor whites as drug-addicted mongrels whose communities deserve to die isn't a rallying cry for reaching across ethnic and racial boundaries to coalesce politically around the issues of elitism, poverty and

OUR VIEW

Body camera program is right call for Midland police

The Midland Police Department is making the right call in accepting body cameras.

The Midland City Council approved on Tuesday an item that calls for the city of Midland to submit a grant application for the Body-Worn Camera Program through the Office of the Governor of Texas Criminal Justice Division. The funds from this grant — and required matching funds — will be used to purchase body-worn cameras for police officers. The funds also will be used to purchase digital video storage and retrieval systems, according to the council meeting agenda packet document.

While we would have preferred that MPD moved faster in bringing this technology to its officers, we credit Chief Price Robinson for doing the right thing. The cameras ultimately will protect the image of our community's police department.

As we have written here before, the excuses for not having this new technology don't measure up to the positives.

Midland County Sheriff Gary Painter previously told the Reporter-Telegram that body cameras complement cameras in the patrol cars, will be a tool to garner more evidence to ensure convictions, will provide another teaching tool for law enforcement officials and help confirm when members of law enforcement act as we expect them to act.

Painter said this week the cameras have lived up to that billing and have had a positive impact on the sheriff's office. He said things can get so busy at the scene that deputies don't remember every detail, but cameras provide video and audio. He said the recordings protect evidence at the scene and even protect his deputies when they have acted as community members would expect.

"We have had people come in, wanting to file a complaint," Painter said. "Then when they know we have video, they say never mind."

Painter also said that the camera provides a teaching tool because the video can demonstrate to a law enforcement officer things that need to be improved.

As we have written here before, law enforcement officials, particularly those working on the streets every day, have a job that is infinitely more difficult than most residents realize. We hope Midlanders join us in appreciating their service and their willingness to protect this community.

Having body cameras will give those hard-working men and women another tool to do their job the best they can. We appreciate that as well.

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"I WANT TO MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN AND NOTHING EVOKES AMERICA'S STORIED PAST LIKE SUCKER-PUNCHING A BLACK GUY."

Trump proves it can happen here

■ Trump might not just be the devil; he's the Republicans' devil

KATHLEEN PARKER

Washington Post Writers Group

Now that Donald Trump has spoken before the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), a pro-Israel lobbying group, Americans have learned the following:

Trump can read a teleprompter; he finally got someone to write him a decent speech, which he was able to deliver without resorting to vulgarities; and he has provided something like a justification for reluctant Republicans to support him.

Which is a pretty low bar, you must admit. And it's not nearly enough.

You know all the arguments pro and con by now. He speaks plainly. So did Archie Bunker. His message of walled-in isolationism appeals to those tired of loose immigration policies. So was the case with Sen. Berzelius "Buzz" Windrip, the nativist demagogue in Sinclair Lewis' 1935 cautionary novel, "It Can't Happen Here."

Windrip, like Trump, spoke of national greatness, though Windrip was more explicit, saying that Americans "must continue to be the greatest Race on the face of this old Earth." Like Trump's, Windrip's base consisted largely of working-class white males, whom he called upon to help control dissent after he ascended to the Oval Office. Sound familiar? Punch anybody in the nose lately?

It's called fascism by any other name and, yes, it does seem that it can happen here. That is, a demagogue can become president, as Lewis was trying to warn. And, yes, we do have checks and balances in this country, but does anyone really think that Trump should have the power to start a nuclear war? He's mighty quick to rile.

No one is more familiar with the language of marginalization and authoritarianism than the Jewish community, causing one to wonder why Trump, whose rise has been spiced with bigotry and group-blaming rhetoric, was allowed in AIPAC'S door. The answer is that the nonpartisan organization traditionally invites all presidential candidates, among others, to speak to its annual policy conference.

Well, that's an explanation, anyway.

The conundrum for Republicans is that though Trump may be the devil, he's their devil. How can they condemn the guy that a near-majority of their own party prefers? If you're, say, House Speaker Paul Ryan, how do you say you won't support your party's nominee? Then again, if you're a good man like Ryan, how *do* you support him?

That is the question of the moment, isn't it? This is what we ask ourselves about the industrialists and "good Germans" who supported Hitler. This is what we ask our Southern grandparents about the time when blacks were being lynched. What we ask the World War II generation about rounding up Japanese-Americans. And while we're at it, what was your vote on Vietnam, Iraq? There's a price to pay for silence.

That so few have shown the courage to deny Trump tells us how difficult it is to be brave — and how rare character is. But one can only pretend for so long not to hear the dog whistles of history, a skill at which Republicans have become too well-practiced over the decades. Perhaps they're no longer listening. Or they're deluding themselves that Trump's words don't really mean what, you know, they mean.

"He won't be that bad."

No, he's worse.

A Jewish friend of mine — a Democrat, scholar, erstwhile politician and former U.S. ambassador whose parents were Holocaust survivors — called to vent after Trump's speech to AIPAC. First, he said he was glad his father wasn't alive to see this, and that he'd almost like to join AIPAC so he could resign in protest.

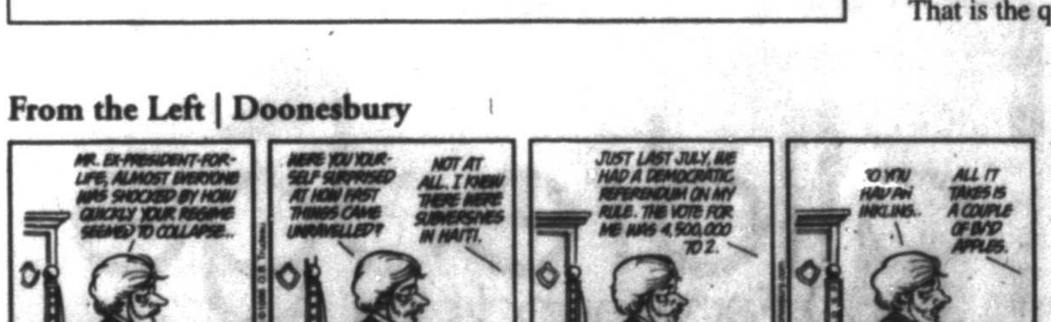
"The reality," he said, "is if you go back and look at Hitler, somehow you elect someone that you know is beyond the pale. But you do it because you're afraid of someone else. And then later, you look closely. And it's too late."

Unless.

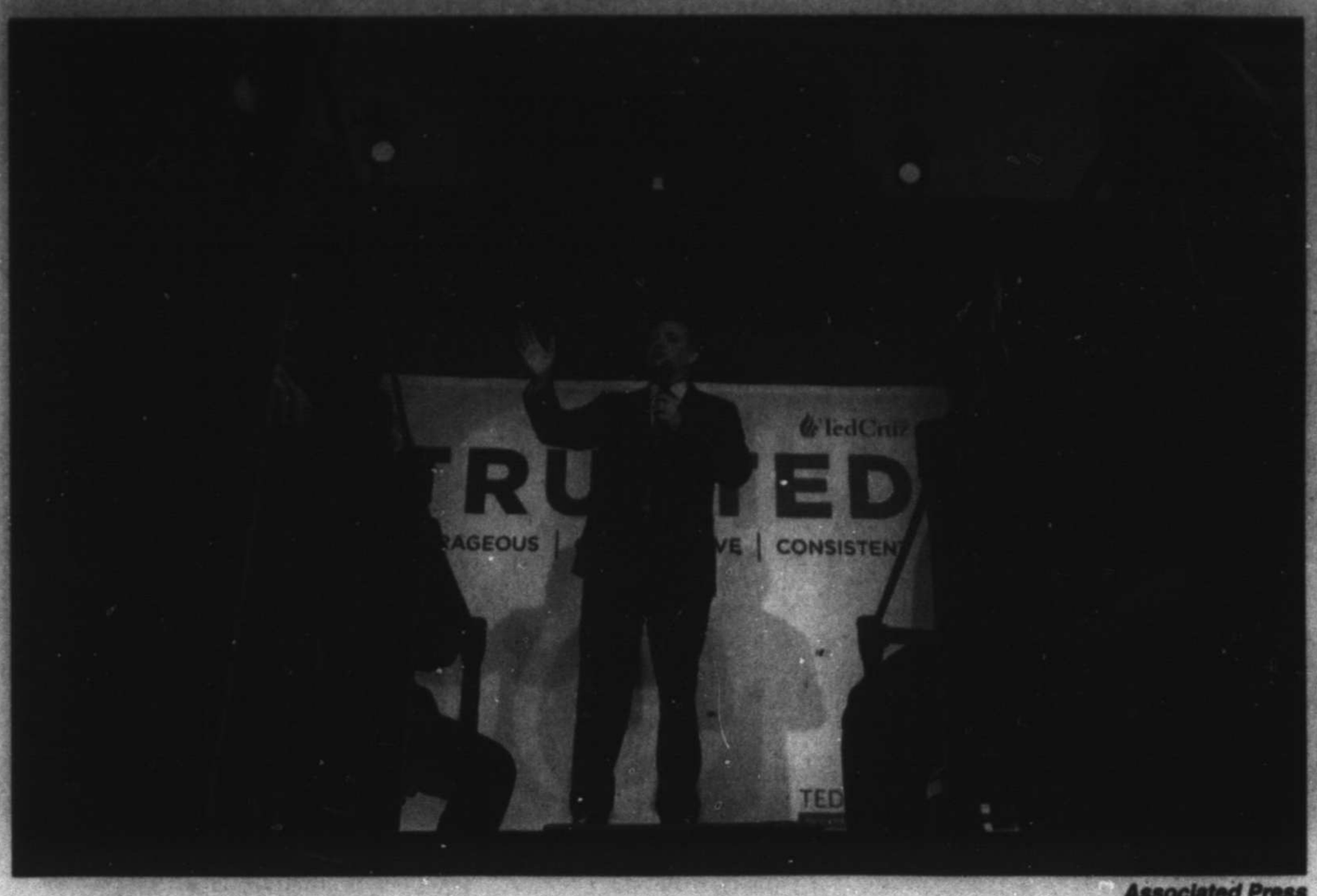
The tiny flame at the end of this darkening tunnel is a contested convention, which depends on Ted Cruz and John Kasich starving Trump of the necessary 1,237 delegates needed to secure the nomination. It could happen, according to Princeton University's Sam Wang, a statistical prognosticator and game theorist with a golden record. Basically, if Kasich campaigns only in proportional delegate states, leaving winner-take-all states to Cruz, Trump's chances of becoming the nominee are reduced from 90 percent to 50 percent, says Wang.

It's a big gamble, but it beats losing your soul.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Associated Press

Republican presidential candidate Sen. Ted Cruz speaks at the Women's National Republican Club in New York on Wednesday.

Cruz emboldened, but needs a near miracle to catch Trump

By Scott Bauer and Steve Peoples
Associated Press

WAUWATOSA, Wis. — While Ted Cruz decried "gutter politics" against him, former Republican presidential contenders gave him a boost Wednesday, casting the Texas senator as the party's last best chance to stop Donald Trump. The long and bitter 2016 campaign shifted to a new Midwestern battleground.

Ahead of Wisconsin's April 5 primary, Gov. Scott Walker, who dropped out of the race last fall, declared that only Cruz can catch Trump as time runs short in the primary season. And former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush gave Cruz his endorsement — a step perhaps designed to hurt Trump more than help the unpopular Texas senator.

"For the sake of our party and country, we must move to overcome the divisiveness and vulgarity Donald Trump has brought into the political arena," said Bush, who was knocked out of the 2016 contest last month. "To win, Republicans need to make this election about proposing solutions to the many challenges we face, and I believe that we should vote for Ted as he will do just that."

Indeed, as Democrat Hillary Clinton addressed rising national security concerns, the Republican contest was hit again by personal insults — this time involving the candidates' families. Cruz slammed Trump during an appearance in the front-runner's hometown for making a vague threat on Twitter the night before to "spill the beans" on Cruz's wife.

"Gutter politics," Cruz said. Trump's warning that he would disclose something about Heidi Cruz came in response to an ad by an outside political group that featured a provocative photo of Trump's wife, Melania, when she was a model and before they were married. Trump misidentified the Cruz campaign as the source of the ad.

Heidi Cruz addressed the situation directly during an appearance outside Milwaukee. "The things that Donald Trump says are not based in reality," she said.

The Republican infighting came the day after Cruz scored a win in Utah and Trump claimed Arizona. Despite modest signs of strength, the first-term Texas senator needs a near miracle to catch the billionaire businessman.

The day-after delegate math laid bare the challenge: Cruz needs to win 83 percent of the remaining delegates to overtake the front-runner. And further complicating Cruz's path, Ohio Gov. John Kasich vowed to stay in the race at least until the next primary.

"There is zero chance that we would drop out before Wisconsin. And there'd be no reason for us to," Kasich told reporters as he campaigned in the state, acknowledging his only hope to secure the nomination lies at a contested convention this summer in Cleveland.

Kasich did not earn a single delegate in Tuesday's contests, but suggested he would do "fine" in Wisconsin's upcoming primary and would excel in late-April elections across the East.

A frustrated Cruz charged Kasich with playing "spoiler" by taking votes that could have gone to him. And in an interview, Cruz suggested that the Ohio governor's political future could benefit from a speedy exit: "I think he'd be a tremendous addition to an administration," Cruz said on CNN's "New Day."

Things were decidedly less contentious on the Democratic side.

Clinton won in Arizona on Tuesday, maintaining a lopsided advantage over Bernie Sanders in the Democratic race despite his wins in Utah and Idaho on the same night. The former secretary of state is now almost three-quarters of the way to the Democratic nomination.

As the world grapples with a new wave of overseas violence, Clinton engaged Trump on national security with a California speech painting him as a misfit as potential commander in chief and laying out what she'd do to keep America safe in perilous times.

"Slogans aren't a strategy. Loose cannons tend to misfire. What America needs is strong, smart, steady leadership," she said.

Trump's win in Arizona gave him a little less than half the Republican delegates allocated so far. He needs to win 54 percent of those remaining to claim his party's nomination before the July convention.

Candidates signaled they would spend a lot of time in Wisconsin over the next 12 days.

"It's pivotal for all three candidates," said Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus, the former state chairman of the Wisconsin GOP. The state's voters, he said, "are going to find themselves at the center of the political universe."

Walker, whose run for president ended in September after a 90-day campaign, has yet to endorse anyone in the race. But he made his analysis clear.

"Senator Cruz is the only one who's got a chance, other than Donald Trump, to win the nomination. My friend Governor Kasich cannot," Walker said in an interview with WTMJ-AM broadcast on Wednesday.

Cruz also won the first-ever presidential endorsement of the political arm of the conservative Club for Growth, a group that engaged the billionaire in a war of words earlier in the year.

"Their records make clear that Ted Cruz is a consistent conservative who will fight to shrink the federal footprint, while Donald Trump would seek to remake government in his desired image," said Club President David McIntosh.

Justices divided over new challenge to health care law

By Mark Sherman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a new challenge to President Barack Obama's health care law, the Supreme Court appeared deeply and evenly divided Wednesday over the arrangement devised by the administration to spare faith-based groups from having to pay for birth control for women covered under their health plans.

Ninety minutes of crisp arguments and frequent interruptions by the justices indicated that the court seemed headed for a 4-4 tie that would leave the issue unresolved nationally. Or the court could hold a new round of arguments once a ninth justice is confirmed to take the place of Justice Antonin Scalia, who died last month.

The case could factor into the fight over Obama's Supreme Court nomination of Judge Merrick Garland. And in its volatile mix of religious liberty and birth control, it also could play a role in the presidential campaign.

If the justices are as firmly split between liberals and conservatives as they signaled Wednesday, the court could say so as early as next week, or wait until the end of June.

Wednesday was the sixth anniversary of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul; the case in front of the justices is the law's fourth Supreme Court appearance in five years.

Nationwide, eight appeals courts, including four with decisions being challenged in the current case, have sided with the administration, and one has ruled for the groups. A 4-4 outcome would leave different rules in place in different parts of the country.

In 2014, the justices divided 5-4 with Scalia in the majority to allow some "closely held" businesses with religious objections to refuse to pay for contraceptives for women. That case involved the Hobby Lobby chain of craft stores and other companies that said their rights were being violated under the 1993 Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Catholic and Protestant colleges, charities and advocacy groups are invoking the same law in asking that the government find a way that does not involve them or their insurers if it wishes to provide birth control to women covered by their health plans.

Among the challengers are Bishop David Zubik, head of the Catholic Diocese in Pittsburgh; the Little Sisters of the Poor, nuns who run more than two dozen nursing homes for impoverished seniors; evangelical and Catholic colleges in Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington, D.C., and the anti-abortion advocacy group Priests for Life.

Chief Justice John Roberts, who has twice written opinions upholding the law against broad challenges, and Justice Samuel Alito repeatedly challenged Solicitor General Donald Verrilli Jr. on his argument that the policy strikes a balance between religious freedom and access to birth control.

The groups have "used the phrase 'hijacking,' and it seems to me that that's an accurate description of what the government wants to do," Roberts said.

Alito, who would have struck down the entire law, suggested women affected in this case could get contraceptive coverage on the health care exchanges set up by the law. When Verrilli objected, Alito said, "Is it because these exchanges are so unworkable, even with the help of a navigator?"

Justice Anthony Kennedy, whose vote could give the administration a majority, also sounded sympathetic to the faith-based groups when he said that "religious organization plans here are, in effect, subsidizing the conduct that they deemed immoral."

Only Justice Clarence Thomas asked no questions, but he has repeatedly sided with the health law's challengers.

The four liberal justices seemed just as firmly in the administration's corner.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor said the administration's arrangement takes into account women who are covered by the affected plans and "have a real need for contraceptives."

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American Muslims defy Sen. Ted Cruz's call for surveillance

By Gillian Flaccus and Jeff Karoub
Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — A few miles from Disneyland is a place most California tourists never see. The signs along the thoroughfare suddenly switch to Arabic script advertising hookah shops, Middle Eastern sweets, halal meat and travel services.

At a run-down strip mall in the neighborhood known as Little Arabia, flags from a half-dozen Muslim countries flap in a stiff breeze. Flying above them is a giant American flag.

After Sen. Ted Cruz called for increased surveillance of Muslims in the U.S., many people in this community and others like it either challenged the Republican presidential candidate or dismissed his comments as mostly meaningless rhetoric.

Majd Takriti, 43, stopped to discuss Cruz's remarks as he picked his mother up from a butcher shop. He said he took Cruz and rival Donald Trump with a grain of salt.

"A lot of what they say is to attract attention," he said.

A block down the street, Jordanian native and 44-year U.S. resident Wathiq Bilbeisi slurped on lentil soup during his break at a Jordanian restaurant. He seemed mystified by the concern among some non-Muslim Americans about the candidates' comments.

"The politicians, they want to say whatever the constituents want to hear. I don't think they mean what they say, and in the end, they'll have to come to terms with themselves," he said.

Bilbeisi wasn't worried about the GOP seeking major changes to U.S. law.

"When they go to Congress to get laws to watch the Muslims, nobody's going to do anything about it," he said. "It's against American values."

At a nearby hookah shop displaying pipes in a rainbow of colors, employee Guss Zayat said Cruz has a fundamental misunderstanding of Islam.

Zayat, who came to America from Beirut about three years ago, questioned whether IS members were true Muslims.

"They are killing more Muslims than anyone else in this world. They are killing children. They are killing Christians and Muslims in our home countries," he said. Politicians "should know the difference between ISIS and Islam."

Cruz's statement on Tuesday came hours after the deadly attacks at the Brussels airport and a subway station that killed dozens of people and wounded many more. The Islamic State militant group claimed responsibility.

He said law enforcement should be empowered to "patrol and secure Muslim neighborhoods before they become radicalized." Echoing earlier statements from Trump, Cruz also said the U.S. should stop the flow of refugees from countries where the Islamic State has a significant presence.

Muslims groups including the Council on American-Islamic Relations and the Anti-Defamation League condemned Cruz's statements. Many complained that the Islamic extremist attacks in Paris and San Bernardino, and the intensifying rhetoric of the presidential campaign, have bred animosity toward American Muslims.

In Washington, Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates was asked Wednesday at a news conference about calls to step up patrols of Muslim communities. She said the Muslim community "is one of our greatest partners in our fight against terrorism and public safety generally."

Ahmad Tarek Rashid Alam, publisher of the weekly Arabic-language Arab World newspaper and one of the immigrants who helped build Little Arabia, said anti-Muslim statements are "nothing new."

"This has been going on in every Islamic neighborhood for years," he said. "But now our kids are in the police, in the Army. Are they going to watch us?"

He said Cruz's remarks seemed aimed at exploiting prejudice to get votes.

"The way he talks, it could work maybe 40 years ago. But now, it's too late. Islam is part of the country. ... We are already in the country, we're part of the country whether he likes it or not."

Sam Chashku, a Syrian immigrant who arrived in 1996 and married an American-born Christian woman, said Cruz's comments simply made him sad.

"We love this country. We came from nothing. They gave us everything. It's crazy. This country is built on immigrants."

Sometimes, he said, he doesn't want to tell anyone that he's Muslim because "people get offended, and I'm scared of hate crimes."

Trump, who has proposed a temporary ban on foreign Muslims entering the U.S., praised Cruz's plan as a "good idea" that he supports "100 percent" in an interview with CNN.

Speaking Tuesday in New York, Cruz praised the city's former program of conducting surveillance in Muslim neighborhoods.

After the 9/11 attacks, the New York Police Department used its intelligence division to cultivate informants in Muslim communities. In a series of articles, The Associated Press revealed that authorities had infiltrated dozens of mosques and Muslim student groups and investigated hundreds of them.

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WEEKENDER

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PERMIAN BASIN

BEST BETS

TODAY

BLUES CLUES Wondering who's bringing the blues to Midland? The Tall City Blues Fest organizers will host their Line-Up Release Party at the Yucca announcing this year's players for the July music festival. 6 p.m.

FRIDAY

AGE OF POP Waco-based band The Digital Age will bring their alt-pop Christian music to First United Methodist Church for a special Good Friday concert. 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

LAST CALL FOR BUNNY TIME Children (and adults) can get those last minute photos with the Easter Bunny at Midland Park Mall's Bunny Photo Experience before those egg hunts and candy splurges get underway. 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

See complete schedule of weekend events on Page 2.

MOVIES

Films opening and closing this week at Midland theaters:

TALL CITY 14
Opening: "Batman V. Superman: Dawn of Justice," "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2"

CINERGY CINEMAS
Opening: "Batman V. Superman: Dawn of Justice," "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2"
Closing: "The Brothers Grimsby," "Gods of Egypt," "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot," "Young Messiah."

BIG SKY DRIVE-IN
Opening: "Batman V. Superman: Dawn of Justice"
Closing: "London Has Fallen"

STAYING IN? Find out which movies are worth watching from the comfort of your couch. Page 4

COMING SOON

Native Texan and Grammy-winning singer Lasin Rimes shows off her dynamic voice at the Wagner Noel on April 7.

Worlds collide in 'Batman v Superman'

JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

Zack Snyder's thundering and grim "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" offers the kind of blunt, mano-a-mano faceoff usually reserved for Predators, Godzillas and presidential candidates.

And just as has often been said of this election year, "Batman v Superman" takes a once almost charming tradition and plunges it into the gutter. Long gone are the telephone booths, corn fields or any other such tokens of innocence. And given the prevailing climate, Snyder may have judged the rock'em-sock'em moment wisely. Gentlemen, keep your fists up and your capes neatly tucked.

"Batman v Superman," as heavy and humorless as a Supreme Court decision, is an 18-wheeler of a movie lumbering through a fallen world. It hurtles not with the kinetic momentum of "Mad Max: Fury Road" nor the comparatively spry skip of a Marvel movie, but with an operatic grandeur it sometimes earns and often doesn't.

This is "Paradise Lost" for superheroes. It twists and grinds two of the most classic comic heroes, wringing new, less altruistic emotions out of them until their dashing smiles turn to angry grimaces.

After a handsome, impressionistic montage of Batman's iconic childhood, the film picks up where Snyder's Superman reboot "Man of Steel" left off but from a different perspective. Bruce Wayne (Ben Affleck) is driving through the falling debris of Metropolis while Superman (Henry Cavill) careens carelessly above.

Snyder has channeled the backlash over the high death-toll finale into Wayne, who bitterly watches Superman from the dust-filled air on the ground — a cheap evocation of Sept. 11 designed to add solemnity where there isn't any.

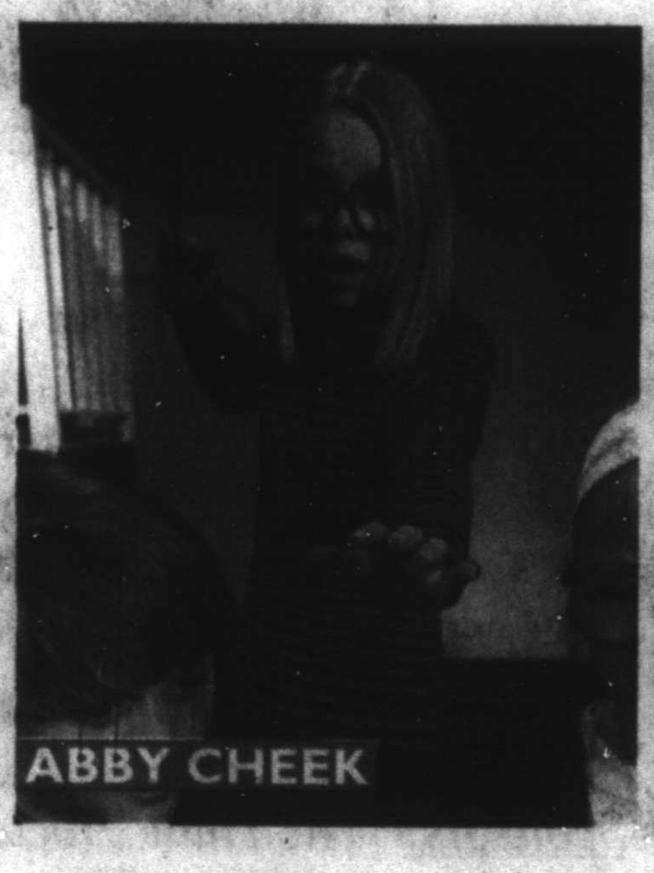
Months later, the two are still distrustfully circling each other. Snyder, working from a script by Chris Terrio ("Argo") and David Goyer ("Man of Steel"), delves into their opposite natures: one a godlike power from another planet who favors primary colors, the other a well-equipped human prone to a darker palette.

At a party thrown by Lex Luthor (the badly miscast Jesse Eisenberg), the billionaire-inventor who's secretly weaponizing Kryptonite, their two alter-egos are surprisingly passive aggressive. Kent, the reporter, queries Wayne about "the bat vigilante problem," while Wayne, citing the laudatory coverage of Superman in the Daily Planet, voices his distaste for "freaks who dress like clowns."

Both are combating a new environment for superheroes best articulated by none other than astrophysicist Neil DeGrasse Tyson, who, on TV, describes supermen as altering man's assumed supremacy in the universe like Copernicus' discoveries did. "We're criminals, Alfred," Batman, fresh from torturing a foe, tells his butler (Jeremy Irons, adding an icy flare to the character). "We've always been criminals."

Luthor's plot gradually brings the heroes into the same orbit, along with Wonder Woman (Gal Gadot). But it's the genuine rigor of Snyder's engagement with the psychology of Superman and Batman that keeps the film grounded and the rivalry plausible. See-

Please see **REVIEW**/Page 3



ABBY CHEEK

SARAH FRIDAY

Photos by James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

It's Harriet times 2 in new Pickwick Players production

By Rich Lopez
Jrlopez@mrt.com

There's no need to question any double takes in Pickwick Players' new production "Harriet the Spy." Sarah Friday and Abby Cheek both play the title character. And although both have theater experience, this is the first major lead for the actors as young adults. They'll bring the title character to life on Friday at Midland Community Theatre.

Friday, 16, and Cheek, 13, compare notes, but assure that each brings their own take to Harriet.

"She's such a fun character with a huge range of emotions," said Friday, a junior at Trinity School. "She's easy to tap in to because I've had some similar experiences like she has."

Friday talks about Harriet with bubbly enthusiasm, whereas Cheek is more reserved. With two such different dynamics, there likely is the expectation that the portrayals of Harriet will be different. Friday said she could easily connect with Harriet, but Cheek discovered she had some work to do.

Please see **HARRIET**/Page 3

IF YOU GO

"Harriet the Spy" by the Pickwick Players. The Players bring Louise Fitzhugh's literary classic to life. Opens Friday and runs through April 3 at Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. mct-midland.org.

Hip-hop up-and-comers to drop beats in Midland

By Trent Johnson
tsjohnson@mrt.com

Let's be honest. Hip-hop fans may have to wait a long while if the Permian Basin hosted a top billing headliner on the level of Drake, Kendrick Lamar or Kanye West. But this doesn't mean the area is a wasteland to the genre. To the contrary, Midland has celebrated numerous of rap shows with the likes of 2 Chainz and Bone Thugs-n-Harmony both in 2014 and Snoop Dogg in 2012. But those were established acts. This weekend Midlanders will have the chance to witness rising talent when K Camp headlines Hacienda Event Center on Saturday.

Born in Milwaukee, the 25-year old artist grew up in Atlanta, following the footsteps of other stalwarts honing their craft in the Georgia capitol like Killer Mike, T.I. and 2 Chainz.

With a melodic style, Camp rose to prominence last year with his 2015 release "Only Way Is Up." The release caught the attention of Rolling Stone and XXL which labeled him an artist on the rise worth noticing. Most of the tracks contain Camp and other musicians singing choruses pieced together by a tempered flow that doesn't overwhelm or bore.

The LP features a narrative revolving around Camp growing up in Atlanta, laced with his experiences of love and family

Please see **HIP-HOP**/Page 3

CALENDAR

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

ART & DANCE

"Texas Native Wildflowers Exhibition" at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. On display through Saturday. sibleynaturecenter.org.

The works of Allison Easlon Moyers on view throughout March. 6 p.m. Friday. Kamiposi, 510 S. Big Spring St. Free. All ages. facebook.com/kamiposi.

"FABRICation" features works by seven artists who incorporate a textile sensibility in their art through fabric. Through April 8. McCormick Gallery at Midland College. midland.edu.

58th annual Odessa Art Association Juried Art Exhibition. The art will be on display through April 2 at Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa. noelartmuseum.org.

2016 Student Art Exhibition: Storytellers. The annual art show features works by area students representing elementary through high school in a variety of media. Through April 10. Durham Children's Museum, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

"Otra Vez" featuring works by Wayne Hilton. Using recycled materials, Hilton focuses his works on Mexican arts and culture. The works were commissioned specifically for the Centennial branch's public gallery space. The art will display through April 30 with a series of programming. MCPL Centennial, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. co.midland.tx.us.

"Dust and Depression" will feature historic photographic works of the country after the Stock Market Crash of 1929. The exhibition includes works by John Collier Jr., Walker Evans, Dorothea Lange and more. Opens today and runs through June 6. Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa. noelartmuseum.org.

The Gallery at Midland Shared Spaces Spring Art Show will feature new art by local artists through June 16. today at MSS, 3500 N. A St. midlandsharedspaces.org.

CLASSES AND MEETINGS

Adult Class: Spanish Tapas. Wine and beers are welcome with a $10 corking fee. 7 p.m. today at Hight Foods, 3320 N. Midkiff Drive. $60. Hightfoods.com.

Gem and Mineral Society Meeting, 7 p.m. today at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. sibleynaturecenter.org.

EVENTS

Tall City Blues Fest Line-Up Release Party. The Festival Founders Group will announce the musicians who will play this year's festival in July. 6 p.m. Saturday at The Yucca Theatre, 208 N. Colorado Ave. $20-$25. Tallcitybluesfest.com.

FAMILY FUN

Bunny Photo Experience at Midland Park Mall. Children and families can have their photo taken with the Easter Bunny before Easter. Through Saturday. 4511 N. Midkiff Road. Simon.com.

Midland Downtown Farmers Market, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W Missouri Ave. midlanddowntownfarmersmarket.com.

Old Miner's Maze interactive adventure features a maze, rock walls, mechanical bull and more. Winter hours: Fridays 5-8 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday noon to 6 p.m. 4305 N. County Rd. 1140. oldminersmaze.com.

GAMES, SPORTS & FITNESS

Bingo Nights. The American Legion Auxiliary hosts weekly play throughout the week. 7 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 4 p.m. Sundays. 501 Veterans Airpark Lane. 432-682-5511.

Zia Park Casino Hotel and Racetrack bus trips by Midland Shuttle Services . Departs at 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays to Hobbs, New Mexico. $55 adults, $45 65 and older. RSVP by calling 260-5428. midlandshuttleservices.com.

Friday Night Magic at Hastings, 3111 W. Cuthbert Ave. Fridays at 7 p.m. Free.

Hold 'em poker tournaments, 7 p.m. Friday at The Detour.

Senior bingo, 10 a.m. Fridays at Cimarron House.

Free skateboarding lessons, noon-1:30 p.m. Saturdays at RTD Skatepark. rtdskatepark.com.

Tabletop players group at Astral Castle, 10 Meta Drive. 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

Family Nite roller skating, Sundays from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at KC's Nutty Roller, 1004 A Andrews Highway. kcsnuttyroller.com.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Basin Burger House.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 8 p.m. Wednesdays at Torino's. challengeentertainment.com.

MUSIC

The Digital Age Good Friday concert, 7 p.m. Friday at First United Methodist Church, 300 N. Main St. firstmethodistmidland.com.

Zero Motive, 8 p.m. Friday at Hot Shots, 615 W. Wall St.

Dan Johnson and the Salt Cedar Rebels, Callahan Divide, 10 p.m. Friday at Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St. $5. thelonestarbar.com.

Gary Nix, 9 p.m. Friday at Detour Bar, 1708 Rankin Highway.

Dolly Shine, 9 p.m. Friday at Fire Water Bar and Grill, 3113 W. Industrial Ave.

Justin Langston, 10 p.m. Friday at The Boardroom, 3303 N. Midkiff Road.

Chrome Molly on Friday and Saturday at Your Place, 3704 W. Wall St.

Geoffrey Andrews, 7 p.m. Saturday at Golf Course Road Church of Christ. gcrcc.org.

Blue Water Highway Band, 8 p.m. Saturday at Fire Water Bar and Grill, 3113 W. Industrial Ave.

Reed Brothers, 8 p.m. Saturday at Dos Amigos, 4700 N. Golder Ave., Odessa.dosamigoscantina.com.

K Camp, Tory Lanez, 9 p.m. Saturday at Hacienda Event Center, 12600 State Highway 191. $40. Haciendamidland.com.

Callahan Divide, Eddie and the EAT, Noel Olivas and The Benders, 10 p.m. Saturday at Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St. thelonestarbar.com.

THEATER, COMEDY & FILM

"Harriet the Spy" by the Pickwick Players. The Players bring Louise Fitzhugh's literary classic to life. Friday-April 3 at Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. mctmidland.org.

Comedy Battle Roast pits local comedians trading insults and jokes. 8 p.m. Friday at Kamiposi, 510 S. Big Spring St. $5. facebook.com/kamiposi.

COMING SOON

MARCH

Kid's Class: Donuts. Children will learn kitchen skills while making this sweet treat. Parents can enjoy complimentary menu items while children are in class. Reservations required as class space is limited. 4:30 p.m. March 28 at Hight Foods, 3320 N. Midkiff Drive. $60 includes apron, materials and food. Hightfoods.com.

Kid's Class: BBQ. Children will learn kitchen skills while cooking tasty, healthy meals. Parents can enjoy complimentary menu items while children are in class. Reservations required as class space is limited. 4:30 p.m. March 29 at Hight Foods, 3320 N. Midkiff Drive. $60 includes apron, materials and food. Hightfoods.com.

Supper Event: French Cuisine. Explore the flavors and concepts Chef Chip found on his culinary trip to France. Wine and beers are welcome with a $10 corking fee. Reservations required. Menu: truffle soup, lobster salad, lamb chops with Robuchon mashed potatoes, chocolate fantasies and a cheese course. 7 p.m. March 31 at Hight Foods, 3320 N. Midkiff Drive. $100. Hightfoods.com.

Stomp, 7:30 p.m. March 31 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $40.50-$88. broadwayinthebasin.com.

APRIL

Wall St. Antiques Treasure Hunters Expo will feature vintage, pre-owned items including jewelry, collectibles, furniture and more from local dealers and retailers. 5 p.m. April 1 preview night, 9 a.m. April 2 Horseshoe Pavilion, 2514 Arena Trail. $15 Friday. Wallstantiquesmidland.com.

First Friday: The Works of Fabian Molinar and Melody Hernandez. The opening reception will feature music, refreshments and the artists to discuss their works. 6 p.m. April 1 at Kamiposi, 510 S. Big Spring St. facebook.com/kamiposi.

SciFriday Film Series: "Mars Attacks." (PG-13) This year's theme is So Bad, They're Good. Screenings include snack bar for all ages, beer and wine for adults and general seating. Seats are first come first served. Parents should note film ratings. Doors at 7 p.m. April 1 at Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

Tejano Vibes with Elida Reina, Ruben Ramos, Gary Hobbs, Ram Herrera. April 1 at Hacienda Event Center, 12600 SH 191. $25. haciendamidland.com.

Pat Green, April 1 at Dos Amigos, 4700 N. Golder Ave., Odessa. Tickets on sale March 15. dosamigoscantina.com.

The Browders, 7 p.m. April 1 at Calvary Assembly, 508 S. Johnson Drive. thebrowders.com.

Live at the Wine Rack 3/26/2016, 6:30m-9:30pm

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FREE - Laura Bush Literacy Program reading event, Thurs. March 17th , from 4:30-5:30 PM in our Visitor Center for kids of all ages. We will read several books including "A Tale for Easter". Each child will get a free copy of the feature book and snacks.

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FREE Books for Kids
Bring your kids by our office any day we're open to pick out a free book from our Laura Bush Literacy Bookshelves. Limit one per day per child.

Explore the joy of reading!
Reading events on the 3rd Thursday each month

ON SCREEN & EVENTS

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

'HARRIET'

From Page 1

"I didn't feel myself quite 'there' with Harriet so there was a lot of development for me," Cheek said: "She has friends who are really close to her but at the same time I'm kind of a loner."

Those different demeanors lent to a different perception of Harriet. Friday saw her with a huge sense of adventure and a rambunctious attitude. Cheek wasn't as keen.

"Personally I think she's a little bit of a brat, but that's what makes her so fun to play. She does whatever she feels like. I definitely do not," she said with a shy giggle.

But those perspectives helped each teen find Harriet for themselves while discussing her motivation to spy on friends and write it down in her journal.

"We developed her individually but we would come together to talk about how she would feel in certain situations," Friday said. "It was very helpful."

In her first year of Pickwicks, Cheek, a seventh-grader at San Jacinto Junior High School, said having a counterpart was somewhat of a relief.

"Having her there is like a safety net. We have each other to double check things and we both get to watch and see how someone else does Harriet," she said.

Double casting isn't out of the ordinary, but Pickwicks director Bill Williams saw this particular play as an opportunity and even a showcase.

"It was nice to give the role to an older and a younger Pickwick," he said. " It also exemplifies the program that you get to see the present and future taking on the same challenges. Sarah has been a great role model for Abby and a wonderful guide during this process.

"The best part of Pickwicks is seeing older group members mentoring the younger ones of the group," he said.

'THE DIVERGENT SERIES: ALLEGIANT'

'Zootopia' pens up 'Divergent: Allegiant' to keep No. 1 spot in weekend box office

By Scott Collins
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — The future might be tough, but "The Divergent Series: Allegiant" has learned that cartoons can be tougher.

Lionsgate's dystopian sci-fi thriller aimed for a huge debut, but it ran into Disney's "Zootopia," the 3-D animated comedy still breaking records entering its third week of release.

"Divergent: Allegiant" — the third in the series based on the novels by Veronica Roth — grossed an estimated $29 million domestically over the weekend. Starring Shailene Woodley and Theo James, "Allegiant" suffered the lowest opening in the "Divergent" series.

"Allegiant" had to settle for a distant second to "Zootopia," which added nearly $38 million over the weekend, helping it leap past $200 million in overall cumulative gross.

"Zootopia" is now on track to be Disney's highest-grossing non-Pixar animated feature. Internationally, it has grossed an additional $389 million, for a global haul of just under $600 million.

Meanwhile, Sony saw its prayers answered with "Miracles From Heaven," the faith-based Jennifer Garner vehicle about a mom who guides her daughter through a serious illness.

Sony said the movie came in above expectations, thanks to a marketing outreach to churches, some special early screenings, Easter season timing and possibly a Garner cover story in Vanity Fair, in which she discussed the breakup of her marriage to Ben Affleck.

"Miracles," which opened Wednesday, landed in the No. 3 spot with a gross of just under $19 million.

The fourth slot went to the Paramount thriller "10 Cloverfield Lane," the successor to "Cloverfield" from producer J.J. Abrams, which added $12.5 million over the weekend. "10 Cloverfield's" cumulative gross stands at $45.2 million. That counts as a major score for the studio, given that the reported production budget was a modest $5 million.

Landing at No. 5 was Fox's comic-book fantasy "Deadpool," which is still quite alive well into its second month of release.

Among specialty films, "The Bronze" stumbled in its premiere for Sony Pictures Classics. The offbeat comedy about competitive gymnasts starring "Big Bang Theory's" Melissa Rauch earned just $421,434 on 1,167 screens for a disappointing finish.

This week, the box office race will get an extra jolt with Warner Bros.' long-awaited "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice," with Affleck as Batman and Henry Cavill as Superman.

REVIEW

From Page 1

ing the two warp toward villainy may be a trick, like "Seinfeld's" Jerry and Kramer switching apartments, but "Batman v Superman" is serious about contemplating the curious positions these all-powerful beings occupy in a world that has grown to resent their might.

It's in some ways an ideal film for Snyder, an exceptionally un-subtle filmmaker with the sensibility of a car crash. But as the director of "300," he knows his way around a ramming collision. And unlike Marvel films, DC Comic adaptations have, for better (Christopher Nolan's "Dark Knight" trilogy) and worse ("Man of Steel"), been works of distinct directors.

Snyder's command is less sure when it comes to, well, normal life. "Batman v Superman" would rather spend its lengthy running time in the throes of myth than somewhere like the offices of the Daily Planet, where the eminently pert Amy Adams (Lois Lane) breezes in and out.

As for the much discussed casting of Affleck, Keaton and Bale have little to worry about. But Affleck is a worthy heir to the part, albeit with a chin that's a dead giveaway in the suit. If anything, there's only so much room for individual performance here; when armored, Affleck's already beefed-up Batman looks like a tank.

There's an elemental fun in positing the winners of superhero square offs. Is the Flash faster than Superman? Is Aquaman or Wonder Woman the better tipper?

Such debates are predicated on their inherent silliness, something the self-serious "Batman v Superman" ignores. Snyder's task is considerable in that he's marrying the realistic crime world of Batman and the more fantastical realm of Superman, plus providing the requisite cameos (including Jason Momoa's Aquaman and Ezra Miller's Flash) to tease movies to come.

But what's there to fight about anyway? The most important battle was already decided: Batman, long our favorite, already has top billing.

"Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice," a Warner Bros. release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for "intense sequences of violence and action throughout, and some sensuality." Running time: 151 minutes. Two and a half stars out of four.

HIP-HOP

From Page 1

then flips to the hardships of his naysayers and his brushes with violence. The tough talk serves as a dichotomy to his delivery and approac. His words carry tremendous weight in constructing the man behind the artist.

"With my album you are going to get a mixture of everything," K Camp told The Boombox in 2015. "You know, with my last projects, you get all that. You get the R&B, you get me rapping. So it's really just a growth on 'Only Way.'"

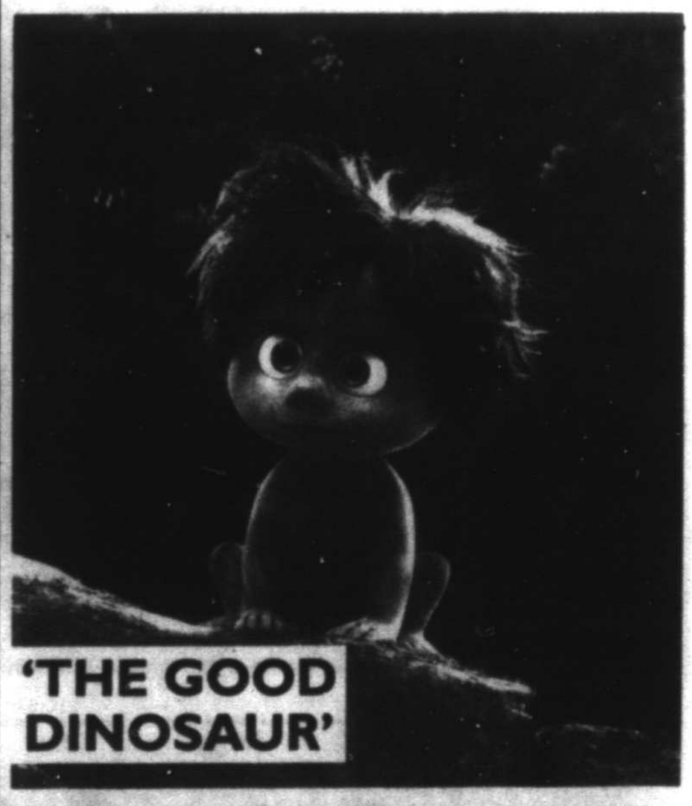
Before K Camp takes the stage, opener Tory Lanez looks to serenade the crowd with his soothing, sensual style of modern soul.

Combining a raw attitude with soft delivery, Lanez doesn't pull punches singing with his brazenly explicit take on love and sex.

Hip-hop fans would find Saturday's concert imperative to catch. With solid tracks and charisma to boot, these two are likely not far from the likes of the Drakes, Lamars and Wests. Which means they'll be heading to those bigger arenas in bigger venues. But at least you'll have the satisfaction of boasting that you saw them "before they were big."

Want to go?

9 p.m. Saturday at the Hacienda Center, 12610 Texas 191 Frontage Rd. $50. haciendamidland.com.



'THE GOOD DINOSAUR'

TOP NETFLIX RENTALS

The Top 10 DVD rentals at Redbox kiosks for the week of March 14:

1. The Big Short — Paramount
2. Spectre — Fox
3. The Night Before — Sony
4. Black Mass — Warner
5. The Good Dinosaur — Disney
6. The Intern — Warner
7. The Martian — Fox
8. The 33 — Warner
9. Steve Jobs — Universal
10. Room — Lionsgate

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ON SCREEN

Reeled & Stream

By Nancy Adamson | nadamson@mrt.com

'The Big Short' takes somber look at Great Recession

PICK O' THE WEEK

"The Big Short" (R) Look beyond the financial jargon — which is wildly confusing despite the funny breaks with Richard Thaler, Selena Gomez and Anthony Bourdain explaining some of the concepts — to see a scathing editorial on the people who saw it coming yet thought of little more than making a profit off the country's woes. **A**

ICK! O' THE WEEK

"God's Club" (unrated) It's nice to see Stephen Baldwin is steering his career to reflect his faith. Unfortunately, his new offerings are just as awful as any of the trash, such as "Bio-Dome." **F**

MORE REVIEWS

"Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip" (PG) Although it gets off to a great start, the story loses its luster after the first act. **C+**

"Break Point" (R) Indie comedy is better than expected, thanks to a funny script and thoughtful performances. **B**

"Brooklyn" (PG-13) Thanks to Nick Hornby's script adaptation of Colm Tóibín's novel, this sweeping story of immigration and love is complemented by the touching performances. **A-**

"Forsaken" (R) Traditional western uses just about every cliche in the genre yet maintains an impressive originality. **B-**

"The Hatching" (R) Silly horror fare about giant crocodiles doesn't have near the scares, or humor, of last year's "Lake Placid vs. Anaconda." **C**

"The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2" (PG-13) Easily the best of the series since the first. The film's biggest flaw is the noticeably missing Philip Seymour Hoffman — who died during production — in pivotal scenes his character would clearly have been a part of **A-**

"K-9 Adventures: Legend of the Lost Gold" (unrated) With the noted exception of the awesome German shepherd in the title role, this family film is little more than a poor man's version of "The Goonies." **B-**

"The Sand" (unrated) Low-budget thriller has some legitimate scares, thanks to filmmakers who cared about their craft. **B-**

"Sisters" (R) The story is atrocious but there are several one-liners that hit the mark, almost redeeming the film. Almost. **C**

"They Found Hell" (unrated) The title says it all. The film's portrayal of the fiery pit is as scary as anything Dante ever imagined. **B**

FILM CAPS

"Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" (PG-13) Ben Affleck dons the cowl to take on Henry Cavill's Man of Steel in the duo's first big-screen pairing. With Amy Adams, Jesse Eisenberg. Written by Chris Terrio and David S. Goyer. Directed by Zack Snyder.

"The Brothers Grimsby" (R) Sacha Baron Cohen plays a football hooligan in Northern England who sets out to find his sibling — they were adopted by different families — unaware he is now an MI6 agent. With Mark Strong, Isla Fisher. Directed by Louis Leterrier.

"The Bronze" (R) Melissa Rauch co-wrote the screenplay and stars as a washed-up gymnast living off her laurels who is forced to coach a new local prodigy. With Rauch, Gary Cole, Haley Lu Richardson. Written by Melissa Rauch and Winston Rauch. Directed by Bryan Buckley.

"Deadpool" (R) Ryan Reynolds stars as the former Special Forces operative-turned unconventional antihero in the Marvel Comics adaptation. With Ryan Reynolds, Morena Baccarin, Ed Skrein. Written by Rhett Reese & Paul Wernick. Directed by Tim Miller.

"Gods of Egypt" (PG-13) To save his true love, mortal hero Bek teams with god Horus to battle Set, the god of darkness, who illegitimately occupies the throne of Egypt. With Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, Brenton Thwaites, Chadwick Boseman. Written by Matt Sazama & Burk Sharpless. Directed by Alex Proyas.

"London Has Fallen" (R) The funeral of the British prime minister is the target of terrorists in this sequel to the 2013 hit "Olympus Has Fallen." With Gerard Butler, Aaron Eckhart, Morgan Freeman. Written by Creighton Rothenberger & Katrin Benedikt and Christian Gudegast and Chad St. John. Directed by Babak Najafi.

"Miracles From Heaven" (PG) After an accident, a young girl with an incurable disease experiences a reversal unexplainable by medical experts. With Jennifer Garner, Martin Henderson, John Carroll Lynch. Written by Randy Brown. Directed by Patricia Riggen.

"My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2" (PG) Nia Vardalos returns in this follow-up to the highest-grossing romantic comedy of all time. With John Corbett, Lainie Kazan, Gia Carides. Written by Vardalos. Directed by Kirk Jones.

"The Perfect Match" (R) A smooth operator bets his therapist sister's friends that he can remain in a relationship for a month without falling in love. With Terrence J., Cassie Ventura, Paula Patton, Donald Faison, Joe Pantoliano and Brandy Norwood. Directed by Bille Woodruff.

"10 Cloverfield Lane" (R) A woman wakes up to find herself imprisoned in a cellar, unsure whether to believe her captor who claims the outside world has been rendered uninhabitable. With John Goodman, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, John Gallagher Jr. Directed by Dan Trachtenberg.

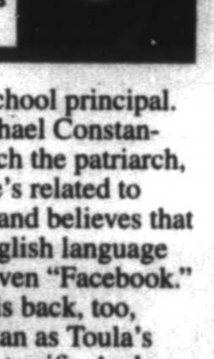
"Whiskey Tango Foxtrot" (R) Tina Fey stars as an American journalist who discovers the absurdity and adrenaline rush of serving in the war zones of Afghanistan and Pakistan. With Tina Fey, Margot Robbie, Martin Freeman. Written by Robert Carlock, based on the memoir "The Taliban Shuffle: Strange Days in Afghanistan and Pakistan" by Kim Barker. Directed by Glenn Ficarra & John Requa.

"The Young Messiah" (PG-13) The 7-year-old Jesus Christ and family discover the nature of his divine being. With Adam Greaves-Neal, Clive Russell, Vincent Walsh. Written by Betsy Giffen Nowrasteh & Cyrus Nowrasteh. Directed by Cyrus Nowrasteh.

"Zootopia" (PG) Rookie cop Judy Hopps — a bunny — teams with slick con-artist fox Nick Wilde to solve a mystery in Disney's 55th animated feature. Voices by Ginnifer Goodwin, Jason Bateman, Shakira. Directed by Byron Howard, Rich Moore, co-directed by Jared Bush.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

'Big Fat Greek Wedding 2' is a big fat letdown



JOCELYN NOVECK
Associated Press

Ever been to a wedding where you don't know anyone very well? It's pretty deadly, no matter how good the food or the band might be. Everyone's laughing really hard at jokes you don't find funny, or even understand.

On the other hand, if you know and love everyone, you'll have fun even if the champagne is flat and the canapes soggy.

And that, dear moviegoer, is about as deep as we need to go in analyzing "My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2," an overstuffed, under-achieving sequel that took more than a decade to come to the screen. If you've been dying for a reunion with those aggressively lovable folks known as the Portokalos family, maybe you'll be happy. But if you didn't miss them that much or, maybe didn't even know them in the first place, stay away from this wedding. Send a gift and call it a day.

The fact that the film took 14 years to arrive — Nia Vardalos is again the star and writer — is both a blessing and a curse. It may have stoked huge interest — the original was a ginormous sleeper hit — but it also implies that we're about to see something worth the wait. Instead, the script is a tired pastiche of what seem like the same gags we heard the first time. Greek families are big and affectionate! Greek families get involved in each other's business! Greek families smother you with love! And so on.

We begin in snowy Chicago, where Toula (Vardalos) is still married to her Waspy hunk of a husband, Ian (John Corbett, amiable but peripheral), now the high school principal. Her father, Gus (Michael Constantine), is still very much the patriarch, a man who swears he's related to Alexander the Great and believes that every word in the English language comes from Greek, even "Facebook." The rest of the gang is back, too, including Lainie Kazan as Toula's mom, Maria, and the terrific Andrea Martin as Aunt Voula, who still likes to talk raunchy.

But 14 years HAVE passed; Toula and Ian are now parents of a high school senior, pretty Paris (Elena Kampouris), who's aching to spread her wings. Paris rolls her mascara-heavy eyes when her grandfather, on the way to school, instructs her to quickly find a Greek boy and marry him.

Such grandfatherly advice is par for the course, but poor Paris really suffers when this theme is stretched to ridiculous proportions as the entire clan — cousins, aunts, uncles — shows up at the school's college fair, where they virtually accost the representative from Northwestern and threaten him with punishment should Paris not be admitted. Oh, families. So silly.

This is a recurring problem with the film, directed by Kirk Jones; what seemed quirky and funny in the original is exaggerated to un-funny extent here. It's as if Vardalos was trying to take things to a darker, more interesting place, but at every such turn, got scared and went for slapstick humor instead.

And so we have an extended scene in which Gus gets stuck, naked, in his bathtub, and the entire family comes to extract him. But they have to cover his private parts with a towel! And that's about the extent of the joke!

But OK, given the title, there's got to be ... a wedding, right? Well, Toula's already married, and Paris is too young. And so, we have a plot device whereby Gus discovers that his original marriage license from Greece was never signed.

Time for a wedding! More importantly, time for a wedding-dress shopping montage! Because that's what every movie in the history of cinema has done when a woman needs a wedding dress!

Of course, there are a few obstacles along the way. But we all know that we'll get our happy wedding, some way, somehow. And you'll surely smile at a few points — who's not a sucker for a big wedding, right?

It's only when those credits roll that you'll likely find yourself thinking: 14 years, for this?

"My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2," a Universal Studios release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America "for some suggestive material." Running time: 94 minutes. One and a half stars out of four.

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GOOD FRIDAY
Friday, March 25
Stations of the Cross at 12:00 pm
Good Friday Liturgy at 7:00 pm
Liturgy of the Word • Veneration of the Cross
Holy Communion
HOLY SATURDAY
Saturday, March 26 • Easter Vigil at 8:30 pm
First Mass of the Resurrection
EASTER SUNDAY
Sunday, March 27 • Masses at 8:30 am, 10:45 am, 1:00 pm (Spanish), and 5:00 pm
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THURSDAY PRIME TIME — MARCH 24, 2016

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	6	6:30	7	7:30	8	8:30	9	9:30	10	10:30	11	11:30
KMID ABC 3 3 4 3 2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Grey's A. "I Am Not Waiting Anymore" (N)		Scandal		The Catch "The Plot" (P) (N)		Local 2 News/ 10	(35) Jimmy Kimmel Live.	(35) News Nightline	
KOSA CBS 7 7 7 7 7	NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament Sweet Sixteen (L)				NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament Sweet Sixteen (L)				TBA		(35) S.Colbert	
KWWT CW 5 14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Happy Days	Laverne & Shirley	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Perry Mason	Twilight Zone	
KPEJ FOX 8 5 5 8 3	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	American Idol "Top 4 Perform" The top four continue on their journey. (N)				Fox 24 News	TMZ	2 Broke Girls	Modern Family	Two and Half Men	Met Your Mother
KMLM IND 11 12 12 11 11	Lars Enarson	Zola Levitt Presents	Update News	HaYesod News	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Joshua Caleb	Wings of Truth	Faith for Families	Biblical Israel
KWES NBC 9 9 9 9 9	News-West 9	NewsWest 9 Now	Apocalypse "Calm Before the Storm" (N)		The Blacklist "The Director: Conclusion".		Shades of Blue "For I Have Sinned" (N)		NewsWest 9 at 10	(35) The Tonight Show	(35) Seth Meyers	
KPBT PBS 13 13 13 8	PBS NewsHour		Daytripper TV	The Texas Promise			Irish Rebellion "Awakening"		Charlie Rose (N)		World News	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI 4 4 - 4 16	Un camino hacia el destino		Sueño de amor		Pasion y poder		El Hotel de los Secretos		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA MNT 16 16 16	Fam.Feud	Fam. Feud	The Mentalist		Mental. "Bloodshot"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Office	Access H.
FLIX 340 575 165	(5:05) Basquiat		★★ Mindhunters (04, Act) Eion Bailey.				★★ Split Decisions			(48) ★★ Nothing to Lose		
HBO 300 550 14 14	Real Sports		★★★ Pitch Perfect 2 Anna Kendrick.				Together	Girls	Everything Is Copy		Movie	
HBO2 302 551 15 101 23	(5:40) Furious 7 ('15, Act) Vin Diesel.				★★ Run All Night ('15, Act) Liam Neeson.				Downtown Girls		Animals.	Movie
HBO5 304 552 16 102	(5:15) ★★ Keeping the Faith		Vice		★★★★ Annie Hall			Making	★ Insurgent ('15, Sci-Fi) Shailene Woodley.			
MAX 380 557 17 120 24	Movie		★★ A.I.: Artificial Intelligence Haley Joel Osment.				★★★ The Sixth Sense			SexGame	SexGame	Movie
MAX2 382 558 18 122	Movie	(25) ★ Dracula Untold					★★★ 300 ('06, Epic) Gerard Butler.			★ Gone Girl ('14, Myst) Ben Affleck.		
PLEX 96	(5:20) ★ Rollerball		★★ Fatal Instinct			(35) ★★★ Lords of Dogtown				(25) ★ Danny Deckchair		
SHOW 320 545 19 140 25	TheWho	(25) M. Jackson's Journey			Billions		Shameless		Gigolos	Penn &..	Gigolos	Billions
TMC 330 573 22 195 26	★★ Tapa Uma Thurman.			★★★ Bernie Jack Black.			(110) ★★★★ Boyhood ('14, Dra) Ethan Hawke, Ellar Coltrane.					
A&E 27 58 28 35 47	The First 48 "Dark Waters"		The First 48 "Broken Home" (N)		The First 48 "The Fight/Leif Final Ride" (N)		60 Days In "Fight Face" (N)		The First 48		The First 48 "Broken Home"	
AMC 40 74 23 42 51	(6:00) ★ Enemy of L...		★★★ The Italian Job ('03, Act) Mark Wahlberg.					★★★ The Bourne Identity ('02, Act) Matt Damon.				
BET 58 - 40	★★★ The Secret Life of Bees ('08, Dra) Dakota Fanning.						Mann's	Mann's	About the Business		Wendy Williams	
BRAVO 65 76 41	Vanderpump Rules		Housewives Atlanta		Beverly Hills		Recipe Deception (N)		Watch (N)	Housewives Atlanta		VanderR
CNBC 46 52 39 72	American Greed		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		American Greed		American Greed		American Greed	
CNN 43 50 51 30 56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		A. Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360		CNN Newsroom	
DISC 50 60 31 24 42	Naked "Garden of Evil"		Naked and Afraid		Naked and Afraid		Naked and Afraid		Naked and Afraid		Naked and Afraid	
DISNEY 56 64 36 25 36	Girl M.	Liv Maddie	★★★ Hop Russell Brand.		StarWars	StarWars	Girl M.		Underc.	Friends	Jessie	Jessie
ESPN 32 35 48 31 30	MLB Baseball Spring Training Chicago Cubs vs. San Francisco Giants (L)						Baseball Tonight (L)		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2 34 36 49 32 31	SportNat	30 for 30 "9.79"			30 for 30 "Fantastic Lies"				NFL Live		NBA	J & J (N)
FNC 45 48 53 23 55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
FOOD 64 70 27 68 54	Chopped		Chopped		Cooks vs. Cons (N)		BeatFlay	Beat Flay	BeatFlay	Beat Flay	Cooks vs. Cons	
FREEFORM 53 63 34 42 33	Movie	(45) ★★ The Parent Trap ('98, Fam) Dennis Quaid, Lindsay Lohan.							The 700 Club		★ 13 Going on 30	
FSSW 37 38 50 45 29	The Beat (N)	SportsDay OnAir (N)	Championship Spot. "Girls Basketball" (N)		Playing for Pevs	Stars Pre-game (L)	NHL Hockey Dallas Stars at Arizona Coyotes Site: Gila River Arena -- Glendale, Ariz. (L)				Stars Live (L)	
FX 31 56 59 64 69	★★★ Man of Steel ('13, Act) Amy Adams, Henry Cavill.						Baskets	Baskets	Baskets	★★ This is the End		
HALLMARK 54 71 58 - 34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Men	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV 63 69 26 48 44	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	H.Hunt	House	Five Day Flip		FlipFlop	FlipFlop
HISTORY 71 59 29 50 43	Pawn S.	Pawn Star	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Vikings "Promised"		Vikings (N)		Join,Die	(35) Class	Pawn S.	Pawn S.
LIFETIME 28 30 25 28 48	Project Runway: All Stars "Birthday Suits"		PRAS Social "Going for Baroque" (N)		Project Runway "Bait and Stitch" (N)		★ To Be Announced				PR All Stars Social "Going for Baroque"	
MSNBC 47 53 49 73	Hardball		All In With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN 38 43	USSA		FIS Alpine Skiing		Curling World Championship (L)						IndyCar Auto Racing	
NICK 55 - 39 34 37	Thunder	Thunder	★ Open Season 3 Dana Syder.		F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE 30 - 55 53 58	(4:30) ★ Transformers: Revenge of the Fall...		Lip Sync Battle			Lip Sync	Lip Sync		★★ Kiss of the Dragon Bridget Fonda.			
SYFY 66 82 41 57 67	(4:00) ★ Superman II		★★ Superman III ('83, Sci-Fi) Richard Pryor, Christopher Reeve.						★★ Superman IV: The Quest for Peace			
TBS 25 33 44 66 41	(:15) NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament Sweet Sixteen (L)				(:45) NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament Sweet Sixteen (L)						March Mad. (L)	
TCM 41 75 24 63 66	(5:00) ★ Le Mans		★★★ The Carey Treatment				★★★ The Competition Richard Dreyfuss.			(:15) ★ Those Lips, ...		
TELE 20 - 10 20	La Biblia		Quien es quien?		Eva, La Trailera		El señor de los cielos		Al rojo	Titulares	Gran Hermano	
TLC 51 61 32 38 52	My 600-lb Life "Angel's Story"		600 Life: Supersized "Sean's Story" (N)		Extreme Weight Loss "Jami" Jami struggles with self esteem and is a wreck.				Fat Chance "Meagan"		600 Life: Supersized "Sean's Story"	
TNT 24 34 40 26 50	Castle "Resurrection" 1/2 cont'd March 28		★★★ The Dark Knight Rises (2012, Action) Christian Bale, Tom Hardy, Anne Hathaway. Batman makes his return to Gotham when the city comes under threat.						★★ Terminator Salvation ('09, Act) Christian Bale.			
TVLAND 49 - 35 54 35	Griffith	A. Griffith	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA 26 55 42 27 49	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Bound"		WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries.				★★ Rush Hour 3 (2007, Action) Jackie Chan, Roman Polanski, Chris Tucker.				★★★ Friday ('95, Com) Ice Cube.	
WGN 19 85	Elementary "A Stitch in Time"		Elementary		Elementary "Absconded"		Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Mother "The Yips"

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Weekender publishes a portion of the Restaurant Guide each week. Entree price range is based on the average entree price on the menu:
$ = $1-10, $$ = $10-20 and $$$ = $20 or more. Restaurants are given a general rating based on quality of food, service, cleanliness, atmosphere and overall experience.
1 spoon = poor, 2 spoons = average, 3 spoons = above average, 4 spoons = good and 5 spoons = excellent.

IS YOUR EATERY LISTED?
Rich Lopez | Features Editor | Email: jrlopez@mrt.com | Phone: 687-8859

STEAKS & SEAFOOD

BILL'S BISTRO Locally-owned fine dining establishment featuring steaks and fresh seafood specials for dinner service and salads and burgers for lunch. Located next to The Wine Rack, diners may sit inside Bill's Bistro or The Wine Rack for lunch service. Appetizers from the restaurant are offered in the evenings at The Wine Rack. 4610 N. Garfield St. Suite D3 | 218-7383 | $$$ | 4 spoons

CATTLE BARON Western-themed steakhouse with prime rib, fresh catfish and Alaskan king crab. The salad bar is worth the trip. 418 Wadley Ave. 683-2334. cattlebaron.com | $$ | 3 spoons

CHURRASCA BRAZILIAN STEAK HOUSE Churrasca serves meat — from chicken to lamb and pork to beef — directly at the table in an all-you-can-eat style. 4610 N. Garfield St., 618-1110 | $$$ | 4 spoons

GARLIC PRESS Fine dining with menu items including hand-cut steaks, seafood and pasta. Or try something from the small plates menu. Dessert menu changes weekly. 2200 W. Wadley Ave. No. 6 Oak Ridge Square | 570-4020 | thegarlicpress.net | $$$ | 4 spoons

LOGAN's ROADHOUSE American standards like burgers, steaks and ribs, plus signature cocktails and all the peanuts you can shell and eat, the chain's Midland location has had some issues with slow service and cold food but things look to be on the mend. 609 N Loop 250 W 689-6464 | $$ | 2 spoons

RANCHLAND HILLS GOLF CLUB Renovated club restaurant doesn't require a membership. Go for breakfast or try steak seafood at dinner. 1600 E. Wadley Ave. 682-3729 www.Ranchlandhills.com | $$ | 4 spoons

SALTGRASS STEAKHOUSE Midland's only restaurant from the Landry's chain specializes in steaks. For something different, try the warm steak salad that includes grilled veggies and steak piled on top of a bed of greens. 4511 W. Loop 250 699-0476 www.saltgrass.com | $$ | 4 spoons

STEAK 42 Locally-owned steakhouse with fine dining menu and occasional live music and special events. Look for quarterly pop-up brunches. 911 S. Big Spring St. | 704-5242 | not yet reviewed

STEAK EXPRESS Surprisingly good steaks and burgers for take-out or delivery. Burgers are a meal by themselves. Steaks come with traditional sides. 3316 W. Illinois Ave. 694-4040 | $$ | 4 spoons

TEXAS ROADHOUSE Call-ahead seating is available for busy chain restaurant on Loop 250 offers steaks, burgers, sandwiches and more. 4512 W. Loop 250 N. 689-7427 | $$ | 4 spoons

WALL STREET BAR & GRILL Arguably the best steak and seafood in Midland. If you're in the mood for something else, try the chicken fried steak or the Dijon chicken. And save room for the Gold Brick dessert. 115 East Wall St. 684-8686 | $$ | 5 spoons

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

Add an I to each of the seven-letter words below, and then rearrange the letters in each word to form a new eight-letter word.

COTTAGE

ENCAGES

DECAMPS

FLATTER

Yesterday's Answer: JIVES, JOVIAL, ICE, LUG

Bananagrams, dist. by King Features Syndicate • www.wordfeud.com/bananagrams

3.24

DINING

WEEKENDER PUBLISHES A PORTION OF THE RESTAURANT GUIDE EACH WEEK. ENTREE PRICE RANGE IS BASED ON THE AVERAGE ENTREE PRICE ON THE MENU:
$ = $1-10, $$ = $10-20 AND $$$ = $20 OR MORE. RESTAURANTS ARE GIVEN A GENERAL RATING BASED ON QUALITY OF FOOD, SERVICE, CLEANLINESS, ATMOSPHERE AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE.
1 SPOON = POOR, 2 SPOONS = AVERAGE, 3 SPOONS = ABOVE AVERAGE, 4 SPOONS = GOOD AND 5 SPOONS = EXCELLENT.

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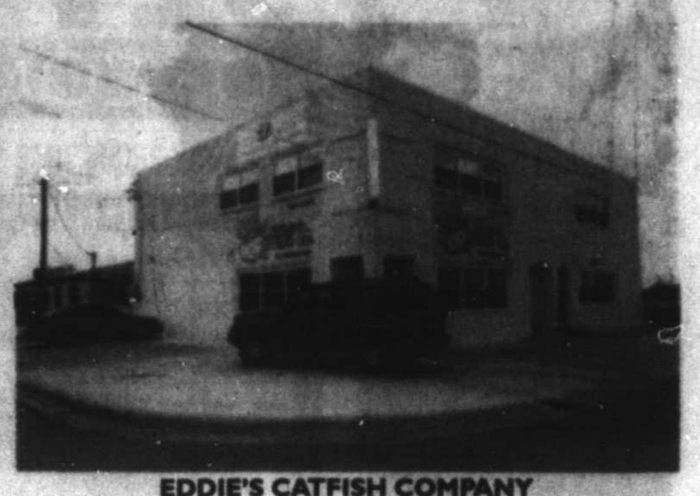


EDDIE'S CATFISH COMPANY
301 N. LEE ST. | 684-4422

AMERICAN & GRILL

ADDIE'S DINER Great burgers and salads with a '50s diner vibe. Chicken fried steak or steak fingers, chicken fried chicken or chicken fingers, fried catfish, hamburger steak and grilled pork chop entrees. Breakfast until 10:30 a.m. 304 E. Florida Ave., 686-2044. | $ | 4 spoons

BUFFALO WILD WINGS Grill and Bar Sports bar with more than 40 TVs inside serves wings, burgers, sandwiches and snacks. Try one of the wraps with your choice of more than 14 sauces. Smoking allowed inside. 5107 W. Wadley Ave. 694-9400 | $ | 3 spoons

BUSH'S CHICKEN Save room for the red cinnamon apple pie for dessert. Fried chicken with traditional sides. Iced tea by the gallon. Three-lane drive through. 2210 N. Big Spring St. 687-7090 www.bushschicken.com | $ | 3 spoons

THE CAFÉ AT CRESTVIEW Quiet cafe inside Crestview Baptist Church is open to the public and serves fabulous desserts. Sandwiches, soups, burgers, Tex-Mex dishes. 301 N. Loop 250 West. 681-8200 www.crestviewmidland.org | $ | 3 spoons

CAFÉ AT THE GARDENS Want to feel like you've left West Texas? Enjoy a cup of soup next to a koi pond inside a green house. Sandwiches and burgers on freshly baked bread, quiche, salads. Open for dinner and drinks on Thursday night. 3300 Fairgrounds Road. 687-1478 www.alldredgegardens.com | $ | 4 spoons

CLEAR SPRINGS CAFE One of the few places in Midland specializing in seafood claims to have the best onion rings and catfish in "Texas, the World and the known Universe." This Texas chain also has locations in Tyler, New Braunfels, Nacogdoches and San Antonio. Seafood, steaks, burgers, salads. 5707 Andrews Highway 522-1188 www.clearspringscafe.com | $$ | 3 spoons.

COTTON PATCH CAFE Casual dining chain restaurant off of Loop 250. Specials include fried catfish. Soups, salads, steaks. 2320 W. Loop 250 N. 618-0070. www.cottonpatch.com | $ | 2 spoons.

CRACKER BARREL Breakfast all day. Chicken and dumplings, meatloaf, smoked ham, fried fish. Old Country Store sells candy, toys, rocking chairs, decorative items. 3108 N. Loop 250 West. 689-3137 www.crackerbarrel.com | $ | 3 spoons

DENNY'S Open 24 hours a day, Denny's is one of very few options for people looking to grab a bite to eat at 3 a.m. Breakfast, burgers, snacks, pies and coffee. 3701 W. Wall St. 520-5306 www.dennys.com | $ | 2 spoons

EDDIE'S CATFISH COMPANY When you open a catfish restaurant, why mess around with anything else. Except maybe fried shrimp, french fries, hush puppies, coleslaw and onion rings. That's the menu at Eddie's Catfish Company. All you have to do is decide how many pieces you want. 301 N. Lee St. 684-4422. www.eddiescatfishco.com | $ | 3 spoons.

GRAHAM PHARMACY Refreshingly simple menu makes this a hot spot for lunch. Good luck finding a parking space. Try the pimento cheese sandwich and treat yourself to homemade fudge for dessert. 1601 W. Wall St. 684-5756 www.grahampharmacy.com | $ | 3 spoons.

JOJO'S EATERY Possibly the best desserts in town. Buy pies and cakes by the slice or take one home. Oh yeah, and the sandwiches, salads and burgers aren't bad either. Downtown inside the Petroleum Building. 214 W. Texas Ave. 682-3134 | $ | 3 spoons.

MULBERRY CAFE The third restaurant under the Morales family banner, which also includes Gerardo's Casita and Gerardo's Bistro, is an ideal place for a relaxing Saturday or Sunday breakfast or a quick weekday lunch. The lunch and dinner menu features soups (the broccoli cheese soup is a filling meal), salads, wraps, sandwiches and burgers. The wraps, sandwiches and burgers come with homemade chips. 2101 W. Wadley Ave. | $$ | 4 spoons

THE RANCH HOUSE Stop by for a sandwich or pick up a whole ham or turkey for holidays. Sandwich options include chicken or tuna salad, turkey breast, peppered beef or ham, honey glazed ham, smoked brisket and barbecue. 5103 W. Wadley Ave. 699-0695 www.goldenglazedhams.com | $ | 3 spoons.

STANTON DRUG AND OLD-FASHIONED SODA FOUNTAIN Drive about a half-hour away from Midland for a hamburger or sandwich at Stanton Drug Store. Get there early. The owners close shop when they run out of meat for the day. 201 N. St. Peter, St. Stanton. 432-756-3731 | $ | 3 spoons

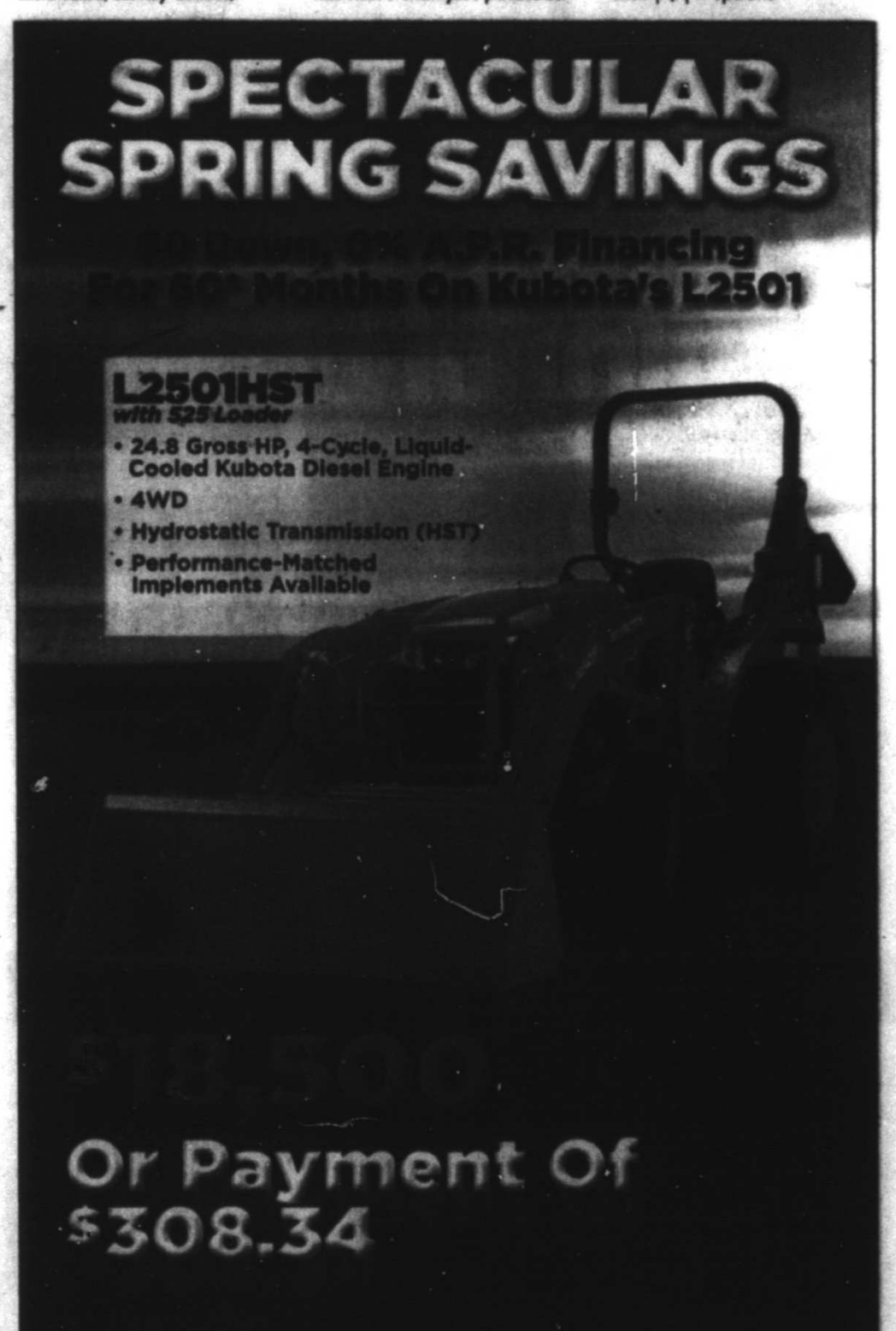
STRAWBERRY FIELDS CAFE Try the Santa Fe wrap. All organic menu with daily specials, sandwiches, wraps, smoothies. Soup and salad bar. If you can't find a table or need a quick lunch, check out the section of foods 'to go' inside the Natural Foods Market. 2311 W. Wadley Ave. 684-5869 www.naturalfoodsmkt.com | $ | 4 spoons

TATER WORLD The menu centers around this local restaurant's namesake. If you're hungry, go for the huge baked potatoes stuffed with brisket or steak. The menu has more than just potatoes. Ask around town and you'll hear Tater World has some of the best catfish in Midland. 802 S. Garfield St. 682-9111 | $ | 4 spoons

THE BAR Arguably the best burgers in town. Go during the fall or winter for the chili and cornbread. Live music and drink specials in the evenings. Try a bloody Mary with Saturday brunch. 606 W. Missouri Ave. 685-1757 www.thebarmidland.com | $$ | 4 spoons

TRIPLE THREAT SPORTS BAR & GRILL Philly cheesesteaks are the star of the menu but this sports bar also offers popcorn shrimp, chicken tenders, salads and appetizers. Smoking is permitted inside. 12 Meta Drive 683-5300 | $ | 4 spoons

WING STOP Nine wing sauce flavors range from mild to atomic. In the middle are lemon pepper, Hawaiian and garlic parmesan. 3323 N. Midland Drive, Suite 105 694-WING (9464) www.wingstop.com | $ | 4 spoons



Tall City Invitational returns with more teams

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

The Tall City Invitational Track Meet is back after a one-year hiatus.

In 2015, the high school track and field meet was canceled because of a late February snow storm, but this year the Midland High hosted event was moved to the spring time.

Twenty one varsity programs will compete in today's meet at Memorial Stadium beginning at noon.

The meet's area teams include Lee, MHS, Midland Christian, Trinity, Andrews, Big Spring and Garden City. In addition, MHS and Lee will be joined by three of their four District 3-6A foes — Odessa Permian, Odessa High and San Angelo Central.

"We wanted to make it a one day meet, get more teams to come," Lee girls head coach Mike Connelly said. "It worked. There's more teams coming. They seem fired up about it. It's a good plan. It's a good deal too for our kids too to give them some rest as they get down the home stretch."

The home stretch leads up to the District 3-6A Track and Field Championships, which is scheduled for April 14-15 at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa.

With five District 3-6A teams participating today, today's results will provide more clarity about what might happen in Odessa in three weeks.

So far, Midland High has emerged as the team favorites after its boys and girls squads won in convincing fashion against five of their six 3-6A rivals at West Texas Relays in Odessa on March 5.

However, there is still time for athletes to improve their times and marks as the weather heats up.

"You want to see times improve, that's No. 1," Lee boys head coach Floyd White said. "The biggest deal for us we want to get our kids out there and we just want them to compete, that they compete to the best of their ability, that they compete hard."

Here are a list of athletes to watch in today's meet:

Bryce Hoppel, Sr., MHS — Something special could happen every time the 2015 Class 6A state 800 meter runner-up takes the track. The University of Kansas signee owns the nation's fastest prep time (1:51.67) in the 800 during the 2016 season according to athletic.net. The state record is 1:48.21 by Abilene High's Jonathan Johnson in 2001. Hoppel also holds the state's second-fastest time this season in the 1,600 (4:16.30) according to the same website.

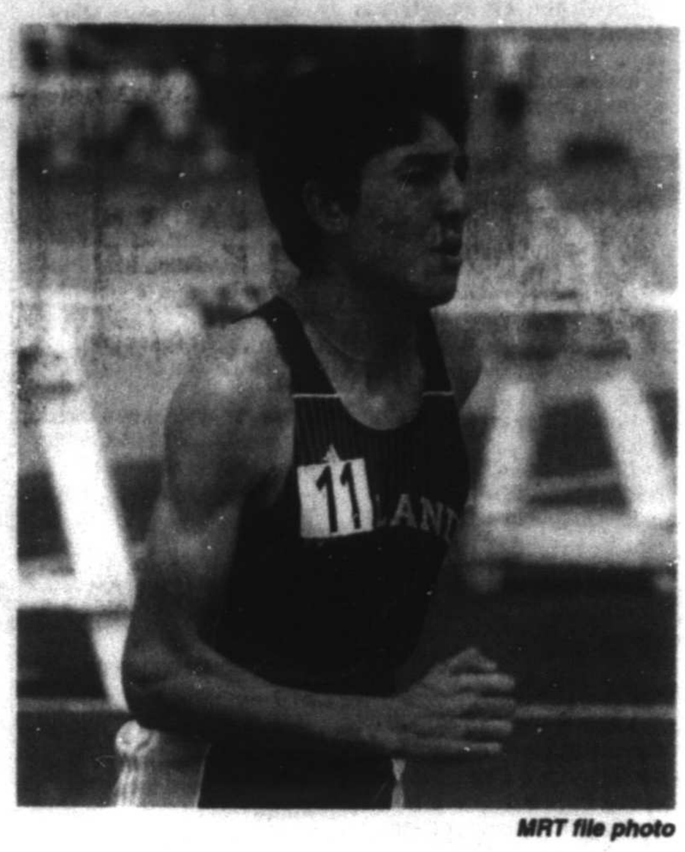
Michael Marsh, Sr., Lee — Marsh, the 2015 3-6A/4-6A area meet champion in the discus, ranks 19th in the state with a heave of 162-3 1/2 according to athletic.net.

Denim Rogers, Sr., Lee — The Garden City (Kan.) Community College commit is the Rebels' point machine, recording first-place finishes in the 110 hurdles, 300 hurdles and high jump at the West Texas Relays. His best high jump of 6-8 is tied for eighth in the state so far according to athletic.net.

Kristian Ruiz, Sr., Lee — The Lady Rebs' team leader beat MHS super sophomore Semetria Smith in the 300-meter hurdles at the West Texas Relays.

Semetria Smith, So., MHS — Smith took home four gold medals in the long jump, triple jump, 100

Please see TALL CITY/2C



MRT file photo

Bryce Hoppel finishes first in the 800 during the District 3-6A Track and Field Championships on April 17, 2015 at Memorial Stadium.

Associated Press

Texas A&M's Jalen Jones takes a shot during college basketball practice in Anaheim, Calif., on Wednesday. Texas A&M plays against Oklahoma in a regional semifinal game in the NCAA Tournament on Thursday.

Hield, Sooners face former Big 12 foe Aggies in Sweet 16

By Bernie Wilson
Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Forty-four seconds.

The Texas A&M Aggies will remember them for as long as they live. Buddy Hield and the Oklahoma Sooners know things can go so right or so wrong in such a short time.

Hield and the second-seeded Sooners (27-7) face the third-seeded Aggies (28-8) in the Sweet 16 Thursday evening, four days after Texas A&M's stunning last-minute comeback against Northern Iowa.

The Aggies rallied from 12 points down in the final 44 seconds of regulation and beat the Panthers 92-88 in a double-overtime thriller in Oklahoma City.

"That's not something I think I'm going to ever forget," said Alex Caruso, who scored 25 points and helped the Aggies secure the biggest last-minute comeback in NCAA Division I history.

The Sooners had already made the short drive to their campus in Norman after beating VCU 85-81 and watched the conclusion of the Aggies' victory on TV.

"It was crazy," Hield said Wednesday at the Honda Center. "What they did was remarkable and I respect their fight. When we play them, if we get a big lead, we can't take that lead for granted because we know they're capable of making a run."

The Sooners and their perimeter shooters are in the Sweet 16 for the second straight year. Overall, this is their sixth Sweet 16 appearance since 1999, a span that also includes a Final Four appearance and two other Elite Eight berths.

The Aggies have reached the Sweet 16 for the third time in school history and the first since 2007. In 2008, the Aggies lost a second-round game to UCLA in the Honda Center, the home of the NHL's Anaheim Ducks.

Some other things to watch

Please see FOES/3C

Lee, MHS begin 3-6A tourney on Central's turf

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

As the District 3-6A boys golf tournament begins at 9:30 a.m. today at Bentwood Country Club in San Angelo, the Lee and Midland High teams face a challenging task in qualifying for a regional tournament berth with a top two finish.

Defending district champion San Angelo Central has the benefit of playing the tournament's first round on its home course, while Odessa Permian — last year's second-place team and the victor of the Tall City Invitational last month by 13 strokes — also figures to be in the thick of contention.

The tournament's second round will tee off at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, April 5 at Ratliff Ranch Golf Links in Odessa. The top two teams and top two individuals from non-qualifying teams are eligible to play in the Region I-6A tournament on April 11-12 at the Links at Waterchase in Fort Worth.

After finishing last year's district tournament comfortably in third place, the Lee boys have put together a respectable season thus far, highlighted by a fourth-place finish at the TC Invite.

The Rebels are led by senior Jared Valdez, who shot a 76-74—150 and placed in a three-way tie for ninth place in the TC Invite. Valdez was MISD's lone medalist in the tournament.

Lee head coach Blain Huddleston said he knows things won't come easy in today's first round, especially having to take on the host Bobcats. But he believes his team has the ability to rise to the occasion and get into solid position for the second round.

"(We're) going to have to play consistent golf and smart golf, especially against San Angelo at Bentwood," Huddleston said. "Just be competitive."

Meanwhile MHS, which placed fifth in last year's district tourney, will be looking to bounce back this time around and is as hungry as ever for a spot in next month's regional tournament.

Brinson Vitello paced the Bulldogs

Please see TOURNEY/2C

Jason Day tweaks back in victory at Match Play

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Jason Day overcame an early deficit to win his opening match Wednesday in the Dell Match Play.

Now he has to overcome a bad back.

In the latest in a series of injuries for Day, he was reaching for his back on the 15th hole and then winced and grabbed it after a tee shot on the 16th hole. He took a knee on the green, where he closed out Graeme McDowell, 3 and 2.

Day headed straight for the fitness trailer for treatment.

The severity of the injury was unclear. Day left without speaking to reporters, and his agent later sent a statement that he tweaked his back, had some work done on it, was pleased with winning and is getting prepared to play Thursday.

Day told the Australian Associated Press before getting treatment, "It's really hard to play with searing pain in both sides of your lower back. Just my back has seized up and I need to get inside right away for treatment and see what's wrong."

Top-seeded Jordan Spieth, the crowd favorite at Austin Country Club who helped Texas to a national title in 2012, had the largest crowd and delivered a solid performance. Spieth was 4 up through seven holes, and outlasted Jamie Donaldson, 3 and 2.

"I felt like everybody was on our side today," Spieth said. "I almost felt like a home Ryder Cup match. And Jamie, I'm not sure what he would say about it. ... Everyone was very respectful, but every single step I took, somebody was yelling at you, 'Hook 'Em Horns' or 'Go Jordan, we're rooting for you.' Which is really, really cool."

Rory McIlroy had three close calls on his way to victory last year at Harding Park. He started out with one in Texas. McIlroy never led until he won the 18th hole with a par. Thorbjorn Olesen missed a 3-foot putt on the 16th, and with the match all square on the 18th, the Dane shanked a chip to hand McIlroy the match.

"Match play is all about just getting through," McIlroy said.

Rickie Fowler, the No. 5 seed, failed to do that. He rallied from 3 down on the back nine to square his match on the 15th hole, only for Jason Dufner to win the next two holes with birdies to beat him on the 17th hole.

Dustin Johnson (No. 8) lost to Robert Streb, and Hideki Matsuyama (No. 12) lost to Rafa Cabrera-Bello. Adam Scott (No. 6), who has lost seven straight matches in this event, had

Please see DAY/2C

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

College Baseball
Oklahoma State at Kansas State, 6 p.m., FS1
LSU at Texas A&M, 6 p.m., SEC
TCU at Texas 6 p.m., LHN
Oklahoma at Texas Tech, 6:30 p.m., FSSW+, FCSC
Loyola Marymount at BYU, 7 p.m., BYUtv

College Softball
Mississippi Valley State at Texas Southern, 4 p.m., ESPNU

Golf
PGA: Puerto Rico Open at Coco Beach, 1st Round, 9:30 a.m., GOLF
WGC-Dell Match Play, Day 2, 1 p.m., GOLF
LPGA: Kia Classic, 1st Round, 7 p.m., GOLF

Major League Baseball
Houston vs. NY Mets, Noon, MLB
Kansas City vs. Milwaukee, 3 p.m., MLB
Chic. Cubs vs. San Francisco, 6 p.m., ESPN
LA Dodgers vs. Cleveland, 9 p.m., MLB

Men's College Basketball
NCAA: Miami-FL vs. Villanova, 6 p.m., CBS
NCAA DII Semifinal, 8 p.m., CBSSN
NCAA: Texas A&M vs. Oklahoma, 6:20 p.m., TBS
NCAA: Kansas vs. Maryland, 8:30 p.m., CBS
NCAA DII Semifinal, 8:30 p.m., CBSSN
NCAA: Duke vs. Oregon, 8:50 p.m., TBS

Men's Soccer
Friendly: Italy vs. Spain, 2:30 p.m., ESPN2

National Basketball Association
New Orleans at Indiana, 6 p.m., NBAdv

NBA D-League
Idaho at Santa Cruz, 9 p.m., ESPNU

National Hockey League
Montreal at Detroit, 6:30 p.m., NHL
Dallas at Arizona, 9 p.m., FSSW

WHAT'S ON DECK

High school

Baseball
Midland High at Abilene High, 4:30 p.m.
San Angelo Central at Lee, 4:30 p.m.
Midland Christian at Fort Worth Christian, TBA

Golf
District 3-6A Boys Tournament first round, San Angelo
District 4-4A Boys Tournament first round, Pecos

Softball
Lee at Midland High, 4:30 p.m.
Greenwood at Crane, 4:30 p.m.

Tennis
Lee at Cat Classic, San Angelo

Track
Tall City Relays, Memorial Stadium
Midland Christian at Hawk Relays, Wall
Greenwood at Seminole Relays

LCU BRIEF

HOPPEL HELPS LCU INTO TITLE GAME

SIOUX FALL, Idaho — Midland High grad Kelsey Hoppel scored 20 points and had six steals to help No. 1 Lubbock Christian defeat Bentley, 67-57, in an NCAA Division II semifinal game on Wednesday.

Hoppel, a senior, and the Lady Chaparrals (34-0) will now play Alaska-Anchorage, a 67-47 winner over Grand Valley State, at 2 p.m. on April 4 in Indianapolis.

LCU is trying to become only the second undefeated Division II national champion. Bentley did it in 2014, going 35-0.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Designated LHP Chris Jones for assignment. Agreed to terms with LHP Zach Phillips on a one-year contract.
HOUSTON ASTROS — Optioned RHP Brad Peacock to Fresno (PCL).
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Optioned LHPs Scott Alexander and Brian Flynn to Omaha (PCL). Granted RHP Ross Ohlendorf a release from his minor league contract. Reassigned C Parker Martin and INFs Orlando Calixte and Dusty Coleman to minor league camp.
MINNESOTA TWINS — Optioned RHP J.R. Graham and LHP Taylor Rogers to Rochester (IL). Reassigned LHP Buddy Boshers, C Carlos Paulino and INFs Buck Britton and Wilfredo Tovar to minor league camp.
National League
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Reassigned RHP Matt West to minor league camp.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Optioned RHP Severino Gonzalez to Lehigh Valley (IL).
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Reassigned RHP Lucas Giolito to minor league camp.
American Association
FARGO-MOORHEAD REDHAWKS — Signed RHPs Benji Waite and Dakota Dill.
LAREDO LEMURS — Signed RHP Jose Nivar.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
HOUSTON ROCKETS — Assigned F Montrezl Harrell to Rio Grande Valley (NBADL).

FOOTBALL
National Football League
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Agreed to terms with CB Patrick Robinson.
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Agreed to terms with coach Sean Payton on a five-year contract.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Signed WR Rueben Randle to a one-year contract.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Signed NT Ian Williams to a one-year contract.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Signed P Bryan Anger.
Arena Football League
ORLANDO PREDATORS — Released DB Bobby Felder and WRs Royce Adams and Derrick Hector. Signed DL Terrance Taylor. Activated DBs Varmah Sonie and Paul Stephens from the PUP list.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CALGARY FLAMES — Signed UW Andrew Mangiapane to an entry-level contract.
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Recalled F Blake Pietila from Albany (AHL) on an emergency basis.
NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Agreed to terms with G Eamon McAdam on a three-year, entry-level contract.

OLYMPIC SPORTS
USA TABLE TENNIS — Named Cory Eider high performance director.

COLLEGE
DAYTON — Signed men's basketball coach Archie Miller to a contract extension through the 2022-23 season.
IONA — Signed men's basketball coach Tim Cluess to a contract extension through the 2020-21 season.
NOTRE DAME — Announced it has accepted affiliate membership in the Big Ten Conference for men's hockey, to begin play in the 2017-18 season.
PROVIDENCE — Announced sophomore F Ben Bentil will enter the NBA Draft but will not hire an agent.
PURDUE — Announced F Caleb Swanigan will enter the NBA draft.
UCF — Named Johnny Dawkins men's basketball coach.
UT MARTIN — Announced the resignation of athletic director Julio Freire to become deputy athletic director for external affairs at Pittsburgh.
WAGNER — Fired women's basketball coach Lisa Cermignano.
XAVIER — Named Amber Miehlke assistant volleyball coach.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	73	42	26	5	89	202	173
Florida	73	40	24	9	89	207	181
Boston	73	39	26	8	86	216	197
Detroit	73	36	26	11	83	186	196
Ottawa	75	34	33	8	76	214	230
Montreal	74	34	34	6	74	196	212
Buffalo	74	30	34	10	70	176	200
Toronto	72	26	35	11	63	174	209
Metropolitan Division							
z-Washington	72	52	15	5	109	231	170
N.Y. Rangers	73	41	24	8	90	207	192
Pittsburgh*	72	40	24	8	88	204	179
N.Y. Islanders	72	39	24	9	87	200	182
Philadelphia	72	35	24	13	83	188	193
New Jersey	73	35	31	7	77	166	189
Carolina	73	31	28	14	76	177	198
Columbus	73	30	35	8	68	191	225

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Dallas	74	44	21	9	97	242	213
St. Louis	74	43	22	9	95	195	185
Chicago	74	42	25	7	91	205	185
Nashville	73	37	23	13	87	202	187
Minnesota	74	35	28	11	81	196	187
Colorado	73	36	31	4	80	196	204
Winnipeg	73	30	37	6	66	186	216
Pacific Division							
x-Los Angeles	73	44	24	5	93	199	167
Anaheim	72	40	23	9	89	185	168
San Jose	73	41	26	6	88	214	186
Arizona	73	32	34	7	71	192	219
Calgary	73	31	36	6	68	202	228
Vancouver	72	27	33	12	66	167	207
Edmonton	76	29	40	7	65	183	223

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.
x-clinched playoff spot
z-clinched conference

Scores & schedule

Wednesday's Scores
N.Y. Islanders 3, Ottawa 1
Boston at N.Y. Rangers, late
Today's Games
Florida at Boston, 6 p.m.
New Jersey at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
Carolina at Columbus, 6 p.m.
Anaheim at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
Montreal at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Nashville, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Colorado, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Arizona, 9 p.m.
Edmonton at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

MLB SPRING TRAINING GLANCE

Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct
Toronto	14	4	.778
Detroit	14	8	.636
Houston	13	8	.619
Chicago	12	8	.600
Los Angeles	11	8	.579
Texas	12	10	.545
Cleveland	11	10	.524
Minnesota	11	10	.524
Oakland	9	9	.500
Tampa Bay	9	9	.500
Seattle	10	11	.476
New York	9	10	.474
Kansas City	11	14	.440
Boston	9	13	.409
Baltimore	5	14	.263

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct
Arizona	18	4	.818
Washington	14	4	.778
Philadelphia	14	7	.667
Colorado	10	8	.556
Los Angeles	10	10	.500
Milwaukee	10	10	.500
St. Louis	8	10	.444
Miami	8	11	.421
Cincinnati	9	13	.409
San Francisco	9	14	.391
New York	7	11	.389
Pittsburgh	7	13	.350
San Diego	7	13	.350
Chicago	7	14	.333
Atlanta	6	16	.273

NOTE: Split-squad games count in the standings, games against non-major league teams do not.

Scores and schedule

Wednesday's Scores
Tampa Bay 5, Minnesota 2
Pittsburgh 6, Baltimore 5
St. Louis 4, Miami 1
Toronto 5, N.Y. Mets 1
Texas 5, Chicago Cubs 0
Chicago White Sox 6, San Diego 1
Cleveland 7, Kansas City 6
Arizona 10, San Francisco 6
Washington 13, N.Y. Yankees 0
Houston 2, Philadelphia 1
Oakland vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz., late
Today's Games
Pittsburgh vs. Baltimore at Sarasota, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Minnesota vs. Miami at Jupiter, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
St. Louis vs. Washington at Viera, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (ss) vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Detroit vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla., 12:07 p.m.
Houston vs. N.Y. Mets (ss) at Port St. Lucie, Fla., 12:10 p.m.
Kansas City vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix, 3:05 p.m.
Cincinnati vs. Texas (ss) at Surprise, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels vs. Chicago White Sox at Glendale, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
Arizona vs. San Diego at Peoria, Ariz., 3:10 p.m.
Seattle vs. Colorado at Scottsdale, Ariz., 3:10 p.m.
Philadelphia vs. Atlanta at Kissimmee, Fla., 5:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fla., 5:35 p.m.
Chicago Cubs vs. San Francisco at Scottsdale, Ariz., 6:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers vs. Cleveland at Goodyear, Ariz., 9:05 p.m.
Texas (ss) vs. Oakland at Mesa, Ariz., 9:05 p.m.

Andrews leads at 4-4A tourney

From staff reports

MONAHANS — The Andrews Black and Gold teams are in the lead after the first round of the District 4-4A Girls Golf Tournament played Wednesday at Ward County Golf Course.

Andrews Black is in first with a 325, followed by Andrews Gold with a 334. Seminole's first team is third with a 342, followed by Monahans in fourth at 348, while Greenwood is fifth with a 396.

The top three players in the individual standings are also from Andrews as Madeee McAllister (Black team), Rachel Huffman (Black team) and Sam Flores (Gold team) all have a 79.

The second round of the three-round tournament is Monday at Hogan Park Golf Course.

District 4-4A Girls Golf Tournament
at Ward County Golf Course, Monahans
Wednesday's first round results
Team standings
1. Andrews Black 325; 2. Andrews Gold 334; 3. Seminole I 342; 4. Monahans 348; 5. Greenwood 396; 6. Pecos 402; 7. (tie) Seminole II 409; and Monahans II 409; 9. Fort Stockton A 424; 10. Fort Stockton B 462

Individual standings
1. (tie) Madee McAllister, Andrews Black, 79; Rachel Huffman, Andrews Black, 79; and Sam Flores, Andrews Gold, 79; 4. Kinsee McAllister, Andrews gold, 80; 5. Savannah Pinson, Andrews Black, 81; 6. (tie) Alyssa Garcia, Seminole I, 82; and Ryan Pass, Greenwood, 82; 8. (tie) Lauren Franco, Seminole I, 83; Katelynn Savell, Andrews Gold, 83

Team-by-team results
Andrews Black (325) — Libby Wallnder 87, Madee McAllister 79, Rachel Huffman 79, Savannah Pinson 81, Mikala Haynie 86
Andrews Gold (334) — Kinsee McAllister 80, Katelynn Savell 83, Bailey McCarver 93, Macy Shulze 92, Sam Flores 79
Seminole I (342) — Lauren Franco 83, Alyssa Garcia 82, Aryssa Nichols 87, Mallorie Duncan 90, Lacy Jackson 90
Monahans I (348) — Cofyan Juarez 86, Jordan Strickland 87, Sommer Hummel 88, Reanee Gilliam 89, Amanda Brandenburg 89
Greenwood (396) — Ryan Pass 82, Jordan Shoots 99, Reagan Wood 108, Kaylee Cheek 107, Cindy Cobb 115
Pecos (402) — Natalie Romo 93, Guadalupe Alaniz 98, Esmeralda Cano 101, Jacqueline Aguilar 110, Jaslyn Rodriguez 128
Monahans II (409) — Lauren Salazar 88, Caitlyne Bolin 89, Hannah Thomas 110, Destyni Ballestar 102
Fort Stockton A (424) — Kendall Lopez 103, Karisa Rainey 102, Nia Lopez 110, Rebecca Rodriguez 117, Amber Sanchez 109
Fort Stockton B (462) — Damaris Silva 118, Anielelka Estrada 118, Elizabeth Garrison 112, Jennetti Juarez 135
Seminole II (409) — Jordan Allen 94, Amanda Mejordado 97, Alex Wall 109, Carlye Winfrey 109

HSSOFTBALLPREVIEW

COMPILED BY CHRISTOPHER HADORN

MIDLAND HIGH VS. LEE

When/where: 4:30 p.m. today, Audrey Gill Sports Complex

Records: Lee 9-13-1, 0-3 in District 3-6A; MHS 15-7-1, 2-1

Last game: Abilene High 6, Lee 2; Odessa Permian 4, Midland High 3

Notes: Both crosstown rivals are coming off disappointing defeats in district. The Lady Rebels squandered multiple bases-loaded scoring opportunities during a 6-2 loss to Abilene High Tuesday. Lee fell despite out-hitting Abilene High, 7-6. Meanwhile, MHS suffered a gut-wrenching loss to Odessa Permian, blowing a 3-2 lead in the top of the seventh inning.

District 3-6A Softball standings

Team	Overall W	Overall L	District W	District L	T
Odessa Permian	3	0	10	4	0
Odessa High	2	1	10	5	1
Abilene High	2	1	12	5	2
Midland High	2	1	15	7	1
Lee	0	3	9	13	1
S.A. Central	0	3	6	12	0

Tuesday's scores
Odessa Permian 4, Midland High 3; Abilene High 6, Lee 2; Odessa High 15, San Angelo Central 4, 5 innings
Thursday's games
Lee at Midland High, 4:30 p.m.; Odessa Permian at San Angelo Central, 4:30 p.m.; Abilene High at Odessa High, 6:30 p.m.

The loss cost the Lady Bulldogs a chance to take sole possession of first place. ... The Lady Rebels are on a four-game losing skid and are seeking their first win in district.

Lee is in need of a win as the halfway mark approaches, sitting two games back of the district's No. 2-4 teams — MHS, Odessa High, Abilene High ... MHS second baseman Abbi Sanchez was 2-for-2 with an RBI, run scored and a hit by pitch in Tuesday's loss to Permian.

Her teammate Deandra Allen took a tough luck loss in the circle, allowing just three earned runs and striking out eight during a complete game outing. ... Second baseman Shelby Olivas has two hits in each of Lee's last two games. Sarah Welsh, a fellow Lee infielder, has been hot as well after collecting three RBI in a Saturday loss to Lubbock Cooper and reaching base safely all four times at Abilene High.

MC beats Howard in wild non-conference game

From staff reports

Two Midland College base runners scored on an outfield error on a ball hit by Yahir Gurrola in the bottom of the ninth inning to lift the Chaparrals to a wild 13-12 non-conference win over Howard College on Wednesday night at Christensen Stadium.

The wild ending came after MC (12-11) gave up an 11-7 lead in the top of the inning when the Hawks scored five runs — three of which on a bases-clearing double by Chad Paris.

MC had 13 hits, led by Connor Beck, who was 3-for-5 with a double, RBI and two runs scored. Nolan Rattai was 2-for-4 with two walks and four runs scored; Connor Gesell was 2-for-4 with a double and two RBI; Tony Beam was 2-for-4 with two home runs, two RBI and two runs scored; Nick Russel was 2-for-4; Gurrola had three RBI; and Braden Hayward had two RBI for the Chaps.

MC returns to Western Junior College Athletic Conference play with a trip to Las Vegas, New Mexico, on Friday to play Luna Community College in a four-game series.

MIDLAND COLLEGE 13, HOWARD COLLEGE 12

Howard	041	010	015	—12	16	3
Midland	101	151	022	—13	13	2

One out when winning run scored.
Brandon Maine, Pete Monteverry (2), Quinton Rockwell (3), Matt Szyrepczak (4), Brandon White (5), Tanner Doucette (5), Alec Maley (6), Jake Davis (8), Jackson Owens (9) and Tracker Cox; Shane Browning, Raymond Salazar (2), Connor Flannagan (4), Brock Freeman (6), Coleman Watts (9), Jason Conway (9), Jake Gonzalez (9) and Tony Beam, W — Gonzalez. L — Owens, 2S — HC: James Davison, Rahmiah Williams, Dominic Thornton, Chad Paris; MC: Braden Hayward, Hill Alexander, Connor Beck, Nick Russell. 3B — HC: Thornton. HR — MC: Beam 2.
Record: Midland College 12-11
Next: Midland College at Luna CC (OH), noon Friday

TALL CITY

From 1C

hurdles and 800 relay at the West Texas Relays.

Ian Gonzales, Jr., Big Spring — Gonzales just missed a medal with a fourth-place showing in the 400 meters (49.31) at the Class 4A state meet last year.

Sarah Ives, Sr., Andrews — Ives placed fifth in the triple jump (37-4) at the 2015 Class 4A state meet.

Dexter Neboh, Sr., Odessa Permian — The Panthers wide receiver standout won both the 100 meters and long jump at the West Texas Relays. Athletic.net also credits him with the second furthest triple jump in the state this year (48-7 1/2).

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

Tall City Invitational Track Meet
At Memorial Stadium
Today
Competing schools
Division I: Midland High, Lee, Odessa High, Odessa Permian, San Angelo Central, Abilene Cooper, Lubbock Cooper, Lubbock High (boys only), Wolfforth Frenship, Lubbock Coronado (boys only), Lubbock Monterey, Plainview
Division II: Midland Christian, Andrews, Big Spring, Abilene Wylie, Lubbock Estacado, Snyder, Kermitwest (boys only)
Division III: Trinity, Garden City, Midland High JV, Lee JV, Midland Christian JV, Andrews JV, Big Spring JV, Odessa Permian JV, Odessa High JV, Lubbock Cooper JV, Abilene Cooper JV, Sweetwater JV (boys only), Wolfforth Frenship JV, Abilene Wylie JV, Lubbock Coronado JV (boys only), San Angelo Central JV
Schedule of events
Noon — 3,200 meters; Triple jump; Long jump; High jump; Shot put; Discus; Pole Vault
4 p.m. — 400 meter relay
4:20 p.m. — 800 meters
5:10 p.m. — Girls 100-meter hurdles
5:30 p.m. — Boys 110-meter hurdles
5:50 p.m. — 100 meters
6:10 p.m. — 800 meter relay
6:30 p.m. — 400 meters
7 p.m. — 300-meter hurdles
7:30 p.m. — 200 meters
7:30 p.m. — 1,600 meters
8:40 p.m. — 1,600 relay

TOURNEY

From 1C

with an 80-77—156 showing at the TC Invite and is the team's No. 1 player heading into today's round.

"I have seven boys who are pretty competitive and I think we'll be able to compete with the rest of the district," said MHS head coach Bryan Sledge.

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

District 3-6A Boys Tournament
First round — Bentwood Country Club, San Angelo
Lineups
Lee I: Jared Arias, Ethan Hobbs, Justin Valdez, Jared Valdez, Brayden Workman
Lee II: Cason Vitello, Lucas Molina, Ross Knitte, Derek Thomas, Nathan Lopez
Lee medalists: Hayden Williams, Gabe Castaneda
MHS I: Brinson Vitello, Blake Rasmussen, Caleb Douglass, Sebastian Cruz, Cory McCurdy
MHS medalists: Carter Petty, Matthew Tubbs

DAY

From 1C

to settle for a halve with Thomas Pieters of Belgium. Players and caddies wore black ribbons in their caps to honor the victim of Tuesday's bombings in Brussels.

In the round-robin format, all of the players still have a chance to advance from their groups and reach the knockout stage. A year ago, only three players who lost in the first round managed to reach the round of 16. It might be easier this year because there are halves during group play.

Bubba Watson (No. 4) halved his match with PGA Tour rookie Patton Kizzire.

Phil Mickelson, playing this World Golf Championship for the first time in five years, ran off three birdies in a four-hole stretch on the front nine to build a big lead and Matthew Fitzpatrick couldn't catch up. The match ended on the 14th hole.

At Austin Country Club
Austin
Yardage: 7,703. Par: 71
First round
Wednesday
(Seedings in parentheses)
Brandt Snedeker (15), United States, def. Charley Hoffman (58), United States, 2 and 1.
Charl Schwartzel (19), South Africa, def. Danny Lee (34), New Zealand, 1 up.
Jason Day (2), Australia, def. Graeme McDowell (62), Northern Ireland, 3 and 2.
Thongchai Jaidee (36), Thailand, def. Paul Casey (23), England, 2 and 1.
Rafa Cabrera-Bello (52), Spain, def. Hideki Matsuyama (12), Japan, 1 up.
Kevin Kisner (20), United States, def. Soren Kjeldsen (43), Denmark, 2 and 1.
Jason Dufner (58), United States, def. Rickie Fowler (5), United States, 2 and 1.
Seyong-Hun An (27), South Korea, halved with Scott Piercy (47), United States.
Sergio Garcia (13), Spain, def. Lee Westwood (59), England, 1 up.
Marc Leishman (25), Australia, halved with Ryan Moore (45), United States.
Bubba Watson (4), United States, halved with Patton Kizzire (63), United States.
Emiliano Grillo (33), Argentina, def. J.B. Holmes (21), United States, 3 and 2.
Patrick Reed (9), United States, def. Daniel Berger (53), United States, 1 up.
Phil Mickelson (17), United States, def. Matthew Fitzpatrick (42), England, 5 and 4.
Robert Streb (49), United States, def. Dustin Johnson (8), United States, 3 and 2.
Kiradech Aphibarnrat (37), Thailand, def. Jimmy Walker (22), United States, 2 and 1.
Louis Oosthuizen (16), South Africa, def. Matt Jones (61), Australia, 2 and 1.
Andy Sullivan (29), England, def. Bernd Wiesberger (35), Austria, 3 and 2.
Jordan Spieth (1), United States, def. Jamie Donaldson (51), Wales, 3 and 2.
Victor Dubuisson (39), France, def. Justin Thomas (10), United States, 3 and 2.
Chris Kirk (54), United States, def. Branden Grace (11), South Africa, 3 and 1.
Russell Knox (32), Scotland, halved with David Lingmerth (26), Sweden.
Adam Scott (6), Australia, halved with Thomas Pieters (55), Belgium.
Bill Haas (30), United States, def. Chris Wood (41), England, 2 and 1.
Zach Johnson (14), United States, def. Marcus Fraser (60), Australia, 4 and 3.
Martin Kaymer (44), Germany, def. Shane Lowry (24), Ireland, 1 up.
Rory McIlroy (3), Northern Ireland, def. Thorbjorn Olesen (64), Denmark, 1 up.
Kevin Na (56), United States, def. Smylie Kaufman (46), United States, 2 and 1.
Danny Willett (10), England, halved with Jaco Van Zyl (50), South Africa.
Brooks Koepka (18), United States, def. Billy Horschel (40), United States, 3 and 2.
Justin Rose (7), England def. Fabian Gomez (57), Argentina, 2 up.
Matt Kuchar (28), United States, def. Anirban Lahiri (48), India, 6 and 5.

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NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

SPURS 112
HEAT 88

SAN ANTONIO — Kawhi Leonard matched his career high with 32 points before leaving with a bruised quadriceps and the San Antonio Spurs beat the Miami Heat 112-88 on Wednesday night to remain perfect at home.

San Antonio has won its first 36 home games, leaving the Spurs a game shy of matching the record set by Chicago in 1995-96. The Spurs have won 47 consecutive regular-season games at home over two seasons.

Leonard's injury could have put a damper on the team's 60th overall victory, but it did not appear serious. He left with 6:01 remaining in the third quarter, completing a three-point play after being fouled on a driving layup by Justise Winslow.

Josh Richardson led Miami with 17 points and Dwyane Wade added 16.

JAZZ 89
ROCKETS 87

HOUSTON — Derrick Favors' dunk with 1.6 seconds left lifted Utah past Houston.

Gordon Hayward had 22 points, and Favors added 17 to help Utah move a half-game ahead of Houston into the eighth and final spot in the Western Conference playoff standings.

The Jazz trailed by as many as 18 in the second half before rallying for their first lead of the game with about 4 minutes left.

After Favors' dunk, James Harden's 3-point attempt bounced off the rim. Harden finished with 26 points, 10 assists, seven rebounds and a career-high eight steals.

CAVALIERS 113
BUCKS 104

CLEVELAND — LeBron James scored 26 points, and Kevin Love added 24 in Cleveland's victory over Milwaukee.

Kyrie Irving flirted with a triple-double on his 24th birthday, finishing with 16 points, eight rebounds and eight assists. Tristan Thompson added 13 points and 10 rebounds to help Cleveland maintain its grip on the top seed in the Eastern Conference.

However, the Cavs didn't put the Bucks away until the final minute, when J.R. Smith's 3-pointer with 20 seconds left put Cleveland ahead 111-102.

Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 24 points for the Bucks.

PISTONS 118
MAGIC 102

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Andre Drummond had 30 points and 14 rebounds, and Detroit never trailed in its victory over Orlando.

Chasing their first postseason appearance since 2009, the Pistons have won four straight, and they still have four games to go on their nine-game homestand.

Detroit shot 54 percent from the field and 11 of 24 from 3-point range.

Tobias Harris scored 18 points for the Pistons against his former team, and Reggie Jackson added 16 points and nine assists. Elfrid Payton had 20 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for Orlando.

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Toronto	48	22	.686	—
Boston	42	30	.583	7
New York	29	43	.403	20
Brooklyn	19	51	.271	29
Philadelphia	9	62	.127	39½
Southeast Division				
Atlanta	42	30	.583	—
Miami	41	30	.577	½
Charlotte	41	30	.577	½
Washington	35	36	.493	6½
Orlando	29	42	.408	12½
Central Division				
y-Cleveland	51	20	.718	—
Indiana	37	33	.529	13½
Detroit	38	34	.528	13½
Chicago	36	34	.514	14½
Milwaukee	30	42	.417	21½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
y-San Antonio	60	11	.845	—
Memphis	41	31	.569	19½
Dallas	35	35	.500	24½
Houston	35	37	.486	25½
New Orleans	26	44	.371	33½
Northwest Division				
y-Oklahoma City	49	22	.690	—
Portland	36	35	.507	13
Utah	35	36	.493	14
Denver	29	42	.408	20
Minnesota	23	48	.324	26
Pacific Division				
y-Golden State	63	7	.900	—
L.A. Clippers	43	28	.623	19½
Sacramento	27	44	.380	36½
Phoenix	19	51	.271	44
L.A. Lakers	15	55	.214	48

y-clinched division

Scores & schedule

Wednesday's Scores

Cleveland 113, Milwaukee 104
Atlanta 122, Washington 101
Boston 91, Toronto 79
Detroit 118, Orlando 102
New York 115, Chicago 107
Minnesota 113, Sacramento 104
Utah 89, Houston 87
San Antonio 112, Miami 88
Philadelphia at Denver, late
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, late
Dallas at Portland, late
L.A. Clippers at Golden State, late

Today's Games

New Orleans at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Cleveland at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m.
Chicago at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Utah at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
Portland at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

Joe Garagiola, ex-player turned glib broadcaster, dies at 90

By Bob Baum
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Joe Garagiola's nine-year baseball career was a modest one. His 57 years in broadcasting that followed made him one of the most popular figures in the sports world and beyond.

The man Arizona Diamondbacks President Derrick Hall called "one of the biggest personalities this game has ever seen" died Wednesday. He was 90.

The Diamondbacks announced Garagiola's death before their exhibition game against San Francisco, and there were murmurs of shock and sadness at the ballpark. He had been in ill health in recent years.

Growing up in the Hill neighborhood of St. Louis not far from future Hall of Famer Yogi Berra, Garagiola went on to hit .257 during nine years in the majors. His highlight came early, getting a four-hit game in the 1946 World Series and helping the hometown Cardinals win the championship as a 20-year-old rookie.

"Not only was I not the best catcher in the major leagues, I wasn't even the best catcher on my street," Garagiola once remarked.

But it was after he stopped playing that his fortunes took off. He thrived as a glib baseball broadcaster and fixture on the "Today" show, leading to a nearly 30-year association with NBC.

Garagiola won baseball's Ford C. Frick Award for excellence in broadcasting in 1991. He kept working well into his 80s, serving as a part-time analyst for Diamondbacks telecasts until he announced his retirement in February 2013.

"He had a genuine impact on the craft. He was among the first to bring a humorous, story-telling style to the booth," NBC announcer Bob Costas said.

Garagiola's son, Joe Jr., is a former general manager of the Diamondbacks and a current executive with Major League Baseball.

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of this amazing man," his family said in a statement, "who was not just beloved to those of us in his family, but to generations of baseball fans who he impacted during his eight decades in the game."

"Joe loved the game and passed that love onto family, his friends, his teammates, his listeners and everyone he came across as a player and broadcaster. His impact on the game, both on and off the field, will forever be felt."

Commissioner Rob Manfred said "all of us at Major League Baseball are deeply saddened by the loss of Joe Garagiola."

"Joe began his illustrious career as a baseball player, but it wasn't long before everyone knew that this unique individual would combine his multi-talented media skills and wonderful personality to make a mark off the field as well," Manfred said.

Manfred also praised Garagiola for being a leader in baseball's fight against smokeless tobacco.

The Cardinals signed Garagiola after rejecting Berra at a 1943 tryout. The two remained lifelong friends, with Berra often the good-natured subject of Garagiola's wit. Berra died last Sept. 15.

NFL approves ejection proposal for 1-year trial

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press

BOCA RATON, Fla. — The NFL is putting some bite in its on-field discipline.

NFL owners on Wednesday approved as a one-year trial ejecting a player who draws two unsportsmanlike conduct penalties from specific categories. Those categories include throwing a punch at or kicking an opponent; taunting; and using abusive, threatening or insulting language or gestures.

It's not quite as strong as what Commissioner Roger Goodell suggested during Super Bowl week when asked about players committing flagrant fouls. But it's a step in trying to curb unsportsmanlike conduct penalties, which hit a high of 75 in 2015.

"Sportsmanship is important to the membership," Goodell said as the owners' meetings concluded. "We all have standards. They have two unsportsmanlike conduct penalties before they're ejected. The message from the membership, our clubs and the coaches is they're going to be held to those high standards."

Associated Press

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell gestures during a press conference at the NFL owners meeting in Boca Raton, Fla., Wednesday.

Atlanta Falcons President Rich McKay, co-chairman of the competition committee that proposed the change, said the rule was amended from permanent to one season after feedback from coaches.

"We have made it a point of emphasis every time we felt like it's beginning to cross the line," McKay said of unsportsmanlike conduct penalties. "We have not been able to affect sportsmanship in the way we think we need to, so this year we have another section on sportsmanship. We have specific points we are emphasizing on sportsmanship.

"But we felt like we needed a rule to make sure that the players are held accountable to what we expect them to do and how we expect them to conduct themselves."

Also approved Wednesday as a one-year trial was placing the ball at the 25-yard line after touchbacks on kickoffs instead of at the 20. The league is seeking ways to reduce injuries on kickoff returns, which it says statistically are the most dangerous plays in the game.

Most proposals on expanding video replay in officiating were dismissed. A suggestion by Baltimore that would simplify the language in replay rules to make clearer what is reviewable has been tabled.

Expanding the use of video on sideline tablets, which many expected to pass easily, also was tabled until the May meetings in Charlotte.

FOES

From 1C

for when the former Big 12 rivals meet:

EVERYBODY'S BUDDY: Hield, who grew up in the Bahamas, is the leading scorer in the NCAA Tournament with 63 points in two games. He had 29 of his 36 points in the second half against VCU on Sunday.

He's one of the nation's most lethal 3-point shooters, making 46.3 percent of his shots from behind the arc this season and 45 percent (9 of 20) in the tournament. While he's not the only Sooners playmaker, he's the guy the Aggies will focus on. "He could go for 40," A&M coach Billy Kennedy said. "He's a guy I would think of as a LeBron James type. You better not let a guy like that go off on you."

HIELD'S POSSE: Hield, Ryan Spangler, Isaiah Cousins and Jordan Woodard have started 102 consecutive games together. All four averaged double digit points this season and all have scored at least 1,000 career points. In the three seasons they have started together, the Sooners are 74-28. "When everybody's on the court we feel comfortable and we can be relaxed," Hield said.

"You know, if coach calls our number, we know how to pick-and-roll, we know what Ryan likes, and Isaiah knows how to get the ball to me, and how I get the ball to Isaiah."

PERFECT: Texas A&M, which tied Kentucky for the SEC regular-season title, is 4-0 against the Big 12 this season, with victories against Texas, Kansas State, Baylor and Iowa State. "We're ready to go out and play," Caruso said. "Know that Oklahoma's fought and battled with teams we've beaten already, but they have something different about them. They've been playing really good all year, pretty consistent."

FIGHTING BACK: Kennedy is coaching in his first Sweet 16 five years after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. "It's no different message than Michael J. Fox or Janet Reno or so many other people who have had the disease in stressful jobs and have gone on and been successful," Kennedy said. "I'm pretty laid back. I'm from New Orleans, the Big Easy. I've coached a lot of games. I've been blessed that the stress really hasn't been a factor."

MANYANG: Oklahoma backup center Akolda Manyang left the team Sunday morning after the death of his brother in Minnesota. Coach Lon Kruger said Manyang will not rejoin the team this week.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL GLANCE

NCAA Schedules

MEN

EAST REGIONAL
At Wells Fargo Center
Philadelphia
Regional Semifinals
Friday, March 25
Wisconsin (22-12) vs. Notre Dame (23-11), 6:27 p.m.
North Carolina (30-6) vs. Indiana (27-7), 8:57 p.m.
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 27
Semifinal winners

SOUTH REGIONAL
At KFC YUM! Center
Louisville, Ky.
Regional Semifinals
Thursday, March 24
Villanova (31-5) vs. Miami (27-7), 6:10 p.m.
Kansas (32-6) vs. Maryland (27-8), 8:40 p.m.
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 26
Semifinal winners

MIDWEST REGIONAL
At The United Center
Chicago
Regional Semifinals
Friday, March 25
Virginia (26-7) vs. Iowa State (23-11), 6:10 p.m.
Syracuse (21-13) vs. Gonzaga (28-7), 8:40 p.m.
Regional Championship
Sat., May March 27
Semifinal winners

WEST REGIONAL
At The Honda Center
Anaheim, Calif.
Regional Semifinals
Thursday, March 24
Oklahoma (27-7) vs. Texas A&M (28-8), 6:27 p.m.
Oregon (30-6) vs. Duke (25-10), 8:55 p.m.
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 26
Semifinal winners

WOMEN

BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
At Bridgeport, Conn.
Saturday, March 26
UConn (34-0) vs. Mississippi State (26-7), 10:30 a.m.
UCLA (26-8) vs. Texas (30-4), 1 p.m.
Regional Championship
Monday, March 28
Semifinal winners, TBA

DALLAS REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Saturday, March 26
At Dallas
Baylor (35-1) vs. Florida State (25-7), 3 p.m.
DePaul (27-8) vs. Oregon State (30-4), 5:30 p.m.
Regional Championship
Monday, March 28
Semifinal winners, TBA

SIOUX FALLS REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Friday, March 25
At Sioux Falls, S.D.
South Carolina (33-1) vs. Syracuse (27-7), 6 p.m.
Ohio State (26-7) vs. Tennessee (21-13), 8:30 p.m.
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 27
Semifinal winners, TBA

LEXINGTON REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Friday, March 25
At Lexington, Ky.
Kentucky (25-7) vs. Washington (24-10), 6 p.m.
Notre Dame (33-1) vs. Stanford (29-7), 8:30 p.m.
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 27
Semifinal winners, TBA

NIT

Wednesday, March 23
George Washington 82, Florida 77
Georgia Tech (21-14) vs. San Diego State (27-6), late

WNIT

Wednesday, March 23
Florida Gulf Coast 73, Tulane 61
Utah (18-14) at Oregon (22-10), late

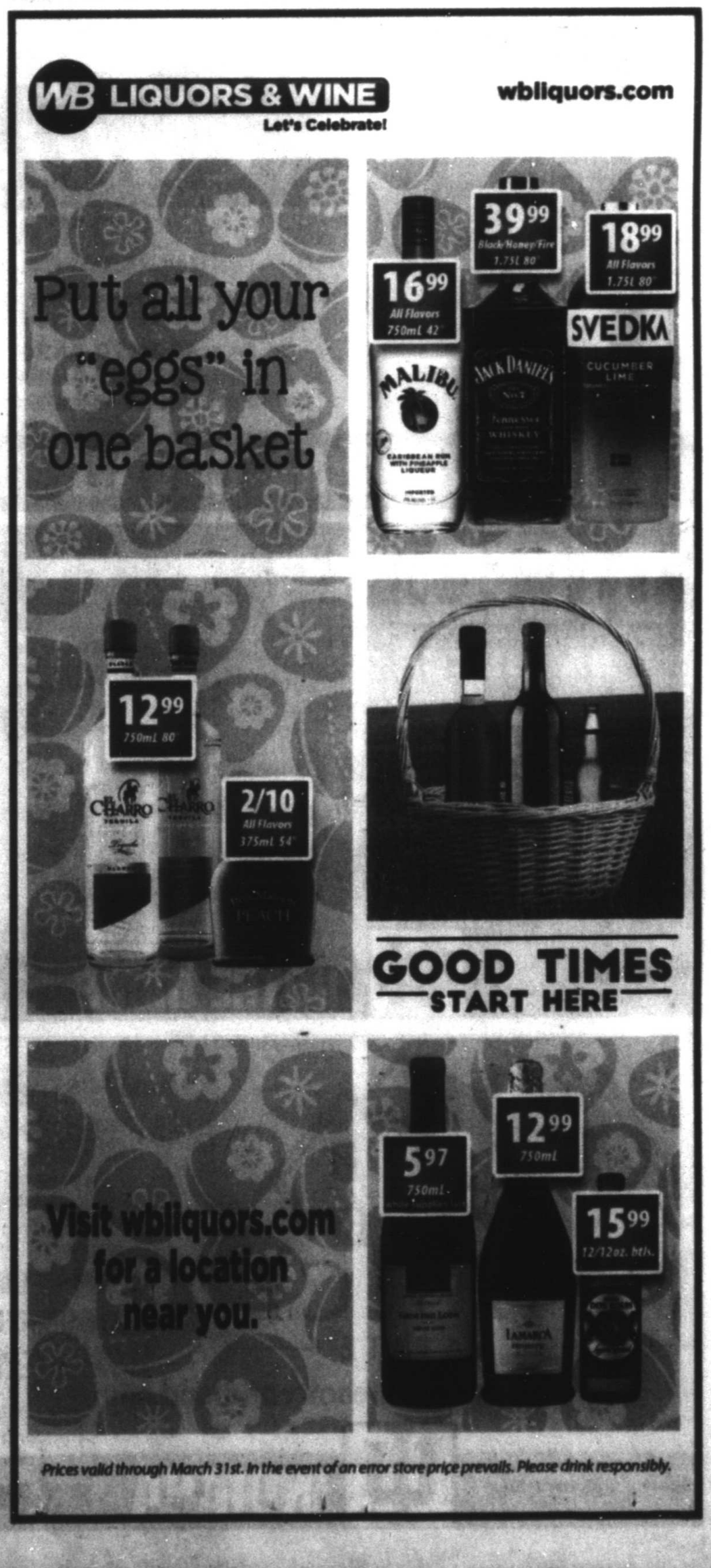
NCAA Division II

MEN

Wednesday, March 23
Lincoln Memorial 93, Berry 75
West Liberty 75, Stonehill 74
Augustana (S.D.) 86, Tarleton State 79
Saginaw State vs. Western Oregon, late

WOMEN

Semifinals
Wednesday, March 23
Lubbock Christian 67, Spring 57
Alaska Anchorage 67, Grand Valley State 47



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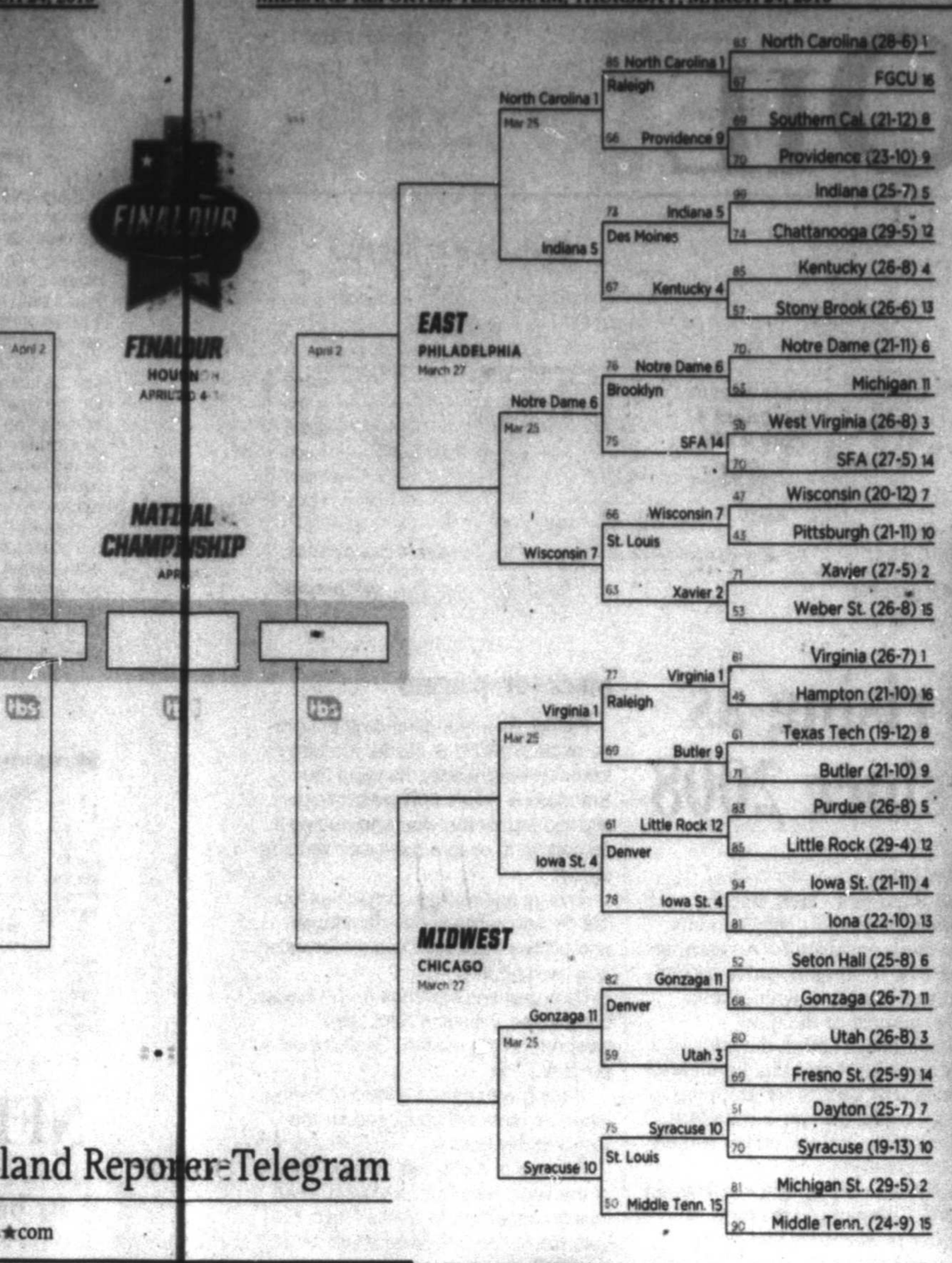

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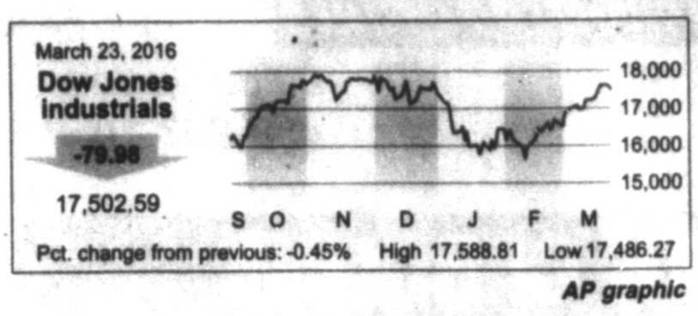
A DAY ON WALL STREET



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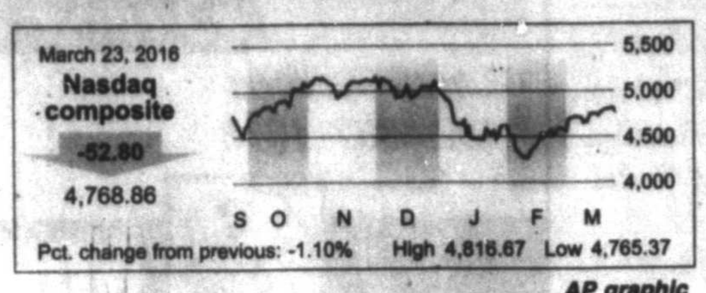

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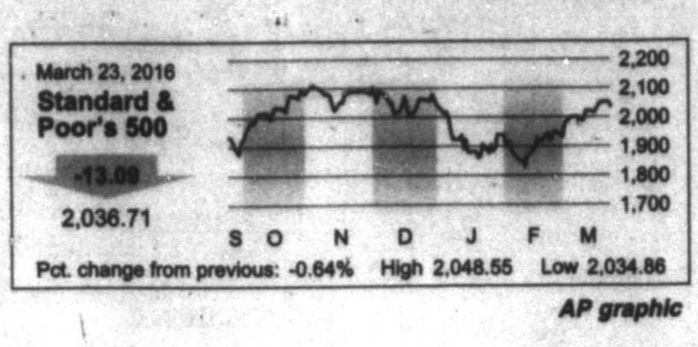


AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Wednesday: $39.79
Previous: $41.45

POSTED

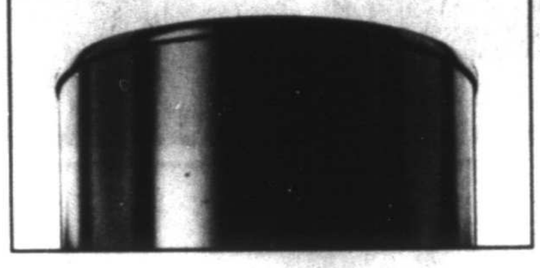
Wednesday: $36.25
Previous: $37.75

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Wednesday: $31.65
Previous: $33.15

NATURAL GAS

Wednesday: $1.794
Previous: $1.863



US recession risks rising as profits fall by most since 2008

By Rich Miller
Bloomberg

On the face of it, the economic update that the government is releasing on Friday should be a big yawn. Economists expect the revised numbers to confirm what we know already — that gross domestic product grew at an annual rate of just 1 percent in the final three months of 2015.

But it would be a mistake to dismiss the release — even if you're off from work for the Easter holiday. That's because the government also will be publishing its first estimate of what happened to company profits in the period. And the news isn't expected to be pretty.

Pre-tax earnings probably fell 9.5 percent in the fourth quarter from a year earlier, after dropping 5.1 percent in the third, according to economists at JPMorgan Chase in New York. That would be the biggest decline since the 31 percent free fall in the closing months of 2008 during the height of the financial crisis.

Profits last quarter were probably unusually depressed by a $20.8 billion penalty payment by BP to settle claims over the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. But even after stripping out that one-time charge, earnings likely still fell about 5 percent, by JPMorgan's reckoning.

Why is that important? Well, history shows that when profits fall, the economy often follows them downwards. An earnings hit of the size that JPMorgan said is taking place has led to a recession within three years about 90 percent of the time.

Now, the bank doesn't think the odds of a downturn are anywhere near that high. After all, a big reason why profits are dropping is because energy companies have been hurt by plunging oil prices, which on net should be good for the economy.

Yet, that's not the only reason earnings are under pressure. Companies are being pinched by poor productivity and rising labor costs on one side and an inability to raise prices in a lackluster economy on the other. The risk is that they'll respond to the margin squeeze by cutting back on hiring and spending, leading to a recession.

"With wages picking up but productivity growing in slow motion, margins are likely to continue their declines, which have historically signaled an expansion near its end," JPMorgan economist Jesse Edgerton wrote in a March 21 research note.

The bank puts the probability of a recession beginning within two years at around one-in-two and within three years at about two-in-three. Now, that's something worth paying attention to.

Stocks drop again

Falling prices for oil and other commodities pulled U.S. stocks modestly lower on Wednesday, nudging the Standard & Poor's 500 index slightly into the red for the year and putting it on course to snap a five-week winning streak.

Energy and mining companies led the decline, while consumer staples and utilities stocks bucked the broader downward trend.

Disappointing earnings from several companies, including Nike, also weighed on the market. Oil slumped 4 percent.

Trading was muted ahead of Friday, when markets will be closed for the Good Friday holiday.

"It's one of the lowest volume days of the year," said Erik Davidson, chief investment officer for Wells Fargo Private Bank. "We're seeing a little bit of a sell-off, but not much."

Investors can expect similarly low trading volume on Thursday.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 79.98 points, or 0.5 percent, to 17,502.59. The S&P 500 index lost 13.09 points, or 0.6 percent, to 2,036.71. The Nasdaq composite dropped 52.80 points, or 1.1 percent, to 4,768.86.

Metals prices fall

Among metals, gold fell $24.60, or 2 percent, to $1,224.40 an ounce. Silver slid 61 cents, or 3.9 percent, to $15.27 an ounce. Copper lost 5 cents, or 2.4 percent, to $2.24 a pound.

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
MktVGold	1222247	19.03	-1.55
BkotAm	926034	13.62	-.14
DirDGlbBr	734881	3.84	+.71
S&P500ETF	722910	203.21	-1.35
B iPVixST	667593	19.41	+.86

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
SwBEtioFu23	9.17	+2.08	+29.3
PepcoHold	26.93	+5.69	+26.8
BP Pru	16.23	+2.57	+18.8
AtlasR pfE	5.60	+.60	+12.0
AtlasR pfD	4.55	+.40	+9.6

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
DxGBull rs	51.34	-14.97	-22.6
DrGMBll rs	66.18	-16.42	-19.9
DBDogs22	16.54	-3.69	-18.2
Titan Intl	5.07	-.94	-15.6
DxBiotBull	6.19	-1.13	-15.4

DIARY

Advanced	805
Declined	2,295
Unchanged	81
Total issues	3,181
New Highs	64
New Lows	11
Volume	3,568,165,985

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
NwGold g	49867	3.46	-.37
B2gold g	34007	1.55	-.10
CentrusEn	25036	3.34	+.24
CheniereEn	23301	34.82	-1.06
BarcGSOil	23117	5.36	-.30

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Arrhythm	4.40	+.38	+9.5
CentrusEn	3.34	+.24	+7.7
VolitionRX	3.89	+.23	+6.3
Tofutti	3.41	+.16	+4.8
ArcheUr	16.01	+.64	+4.2

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
SnchzPP rs	10.71	-1.79	-14.3
StrPstCrn	28.22	-3.16	-10.1
NwGold g	3.46	-.37	-9.7
AskanoG g	2.18	-.23	-9.5
NovaBay rs	2.06	-.21	-9.3

DIARY

Advanced	114
Declined	249
Unchanged	20
Total issues	383
New Highs	9
New Lows	3
Volume	74,941,232

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
CSVixSh rs	318513	5.24	+.43
MicronT	292068	10.65	-.79
SiriusXM	258979	3.86	-.06
Apple Inc	248623	106.13	-.59
PwShs QQQ	196768	107.23	-.89

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
ChinaNRes	2.58	+.54	+26.5
CodePath n	2.63	+.55	+26.4
Celator Ph	12.48	+2.47	+24.7
TownSprts	2.50	+.31	+14.2
ZosanoPh n	2.71	+.33	+13.9

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Amaya g	11.18	-3.07	-21.5
ChinaHGS	2.02	-.41	-16.9
InsysTher s	17.42	-3.04	-14.9
HTG Mol n	2.92	-.50	-14.6
SkySolar	2.31	-.39	-14.4

DIARY

Advanced	571
Declined	2,207
Unchanged	171
Total issues	2,949
New Highs	25
New Lows	39
Volume	1,669,768,307

Will Americans like Blendle, the iTunes for news? Time will tell

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Americans pay to download music. They pay for TV episodes. Will they pay a few cents for news articles to escape ads and bypass subscription requirements?

The news service Blendle launches Wednesday in the U.S. with 20 news outlets, including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and Bloomberg Businessweek. You pay 9 cents to 49 cents to read a story (with a refund if you don't like it).

For news outlets, it means a new source of revenue and a potentially younger audience. Readers can cut through the sludge of online content and get higher-quality stories from human editors and software formulas.

Although Blendle has more than 100,000 paying, active users in the Netherlands and Germany, it could be a hard sell for Americans used to free stories online.

For one, there's more online news available in English than in Dutch or German, and a lot of it is free. And news outlets that block almost all stories from non-subscribers are more prevalent in Europe, said Rick Edmonds, a media business analyst for the Poynter Institute, a journalism teaching organization.

In addition, Americans also haven't warmed up to past micropayments efforts. Subscriptions with set monthly fees tend to be more popular than something that requires watching the tab. In music, for instance, Americans are increasingly spending more on subscription services like Spotify while revenue slips from downloads of individual songs and albums.

Edmonds is optimistic about Blendle, though, saying its payments technology is simple to use and could make it succeed where other pay-by-story efforts have failed.

And any payments, however small, are better than nothing:

"If a customer chooses to buy just one article a day from The Wall Street Journal, then I'm happy they're choosing to do that," said Katie Vanneck-Smith, the chief customer officer for Journal owner Dow Jones.

She said it's not likely someone reading just an article a day would have subscribed anyway. But at the Journal's price of 39 cents a story on Blendle, that's $100 a year for the newspaper.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $7.90 Down 1.10

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $101.54 Down 1.82

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $4.60 Up 0.11

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $76.70 Down 1.32

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $0.99 Down 0.12

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $2.65 Down 0.09

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $21.20 Down 0.09

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $28.01 Down 0.40

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $5.08 Down 0.14

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $16.77 Up 0.30

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc	1.92f	17	38.54	-.09	+12.0
Abraxas	...	...	1.02	-.06	-3.8
AdaDvsEq	.92e	...	12.52	-.05	-2.4
Alcoa	.12	16	9.32	-.53	-5.6
AlonUSA	.60	14	10.40	-.90	-29.9
Ambev	.19e	...	5.11	-.04	+14.6
Amgen	4.00	16	148.76	-1.86	-8.4
Anadarko	.20m	...	46.29	-1.72	-4.7
Apache	1.00	...	47.86	-2.41	+7.5
Apple Inc	2.08	11	106.13	-.59	+.8
ApldMatl	.40	19	20.28	-.50	+8.6
ArcelorMit	...	...	4.17	-.08	+29.7
Archrock	.75f	...	6.69	-.24	-11.0
ATMOS	1.56f	23	71.84	+.23	+14.0
AutoData	2.12	28	88.53	-.11	+4.5
BP PLC	2.40e	...	30.20	-.74	-3.4
BabsCClinv	1.20	...	17.14	-.24	-.6
BakrHu	.68	...	44.96	-1.47	-2.6
BcoBrad s	.44e	...	7.19	-.45	+49.5
BkofAm	.20	10	13.62	-.14	-19.1
B iPVixST	...	...	19.41	+.86	-3.4
BarrickG	.08	46	13.27	-1.23	+79.8
BasicEnSv	...	...	2.67	-.45	-.4
BerkHa A	...	14	211370.00	-2030.05	+6.9
BlkHillsCp	1.68f	39	58.44	-.22	+25.9
BlueErth h	...	...	.05	+.00	-90.0
BrityEq	1.52f	45	62.34	-.46	-8.4
BrownFA	1.36f	33	104.17	-.62	-5.4
BrownFB	1.36f	29	96.62	-.90	-2.7
CVS Health	1.70f	21	100.74	-1.20	+3.0
Cameron	...	18	66.22	-.50	+4.8
Caterpillar	3.08	15	73.68	-1.87	+8.4
CelatorPh	...	...	12.48	+2.47	+809.1
Celestic g	...	13	10.72	-.03	-2.8
Cemex	.40t	...	6.84	-.37	+22.8
CntryLink	2.16	20	31.02	-.60	+20.3
ChesEng	...	...	4.13	-.69	-8.2
Chevron	4.29	36	93.59	-1.91	+4.0
Chicos	.32f	44	12.35	-.44	+15.7
Citigroup	.32m	...	94.47	-2.86	+5.7
Cisco	1.04f	14	27.83	-.45	+3.3
Citigroup	.20	10	42.37	-1.01	+18.1
ClayEng	...	...	7.90	-1.10	-73.3
CocaCola	1.40f	26	40.46	-.04	+5.8

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
ColgPalm	1.56f	25	69.80	+.24	+4.8
ConAgra	1.00	23	43.31	+.37	+2.7
ConchoRes	...	...	101.54	-1.82	+9.3
ConocoPhil	1.00m	...	39.85	-2.07	-14.8
CrackerB	4.40a	21	150.22	-1.09	+18.4
CSVelVST	...	...	23.59	-1.16	-8.6
CSVLgCrd rs	...	...	...	24.21	-3.34
CSVixSh rs	...	...	5.24	+.43	-16.3
CrosTim	1.45e	10	15.83	-.17	+21.7
DCP Mid	3.12	30	26.61	-1.07	+7.9
DTE	2.92f	20	89.39	+1.02	+11.5
Dataram h	...	...	.73	+.01	+10.6
DevonE	.24m	...	25.76	-2.25	-19.5
DkGBull rs	...	...	51.34	-14.97	+111.4
DxBiotBull	...	...	6.19	-1.13	-70.7
DirDGlbBr	...	...	3.84	+.71	-76.8
Disney	1.42f	18	96.83	-.75	-7.9
DowChm	1.84f	12	51.18	-.07	-.6
EOG Resrcs	.67	...	74.34	-1.56	+5.0
EmpDist	1.04	25	32.96	-.20	+17.4
EnCana g	.06m	...	5.80	-.29	+13.9
Energen	.08	...	32.93	-1.36	-19.7
EgyTrEq s	1.14f	6	7.15	-.52	-48.0
EngyTsfr	4.22f	...	29.03	-.57	-13.9
EnPro	.84f	...	58.76	-1.80	+29.5
EnProdPt	1.56f	19	24.30	-.83	-5.0
Ericsson	.43e	...	9.63	-.17	+.2
ExxonMbl	2.92	22	83.75	-.37	+7.4
Facebook	...	74	112.54	+.29	+7.5
FordM	.60a	8	13.26	-.33	-5.9
FrptMcM	...	...	9.75	-1.24	+44.0
GATX	1.60f	9	46.84	-.89	+10.1
GabMultT	.94e	...	7.18	-.09	-4.3
GAInv	1.15e	...	30.75	-.16	-3.7
GenElec	.92	...	31.07	+.01	-.3
GileadSci	1.72	8	90.08	-3.64	-11.0
GlBasSci rs	...	...	.28	+.13	-70.2
GtPlainEn	1.08f	23	31.35	+.06	+14.8
HalconRs rs	...	...	1.07	-.07	-15.1
HallibrTn	.72	...	35.03	-.94	+2.9
iShBrazil	1.03e	...	25.67	-1.26	+24.1
iShJapan	.13e	...	11.42	-.15	-5.8
iShSilver	...	...	14.51	-.61	+10.0

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	32.97	-.47	-6.6
iShEMkts	.84e	...	33.44	-.58	+3.9
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	56.73	-.58	-3.4
iShR2K	1.73e	...	106.88	-2.34	-5.1
Intel	1.04	14	32.00	-.32	-7.1
InterDig	.80	16	53.55	-.33	+9.2
ItauUnibH	.45e	...	8.44	-.50	+29.8
JohnJn	3.00	18	108.50	+1.12	+5.6
KimbClk	3.68f	38	133.98	+.34	+5.2
KindMorg	.50m	27	17.75	-.75	+19.0
Kinross g	...	...	2.94	-.23	+61.5
LegacyRes	.60m	...	.99	-.12	-43.4
Lulys	...	...	4.85	-.10	+10.7
MarathrO	.20m	...	10.19	-1.12	-19.1
MVJrGold	...	...	26.78	-1.93	+39.4
MktVGold	.12e	...	19.03	-1.55	+38.7
MktVRus	.64e	...	16.21	-.56	+10.6
McDnlds	3.56f	25	124.19	+.37	+5.1
Merck	1.84f	25	53.08	+.05	+.5
MeritMed	...	32	17.51	-.36	-5.8
MexcoEn	...	...	2.65	-.09	-18.0
MicronT	...	6	10.65	-.79	-24.8
Microsft	1.44	35	53.97	-.10	-2.7
Mondelez	.68	9	39.94	+.03	-10.9
Nabors	.24	...	8.47	-.48	-.5
NatGrid	3.35e	...	69.90	-.05	+.8
NOilVarco	1.84	12	31.38	-.84	-6.3
NewmtM	.10	33	24.98	-2.41	+38.9
NiceB s	.64	30	62.44	-2.46	-.1
NvMAd	.79e	...	14.23	+.03	+2.7
NvPMI	.78e	...	14.13	+.03	+3.4
NuvPI	.82e	...	14.36	+.01	+1.8
NSTFI3	.55e	...	14.83	+.02	+2.0
NTXGI	.95	...	14.82	-.08	+2.7
OasisPet	...	...	6.86	-1.18	-6.5
OcciPet	3.00	51	68.29	-1.22	+1.0
OfficeOpt	...	...	6.34	+.13	+12.4
Oracle	.60	20	40.75	-.63	+12.0
ParTech	...	...	5.21	-.18	-22.8
ParkDrl	...	...	2.03	-.11	+11.5
PattUTI	.40	...	16.91	-.23	+12.1
PennaRE	.84	...	20.80	-.18	-4.8
PepcoHold	1.08	22	26.93	+5.69	+3.5
Pmian	.35e	14	5.99	-.04	+18.4
Petrobras	...	...	5.36	-.41	+24.7

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Pfizer	1.20f	18	30.19	-.19	-6.5
PioNtrl	.06	65	136.77	-3.43	+9.1
PlainsAAP	2.80	15	23.11	-1.00	...
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	107.23	-.89	-4.1
Praxair	3.00f	21	112.80	+.22	+10.2
PrmEgy	...	17	36.97	-1.03	-30.2
PUVixST rs	...	...	23.58	+2.02	-16.8
PrUCrude rs	...	...	9.70	-.84	-22.6
ProctGam	2.65	27	82.82	+.06	+4.3
RangeRs	.06m	...	31.16	-1.60	+26.7
RegionsFn	.24	12	8.08	-.10	-15.8
RiteAid	...	36	8.00	+.02	+2.0
Rowan	.40	21	15.41	-.59	-9.1
RoyDShllA	3.76	72	47.70	-.76	+4.2
SpdrDJIA	3.96e	...	174.81	-.89	+.5
SpdrGold	...	...	116.61	-2.70	+14.9
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	203.21	-1.35	-.3
Spd/OGEx	.73e	...	29.41	-1.50	-2.7
SabnR	2.50e	10	31.50	-.45	+20.0
SanderPm	.88e	12	86.11	+.52	+13.7
Schlmbrg	2.00	22	72.96	-.65	+4.6
SiriusXM	...	39	3.86	-.06	-5.2
Smucker	2.68	35	128.77	+1.07	+4.4
Sprint	...	...	3.15	-.22	-13.0
SP Engy	2.04e	...	61.54	-1.38	+2.0
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	22.45	-.17	-5.8

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
SP Util	1.55e	...	48.78	+.36	+12.7
SunEdison	...	...	1.27	-.22	-75.0
SunocoLog	1.92f	36	24.23	-.65	-5.7
TeleEsp	1.03e	...	10.95	-.20	-1.8
Tesoro	2.00	6	90.62	-.97	-14.0
3M Co	4.44f	21	164.27	-.64	+9.0
Torchmark	.56f	13	64.70	-.41	-4.1
Transocn	...	...	9.27	-.73	-25.1
TriContl	.52e	...	16.75	-.08	-1.3
Twitter	...	...	16.01	-.85	-30.8
TylerTech	...	57	121.45	-2.77	-30.3
USBM	1.32	18	36.13	-.85	-2.3
US CJFd	...	...	10.11	-.43	-8.1
USSteel	.20	...	14.84	-.75	+86.0
Vale SA	.29e	...	3.84	-.39	+16.7
ValeantPh	...	...	33.43	+1.54	-67.1
ValeroE	2.40f	7	64.90	-1.17	-8.2
VulcanM	.80f	60	104.60	-.35	+10.1
WEC Engy	1.98f	25	58.83	+.59	+14.7
WalgBoots	1.44	25	82.34	-.46	-3.3
WstnRefin	1.52f	7	29.50	-1.17	-17.2
WhitingPet	...	...	7.18	-.98	-23.9
WmsCos	2.56	51	16.26	-1.37	-36.7
XcelEngy	1.38f	21	41.12	+.35	+14.5
Xerox	.31f	22	10.56	-.14	-.7
Yamana g	.06	...	2.89	-.29	+55.4

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD %Chg	52-wk % Chg
18,351.36	15,370.33	Dow Jones Industrials	17,502.59	-79.98	-.45	+.45	-1.22
9,176.20	6,403.31	Dow Jones Transportation	7,956.78	-54.89	-.69	+5.97	-8.83
564.59	539.96	Dow Jones Utilities	658.83	+3.84	+.59	+14.02	+13.20
11,254.87	8,937.99	NYSE Composite	10,099.68	-94.52	-.93	-.43	-7.32
5,231.94	4,209.76	Nasdaq Composite	4,768.86	-52.80	-1.10	-4.76	-2.21
2,134.72	1,810.10	S&P 500	2,036.71	-13.09	-.64	-.35	-1.18
1,551.28	1,215.14	S&P Midcap	1,412.12	-17.81	-1.25	+.87	-8.19
22,537.15	18,462.43	Wilshire 5000	20,914.94	+195.17	+.93	-1.19	-4.20
1,298.00	943.09	Russell 2000	1,075.89	-21.65	-1.97	-5.30	-12.82

TODAY: Sunny High: 67 Low: 44

FRIDAY: Sunny High: 78 Low: 47

SATURDAY: Sunny High: 82 Low: 43

EASTER SUNDAY: Sunny High: 67 Low: 43

MONDAY: Sunny High: 75 Low: 53

TUESDAY: Mostly sunny High: 82 Low: 56

Local forecast

There is no precipitation in the forecast for the next six days, according to the National Weather Service. Forecasted highs for today and Easter Sunday are 67 and the lows are in the lower 40s. Otherwise, look for highs in the upper 70s and lower 80s, according to NWS.

The record high for March 23 is 90 set in 2009 and 1998. The record low is 20 set in 1952. On March 23 of last year, the high was 83 and the low was 48.

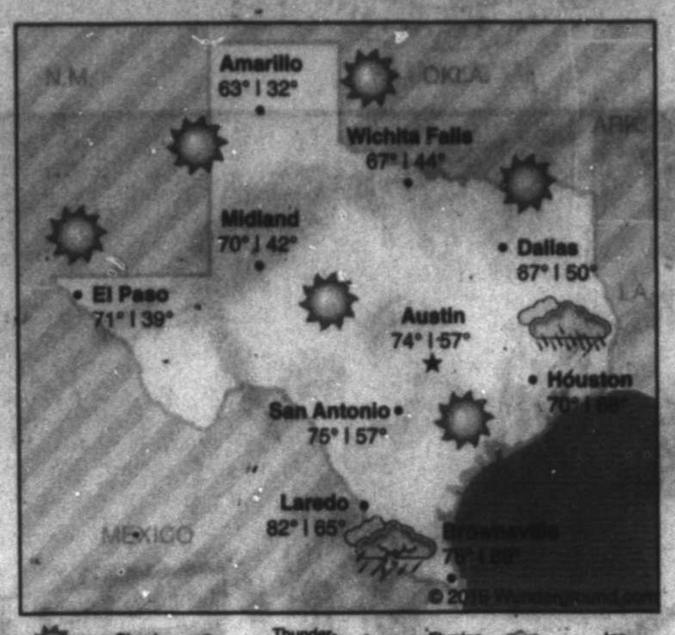
Weather brief

DENVER

Blizzard shuts down Denver airport, closes highways

A powerful spring blizzard stranded travelers at Denver's airport and shut down hundreds of miles of highway in Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska as it spread into the Midwest on Wednesday.

Snow blown by gusts up to around 50 mph made it unsafe for planes to land or take off at Denver International Airport, leading officials to close it around midday.



Cloudy · Partly Cloudy · Showers · Thunder-storms · Rain · Flurries · Snow · Ice

Precipitation

Tuesday	0.00 in.
Wednesday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.34 in.
Year total	0.82 in.
Normal total (year to date)	1.7 in.

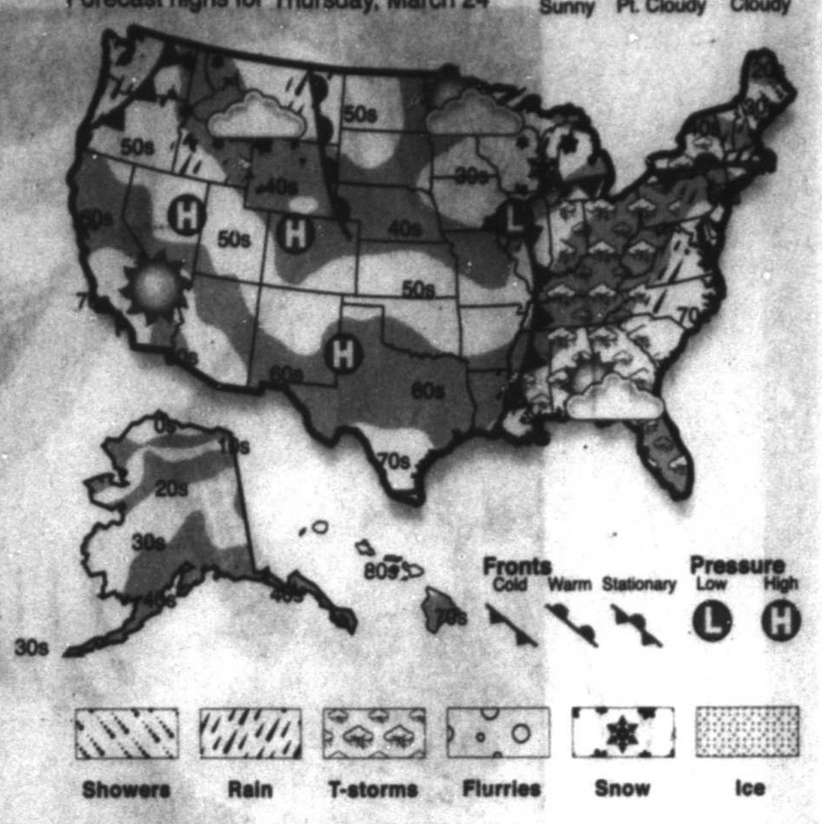
Wednesday's temperatures

High	82
Low	53
Normal high	72
Normal low	43
Sunrise	7:47 a.m.
Sunset	8:03 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Thursday, March 24

Sunny · Pt. Cloudy · Cloudy



Showers · Rain · T-storms · Flurries · Snow · Ice

Fear of arrest prevents man from seeking help he needs

DEAR ABBY

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Her column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.

DEAR ABBY: I find myself sometimes wanting to commit the most heinous of crimes. The desire to do this has been with me my entire life.

I was sexually abused by my mother and oldest brother. While that's no excuse, I understand why I may be the way I am.

At 51, I have never committed any act against a young girl, but the desire is clearly there for me.

The issue before me is that if I seek help for this problem, those who can provide it are required by law in this state to report me.

How am I to overcome these urges when no matter what I do I am considered guilty? — ANONYMOUS IN AMERICA

DEAR ANONYMOUS: You should be discussing these feelings with a licensed mental health professional. If fear that you will be arrested is what is holding you back, please be aware that if the urge or feeling is not directed at anyone in particular, a therapist is not required to report what you are confiding.

However, if there is a direct threat toward a specific individual, it must be reported, even if it has not yet occurred.

DEAR ABBY: I have attended many events where the national anthem has been sung by an invited guest and many where it has been prerecorded.

When the national anthem is being sung live, is it disrespectful to the performer to sing along?

Some people who sing along are off-key or sing so loud they drown out the performance for the unfortunate attendees seated near them. — AUDREY IN ARIZONA

DEAR AUDREY: Our national anthem is notoriously difficult to sing, as many professionals have discovered to their embarrassment when they tried to perform it publicly. At large events during which the anthem is played, it is not uncommon for many of the audience members to be so filled with patriotic fervor that they join in.

If memory serves me, the volume is usually so loud that no one can hear what's coming out of their mouths.

To the best of my knowledge, no rule of etiquette forbids anyone from singing along with Beyonce, Lady Gaga, Garth Brooks or Renee Fleming — if they have the nerve to try.

DEAR ABBY: I am an old lady, happy I can still get around using a cane. I would like to thank the many people who take the extra time to open a door for me or hold it open longer so I can get through.

I am grateful for their help, and being offered a place ahead of them in the checkout line is beyond appreciated. Thank you, thank you.

However, may I offer a suggestion to those helpful folks, often robust men, who want to do more?

If I look unsteady, please DO NOT grab me by the arm and try to steer me like an empty bicycle!

Instead, hold your arm out for me to lean on and allow me to do the navigating. It may be slow, but with your help, it will be safe. — CARYL IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR CARYL: That's an excellent suggestion, and one I hope helpful readers of both sexes will pay attention to.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Class act

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 8 7 2
♡ Q 9 5
♢ 7 6 3
♣ A 10 2

WEST
♠ 10 6 5
♡ K 6 4
♢ 10 5 4
♣ 9 8 7 5

EAST
♠ Q J
♡ A 10 8 7 2
♢ Q J 2
♣ J 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A K 4 3
♡ J 3
♢ A K 9 8
♣ K Q 6

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: Four of ♡

Many players with 4-3-3-3 distribution including a four-card major will not bother to use Stayman. Today's deal is an example of why. Note that a four-spade contract would have no chance. Nine tricks in a no-trump contract were far from certain, but at least there was a chance.

South played low from dummy on the opening heart lead and East played the eight, trying to maintain communication with his partner. South took some time after winning with his jack. Should the hearts be splitting 4-4, he would have time to duck a spade. Should they split 5-3, he might as well let them take their four heart tricks and hope a squeeze developed. South made the unusual play of firing back a low heart at trick two!

South was simply trying to find out how many heart losers he had, but his play caused West to think that South probably had a good heart suit and was trying to establish it. West rose with his king and shifted to a low club, running to East's jack and declarer's king. South continued with the ace, king, and another spade. East had no good discard on the third spade. He wanted West to go back to hearts, but a low diamond discard might fetch a second club. East discarded a low club to prevent this, but that caused West to shift to a diamond!

West was crestfallen when he saw the full deal, but East was all class. "Partner, I would have done exactly the same thing," said East.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, March 24, 2016:

This year many possibilities head your way. Though you generally act independently and create your own luck, others seem to want to bestow favors upon you. Recognize, however, that those involved might have certain expectations. Make your choices with this awareness. If you are single, you'll choose to expand your immediate circle of friends. Look to fall 2016 for the type of connection you dream of. If you are attached, the two of you interact well, although you'll find that your significant other wants more attention. Schedule a long-discussed trip together. LIBRA energizes when in contact with you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ You notice that others change their tune far too quickly for your taste. Be happy that those around you can integrate with ease. An element of the unexpected runs through your day. Flex with the moment. Your actions will make someone feel valued. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Focus on your day-to-day schedule. If you're feeling as if life is a bit boring, ask yourself how you can revitalize your daily life. What changes will or can you make? Your creativity might be stymied at the present moment. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ You could feel as if you need some time to slow down and take another look at what is happening around you. Confusion surrounds a family matter. Know that everything is changeable; just ride the wave to the end. You have the energy you need. Tonight: Out late.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You could be very tired and worn out by yesterday's lunar eclipse. You might want to take some time off to recuperate. You get hit hard enough by Full Moons and New Moons, and a lunar eclipse is no exception. Slow down some, at least for now. Tonight: Veg a little.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Conversations tend to bring agreement between you and others. You might be surprised by how much a particular conversation has changed. You might be unusually creative when you hit a hassle. Tonight: Remain sensitive to the costs of continuing as you have been.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ You are in a period where you will land on your feet no matter what. Don't abuse your luck, and you will be fine. A conversation with a family member could become very loving, as long as you keep your cool. Don't go overboard. Tonight: Make it your treat.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ You have the wherewithal to deal with any problem that heads your way. An emotional domestic matter could come forward. You easily will be able to handle whatever comes up, as long as you can avoid a power play. Tonight: Create a scenario that pleases you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Step back and come to terms with what is happening around you. You will understand your reaction once you look at the facts surrounding a power play. Your response needs to come from your creativity rather than be automatic. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep if you can.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You might come to an understanding of what is possible with the support of a key person. An adjustment must be made in order to pave the path to where you want to go. You are likely to be surprised by a family member's response. Tonight: Make it your treat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Separate your personal issues from what is going on. You seem to be quite tired and withdrawn at the moment. How you see a personal matter could be coloring how you feel. Let go of a personal issue when you're at work or out in the world. Tonight: A must appearance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Sometimes, when you are taken by surprise, you have a tendency to be too reactive. Use caution in key conversations with a sibling or neighbor. You might notice how erratic this person can be. Tonight: Read between the lines when engaged in important communication.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Refuse to do anything halfway. You know where you are heading and why, but a money matter could slow you down some. Don't make the assumption that this financial matter is negative; it simply might be time-consuming. Tonight: Make time for a special person.

BORN TODAY

Actor Steve McQueen (1930), former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Andrew Mellon (1855), fashion designer Tommy Hilfiger (1951)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 See 44-Across
5 Bremen or Hamburg, locally
10 Fast-food order
14 Joie de vivre
15 Circus Maximus attire
16 Pizza chain started in Chicago, informally
17 Rich and Chris in a capital?
19 Pond denizen
20 Stumped
21 Fragrant hybrid
23 Billy and Minnie on a road?
27 Pub order
30 Cause harm
31 Capt.'s direction
32 Family member
33 "__ Mir Bist Du Schoen": Andrews Sisters hit
34 Come out
37 i follower
38 Vida and John in a ballpark?
40 i follower
41 Nicks on albums
43 1980s-'90s gaming console
44 With 1-Across, woodcutter who stole from thieves
45 River island
46 "I gotta run!"
48 Animal in the Chinese zodiac
49 Karen and Adam on a hill?
53 Eellike fish
54 Brand with classic "beep beep" commercials
58 Forte
59 Eddie and Arsenio in a concert venue?
63 Scams
64 __ firma
65 Exam type
66 Some honored Brits: Abbr.
67 Aerosol targets
68 Europe's highest volcano

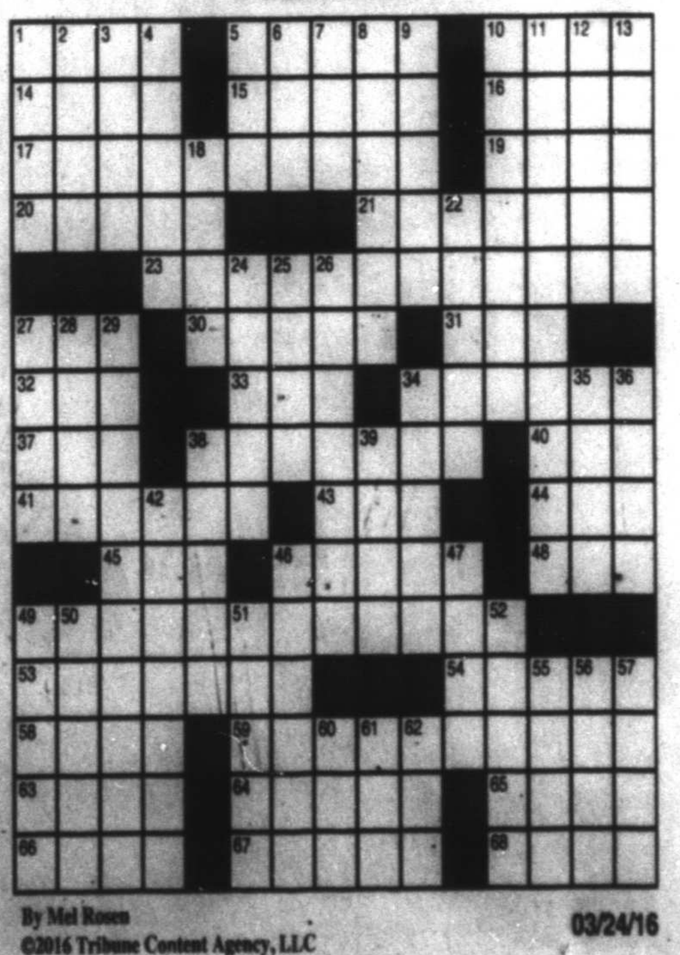
DOWN

1 Composer Bartók
2 Settled down
3 Cricket equipment
4 Starting stakes
5 Jeanne d'Arc, e.g.: Abbr.
6 Craggy crest
7 Earlier
8 Three-syllable foot
9 Expressed disdain for
10 Often photogenic event
11 A round of 73, usually
12 Use a divining rod
13 Fall flower
18 Acclaim
22 "You __ Destiny"
24 To the manor born
25 Dijon deity
26 Property recipient, in law
27 Nile threats
28 Hot stuff?
29 Affection
34 Campus breeze
35 It might be a big benefit
36 Cut and paste, say
38 Muzzle wearer, probably
39 Derisive shout
42 One way to get backstage
46 Worked in a salon
47 Art major's subj.
49 Rattling sound
50 Golden calf maker, in Exodus
51 "Peachy-keen!"
52 Second-deepest U.S. lake
55 Trading center
56 Feud faction
57 Clay crock
60 Good bud
61 Guess wrong
62 Dorm deputies: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 03/24/16



By Mel Rosen
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Mexican American Music Association
presents

Javier Galvan
from San Antonio
Saturday, March 26
2:30-5pm
Carousel Stage
FREE CONCERT

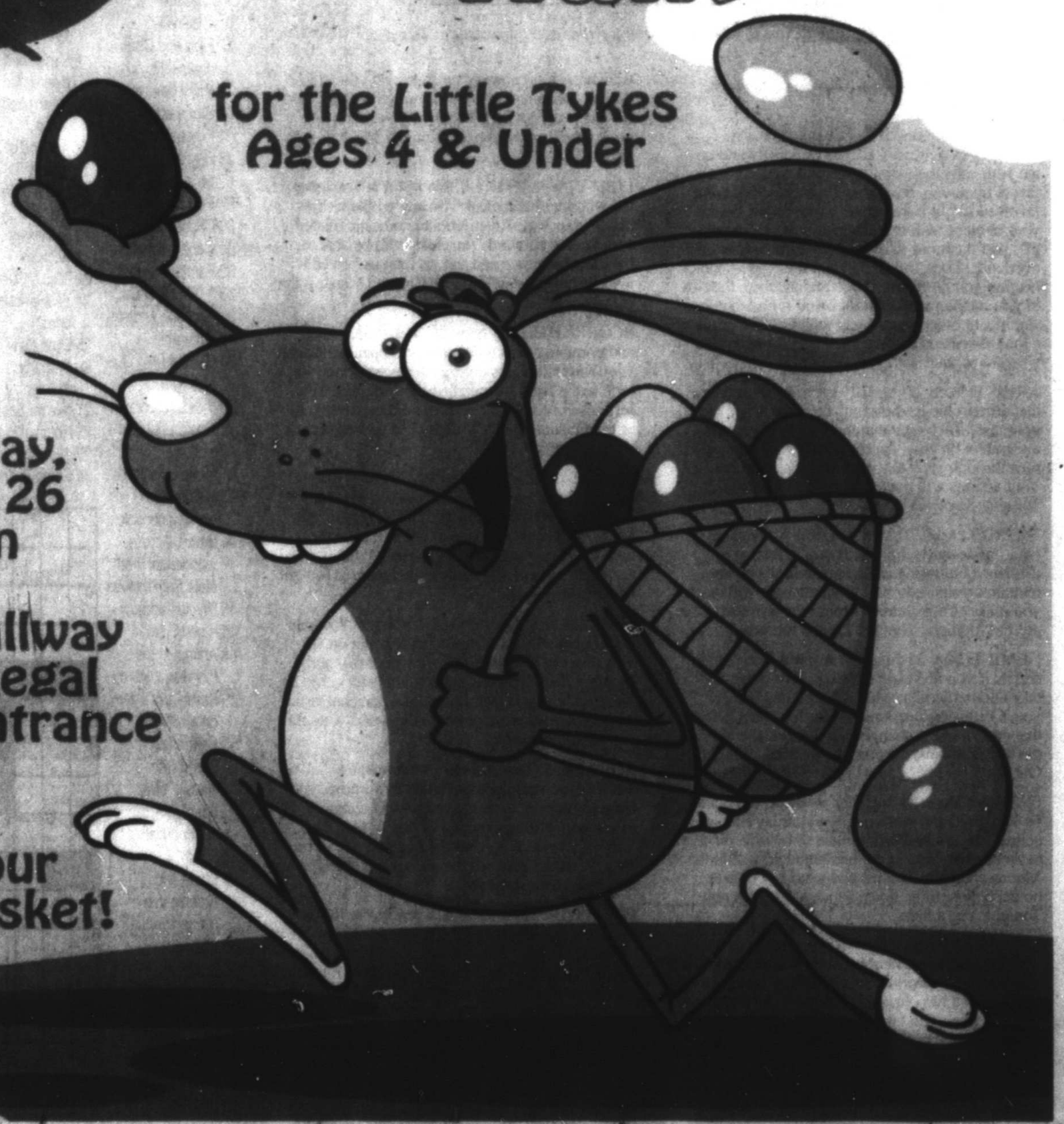
MUSIC CITY MALL

106.7 QUE BUENA
La Que Toca Tus Almas

MUSIC CITY MALL

Cottontail
Easter Egg
Hunt

for the Little Tykes
Ages 4 & Under



Saturday,
March 26
10am

Sears Hallway
inside Regal
Theater Entrance

Bring your
Easter Basket!

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FUNKY WINKERBEAN

LUANN

BLONDIE

MARY WORTH

BEETLE BAILEY

ZITS

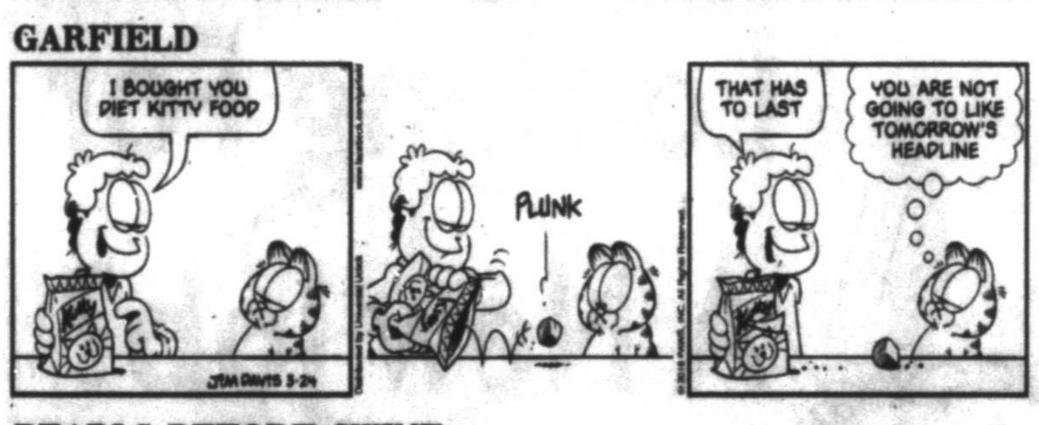
CLASSIC PEANUTS

BABY BLUES

SHOE

MUTTS

GARFIELD

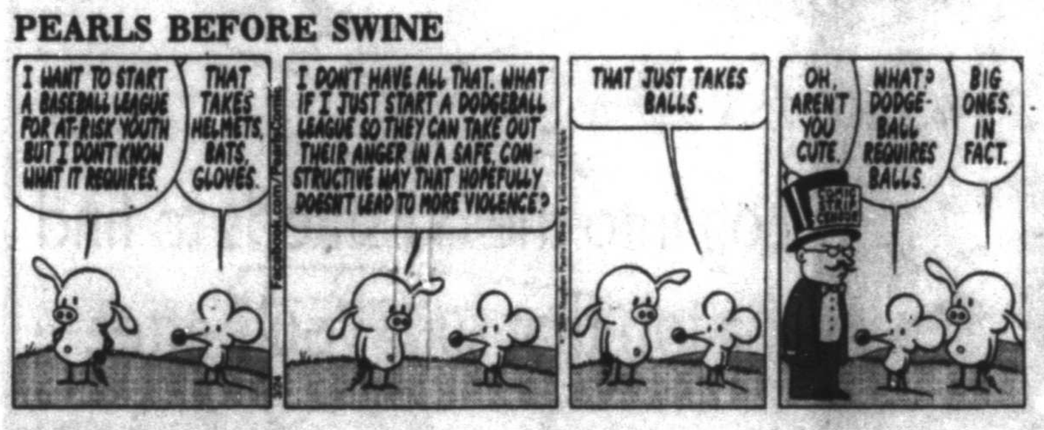


CLOSE TO HOME

DENNIS THE MENACE

"THESE ARE MY FRIENDS, JOEY AN' GINA... AND MARGARET'S MY SPARE."

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID

LOCKHORNS

"THERE'S NOTHING LEROY WOULDN'T DO FOR ME ... IN FACT, HE'S DOING NOTHING FOR ME RIGHT NOW"

FAMILY CIRCUS

"... gonna find out who's naughty and nice – the Easter Bunny's comin' to town ..."

DILBERT

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Administrative Assistant

Administrative Assistant needed full time. Send resume to: Morrow Renewables, 10816 W. County Road 72, Midland, TX. 79707

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Medical Office Manager

Fast paced allergy pulmonary office needs full time office manager. Requirements for the Office Manager include: 4 year college graduate or experience as a medical office manager. Have vigorous enthusiastic & positive attitude, be able to multi task, problem solve, and complete projects in a professional timely manner.

- Be an honorable, trustworthy, dependable person
- Be the leader, teacher, & mentor of a team of 12 plus staff
- Lead by mature consistent, wise, dependable example
- Have a can do, will do attitude
- Is adaptable, medicine is undergoing rapid major changes
- A person who can stay fully focused on their job while at work & is efficient with time

Some of the benefits offered: Above average salary production bonus, excellent health insurance, vacation and holiday pay, And a 401 plan.

Call: 432-561-8183, Or come by: 606 Kent St. Midland 79701 to Apply

CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

Tierra Drywall

Steel framers, drywall hangers and acoustic ceiling installers.
Journeyman and apprentice.
Tierra Drywall 1100 N Loop 250 W
Please apply in person between 7 and 9am

ENERGY & UTILITIES

kVPOWER

Electrical Contractor in Andrews, TX is now hiring for the following positions:

***Oilfield Journeyman Electrician (Minimum 3 Years Experience) *Lineman *Apprentice Lineman *Operator**

BENEFITS
*Health insurance (Compnay paid for the employee) *Dental Insurance *Vision Insurance *LifeInsurance (Compnay paid) *Paid Vacation & Holidays
REQUIREMENTS
*Must have valid drivers License/CDL *Must pass criminal background check and have acceptable driving record * Must pass pre-employment drug test.

Please call 432-523-2046, email hr@kv-p.coh or come by 1828 NW Ave F Andrews, TX to apply.

HEALTHCARE

Available Positions

Desert Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
3203 Sage Street
Midland, TX 79705

Desert Gardens located in Midland, Texas is currently seeking staff to fill the following Positions:

- **Medical Records (LVN or RN)**

Full Benefits

Available Positions

Desert Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
3203 Sage Street
Midland, TX 79705

Desert Gardens located in Midland, Texas is currently seeking staff to fill the following Positions:

- **RN $2,000 sign on bonus**
- **LVN $1.500 sign on bonus**

New Shift Differential Rate
Full benefits

HEALTHCARE

Extended Care Services Director

Full time with great benefits, great working environment with quality staff. BSN/RN preferred. Two years experience as a Registered Nurse in a clinical care setting preferred; home health experience preferred. Management experience preferred: Compact or Current Texas Sate License as a Registered Nurse required. APPLY TODAY ONLINE! www.seminolehospitaldistrict.com

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

Maintenance & Breakfast Attendant

Experienced Maintenance & Breakfast Attendant positions, needed-apply in person at the new Super 8, Midland, South 309 E I-20.

OTHER JOBS

Delivery Driver

American Glass Dist. FT

Help wanted: Male or Female Delivery Driver, must be able to drive standard transmission. Must be 25 years of age, have social security card, driver's license, have a decent driving record, & must be able to lift 100 pounds. Good benefits after 6 months of employment. Starting at $12/hr. Please call 432-699-5235 or come by 5002 Basin Street, A-2, to fill out an application.

Maintenance Positions

Full time Maintenance needed, Physical/ Drug Screen & background check done. Apply in person at Villa Chateau Apartments, 1603 N. Midkiff Rd., Midland, TX. 79701. No Phone Calls Please.

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, a cell phone allowance and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a **GREAT TEAM** and are ready to **SUCCEED**, please send a resume to:

Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or **jhouston@mrt.com**. No phone calls please.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Title Agent

***Local title agent looking for a responsible, detail-oriented escrow assistant with strong customer service skills. Duties include reception, filing, data entry, copying, and scanning. Experience with Microsoft Office preferred. Salary DOE.* Send resumes to P-103 c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701**

REAL ESTATE

Leasing Agent

Experienced in Commercial properties. Call 432-352-2067 ask for Don.

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432-682-6222

SALES JOBS

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

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Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or **jhouston@mrt.com**. No phone calls please.

SKILLED LABOR

Field Mechanics

Basin Engine & Pump

Mechanics needed for Industrial Oilfield Shop. Must be experienced working on centrifugal & positive displacement pumps. Furnish your own tools. Uniforms provided. Benefits package includes vacation, health insurance and retirement match savings. Salary depends on experience. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email toTodd@basinengine.com. Applications can be filled out at 1914 S. County Rd. 1083, Midland, TX 79706

Landscape / Maintenance Help Needed

Starting Pay $12 per hour. Must pass Drug & Background Screening. Apply in person at: **Hunter's Ridge Apartments, 4201 Andrews Hwy, Midland, TX 79703**

Tree Trimming

Local tree service looking for tree trimmer and bucket truck operator. Must have at least 5 years experience in the tree industry. Great pay. Weekends optional. (432) 689-6549.

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

CDL Driver

CDL Driver with Haz-Mat & Tanker endorsement. Must be willing to travel, pass drug test, & have a clean driving record. Over the road work. $40,000/ 8 month season (March - Mid November) Weekly per diem & motel provided. Call 229-838-6733. B & S Air - Lumpkin, GA.

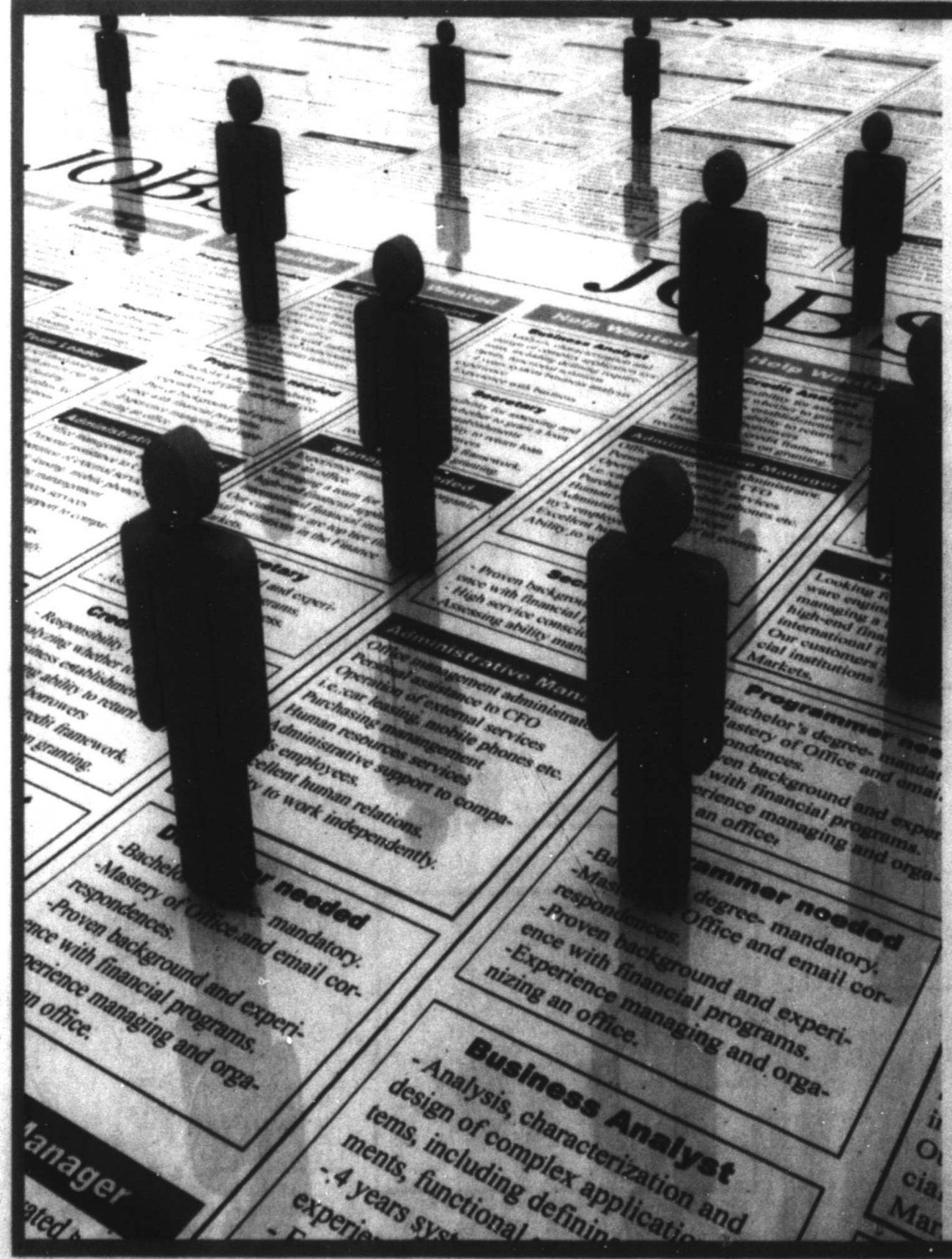
Trident Water Services

Now Hiring Oilfield Positions for Water Transfer *Must have valid Driver's License and pass drug test. *Incentives offered for CDL Drivers. *Must be willing to work out of town for extended periods of time.
To Apply: tridentwater.com or 817-441-2610

Winch/Vac Drivers

Purity Oilfield Services, LLC. (EOE) is now hiring Class A CDL drivers with winch and/or vac truck experience. Competitive pay and excellent benefits. Please contact 432-699-8600 for more information, submit a resume at mkiker@purityoilfieldservices.com, or stop by in person to apply at 11109 West CR 46, Midland, TX 79707.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999



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Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Burlington Res O & G Co-Midland, 600 N Dairy Ashford Rd, Houston, Texas 77079 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit amendment to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Devonian fields, Waddell, W.N. Lease, Well Number 123W. The injection well is located 10 miles NW of Crane, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 8351' to 9125'.

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of The Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Drawer 12967, Austin, Texas 78711. (Telephone 512/463-6792).

Legal & Public Notices

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas, will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 North Loraine, on a request by Rankin-Longview Development Partners, LLC for a zone change from PD, Planned District for a Shopping Center, to Amended Planned District on the following described property: Lot 6A, Block 2, Amaron Addition, Section 6, City and County of Midland, Texas.

Generally located on the west side of Rankin Highway, approximately 280-feet south of Wolcott Avenue.

The meeting facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair entry ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled persons is available near the southeast entrance doors. Any disabled person needing special accommodations or hearing impaired persons wishing to have an interpreter should request services through the Administrative Services Department at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting Compliance Coordinator for the City of Midland, at (432) 685-7251. If communication via TDD is required, please call 1-800-735-2989.

CITY OF MIDLAND
Amy M. Turner, MMC
City Secretary

Legal & Public Notices

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 North Loraine, on a request by DDC Merritt Leisure, Ltd. for a zone change from PD, Planned District for a Housing Development, in part, and PD, Planned District for a Shopping Center, in part, to PD, Planned District for a Housing Development, on the following described property: Lots 1 and 2, Block 162, and the south 378-feet of Lot 1R, Block 163, Wilshire Park Addition, Section 9, City and County of Midland, Texas.

Generally located northwest of the intersection of Beal Parkway and Leisure Drive.

The meeting facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair entry ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled persons is available near the southeast entrance doors. Any disabled person needing special accommodations or hearing impaired persons wishing to have an interpreter should request services through the Administrative Services Department at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting Compliance Coordinator for the City of Midland, at (432) 685-7251. If communication via TDD is required, please call 1-800-735-2989.

CITY OF MIDLAND
Amy M. Turner, MMC
City Secretary

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT

Limestone Exploration II, LLC, c/o Box 953, Midland, TX 79702 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced formation water/fluid into a formation that is not productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to dispose of fluids into the: San Andres (formation), Galway 5 (lease), Well Number: 1D. The proposed disposal well is located 23 miles in a NW direction from Andrews, in the Dempsey Creek (San Andres) field, in Andrews County, TX.

Fluid will be disposed into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 5038 to 5557 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

Legal & Public Notices

PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that OXY USA Inc., Operator Number 630591, PO Box 4294, Houston, TX 77210 has filed with the Texas Railroad Commission an Application for Exception to SWR 26/SWR 27 (P-17) in order to commingle the May lease located in Section 11, and the May 1102, May 1105 and May 1108 leases in Sections 11, 14 and 23, all in Block 33, T-1S, T & P RR Co Survey, Howard County. Any affected royalty or working interest owner that needs additional information, please call Austin Danford at (713)985-6925.

ORDINANCE NO. 9544

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING OR AMENDING CERTAIN FEES AND CHARGES OF THE CITY OF MIDLAND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT, PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION; AND REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH SUCH FEES AND CHARGES SET FORTH HEREIN

City of Midland

Amy M. Turner
City Secretary

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailers Permit by Outlaw Food Truck, LLC, dba Outlaw Café, to be located at 2801 S County Rd 1180, Midland, TX. Owners are Steve Wilson (Manager), Les Lawless (Manager) and Greg Lang (Member).

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Everett Roy Edson, Deceased, were issued on March 18, 2016, in Cause No. P18604, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to: Laura Ogilvie Gilson.

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **L. Shane Stokes**
Attorney at Law
300 North Marienfeld, Suite 700
Midland, TX 79701

DATED the 18th day of March, 2016.

L. Shane Stokes
Attorney for Laura Ogilvie Gilson
State Bar No.: 19273500
300 North Marienfeld, Suite 700
Midland, Texas 79701
Telephone: (432) 683-3351
Facsimile: (432) 683-8346
E-mail: sstokes@lcalawfirm.com

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Evelyn Maxine Smith, Deceased, were issued on March 1, 2016, in Cause No. P18593, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to: Robert Hance Jensen.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Robert Hance Jensen**
3201 Camarie
Midland, Texas 79705

DATED the 16th day of March, 2016

William E. Ward
Attorney for Robert Hance Jensen
State Bar No.: 20855800
P.O. Box 50588
Midland, Texas 79710-0588
Telephone: (432) 683-3700
Facsimile: (432) 683-3704

Legal & Public Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 9543

AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION BY AMENDING CHAPTER ONE, TITLE XI, OF THE CITY CODE OF MIDLAND, TEXAS, BY PERMITTING LOT 6C, BLOCK 3, WESTRIDGE PARK ADDITION, SECTION 16, CITY AND COUNTY OF MIDLAND, TEXAS, WHICH IS PRESENTLY ZONED PD, PLANNED DISTRICT FOR A SHOPPING CENTER, TO BE USED AS AN LR-3, LOCAL RETAIL DISTRICT (GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTHEAST OF THE INTERSECTION OF ANDREWS HIGHWAY AND CATALINA DRIVE); CONTAINING A CUMULATIVE CLAUSE; CONTAINING A SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A MAXIMUM PENALTY OR FINE OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS ($2,000.00); AND ORDERING PUBLICATION

City of Midland

Amy M. Turner
City Secretary

General Announcements

Mark Jerryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

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Lost & Found

FOUND 4 month old male Fox Terrier. Free to good home. 432-517-8626

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

REWARD SMALL ORANGE Tabby cat with crossed eyes. Lost in the vicinity of Lee High School. 432-697-2033 or 432-528-6249.

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Reputable trucking and land clearing company looking for work! Cheap rates - Insured and bonded - Hotshot, Heavy Haul - Land clearing, Dozer work - Call for a quote 432-254-4538

General Announcements

CJ'S FRESH SEAFOOD TRUCKING & SALES

CJ Seafood is a Texas based American company providing refrigerated "Fresh Shrimp" to our neighbors in North and West Texas. We provide weekly delivery depending on only fresh catches straight from the Gulf Coast boats. Shrimp in your store today that was in the Bay last night.

In order to remain consistent and continue growing we are looking for a few customers who want to keep their own landlocked customers satisfied with fresh seafood. All orders are based on 100 pound minimum orders and sorted as Large, Medium, and Small. We are seeking a regular weekly route to provide restaurants and markets during the season.

In order to hedge our growth CJ'S is currently searching the market in your area to identify the requirements and quantities our clients may be interested in purchasing.

Please send all inquiries to CJS4seafood@yahoo.com for replies and availability

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Agnes Edson, Deceased, were issued on March 18, 2016, in Cause No. P18602, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to: Laura Ogilvie Gilson.

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **L. Shane Stokes**
Attorney at Law
300 North Marienfeld, Suite 700
Midland, TX 79701

DATED the 18th day of March, 2016.

L. Shane Stokes
Attorney for Laura Ogilvie Gilson
State Bar No.: 19273500
300 North Marienfeld, Suite 700
Midland, Texas 79701
Telephone: (432) 683-3351
Facsimile: (432) 683-8346
E-mail: sstokes@lcalawfirm.com

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59 Texas Property Code, SecurCare Self Storage, LTD, will hold a Public Sale of Property to satisfy landlord's lien. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Property must be removed immediately and space broom swept. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid and withdraw property from a sale.

April 4th 2016 starting at 2:00 pm at SecurCare Self Storage #0215 at 1010 N Loop 250 W Midland, Texas 79703 432-697-5932 and then proceeding with Auction at Store #0216 at 3233 East Highway 80 Odessa, Texas 79761 432-337-0271

Eric Bennett	**2 Dressers**
Charles R. Tharp	**Computer, Printer, Misc. Items**
Christian Caleb Scarbrough	**Coke Refrig., Car Seat , Table**
Rogelio A. Sanchez	**Ironing Board, 2 plastic tube**
Rosa M. Franco	**Fan, Dishes, Suitcase, Love Seat**

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the provisions of the Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 74, Subchapter D, and 4 Tex. Admin. Code, Chapter 3, Subchapter A, the Texas Department of Agriculture (the Department) will conduct a board election in the St. Lawrence Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, in order to select a representative of the above-referenced zone to serve on the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Board of Directore. The board is charged with administering the boll weevil eradication program in Texas.

The St. Lawrence Boll Weevil Eradication Zone consists of that area of Midland County south of a line 15 miles south of Interstate 20 running from the Ector County line east to the Glasscock County line; Glasscock, Reagan, and Upton counties.

Any cotton grower having planted cotton in the year 2015 within the zone defined above is eligible to vote, and, if he or she resides in the St. Lawrence Zone and has at least seven years experience as a cotton grower, can have his or her name placed on the ballot as a candidate in the board member election. A cotton grower is defined as a person who grows cotton intended to be commercial cotton. The term includes an individual who, as owner, landlord, tenant or sharecropper, is entitled to share in the cotton grown and available for marketing from the farm, or share in the proceeds from the sale of the cotton from the farm or from an indemnity or other payment received from or related to the planting, growing, or failure of the cotton. Any person eligible to vote in the board member election that resides in the St. Lawrence Zone and meets the seven-year experience requirement may place their name in nomination for election to the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Board by written application to the Department at the address provided below. Nomination forms are provided by the Department and must be signed by the nominee and at least ten other eligible voters. The nomination form must be received by the Department at its office located in Austin by March 25, 2016, and must provide the legal residence of the applicant. A nomination form may be obtained by contacting the Department office or from any county agent located in the voting area.

The board election will be held by mail balloting. Ballots will be mailed to cotton growers by April 10, 2016. All ballots cast by mail must be postmarked no later than April 25, 2016, in order to be valid.

For more information regarding the referendum and election, or if you are a cotton grower in the above-referenced area and do not receive a ballot, please contact Stuart Strnad with the Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas, 78711, call (512) 463-3285 or by e-mail at Stuart.Strnad@TexasAgriculture.gov.

Business Center

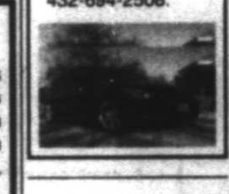
Business Opportunity

ESTABLISHED TRANSPORTATION service business for sale. Selling for health reasons. Call 432-352-6367 for details

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

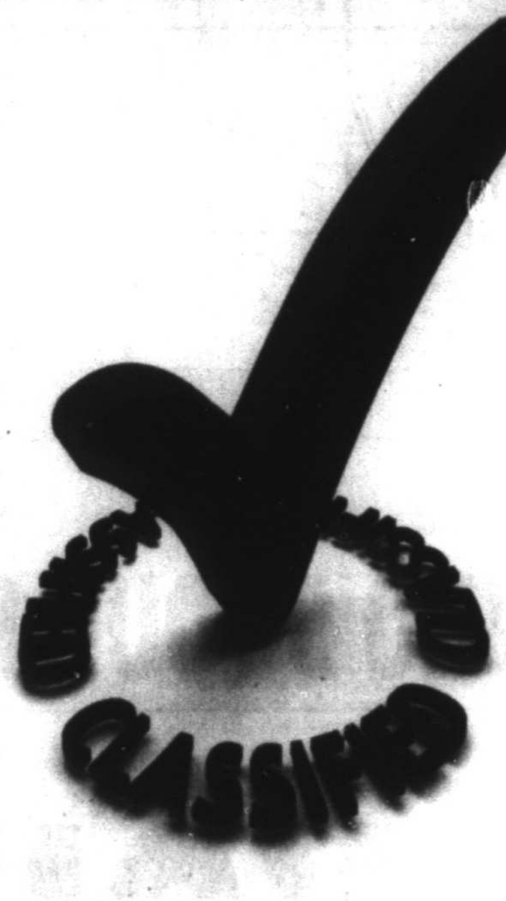
BMW 2004, 4 door, black/tan, 116,000. Good condition, garage kept. $7,400. 432-694-2506.



CADILLAC EXT 2007. 67,800 miles. $24,900.

FIREBIRD GTA Transam 1989. 91,800 miles. $6,750.

CALL or text Sherry, 432-251-9306.



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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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

3/24/16

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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GMC 1983 pickup Vin # 1GTGC24J9DJS1041 6. Price $2,500. 432-250-5504.

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Yard & Garage Sales

79701

1114 E. Chestnut, Wed. & Thur. 8am-?? Men's clothing, some plus size clothes, lots of baby boys clothes 0-12mo. Shoes, furniture, and lots more!

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Yard & Garage Sales

79701

1205 E. NOBLES. THURSDAY-SATURDAY 8AM-? FURNITURE, BEDDING, ELECTRONICS, LOTS OF HOME DECOR, 1990 HONDA ACCORD.

79703

4715 SHADYLANE. Thurs. & Fri. 9-? Ladies, men's & children's clothing. Christmas items & chairs.

79797

3101 MARK Lane Apt. A, (garage in alley). Friday 3pm -6pm & Saturday 8am-12pm. Moving sale. Household items, decorations, pictures, sewing machine, TV, & more

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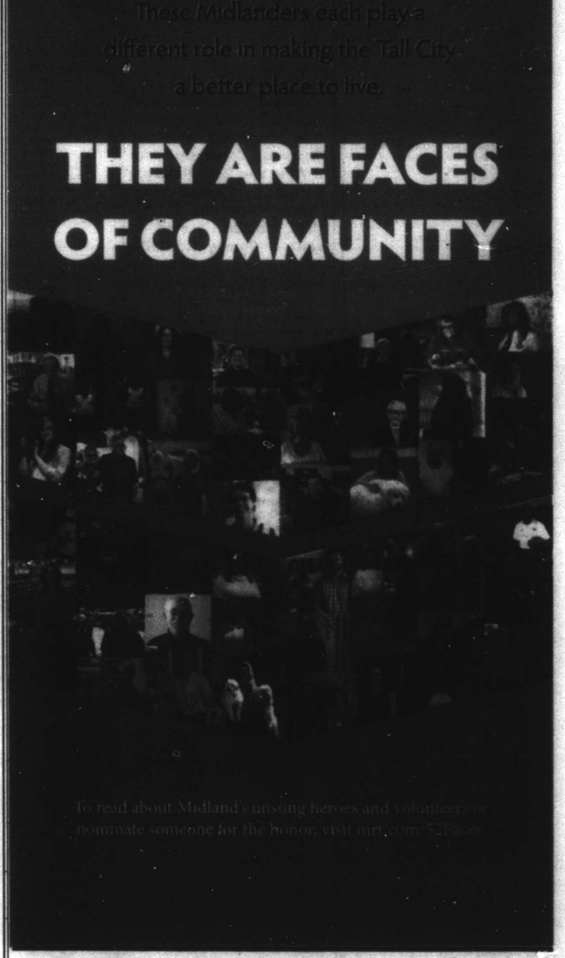

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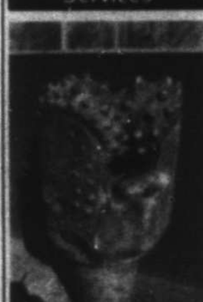
Miscellaneous Services



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Pets

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Real Estate Rentals & Sales

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Furnished

2901 W ILLINOIS. 1600sft 2BD/2BA Remodeled Executive Patio apartment with garage. $1,250 monthly. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

1, 2, 3, and 4 Ledroom apartments for rent at the Stanton Housing Authority located at 408 E Carpenter St in Stanton TX. Rent range $381.00 to $618.00. Income limits apply. Call 432-756-2812 for more information.

4409 CROCKETT 2bed/1bath. $900 mo, $800 dep. 432-978-2074.

DUPLEX FOR LEASE. 3101 A Mark Lane 2bed/2bath/2car garage/ fireplace. $1,625 mo. $1,000 deposit. No Pets, 432-557-5557.

LOWEST RENT! Spacious 1 - 2- - 3 Bedroom Apartments. 432-687-4514.

SPECIAL
★ Come to quiet, owner and residence, Whispering Oaks. We have very nice 1 & 2 bedroom apartments available for good quality tenants at exceptionally special low rates. Some have garages, all have covered parking, paid water and basic cable. Please call 432-694-4001 ★

Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Unfurnished

FOR RENT
2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex 4723-B Harvard. $1400 rent, $900 deposit. Ceramic tile throughout, all kitchen appliances, washer-dryer connections, fireplace, central air/heat, private fenced yard. If interested, call 432-697-3484. Leave name and phone # or email address. Please Speak Slowly.

FOR SALE Large 1 bed, condominium. Fairmont Condominiums $65,000. Basin Realty 432-352-2252

Classified CAN 682-6222

Residential Rentals

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

3023 Beachwood, In Odessa 3 bedroom, 2 bath all new carpet & paint. No pets. $1350 month & $1000 deposit. No pets, good work/ & rental history. Application fee. 522-1166 9am-6pm only!!!

3BD, 2BA house for rent in Old Midland. Quite street, large backyard with storage $1,800 month plus deposit. Call 325-207-0942

3 BED 2 bath home for lease newly updated $1,750 month, $1,750 deposit. 4709 Laura, Midland. Call 432-526-7364

405 PLAYER COURT. Single Family home, 3 br, 2 ba, double garage, NS, no outside pets. $1750 + deposit. Credit reports plus credit scores & proof of income required. 432-528-8350.

4BD, 2BA, south side. Close to Wal-Mart. $1,450/mo, $1250/dep 432-413-3489.

502 # 2 George (in rear), 2 bedroom, 2 bath all new carpet and paint. No pets. $625 month & $700 deposit. Must have good work & rental history. 522-1166 9am-6pm only!!!

608 W. Cuthbert Ave. 3bd, 2ba, $1500 mo, $1500 dep. Available for immediate move in. Call Pablo 210-218-1881

FOR LEASE - 2800 South County Road 1220, roomy 4 or 5bdrm home, 3 full baths, refrigerator, stove, large backyard with 2-car attached garage. Background / credit check, verification of employment, $1900/month, $1900 security deposit, $500 pet deposit (restrictions apply). Call 432-222-0794.

LOCATION 3208 WHITNEY. 3BR/2BA/3CAR. Low maintenence, shop, fenced, No Smoking/ No Pets $1800/mo. $1000 dep. 682-0602.

Residential Sales

Condos/ Townhouses

DUPLEX FOR sale. $125,000. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 203 E. Golf Course.

Residential Sales

Condos/ Townhouses

For sale 1 bedroom, Fairmont Condominiums. $58,000 Basin Realty 432-352-2252

Homes for Sale

3527 GULF, 3BD/2BA, Remodeled, fireplace, 2000+ sf. Large backyard. $219,000. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

3608 SINCLAIR 2939sf. 4BD/3BA, fireplace. Water well, Remodeled. $249,000 Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

4721 SHADYLANE. 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, brick, metal roof, tile block fence. Call 432-559-8851.

4 BED/ 2 1/2 BATH ranch style house, 2 car garage, fenced backyard. $1,300 month / equal deposit. Owner willing to hold note. 336-587-1540

6503 DRIFTWOOD Huge 4/3.5 overlooking lake on Green Tree golf course! Granite, new paint, carpet & tile! $399,500. UP Group 432-651-7788

BUILDER WANTING to build 3 bdrm, 2 ath house on S. Minacle St. for $189,000. Will owner finance for applicant at 10 % interest with $15,000 down. Easy and flexible on monthly mortgage payments. Builder will work with applicant regardless of credit history. Please call (432) 682-5157 and ask for Bill, for more info.

Homes for Sale

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL real estate advertising herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations of discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

To file a complaint, contact www.hud.gov or 1800-669-9777

Lots & Land

Ranches

RANCH FOR SALE
4,212 Acres near Snyder, Tx. Water, 3 houses, great hunting. Owner Financing $795/ Acre (432) 664-7764

Commercial

7,537 SF. single story furnished office building with 10,085 sf. fenced yard located at 1101 East Pool Road, Odessa, Texas near I-20. $6,500.00 per month. Please contact Phil Stroud at 432-861-0013 or cmc@montevalloinc.com

Commercial Building For Lease
13,500sq/ft
Fenced/Paved Yard
Midland, Texas
$8,500/month
432-664-7764

COMMERCIAL YARD FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED
ELECTRIC GATE
$2200/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
432-664-7764

FOR LEASE /Build to Suit
Commercial shop with 5 acre yard East of Midland. 432-664-7764 432-934-7777

MISSION SQUARE retail/ office space available. Big Spring-Loop 250 location. Great rates. Local management. 432-682-2422 or 432-967-1059.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Commercial

LIKE NEW 2,400 sqft office-shop combination. Caliche fenced yard w/ electric gate. Reception area, 3 offices, 1 drive through bay, shop restroom. Inside coffee area with microwave, refrigerator, upper and lower cabinets, granite counter tops. 2 year - 5 year lease. Location: E. Loop 250 North & CR 1140. Call Kenneth Cook 432-425-9563.

"MAN CAVE"
New storage on 1788. 1500-4500 square ft starting at $650 RV's/cars/industrial ask for Don 352-2067.

NOW LEASING
• Office/Warehouses •
• Small Office Suites •
• Fenced Yards
Various locations.
Call 432-661-4057

EUNICE, NEW Mexico, 1319 Texas Street. 15' x 30' building, 2 corner lots, paved, 1/2 bath. Last used as Beauty Shop. $40,000. Call 575-942-8262

FOR SALE Commercial lot close to Fairgrounds Road. 432-978-0532

NEW CONSTRUCTION
5/10/20/50 acres +/- yard with 5,000 or 10,000 sq. ft. building with Bridge, Cranes/ wash bays. Ask for Don. 563-1610 or 352-2067.

OFFICE FOR Lease. 3 to 5 rooms at 1501 W. Illinois. All bills paid. Call 432-557-3366.

OFFICE SPACE for Lease. 242 Spring Park Drive Ste. A, Midland. (432) 557-6509.

Mobile Homes for Rent

7100 Airline Road lot # 763, 2 bedroom/1 bath, $595 month $500 deposit. Includes lot rent & water. No pets. Good work & rental history. Application fee. 522-1166 9am-6pm only!!!

FOR RENT: Trailer home 2 bedroom/1 bath $850 month, $550 deposit. No smoking & no pets. Call (432)694-2649.

RVs and RV Spaces-All bills included. Call 432-770-7054 or 432-238-8048.

Mobile Homes for Sale

NEW TODAY!

2011 CLAYTON Home Singlewide Mobile Home 16x80 3Bd/2Ba. Updated appliances and blinds, new wood flooring. 2 car carport, covered porch & deck. Currently on Lot, can be moved. $42,500. 432-250-8003.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Lots & Land

Ranches

EXOTIC GAME RANCH. A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO OWN A PORTION OF AN 800 ACRE HIGH FENCED GAME RANCH. PARCELS FROM 30-54 ACRES LOCATED IN EDWARDS COUNTY. STOCKED WITH EXOTICS AND SUPER EXOTICS. CALL OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Commercial

READY-RANCH
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.READY-RANCH.COM
• East County
11,152 ac. ± of Sterling, 4 houses, paradise springs, 800 ft. min., creek, lakes, Whitetail deer, 6,2K deer and turkey $795/ac
4,219 ac. Maverick Creek, cougars, whitetail and mule deer and quail $625/ac
1,771 ac. windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great whitetail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $1,150/ac
• Nolan County
648 ac. exc. 1 mile SOLD creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, cedar $3,560/ac
165 ac. Pecan Creek, Nice Living Shop, 200 acres water for irrigation, whitetail, turkey $2,500/ac
• Brewster County
640 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, perfect water, some military traffic $70/ac
160 ac. big canyons, SOLD blinds, cedar/mesquite, perfect water, great deer $995/ac
• Shackelford County
1,020 ac. Sunset Springs SOLD deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal storage $1,150/ac
(432) 694-7764 or (432) 934-7777
No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
(Deal with Landowner that lives in this County!!!
Owner/Broker Licensed in Texas

YOU DON'T WANT THEM RESPONDING TO YOUR TEXT.

STOP TEXTS STOP WRECKS.ORG

Ad Council NHTSA

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THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE
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WARNING: DON'T DO THIS PAGE ALONE!

It's Bunny Buddy Time!

Buzz and Beeper Bunny like to play games together. Find somebunny to be your buddy and do this page together! If the page looks easy, share it with somebunny younger than you. If it looks hard, share it with somebunny older.

EGGS 23

You Need:
Each player needs 8 markers. Buttons, pebbles or even small squares of paper make good markers.

Goal:
Be the first person to get to the sum of 23.

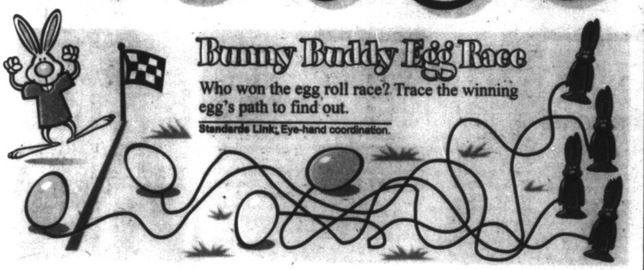
How to Play:
1. The first player puts one marker on a number and says the number aloud.
2. The second player places a marker on another number, adds that number to the previous number and says the **total** aloud.
3. Play continues until one player reaches **exactly** 23.

Standards Link: Mathematics: Calculate the sums of whole numbers to 23.

Buzz's Eggs-tra Challenge:
Change the numbers in each egg above, using the numbers 5 through 8.

Beeper's Eggs-tra-ordinary Challenge:
Begin with 23 and subtract the amounts to reach zero.

Standards Link: Mathematics: Subtract single digits from single and double digits.



Bunny Buddy Egg Race

Who won the egg roll race? Trace the winning egg's path to find out.

Standards Link: Eye-hand coordination.

Puzzling Patterns

Solve Beeper's message by writing the next number in the patterns below. You may need to add, subtract, multiply or divide. Then write the matching code word beside the number on the message line.

Message:

3, 6, 9, _____ _____

48, 24, 12, 6, _____ _____

90, 80, 70, 60, _____ _____

5, 10, 20, 40, _____ _____

25, 20, 15, _____ _____

Code:

basket = 29	egg = 16	a = 80	happy = 39
bunny = 3	Every = 12	buddy = 10	needs = 50

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple directions. Mathematics: Students solve a variety of problems.

Extra! Extra!

Spring Hunt

Look through the newspaper for signs of spring. Can you find:
- a flower
- an egg
- a baby animal
- another sign of spring?

Standards Link: Science: Classifying objects.

Bunny Hunt

Standards Link: Visual discrimination.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

GAMES
BUNNY
BASKET
PATTERNS
PATH
TRUST
EGGS
SPRING
CHALLENGE
PAGE
SIGNS
HUNT
EASTER
RACE
PLAY

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognizing identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Trust

Whom do you trust? Do you know why? Can you find a picture in the newspaper of someone you trust? Can you find a picture of someone you would not trust? Think about why you selected each picture.

Standards Link: Health: Identify support systems in the community.

YOLK DEPARTMENT

Weekly Writing Corner

Easter Bunny Spotted

The Easter bunny has been spotted! Sunday morning, two kids, Cassie and Dallas Smith, looked outside into their backyard. They were caught by surprise to see a big, fluffy, fat bunny hopping around in their backyard. They described it as a white life sized bunny with ears bigger than its feet! The creature that delivers Easter eggs to kids all around the world was finally seen. Adison Neighbors, reporting to you live from the news room!

Adison Neighbors,
5th grade, Scharbauer Elementary

A kid named Jeff spotted a bunny delivering Easter eggs to his house. The kid heard the dogs barking so he woke up. Jeff grabbed a flash light and walked to the back door. When he turned on the light, he saw something no one had ever seen, the Easter Bunny! He ran and grabbed a phone. When he came back, it was gone!

Caleb Windham,
5th grade, Scharbauer Elementary

One day, I was walking down the park when I saw something. It was the Easter Bunny! I was shocked to see the Easter Bunny. Then, I ran home and told my mom and that's how I know about the Easter Bunny.

Ireland Hollingsworth,
4th grade, St. Ann's

Hello my name is Leon Carrasco at CBS7 News west 4. We have been alerted that an 8 yr old boy named Gabriel Chavez in Los Angeles, CA has spotted the Easter Bunny! Gabriel described the Easter Bunny as very tall around 6ft tall. Gabriel also said that the bunny had a big smile on his face, he was gray, and pink nose and big floppy ears. Gabriel tried to take a picture of the Easter Bunny but it only got his ears in the picture because the Easter Bunny is so fast. If you have any other stories, please contact us at CBS7newswest4.com!

Leon Carrasco
4th grade, St Ann's

Hello this is Nathaniel Solis reporting for news in Midland, TX. Someone named Mom saw the Easter Bunny and she found him at night. While she saw him she said he was about 6 ft tall and she started chasing it and caught him and he went to jail because he had been placing eggs on illegal property and trespassing. All the people got mad and did not like the government. So the government let go of the Easter Bunny.

Nathaniel Solis
4th grade, St Ann's

Write On!

What's the difference?

What is the difference between a "want" and a "need"? Give an example of each by writing about something that you "want" and something that you "need."

Deadline: April 17
Published: Week of May 15
Send your story to:
Newspaper In Education
201 E. Illinois
Midland, TX 79701
ljdiaz@mrt.com
Please include your school and grade.

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